

INVENTORY

THOMAS FULTON DAWSON, 1853-1923

COLLECTION No. 183

THE COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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processed by

M. Susan Yetter

THOMAS FULTON DAWSON

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COLLECTION NO. 183

THOMAS FULTON DAWSON

1853-1923

FOREWARD:

SIGNIFICANCE: The Thomas F. Dawson collection consists of personal correspondence, (1876-1922), social invitations, a collection of memorabilia composed of press passes and other admission tickets which comprise the first part of the collection. As a whole, this part of the collection is illustrative of Dawson's prominence as a political figure in Washington, D.C. and as a national journalist. The collection of memorabilia also provides many fine examples of the engravers art during this era. Additionally, the collection contains a bound volume compiled by Dawson for the express purpose of donating to the Colorado Historical Society. It provides a record of his efforts, his methods, and the actual evidence that he assembled while researching the historical accuracy of James White's trip through the Grand Canyon in 1867, two years before the scientific expedition of Major John Wesley Powell. The Dawson Collection also contains the sum of the Dawson Scrapbooks, a total of 80 in number. These large, red volumes are housed in the Stephen H. Hart Library of the Colorado Historical Society. These scrapbooks were compiled by Dawson over a period of several decades and primarily consist of newspaper clippings. Each volume deals with a different, broad topic. They may be used by researchers in the library, but due to their fragility, may not be photocopied. Contained herein, on microfilm, are Volumes #19 and #68, titled "Crime" and "foreigners in Colorado" respectively. (Copies may be made from the microfilm.) These scrapbooks are a valuable source of information covering a wide range and diversity of topics. Each volume contains a detailed Table of Contents and there is an over-all Index to all of the scrapbooks. The final volume of the scrapbooks is devoted entirely to Dawson's personal clippings. In another light, the Dawson scrapbooks provide great insight into Dawson as a practical journalist and an amateur historian.

PROVENANCE: It appears that the Dawson Collection was acquired over a period of time during Dawson's lifetime and after his death. The Dawson Scrapbooks were donated by Dawson himself shortly after taking the job of Curator/Librarian of the State Historical Library in 1921. The Bound Volume, "James White's Trip Through the Grand Canyon in 1867," was compiled by Dawson during the years 1918 and 1919 for the Historical Society. It was given to the Society on October 11, 1921. The provenance of the remainder of the collection is unknown. The collection consists of roughly 250 peices, not including the Dawson Scrapbooks.

RESTRICTIONS: NONE

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

- b. 23 June 1853 near Munfordville, Kentucky
- d. 25 June 1923 Denver, Colorado
- m. 13 March 1878 Ella Dickinson - no children

Thomas Fulton Dawson was born on a farm near Munfordville, Kentucky on June 23, 1853. His father died during Dawson's early childhood; he was reared by an uncle. Dawson attended public schools and later college. At the age of twenty-one (c. 1874) he moved to Louisville, Kentucky to find work as a newspaper man. He obtained a job as a reporter for the Louisville Ledger. Later he went to work for the Louisville Courier-Journal.

In 1876, as a direct result of his journalistic successes, Dawson was offered a job working for the Denver Tribune. At that time the Denver Tribune, located at 16th & Market, was owned by Herman Beckurts and edited by O.H. Rothaker. The editorial staff consisted of Eugene Field as the associate editor; Fred Skiff as the city editor; and Dawson became the state and telegraph editor. He later became the city editor. This was the era of the great rivalry between the Denver Tribune and the Rocky Mountain News to become the dominant morning newspaper. Dawson purchased an interest in the Denver Tribune which he subsequently sold in 1881. While Dawson served on the editorial staff of the Denver Tribune, the Tribune Publishing Company issued a short history of the Ute War in 1879. It was authored by Dawson and Skiff. One of the few remaining copies of this book sold for the sum of \$270.00 at a rare book auction in New York City in 1923.

The year 1881, the year Dawson sold out his interest in the Tribune, saw Dawson briefly working on the editorial staff of the Denver News. From there he transferred his talents to the Denver Evening Times as its managing editor. In 1882, in association with Frank S. Woodbury and Captain R.G. Dill (of the Leadville Herald Democrat), Dawson purchased the Denver Times in a three-way partnership from its founder and proprietor, General R.W. Woodbury. Dawson sold his share to F.S. Woodbury in 1885 when he left Denver for Washington, D.C..

When Dawson arrived in Denver in 1876, it was during the turbulent times that surrounded Colorado's admission into the Union. The scenario in Denver was bubbling with public and political activities. By profession a newsman and by nature an historian, Dawson began to systematically collect newspaper clippings and historical data, an activity he continued until the time of his death in 1923. In later years, and particularly after his appointment in 1921 as Colorado's state historian, Dawson worked on arranging by topic most of this material into the now famous 80-volume set of scrapbooks which he donated to the State Museum. These scrapbooks furnish a wealth of historical data for the historical record of the state of Colorado and the West in general. In addition to his scrapbooks, Dawson donated upwards of 450 volumes of his personal library relating to the history of the American West to the State Museum.

