

Mr. Neville in his extreme modesty and lack of asserting himself in his official capacity is generally "sat upon." Many a time he has shrugged his shoulder (as Frenchmen do) and said "What can I do?"

After Dr. King, Webb, I drove out to the Experimental Farm, the Director Mr. W. Saunders was not in but we met Mr. Shutt and inspected his well appointed laboratory. The stables, henery & other buildings were visited and interesting information obtained.

I have the highest opinion of the great goods that will flow from this farm & the allied provincial ones, more goods in years than can be given by any tariff. —

We returned by the picturesque canal road, east side, —

In evening busy writing. —

Sunday 18
five

Saward now took a walk along the Lovers' Walk and parliament grounds. Ever do I enjoy this walk with its grand and impressive scenery. It awakens ones enthusiasm and patriotism, so much needed in Canada. — Had a short chat with Mackenzie Powell Min. of Customs whom I met on the parliament grounds. —

Saward evening Webb I went over the same grounds. — Otherwise spent the day reading.

Monday 19

Marie's Birthday
Æ 36 M. 153 1/2

My first thought this morning was of her who is part of myself, of my dear dear Marie, and sorely regretted that I could not clasp her in my arms in fond embrace and congratulate her

August
 another birthday. I wired my congratulations
 to be followed in a day or so by more realistic ones.

— We finish our business in the
 Board of Examiners & adjourn. —

Mr. Deville & I have a chat on photogrammetry
 re; Mr. Burgess not having returned I am
 obliged to lay over till tomorrow as he is to
 give me my instructions in reference to my
 trip to Alaska.

King, Clayton, Webb & I were together after
 5 P.M. — Webb returned home in evening.

Tuesday 20
 fine, warm

At noon Mr. Deville & I called on Mr. Burgess Dep.
 of Ministry re my Alaska trip. In a few words
 Mr. Burgess gave me my instructions, they being
 primarily & principally to find out what the United
 States parties are doing, and then to gather such
 information as may help in designing the plan
 of future work, and also such information as
 will assist in discussing the boundary question
 and place us in a position to deal intelligently
 in the matter without fear of being hampered
 by the United States. — All correspondence
 re Alaska was placed at my disposal.

— I felt that great confidence had been
 placed in me in placing ^{me} in charge of this
 work, work which has an international bear-
 ing. — I will assiduously strive to merit
 the confidence reposed in me and shall labor
 to the best of my ability. I was given carte
 blanche as to how to proceed to carry out
 the end aimed at. — Upon invitation I
 took luncheon with Mr. Burgess at the Ridgman
 Club. Afterwards I was with Mr. Deville again
 then saw J. Johnson, but he could give me no informa-
 tion, then I read Gen. Conner's letter re Alaska
 Boundary written in 1875. Then King, Clayton & I