

April will be raised to a higher plane, the thoughts will reach to a higher realm, and what the heart conceives the lips will utter — and unnecessary small talk shall be no more.

In the evening observed the moon & moon-culminating stars successfully. Jupiter being of low declination & clouds in the horizon were invisible.

Saturday 22 Busy writing. In evening dined at Messrs. Seelys & Spaldings. His wife & sister in law who is with them pleasant I knew when they were girls. — Mr. Lytle & Mr. Wood were there also. J. G. is in charge of the H. B. Co store here, he is a crank — too slow & unsuited for a pushing business. He has faults to find with everybody & everything finding himself. — The sky was completely clouded & no observations possible.

Sunday 23 Quoy Studying etc. — The weather here is something like cloudy, some drops of rain. The Kentons people in regard to mining — always talking of doing something but nothing ever evolves. — Clouds are the greater part of the time hanging about the sky with faces ranging from pale to a Stephen's blue-black, but the tears shed can be readily counted in the dust etc on the sidewalks. Up the North pier (N. Thompson) rains on the hills are copious, & it is tantalizing to see it to rain there, while here dust holds full sway. — The night was cloudy but I managed to get a set of transits with the culmination of the sun.

Tuesday 24 Fine weather. Early this morning it rained, and more than I can see it rain in Kentons before, altho' that is not saying much for the rain. Its vivifying effect was most marked. The hills are now quite green and the trees (Propleas)

are fairly leafing. —

Busy writing computing.

Today I learned through the press of the sudden death of my Minister — the Honorable Thomas White who died Saturday at 9:45 P.M. of Pneumo-pneumonia. I deeply regret his death, it is a great loss to the country & to his political party. He being a born Canadian like myself. I deplore his loss, for it is just now that Canadians are beginning to come to the front, and a national spirit & pride asserting themselves, that we can ill afford the loss of a devoted son, who had every prospect of reaching the zenith of fame in his country, but cruel death has carried him off with but a moment's notice. — I know of no one who can at present fill his place so well & honorably as he did. —

In evening met the Government agent Mr. Kay with whom I had a chat for informing myself on B.C. Government affairs in general — school-municipalities, taxes &c. — He naively said to me — "No British Columbian expects to pay any more taxes to the government than he can make out of the Government." Well said I, who pays the pipe — Oh we get that from the Dominion Government as our subsidy for joining Confederation. As an illustration he said to me when the taxes were demanded from a certain farmer, the latter said "I can't pay them, I hadn't made anything out of the government yet, further stating that some road work in his neighborhood was necessary." In due course of time the government ordered this road work done, Mr. James did it, was paid for it & he paid his taxes. — So as from the seat the form of government & its administration in B.C. seems very peculiar and fabricated. Altho it must be evident that in such a remote & sparsely settled country municipal affairs must be managed differently than with us. —

April

At night observed. although heavy clouds floated about up till midnight yet I managed to get some stars and the transit of the moon. Then I came very first and in fact only occultation (during night) that is visible here during the present lunation. - As the moon was full or very nearly so, difficulty was added in seeing small stars. The star to be occulted was δ Virginis 6^m mag. Just 20 minutes before immersion I hunted for it and kept on doing so up to the time of immersion, but the glare of the moon was too great, about a minute before contact a light cloud passed over the moon and almost thickened to occultation. -

Night rather cold

47° F. in observatory

At immersion, I made another effort altho' I anticipated it would be futile; a minute before egress I watched at the proper point of the moon's limb, but - altho' the sky was now beautifully clear - my telescope failed to reveal the desired object. I again watched for 20 minutes thereafter, although even at that distance from the moon the star was still invisible. It was a great disappointment to me.

Jupiter had now risen above the hills and appeared beautiful. The three visible satellites appeared as pearls by his side. - I was sorry that there were no phenomena to observe tonight of the satellites.

Wednesday 25

cloudy
cool

Busy studying computing. Unfortunately the whole night was cloudy and no observations possible. I regretted not being able to observe the four phenomena of Satellite III.

Thursday 26

cloudy
after. rain

Busy studying & computing. - In the afternoon I attended a meeting of the citizens (Mr. McArthur happening to see me, invited me to attend) for the purpose of passing some resolutions of condolence on the death of the Honorable Thomas White.

After luncheon Dr. Dyer came to my room and stated that he had been requested to prepare a resolution for the above purpose, he had done so, but was not satisfied therewith.