

July
 The ^{weekly} mail came in this evening - there were two horse con-
 veyances - one was loaded almost exclusively with "per-
 mits" - i.e. gallon kegs of liquor. It costs about
 \$9 a gallon delivered here, rather expensive drinking.

Tuesday 3
 pleasant
 shower
 Commenced building the observatory. - I spent the evening at
 Mrs. Hardisty's where was also Mr. Gordon Inspector of St.
 Agencies.

Wednesday 4
 fine
 light shower
 Dug at observatory & about finished it by evening. -
 In the evening dined at Mr. H. Young's where I met Mr. Mrs.
 Casey, Mrs. Leslie Wood, Mrs. Hardisty & Mr. Gordon. The
 evening was passed chatting & playing for a time two tables
 of "progressive snakes." After the others left Mr. Gordon &
 I remained for a smoke & "No." - To me it was most interesting
 to hear of Mrs & Mr. Young's experience and adventures during
 the rebellion of '85. Mrs. Y. fled with the children from the
 K. P. post at La La Bicho and was 24 days wandering thru
 bush & mountains. Mr. Y. was at the time at Edmonton for
 provisions & ammunition when the Indians pillaged his
 post. -

Thursday 5
 fine
 Dug putting up my electrical apparatus & battery &
 by evening had everything working well. At night
 observed for adjustment of transit & time & got ready
 for the longitude work. Mr. A. Taylor was with me
 for a time in the obs. testing the line & my connections
 with. - Oats are here \$1.50 a bushel.

Friday 6
 fine
 heavy thunderstorm
 & some hail
 In evening dined at Mrs. A. Hardisty's where were also Mr. Gordon
 Dr. Mc'Denis & Geo. Hardisty. I presided at the table. Shortly after
 dinner I returned to the observatory & began my first night's
 actual longitude work here. (The sky was clear & good ob-
 servations were obtained.) When the time for exchange of
 signals with Winnipeg came - my operator of Mocaia
 failed to raise Du'Appelle where the C.P.R. line is worked
 on to the Edmonton line to make the connection.

The line was working well judging from the sharp clicks in the relay. For an hour he pounded away (24)
to call for Du'Appelle and disgusted I had to abandon further work.

Saturday
fine

Busy during day at my principal observations of June. In evening Mr. A. Taylor was down to adjust relays for working with Du'Appelle and I was in hopes that a successful night would follow but was again disappointed altho' I got the first set of observations, but it was the telegraphic connection that failed, my operator as he says could not break Du'Appelle. — — — If I will do much more latitude work I'll learn to operate myself & thus avoid having a superfluous man, who as a rule only know the letters - can read and write - but about the instruments knows next to nothing.

Sunday 8
fine

Busy at computations. — What has struck me during the past week at midnight is the bright sky - twilight in the north, and always more east of north than west at or a little before local midnight. — In '84 I was as far north in July but it never struck me so as now. — — — Last year there was much want or starvation amongst the halfbreeds in this vicinity. They had invested their all in freighting outfits and killed little or no land. Unfortunately there was little freighting to be done and hence winter found them without means & unprovided. — The Government in consequence issued rations to them 1 1/2 lbs bacon & 5 lbs flour per head per week. Mr. Casey Inspector D.V.M.P. who issued the rations told me that by Thursday evening everything would be eaten & two days of starvation would follow. The halfbreeds like the Indian has little idea of economy — eat as long as it lasts.

In the afternoon the steamer Northwest arrived from Winnipeg or rather from Grand Rapids where she took the cargo of the Princess from Winnipeg. The steamer belongs to the Hudson