

American Collegiate Institute

~~Lyons, Canada~~ March 17th 1899.

Chatham - Ont. Canada.

Sir Wm. Dawson

Montreal - Canada.

My Dear Sir:

I trust you will pardon the liberty I am taking in addressing you this note. I have been a missionary in Turkey for the past eleven years & during the last eight years in charge of the American Collegiate Institute in Smyrna. Among my most esteemed personal friends there is Joseph Bliss Esq, head of the Commercial firm of MacAndrews & Forbes. Although a business man he is deeply interested

in some departments of scientific
research and manages to find time
for considerable study. He is a
devout Christian, a warm friend and
supporter of all our missionary
work here, and also one of your
many unknown admirers.

In a letter just received from
him he asks me to be on the look out
if I find any of your photographs
on sale in our book stores to secure
one for him. I am most anxious to
do him this favor but has occurred
to me that if the photograph could be
your autograph it would gratify
him very much indeed. I will most
gladly pay for the photograph and
the cost of postage. If you have
one available upon which you
would kindly write your autograph

and request your Secretary to address
it to Joseph Elias Esq. - British Post Office
Smirna, Turkey, & at the same time drop
me a card to say the amt. I will stand
debit you a Post Office Order to cover
all the expense.

If you can do me this
favour I will return it very highly
indeed. I am now at my home
here in Chatham for my first furlough.

If I were sure of being in Montreal
again before leaving for the east in Aug
or June I would not think of troubling
you thus, but this now seems the
only way of satisfying the desire
of my friend Mr. Elias to secure one
of your photos. Again apologizing
for taking this liberty, I will remain
kind regards, I am,
Your Obedient Servant
Alexander Macfiehan

McLachlan.

Mar. 99.

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