

October

Some prominent government official or minister, & was much interested in my astronomical work, having had something to do with similar work in Australia.

As soon as I was in the Queen's I felt myself almost as at home, here I met Ed Bray, A.S.D. and also Frank Winkas formerly of Preston. —

Later King came to see me and in the afternoon I or we set up my instruments. In the evening we went to the observatory but dense clouds covered the heavens. — I was glad to get to bed as I had slept none for the past 36 hours.

Saturday 8  
cloudy cool

King had as he says a "scheme" on hand, and that was that I should accompany him to Kentrops & assist him in getting started with his lunar observations, & as there is a cheap excursion to the coast next week he thought the expense would not be objected to by the Government; I did not look at it in this light, but from principle & declined to go unless sanctioned from Ottawa. — He is slow about getting anything done. For instance he has had an equatorial mounting made for his telescope but the support for the polar axis is wanting yet — I immediately devised something and then went with him to a carpenter to get the triangular block with iron plates made. At night we attempted again to observe but with no better success than the preceding night.

Sunday 9  
cloudy  
cool

In the afternoon called on Dr. Skerper and there met Dr. Thom-White, I remained to tea. — In the evening King & I went together in my wagon & as soon as it cleared we went to the observatory. After adjusting my instrument in azimuth we began our observations for personal equation, but after getting to stars it clouded completely again. The latter called on Chumuckas mutually in circuit & got each cup of tea. —

October

J. A. Woods formerly of Quebec and his wife are at present stopping in the hotel. He has retired from business and is looking for some pleasant place to end his days in, probably in California where he goes after visiting, Banff and Victoria. Knowing father very well he introduced himself to me. —

Monday 10  
Cool

I took Frank Winters to the observatory this afternoon. — W. F. King received a letter today from Mr. Deville wherein he says that the "observatory building (Ottawa) is in a worse muddle than ever"; he states his views and scheme for the immediate future and if King & I concur in the same, suggests that we make a joint report to the Director thereof, in order to strengthen Mr. Deville's position. — Regarding closing my longitudes from the west with some <sup>celestial</sup> point in the east, he suggests that King observe at Ottawa & I at Cambridge and Winnipeg, by this means we would eliminate personal equation Cambridge-Winnipeg, and avoid Montreal which the three of us wish to do, we do not want McGill observers connected with our work in any manner. — As I am going down shortly I will probably see the Director and talk the matter over with him.

The night was clear and cold and we got good observations, altho' about midnight it clouded and we lost four stars thereby.

Tuesday 11  
Pleasant  
little windy  
night rain

Busy copying observations. — After waiting some time at the observatory in hopes of the clouds disappearing we went to King's room where I copied a number of his observations, which I intend computing. His instrument being of somewhat peculiar construction and not a transit - a further unknown - feature of the axis (at the end of which the telescope is attached) enters into the computation, and the azimuth is also different for clamp east and clamp west as his instrument revolves