

1, Vassar Street
Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

27th Dec 1927

My dear father,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated Bombay the 27th January. I am doing quite well. The weight registered last Monday was 109.1 lbs. I do not know why the weekly variations trouble you so much. I went to Hargess on College in 1914 with only 89 lbs. During my stay over there for five years I hardly gained more than 10 lbs. Here within a period of six months I have almost got it. Had I been in India just at present I do not dream of my weight increasing to that figure. I do not understand why I underright; the under-weight has never to the least extent disabled me to do anything. However I think I shall be putting on weight slowly but steadily. The weekly variations over here, I can not explain to myself; none else can do it.

The last week we had some good snow for the first three days. That was the reaction with us of a heavy storm at sea where some lives were also lost. I also read that there was another storm yesterday along the coast, but it brought us nothing this time. Such storms are characteristic of the months of February and March. But on the whole, the winter is quite mild this year. With an end of March, the winter will disappear. At present we go through a season not almost resembles the rainy one in us. Except that accidental mistake of a swollen finger, I had nothing to suffer from cold. Even that summer here was not a serious affair. Get you know how give you the idea of the inclemency of the weather, but it seems that it is much made of. Such things would rather tempt me not to communicate to you any such things.

I had my interview with Mr. Bush of the General Electric company yesterday morning at the dozen works of the company, a distance of some 15 miles which can be made in a tramway. The interview gave me really an idea as to how difficult it is for a foreigner to get

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into the co-operation course. I can now really understand the attitude of the professor who disengaged me in the very beginning. With the change of course, he comes to be my registration officer and helps me to the best he can. The general electric company, our Bush said, is not interested in foreign students except they serve the interests of their customers and through them the interests of the company. Tatas and others are the customers of the company and at times may want the company to train some men of theirs. The company feels sure if any backing behind me from India, they would take me up. He wanted me to give some references of high-placed gentlemen in India whose recommendation may get me admission. I have given the name of (i) H.H. The Thakore Sahib of Limbodi, (ii) Dr R.P. Paranjape, and (iii) Mr Amital D. Ghette. My application with the professors recommendations and the result of my observations of our Bush on interview are forwarded to the head office of the company at New York who will finally dispose of it off. This is the routine followed in all cases. It is just likely they may refer to India, but I can not say it for certain. However I wish to get, if it be possible to arrange, a nomination from Tatas. Here I have got a real opportunity come to me by my own merits. It is almost slipping out of my hands, but the Tatas by a word can make me secure it. I seek no undue favour of men but this fact I may have the advantage of a thing that come to me by merits. I therefore wish that if it can be arranged, influences should be brought to bear upon Tatas. With the view in mind I have already written to Dr Paranjape. I have not the least hesitation that he will recommend me to the company if ever a reference is made to him. But I have made a request to him to intervene with Tatas on my behalf. I do not know whether he will do it for me or not. There is another source also through whom I intend to try. Some Velchand Hirachand or so, a gain from Maharashtra is a partner of the Tatas in their engineering contracts. I think him ~~for J.J. S.M.~~ I will go in contact with him. I have written to Muniji about it, and if he has ~~has~~ any acquaintance with the gentleman, I am sure Muniji will do all he can for me.

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I do not know whether any of your friends Mr Padshah or others can help me in this respect. I again make my position clear. It is the institution that nominates me to the company. The company always has a right to accept it or reject the nomination. The company spends a good deal of money in training the students. The company in so doing follows the principle of enlightened self-interest. The company thinks that the students trained under its auspices would either serve it or serve its interests when out in the profession. The company is not sure that a student from India can get into the profession, and hence it likes to ascertain whether there is any chance for me sufficient to serve its interests. Under these circumstances they want to know the backing behind me; and if that be assured, the admission is certain.

This letter would be reaching you by the beginning of April. The group goes into cooperation course in the beginning of June; so at the most there is a month before you to arrange if you can for me. Sir Dorab Tata, it is just likely, may move to the hills by April. So if you think you can do anything in the matter, I request you to do it soon.

I got ~~myself~~ quite alright with the last nail. It has cost me only 5 annas. The nail was all broken; as it is bound to be; it can not withstand the pressure from other things that may have been fixed on it. But the stuff comes alright. It would last us a week. But we are so many over here. But I request you not to put it in your first and last parcel.

With respects —

Ramchunder
Trikamal.