"The Parsonage"
Weston July 2: 1872

My dear Osler,

I am submitting (I am sorry to admit unwillingly enough) to circumstances over wh. I really have no control. My wife has gone to town (yesterday) ill. Some bedding &c. &c. are going today (if possible.) We shall not have any one but little Mary in the house. Mr. Miles & his children all gone. Revd Checkley closed his communion here on the first, & has taken his surplice, &c. today. Mr. Clarke from Guelph expected tomorrow afternoon. Dr. Clarke is in town attending a Medical

Life for your dear Sister. God
bless & protect her. For yourself
I had a copy of "Sir T. Brown's Religio
Medici". but gave it away determin-
ing to get another before I went on
so I enclose an order on Willing &
Williamson & I think though you may
have a copy already you will like the
edition they have. I wish you all
every happiness, & success. God
keep you all, I pray, (but I know
& feel kind to you & your dear Sister
Charlie more than any others) in the
ways of righteousness, put your
enemies far from you, & grant you
your humble desire, adding an abi-
ding desire to live in His love to your
life's end. Yours ever affect.y

W. A. Johnson

Council of some sort: the boys are just waiting in expectation of leaving at a moment's notice when he returns from Toronto to Guelph. In this state of things I really am tied here, much to my regret. I had a message from Mr Barwick begging you hoping you would be able to exchange the Microscope before you went away: I wanted you to take the sketch to Louisa for me. I do not know how I can see you or how I can manage but will try to have someone in town to meet you tomorrow afternoon.

Send me copy of Dwoont

Louisa Johnson eldest daughter

July 2 1872
Wm. Johnson

COPY.

From the Regious Professor of Medicine, Oxford.

19, January, 1915.

Dear Souchon,

I do not think I have ever done anything that has not been done by someone previously, often very much better. One picks up a brick or two and carries it to the common edifice, but I have only been a hod carrier and do not come into the class with the great architects of the whole building, or even with the designers and decorators of the halls and walls.

With greetings and regards,

Sincerely yours,

Wm. Osler.

Courtesy of Mrs. Lucille Brown, Tulane University.

COPY

From the Regius Professor of Medicine, Oxford.

4, December, 1914.

Dear Souchon,

Garrison, at the Surgeon General's Library, is the man you would find most helpful; and his books on the History of Medicine is a perfect storehouse, and the section on the History of Medicine in the Index Catalogue.

The only contributions of mine that are worth mentioning are:

(1) The determination of the blood platelets as separate elements in the circulation. (Proceedings of the Royal Society, 1874.)

(2) The work done by myself and my students, particularly Thayer, MacCallum and Lazear, in connection with malarial parasites.

(3) The work helping to place amoebic dysentery on a pathological and clinical foundation.

(4) The full clinical description of the polycythemia rubra, or erythremia.

(5) The description of hereditary telangiectasis with epistaxis.

(6) The clinical descriptions of the visceral types of purpura and angio-neurotic-oedema.

I came across your aneurism paper the other day, and looked it over with great interest.

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Spring-hill
near Charles Town
Nevis West Indies
August 11th
(1870?)

My dear Osler,

My last will have given you some general idea of the condition of Nevis and its powers. This will not add much local news as I am not yet settled and cant yet get myself used to the idea that I may not get back to Canada this year. I now write to beg you to see that all my microscopical apparatus is in my case = fully packed. all the things being taken out of the very large binocular case and made to fit the smaller binocular. all the object glasses carefully put in the cases and a case made for the instru= = ment in the Cabinet. The specimens looked over and packed. I have nearly re-written the fresh part but cant finish till October. You are to have my instru= = ments surgical and stethoscopes but send my Clinical thermometer. I dont want

to keep the monster Microscope stand and Eye pieces so if you like to pack carefully all the rest of the apparatus up, you can have as a present the stand and Eye-pieces. I will send mail onto you the name of the Merchant at Halifax who ships goods out to this place and if the Express will take the things down to Halifax they can come out here to me. but every thing must be put up and packed in book-binders Shavings paper. I am going into the large Star fishes of which they are many to be had out here and I am watching a pair in Lizards and Tubereh in Guinea pigs the last are only now breeding so I shall not enough to begin with before October, but it is an advantage to have them. the Lizards here are very large and I hope for some good results. The School paid very little this year so I am not sorry to leave it although I do care a great deal leaving Richardson and my old friends of years - I can't think of Johnston without a choking for we are brothers of years affection and not even you can know how deeply I love him. I am however not acting from choice but from necessity and duty. I have made a purchase which if watched and cared with be a fortune to my children and however little I may benefit it is to them my thing that I should be here to see after its development. I hope to be in Toronto in June unless

Mr Barnwell comes this way to avoid a Canadian Custom-
-house. I have not a bit of their glass to see anything with.
The $\frac{1}{8}$th was done for by its fall and Gerrish would
do nothing with it. It got a crack right through
it. I do hope you will work on for I have quite
made up my mind that you are to get a first
class for the East India Comp^y. Write me all the
news and fully. Do look after my Microscopes and
see to them. Give my love to your good Father
and to all who ask for me. I write to you again by
next Mail. Love for you dear boy.

Yr affect.

J Dowdl

Osler's Thesis, 1872, 3 leaves of draught of introd. removed from here, 1940, for insertion in #7639, as foll. 28a-c. See Cushing, "Life", i, p. 85.

W. W. F.

#8303, folder "Letters to W.O. from Johnson & Boswell".

