

Birkenshaw,

C. B. D.  
Wardlaw

Little Metis.

Aug 31, 1885

My dear Sir John,

I take the liberty  
to write a few lines to you  
on behalf of my son Mr W. D.  
Dawson, now somewhere on the  
North Shore of Lake Superior  
where he is inspecting Contractors work  
for the C. P. R., but who I  
believe desires to be a  
Candidate for the vacant  
Inspectorship of Insurance. I  
have by advice of Sir L. Kelly  
written to Hon. Mr. Russell  
and hope Mr Dawson may  
be able to see him on his  
return from the West,

which is likely to be early in Sept.

I may say in regard to  
Mr Durson that he is by  
profession a civil Engineer, 31  
years of age, and a  
man quite exceptional in  
education and attainments  
as well as of the highest  
character, and in every  
respect thoroughly trustworthy.  
He is an M.A. and gold  
medallist of the Coll and  
a Bachelor of Applied Science.  
He studied after finishing his  
Course in Canada at the  
Celebrated Ecole Polytechnique  
Chambrées Paris the first  
Engineering School in Europe

and came out at the  
head of his class. He  
has also been elected an  
Associate of the Institute  
of Civil Engineers. England  
and has had opportunities  
of studying engineering works  
in France and of working  
at varied employments in  
this country. He is a  
thorough Mathematician  
and of course as much  
at home in French as  
in English, both in  
reference to language and  
to mathematical methods in  
which the French are so  
proficient. The first  
would gain a good servant

by appointing him, and his  
wife who is a young English  
lady of good connections  
would grace the society of  
Ottawa.

In some respects I regret his  
willingness to leave engineering  
with us which I have con-  
sidered he would distinguish  
himself but he has found  
it very difficult to get  
the class of work he is fitted  
for and I have no doubt  
is desirous to have some position  
less precarious and giving more  
scope for work of a higher  
grade.

Please do not trouble to  
reply to this, unless there is any  
suggestion in the matter that you  
may care to give. I shall be in  
Montreal again on Wednesday.  
With all kind regards and good wishes  
to you & Lady Mc Daniel  
I am sincerely  
Yours  
J. M. D. C.