

In 1890 he made a bacteriological study of the water supply of Montreal, including the bacteriology of surface water generally. His very thorough report on the methods of classification of water bacteria and their sanitary importance was widely published. He was appointed lecturer in bacteriology at McGill in 1895, and was connected with the departments of pathology and hygiene. About this time also he became bacteriologist for the Provincial Board of Health and medico-legal expert for the district of Montreal. In 1897 he was made Assistant Professor in Public Health and Lecturer in Medico-Legal Pathology, and only a few months before his death received the chair of Hygiene and director of that department in the Faculty of Medicine, McGill University. He had practically occupied this chair for the Sessions 1900-01, and 1901-02, but until just before his death he was not formally appointed.

In December, 1895, he married Julia, daughter of the late Michael Turnor, of Rugby, England.

Professor Johnston's career has been a varied one ; from pathology proper he proceeded to the study of comparative pathology and spent a year in the investigation of the Pictou Cattle Disease. During this period he was associated with the Faculty of Comparative Medicine in McGill University as well as the Faculty of Medicine. Becoming more interested in bacteriology, he made a specialty of the sanitary application of this science, and was recognized as one of the best authorities on the subject of the bacteriology of water supplies. Originality, inventiveness and the power of recognizing the simplest and most direct method of reaching results, characterized his work in every department. While engaged in the investigation of the water supply of Montreal, he devised a very rapid and convenient method for collecting samples of water at various depths in such a way as to exclude the possibility of contamination. He also devised a method of distinguishing and counting the various animalculæ found in surface waters. When engaged in bacteriology in the General Hospital, his simple method for the diagnosis of diphtheria by culture on hard-boiled eggs, which is even now very widely used, was announced. His modification of the Widal reaction for the diagnosis of typhoid by means of dried serum, is also widely in use in different countries. An indefatigable worker, he tried all the methods announced that gave promise of practical value in connection with the application of bacteriology to hygiene and medico-legal work or to the diagnosis of disease. Having studied these methods, they were either immediately discarded or utilized in his work, and almost invariably improved upon or simplified. Instance after instance occurs to the writer where his inventive genius has made practical and useful many laboratory methods in bacteriology and pathology, and so to a great