

Hampton

Montreal

Nov 8<sup>th</sup> 1883

Dear Dr. Dawson,

This is Thanksgiving Day and I am taking advantage of the opportunity afforded to write a few letters. Since the session began, the daily round has absorbed so much of my time and attention that Correspondence has been sadly neglected.

Your letter with regard to the box of fossils from the west were both received. I had already done what I could to secure a reduction in the charges and have since seen Irish again about the matter. He

Sumner is inclined to do all he can, and has written to the western lines trying to induce them to make an abatement in their charges. Probably he will succeed in this and I expect that we shall have the box in a few days. Meantime it is secure at the Express office.

The guide Book for Colmen will go by to-morrow's mail. As yet I have not looked to see what specimens of coal can be spared for Professor Williamson, but shall endeavour to do so to-day. I fear, however, that there will be few duplicates "6 inches square".

In so far as I can tell everything seems to be going on smoothly at the college, and the increased number of students is satisfactory.



There are over 200 "medicals"  
 150 Arts (95 undergraduates, the  
 rest partial & occasional) and  
 62 science students (including  
 occasional). Large class  
 rooms will soon be an abso-  
 lute necessity, and, in fact, some  
 of them are quite too small  
 now. There are 60 men attending  
 my "First Year Lectures" in Chemistry,  
 27 attending the mineralogy of  
 the 3<sup>d</sup> year and 24 the geology.  
 The weather has prevented us  
 from having many geological  
 excursions, but we have been  
 out a few times. Two weeks  
 ago we went to Fenwick to  
 have a pup at the Lomstronian  
 and had a very successful  
 day. No less than 17 students  
 turned up, and as the  
 weather was fine we were  
 enabled to see & learn a great deal.

At the Museum Curry has been occupied chiefly with the geological collection on the left hand side of the main room - Trias to modern - and the cases look very much better than they did at present he is writing tickets for the rock collection. He has not begun the Catalogue yet, but will do so before long.

Penkallow is a capital fellow and is doing really good work. He manages the students well and they like him and his lectures. He has improved the appearance of the botanical room very much, and ticketed many of the specimens. Sturtevant is just finishing a new herbarium cabinet, and Penkallow is going to work at once to set the herbarium into good order. Two collections of plants were put in



by students for prizes, the best I think being Hargraves.

The donations to the museum have not been very numerous or specially important. Among them is a fine large Maclurea from Bedford, P. A. and some Eocene fossils from Charleston, S. Carolina - Luth of Elephas, Mastodon & Shanks.

Hunt is in town just now, furnishing our Royal Society proofs. Next week he goes down to New Haven to the meeting of the National Academy which is to be held there. -

Anna has no doubt told you that we had a short visit from frog last week. He had a wretched cold when here, but has since written

to say that it is better. He  
seems to have had a success-  
ful summer in the west.  
Rankin is here at present but  
expects to leave us next  
week, and as he goes to  
England I suppose you will  
see him there.

Anna is writing and will  
give you the news as to  
general & family matters  
so I will close with  
kindest remembrances to  
Mrs Dawson & Eva.

Yours very sincerely  
B. J. Harrington.