

July 18th, 1923.

Colonel T. Gibson,
707 Bank of Hamilton Bldg.,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Colonel:-

Now that I am writing to you it seems to me that I should say something about the Sault Ste. Marie celebration.

When Colonel Jones visited me in May or June I told him that I might go. I think I even went so far as to say that probably I would go, but at the same time I told him that it was impossible for me to give him a definite promise. I was quite surprised when I saw it advertized in the Press that I would be present at the celebration next month. Frankly, I do not see how I can be there. I have been unable to get away from the University yet, on account of troublesome appointments that must be filled. I have been bothered some by my boy's operation, which, I am glad to say, has turned out all right, but I would like to take him somewhere to give him a chance to recuperate as quickly as possible. Furthermore, my mother is in very indifferent health and is very anxious to me to spend some time with her at the old home in Strathroy.

On top of this the Colonel wants me to make a couple of speeches at different functions to be held in connection with the celebration, a proceeding for which I am in no great humour. I have decided to write to him and tell him that it will be impossible for me to go.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,