Montreal 1st April 1872

Mr William Osler during the Eighteen months that he was a student in the Montreal General Hospital had unusual opportunities of studying morbid anatomy, of which he availed himself most assiduously. He performed a large number of post mortem examinations, and mounted a large number of morbid specimens

for microscopic demonstration
and these with the reports
of the cadaveric examin-
ations were deemed
worthy of a special prize
which was accordingly con-
ferred by the Medical Faculty
of the University of McGill College

R. A. Howard M.D.
Professor Theory & Practice
of Medicine McGill College

Letter of Mr. Hawthorne
mounted

9 Beaver Hall Hill
Montreal 1st April 1871

Mr. William Osler has acted as my dresser and clinical clerk for the last three months in the wards of the Montreal General Hospital – in both which capacities he exhibited marked ability and assiduity –

R. P. Howard M.D. L.R.C.S.E.
Professor Theory & Practice of Medicine –
University of McGill College –
& one of the Attending Physicians of the General Hospital

at noon for Glenuinan. Mr R Smith's place, where Edmund was staying: it is a nice spot & he has recently rebuilt his house, in grand style. Both he & his wife seem very delicate, but probably his trip to Canada with Edmund will do him good. In the evening we went on to Balfour, the Cochrans' place & there received a hearty welcome from Mrs Cochran. The trip up the Deeside as far as Aboyne is very lovely, but upwards Balmoral it is still more so. I will have to postpone the account of my journey to the Aberdeen Highlands as I rush thus to catch the Friday mail via New-York. We go down to Edinburgh again & from thence to Glasgow & the western Highlands but more of all this by the Cunard. I hope all are well. Much love. Yours in haste Willie

Staying with Sir Edmunds Scotland Mother-in-Law

Balfour Aug. 14th

[1872]

My dear Mother

Up here, in this far north region, I had forgotten the distance from Liverpool & so let Canadian mail day pass; this however will reach you via New-York. Since I last wrote, I have visited many new places & met many new people. I left London on Thursday evening for Edinboro by the London & North Western via Carlisle I was fortunate in having a nice travelling companion & one who knew something of old friends; it was a gentleman from the West Indies, who knew Dr Bovell intimately & had seen his letters the last two months

at noon for Glenmiran. Mr R Smith's place, where Edmund was staying: it is a nice spot & he has recently rebuilt his house, in grand style. Both he & his wife seem very delicate, but probably his trip to Canada with Edmund will do him good. In the evening we went on to Balfour, the Cochrans' place & there received a hearty welcome from Mrs Cochran. The trip up the Deeside as far as Aboyne is very lovely, but up towards Balmoral it is still more so. I will have to postpone the account of my journey to the Aberdeen Highlands as I just thus catch the Friday mail via New-York. We go down to Edinburgh again & from thence to Glascow & the western Highlands but more full this by the Cunard. I hope all are well. Much love. Yours in haste Willie

"Abroad"
Begin new chapter c. this

He must have lived as economically as possible (cf. note about accounts & habits in 1874 sec.)
on the fly leaf of
his pocket note book [illegible] is written. "Wm Osler M.D. London July 1872
Cash Account "Be frugal: pay as you go"

Cf. Note on Glasgow visit. Feb. 4 1911 address.

"The Parsonage", Weston, March 4th. 1875

My dear Osler,

I suppose you are getting to the close of a first term now & are getting a little breathing time. I never seem to forget you. Like a boy who has learnt a lesson well, there is some spot where it stays, despite of all else he does & learns; & when least thinking it comes before him again & again. How much more may this be the case, when we have formed affections, & encouraged hopes for the future, — hopes not for a period, or even for life alone, but for ever. There are few, very few, conditions in this world, in wh. men may not, & do not jostle one another, cross one another's path, get into one another's way, so to speak. Friendships may be formed, but circumstances interfere with them. The nearer our calling or occupation or profession is alike, the more likely to cross one another. I always had, & have still the highest esteem for our mutual friend Dr. Bovell as a Dr. but I do not know how to address him as a Priest. With his medical opinion I could not differ; one does as he told me to: it is not so with religious opinions, there might be different opinions leading to different ends or doctrines, & demanding diverging or crossing courses of action. It is pleasant to have a friend in whose case these things can not occur. It is pleasant to feel that what your friend is doing, is right (for you can not even surmise it is wrong) & ask a blessing on it. This is the kind of spot left in my memory of yourself. I see & hear nothing to change it; & the spot ever & again recals you as one

in whose welfare I am intimately concerned; & in whose path through life there is nothing that can cross my own, or excite a wish but for its present & future peace & happiness. If you can moralize a little, & of course you do; how strangely few friends we have (visible ones, I mean) of whom we can say this! How early we learn to use our neighbour as a stepping stone for something we want; & measuring others by our bushel, think they are doing the same with us. I really intended, & earnestly hoped to be able to spend a week in Montreal last autumn. It would have been very pleasant for me. If it please God to remove me from here, I hope he will open my way to spend a few days with you yet, & see Mr. Wood & others in Montreal. I am still as much interested as ever in the "book of Nature"; though with less time to observe it, & fewer opportunities. This seems only to make me more eager; but alas! this curiosity about many things, in wh. the sight is the chief sense occupied, does not minister much, I think, to devout meditation. Perhaps it is intended to be only as a "pool in the wilderness"; a resting place for an hour; a wholesome recreation. Be it so, it is refreshing, & delightfully new at every turn. Are you working specially at any one point this winter? I look for a specimen or two; anything: it will be interesting, & always serve as a remembrancer. How is Jimmie doing? By his letters I have been hoping he has worked, with what success, his examination must show. His brother Arthur wants him to pass at Trinity School of Medicine this spring. Jimmie's own I do not see the point very clearly, but it may be fairly argued I can not, because I do not understand any thing about it. What do you think of it? If you see any benefit please let him (Jimmie) know it, & me too. I tell him I will furnish the money, if he finds it necessary. The word money reminds me that Jimmie has

Re Jimmie.

twice or thrice mentioned, when sending an a/c of fees paid or unpaid, that you had given him his ticket; & intimated or said, it was not necessary to pay for it. I know your kindness would suggest this, but you are not indebted to me in any way to warrant such a deprivation. Of course any thing you can throw in his way, or any thing you can employ him in, will be a great & additional kindness to me, & I shall be ever thankful for it; & doubtless he will too, for he is not generally insensible to such acts of kindness; but I have no reason to look for a remission of fees. I suggested to Jimmie, it was a mistake, but he is imperative in thinking he must not offer to pay. If the boy is mistaken, let me enclose it to you, & that would satisfy us, & leave him in ignorance; if not, I can but thank you, & add it to many kind remembrances I enjoy, both of yourself in particular, & of your very kind friends.

