

PROF. ROBERT WILLIAM ROGERS  
MADISON, NEW JERSEY

November 25. 1925

My dear Friend:—

I thank you for the review of Johnson books which you have clipped from the Nation & Athenaeum and sent me. How well these Englishmen write!—much better than do Americans of the same general type & preparation. It's a product of the tutorial system of the two old Universities with their 'greats' training, and everlasting essay writing.

I see the Spectator every week but seldom the Nation & Athenaeum. I do not like the politics of the Nation end of the concern, and still lament the disappearance of the old & independent Athenaeum as in its days of glory in a field now more or less imperfectly filled by the Times Lit. Sup. The Spectator has been far too much Strachey-ized. I get quite sick of his every week pronouncement on everything with signed articles. It is absolutely ludicrous, for example, to have him reviewing translations of the classics, — ~~for~~ he was never a 'classic' himself, for at Balliol he took a first in History, — in his day a weak thing compared with Lit. Hum.

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I know C. L. Graves, now of Punch, long on Spectator + was interested last summer at my college in Oron, which he much frequents, to have his opinion on Strachey, which agreed so closely with mine.

Bless me, - this garrulous ole thing has inflicted a letter on you!

Cordially Yours  
RWR

To Mr Ernest Dressel North.