

H. Hamilton
Port-au-Prince
July 10th 1854

Portage-du-Fort
July 10th 1884

Dear Dr

Am here on my way to Grand Calumet Island about which the only information I can get is how to get there I intend to leave again tomorrow as am nearly "dead broke" till I get someone from home. Was at Eganville and find all the localities in the hands of people who want very high prices for their goods.

There are at present 5 men in that vicinity working on mineral specimens and Fort Simms and a number of other ~~Yankee~~ Americans get anything that is really good and pay high prices.

An American named Townsend is in with Parks and is practically running the whole business and that is the only locality where twin zircons are to be found though there is a man who knows very little about the business working on his farm and is getting out zircons some of large size.

He promised to send some of large size to me at ~~me~~ Montreal on approval - He has one which he says weighs 12 pounds. I saw it and it is not bright and very brittle & broken in one or two places ~~there~~ but has the tops of the crystal which may be stuck on ~~and~~ it has also a number of smaller ones attached to it. I did not know what price to put on these zircons, although he says Foot offered \$1.75 a pound for the broken pieces.

To tell you the truth I am tired of this work for I am at the mercy of these sharks and they are many.

Since I started out I got a telegram from Adams offering me \$50. and my expenses for one month up the Saguenay, ad and

leave Montreal the following day
 this if I could not do -

I feel sure I shall not be able
 to do more than cover expenses at
 the most much less make it pay
 so that I should be very glad to
 get a situation. ~~But~~ I am resolved
 to go through the programme ~~and~~
 & now that I am started,

Please excuse this scratched
 letter the only excuse I can give
 for sending it is that it expresses
 my thoughts -

I am

Yours obt^l serv^t

E. B. Hamilton

P.S. If you would to send me I think
 it would be better to send it to
 Montreal - E.H.