I suppose you must have noticed that, to all appearance, I did not do the kind thing to your dear Father & others on the Com^n wh the Bp. appointed to find charges against me. Whether you thought so or not, there was good reason from all the public has seen, to think so. I was very peculiarly placed, & saw no way but Irony to meet it. I am waiting the Bp's decision before writing a last letter, apologizing for seeming rude, & showing why that was the only course open to me. Two most important principles were assailed. I told the Bp. I dare not be a party to the proceedings. He tried to force me. I could not submit. I must meet the Com^n or my case would go by default: I could not appear, or the principle was compromised: I could not touch the subject by way of evidence, or reason upon it, because it had not been heard: & having assured the Bp he had no authority

Small pox hospital
W.C. remaining the face of Jimmie
1876 (3)

whatever to create the commission, irony was the only way to shew I meant all I said, & defy further proceedings. I know irony & sarcasm drive away one's friends, therefore you had better never attempt to use them: but they have their time & place, & looking at it now with calm & unbiassed view, I still think I did well, & if the same causes arose would treat them as I did then. The private correspondence between the Bp. & myself is the only means of understanding the matter, but this shall never be made public with my consent alone. The poor Bp. whose kindness to me is unwearied real, experience of high praise also, is really in a "tight place". I have promised to obey his orders immediately & without a murmur; but neither to gainsay or accept his opinions. I have removed every obstacle to his decision that I know of, & I hope daily to receive it.

Is there any chance of your coming up this way after Easter? I suppose the small-pox hospital keeps you more or less busy; but the number of patients decreases a good deal towards spring & summer, so you might get away for a trip to see, & gladden old faces again. Every thing much as usual here. I have not paid the Humber Ponds a single visit this winter, & now we are snowed in in every direction. With my best wishes for your success, health & happiness, & hoping to have a line, when you have time & inclination,

Believe me, as ever,
Your sincere & affect.e friend,
W. C. Johnson

to Potter an officer in Toronto

"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 paid the instrument all I could with. I have not admitted the gentleman 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 enjoying a capability of thinking of you all & understanding what you are doing, wh. I could not before. Moreover I added greatly to my friends. Your cousin Mr. F. is a good soul: fortunate for you young man to have such a relative. Her hints show 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 heartily to a strangers 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, seems I need to be looked upon as an extreme man such kindness confused me, rather than otherwise. It has taught me a lesson, wh. I am always practising, but have still been erring in (my) not to judge of other people at all. Mr. Wood too, I remember with much pleasure

& can communicate freely with him, if necessary. The Scientific men too. Prin.l Dawson & Mr. White are. Could not you beg a bit of Lozoron Cana.n 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 shows spines on them clearly. I want to know if he has written anything "in extenso" & 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 Mr. 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 Minnie when you see him. Remember me most kindly & thankfully to Mr. F. & with best wishes for yourself spiritually & temporally

believe me

ever your very affat. friend

M. 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 Mrs. Burnish a bad cold, but she seems to be getting better again. M.A.J.

C

Lucinville was a cousin = Sisley Mrs Jones

Very fair joke.

September 24th

Mrs Lewis

My dear Elisabeth

I dated this letter last night & had I gone on with it would have given you all a good rigging, most unjustly, for I thought the Canadian mail had been delivered and there were no letters. However, in the morning on going to the Hospital I received yours of the — I don't know, why cant you date your letters? — and Lennette of the 8th Sept: which amply made up for the brief of yours. The man at the letter box always has such a knowing smile on his face when he hands me my letters on a Wednesday morning, the Jones must think

is rapidly being repaired, after the fire. On Sunday I took a trip out to Putney to dine at Atwell Francis'. I got there early & went to St Johns Church moderately high and very well filled. The Francis' dont trouble Church much I do not think it runs in the family. Mrs Francis is very pleasant and they have a brace of fine boys. I went with Atwell in the afternoon to Kew and pulled down the river in the evening over the course of the International boat race. Next Sunday I shall probably go to the Boyd & take with me your wedding cake as an introduction to the sisters. I shall go & see the brothers tomorrow to prepare them. I got the Banner of this week but no Mail. I shall look in the next for that Avenue affair. If I could get up another attack of Measles (with delirium) I might

they come from my girl, wherever she may be. I am sure that any one reading yours & Lemuel's letters of this way might suppose that they came from Utah & I was a young Mormon in embryo, so feelingly do each of you allude to two separate girls as mine. There being luck in odd numbers, I shall endeavour to get a third over here. The Doctor's girl has not arrived in London yet. I would give a good deal to be behind the scenes when he asks for her. I can imagine the old Boy's surprise I reckon he will be gone by the time I have to do it, anyway he will have got accustomed to the business. We have had it uncheerily cold for the last week & several typical London days have been interspersed. I went to the Harmers one day last week and after dinner accompanied them to Mr West's Church, which

became prophetic. Do you remember the circumstance? How is Carrie? I must take a trot out to Hammersmith some day & see her father again. He does look a bit changed and is apparently very happy in his solitude. Poor Amy will not like her move to New Brunswick. It is such an out of the way place at present. I am afraid Lucette must have made some of the Lloydtown passengers uneasy, with the goings on at the festival. They had a grand commemorative service at All Saints Wenfleth on the anniversary of the S. P. G. (I am afraid those initials are incorrect, it is the Christian Unity Society) I did not go, but regretted it after reading the description. The Williamsons are I suppose just now in the agony of removing as I saw in the Banner that the sale was to take place the 23rd of February. Write soon & tell me all about everything.

