E. Johns

Dogwood

Emily Sartain

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Dear Mr. Leeman :

It was such a pleasure to hear from you at Christmas although I was sorry to hear that you had had a rather difficult year. I should have replied sooner had it not been for minor disasters none of them serious although rather annoying. First I managed to sprain an ankle. Then we had three feet of snow which made it difficult for friends to come to the rescue and even though they were as always most kind and helpful, there was a gleam in their eye that warned me that they thought I should not be living in a little house all by myself, at least, "not at my age." I realized that they may be right and for a while the shadow of incarceration in a nursing home seemed imminent. But now that the snow has melted and the ankle is ~~now~~ functioning I can look after myself quite well. So I am tempted to hang on to my independence for awhile.

During the past few weeks, I have again turned the pages

of your Epitome and am more convinced than ever of its unique ~~timeliness~~ timeliness. Even in this cynical decade there are signs that a new spirit is abroad and that what Democritus Tertius has to say in this scholarly analysis is in accord with it. Please let me know what has been or will soon be done to put this book into the hands of readers who, like myself, would turn to it in times of stress and strain.

What do you think of the Canadian scene these days? La Belle Province is not alone in its desire for separatism. British Columbia has its own brand, too, and is being drawn more closely than ever into the American orbit. Perhaps the Centennial high jinks will bind us together again. Anyway, I have just come in from the garden. The crocuses are in bloom and so is the white heather. So here's hoping. Best wishes,
E. Johns

Dogwood — Emily Sartain