

College of New Jersey.

Princeton, N. J., 30 Oct 1876

My Dear Dr Dawson

I should have written you long ago - But the fact is I did not know what to say

I am convinced that your son deserves what is proposed. That paper of his in the Canadian Journal showed at once his power of thought and expression. I will be glad if I can get a Degree for him. What should that Degree be? Doctor of Science? Or what else?

Our Board meets on

Thursday week Nov 9th - Our custom is
to nominate at one meeting and
elect at the next, and the next
meeting is the second Thursday of
Feb^r. If I do not see rocks
a head I will nominate your
son on Thursday week.

But it is proper to apprise
you that there may be difficulties
in the way. In concert with some
other members of the Board I
have been setting myself firmly
against the indiscriminate granting
of Honorary Degrees. At last meeting
we blackballed all the proposed
D.Ds half a dozen in all. There

who proposed them case up that
we gave Degrees to Scotchmen, Canadians,
or I showed them we had done so
to a very small extent. But you
see how I stand. I will take care
not to bring your son into an
ambiguous position Yours Ever

James W. Cook

Principal Dawson

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Mr. Clark
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