

Little Guitis

August 11th 1877

My dear Sir, [to JWD]

I owe you an apology for not replying to your long ^{ago} ^{to you} kind letter with reference to a collection of mining tools &c for Dr. J. H. College. The truth is my mind ^{& time} have been so much occupied with other matters ^{in connection with the survey} that I have ~~not had~~ ^{scarcely been able to give the subject} ~~time to give the matter a~~ thought. Now, however, I am spending a week or two with Dr. Dawson at Guitis and am devoting my mornings to correspondence.

I fear that I have already given you a good deal of trouble

and annoyance about the
mining implements and
regret that the Nova Scotia
government does not view
the matter in altogether the
same light that you do.
There can be no doubt
that a collection of maps
models, tools &c illustrating
the working of the Nova Scotia
mines would be of much
value to that Province if
deposited in such an
institution as Mc Gill. And
it must also be borne in mind
that Montreal is a source
from which a good deal of
capital may flow to aid
in the development of Nova
Scotia mines and that it is
well to keep alive the interest
of capitalists, - to say nothing about
the students of the University.

As for expecting assistance
from the Dominion government,
that seems to be out of the
question entirely.

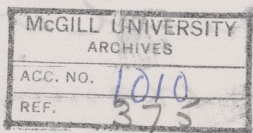
All that can be done for
the present therefore is to try
and induce some of the
owners or managers of mines
to contribute a few of the
more inexpensive tools, tracing
of plans &c or if they are
unwilling to donate them
to purchase them where they
can be obtained. I would be
willing to expend a small
amount of money on them, but
have not much at my disposal.

The white mineral which
you sent me for examination
a little while ago is simply
calcite, but is interesting on
account of its containing a
considerable quantity of carbonate

of manganese. If you happen
to have any specimens to spare
I should be glad to get a
larger piece.

If you happen to meet any
one who would be likely to
take an interest in the
"Mining collection" I shall
feel obliged if you will
speak to them about it, but
pray do not give yourself much
trouble in the matter.

Do you still intend sending
a collection of the economic
minerals of Nova Scotia to
the Paris Exhibition? I shall
be glad to hear.



11 Aug. 1877