

**FILE 447**

**JOHNSON & JONES**



nothing on files

ALBERT W. JOHNSON

ATTORNEY - AT - LAW

MARINE - ON - ST. CROIX, MINN.

Nov. 13, 1929.

Mr. President, McGill University,  
Montreal, Canada.

Sir:

I am informed by Eva Hunt Dockery, Pioneer Editor on the Staff of the Idaho Statesman, that she had assisted you in obtaining some information on Old Fort Boise, when you was out there, and that perhaps you had in your research of the early French settlements in America, come across the name of the man who is the subject of my quest. I refer to Dr. Michaud LeClaire.

The late Edmo LeClaire of Fort Washakie, a son of Dr. Michaud LeClaire, informed me in his lifetime, that his father came to Wyoming in 1833 from Potosi, Mo. That Dr. LeClaire married an Indian woman, and is reputed to have died in the early seventies down on Green river below Currant creek in Wyoming.

Granville Stuart in his "Forty Years on the Frontier" makes mention of Michaud LeClaire. There is also mention made of this man in "Vigilante Days and Ways. The Pioneers of the Rockies" by Nathaniel Pitt Langford.

I am personally acquainted with the descendants of the late Dr. Michaud LeClaire, residing at present near Fort Washakie, Wyoming, and at Pocatello and Fort Hall, Idaho, and am

to write a sketch of the life of Edmo LeClaire for the State

Historian of Wyoming as soon as I have gathered the material required.

Yours very truly,  
Albert W. Johnson.



November 16th, 1929.

Albert W. Johnson, Esq.,  
Attorney-at-Law,  
Marine-on-St. Croix,  
Minn.

Dear Sir:-

At the request of Sir Arthur Currie, Principal of McGill University, I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 13th, making inquiries with reference to the late Dr. Michaud LeClaire.

I regret to advise you that we can be of no assistance to you in your search, as our files disclose no reference whatever to this man.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary to the Principal.



136 Water St. Stratford, Ont.

Dear Sir,

Could you please give me any information regarding the character of a young man, named Edgar Johnson, aged 25 years resident of Montreal.

He said, "he attended Mc Gill University, two years medical student, and one year Dental student, but - I do not know what years.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs George Wade

136 Water St.

Stratford Ont.



November 1st, 1929.

Mrs. George Wade,  
136 Water Street,  
Stratford, Ont.

Dear Madam:-

The Principal has asked me to  
reply to your letter of recent date with reference  
to a young man named Edgar Johnson.

We have no record at McGill  
University that anyone of that name has ever  
registered here, either in Medicine, Dentistry, or  
any other Faculty, and so can tell you nothing of  
his character.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary to the Principal.



136 Water St - Stratford Ont.  
Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> 29.

Miss Margaret Chesley,  
Dear Miss Chesley.

I received your  
prompt reply to my inquiry  
of Edgar Johnson.  
He is just what I thought,  
not what he pretends to be,  
he has been keeping company  
with one of my daughters a  
lovely, clever girl, and I just  
wanted to find out what  
he was before it is too late,  
as he is a stranger, and  
she thinks a lot of him.



and my mother love urged  
me to write and find out  
if he is the kind of a man  
to make a girl happy. so I  
could warn my daughter, and  
she will have to decide for  
herself, it is some problem  
raising six children in  
this restless age. so I pray  
God will give us the wisdom  
to finish our task,  
thanking you for your trouble,  
yours sincerely  
Julia Wade.



Mrs. George Wade.

136 Water St:

Stratford

Conn.

October 5th, 1925.

Leonard A. Johnston, Esq.,  
190 St. James Street,  
Montreal.

My dear Mr. Johnstone:-

Thank you very much for your  
note of Saturday with the copy of the "Growler".

I remember very well when it  
made its first appearance in the early days of 1916.  
I also remember poor old Dobbin very well indeed and  
have in my repertoire several quite interesting  
stories about him. You will remember how deaf he  
was and this unfortunate condition led to some amusing  
incidents.

I do not know whether I have  
this copy or not, but I accept it with pleasure and  
thanks.