Yours affectionately
Fred

"The Parsonage"
Weston 19.10.76

My dear Osler,

(Mivart?) At last I have got through Mivart. I have been strongly tempted to put other things aside to enjoy his thoughts. My first feeling now is thankfulness to you for thinking of me at all, then for the kind of book you selected, what it is & what it leads to & what it has done respecting my former ideas. I really esteem your favour most highly & am very thankful for it. Did it lay in my power I would gladly return it & will be happy always to acknowledge it.

As to the book itself I look upon the first chapters now as the best point of it. To me they are in the highest degree instructive. That the ego is demonstrable from my consciousness never struck me. Long ago I was of opinion but did not see how that all that was peculiar to a rational man, was the result of the contact or heating into by the Creator. Now what is but

include evolution; but I do not at present believe what Mivart seems to, that the Ch. is divinely appointed or called to formulate truth, & science is to work up to it. He may not mean this. I may misunderstand him: but it seems like it. What I mean is that believing as I do that the book of Nature & the book of revelation are alike God's books. The one appealing to our eyes the other to our hearing or faith, a correct formula from one will agree in essential principles with a correct formula from the other. There is this difficulty to be met though. If you use the book of Revelation to formulate on the sciences Geology we may say, the formula would be very brief, yet having room for all present discoveries or all facts that may ever arise: & suppose a correct formula made first by Geologists. It will not be found to contradict revelation. For the purposes of moral enlightenment it is quite different. Here the formula are very comprehensive.

Mivart's moral consciousness. The first chapters though difficult to master are very important & the remaining chapters I suppose the very numerous instances brought to prove his points are valuable to those who understand & can appreciate them to me, there is more proof than is necessary. but this of course is owing to my ignorance of peculiar forms & my being satisfied of the correctness of his argument generally. I must read his "Genesis of species" if I can find it some day. Every thing I see attests to evolution in some sense, but surely not chiefly by natural selection. The last chapter I would rather had never been added. Mivart's reverence for the Church makes him claim too much for it, at least so it seems to me. I can believe that devout unbiassed monobibliological students from St Aug. to Sauvey old this day if they stated a formula of creation would be compelled so to word it as to

I agree in every fact with experience. Mivart would have us believe that if the Pope expressed a formula on scientific subjects it would be found correct. I do not want to deny him. He may be quite right: but it does not follow as I think Mivart tries to shew that every formula enunciated by the Pope must be correct because the Pope is the divine & appointed for that purpose. I wish the last chapter had been left out.

Do like a good fellow try to make my peace with kind Mrs Frances. I longed to be down & tried to get down to Montreal but really it was too expensive. Hoping to get down I delayed answering her, until I was ashamed to. Jimmy has gone to London Hospital & goes with Dr Cork first winter. I see Dawson of Mont is an agent for Corkes plates. If you think of it look at the pour on comparative anatomy & tell me what you think of them. Everything flat & calm here, prime the weather to the Village. My best wishes for you. If any one is coming up send me something interesting for the Microscope. I am all alone as usual but have an invaluable woman keeping house for me.

Your's very affectionately. M. A. Johnson

"The Parsonage"
Weston 20 Sept.r 76.

My dear Osler,

A young man at Mess.rs Hart & Randolph's handed me a parcel a few days ago & I so often get parcels from them that I little knew what it was: however I find now I am indebted to you for it & much indebted too. After much effort (for I am very obtuse) I have managed the two first chapters, & intend to make myself master of them, but it has all ended in a conviction that there is something wh.ch pr.ain uncommonly in the "what I feel". I can not say "know" to be right: but wh.n I fait in explain

ing to myself; & yet ought to be quite clear to me, because it may go on to conclusions wh I must accept or refuse; but wh will be dependent on these difficult premises. Perhaps they are the more difficult because new to me. This originating knowledge from mere consciousness, correct as it may be, is new to me. We have been so much accustomed to look on our consciousness as a sort of necessary without a value, that when called upon to accept it as the true foundation of all future knowledge we do not know how to arrange our ideas to think of it; at least I (an old man) find it difficult. Light always seems to be the same by wh me

learn most, sensible; but here consciousness wh. seems to have nothing to do with sight, entirely displaces it. I look for a great treat as I advance in the book, I am sure it will interest me greatly, though I feel sure you have overestimated my ability to comprehend such subjects. There is nothing more puzzling to an old man than the entire destruction of root, foundation ideas. Yet to have correct general ideas is all important. Our conclusions surely can not be correct unless our first principles are so. Moreover, it does seem so late in the world's history to say that knowledge must be based on the study of pure bet facts &c. &c. Every word of such a proposition is a stumbling block wh. my old limbs can with difficulty clear

I am really delighted at the gift, while ashamed to acknowledge my inability to comprehend the subject adequately. But sorry at the expense your affection put you to, while at the same time I am proud to acknowledge it as shewn towards myself. It was very thoughtful & very kind of you, & adds another & yet stronger testimony of the affectionate recollection you have of the pleasant hours we have spent together.

