

In the evening J. Garden, Col. Heckman, Major Dr. Gibbon, Wadsworth (last two Indian agents) & I were together for some time chatting. Garden returns tonight to British Columbia.

Saturday 18
pleasant

Attended the examinations. Today the candidate Hawick for the higher examination gave up the ghost, saying that he was ^{not} sufficiently well prepared for it.

Before dinner King, Webb & I chatted on scientific matters at the Ordepa. Upon invitation, Col. Wadsworth Indian agent dined with me this evening, - he, Major Webb & I together. - The people are beginning to come to Ottawa for the opening of parliament next Thursday.

Sunday 19
cloudy

I remained in the house all day, reading etc. In the evening Mr Webb & I drove to J. Caytons and spent a pleasant evening till 10-30 P.M. Returning we sat in my room smoking & chatting till 1 A.M. Mr W. relating to me many incidents of the Red River rebellion in 1869 with which he was intimately connected at its inception, he having been stopped by Riel proceeding with his gunnery. - Shortly afterwards he, ^(Webb) organized three volunteer companies by instructions from Col. Dennis (Dunsmuir's General) who was also in the country (Dollgarry). -

Monday 20
rising
mist

Today we put the remaining two candidates at practical surveying, neither were very proficient Messrs. Buryall being very slow & G. White rather careless. - In the evening I met Mr. Reubens chief Engineer of the Murray Canal, later a.c. Webb & I went to hear "Eli Perkins" on the "Philosophy of wit & humor." The lecture was not of a very high standard, altho' besides some laughable remarks

February Some intellectual passages occurred

Tuesday 21
pleasant

Attended Board meeting, which was the final one, & passed Gov. White & L. R. Bourgeault. King, Webb & I were together afterwards. - At night Mr. Webb returned to his home, Mr. Prentice & I chatted away several hours this evening.

Wednesday 22
fine

This morning I called on our Minister Hon. Mr. White & spoke with him re my going to British Columbia to complete the programme arranged last year with Mr. Oplvie who is now in the Yukon for determining the longitude of Oplvie's winter quarters, whereby an approximate determination of the boundary (141st meridian) of Alaska will be obtained. Mr. White concurred therein stating "that the best way to make money is to begin something & not finish it." (The observations are observations of stars by the noon, one observer being at a place of known longitude, the other at the one to be determined). Then I called on Dr. Dawson and with him met Dr. Selwyn, the director of the Geological Survey, and who heartily greeted me, saying he was glad to meet me, often having heard of me. I had only known him by letter and was not particularly well disposed towards him. - Returning I found the Deputy Minister Asst. Burgess in; with him I had a similar chat as with the Minister, he told me of the difficulties that had existed between him & Mr. Ed. with Sir George's agent, how he had relegated him to his proper place - inferior in rank to himself etc. - He asked me to draw up a joint report (by Mr. Deville, King & self) on "the selection of an observatory at Ottawa, and one by myself on "the contemplated survey of the Dominion by the Department of Militia & Defence i.e. to be done by the Royal Military College professors & cadets. By request of Mr. Burgess I inspected the new