

Sir Wm Dawson. L.L.D., F.R.S.

Sir:

I trust you will pardon
the great I take in writing you.

I beg to ask if you will assist me
in getting a situation in the Civil
Service at Ottawa.

You will perhaps remember that I
attended the McGill Normal School
when that institution had the honor of
your services as principal. You were pleased
to speak favorably of me as a student
and afterwards procured my appointment
to a very desirable position in the city schools.

Since leaving Montreal, I have until
two years ago been engaged in teaching in
Western Ontario near my married sister in
the County of Kent.

Since January 1885, I have had charge
of the C. School at Summings Bridge

If you are disposed to interest yourself
in my behalf, I will consider it an
additional instance of your benevolence,
and will take care that your kindness
is not misplaced.

The present seems to be a favorable time
for applications. Great numbers are
being appointed in anticipation I
presume of the ^{early} opening of the session
or dissolution of parliament.

I would further plead as an excuse for
troubling you that I have now no home and
that the means of employment open to women are
limited.

If it will possibly meet your convenience
to comply with my request, I would be
greatly indebted.

I am

Very respectfully yours

Josephine E. Smith.
361 Rideau St.
Ottawa.

just outside the limits of Ottawa, as the enclosed note will certify.

Not only would a position in the C.S. be preferable pecuniarily, but my physician in Kent has recommended a change of occupation as extremely desirable.

I passed the qualifying examination some time ago but it is influence, only that seems to be required. A great number are employed who have passed no exam. whatever and have no special qualifications.

My brother-in-law has been expecting a position for me in the Dept. of Agriculture through the M. P. for Kent, but I fear the latter has not sufficient influence. A word from you to Mr. Coaling in my favor would be of great assistance to me. Or, if you would prefer to use your influence with any other Minister it would be equally acceptable to me.

I do not doubt that at your intimation a position would be placed at your disposal in any department

Inez Smith
Nov 86
