

Private 508 July - Monday

Dear Sir,
I sounded Mr. Selwyn about
the position of Paleontologist to Survey.
He says it rests with Gov^t, but w^d probably
be given on his recommendation; w^d prefer
one in the country, but thought of Etheridge,
father or son. I said either w^d be acceptable.
But probably he w^d take Whiteaves, who
w^d probably apply; appointing a sub to do
the palaeozoics.

I want your advice as to whether I sh^d
apply. I presume ~~we~~ ^{Mr. S.} have about the same
qualifications; he served on G. Oolite, I on
Inf. Oolite, Carb. Limest., Magn. Lim, Silas, Permian &c.
under Stutchbury &c. He may know more
outside shells; I probably more inside. Selwyn
says there is vast confusion of specimens
& papers as left by Willings; I probably

sh^d eliminate all that better than he,
having had much more practice, & not smoking!

I confess I get each year so much
more wearied with the incessant interruptions
of Canadian young gentry that each year
I doubt how many years longer I can keep
it up; & the idea of being able to earn
a better living (2000) by 8 hours work
has strong attractions. On the other hand,
nat. hist. is dry bones for a minister of
the gospel; chance of life with some
of these boys.

1st Any probability that Mr. G. Dawson
w^d apply for it? I w^d certainly not
enter into competition with him.

2nd If not, sh^d you consider me

suitable for the post?

3rd Sh^d you recommend me to change my school for it?

4th Sh^d you (if in Mr. Selw's place) recommend in preference Whitcomb or me?

I shall not speak to any one till I get yr- answer; have only briefly consulted with my wife.

At one time our friend Ethelred's Son was uncomfortable at Jonyer St; we did not know how he stands now. I don't know young Eth., but Selwyn had him in horns before he came here.

Y^r fr
E

J. Dawson

St. Louis
June 14/6

your recommendation was to change
my school for it?

At the time of Mr. John's (son)
recommendation in preference to me?

I shall not speak to you on this
of I get my answer; but only briefly

consult with my wife.
At one time our friend [unclear] was
was unsuccessful at [unclear]; as [unclear]
been [unclear] in [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
young [unclear], but [unclear] had [unclear] in [unclear]
before he came here.

W. F. D.

St. Louis