Dawson's years as a newspaperman during the 1870's and 1880's brought him into contact with many exciting people and events. He met many of the 58'ers and 59'ers when he first came to Denver. He also remained in Colorado through its transitional period from cattle ranching to an age of agriculture. Dawson travelled extensively through-out the Rocky Mountain region and the Southwest while working for both the Tribune and the Times. His reader's avidly awaited the striking word pictures of his experiences that he sent back to Denver. He was also a favorite of little children writing sketches for youthful readers under the moniker of "Uncle Tom." One of Dawson's fellow newspapermen in the 1880's made this comment: "The name of Tom Dawson passed as 'gold coin' among his associates of the press. Personally, he was loved by all who knew him for his sincere and kindly nature. As a writer he was esteemed for his shrewdness of insight, his love of the truth and his zeal for that which he believed to be right in whatever cause under consideration within the province of his pen." (The Trail, V.-16-#3)

In 1878, Dawson returned briefly to Louisville to marry Miss Ella Dickinson. They were wed on March 13. They had no children of their own, but reared several children of various relations, including a nephew, Thomas F. Dawson, Jr. -his namesake- who later became an assistant clerk for the United States Supreme Court.

In 1885, Dawson entered into a partnership with Elias Ammons in the cattle business. "Dawson & Ammons" began with a small holding of 80 acres and 25 head of cattle. Over the years the business grew substantially acquiring thousands of acres of land and running between 1,000 and 1,500 head of cattle. It was known as Oxyoke Ranch; one of the largest cattle ranches in Douglas County. One of Dawson's notable accomplishments concerned the cattle industry. Along with Ammons and a handful of other supporters, Dawson helped to inaugurate and develop the National Western Stockshow in Denver with its subsequent strong influence upon the growth of the livestock industry in the west. Also in connection with the cattle business, Dawson was accidentally instrumental in the selection of an important dam site that was acquired by the Denver Union Water Board and later became Lake Cheesman. As was his habit, Dawson spent his vacations on range riding operations at his cattle ranch. On one of his expeditions he discovered what he felt to be a perfect granite formation at the mouth of Goose Creek (or Lost Park Creek as it was sometimes known) along the South Platte River. It was a natural rock formation that was ideal for the construction of a dam. Through his efforts the site was brought to the attention of the Water Board who quickly filed for title to the land.

Dawson left Denver in 1885 to take on the duties of private secretary to Senator Henry M. Teller in Washington, D.C. He remained with Senator Teller until his final retirement from government service in 1909. As Teller's secretary, Dawson served as the clerk of the Senate Committee on Mines and Mining.

Soon after Dawson's arrival in Washington, Dawson's talents as a newspaperman came to the attention of the Associated Press (A.P.). He soon became one of the leading writers for the A.P., an association that he maintained for over twenty years. For the duration of his employment with Teller, Dawson covered the activities of the United States Senate for the A.P. In addition to his regular assignment at the Senate, Dawson handled many special assignments including the Maine inquiry and the Schley investigation. Dawson was widely

known in the newspaper world. He not only appeared in the Denver dailies and the Washington press, but in the newspapers of New York, Boston, and cities of the middle west. Dawson's work as a general writer on current events was considered to be "so thorough and fair that it commanded the respect of all members of the Senate regardless of their party affiliations." (Colorado Magazine, Vol.1, pgs 2-9). Dawson maintained his contacts in Denver while he was in Washington. He regularly sent articles and pen sketches of Washington's prominent men back to Denver under the by-line, "A letter from Tom."

Dawson's tenure with the United States Senate proved a boon to many people in Colorado, particularly in land and other public matters. Many people owed the success of their land claims to Dawson's tireless efforts of their behalf.

At the beginning of 1896 Dawson was assigned the duties of supervising the Resolutions Committees of several national presidential conventions. There were four that year. He accomplished the job so successfully that he was employed in this capacity for every subsequent national campaign for the duration of his lifetime. This would have included the campaign of 1924 but for the intervention of his untimely death. Dawson was assigned other duties in connection with some of the most noted presidential campaigns tours -- including the most famous of that time, the 1896 tour of William Jennings Bryan. Dawson took an active role in the Senatorial election of 1896 as well. He wrote a short pamphlet on Senator Teller that gave a brief account of his fifth election to the U.S. Senate, along with a sketch of the preceding political events in the contest for bi-metallism in the election of 1896. This pamphlet was published in 1898; it was later revised and expanded by Dawson for publication in the Congressional Record of February 13, 1923.

During the summer of 1905, Dawson was chosen to be a member of a party of noted American journalists and writers touring Canada by train. The party travelled westward across Canada and returned to Washington via Minneapolis and Buffalo. Dawson contributed a peice entitled "Trip Through Canada on Wheels" that appeared in the Kansas City Journal on October 3, 1905.

Dawson was appointed to the position of Executive Clerk of the United States Senate on April 6, 1913, holding this position for the duration of the Wilson administration. The position of Executive Clerk required integrity and trustworthiness of a high caliber. That office dealt with the important matters of treaty making, presidential appointments, and other confidential matters. Through this office, Dawson managed to unearth many important records and data that had gone long unused making this information available to Senators for their use. Also at this time, Dawson spent considerable time and effort on researching the story of James White's trip through the Grand Canyon by raft in 1867, two years before the Powell expedition. Dawson's research was an attempt to substantiate White's claim to be the first person to traverse the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. Dawson's efforts were published as Senate Document #42, 65th Congress, 1st Session in 1917.

In 1918, Dawson was instrumental in the establishment of the Colorado Society in Washington, D.C. He was elected the first president of this fledgling organization whose purpose was to provide a meeting place for Colorado

exiles and to maintain ties to the home state.

In 1920 Dawson left Washington to return to Denver as a permanent resident. He renewed his interest in the State Museum and on May 6, 1921 was appointed to the office of Custodian and Curator of State Museum historical library for the salary of \$2,000 per annum. Dawson diligently worked for the State Museum until his death with the exception of a six month leave of absence in 1922 to work for a Boston newspaper. Dawson's three years at the State Museum were productive for both the Museum and for Dawson as a writer-historian. Although an amateur historian, Dawson made many contributions. He authored a dozen articles for The Trail and devoted much time to interviewing and writing sketches of the early pioneers.

