

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
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Rideau Club,
Ottawa.

Personal.

July 5. 99.

Dear W,

When I wrote yesterday,
it has since occurred to me,
I should have explained
my meaning more fully in
regard to Foster & his possible
writing on Scientific Subjects
to Science etc. I have had of
late a controversy in one way
so call it, with a couple of
members of the G.S. staff about
the age of certain rocks in
the Maritime provinces & how these

should be wopped. In this
 matter I have been consulting
 several Scientific authorities
 with a view to getting all the
 evidence available. It touches
 in several points on Fother's
 work in Nova Scotia etc &
 so far as I have got, in the
 main bears this out though
 bringing in also some new
 views on certain subjects.
 The inquiry is not yet closed,
 but I have not thought it appropriate
 to discuss it in any detail
 with Fother in his present state
 of health, fearing particularly
 that he might feel that he had
 been passed over in the matter.

with which, however, he is not competent to deal at present, in the way of continuing his former investigations.

Now the gentlemen on the Staff to whom I have referred seem to make the question a personal one of a polemical kind rather than to treat it as a purely scientific one, & it seems quite possible now that they might endeavour to get Father to express some view on it, on such partial & imperfect information as they might present, with the purpose of further embarrassing me in dealing with it.

It would be very unparliamentary I think of Father, under the circumstances should commit himself to any opinion on a matter of this kind, either published or by letter, for it would undoubtedly afterwards be employed in a way which he would not approve of.

The geological question involved is quite a complicated one & I cannot explain it in detail here, although I have alluded to its main points. You may if you like show this letter to Mother but otherwise please consider it private

yours
George