

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 (141<sup>st</sup> 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 moon, 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. Edwith Burroughs and 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



testing apparatus for chairs in the Inland Revenue Department for Mr. Johnston, the Commissioner. In the afternoon I called on Mr. Deville & King and then drew up the operating memorandum which both signed. - King & I then went to his house & took Freddie for a walk; we then proceeded to McCaffrey for a short time, there met W. Wapner & J. Reid, then we went to my room & discussed the British Columbia matter &c. - Mr. Woodburn proprietor of the "Journal" addressed me today saying "I hear you are to be the next member for your riding", and Siripulaby Knight J. Reid repeats the same thing & asked "we surely are all glad to think that we will have a man in the House" &c. - From whose fertile brain this stuff evolved is a mystery to me. - At 11 P.M. left for home.

Thursday 28  
fine evening  
after pleasant  
cloudy

at 8 a.m. at Toronto where I met Jacot; left at 12-20 P.M. again, on train met Jennings C.P.R. engineer & chatted with him to Hamilton, he was for many years in British Columbia. - Having two hours at Hamilton I took luncheon at Euclid's. Arrived home at 5-30 P.M. being met at the station by Marie & Lulu.

In evening after children were in bed told Marie of my plans for this spring, of my probable going to British Columbia again, and of taking her along, and our probable visit to California from Victoria. - I can not say that she exhibited much joy at the idea of such an extended trip and tour. At this place I have been scheming for the past year, affording me pleasure in anticipation of the pleasure & joy in there for her, but feel at the moment somewhat mortified that my efforts receive little recognition -

Friday 29  
cloudy

for Mr. Burgess  
Busy working a report on the contemplated survey of Canada by the Royal Military College professors & cadets