Dawson's death was sudden and tragic. He was an organizing member of an automobile outing party sponsored by the Denver Press Club that was accompanying President Warren G. Harding on a tour of Denver's mountain parks. The city of Denver had been favored with the longest stop (a full 24 hours) on Harding's monumental tour westward across the breadth of the United States from Washington, D.C. to Tacoma, Washington. Late in the afternoon of June 24, 1923, as the automobile party was returning to Denver down Bear Creek Canyon, the car that Dawson was riding in plunged over a cliff. Two passengers were instantly killed. Dawson lingered in critical condition overnight. He died the following morning.

PUBLICATIONS:

In addition to the published works already mentioned in the biographical sketch, Dawson is noted for his detailed and illustrated biography in two volumes of Senator Wolcott. The book is titled, The Life and Character of Edward Oliver Wolcott. It was published in 1911 and was written at the request of Senator Wolcott's family.

Dawson was also the author of such small works as "Hands Up" which was an account of David Cook's exciting experiences in territorial Colorado as the president of the Rocky Mountain Detective Association. He was the author of many special little books, not not all of which bore his name.

Dawson, being a journalist wrote continuously all of his life for publication in many of the newspapers and serials of his day. Some of the articles that he wrote that appeared in the magazine The Trail are as follows:

- "The Arabian Nights on the Old Frontier"
- "Lost Alone on Bear Creek, Forty Years Ago"
- "Francis Schlatter - Denver Healer of the 90's"
- "End of the Great War"
- "More Light on James White's Trip Through the Grand Canon"
- "The Ute Indians before the Appearance of the White Man"
- "John Brent"
- "The Godfather of Marshall Pass"
- "Teller and Wolcott in Colorado Politics"
- "Col. Boone's Treaty with the Plains Indians"
- "A Park Bench Derelict"
- "By the Side of the Road"

Two articles were published by the Colorado Magazine shortly after Dawson's death. They were:

- "The Old Time Prospector"
- "Colorado's First Woman School Teacher"

CHRONOLOGY

- b. 23 June 1853
- d. 25 June 1923

- 1874 First job as a newspaper reporter for the Louisville Ledger, Louisville, Kentucky
- 1876 Came out west to Denver to work for the Denver Tribune as the state and telegraph editor.
- 1878 Married Miss Ella Dickinson in Louisville, Kentucky.
- 1879 First book published. It was a short history of the Ute War, jointly authored with Fred Skiff.
- 1881 Sold his interest in the Tribune and went to work for the Denver News.
- 1882 Bought a third interest in the Denver Times and became its managing editor.
- 1885 Entered the cattle business with Elias Ammons. They formed the partnership of "Dawson & Ammons" and acquired their first peice of land in Douglas County.

Left Denver for Washington, D.C. to take the job of private secretary to Senator H.M. Teller.

Became the Associated Press correspondent for the United States Senate.
- 1896 Supervised the Resolutions Committees for all of the National Conventions and covered the campaign tour of William Jennings Bryan in his bid for the presidency.
- 1905 Journalistic tour through Canada in the company of other noted American writers and journalists.
- 1911 Publication of his two volume biography, The Life and Character of Edward Oliver Wolcott.
- 1913 Appointed the Executive Clerk of the United States Senate.
- 1918 Established and became first president of the Colorado Society in Washington, D.C.
- 1920 Returned to Denver as a permanent resident.
- 1921 Appointed the Custodian & Curator of the State Museum Library.
- 1922 Took a six-month leave of absence to work for a Boston newspaper.
- 1923 Killed in an automobile accident.

CORRESPONDENCE

<u>FF</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1	1	TFD	L.P. Richardson	Greeley, CO	10-26-1876
1	2	TFD	W. Baron vonRichthofen (in German)	Camp Rolling Gulch	5-3-1977
1	3	TFD	Walter, Baron vonRichthofen	London	1-19-1878
1	4	Senator Morton	Mrs. Jane Grey Swisshelm	Washington, D.C.	12-27-1876
		TFD	Kate Field (Letter of 8-8-83 written upon earlier correspondence)	Manitou	8-8-1883
1	5	TFD	William McGarrahan	London	9-18-1889
1	6	TFD	William McGarrahan	London	12-11-1889
1	7	TFD	Daniel B. Hill - ex-gov. New York/ ex-U.S. Senator	no place	c. 1890's
1	8	TFD	L.B. France	Denver	5-28-1895
1	9	TFD	L.B. France	Denver	1-3-1896
1	10	TFD	John W. "Capt. Jack" Crawford	New York	1-21-1898
1	11	TFD	Cy Warman	Banff, Canada	7-5-1905
1	12	TFD	John F. Ellis & Co.	Washington, D.C.	6-27-1906
1	13	TFD	Cy Warman	Montreal	1-8-1910
1	14	TFD	Irving Howbert	Colorado Springs	3-30-1914
1	15	TFD	Robert E. Strahorn	Spokane, Washington	6-4-1918
1	16	TFD	Gen. Anson Mills	Washington, D.C.	6-17-1918
1	17	TFD	Mrs. M. Ryan	Denver	10-10-1918
1	18	TFD	W.W. Bass	Grand Cnyon, Ariz.	7-24-1920
1	19	TFD	Mary Halleck Foote	Grass Valley, Cal.	10-15-1922
1	20	TFD	Mary Halleck Foote (Letters #19 & #20 Used in <u>The Colorado Magazine</u> July, 1942, pgs. 122-25, Vol. XIX, No. 4)	Grass Valley, Cal.	10-28-1922
1	21	TFD	Mrs. Enos A. Mills (With 2 enc.: "Johnny & Jenny, The Grizzly Bears in the Zoo" and "Little Boy Grizzly, Johnny")	Longs Peak, CO	11-11-1922

