

Steele Notebook S.A.C. 1903 2008.1. Box 4, Folder 24

[dates check for 1903]

Friday 20

Office early. Busy until 1.45 Wrote numerous letters Sent many to the I.G. as usual and gave instructions on various matters
Mail from England small. Letters from Canada.

Saturday Nov. 21

Office early. Busy until 1.45 Wrote many letters and sent out instructions on different matters.

Gave Major Stewart leave to go to Johannesburg.

Drove out in the afternoon. Rain at night.

Max. 8³_{0A} in shade min at 6.30 7³_{0A} Midnight max 65. Hillman(?) came over to the house and wished me to change Duffie my driver, I refused

Sunday 22nd

Church in the forenoon, very heavy rain in the afternoon and evening. Did not go ~~out~~ to evening service Drove six miles in the afternoon.

Pretoria 23rd

Green still in hospital. Heavy rain last night one inch fell in an hour. Roads swimming with water during the night. It is likely to continue. Rained hard at intervals during the afternoon. Wrote Davie asking him to let me have a report of the magistrates clerk having reported matters to the public press connected with the arrest of the train robbery. Davie writes to the effect that he got proofs in the telegraph office of the fellow having given everything away. Letter from A. G C Macdonell, Dalton Trail Post in the Yukon Ty. Wrote him in reply. Wrote Major Jarvis Regina, Mrs Trimble Swift Current
Sent my daily diary to the I.G. asked Scarth to make a separate report of matters to secret service.
Left the office at 1.30 Wrote letters at home both afternoon and evening.

Wrote Capt Clarke and asked him to see(?) the homestead and residence near Barrie Ontario

Wrote McGivern re his message ~~from maj~~ per Capt Crawshay late Inniskillin Dragoons. Wrote Lt Atwater who is stationed at ~~the~~ Wakkerstroom Dist stating that I would do my best in both cases.

Maximum 85

Min 62

24th

Wrote Killiam(?) about coal and pointed out that I did not get as much as last year and that my men got none. Wrote Colonel Nicholson on account of McGivern and others Did not say much.

Wrote Mr J. Walker Sunnyside to be forwarded to his address.
Heavy rain last night.

Min at 6.30 AM 6³_A Max. 76. Rain.

Wrote to I.G. my confidential diary as usual.

Rode out in the afternoon horse very fresh, bucked hard. Rode 10 m. and returned. I then drove up town on business Ordered 1½ doz photos on an order for a friend. Ordered do for Mrs Steele.

Very heavy rain at 6.30 I just missed it.

25th

Telegram from I.G. to inform me that Capt Jarvis(?) is being prosecuted by the law dept for killing Royal and his big game and that I am to suspend him from duty for the time he is engaged in this Court. Have arranged for him to come in at once and that I shall recommend Messrs Booth & Wessels as his lawyers.

Saw Const Cave and told him about his exam, gave him advice as to procedure etc etc

Diary as usual to the I.G. with full notes.

Drove out in the afternoon to Sunnyside and other places

Distance 15 miles. Max. 8³_A Min. 70.

Heavy rain at 7.30 lasting for an hour

Too much rain the seedsman says

Pretoria

26th Nov. 1903

Sent diary to I.G. as usual 7 foolscap pages, very full report of Pomeroy's trip.

Fine forenoon. Max 78 at 12, Min 60^{at} at 6.45

Wrote Godson-Godson as promised, gave letter of introduction to him.

Men busy getting a shed up for the orderlies and officers horses.

Ordered more garden seeds

___ - onions beets – corn – (maize and mealies) Tomatoes – peas – turnips. None of the last lot were a success hope they will be better next time. There seems to be too much rain the ground is saturated with it.

Heavy rain again at 4.30 AM

Antoine went out and got soaked thro'

Max at 4.00 62

Min today 60

27th Nov 1903

Wrote Lord Dundonald in reply to a request of Major Gen Strange re Alex Strange and recommended the latter for a Comn in permanent corps which is being raised in Canada and called Lord Strathconas Corps HdQrs Calgary.

