

1028/69/15

CUST 17/69.15 ^{me}

"The Passage"

Wester Feb. 5. 1873

My dear Oles,

Many thanks for the
pleasing letter I have just re-
ceived. I wish I had time to
write you fully in answer but
but I have not fear putting it
off lest I forget it or delay too long
I think you were quite right in
refusing a strain of poetry. I do
not see how it could amount to
anything worth naming. It would
never lead to anything of importance.
Your friends of course would have
been well pleased to have you in
Montreal, well paid, & compen-
sated free, but it would never

have been beyond permanent
benefit. Something better than
this will open out for you I feel
sure. I would have liked to have
been beside you while examining
that remarkable gold Sir John Moore.
How markedly England does dif-
fer in that particular from this
Country. Though we could put
the whole Island into one of our
Lakes yet there is more local
interest in any one parish, than
there is in the whole of our Dominion.
Say what people will about pic-
tures, emblems, relics, & the like,
they never have been & never will
be the most delightful & I think

reasonable means of raising
the thoughts to higher & holier topics.
The more I use them the more I
delight in them. Word painting
according to some eminent men
in England is all that is needed
but I think they must mean "needed"
for wiser heads than mine. These
things do help meditation so much,
even if they do not actually create
it. For instance, how difficult
it is to recall the warmth of feel-
ings we experience when actually
in sight of relics connected with
great names or events. Such I
suppose is the legitimate use of
the crucifix. It certainly is a living

incentive to meditation & a wonderful help to it. We protestants do not know half enough of these things, or how to use them.

Be sure you let me know where you are likely to return perhaps there may be something you could bring: we must use our pence. With many & my best wishes for your success.

Believe me

Very affectionately yours
W. A. Johnson