<u>FF</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1	22	TFD	H.M. Lord-Chief of Finance, U. S. Army	Washington, D.C.	1-21-1922
1	23	Mrs. Dawson	Rough draft of letter: E.M.G. Hazell Schmall Jessie Wills Myrtle [Crump]	[n.p.]	[n.d.]
<u>SOCIAL INVITATIONS</u>					
2	1	TFD	Bd. of Governors of the Penn- sylvania Club	Washington, D.C.	3-12- [n.y.]
2	2	TFD	Chauncey M. Depew	Washington, D.C.	2-26- [n.y.]
2	3	TFD	The Rocky Boy Band of Wandering Indians	Washington, D.C.	[n.d.]
2	4	TFD	Senator Kearns	Washington, D.C.	1-6- [n.y.]
2	5	TFD	The President & Mrs. Cleveland	Washington, D.C.	1-11-1894 1-25-1894 2-3-1894 2-6-1894
2	6	TFD	The President & Mrs. Cleveland	Washington, D.C.	1-9-1896 1-23-1896 2-6-1896 2-13-1896
2	7	TFD	The President & Mrs. Cleveland	Washington, D.C.	1-14-1897 1-28-1897 2-11-1897 2-18-1897
2	8	TFD	The Pennsylvania Railroad Company		[c. June 1898]
2	9	TFD	The President & Mrs. Roosevelt	Washington, D.C.	2-5-1903
2	10	TFD	The President & Mrs. Roosevelt	Washington, D.C.	1-26-1905
2	11	TFD	The President & Mrs. Roosevelt	Washington, D.C.	2-16-1905
2	12	Mr. & Mrs. Dawson	Vice-President & Mrs. Fairbanks	Washington, D.C.	1-20 - [1906]

<u>FF</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
2	13	TFD	Reception to meet the Speaker of the House of Representatives	Washington, D.C.	5-7-1906
2	14	TFD	W.W. Jermane	Washington, D.C.	3-26-1907
2	15	TFD	Thomas F. Walsh	Washington, D.C.	12-10- [1908]
2	16	TFD	Mr. Lowden of the Gridiron Club	Washington, D.C.	2-8- [1908]
2	17	TFD	Secretary of State & Mrs. Bryan		[c. 1913 or 1914]

BOUND VOLUME

This bound volume was compiled by Thomas F. Dawson during the years 1918 and 1919 for the Colorado Historical Society. It was donated to the Society on the 11th of October 1921 by Thomas F. Dawson. The volume consists primarily of correspondence, but also includes newspaper clippings and other documents, relating to James White's trip by raft through the Grand Canyon of the Colorado in 1867. The volume is entitled "James White's trip through the Grand Canyon in 1867." The evidence contained in this bound volume formed the basis for Dawson's pamphlet of the same name which can be located in the Rare Books room of the Colorado State Historical Society. The call number is 978.06/D327/gr. The pamphlet was originally published by the United States Senate early in 1917, as Senate Document #42, 65th Congress, 1st Session in response to Senate resolution #79 entered by Colorado Senator Shafroth on May 25, 1917. In that publication the title reads: "The Grand Canon - An article Giving the Credit of First Traversing the Grand Canon of the Colorado to James White, a Colorado Gold Prospector, Who It Is Claimed, Made the Voyage Two Years Previous to the Expedition Under the Direction of Major J.W. Powell in 1869," by Thomas F. Dawson.

<u>PAGE NO.</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
2					Unidentified newspaper clipping containing Congressional authorization for Dawson's investigation. Submitted by Sen. Shafroth, Congressional Record: May 25, 1917.
3	TFD	D. Taylor, Mayor of Trinidad	Trinidad, CO	3-21-1916	Testifying to the character & veracity of James White; confirming White's journey through the Grand Canyon in 1867.(1 pg.)
4	James White	TFD	Washington, D.C.	7-21-1916	Asking Mr. White of particulars in regards to his trip through the Grand Canyon so that Dawson can set the record straight. Inquires about Capt. Baker, the leader of the party who was killed by Indians on the Grand River. (4 pgs.)
5	TFD	Ester M. White	Trinidad	8-2-1916	Daughter of James White describes to Dawson the circumstances of her father's early life & refers to newspaper accounts of her father's canyon trip & offers to help in Mr. Dawson's efforts.(4 pgs)
6	J.H. White	W.W. Bass	Grand Canyon, Ariz.		A chance meeting with two young ladies from Trinidad who mentioned your trip of 1867. Acquainted with Dellenbaugh who

<u>PG. NO.</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
6	cont'd				brands you as a "fraud & an accomplished liar." Knew J.P. Velmer of Lewiston, Idaho who had planned to be on your trip in 1867. Knew Powell & acted as his guide on his Bill Williams Mountain Trip. Now writing an account of my experiences. (2 pgs.)
7	James White	T. J. Ehrhart Colo. State Highway Commission	Denver	1-24-1916	Ehrhart remembers White's trip down the Grand Canyon. (1 pg.)
8	TFD	Esther M. White	Trinidad	9-8-1916	Letter forwarding a signed statement by her father describing his trip. (1 pg. with enc.)
9					Enclosure from above letter. The "original" signed statement of James White describing the events surrounding his voyage through the Grand Canyon in 1867. (7 pgs.)
10					Photograph of James White in his 80th year.
11	TFD	W.H. Edwards	Greeley, CO	10-11-1916	Never received an account of White's trip although Stanton promised one. Interviewed White in Trinidad with a stenographer. Relays Stanton's address to Dawson.(1 pg.)
12	TFD	Robert B. Stanton	New York City	11-22-1916	States that White's trip is "pure fabrication" and says that he has documentation to prove it. Refers to his own long manuscript on the Canyon. (2 pgs.)
13	TFD	Esther M. White	Trinidad	11-24-1916	Acknowledges letter & enclosures sent by Dawson & is returning them with some corrections in Maj. Calhoun's story. Father does not remember ever meeting Calhoun & doesn't know where he got his facts. Due to father's age, his memory is not the best for details. Would be pleased to receive a copy of Dawson's article. (2 pgs.)

