

1887

July
Friday 15
fine
eve. rain

I am sure that none of my preceding nice volumes were ushered into existence with a more pleasant beginning than this one for with this morning's steamer Marie & Max arrived. Since Sunday I had not walked any distance, but this morning went to the pier to meet them, having been preceded by Mrs. Patheism & Mrs. Bishop who were on the same errand. —

My work has mostly been of such a nature that it was impossible to have Marie with me, besides the expense of going several thousand miles to meet me, but now all the circumstances were favorable and I embraced them (her too).

The trip to Lake Superior was a standing wish of hers and now it is being fulfilled. After we were comfortably seated in our rooms how delighted she was to learn that I would accompany her home as I will have to proceed to Ottawa the first week in August to attend the examination for Dominion Land Surveyors as one of the examiners — being the first time since my appointment. —

Marie & Max both enjoy the cool air here after the sweltering heat they have had at home. Not being quite well yet we remained at the hotel all day — in our room or on the verandah viewing the beautiful sheet of water before us, from which arise grim looking Thunder Cape, opposite to it the rocky citadel of Pe Island, and to the southeast Mt. McKay. On the eastern horizon a low lying smoke cloud would tell us of an approaching steamer; ships were going and coming, canoes and boats were rocking & gliding over the water with cheery occupants.

Now absorbed one can sit and view this water scene and still think of nothing coherently. We sat there truly "dole far niente" and enjoyed it. — Max soon made the acquaintance of some boys in the hotel and was off fishing & boating, but in the evening when he went off with a small boy in a boat and rowed to the lighthouse about a mile we were very anxious, as we watched them. They remained such a long time at the lighthouse and it was growing dark &

besides a storm was approaching, so that Marie was very restless, but I could do nothing. They returned just before the rain.

Saturday 16
fine

Mrs. Patterson called this forenoon on Marie & we had a very pleasant & long chat, as Mrs. P. said - she felt homesick to see Marie. Her little Madgie was glad too to have Max to play with. - In the evening I went out and selected a place for my observatory, met Mr. W. Bishop, G. Marks & Mrs. Gotham. - Marie, Max & I were sitting later in the evening on the veranda when we heard a lady singing a German Song - Schubert's Ave Maria, this was joy for Marie & me. We quietly entered the parlor and sat down. This was followed by others familiar to us. The lady was the one who sat opposite to us at the table and whom we had not suspected of being German, altho' I had warned Marie to be careful what she said (to me in German). After she left the piano I went up, and ^{in German} apologizing, looked at the music, after speaking with me she immediately went to Marie and expressed her joy in meeting Germans, we being the second only she has met here in 27 months. She told us how she smiled when she heard us speak at table and told her friend Mrs. Timmerman about it but added to her "Don't give me away." - We enjoyed this personal meeting & acquaintance. She is Mrs. N. Lehman her husband being mining engineer and superintendent of the Rabbit Mountain silver mine.

Sunday 17
fine

After breakfast Marie Max & I took a walk enjoying the cool breeze in the bright sunshine. - In the evening met Dr. N. Lehman, superintendent of the Rabbit Mt. mine.

Monday 18
fine

The building of my observatory was begun today. - In the morning Marie & I went down to the wharf and met the Athabasca on which were Harry & Aggie Loh. There was a "hop" in the hotel this evening which we attended, meeting there Mr & Mrs. M. Russell.