



J. M. Dacey  
Near Lytton B.C.  
Sept 23. 1878.

Dear Father,

I suppose by the time this gets  
to you, you will be wondering why I have  
not written for so long, the truth being  
that no good chances have offered  
for some time back, a longer time than I  
had supposed. I would be away from  
partial chances, on leaving Kamloops.  
I am camped today on the Wagon Road  
about 20 miles below Lytton, where I  
hope to be tomorrow evening. We got out  
on the wagon rd. yesterday evening, having  
crossed an Indian trail from the  
Nicola valley near the mouth of the  
Coldwater. Today being Sunday, & moreover  
a very fine day, I decided not to move,  
but for a few hours overhauling things,  
write letters &c. From Lytton I am not

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yet quite decided as to route, but shall probably go up the Fraser to Lillooet, spend a little time between there & Clewton or, & then strike back for Kamloops, perhaps by a circuitous route. Kamloops may be reached by about the 15th of next month, & before the end of the month, I hope to be in Victoria. If I then have to go up to Courtenay, this may take about two weeks, from which you will see that I can scarcely count on being home before the end of November. The railway parties are now on the way to Victoria, or soon will be, with the exception of two far up the N. Thompson, which will not be down till late, & are having, what with scarcity of Grass & abundance of rain, — a hard time yet. Marcus Smith passed down day before yesterday, having come through from Manitoba via Yellow Head Pass. I did not see him.



Cambie, who has been exploring up on  
 the Skeena came down near Quersel some  
 weeks ago, & is now up again at Kamloops.  
 I hope ~~perhaps~~ to meet him on the way  
 down tomorrow or next day.

On the way over from Nicola, we crossed  
 several high divides, in a very much  
 "jumped up" country. The weather was  
 extremely broken, & scarcely any fuel for the  
 animals. We had two flurries of snow  
 at elevations near 4000', & altogether  
 it was fortunate that there was nothing  
 much but granite to observe. I had  
 intended making a paced section through,  
 but soon gave up the idea, as the trail was  
 extremely crooked & with scarcely 100 yards  
 level on the route.

Up towards Clinton I hope to see with  
 some localities not yet examined, the  
 rocks originally described by Richardson,  
 about some of which I have never been quite

Clear, especially on the Upper Cache Cr. Group.  
 I will visit Marble Cañon the locality  
 of the celebrated faram. It is quite  
 surprising to me how many gentlemen are  
 yet unsettled about the rocks of this part  
 of the country, or rather how few I have  
 been able to settle this summer, especially  
 with regard to the relations & timing to  
 absence of fossils, the ages of the beds.  
 Plenty specimens have been collected, however  
 & when these are all brought together & well  
 plotted, I hope for additional light.

I don't of course know whether you  
 have had any proof of my Geol. Soc.  
 paper, but have been thinking I would  
 asky you to modify one thing in correcting  
 it, if not too late. I believe I have said  
 in one place that all the valleys must have  
 been filled from rim to rim & afterwards  
 gradually reexcavated & terraced. This  
 statement may be a little too broad, as