<u>PG. #</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
14	TFD	Robert Stanton	NYC	11-27-1916	Stanton offers to exchange data from his manuscript for Dawson's data on White's trip. Acknowledges that he & Dawson seem to be the only two people really pursuing the story of the canyon exploits. (1 pg)
15	TFD	Robert B. Stanton	NYC	12-7-1916	Suggests that they meet to exchange views either in NYC or Washington. States that he has a handwritten copy of Dr. Parry's interview with White that he will use in his book. (1 pg.)
16	TFD	T.J. Ehrhart	Denver	11-22-1916	Corrects certain geographical facts pertaining to White's expedition. Enclosure of Ehrhart's statement of recollection of White's party. (2 pgs.)
17					Enclosure from above. Signed statement by T.J. Ehrhart of the Colorado State Highway Commission regarding his knowledge of the White-Baker expedition. (3 pgs.)
18	TFD	W.W. Bass	Grand Canyon, Arizona	12-1-1916	An account of his progress & prospects for gathering more information concerning the canyon voyage. (1 pg.)
19	TFD	John P. Vollmer First National Bank of Lewiston	Lewiston, Idaho	11-27-1916	Regrets that the records he had in relation to White's trip have been either destroyed or misplaced. (1 pg.)
20	TFD	S.W. DeBusk	Hoehne, CO	11-27-1916	Statement of J. White's good character from a long-time neighbor & friend: "White is incapable both morally & intellectually of putting forth fictitious narrative." (3 pgs.)
21	TFD	D.L. Taylor Mayor of Trinidad	Trinidad	11-29-1916	Taylor knew White for 40 years & says that there is no "braggadocio" about White. (1 pg.)
22	TFD	Julius C. Gunther Gov. of Colorado	Denver	1-19-1917	Knew White for more than 30 years. Testifies that he has been "worthy, industrious, a law-abiding citizen, respected by the community in which he lived." (1 pg.)

<u>PG.#</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
23	TFD	Esther M. White	Trinidad	1-10-1917	Thanks Dawson for sending a copy of his article and suggests minor corrections. She volunteers to assist with the typing if needed. (2 pgs.)
24	TFD	Robert B. Stanton	Washington	1-25-1917	Stanton is in Washington & suggests that they meet. (Dawson's reaction is penciled in at the top of the letter.) (1 pg.)
25	TFD	Robert B. Stanton	NYC	2-8-1917	Stanton refers to "Wonderful Adventures," a book by Maj. Calhoun. Stanton continues by offering 3 pieces of evidence in rebuttal of White's claim.
26	TFD	Esther M. White	Trinidad	4-13-1917	Gives an account of her correspondence with Stanton. Informs Dawson of Mayor Taylor's recent death. Thanks Dawson for his interest and kindness. Enc. (1 pg.)
27	Esther M. White	Robert B. Stanton	NYC	2-19-1917	Enclosure from above. Sends regards to James White & notifies Esther of his intended post-script concerning her father & his trip that will be included in his forthcoming book; it will vindicate him from "the oft repeated charges that he was the biggest liar that ever told a tale about the Colorado River. (1 pg.)
28	TFD	James White	Trinidad	4-30-1917	Second statement by James White testifying that his expedition party entered the Colorado River <u>north</u> of the San Juan, not <u>south</u> . (2 pgs.)
29	TFD	Robert B. Stanton	NYC	8-6-1917	Response to Dawson on the receipt of his published pamphlet on White's trip. Again Stanton refutes several passages in the text and raise objections to the revival of a "fake" tale. He requests that Dawson send him a dozen more copies of the pamphlet and that he share this item of correspondence with Sen. Shafroth (3 pgs.)

<u>PG.#</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
30	TFD	Esther M. White	Trinidad	8-14-1917	Thanks Dawson for sending her a copy of his pamphlet. She requests more copies for relatives. Notifies Dawson of an article, "First Through the Grand Canyon," that appeared in Sunday's <u>Pueblo Chieftain</u> .
31	Robert B. Stanton	TFD	Washington, D.C.	8-15-1917	Reply to Stanton's letter of 4 Aug. Dawson states his purpose in the whole matter to be one of gathering information for future reference and is not to be an advocate for Mr. White. Disclaims any pecuniary interest in the matter. (3 pgs.)
32	TFD	F.S. Dellenbaugh	Cragsmoor, NY	8-15-1917	Thanks Dawson for a copy of his pamphlet. Refutes White's claim that he went through the Grand Canyon as "preposterous". He finds it inconceivable that White could have gone through the canyon with so little actual memory of what he had seen or experienced.
33	TFD	F.S. Dellenbaugh	Cragsmoor, NY	8-18-1917	Additional comments to his previous letter of 15 Aug. containing more evidence as to why White's account could not be true. He concludes that White must have entered the canyon at or below the Great Wash or that he is a "champion prevaricator." (2 pgs.)
34	TFD	Robert B. Stanton	NYC	8-20-1917	Insinuations to Dawson about the "political pork barrel" and that Dawson didn't have to put forth a penny of his own to get his story published due to his government connections. Stanton continues with a long discussion of the documents either used or ignored by Dawson and with questions involving various citations. (5 pgs.)
35	Dellenbaugh	TFD	Washington, D.C.	8-21-1917	Cordial letter acknowledging Dellenbaugh's correspondence. Dawson states his intention of delivering this volume to the Colorado Historical Society and his desire for historical