What a loss it is that in this country we have so few who will read & converse upon such subjects as Miracle brings to the surface. If one could talk of these things one might soon come to understand them. I hope to see you again, if I can get away at the end of Septr. The "Retreat" is the 26th & four following days. My kind remembrances to Mr Francis with many thanks & affectionate acknowledgments of your love & esteem believe me

Yrs. Your very sincere friend

H. A. Johnson.

High Church retirement

~~1028/62/15~~ CUS417/62.15 12 ~~Oct. 1'69~~

A note book of the ~~Toronto School of medicine~~ period is extant dated 1/10/69 ~~when W.O. goes after Jabez on visit to Dundas~~. The name of James Bovell is scribbled over its pages pretty much and in pencil on the fly leaf his full titles "James Bovell MD, MRCP. Prof. Nat. Theology in Trinity College Toronto Lectures on Institutes of Medicine Toronto School of Med. Consulting Physician to Toronto General Hospital. Physician to Lying in Hospital. Lay secretary to Provincial Synod Author of Outline of Natural Theology etc etc etc James Bovell" The man must have come to exercise an enormous influence over the boy. Nabour otherwise is of no great interest. ~~Medical notes~~ on obstetrics, chemistry, pathology taken at McGill. It contains a few pages of chemical notes, one is filled with the next year notes (Nov. 3 69 to June 9 '70) and materia medica ~~etc~~

Clare-Hall, St. John's, Antigua W.I.
June 27th 1871

My dear Johnson,

As you may fancy my thoughts to day went by telegraph to Weston, and I am spending a deal of time in the old arm chair with you. The worst part of the business is, that although you are visible to me, you are as dumb and silent, as Ghosts who come to Earth. The paper cutter is in your hand and the Church Times is being opened and you are gammoning about Bennett and Purchas, but taking it all you won't converse. Well then I will come back from reverie to Earth and take to writing. Here I am in the good Bishops house: over an examination and wanting to go down to Nevis to take up, as Rector, the United Parishes of St. George

and St. John. It seems very wonderful very mysterious. The way I have been led does not frighten, but it awes me. I have been so passive in it all, so determinably in-active, and others have so shaped out my course, that I feel inwardly tranquil yet so resolved, that I trust fully in Him and towards Him, Who can do as He wills with His own. On Saturday the 25th. in the Cathedral, I was called to the holy order of Priest and now here I am flesh and blood set to do Gods work. The time is short and there is a deal to do, but having stood so long in the Market place idle and no man having hired me, now that I have found a Master let me go in too for the penny. The work is very severe and the area comparatively large and populous

but still I can do a great deal. I continue to keep up my Lower services, and those on Sunday on Wednesdays and Fridays; and I have just got one school going with 115 children. In St. Johns Parish, I have been bundling out a three-decker and kitchen table, and have got in a neat chancel, proper altar, lectern Prayer desk and 10 new settings round the chancel. By degrees things will go well. I wish you would send me the address of the man who sent you the paper for the church. I want to get as much as will do the chancel walls of both churches. How I wish I was near you now. I dont despair. Some day when I have set the two old decayed pastors up and made the work easy, I will run back to the old place and end my days in the snow.

My wife's health is very bad again and her feebleness increases very much. She has had

a very large abscess on the hand which I was obliged to open four days before I left Nevis. I go down tomorrow on the Steamer when I hope to find her better. I am trying to get you a collection of ferns which I hope to find an opportunity of sending through Halifax. I have not looked at an Report since I left Toronto, and I dare not even think for five minutes of any work that is past. We won't talk about it. I long to hear from the Provost for he does give one such good advice and useful hints. Darling I will write to and Broughall by Mail they have been very kind to me. Tell Mrs. I. I received her letter and felt rejoiced at the comfort Arthur had given her. Now my reading for examinations is over, I will have more leisure for writing and dear Oster shall have a scrawl. Tell Sam I will send him a letter about getting the Medical Books Oster can help him select them. Love for all Farewell old fellow. Yr affect! Woodall

The Parsonage,
St. Philip's, Weston,
20 · Oct.r 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 shut out, it was chiefly on english grammar from one book used in the common schools of Ont.o Jimmy did not know any thing. I was glad of it, as you may suppose, because

as the matriculation examination was then carrying on at Univ: Coll: I went to the Provost who told me to send him & he went in there & then & is now at Univ: Coll: The Provost tells me they will certainly have a school of medicine in connexion with the Coll: next year. & for the present he may take lectures where he pleases & they shall count. I send you by this mail a little bottle wh you will get at easily by picking away the corks with your pen knife at both ends & the bottle will drop out. It contains specimens of my changes. Vaginicola? I suppose but can not find anything in my illustrations like it. The two that are attached, one to a green leaf, the other a dry, were pea when I put them into a saucer, but soon attached themselves to something. The others are fixed to a bead, a case. Vn all in glycerine in wh they shew well. They put up well in Balsam

Yours
James Bovell

too, but are less distorted in Glycr. No doubt some naturalist will tell you the name if so let me know. The tentacles are very like those of Hydra. I believe the specimens to be larvæ of some insect myself & if it could be watched we might soon know all about it. I say larvæ because they are found of late years empty the case & the tentacles only. The body & little booklets gone. Thus I found the tentacles only some years ago. I send you also a copy of Taylor's Holy Living. I have returned to my 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 religious that is practically religious ideas. It is a little book well worth using as a prayer. Its teaching is higher than any High Churchism of the present day & in many things more plainly to the point. Liking Sir T. Browne as you do, you will be pleased with it.

