



GEOLOGICAL & NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY.

Alfred R. C. Selwyn B.L.D., F.R.S., Director.

MUSEUM & OFFICE, SUSSEX ST. OTTAWA.

Ottawa April 9th 1885-

Sir William Dawson B.L.D., F.R.S., F.
McGill University -

Dear Sir William.

Knowing the kind interest you always take in the welfare of those who have studied at McGill I have taken the liberty of writing to you as I am in trouble & think you may be able to help me. At the end of last month twelve of those who are employed temporarily on the staff of the Geological Survey received notice that owing to the exhaustion of the Geological Survey Appropriation their services would have to be dispensed with after the 30th of April next. The Director has intimated to some that this dismissal is only of

a temporary nature & that as soon as he can handle the appropriation which will soon be voted, he will reengage them. He has however further stated that his staff is too large for the appropriation & that some will have to go.

I have been working for the past two winters for your son Dr. G. M. Dawson and have every reason to believe that my work has given him satisfaction. During the two summers since I have left College I have worked as Mr. Ellis' assistant in Gaspé & Nova Scotia & he asked me some time ago to accompany him again during the coming summer if the Director does not object. Would you kindly use your influence with Dr. Selwyn, so that I may be able to accompany Mr. Ellis, otherwise I don't know

What I shall do during this summer and owing to my father's recent death I have my mother to support. Hoping that this will not trouble you too much as I know how busy you must be just now

I Remain

With Sincere Gratitude & Respect

Your Former Pupil

M. E. Barlow.

Barlow

Apr / 85