<u>PG.#</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
35					accuracy. He requests permission to include Dellenbaugh's letters in this undertaking. (3 pgs.)
36	TFD	Robert B. Stanton	NYC	8-22-1917	Requests a copy of an article published in the <u>Rocky Mountain Herald</u> of 8 Jan 1869 - giving an account of White's trip "very much in favor of White's truthfulness in this matter." (1 pg.)
37	TFD	F.S.Dellenbaugh	Cragsmoor, NY	8-34-1917	Thanking Dawson for the pamphlets and giving him permission to include their correspondence. Again he states that it was impossible for White to have entered the canyon anywhere above the Great Wash. White's story, in his opinion, grew out of "one of those unfortunate quarrels which occasionally arose in isolated camps" to explain the disappearance of Stroll and possibly Baker. (1 pg.)
38	Robert Brewster Stanton	TFD	Washington, D.C.	8-25-1917	Replies, point by point, to correspondence of 20 Aug. Dawson declines Stanton's offer to make a reply that would be published in Stanton's book. Dawson states that he tried to present a layman's view of the case from written & printed testimony & has no further interest in the matter. Still believes in the veracity of White's account. (4 pgs.)
39	TFD	Esther White	Trinidad	8-28-1917	Thanks Dawson for sending more copies of his pamphlet. They are proud of it & appreciate the good work accomplished by Dawson. With enc: reply by Esther White to R.B. Stanton concerning her father's age & health. J.White was born in 1837 instead of 1838 according to their family Bible. (1 pg w/ enc.)
40	TFD	R.B. Stanton	NYC	8-29-1917	Stanton is "overwhelmed" by other work but is taking time to reply to Dawson's letter of 25 Aug. He refers to a published article of

<u>PG.#</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
40					White's trip which appeared in the April 1907 edition of <u>Outing</u> . Stanton enumerates eight different errors in Dawson's pamphlet & inquires about two other questions bothering him. He closes by saying that he really has kind personal feelings towards Dawson, "even though I am sharp spoken." (2 pgs.)
41	TFD	R.B. Stanton	[NYC]	[Sept 1917]	Inquiring about two similar articles concerning White's trip that were published at about the same time, one in the <u>Rocky Mountain Herald</u> & the other in <u>Lippincott's Magazine</u> . Stanton wants to know if Dawson knows the author of the peice. He repeats his inquiries of previous correspondence- 29 Aug. & wonders if the letter could have been lost because he has received no reply. (2 pgs.)
42	TFD	R.B. Stanton	[NYC]	9-19-1917	Received Dawson's letter of the 18th. Enclosed is a copy of letter of 29 Aug. (3 pgs.)
43	TFD	R.B. Stanton	NYC	9-27-1917	Acknowledges receipt of letter of the 25th. Thanks Dawson for answering his questions. Inquires about where to find the <u>Rocky Mountain Herald</u> articles in Denver. (1 pg.)
44	R.B. Stanton	TFD	Washington, DC.	9-29-1917	Received Stanton's letter of the 27th. Replies that the copy of the article in the <u>Herald</u> was in the possession of Mr. Ferril of Denver & is in very bad condition. Dawson states again that his only interest in the case is for the exact truth to develop, whatever direction it leads. It is doing the world a service for the truth to be discovered, & way it will do no harm to White. (2 pgs.)
45	TFD	R.B. Stanton	[NYC]	10-1-1917	Expresses personal regards towards Dawson yet is critical of Dawson's carelessness in pursuing his investigation, particularly by

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45					relying on assumptions & assertions that have no basis in fact. Stanton is critical of Dawson's use of his governmental office in publishing his pamphlet as the U.S. imprint gives it the weight of truth. (4 pgs.)
46	TFD	Esther M. White	Trinidad	10-8-1917	Responding to an article appearing in the <u>Denver News-Times</u> of Monday 8 October 1917, which she finds insulting to her father. The article was written by R.B. Stanton to Mr. Dellenbaugh. She queries Dawson as to whether she should respond to Stanton personally & publicly through a reply. (2 pgs.)
47					Newspaper clipping: "The Powell-White Grand Canyon Controversy" <u>Denver News</u> , 10-8-1917. Clipping was enclosed in a letter to TFD from E.M. White 8 Oct. 1917
48	TFD	Miss Emma White	Trinidad	10-22-1917	Acknowledges receipt of card of 16 Oct. to Esther. She is sorry that Dawson was unable to visit them & she hopes that he is having a pleasant vacation. They still haven't replied to Stanton's letter. (1 pg.)
49	TFD	J. Walter Fewkes Bureau of American Ethnology	Washington, D.C.	9-7-1917	Thanks Dawson for his article, "First Through the Grand Canyon." Requests that a copy be sent to a Mr. J.G.Gurley of Garrett Park, Md. & to Mr. F.W. Hodge, ethnologist-in-charge until January 1918 when succeeded by Fewkes.(1
50	TFD	Jerome C. Smiley	Denver	10-3-1917	Reply to Dawson's question regarding whether anyone is preparing a history of the San Juan. Recommends several books on different aspects of that subject. Closes with the comment that he thinks Dawson made an excellent case in his essay on White & the Grand Canyon. Believes that Mr. Stanton is preparing to refute that article. (1 pg.)

