

McGILL UNIVERSITY
MONTREAL

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

FRANCIS E. LLOYD
MACDONALD PROFESSOR OF BOTANY

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GEORGE W. SCARTH
LECTURER

May 2, 1923.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, K.C.B.,
Principal's Office,
McGill University.

Dear Sir Arthur:-

Some time ago I wrote a letter of congratulation to Ex-President Francis L. Patton, Princeton University, on the occasion of his birthday. I received the following reply which I thought would interest you.

Bermuda, 15 March '23.

Dear Prof. Lloyd:-

Your kind letter of congratulation on the occasion of the eightieth anniversary of my birth was very gratifying to me, and I thank you very cordially for it. Let me congratulate you also on the important place you fill in a great Canadian University (I will not say the great, for I must keep my loyal expression for Toronto).

I see you keep Botany as a separate department. I had supposed that with the destructive effect of evolution on the Linnean classification Botany had consented to be a dominion under the Empire of Biology. But Dominions are asserting their autonomy nowadays, and I suppose it is so with Botany. I was only trying when I began to write to link your name with that of Sir William Dawson; and say that I am glad to know that Princeton has contributed to the staff of McGill in the large department which thus reflects the lustre of Dawson's name.

Many thanks for your kind word and please accept my best wishes.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) Francis L. Patton.

I send you the original, which please return at your convenience, for your examination. I do not know whether you can prove or disprove the accuracy of my reading. At any rate I thought you would like to hear what Patton said.

Yours sincerely,



1 Encl.