

1028/62/18

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The Parsonage,

St. Philip's, Weston,

20th Oct. 1870

My dear Osler,

Your kind letter was duly received & gave me much pleasure. I hope your connection with McGill will prove an advantage to you in many ways. The size of the city & its various opportunities may prove of service alone, & the change of ideas together with seeing & knowing different persons ought to be of great service too. Jimmy tried the examination & failed not in things of any importance, but as the examination was suited chiefly for aged school masters & such like, who might not have been within reach of early opportunities of knowledge & the rudiments of a liberal education, yet in this age of advancement ought not to be skulled out, it was chiefly on English grammar from one book used in the common schools of the country Jimmy did not know anything. I was glad of it, as you may suppose, because

as the matriculation examination was been
carrying on at Trin: Coll: I went to the Provost
who told me to send him the work in there
& then & is now at Trin: Coll: The Provost tells
me they will certainly have a school of medicine
in connection with the Coll: next year. & for the
present he may take lectures where he pleases
& they shall come. I send you by this mail
a little bottle w^{ch} you will get at easily by picking
away the corks with your pen knife at both
ends & the bottle will drop out. It contains speci-
mens of my stamens. *Vaginicola*? I suppose
but can not find anything in my illustra-
tions like it. The two that are attached, one
to a green leaf, the other a dry, were free when
I put them into a saucer, but soon attached
themselves to something. The others are fast to
a bead, a case. &c. all in glycerine in
wh^{ch} they show well. They put ^{up} well in Balsam
James Bork
Jun

too, but are less distorted in Gly. No doubt
some naturalist will tell you the name of
so let me know. The tentacles are very like
those of Hydra. I believe the specimens to be
larvae of some insect myself & if it could be
watched we might soon know all about it. I
say larvae because they are found often
empty the case & the tentacles only. The body
& little booklet gone. How I found the tentacles
only some years ago. I send you also a co-
py of Taylor's Holy Living. I have returned
very habit as a boy of reading a few lines of it
every morning before going down stairs, & am
not a little pleased to see in it the origin of
all my religions that is practically religious ideas.
It is a little book well worth using as a piece
Its teaching is higher than any High Church
ism of the present day & in many things
more plain, to the point. Living In J. Howland
as you do, you will be pleased with it &
Wm. McKell

I trust & pray it may long be your friend & com-
panion. We have not anything new doing here
The Dr. (Bowell) is not likely to return this year ^{xxx}
poor Mrs. Howland longs to see him. I have been
obliged to persuade her to send for Dr. Phelbrick.
she is attending her now. Dr. Ogden did attend
her but he said he could not do anything
for her & that she must eat & drink all she
could. It was a hard life for her after atten-
tions such as Dr. Powell paid to her every winter
& Phelbrick promised me he would not neglect
her. & seems to be very attentive. She is mending
again a little, ~~though~~ though very low. We have
several full kinds round us here & I understand
you have plenty of them in Montreal too. Remember
me ^{me} very kindly to your sister & tell me who
you find in Montreal to talk to about religious
or Comed matters, as well as scientific. Let me
hear from you frequently. It is a sort of duty
I would like to exact from you, as well as a great
pleasure to me. Hoping it will please God to bless
you with health of mind & body & in strong zeal for
others welfare believe me am very faithfully yours
M. A. Johnson