With kindest wishes always,

I am,

Yours faithfully,



# Leonard A. Johnston

GENERAL INSURANCE BROKER

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PHONES :-  
OFFICE MAIN 2225  
RES. UPTOWN 2257

190 St James  
~~47 ST. JOHN STREET~~

Montreal,

Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> 1925

Sir Arthur Currie  
McGill University

Dear Sir Arthur

In coming across the enclosed copy of the 14<sup>th</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> "Growler" published by my old "pal" G. Leonard Dobbin I thought it would be interesting to you if you have not a copy in your possession -

I may explain my only connection with this one and only edition - I was in Folkestone on leave and arranged with a local printer there by request of poor old Dobbin to have the sheets printed and sent out to the "14<sup>th</sup>" -

Respectfully Yours

Leonard A. Johnston



October  
Thirty-first  
1921.

Lukin Johnston, Esq.,  
Headquarters United Press Association,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Captain Johnston:-

This morning I received  
your letter of the 24th of October.

I was looking for you all day  
yesterday and wondered what had interfered with  
your arrangements. I shall look forward to  
seeing you on your way home.

I am afraid that I cannot help  
you very much in the matter of introductions to  
people in Washington. I know personally only the  
British Ambassador, Sir Auckland Geddes, and  
probably, General Pershing. Introductions to  
these would not help you very much for I imagine  
that the Ambassador would not care to be inter-  
viewed on the occasion while the Conference was on.  
I do not know whether Lord Riddell is coming from  
England or not. At affairs such as the Conference  
he usually acts as the "go-between" between the  
Conference officials and the Press. I see that  
Sir Maurice Hankey is accompanying the British  
delegation and I am enclosing herewith a letter  
to him.

With all good wishes, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,



Stafford Hotel,  
St. James's Place,  
S.W.1.

LONDON, 20th. August, 1921.

Stanley Johnson, Esq.,  
The Clark Production Co.,  
Fifth Floor,  
47, Berners Street,  
W.1.

Dear Sir,

The Bank of Montreal informed me today that you had not yet deposited to my credit the \$250.00 as agreed upon, so your promise to me has not been kept.

I propose to give you one more chance. I am leaving tomorrow morning for a week, and on my return I shall expect to learn that you have deposited to my credit at the Bank of Montreal, Waterloo Place, the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars. If you have not, I shall cause action to be taken against you at once.

At considerable inconvenience to myself in 1919, I endorsed a draft, drawn by you on your father in Victoria. I did it on the assurance by you that your father would honor the draft. You said there was an understanding between you to that effect. Such was not the case, and your father refused to pay the draft which was charged against my account by the Bank of Montreal. I am forced to conclude that you deceived me then.

When I called at your office on the 12th. inst., you promised faithfully to deposit on or before last Monday the 15th., the two hundred and fifty dollars. You did not keep that promise, and deceived me for the second time. I saw you again yesterday, the 18th., and you made a promise to deposit the money yesterday. You didn't do so, and deceived me for the third time.

Such treatment I do not propose to tolerate, and as stated above, offer you one more chance to make good. I cannot tell you how disappointed I am in you.

Yours truly,



J

March 26th, 1926.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am glad to give this letter of recommendation to Mrs. Stanley Mainwaring Johnson.

I have long known her and her people. She is well born and well educated, and because of the unfortunate circumstances following her husband's recent death is forced to seek a position in order to earn her living. I believe she would faithfully discharge the duties of any position judged suited to her capacity and ability.

I hope she soon finds congenial employment.

Yours faithfully,



March 26th, 1926.

Mrs. Helen Mainwaring Johnson,  
108 West Seventy-sixth Street,  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Johnson:-

I was glad to learn by your letter of the 24th that you got safely back to New York and are settling down.

I most sincerely hope that before long you will find some congenial position where you can be near your son. He seemed a fine manly young man and I am sure will be a great help and comfort to you.

I am enclosing a letter of recommendation and hope it is what you want.

With all kind wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,



March 2nd, 1926.

William L. Henry, Esq.,  
The Head Master's Office,  
Choir School,  
Cathedral of St. John the Divine,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Henry:-

I am this morning in receipt of your letter of the 28th of February and have read with interest the many kind things you have said about Mrs. Johnson's son.

It must give his mother great joy and satisfaction to have a boy of whom she has every right to be proud. I hope he shews in all his later life the fulfilment of so promising a boyhood. In the dark hour through which Mrs. Johnson is passing she must more than ever cling to the hopes she has for her son.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,



The Head Master's Office  
Choir School  
Cathedral of St. John the Divine  
New York

Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>

General Sir Arthur Currie,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, Canada.

My dear Sir Arthur:-

Our  
mutual friend, Helen  
Johnson, has asked me  
to write you something  
in regard to her son, Ted,  
to make assurance doubly  
sure and lend the weight  
of my own opinion to  
him to a mother's estimate



of her own son's ability and character.

