

to be the most selfish & egotistical concern imaginable. My experience has been that any one out of their department who attempts to say anything are gobbled for the dissemination of knowledge is put upon at every opportunity by these self constituted know-all's. - And now they invade even our special domain, and in what manner - to criticize the abilities of optive to make astronomic observations. - Of course a compliment was paid me by requesting me to compare the merits of Dr Dawson as a critic in such matters & of optive as an observer. -
- In evening I was busy writing. -

Thursday 14
cold

Attended Board meeting. The whole day was again occupied in hearing evidence in the case of J. J. Dalton. The defence is making a good showing. - In evening accompanied H. Webb to the House of Commons & after listening for some time to uninteresting speeches by Adam Brown, Peter Mitchell & Mr Keen on iron duties, the National Policy, coal & corn we went to the smoke restaurant accompanying Cochrane M.P. of Northumberland & Messrs M.P. of Northampton. M. T. King was with me at my room from 10 1/2 to 11 1/2 P.M.

Friday 15
fine

The Board meeting was again occupied all day with Dalton's case, the evidence being all in at 5 P.M. thereafter King, Pearce, Webb, ~~W. Pearce~~ adjourned to the Rodeau.

In evening at my room reading & writing. Late in evening W. Pearce was in my room chatting & smoking over a glass.

Saturday 16
mild
eve. mist

At Board meeting and by 4 P.M. we had disposed of J. J. Dalton's case. On the first charge of corruption all the members save King & Pearce found him not guilty.

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On the second charge of gross negligence all but King & Rosewell found him guilty. On the question of shall his commission be cancelled, all said - no, on the question of shall he be suspended - all save Rosewell & King said he shall. We then took upon the time of suspension in slips of paper when it was found that the times varied from 1 month to 3 years. The mean of the seven (E. Deville chairman not voting or speaking in any point) was 10 months, which was then carried. -

Afterwards Pearce brought as 10 mos. would bring the time very near to Jan'y 1890 - we make it that, to this I objected, on two grounds - that it was rather rough on the defendant to increase his punishment simply to remove off the date of expiration, & secondly as the chairman had already declared the sentence he could not re-open the case. However the chairman overruled my objection & put the question when it was unanimously voted down, altho' as Pearce's first suggestion several members had agreed to his proposition.

After adjourning I called on the Dep. Secy. Mr. Hughes but he was not in. Pearce, Webb, King, Devereux, Rosewell & I were at the Parade, & afterwards had King at the Russell where Southall Sec. of the Dep., F. Clayton & Crawford joined us.

After dinner in the evening I spent several hours with Dr. Stephen Hill in his rooms. He is undoubtedly at present a disconcerted man. Being possessed of sufficient of this world's material goods and being ambitious he seeks for the higher political honors. According to his views of affairs the two cabinet portfolios which were filled during the past year were successively almost within his grasp. The first one Minister of the Interior was given by the Premier Sir John A. Macdonald to Mr. Edgar Dewdney - against the wishes of all the other members

of the Cabinet, they favour Dr. Ferguson. When the post-
folio for Postmaster General was to be filled, he again was
supposed to be the successful candidate, but Sir John upon
the wish & demand of Mr. Lacon the rich lumber man
appointed postmaster. It appears (so the Dr. says) that Mr. Lacon
has contributed or rather taken \$10,000 = stock in the con-
servative exponent - The Empire, and furthermore Stafford
had done all sorts of work & engineering in parliament for
Mr. Lacon, so the latter paid his debt of gratitude &
the more one seems to know other people the more lessons
that disinterested riches where to the casual observer it be lost
found. - No, no riches bring not happiness. -

Sunday 17
fine

Busy writing at my "paper" for the D.S. meeting. -
In evening W. Pearce, A.C. Webb drove to St. Clairsville &
spent several hours chatting. Returning to the hotel we
met Mr. Sedgwick Dep. Secy. of Justice with whom we
discussed the trial of Dalton, and other subjects till
after midnight. Sedgwick appears to know more about
astronomy than the general run of lawyers. -

Monday 18
fine pleasant
after snow

Attended Board meeting & began the examination of the
papers. - After 4-30 P.M. we adjourned to the Board
for refreshments. - In evening met at the Russell W. Beatty
W. Crawford, C.A. Biggs, Jas. Mc Latchie & W. Pearce all D.S. -
But I left them in order to finish my "paper". -

Tuesday 19
pleasant

Attended Board meeting. As I am considered the authority
on the Board on "Descriptions" I examined those papers &
found that the 8 candidates failed therein. W. A. King
counter signed the marks given by me. In presence, however,
Webb, King & I adjourned after our day's labor as usual
to the Board. Gallic & Soda was in favor. -
- This morning the session of the annual meeting of the
D.S. association opened. I heard in the evening that the
President E. Kainboke had made some objectionable remarks
reflecting indirectly on the Government & directly on our Dep.