

G. M. Dawson

N. W. Angle Lake of Woods

July 6. 73.

Dear Papa

I have not time to write  
a long letter but just send off this note  
by my teamsters who are returning to Peukin,  
or rather Dufferin, tomorrow to let you  
know of my arrival here.

I was 9 days on the way down here from  
Dufferin & spent the greater part of one day  
in Garry. This is pretty good time considering  
the state of part of the road, the slowness of  
Red River Carts, & that two of my men  
had to walk most of the way. The carts  
were heavily laden, & we had ~~three~~ axles  
& a wheel broken on the way. However  
as the carts are made altogether of wood  
with an axe, a knife, & strips of

raw - lids of Stepanapee repairs are  
easy.

The mosquitoes were terrible & sometimes  
Came drifting into our face when the mosquito  
curtain was up more like drifting snow in  
winter than anything else. We had also  
some trouble from horse-flies which are  
very bad on part of the Deussen road  
this summer. Several men have been  
killed on the way by them & travel goes  
on mostly at night. I think one of  
our horses would have fallen under them  
if we had <sup>not</sup> fortunately arrived at one of  
the stations when enabled to put it in  
the stable. Patches as big as a plate  
were literally covered with flies so thickly  
that one could not see the colour of his  
hair. Nothing would keep them off, & one



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of my teamsters in one sweep got  
both hands as full as they would hold.  
We travelled two stages at night to avoid  
these pests, & very uncomfortable it was.  
One of these nights I went on walking  
with Duckworth, & as it happened it  
got so dark & wet that the carts & my horse  
never caught up & so I had to walk the  
whole sixteen miles to the next station through  
a succession of thunder storms & over  
very heavy roads. When we got there,  
the house, which was very small, was  
completely filled up & some 60 campants &  
we had to light a big fire & wait outside  
till the carts arrived, when we camped just  
before sunrise.

I got quite a lot of plants on the way  
& have seen occasional specimens of  
*Lamentan puris* since leaving

Birch Creek, about 30 miles W. of here.

It cure now at present

Your obedient Son

George

P.S. Was any box of coal samples  
for Dr. Percy ever sent off?

Ans

