

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY DENTAL SCHOOL

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY BUILDING

DEAN'S OFFICE

CHICAGO ILLINOIS

Jan. 21, 1911.

Dr. F. S. McKay,  
700 Exchange National Bank Bldg.,  
Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Dear Doctor:-

I received your letter of the 8th inst in due time, and have read it with a great deal of interest. I have been so busy of late that I have hardly known which way to turn. I have been doing a lot of experimental work on the formation of calculus and have been finding out some things not known before, and the work has held me very closely. I have just been down to New York and have said something about it there in a paper on the beginnings of pyorrhea alveolaris, so-called.

I have been very anxious to visit you again and look over the field there under the new conditions that may have developed. What you say of the outlining of the area of susceptibility to mottling of the enamel is both strange and interesting. I think the city government of Colorado Springs would do well to have a very thorough analysis of the water made in the different localities, and particularly in the localities near, in which the mottling does not occur. That matter of the freedom of the little town Eastonville and the schools at Castle Rock, is certainly interesting data, and shows plainly that there is some influence at Colorado Springs that is <sup>not</sup> operative at those points where you find immunity, and certainly we ought to get at something as to these differences, in some way. The only way to do is to try everything we can think of and eliminate the things we have sufficiently tried, until we narrow the

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thing down to the right thing. It will certainly come if the investigation is continued.

I will try to get an analysis of the Chicago water to compare with this that you have sent me. This analysis contains some very decided surprises. The amount of silica was rather unexpected by me particularly, but I will try to look that matter up. There are analyses of the water here made occasionally by the city chemist, and I will be able to find it in the reports.

I am glad you have got some people at work watching the coming of the permanent incisors. I don't know but I feel just about as anxious over that matter as about any one item of the whole business.

From the reports that have come to me from regions about Denver, I suspect that there are some spots about there that are susceptible to the mottling, which may be found by questioning closely as to where the persons that show mottled teeth have lived as children. It is sometimes difficult to find out those things. I know I had a case here in which our examiner found that the boy had been born and raised in Chicago. I finally got hold of the mother and questioned her carefully about it, and found that he had spent his first seven years actually in Colorado Springs. Some people seem to forget where they were born. They were there perhaps, but don't remember it, and unless you are very cautious you will be deceived in spite of yourself. Of course we expect that, but the

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point is to eliminate these deceptions as far as possible.

Don't forget me because I am a little slow sometimes in answering. I am glad always to get your letters, and am very anxious over the matter. I have no more interesting thing on the tapes.

Very truly,

*G.V.B.*

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