

CHESTER E. JACKSON
OVID
MICHIGAN

Feb'y 6, 1923.

My dear Mr Bigelow

Confronting me is an open book
and upon the fly leaf I can see
"To Chester E. Jackson my friend & fellow
explorer of Tropic days
Poultney Bigelow"

I have seen it many times, and
always with dreamy eyes for it sets me
to thinking of ye olden time when we
circumnavigated, not the globe of the earth,
but akin to it -- the globe of Antigua.

When I get to itching - luminiscent itching -
I make "hot-foot" for the two Cosmopolitan
magazines where a "cruise around Antigua"
is the it and then ^{there} is more dreaming

Just two years ago this time I sojourned
with a family by name, Nugent, still
living in Antigua and prominent in your
description of the cruise. The master said

"if only Bigelow were here now, Eh! Whar-a-t!"
After 31 years absence I returned to Antigua
just to see if it were there and still on
the map, and found what! The cemetery
full of my old friends! + The coral reefs

Feb'y 6, 1923

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the fly leaf I can see "To Chester E. Jackson
my friend & fellow explorer of tropic days
Poultney Bigelow"

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itching -- I make "hot-foot" for the two
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with a family by name, Nugent, still living
in Antigua and prominent in your
description of the cruise. The master said
"if only Bigelow were here now, Eh! [??]"

After 31 years absence I returned to
Antigua just to see if it were there and still
on the map, and found what? The country
full of my old friends! The coral reefs ...

still receive the incoming rollers +
dissolve ~~and~~ them just as easy as when
when the "Caribee" ^{CHESTER E. JACKSON} sailed over them
so lightly and ^{OVID} carefree ^{MICHIGAN}. The trades sough,
through the palms with the same old soothing
music and the cricket-frogs still chirp on.

In the street a kindly grizzly old
party stopped me "You 'member me, Consul,
my boy Richard used to mind you boat,
the long ago dead." Another, "You
member me?" "No, indeed I do not, it's so
long ago." "Me wash for Mrs Jackson"

Your address was "Century Club"
but I could get no farther. I want
to thank you for "Paddles + Politics"

A late made friend Author of
"Alone in the Caribbean" and canoeist -- through
the islands -- a wonderful trip to whom I
lent P + P put me on your address and I
hereby seize the liberty of "Coming across"

The little girls whom you remember
are still here and near about with some
near the forties. The Missus is struggling
to keep young while "Grandpa's" arteries are
stille in the job

Believe me yours very faithfully
Chester E. Jackson

... still receive the incoming rollers & dissolve
them just as easy as when the "Caribee" sailed
over them so lightly and so carefree. The trades
sough through the palms with the same old
soothing music and the cricket-frogs still chirp
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Another, "You member me?" "No, indeed I do
not, it's so long ago." "Me wash for Mrs.
Jackson."

Your address was "Century Club" but I could get
no farther. I wanted to thank you for "Paddles &
Politics" [SLH Note: I now have the volume].

A late made friend author of "Alone in the
Caribbean" and canoeist -- through the islands --
a wonderful trip to whom I lent P&P, put me on
your address and I hereby seize the liberty of
"coming across."

The little girls [SLH Note: underlined in red in
the original] whom you remember are still here
and near about with some near the forties. The
Missus is struggling to keep you while
"grandpa's" arteries are still on the job.

Believe me yours very faithfully,

Chester E. Jackson