It gives me much pleasure to do this, because I am so sure of my judgment about Ted that I can write you without even the slightest reservation in regard to the many fine things which I am going to say about him.

The background to my romance is this: for the past twenty-eight years I have been engaged in teaching in four preparatory schools and I feel that I



am somewhat of a specialist  
in the matter of understand-  
ing boys and appreciating  
the finer types.

Three years ago I came  
to the Choir School as Head  
master and I soon saw  
that there were several boys  
who were fine material and  
would deserve any effort  
put forth on my part to  
bring out the best in them.  
Ted Johnson was one of these  
and I can say that he even  
went beyond my expecta-  
tions in the way in which  
he responded to my efforts  
to have him work faithfully



and also have a record in  
conduct which would be  
worthy of him. at the end  
of that year he was awarded  
several prizes but what I  
considered the most valuable  
among them was the medal  
for "Greatest Improvement".

On that Prize Day in June  
1924 his mother was a proud  
woman and she had every  
right so to be.

Unfortunately Ted's  
voice changed that spring  
and so we could not have  
him back with us the  
next year but I had time



The Head Master's Office  
Choir School  
Cathedral of St. John the Divine  
New York

admitted to an excellent school at the head of which is an old friend of mine and I have had excellent reports of Ted's progress there.

Now I come to matters of a more intimate nature which will convince you that I have reason for saying that Ted is one of the finest boys that I have ever known. There have been a few boys in my long experience in school



work whom I have come  
to know so intimately  
and have stood up so well  
under every test of character  
and personality that I have  
had them visit me in my  
home during the summer  
vacations and who have  
taken pleasure trips with  
me. I have had these  
experiences with Ted and  
he has come out with  
flying colors in every way.  
He is loyalty itself in his  
friendship with me and I  
have found him true as  
a die and the very soul of



honor.

When I have taken him as a companion to visit my close friends, they have been enthusiastic in the extreme and surprised at the maturity of a boy of only fifteen or sixteen, as he was in the last two summers.

Undoubtedly his mother told you that at present he is carrying on here with his school work and his duties as crucifer and acolyte here at the Cathedral and doing his best, so that his mother need not worry about him, when she has



such a burden to carry. He continually surprises me by the wise head which he carries on his young shoulders and the seriousness of his purpose.

From all this I wish you to understand that his mother could not have exaggerated Ted's many fine qualities and abilities, no matter how much she may have dealt in superlatives.

Believe me,

sincerely and cordially,

William L. Henry.



September 19, 1923.

A. G. Jones, Esq.,  
58 Cathcart Street,  
Montreal.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of September 10th has been brought to my attention.

I fully sympathise with your efforts to bring out a book which will be a great help to those who desire to speak both French and English and I hope this effort meets with the support it deserves. At the same time my work at the University is so burdensome that I have not the time to attempt to <sup>obtain</sup> ~~gain~~ for you financial *assistance* ~~benefit~~. I am not indifferent to the value of such a publication as you are endeavouring to issue, but there is a limit to the financial obligations one must assume.

Yours faithfully,



September 10th, 1923.

A. G. Jones, Esq.,  
58 Cathcart Street,  
Montreal.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of September 10th  
addressed to Sir Arthur Currie has just been  
received.

Sir Arthur is at present absent  
from the city, but your letter will be brought  
to his attention immediately upon his return  
the latter part of the month.

Yours faithfully,

Principal's Secretary.





58 Cathcart St., Montreal.  
September 10, 1923.

Sir Arthur W. Currie,  
Principal,  
McGill University,  
MONTREAL.

My dear Sir Arthur:-

Speaking to Mr. W. Patterson, Joint Crown Prosecutor, the other day in connection with my great educational work on the two languages, and telling him that I was finding some difficulty in getting an influential financier interested in its publication, Mr. Patterson said to me:

"Why not see Sir Arthur Currie? Sir Arthur is a soldier, he is not timid, he must be in close touch with many distinguished men both in Quebec and Ontario, able to advance a comparatively small sum like \$2000.00 in a high-class venture which would pay the lender \$18,000.00 clear profit in a short time, and, in addition, he would show peculiar interest in a matter pertaining to education, particularly as regards French. My advice to you is to see or write Sir Arthur."

