

Dec. 30th. 1920

Alex Richardson Esq.
Principal the School of Mines,
Cambourne,
Cornwall. England.

Dear Sir;

Our Principal Sir Arthur Currie has handed me your letter of December 9th. and has asked me to communicate with you.

I note that you propose to visit Eastern Canada and the United States next summer for the purpose of seeing Mines and Mining Schools and I can assure you that you will find a warm welcome at every point. At the schools and colleges you will not need any other introduction than your own visiting card, and the same thing will prove true at many mines, but even at such places as would be thus opened to you a letter of introduction will be of use, as otherwise you may not get in touch with the higher officials.

You do not say when you expect to come out. You should get here before the end of May if practicable, as you will then find the leading Eastern Schools still at work, whereas the students will be gone, and the staff scattered by the middle of June, it being the custom in this country to concentrate our work into one long session with comparatively brief holiday periods, and then give a clean holiday of three or four months, during which time the students are expected to work in mines etc. to gain practical experience.

Even if you do not get here as early as I recommend, you will still be free to visit the schools, and will find at each some member of the teaching staff, but many of us will be in the field with our classes, or on holiday, and it may be necessary for you to do otherwise unnecessary travelling. For example I expect to spend the main part of the summer in Eastern Nova Scotia where I propose to work most of my students next summer, and I suggest that you might begin your visit in this country, by spending a few days at my country place in Guysboro Nova Scotia, from which point you can easily visit the leading coal and iron industries of Eastern Canada before starting West.

If you will write to me naming the types of mines you particularly wish to see, and the probable date of your arrival, I shall have pleasure in making up an itinerary, and in providing letters of introduction, but in the meanwhile I suggest that you visit the collieries and iron and steel industries of Eastern Nova Scotia, the asbestos deposits south of Montreal, the nickel mines near Sudbury, the silver and gold districts of Cobalt and Porcupine, and then cross over to the United States visiting the iron and copper regions of Michigan, and if time serves some of the collieries and particularly the anthracite mines of Pennsylvania. By following this route, you will be able without extra travelling to see the Engineering and Mining Schools