

April

a sigh of relief involuntary invests one when the valley of the Columbia is reached and all appears deeper gone. Having 15-20 minutes at Donald I called on J. Davie - Chief Dispatcher who was glad to see me. - It was about night when we reached Rogers Pass & before passing thro' snow sheds, there are 54 altogether = 6 ^{miles} 200 yds, nearly all of which are in the Selkites. - As mud slides are beginning to make themselves conspicuous the road-master accompanied our train. - At Glacier we partook of a good supper in the cosy dining room of the C.P.R. hotel, erected for tourists in the vicinity & facing the great Glacier. Here we learned that our progress was doubtful on account of a mud slide near Twin Butte, yet it was considered best to proceed & in case there might come down, we proceeded but a fresh one beyond Illecillewaet stopped us, we wanted to return to the last station, but it was too late, a huge stump had slid down; dynamite displaced the last, & a tarpaulin channelling all water the other two. - During our stay here we had the sad diversion of a drunk and miscreant woman boarding the train, who for two hours kept the sleeper & first class car awake.

Mr. A. G. M. Spague lawyer from Donald came onto the train at Glacier & we chatted together till bed time; Ambrose the C.P.R. auditor was with us also.

Friday 13
fine
after-rainy

After crossing the Gold range, every trace of winter was left behind and the budding green hillsides greeted our view enhanced by the placid waters of Shuswap Lake & the Lochin Thompson. Looking at the hills rising lamelike, with their graceful lines & dotted parklike with yellow pine a fellow passenger said "There should be a law passed before we take another meal that it be a crime equivalent to murder if one limb of those trees be cut." - The sentiment he wished

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to convey is very pertinent. —

At noon we were at Kamloops, my destination. I fortunately found very comfortable quarters at the Grand Pacific hotel near my observatory. —

In afternoon & evening I was busy working, unpacking etc. — The dust here is terrific, but a light rain this afternoon allayed it somewhat.

Kamloops is an Indian name, and as such names are always significant I don't doubt but that Kamloops means the "house of dust & wind."

Saturday 14
fine. warm
after. cloudy

Busy setting up transit etc. Night was cloudy & work impossible. — By chance I found out that the observatory I occupy is not the old one whose longitude we determined, but one put up by King last fall because the other had been burned into an outhouse — what desecration — observatory & privy. — Being a mere shell during our absence it had been broken open and thus defiled. No Upper Town of Kamloops where the ^{old} observatory stands has been built up since my absence I was a compactive stranger here and thus not noticed the different position of the one I occupied. —

I have written letters to Sir John A. Macdonald, Hon J. White Minister of the Interior, A. M. Rogers his Deputy, & to Dr. McFerson M.P. applying to be appointed one of the Commissioners on the Alaskan Boundary, assuming that this matter will soon take definite shape.

Sunday 15
cool
cloudy

Busy computing occultations. — For the first time now I am really diving into the theory of eclipses. I find that studying a subject like this without applying it is not only how work