

make the home of my boys such that their hearts will hereafter turn to the same with joy and gratitude. Not that the home is to be the scene of continual pleasures. They must learn to work, that work is the highest honor, and above all they must learn duty. In my efforts I am ably assisted by my good wife to whom in fact falls by far the greater share, though my absence from home, of the care of the children and their guidance.

I presented to Alan two sketching pads one for pencil the other for water colors, as he shows a decided aptitude for such work.

Busy writing, studying &c.

Monday 26 Busy with electricity.

very cloudy
Tuesday 27 Busy with electricity & self improved problems. Altho' I am plying my enforced leisure time (waiting for Kutik to arrive at Winnipeg) yet I much prefer my work proper particularly as there is a case of typhoid fever here and besides the board in the section house leaves much to be desired, and hence am anxious to get away.

Wednesday 28 For some evenings past there have been some very vivid displays of aurora borealis, commencing about 7-30 P.M. in the north on the horizon & spreading laterally & upwards. Telegraph lines would be lit unless by continuous metallic connection, made at the terminal station by connecting two lines & taking off the ground wires.

When studying electro-magnets, their capacity for magnetism it reminds me of human capabilities, especially my own. Up to a certain limit I readily absorb & to speak the process of reasoning be it in science or mathematics, this is when approaching my "maximum," after that limit I have to apply myself rigidly and by perseverance can absorb more, but unless this process is repeated several times I am apt to lose much of this additional absorption,

might some
rain

fine
warm