Yours
W M Nicholls

I trust & pray it may long be your friend & companion. We have not anything here doing here. The Dr. (Bovell) is not likely to return this year. poor Mrs. Howland longs to see him. I have been obliged to persuade her to send for Dr. Phelbrick. & he 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 attentions such as Dr. Bovell paid to her every wants & 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 fewer of all kinds round us here & I understand you have plenty of them in Montreal too. Remember me very kindly to your Sister & tell me who you find in Montreal to talk to about religious or church 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 Christ's welfare believe me ever faithfully yours

W. A. Johnson

A school-boy letter to Rec. his biological twin sister who is strong in his early teens

The Parsonage,
St. Philip's, Weston, C. W.

May 25th 1867

Dear old Tyros

? for Texas, giant? "Little Auntie" was very small - physically
W.W.7

I have just been up to Mr Johnson to get a couple of sheets of paper to write to that small parcel of feminine fowl called Jemmette. How are you? when are you? and what have you been doing? I suppose you have been idling away your time flirting with Dido or some other poor innocent mortal. How

is Mammy Muff's. that wicked
spider I suppose she will have
four times now the Summer is
coming on and the flies are coming
out. I have got a good sized
Milk snake for you in a bottle
of wiskey and I will try and
get you any other snaky animal
I come across. I have splendid
times with Mr Johnson out after
specimens of all sorts. I wish
you had been with us last
Thursday down at the Peat

the swamps there are such
splendid flowers down there
and the moss is so nice and spongy
one would like to make a bed
of it. We got the smallest and
rarest variety of Ladies Slipper
or Indian Moccasin plant
I would so like you to see them
they are the most beautiful
of all Canadian wild flowers
that are now about Dundas
not being the right sort of soil
for them to grow in and if you

could only see the alga. that
green stuff that you see on ponds
and stagnant water. it is so
beautiful. the thousands upon
thousands of small animals
all alive and kicking that are
in it. We got some dirty looking brown
stuff that at this times covers
all the shores of the river and
we found that on every pin's point
there were one hundred of the small
creatures. fancy what there would be
on a square inch and on a
square mile. but I suppose you will

The Parsonage,
St. Philip's, Weston, C. W.

think this sort of thing rather dry so I will stop it and turn to something perhaps nicer. We are having such a splendid run of Cricket Matches this term. We played Toronto yesterday and gave them such a thrashing you will see it in Mondays Leader. Frank played with the Toronto fellows Jimmy Morgan came out with them to see us all. We play Trinity on Thursday but I am afraid

we will be badly beaten as they
have the best Club in Toronto,
but we have such a jolly player
here a regular old Englishman
called Mr Carter, he has been out
here for about ten years roughing
it in the backwoods. he is at
present our third Master
Now I mean to I expect a good long letter
from you very soon so mind you write
and tell me all the news. Love to
Mamma. Carrie. and all the rest. Kiss
Percival for me

Believe me ever your affe cousin
Billie

"The Parsonage,"

Weston, Ont. 25 Dec^br 1870

My dear Coler,

Your very affectionate & thoughtful gift & letter are both at hand. The Photo. is very good. & I am delighted to have it. Montreal has surely agreed with you. I could not ask a greater treat than such a work as "Preparation for death" by Alfonso. Bp of Agatha. The subject is one of all others that I like best; really believing as I do that, "better is the day" "of a mans death, than the day of his" "birth." It is divided into short meditations just suited to my time early in the morning, when I can generally make ½ an hour before I go down

to Chapel. Talking of the Chapel almost every one feels it is a success. One thing seems pretty clear, that al most any thing would be admitted now in the way of adornment. The cross stands out or peeps through at every arch & every window & we had two vases of flowers on the altar ~~last~~ to night & up at the Church the girls have made crosses between each window & even unhappy Connor, begins to fancy he can ~~see~~ permit them & still worship. These little things are in advance to a certain extent, but still it is humiliating to see how little we accomplish. Surely one might expect that at this season of Advent a few would try to examine their ways & seek counsel & advice at the mouth of God's ambassadors. Among

the papists there seems to be a general waking up during advent. In the city where they are thronging daily to confession before Xmas. Possibly they may err greatly in this, but do not we err in totally neglecting it. Your Sister most kindly called before she went home. She gave me quite a full account of you & how you were occupied all wh. I was delighted to hear. I am glad you saw Prof. Dawson. You know all I have of the Polyzoa & anything you want I will gladly draw write or send. Prof. Hicks hopes to give me the name of that (Lara?) with such beautiful tentacles. Show it to Prof Dawson & see if he knows any thing of it.

Hoping you may live & be blessed in fulfilling all your hopes & expectations

Believe me
Ever very affectionately yours
W. A. Johnson.

