

purpose. Having an hour and a half to spare I walk-
ed to St. Frith's place a half mile distant & found them
(another, sister Gurgin & himself) glad to see me. - Re-
turning J. Dennis, Lenoxy & his assistant Tattan,
my assistant & I had dinner together & then we
were off for good. In changing our horse at the halfbreeds'
camp we were soon on the luxuriant sea of grass.
Our pony was stupid & lazy, so that tiring by proceeding
I handed the reins to my assistant. By 4 P.M. we
caught up to the train which had an hour's start of us.
A "spell" as the halfbreeds term a rest or halt was
made, I started with another horse or pony and was
glad of the change. - The halfbreed saves the spring
whepper containing instruments & chronometer, while
an Indian rides along the 4 carts beating any pony
that lags behind or starts eating grass as they are
very much inclined to do. For night we camped
at Dixon's 20 miles from Calgary. For food I am
relying upon the various huts scattered along the trail,
& for sleeping pitch one of my small tents. -

Sunday 24
cloudy

rain at night

Wet horses delayed us starting till 7 a.m. -
at 10-30 we were at Chamberlain's 14 miles where
we rested and took a hearty dinner of bacon & eggs.
From the heavy rains the trail is not very good, being
so often obliged to leave it & drive in the prairie which
is at best rough in account of badger holes. -
We next crossed the north branch of the River at
Scarlett's & at 5-30 reached Collins's where a
spell was made, continuing then 5 miles farther
when it began to rain & we camped. There being
no stopping place here, there was no supper for us, altho
I had bought a loaf of bread in the morning. -

Monday 25
rain
eve clear

A drizzling rain fell till after noon preventing our starting; I
occupied my time in the cool damp tent writing while my assistant
killed time sleeping, and the two halfbreeds smoking alter-