<u>PG.#</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
51	TFD	Hurd	Denver	11-6-1917	Expresses enjoyment from reading Dawson's pamphlet. Believes that he was acquainted with Capt. Baker in 1862 or 63. Also requests that a copy be sent to another old pioneer, E.L. Sabin of La Jolla, California. (2 pgs.)
52	TFD	Edna M. Peltz sec'y to Mr. Yard National Park Service Dept. of the Interior	Washington, D.C.	3-8-1918	Sincere thanks in sending a copy of the Grand Canyon pamphlet. It was placed in the Grand Canyon files of the National Park Service. (1 pg.)
53	TFD	William E. Connelley Kansas State Historical Society	Topeka, Ks.	8-29-1917	Through the courtesy of Sen. Curtis, Connelley received a copy of Dawson's pamphlet which he thanks him for. Very interested in White's trip through a biography of Jedediah S. Smith that he is writing. Had read an account in <u>Lipincott's Magazine</u> of 1868 written by William J. Beggs. Connelley was also acquainted with Dellenbaugh. In further reference to Dawson's article, he believes that the <u>Rocky Mountain Herald</u> story is the same one in <u>Lipincott's</u> . (1
54	TFD	William E. Connelley	Topeka, Ks.	10-12-1917	Thanks Dawson for the extra copies & letter of 5 Sept. Anecdotal description of William E. Beggs as an itinerant tramp printer, accuse horse thief and drunkard. Knows nothing of either Ezekiel William, James Pursley, nor the inscription "De Julian Mai 1838" on the wall of the Grand Canyon, but refers Dawson to several possible sources. (2 pgs.)
55	W.E.Connelley	TFD	[Wash., D.C.]	10-5-1917	Discussion of his work relating to the pamphlet on White's trip. Relays information concerning sources he consulted. Expresses interest in Connelley's forthcoming biography of Jedediah Smith. (2 pgs.)
56	TFD	Capt. J.A. Mellon	Coronado, Cal.	12-31-1917	Never knew Powell but knew two men who were at Callville when White was rescued. Believes that White's chances of coming down the river were better than Powell's due to the nature

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56					of the raft that White used. (1 pg.)
57	TFD	L.W. Keplinger, attorney	Kansas City, Ks.	10-10-1917	Dissents from Dawson's conclusions about White making the trip for several reasons, particularly in regards to the diary that White supposedly kept. Keplinger was a member of a previous scientific expedition under Powell in 1868 & conveys information about Powell & about that expedition. (3 pgs.)
58	TFD	Edwin L. Sabin	La Jolla, Cal.	11-18-1917	Glad of Dawson's effort to gain the recognition for White that he is entitled to. Sabin made a specialty of western historical research and wrote a book: <u>Kit Carson Days</u> . Gives other references to White's trip & refers Dawson to Chittenden's "History of the American Fur Trade" to a citation concerning Gen. Wm. Ashley's presence in the canyon in 1825. (1 pg.)
59	James White	William A. Bell	El Tovar, Grand Canyon	10-20- [1917]	States that he is the Dr. Bell who was with Gen. Palmer when White passed through the canyon in 1867. He included the episode in his book, "New Tracks in North America." Says he will be passing through Colorado & would like to see White if he or his daughter will send him a telegram confirming the visit. (3 pgs.)
60- 67	Dr. W.A. Bell	TFD	Washington, D.C.	11-10-1917	Thanks Dr. Bell for his letter and the copy of Dr. Bell's letter to Stanton. Detailed exposition of Stanton's views regarding the accuracy of his (Dawson's) pamphlet. Explains some of the problems with the essay to fact that it was written in his spare time while attending to the more pressing duties of the senate. (8 pgs.)

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68	TFD	Dr. W.A. Bell	Denver	11-16-1917	In sympathy with Dawson's efforts to vindicate White. Details about Calhoun, Dr. Parry, and William Palmer are supplied. Speculates about where White might have entered the river. Enclosed copy of Bell's letter to Stanton. (3 pgs.)
69	R.B. Stanton	Dr. W.A. Bell	Denver	12-14-1917	Dr. Bell provides a detailed, speculative itinerary of White's journey--by land & river. Tells of his recent visit with White in October & his assesment of White's mental capacity. Thanks Stanton for allowing him to read & comment on his manuscript. (5 pgs.)
70				11-8-1917	Copy of Dr. Parry's original notes of 1868 supplied by Dr. W.A. Bell. The notes are a sketch of the daily details of White's trip: miles travelled per day; events; nature of the river & canyon. (1 pg.)
71	W.A. Bell	R.B. Stanton	NYC	9-28-1917	Queries concerning White's trip published in Bell's book: "New Tracks in North America" followed by specific questions about White's trip in particular reference to Dawson's pamphlet. (2 pgs.)
72	R.B. Stanton	Dr. W.A. Bell	en route: California- Grand Canyon- Colorado	10-2-1917	Describes Dr. Bell's coincidental meeting with Maj. Powell in 1869 on the train to Cheyenne. Observes that Calhoun was prone to exaggeration but that Dr. Parry was a responsible & trustworthy observer due to his scientific training. States that Dawson's pamphlet removes all doubt as to the veracity of White's account. En route from the Grand Canyon, stopped in Trinidad to interview White. Describes his conclusions drawn from that visit & from his long-term relationship with Gen. Palmer. (8 pgs.)

