

September

Wednesday 14
rainy, clear
cold

A miserable day, and uncomfortable in my little 7x9 bedroom and office in the observatory, so I spent the greater part of the time in the section house where there was a fire. - I am reading for the third time Agnes Clerke's "History of Astronomy in the Nineteenth Century," one of the most interesting books I ever read, and have the greatest respect for the author; not only has she compiled well but in the compilation has shown that she is intimately conversant with the subject's history. -

Thursday 15
fine

with little rain

Prepared programme for latitude observations. - At night observed for time but I failed to adjust in azimuth thereafter on Polaris, it being too cloudy & just caught glimpses of him. -

Friday 16
fine
windy

This afternoon I went to Sault, 7 miles west, and back on a work train for the purpose of seeing which is preferable the railway or straight across country for connecting my observatory with the meridian (to be run this coming winter) of the North West Angle. The adjoining country is wooded but very broken and hence the railway although anything but straight preferable for such connection. This part of the railway requires a great deal of additional work to put it in good shape (widening ditches & filling in) and even when done it needs a great deal of labor in keeping it in repair, and worst of all it is a part of the most unproductive part, this may be said almost of the whole line from Winnipeg to Ottawa. -

In evening I took some time observations with transit for determining chronometer correction before beginning my latitude observations. As Mr King has not yet returned to Winnipeg from Ottawa I will determine latitude first, the reverse of what I otherwise do. -