As Mr. Patterson has a great reputation in legal as well as scholastic circles, I am following his advice and will now proceed to inform you as to the facts:

You will remember giving me your name as a subscriber to a work on the two languages I was getting out. The title of that work is, or will be, Comment Parler Français, Comment Parler Anglais. How to Speak French, How to Speak English. My first intention was to issue it in the form of one large-book, but circumstances have arisen which oblige me to split it into two separate and distinct volumes. If issued as one book it would be the size of the new City Directory, and as I could not give a book of that size to my subscribers for \$2.00 I have divided it into two companion volumes, each complete in itself, and my subscribers will be supplied at the rate of \$2.00 per volume.

The object of the work is to make the acquisition of French a comparatively easy matter for those who speak English only, and making conversation in English possible for the French student in a very short space of time.

My matter is in opposite columns,--English one side of the page and the equivalent French phrase on the other. The number of sentences (from three to about thirty words each) will be in the neighborhood of 40,000, dealing with all conditions of life, invariably practical and natural, a considerable part in the form of ordinary conversation.



Sir Arthur W. Currie,  
(Continued).



My volumes are founded on sixty great works, including such authorities as Ollendorff, Berlitz, Fasquelle, De Fivas, Bertenshaw, Henn, and more than fifty others. I have already told you that the New City Directory was a good indicator of the size of my two volumes put together.

Later, these two volumes will be bound under a single cover. I have canvassed over 1000 names. I need not have stopped at 1014 as I did, because there was plenty of material in sight, but I only set myself the task of getting 1000, depending upon the influence of these gentlemen to further circulate my work. This they will all do. I can depend, practically, on every one to take an extra copy, while some of the Book-stores will take 1000, in small batches of fifty or so at a time.

The Hon. Athanase David has promised me the support of his Government, which means a great deal, while Dr. Parmelee, Mr. Sutherland, Mr. H. J. Silver, and a number of other distinguished Educationalists, will support the work liberally.

My Canvas Book shows the names of a number of K.C.B's., K.C's., Millionaires, Judges, Lawyers, Members of Parliament, Members of the Legislature, Executive Councillors, Legislative Councillors, Senators, Notaries, Architects, Chartered Accountants, leading Newspaper Editors, Bankers, Brokers, and men high up in the commercial, business and financial world. Altogether they are over a thousand strong. Their influence could hardly be over-estimated, and the future of my work seems very flattering.

Another 1000 with-held their names and said their business instincts would not allow them to ratify with their signatures, in advance, a work that had not yet gone to press. This, however, they stated need not depress me, as they would gladly purchase the books for themselves and their friends as soon as it was produced. I have about a thousand promises of this character from such men as Lord Atholstan, Sir Vincent Meredith, and other untitled gentlemen.

I have great influence down in the Eastern Townships, where I was born, and as I already have an old canvas I made down there for another book, I am able to say positively that I can place 600 sets in my home-town of Richmond, and in adjacent centres like Sherbrooke, Danville, Windsor Mills and other towns.

To sum up, I am able to say positively that I can dispose of my two volumes to the extent of \$50,000.00. I can sell



Sir Arthur Currie,  
(Continued).



over 10,000 setts, and the general public will have to pay at least \$5.00 for the two books. Nor do my efforts exhaust the matter. Aided by your influence and the energy of a good publisher, there is no reason why this great work, which appears in the form of a public utility, should not circulate up to and beyond the 100,000 figure. French Canadians will buy freely. It ought to circulate all over this Province, in parts of Ontario, Manitoba, parts of the State of New York and New England States, in Louisiana, Newfoundland and other places. One hundred thousand setts is not an extravagant figure to name for these books.

I am not opposed to the two-language system because I believe it broadens the memory and increases the size of the brain, although it may not improve the mathematical and logical qualities a great deal.

Five hundred dollars is needed to put this work in final form for the printers. To anyone who will advance \$2000.00, \$500.00 to myself personally, and \$1500.00 to the publishers in due course, -- to anyone who will do this I am willing that the book should be under obligation to pay back \$20,000.00 out of the early sales.

Now Sir Arthur, with your influence and learning, I leave it to you to say if you know of anybody, including yourself, bold and brave enough to launch on this very lucrative undertaking, with the element of risk absolutely expunged. My death need not derange the matter, as there are a number of Insurance Companies who would insure my life as regards this venture for a very small sum.

I hope Mr. Patterson has not misled me, and I trust I shall hear from you at once.

I beg to subscribe myself, my dear sir,

Yours very truly,

*A. G. Jones*