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73					Newspaper Clipping: <u>Denver Rocky Mountain Herald</u> , 8-11-1917: "James White, the First to Traverse the Grand Canon of the Colorado." Concerns the Senate resolutions entered by Senator Shafroth (sen. Doc. #42) to give historical recognition to James White as the first person to traverse the Grand Canyon.
74					Newspaper Clipping: <u>Christian Science Monitor</u> , 4-20-1918, "First Through the Grand Canyon."
75					Newspaper Clippings: <u>Deseret News</u> , Salt Lake City, Utah & <u>The New York Times</u> . No date. Contain the same story: "First Through Grand Canyon/Acheivement of James White is set forth in U.S.Senate Document/Made the Voyage in 1866, Nearly Starved, was rescued after being on raft for fourteen days."
76					Newspaper Clipping: <u>New York Evening Sun</u> , 10-5-1917, "White Found Grand Canyon/Prospector was first to explore Colorado River. A New Version of Discovery. T.F. Dawson says Major Powell Went Through Second."
77					Newspaper Clipping: <u>Kansas City Journal</u> , 9-9-1917, "Inquiry Reveals Prospector Probably Was First to Explore River. An Editor's Version. T.F. Dawson Shows Wherein Major Powell Went Through Second."
78					Newspaper Clipping: <u>Pueblo Chieftain</u> , 8-12-1917, "Under the Capitol Dome," by Alva Swain. Editorial column on Dawson's pamphlet that argues the controversy is between the easterners & the scientific community who support Powell's claim vs. the westerners & plainsmen who understand the conditions of the early 60's and the hardships of taming the West.

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79					Newspaper Clipping: Denver, 9-19-1917, "Great Divide" & the same article appeared in <u>The Denver Post</u> : "James White Claims Grand Canon Honor As Original Explorer/Objects to References Made to Late Maj. John W. Powell As First Explorer of Famous Valley--Pioneer Lives at Trinidad, Colo."
80- 82					<u>Denver Trail</u> , March 1918: "Discovering the Grand Canon," by Edward Battles of the <u>Denver Times</u> .
85					Black & white photograph of the Powell Monument.
86	TFD	W.W. Bass	Grand Canyon, Arizona	8-12-1917	Thanks Dawson for the pamphlet & congratulates him on his "manful" interest in that history & the convincing argument he presented. In service with Maj. Powell at one time, Bass lost confidence in Powell "long before his histories fell into my hand." (1 pg.)
87-	W.W. Bass	TFD	Washington, D.C.	4-27-1918	Gives Bass permission to use his pamphlet in the publication he is preparing. Reports that he has received many responses since his pamphlet was published. His two principal supporters being Capt. Mellon & Dr. Bell; his principal detractors being Stanton & Dellenbaugh. (2 pgs.)
89					Copy of White's original letter to his brother. The photographic copy appeared in <u>Outing</u> , April 1907 and was dated Callville, Arizona, 9-26-1867.
90- 99					<u>The Trail</u> , February 1919, Vol. XI, #9, "More Light on James White's Trip Through the Grand Canon," by T.F. Dawson. A continuation of his previous essay with additional evidence supplied by Dr. W.A. Bell, Capt. Mellon,

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90- 99					& other witnesses. Answers the criticisms of Stanton & Dellenbaugh. *Note** See <u>The Trail</u> , Vol. XXII, #4 for Stanton's article: "Alleged Journey, and the Real Journey of James White, on the Colorado River in 1867," by R.B. Stanton.
100- 103					<u>The Trail</u> , Vol. XIV, #4, "Through the Grand Canyon in 1861," September 1921, pgs. 19-25. An account of an earlier voyage through the Grand Canon by Capt. John Moss in 1861.

MEMORABILIA
ADMISSION TICKETS

<u>FF</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
3	1	n.d.	Baseball ticket & rain check, K.C.A.A. Baseball Club
3	2	10-(11-13)- 1892	The World's Columbian Commission to Thomas Dawson, Dedication of the buildings of the World's Columbian Exposition, Jackson Park, Chicago.
3	3	3-4-1893	Presidential Inauguration Ticket - Washington, D.C.
3	4	2-10-1897	"Counting the electoral vote," Gallery of the House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.
3	5	6-(16-13)- 1900	(2) Press Passes: Republication National Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
3	6	6-21-1904	(1) Press Pass: Republican National Convention, Chicago.
3	7	6-21-1904	(1) Press Pass-Guest ticket: Republican National Convention, Chicago.
3	8	6-16-1908	(3) Press Passes: Republican National Convention, Chicago.
3	9	9-30-1907	The McKinley Memorial Dedication. To the Reviewing Platform, Canton, Ohio.
3	10	6-25-1908	The Denver Club, 14-day pass, compliments of J.H.P. Voorhies.
3	11	6-26-1908	The Denver Press Club.
3	12	7-5-1908	The Colorado Traffic Club, Two-week pass, compliments of George Vallery, President.
3	13	7-7-1908	Associated Press-Press Ticket: Democratic National Convention, Denver.
3	14	8-5-1912	National Progressive Convention, (2) Passes: Chicago.
3	15	6-14-1916	Democratic National Convention, St. Louis, Mo.
3	16	1-(19-26)-	Member's Season Ticket, 12th Annual National Western Stock Show, Denver.

MICROFILM

Two rolls of positive copy microfilm of the Dawson Scrapbooks, the remaining 68 volumes of the Dawson Scrapbooks are housed in the Stephen H. Hart Library of the Colorado Historical Society.

Roll 1. Volume 19 - "Crime"

Roll 2. Volume 66 - "Foreigners in Colorado"