

WM. BELL DAWSON,
Civil Engineer,
Land Surveyor and Architect,
260 ST. JAMES STREET,
MONTREAL.

Province Building, Ottawa.

18-3-82.

(Saturday)

Dear Father,

Mr. Blunkett has not sailed by the "Parisian" to-day as he had intended, & it seems possible from what I hear that he may change his mind and go by New York. Mr. Holmes is now in Ottawa, I believe, and I suppose it will soon be possible to know whether he has succeeded in any measure with the arrangements about this survey, as he spoke of making the attempt. If you happen to ~~hear~~ learn

anything of Mr Plunkett's movements,
I would be glad to hear of them
any time when you are writing.
I find that there is now a very
convenient arrangement for telegraphing;
night messages, which are taken after
six o'clock, are sent at the rate
of 25 words for a quarter; and as I
pass the telegraph office, I often take
advantage of it. I trust you
may be successful in the Iron property,
after all the trouble you have had
with it.

The Report of Progress was merely
intended as a memorandum to let
the House know what was being
done. I had no idea that it
would be printed till I saw it in
proof. I should like very much to

write a more detailed & descriptive
Report; but in this my plan would
have been ~~to~~ to do so after the
second season's work. On going round
one of these "islands" of granite, &
seeing the relation of the topography
& stratigraphy to it on both the
west side & the inland side, one ~~can~~
give a much more intelligent account
of it. My present purpose is to pre-
pare a second plan (Waverley) in
addition to the Lawrentown plan;
& Mr. Gilpin agrees with me in think-
ing this of more importance as matters
now stand. I will take every care
to see that this first sheet of the
General Map is not lost sight of;
I think I will have it framed &
hung up in one of the offices in
the Province Building. # The sheet

has cost over \$2000 and ~~is~~ certainly
deserves a better fate than to be rolled
up in some dusty drawer. The starting
of this work has involved a great deal
of labour, & left little time for de-
scriptive reports this year. It forms
the centre & heart of the whole, &
everything is now in running order.

We are now enjoying the storm
which Venner was kind enough to
predict; a howling snow storm from
the north-east. The mails arrived
about 4 o'clock; but I am not sure
that the "Parisian" has yet left. I
was down to see the Mainquays off.

Yours affectionate son,

William

I am glad to hear what you told me
respecting Mrs. Hamaford. I would always
prefer work in Montreal if it is to be
had & will be glad to fall in with any arrangement.