

1028/75/9

CUS 417/75.10

(W. A. Johnson to Jas. Bovell Johnson)

248 Bathurst St  
Toronto  
31 Oct<sup>br</sup> 1879

Future Plans

My dear Jim,

You see I have moved to Town (so direct me as above) & I am happy to say I am growing better every hour. Everything I tried to do at Weston I failed in, & my suffering was really very great; but such a change since I relieved myself of responsibility & the fear of it, I never could have believed possible. The terrible spasms in the bladder w<sup>h</sup> I supposed to be some malignant disease are actually subsiding, & I almost imagine as Philbrick & Arthur tell me, that I may yet be well again. The Lord has seen fit to let me suffer, or my perverseness made me suffer: be that as it may, I tried to be patient, & was really quite contented, but still I have not enjoyed life for the last two years and two months as I do today. I have not tried walking even to Queen St, yet, w<sup>h</sup> is only a couple of stones throw away, but still I feel as if I would dare to try it, & mean to in a day or two. I sleep again, & do without food between meals, & can even venture to think a little. It is a strange feeling, this recovering again: a joyous feeling, yet not altogether unmixed with a consciousness of regret. I thought, nay felt convinced, that I had got a long way on my last journey, & now am ordered back again. I must stop this current of thought though agreeable to me, for I can not touch such subjects without constant crying over them; & yet nothing to cry about: but even this is getting less afflicting than it was, & as I get strong will go off again I suppose.

I have a nice little house of seven rooms exactly opposite Zwonski's gate & not five minutes from Alice Barwick's Zwonski's grounds make a lovely lookout for us, & forbid any houses opposite for a time at any rate. It is very quiet & very pleasant. I only rent by the month & of course can move when I like. Fanny Docker is living with me, & is daughter & sister, as good as can be & with a little girl to help constitutes our household. I dread the idea of Weston, its work, responsibilities, & surroundings, as yet; but possibly even this may wear off again; though I can not imagine I can ever be fit to take that duty again: I have six months leave of absence, & after that it will be time enough to see what I can do.

I have been writing all about myself but I felt sure you would like to know all about me. Your last to me is dated Oct<sup>br</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> in w<sup>h</sup> you mention Lou having "an important letter from Arthur" but you did not know what it was about. He told me the other day, it was with reference to her coming out here. This city is getting to be a large & important town now. Its increase is very great. With much love & hoping to hear from you soon again, ever your very

Affectionate father  
W. A. Johnson