

September

Tuesday 20

Busy studying &c. The night was cloudless and I got the complete programme of 24 pairs of stars for latitude.

Wednesday 21

fine
night cloudy, & a
little rain

After copying last night's observations I dismounted the zenith telescope and set up the transit again. Observed at night for time to adjust in azimuth, but it clouded up before the transit of Polaris so I did not get the final adjustment.

Thursday 22

fine

I put up the telegraph line myself connecting my observatory with the P.T.R. line at the telegraph office close by. — I am waiting now for Mott's arrival in Winnipeg to begin the longitude work.

fine at night

29° F. in observatory

Am busying myself digesting "Preece's Electricity" & find it most interesting. — It is a grand sensation when a new idea is unfolded to one; it is as if portals were opened disclosing new scenes and giving a greater area in which to move. —

Friday 23

cloudy

cool

windy

night some rain

Busy writing, reading & experimenting with my telegraphic apparatus. I was reading & studying electricity tonight till 5 A.M. and some new facts & truths were disclosed to me that elated me greatly, and altho' it was 5 o'clock before I went to bed my mind was so busy working that it was 7 o'clock I fell asleep.

Saturday 24

pleasant

I have commenced writing an article on "The electric current in the determination of longitude & apparatus used." — I never go to bed till near morning & sleep then till noon. As it is generally too cool to sit in my observatory at night I go to the station close by, but am myself with my box of insect powder showing a semi-circle on each of the two tables between which I sit and thereby "insulate" myself from things movable. For the night operator a Frenchman they seem to have a peculiar predisposition, for frequently he puts his hand to his neck

and says "audder one" and carries it to the flame of the lamp. — For recreation I sometimes speak French with him, he correcting me in any mistakes I may make. — It is a peculiarity that man finds difficulty in pronouncing certain sounds of a foreign language. Neither the Chinaman nor Pacific Coast Indian can pronounce the letters *f* or *r*, for the former they use *p*, for the latter *l* if it is at the beginning of a word and when final - *ah* - . The Frenchman & German have difficulty in giving the English *th* sound, using therefore *d* or *t*; again the French & English stumble at the German *ch*. — I had some amusing experiments with Arthur the night operator. I requested him to say "wasps' nest" but his effort invariably resulted in "waspis' nest" or "wappis' nest." When he attempted to say "Ich pfan Dief" he at first failed completely in the *ch* sound, finally he could say *ich* passably well but could not immediately thereafter say *Dieh*, so that the nearest approach he made to the above sentence was "Ich pfan Diek" - in meaning "somewhat" different from that intended. —

I received several letters from home tonight & felt happy. My mail service is very irregular.

Sunday 25
Pleasant
cloudy

Marc Birthday
Æ13

Gladly would I be at home today to assist at the festivities. It is a nice custom of us Germans annually to commemorate the natal day of each one in the family. What recollections all sweeter & dearer than those of a happy childhood, and the love which children afterwards show grow up bear to their parents is in direct proportion to the happiness prepared for them in their childhood. It has ever been my aim to