

August is looked forward to with great anxiety. - At night adjusted transit in azimuth & observed stars for time.

Friday 10
pleasant

Busy about the observatory, at night observe for time. - I am beginning a series of temperature observations of the chronometer in order to determine its law of rate in reference to its temperature. It is a difficult problem to solve in the field not so if I could compare it hourly say with a standard clock.

Saturday 11
warm
except thunderstorm

Busy Computing. McDonald the operator from Pitt was here today looking after the line as it doesn't work. I told him with me everything was all right & to prove it we made a "ground" with a coil of wire I had & then worked east but west it was open. He attributes the trouble to the loose office not to the wire being down. It appears the operator there is anything but a star operator and does not understand the various connections. - This is undoubtedly misapplied economy in having poor men. The wire No. 6 is very good, so are the insulators (porcelain). McDonald has to do his own line repairing, his best is 45 ^{miles} east and 25 miles west of Pitt. No business could be done to Edmonton the whole day on account of an incompetent official - no economy in that. - Made extended observations today for inequality of pivots of transit F.O.I. - After the thunderstorm altho' still cloudy I managed to get a few stars for time. -

Sunday 12
cloudy

Made another series of determinations for inequality of pivots. - This afternoon three ^{Indian} women and three children with a horse came to our camp. The one was a veritable hag - old as Methuselah with face furrowed like a dry plow, and a bonnet was wanted to turn her into a witch as seen in story books. - Through my cook who speaks the Cree I learned that the other two (mother & daughter) had come from Frog Lake & were bound for Fort Pitt in search of the seducer of the daughter, who they are bound shall marry the girl, the offspring she had with her. She was quite a comely woman for an Indian and looked tidy. What their mode of procedure is in a breach of promise suit I know not. The verdict probably rests with the consensus of opinion of neighbors & friends. - It was very cloudy in the evening & night & the few transits of stars that I saw were poorly observed being so faint. -