

Pictou 13th April 1872

My dear Sir

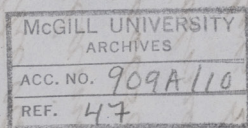
I duly rec^d yours of 4th Inst. and now have to advise that the Area south East of No 6 has been secured. Mr Hudson has a License to work No 2. one square Mile. The parties with whom we are associated here have the next choice of one Mile out of the four remaining in the 5 Mile Area marked No 4. and they have selected their Mile in Area No 3. believing that they have the greater part, if not the whole, of the ore as observed by the late Mr Hartley. Mr Hudson has now the second choice on that area and our associates have the third choice on it. They have also the Mile on the other side of the River selected formerly by Mr Busted. Our Firm has one half of this mile. I believe it contains the specular ore

Holmes McDonald have the other half of this mile. All the claims, previously referred to, on the East side of the River are owned by Holmes, Noonan, McDonald, ourselves, ⁷⁰ & each. We hear Hudsons negotiation with Fraser fell through and that a Montreal man purchased from Fraser for \$400 a year for 99 years.

Holmes has been searching the Early Records at Halifax and is of opinion that our joint claim covers the greater part if not the whole of the area on Fraser's Farm and the mill selected has been taken out in accordance with that view. Until matters get cleared up a little we think there would be no use in asking our associates to throw in what they consider a certainty at present with a future uncertainty altho' it maybe found on examination that it would be better for all to join hereafter as the property, in our opinion at present, could be better put into the market as a whole, especially

should the localities we have with you prove good when examined. We approve very much of your coming down as early as possible as we suppose other parties will be on the ground soon after the weather permits. We do not hear as yet of any new claims being taken out and there may be something good in the vicinity of our specular Mill on the West side of the River. Do you think it would be worth while to take up 5 square Miles surrounding No. 4. on the Plan sent you. Mr. Moore said the specular would be wanted to mix with the other ore. Should you and Mr. McKay decide to take an area there of 5 Miles telegraph me as it is possible others may take it up if they have not done so already. We have not heard from Mr. Moore but think two months too short as there will be a good deal to do. Three months is little time enough. On Examination of the Papers relating to Merizonists we find Mr. Leopold executed ^{a paper} embracing all the original parties interested as joint owners in the ore there and it has been for some time on Record. With best regards

Yours very truly
Principal Dawson Howard Prentiss



Prentiss
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