W. A. Johnson
25 Dec. 1870

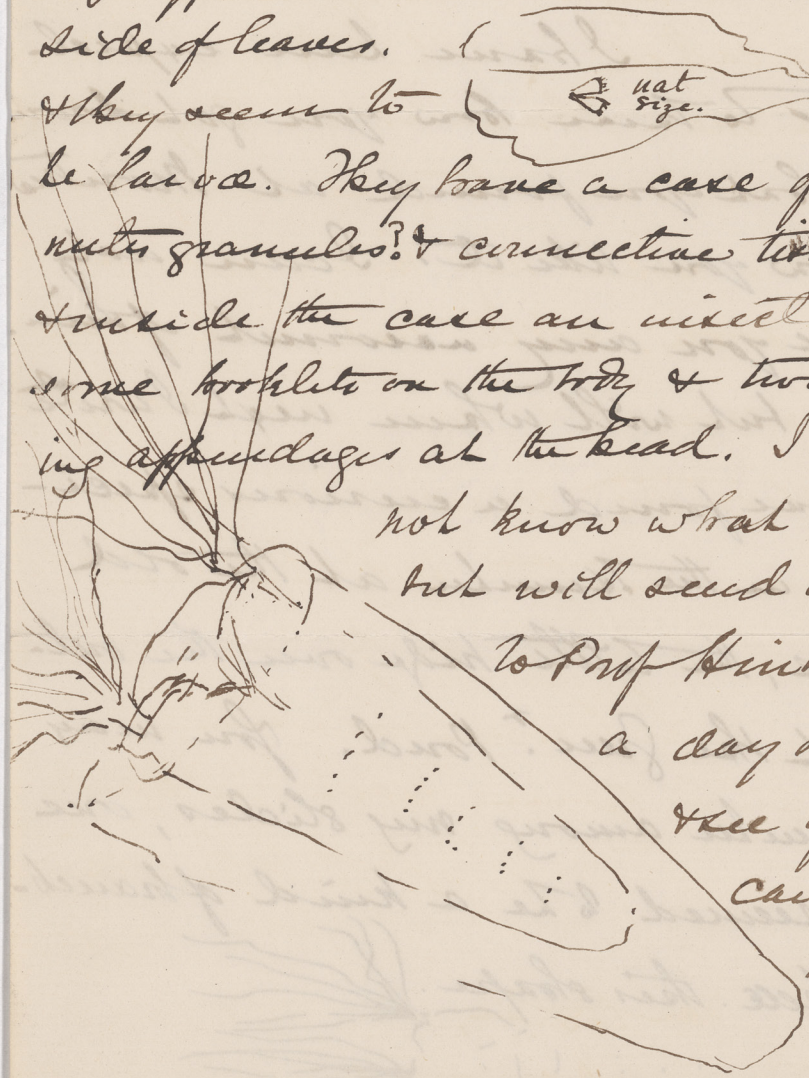
"The Parsonage,"

Weston, Ont. 5th Oct. 1870

My dear Osler,

I have been expecting to hear how you got down & what you found at Montreal & how you like it. I can only give you any account yourself yet: but will when next I write. I have found a curious specimen in the Humber at the old place, the little bridge over the outlet of the Grev. Pond. You may remember among my slides, one wh. seemed to be a kind of branchiate. this shape.

It came up accidentally among other things some years ago. but the other day I found the whole insect a polyp. two & two on the under side of leaves. (nat size.) & they seem to be larvæ. They have a case of minute granules? & connective tissue? & inside the case an insect with some bristles on the body & two branching appendages at the head. I do not know what it is but will send one to Prof Hincks in a day or two & see if he can tell me.



Can you find me a copy of Abrillon on the Blessed Sacrament in French? Probably Mr — the High Ch. Clergyman as he is called could tell you where to get one. I have it in English but want one to give away in French. Let me hear from you soon. & tell me all you are seeing & doing. My very affectionate remembrances to your Sister & with the same to yourself

Believe me

ever yours most faithfully

W. A. Johnson.

Oct 5 1870
W A Johnson.

"The Parsonage"
Weston Oct. 19th 1874

My dear Minnie,

I have received your's of the 14th inst. & thank you for the information about the coal stoves. I feel sorry it caused you any trouble or del. I had hoped to have paid you a visit by this time, but alas! I am more tied than ever. I believe I only did, as I would like to be done by, in telling your dear Sister she was welcome to the Parsonage, so I have nothing to complain of, & these marked disappointments are good for me, but much as I wish it, & much good as I think I could do by it, still I feel there is but little hope of my getting down to Montreal for a week or two. It may happen, but I do not see how. I fancied I had some little hopes to

look after when I was here alone: but it is worse with six more to look after. Perhaps things will be better soon. Maggie may possibly get a servant & be able to manage for herself, if so, I will take a turn to see you if possible. Tell Prof. W. Osler, I have not forgotten him & his message about Lonnie on the Low Ely; but have put off writing, hoping still to see him. I will write him if all be well, in a few days. Ask him if he puts up any specimens to put up one or two for me, he they ever so indifferent I would like to have them. When I can get to town I will send you a little more money though it would be well to tell me in $ & ¢ about what you require: for I am ignorant of what may be the value of any thing you have to buy. Willie

I was out here yesterday for an hour or two with one of the Perrauns. There is no thing new about here. I trust you are making the most of your opportunities both religious & secular. You ought to go & see your Profs. now & then, & also you should go & see Mr. Wood occasionally. By doing this as a duty, you will keep yourself up to your work, as well as keep up a useful acquaintance with your teachers, pastors, & masters. If you come across a case of hydrocia &c. Saxcoptes (itch insect) or any varieties of entozoa, (worms) or any microscopic peculiarity, try to keep some or send it to me, for I have not any thing of this kind among my slides at present. Wishing you health & comfort & every blessing believe me

Your affect. father
W. A. Johnson

To James Boyell Johnson. See Bulletin Hist. Med., March 1939, 7: 335-51, "Letters of a devoted father to an unresponsive son", by N.B. Gwyn, to whom I sent a copy of this letter today. 5. xii. 39.

W.W.F.

"The Parsonage,"

Weston, Ont. Sept. 11th 1870

My dear Willie,

While in Toronto yesterday I called at Mr Barwicks office and he had just received a letter from Dr Bovell to say he would not be back till next Spring; & as there was some lady over there who had a claim on his Estate for a few hundred dollars and he wanted to see this account paid before

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he came back. I cannot
make papa say whether I am
to go to Toronto or Montreal.
I'm afraid it will end
by my going no where
unless he hurry's up about
it, for it will be too late
to apply. I wrote to Mr. C. Baynes
B.A. who is the Sec.y of McGill Col.
for a Circular but he has not
yet sent one. Frank Chubby

J B Johnson Esqr
Maggie Miles Marriage
Chas. Miles

is going up for his Examn:
in a few days & is going
with Chas. Miles on a Survey
up to or near Parry Sound.
When are you going to
Montreal? Come over
before you go. I'm nearly
sure Papa won't go to England.
Believe me
Yours Sincerely
J. B. Johnson.

