

Ottawa, May 14, 1909.

My dear Mr. Drummond:

I was delighted, on arriving at Ottawa on Monday of this week, to receive your two letters of March 22 and April 3 respectively, and the Shanghai Municipal Report and Budget which you so kindly sent by registered mail. They were all here ahead of me, as after leaving Shanghai, I spent a month at Peking and part of a month in Japan. I took my seat in the House for the first time on Monday.

I had not forgotten my promise to interest myself in your grandson's welfare, and had intended speaking with some members of parliament representing constituencies in the West immediately after arriving here.

In view of your son's decision not to have his boy think of Canada for a time, I will do nothing at present, but should either your son or yourself wish me at any future time to make any enquiries I shall, of course, be only too pleased to do so.

I have been rather too busy this week to have an opportunity of looking over the report you have so kindly sent, but I have it at hand, and am glad to have it for perusal when the session closes. Parliament is at present holding three sessions a day, and we are all very busy in an endeavour to conclude the year's work by the middle of next week.

I am especially grateful to you for the information you have given with regard to the prospects of trade between Canada and the Orient, more especially China. This is exactly the kind of information of which our country is in great need at the moment, and I am glad to have for the benefit of the Government as well as for the public, the facts which you have cited, and in particular your own valuable opinion.

I hope you will find it possible to spend a summer vacation in Canada some year. There could be no better time for visiting this country than the one mentioned in your letter,