

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 2211/60
REF. 2

*McCobb*  
College of New Jersey.

Princeton, N. J., March 23 1878

My dear Sir,

I have received your letter about your second son. A few months ago we needed here an assistant to the Professor of Civil Engineering and might have looked to him. But the office is filled at present with a competent man. He however may be called to some more important field. Meanwhile, I have to lay a proposal before you which if you yield to it, will imply your coming to the United States and funding what they can do for your family.

Dr. Guypé is at present Professor of Physical Geography and Geology. He feels it to be a burden to lecture to our large classes. He wishes to give,

up Geology and to confine himself to Physical Geography and connected historical studies, and to teach the Juniors and Seniors (Classes in divisions. The Board of Trustees is willing to allow this provided we can secure a man of eminence to take Palaeontology with perhaps certain branches of Biology

I have now to announce to you that they have set their hearts on you. I am authorized to open the subject to you and to promise that you will be appointed, if you give us encouragement. You will have a connection as Dr Gnyot has and several other scientific professors have both with the Academic and Scientific departments. Your labors will be, ~~with~~ with the two upper classes the Juniors and Seniors and so <sup>you</sup> will have an intelligent body of young men under you. The teaching allotted to you cannot be oppressively heavy, only a few

hours a week on specified days. as our  
course is crowded and we have to resort to  
a division of labor. You will thus have time  
for original research - and for visits to  
Washington New York Philadelphia &c and  
for excursions. Our museums, of geology  
and natural history have received large  
additions since you were here, and will  
be well endowed. If you accept our offer  
I am authorized by a New York merchant  
to invite you to go <sup>in July or August</sup> ~~in July~~ <sup>summer</sup> with a little company  
of very thoroughly trained graduates to  
Colorado and Wyoming. Your expenses being  
paid and a few hundred dollars allotted  
for operations

Your emoluments in the College will  
be those of our professors \$/3000 a year  
and a house. Our Trustees would be  
willing to make them higher but they  
have a delicacy in offering you more  
than they give the others

But we have a means of augmenting your salary which will not jar on the feelings of any one - I am authorized by the Theology Seminary, in this place to invite you to give annually a course of instruction on the Relations of Science to Religion. For this they will provide \$/1000 a year. This will make your salary equal to mine, and you will have much less distracting work and more time to devote to study and fewer calls for expenditure. You will be able to live very quietly and comfortably on this income in a place where there is good society, but no ~~ex-~~travagance

We give you this call. It looks to me as if <sup>it</sup> were a call from God. It is unsought on your part. There is a concurrence of all parties in this place. The College and the Seminary unite <sup>in you</sup> not only cordially, but with intense eagerness and earnestness. The friends of religion, anxious about

the cause of Christ in these critical  
times will rejoice to hear of your acceptance  
Your influence will reach over an immense  
body of young men in the College in the  
School of Science, and in the Church. Your  
sphere of usefulness will have no bounds  
except those imposed by your strength. I  
am sure that with the blessing from  
above you may spend your declining life  
here happily and to the glory of God

I am sure you will give this subject  
your earnest and prayerful consideration  
May God guide you aright

I am willing to give you specific  
information as to your work. Or rather  
we will consult you as to what this  
work should be and will try to suit  
it to your tastes. If you are favorably  
inclined towards us, I will meet you  
any where to talk over matters or

I will even take a trip in April to Montreal

Give my regards and those of Mrs W. C. C. to Mrs Dawson and assure her that we will welcome her here - I am yours

Ever

James W. C. C.

Principal Dawson