

August

ness in nature. Its affinity with terrestrial magnetism & electricity is known to science and probable connection with solar disturbances, but these facts are far yet from unravelling to us the forces that guide it and color it for of various hues it appears (mostly white then greenish & reddish). No matter how dense it appears like heavy white clouds yet the transparency of the atmosphere is scarcely not affected. - Most peculiar & strange. - Going outside of the observatory <sup>during the interval</sup> between two pairs of stars I will almost tempt to remain here & watch the <sup>beautiful</sup> phenomenon & miss my pair of stars. - It was grand. -

Thursday 16  
fine

Today my diary is 22 years of age and not a day missing. - I made determinations of the value of my two levels. - At night observed for latitude & got 20 pairs - foolishly missing the missing pair by pointing of telescope first south instead of north. -

Friday 17  
fine

Busy writing & computing as usual in the afternoon, and made some more level determinations. It is only when one comes to make refined observations that we discover the inaccuracies and eccentricities of good instruments. To me they are interesting investigations. - At night observe & get my complete programme of 21 pairs of stars.

Saturday 18  
very warm

The "bull dogs" (flies) are most troublesome now. Twilight and heat bring them forth and when I must rock them to sleep the festive mosquito often renews vigor and thereby keeps up the eternal nuisance & army of flies. At my morning "devotions" I generally build a smudge so that that necessary recreation may be done without extreme torture. - Toward evening make some more level determinations. - The night was cloudy, windy & followed by a thunderstorm so that I only got seven pairs of stars & some of these not very well.

Sunday 19  
fine  
warm

Marie's Birthday

I had fondly hoped that I could be at home on this auspicious day to greet my dear Marie, but circumstances prevented such. Our three good boys will undoubtedly wind garlands & strew flowers