Sep. 11 1890

This shows that it was not Burrell's
failure to return that influenced
W.O. about Morbine.

"The Parsonage,"

Weston, Ont. 16th Augt. 1870

My dear Osler,

I am inclined to think the story about Dr. Bovell & his mission about confederation likely as it seemed & told both to Mr Buckley & myself by the Browns is all non sense. From all I can find out he wishes to return & both Barwick & I have written very strongly to him to do so. He has not left Nevis at all: & I trust will be here by October. In my haste to pick up my then boots on leaving your house

the other day I took one of my boots & one of some other persons rubbers. You had laid them in the corner under that sharp nosed marine algo man, & being rather dark in the corner I did not no-tice my error until I got home. Take a turn over if you can. I found on returning that J.C. Morgan is start-ing school for himself at Barrie & seems to have been soliciting our boys. Some letters I have on the subject put him in a bad light & Mr Cheekley is treated badly by him. I would like to go to your uncle's with you if you are here this day

is supposed to be going to Morgan. though I would on no account solicit his return still I would like to know what has influenced him I intended to have sent Keble's letter of spiritual counsel for your Sister to read but Miss Boulton# is here thus it is in her hand devouring it, so it must wait a day or so. Bring my unhappy shoe, unhappy it ought to be at losing its partner if any one goes your way I will remember the best condition of the rubber. Remember me most kindly to your affectionate father & mother & dear Sister.

Old Toronto family

Aug 16 1870

Thanks to their kind hospitality I had a very pleasant trip & find myself selfish enough to enjoy the recollection of that quiet room & even peep at Memphis & all the kind faces of the household

Believe me
Yours very faithfully
W. A. Johnson

Aug 23rd
Wm Johnson

Copy

Dallas
September 9th

My dearest Darling Sister,

I have received your two letters since I left Dallas & I do not know which I prize most, for they are equally dear to me. I am so glad you are in the country & that Willie is doing better. I wish I could be with you & share your sorrows & pleasures, but I am so far off that I can only think of you & pray for you. I am very much pleased with Charlie's letter, it seems to be remarkably like his father, & I hope he will be a good boy & do all he can to please his dear mother. I am very much pleased with your letter, & I am sure you would like them very much indeed. They are always pleased when you write to them. I miss you very much. We have proposed a little plan, if it can be carried out, for the cousins & myself to go to Austin for a week or two next month, while Henry is here. We could stay at house for Sam

& go exploring Toronto under
Edmund's wing. You could then
manage a day in town perhaps
while we are there which would
be very pleasant. Carrie is in
Toronto at present, & will return
next week, bringing Henri Dea
back with her for change of air.
Kirk is going to Montreal on Wednesday
for some little time. I don't know what
the girls will do without him, as they
think more of him than Carrie
quite approves. — I was so asto-
nished to see Mary return with
Maggie from the Synod. She looked
very pretty, & was more lively than
usual. I do hope my dearest boy
you have remembered your pro-
mise, & not compromised her by
saying anything like definite
words. You would thereby do both
yourself & her more injury than you
can see at present. When you are

old enough, & still remain true (which I am sure you will) I promise to do all for both of you in my power, by being perfectly silent on the subject for the next two or three years, you will materially advance your cause with the parents on both sides, as they will then see your love is steadfast, & find that to raise objections would be no use.—

Emile & Fanny arrived here in that heavy rain on Tuesday, Fanny driving all the way from Lloydtown. They left with Mary on Thursday afternoon, so their stay was short & sweet. We six cousins all went to Brookes' & were taken in a group in memory of the event of three brothers two eldest daughters meeting for the first time. I have not seen them yet, so cannot say what the photos are like, they are a good size. $7 a doz, altogether

too large for an album.
The girls play Croquet very well & are fond of it, so we play a good deal, the only misfortune being that it gets dark so soon. Jennette is so small, but she is very nice & clever. Marian is about an inch shorter than Charlotte, & so fat & soft & round. they sing duetts together very well, & talk & laugh & are jolly, they appear to like us all, & Canada in general, although they open their eyes with astonishment at many things they see & hear.

What a state of mind Mrs Johnson was in, lest her Prefect should be taken away from her. I am afraid she will spoil you terribly, now she is sure of your remaining with her. Are all your cakes gone? We imagined you that first Sunday afternoon, & hoped you would not feel ill the next morning, the

on Mrs Edward Asler, poor girl
I am afraid she will repent her
hasty marriage, for I don't
know when Edward will be
able to keep her, he does not
make half the effort, I should
have thought he would, & does
not work a bit more than he
ever did, & you know that was
not much, Papa is quite
amiable about it, & also is
serene enough to me, but
has said nothing, I shall let
the matter drop until New Year
when a limit for the affair
will be fixed. We often wish
you were here, & the girls are
very anxious to see you.
Marian sends her cousinly
love, she is a very jolly girl

~~growth against the left tract~~, the same picture of atrophy is present though somewhat more advanced. In addition to the atrophy of the crossed bundles fasciculi the uncrossed ~~macular fibers have also~~ both macular and peripheral are also ~~atrophied markedly here, and uncrossed fibers to the nasal field are~~ considerably damaged. Nevertheless, the number of preserved fibers are so numerous that, could ~~they all be made to functionate~~ there have been relief from pressure, the resulting vision would probably have been considerable.

2 of Walter Johnson's drawings.

Letters to W.O. from Johnson and Borell

Letters of W.O. to Jennette Osler

W.O.'s mother

Painting of parsonage by Johnson

W.W.F.
1940

Introd. to W.O.'s Thesis (Oct 1872)

(this should be taken out & bound up with his writings) – removed 1940 5
inserted in # 7639 after Box 28