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Halifax 21<sup>st</sup> June 94

Rev. R. Fairy

Dear Sir William Dawson.

I have not answered your letter as promptly as I should have done, but I can assure you it was from no lack of desire to do so. I have often said and no doubt will continue to say that I owe more to Sir Wm Dawson than to any other living man. I can never forget not merely the educational advantages I enjoyed under you, but the many opportunities you gave me in recommending me for private tuition and thus enabling me to secure a comfortable existence while a student in dear old McGill. In my address yesterday at the closing exercises of our Ladies' Col. I was bold enough to say that I well remembered the time when Sir Wm Dawson used to put forth earnest petitions for financial aid on behalf of poverty-stricken McGill - that I was following him afar off in presenting similar peti-

tions on behalf of the Halifax Ladies' Colley - and that I hoped a similar answer might be vouchsafed to us as to my venerated Master in the form of showers of gold. If the response in the current coin of the Realm shall be at all commensurate with the applause that followed the days your poverty are numbered. But I fear I am becoming garrulous and so must pause to answer your letter.

Strange to say the very day after I received your letter I met George Thomson whom I had not seen for two or three years. I told him you had just written me making particular and friendly inquiries respecting his welfare. He was very much pleased and said. "Tell Sir William that I am well, that I am living within sight of the scene, that he and I visited in 46. and that I often think of him and that Expedition" I met Mr Thomson next day and said. "You surely must be mistaken, it could not have been in 46 that you accom-

perceived Sir Wm Dawson. You are too young a man for that" "Yes," he replied "it was in 46 and I am 68." I could not have believed it. He looks not a day over 60. Six or seven years ago Mr Thomson bought a very nice little property in Wolpeville and has been living there since that time in dignified ease. Or as our old friend Dr Seech would have said with a graceful wave of the hand "Hium cum dignitate"

James Thomson is still at work in his law office but very much broken in health. For the last few years he has been subject to fainting fits. He is a wealthy man and has one or two of his sons in the office with him.

Cathcart Thomson has not been so fortunate. Of late years he has turned his attention to inventions of various kinds. His wife is living in England with relatives and he has been living in Louisi P E pushing one of his numerous mechanical inventions.

for industrial purposes. He is a very likeable man, but very full of impracticable fancies.

Mr Andrew MacLinday of whom you make inquiry is dead. He died two or three years ago leaving two sons who continued the business, two daughters and a widow. He left them all in very comfortable circumstances.

The present Minister of the Congregation that for many years worshipped in Poplar Grove is Rev Allen Simpson. His father was a well known man in the Church belonging to Casanvich P.E.S. Mr Simpson has been connected with the Congregation for over 25 years. The old Church was sold some years ago and a new one built on North Hill St near the Common. The Congregation is in a very flourishing condition. I believe I have answered all your questions, but if I can serve you in any other way at any time it will be the greatest pleasure to me. My kindest regards to Lady Dawson. As from an old McGill man, for of course she can hardly remember me. With warmest wishes for the continued health of yourself and Lady Dawson I am  
Sincerely Yours  
Robert King