

See a new section
country & do something
instead of waiting here,
where cannot-look
collect fossils, the beds
being now covered up by
the flooded river.

Your affectionate son
George.

Queensland Mouth B.C.
May 28. 1876

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 909C/4
REF. 23

Mother
I sent off from New
Westminster, on the way up here a
short note to someone at home, I
really forgot to whom. As I may not
now have another chance to write for
a long time, I must now try to
give you some idea of my probable
movements during the Summer &c.

The region which I am directed to
examine particularly lies east of the
heads of Stan & Gardner Inlets, on the
Coast, & between it & the upper part
of the Fraser R. about Fort George. The
C.P.R. Survey parties will be operating

in the same region, & I am to trust to them for transport & supplies, which will relieve me of much trouble. The parties referred to are as follows. Jennings working on the lower part of the Salmon R. running into Dean Channel. Mc Millin working N. of the upper waters of the Blackwater R. Hunter, running a line from the Salmon R. diagonally to St. George. Mr Cambie now in charge of the B.C. Surveys in place of Marcus Smith will visit all these Camps, & explore other parts of the Region as he may find opportunity. I hope to be able to travel with him a good deal, & take advantage of trails &c which he may cut, which I could not manage alone. At the same time I am to have a separate rig so that should it be desirable I can at any time break off & explore

(3)
elsewhere. From here, my course in the first instance will
be to the Salmon House, near the head of canoe navigation on
the Salmon R., where I expect to meet - Mr. Cumber, (who comes in
from the coast) about the 20th of next month. Beyond that I
have at present no plans.

Before leaving Victoria I was enquiring for a Cook & general assistant
to take up with me, & thought of making up my party with such
a man, a packer, & one or two Indians. ~~As I expected~~ I could not
however find such a man to suit me, but a young fellow
called Bowman, hearing accidentally that I was enquiring
for someone to go with me offered to come. I had known
him slightly in Victoria, & at first thought he might get
tired of the job, but as he stuck to his offer after having
had some time to consider, I finally accepted his services.

He is a Canadian born, but has been some years in the
U.S. & worked at one time on the Californian Geol. Survey.
& is really a very good & enthusiastic geologist, & will be
to some extent a companion.

We camped here yesterday, on the opposite side of the
river from the town of Quesset, & may have some time to
wait till slow pack trains arrive. McMillen & his
party are also here waiting, & a "deputy Purveyor" who is
going in to meet Cumber with supplies, & with whom I
propose travelling for the present. It is just possible that I
may start tomorrow, or the day after with McMillen on a
flying reconnaissance, & arrange to meet the supply train at
a given point in about a weeks time. This would enable me to