Rec letters today from Wm Pearce, ___ Steele and Henry Steeles two sons who went out to Canada last year.

Wrote Lord Dundonald with regard to Stranges statement re the permanent corps. Got letters from J.J. McHugh and Bjornson Johnson both of Calgary North Alberta

Went up town at 8.30 and retd at 9.15 gave orders to the men to keep up their work. Expected Jarvis in the forenoon – but he cannot have arrived yet.

28th Nov

Not much doing. Sent diary to I.G.

29th Sunday

Mr. Dobbin of Montreal called upon me in the P.M. Mr. Macdonald the editor of the Ag. Journal The P.P. also called. Drove Dobbin to the Transvaal hotel he is on his way around the world and will visit India-~~and~~ Japan & Australia en route.

30th Nov 1903

The manager of the Cape Royal called upon me re Odlum not having paid for the dinner of the Canadians. This scoundrel has been paid twice over ~~for~~ the amount of money necessary to pay for this banquet.

Wrote the chief engineer about him asking him to hold the money owing to him and in his reply he states that the scoundrel did the same for him.

1st Dec

Very heavy rain about 5.30 and at intervals until midnight. The thunder and lightning incessant

Paid to Beckett & Co fifty pounds (50£) Paid 52£ to Messrs ____ & Co for Skinners Const

Wrote to Mr Rose Resident Engineer for Pretoria re young Odlum who Rose says that Odlum is back and wants his payment. I sent Sanders up through Hilliam to demand from Odlum an order for his pay or I would prosecute Wrote Odlum a letter which Sanders is to present to him.

Asked Hilliam by letter to look carefully into the matter. Odlum is one of the vilest young scoundrels that I have ever met.

Temperature from 60³_{0A} at 6,30 to 78 max.

Paid up through the pay sheets the whole of my payment due on the removal of the stables. This removal charge is atrocious such an imposition has never been perpetrated on an officer in all my experience

Inspected the hospital and saw all of the men who were not at tea.

The ground is perfectly saturated with water from the rain of today.

2nd Dec

Up as usual at 6.00 AM. Temperature min at 6.30 62

Ground very wet from last night. Wrote Booth & Wessels(?).

Office 8.30 AM. The morning bright as usual.

Got extracts of Confidential reports for ___ and Capt Travers per CSO memo, ~~2/2483~~ 2/2484 and 2/2485 respectively ~~and~~ acknowledged same and forwarded to the office to be returned to me.

Drove out to the Leper Asylum and called upon the Phillips' and Dr Turner. Met some lepers on the road. Phillips says that there is no danger of infection except through food and that even the children of the lepers are not necessarily leprous. I would not like to risk it.

2nd |Continued

Heavy thunderstorm passed around the town, cleared off at night, clear moonlight.

Maximum 7⁰³_{0A} at 2 P.M.

Discharged Norman(?) for a month and gave him a pass.

Mailed a long report from ___ to I.G.

Called on Booth re Jarvis and the game ordinance (alleged violation)

3rd Dec

Pd Williamson ___ butcher, Kendrick(?) five pounds, Bagnall two pounds. Indian two pounds for gardening extra.

Wrote Lt Heygate(?) in reply to his to the effect that I could not arrange a transfer for him at present as I was two overstrength.

Wrote Hilliam for a pony for Sister Lawrence.

Ordered medicine yesterday P.M. for Harwood but orderly forgot to bring it down which necessitated my getting some other sort to answer until this AM.

Day cloudy.

Confidential diary 2 pages to I.G.

Heavy rain ~~and~~ with thunder and lightning at 6.30 and continuing at intervals until 10.30 when it cleared off

Maximum today 8⁰³_{0A} Min. 6⁰³_{0A}

Jarvis retd to ___

4th Dec 1903

Office 8.45 wrote Odlum. European mail in letters from John B Bright CS and a book from Roger Pocock late NWMP now Correspondent of Lloyd's weekly.

Wrote a letter of introduction for Capt Currie to the I.G. and sent it up to the Grand where Currie is staying. I fear it will not be in time.

~~Wrote Odlum~~ Wrote my brother James on business to Beaver Lake Alta.