

1028/71/5

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41

(To Sir W.O. from Dr. W.A. Johnson)

From Father Johnson to W.O.

"The Parsonage" Weston 19 Oct. 1875.

My dear Osler,

I enclose my cheque. My bad business habits made me delay longer than I ought. I find the instrument all I could wish. Have not adjusted the polarizing prism yet, but when Potter receives his consignment in all probability he will have one to imitate, & then I will send mine. My thoughts often return to you & your surroundings. I am very glad I went to Montreal. I enjoy a capability of thinking of you all & understanding what you are doing, w^h I could not before. Moreover I added greatly to my friends. Your cousin M^s F. is a good soul: fortunate for you young man to have such a relation. "Her hints shew meaning, her allusions care". Her hopes & longings are towards practical holiness. She tries to do what she ought. To her the promise will be fulfilled "He that doeth the will of God shall know of the doctrine. She may have a doubt, but only long enough to prepare the mind to know & enjoy the truth. She may have a trouble, but only so long & so severe, as to perfect some grace that God will approve in her. You are indebted to her for taking me so hurriedly to a stranger's house. God perfect in her all He loves to see & reward her for it, here & hereafter. Do, if you think of it some day, tell her how much I esteem her kind hospitality. I shall long remember it. I did not go to Montreal expecting acceptance of my person in any way. Accustomed to be looked upon as an extreme man such kindness confused me, rather than otherwise. It has taught me a lesson, w^h I am always practising, but have still been erring in (viz) not to judge of other people at all. Mr. Wood too, I remember with much pleasure & can communicate freely with now, if necessary. The scientific men too. Prin^t Dawson & M^r White~~ve~~? Could not you beg a bit of Eozoon Cana^a from him for me to grind. Might I venture to write him a line. I want to know about his sporangites, they are very curious. Your high power shews spines on them clearly. I want to know if he has written anything "in re" & where. I am ashamed to trouble him & ashamed also to remain in ignorance. The specimens you gave me are quite a treat. They got home all right. If you are acquainted with a botanist in M. ask him to name the three ferns we found on the mountain, the small one, the middle sized (both left with Mrs. F.) & the large one. You will be glad to hear I am much better of my trip. I was not well all summer before I went away. My love to Jimmie when you see him. Remember me most kindly & thankfully to M^{rs}. F. & with best wishes for yourself spiritually & temporally

believe me

Ever your very affect^e friend

W. A. Johnson

P.S. Dr. B. is much as usual. A good deal inclined to take to his bed room. Feels the cold greatly. Overheated house has given M^{rs} Barwick a bad cold, but she seems to be getting better again.

W.A.J. #

~~*Potter, an optician in Toronto: H.C.~~

It is evident from this postscript that James Boullé was in Toronto for what proved to be his last visit in Canada. It is improbable that Osler failed to see him but if he did there is no record of it.