

March

of us went to supper & there got in the section house, a good warm meal, which all thoroughly enjoyed, as an agreeable change from two days on hard boiled eggs & bread. - A snow plough that came to our relief ran off the track; the snow being packed so hard in many places & very deep, shoveling had to be resorted to. -

Thursday 15  
mild  
cloudy  
after fine

Some of the passengers left us today, driving to Whittby 10 miles & proceeding by Grand Trunk. - In the afternoon the snow plough reached us & we were off at 4 P.M., we anxiously awaited the arrival at Peterboro whether we had telegraphed for "liquidation", & which were happily received & soon a small knot was collected in our smoking room, all lauding the turn of fortune. - Games were open between the librarians & a merry night passed. - We presented the steward with a handsome purse & the conductor with an address. -

Friday 16  
cloudy

At 8 A.M. in Ottawa. In forenoon at meeting of A.S. Association & all glad to see me. - Routine business, dinner in afternoon, when I refused the nomination of president. - In evening I read my paper - Electrical apparatus in longitude work, having two chronometers & the apparatus there in working order. I was much applauded for my paper & complimented thereon, a number personally thanking me. -

Saturday 17  
fine  
cold

In morning saw Mr. Deville Surveyor General, asking him about my going to British Columbia for observing occultations in conjunction with Mr. Wilson on the Yukon for the purpose of defining the 141<sup>st</sup> meridian. His answer as usual was indefinite - "I don't know what the minister wants to do about it." So I said if he had no objection that I would see the Minister, he said that he would be very glad if I would and get a definite answer as he could not. So I went taking nothing along. The Minister was very busy with delegations &c so I went to the Deputy Mr. P. M. Burgess & within 3 minutes had his consent, and left, returning to Mr. Deville & telling him of my success. - I said to him "I suppose it is not necessary to get special instructions" - "No, just go on and observe as Mr. King did. - How I would