

1887

August

large C. P. R. elevator which we inspected, then leisurely returned, finding Geo Pattison waiting for us, shortly afterwards Alex went with him & Mr. Bishop to Fort William on the Kaminette.

In the evening Geo Pattison & Mr. Bishop came to the observatory but unfortunately it was very cloudy, but nevertheless I managed to catch a 3rd magnitude star and show it them to their great delight. It surprised George when I said to him now look in & if it is not too cloudy you will see a star moving across the field and he saw it. — Later I began observing it still being cloudy but clearing, but also when the time for signals came I found that it was very cloudy in Winnipeg & putting out at the observatory at all.

Monday 2
fine

In forenoon did my packing, as I returned to finish dressing little was packed in the observatory, my chemistry I took to Mr Bishop's. — During our last meal at the hotel we had a bottle of wine with our friends at table Mr. & Mrs. Schum & Mrs. Finneson, who accompanied us to the steamer dock. At 3-30 P.M. we steamed out on the Athabasca waving her farewell to friends on shore till dimmed by distance. Our party consisted of Mr & Mrs Geo Pattison & their daughter, Harry, Ed, Marie, Alex & me. — For some time the purser's & steward's offices were besieged, but our ^{berths} ~~rooms~~ being secured we were indifferent and waited till last to get the keys. The steamer is a model craft. The most striking difference between it and the best of the Beavers that I have seen is in the staterooms, being larger, having a sofa lengthwise which can be used as a bed also. The dining tables are placed crosswise, also an improvement whereby small parties can sit together. — We showed the ladies the huge double compound engines & dynamos for generating the electricity for lighting purposes, in all of which they took an intense interest.

Mr. Cullagh of Jelt, an old acquaintance was also on board, so were a Mr. Menzies & Dr. Dundee, both of Bombay, whom we met; they are making the circuit of the globe. — It was glorious on the boat, ^{and} the air and scarcely a ripple on the water made the ever changing scenes as we passed islands & headlands a delight which all enjoyed. We found ^{that} the "Sleeping Giant" had the same profile even from the east as from Port Arthur (the west). Hours rapidly glided away by chatting and smoking. In the evening Mr & Mrs. Glatton & Maria & I slept cabin, and it was midnight ere we retired to enjoy a refreshing sleep in the cool atmosphere.

Wednesday 3
cloudy
pleasant

On this large sheet of water - Lake Superior - land is invisible for a long time when steering across it. — In the forenoon we passed Whitefish Point, being a headland of the northern peninsula of Michigan. By noon we were at the "Soo" - ~~Sault Ste. Marie~~ Ste. Marie, here we pass thro' a canal of one lock to overcome the "Soo." It was a novelty to many to see a back back canal run the rapids. Waiting for other vessels to pass through the lock we strolled about the town. It has considerably grown since my last visit in '78 and is at present booming as several railways are being built back. We had a little excitement getting onto the steamer as the water was being let off. George & I got in on the lower deck but the ladies had to climb over the railing around the upper deck. Many vessels were lying here and an air of business pervaded the whole. — Binding around the islands in St. Marys & Garden rivers, passing steamers, ketches, sailing vessels & pleasure boats made an animated & picturesque scene. In the evening George wife Maria & I sat at the bow, a mild breeze wafting music, and we sang in unison with the low murmuring of the parting waters, Lake Marie Mrs & I sat there alone and sang German songs. After having left