

are fair, perhaps some even good, but when one says
 for another says he a thief la and so on - time
 time was wanting, and hence instead of harmony we had dis-
 cord. When they got out of line the schoolmaster would
 bellow - yes that's the word bellow - forth in his harsh voice
 and like a magnet draw them after him. - I bobbed
 up & down as often as I could, from him I took the cue,
 but I didn't kneel. - Candles, tapers, tinsel, finery, pictures
 carved wooden angels and similar attractive matter for the eyes
 were of course present. On one picture on the wall near me
 I read in large type "The Sacred Heart of Mary" - (the same in French
 also) and thereunder in smaller type and under the publisher's
 name "Agents wanted" - to me this seems a sudden drop
 from the celestial to the terrestrial. The service was in
 French & Latin which the Indians of course did not understand.
 A short sermon however was preached in Cree after which
 the sacrament was administered to two Indians &
 three Squaws. This consists of receiving a wafer in one's
 mouth at the hands of the priest, the eating of which coupled
 with the necessary belief (the all-important part) purges one of
 sins. - There were probably all told about 150 in
 the church. - Whether the Indians are in general devout in
 their religious profession I know not. - The Church of
 England is establishing a mission here also, but I fear they
 will find it hard work to compete with the Roman Cath-
 olics who have not only a good foothold, ^{already} but their church
 & priests with their taffery is more attractive to ignorant
 eyes and the service more mysterious though it's tempo-
 rary & hence more impressive to simple minds. -
 The ^{European} Catholic church is undoubtedly better suited
 for making converts amongst uncivilized people than
 any other creed. -
 A hail & rain storm prevented me from getting traces
 till late.

Monday 27
 Pleasant

Busy writing & computing &c. In afternoon take a
 walk. I am translating from the German

August

Dr. Stolze's article on Photogrammetric. —
 — At night observed for time.

Tuesday 28
 pleasant
 night some rain

Took my customary walk in the afternoon. Being very cloudy I obtained but a few star transits. The "little manual for learning to read the Cree language" given us by the priest Pire Dauphin afforded us much amusement. It is in French, English & Cree. If the flour served the Indians by the Government were as bad as this English in that manual there were then justifications in growling. —

Wednesday 29
 fine

I am re-reading for the third time Miss Clarke's charming "History of Astronomy during the sixteenth Century." The night was such as to delight the heart of an astronomer. I observe transits for time and am daily adding to my data for unraveling the mysteries of the rate of my chronometer for which purpose I also keep a two-hourly temperature record of it. —

Thursday 30
 moon. little rain
 pleasant

I am learning some Cree from the "little manual" spoken of previously. What interests me mostly is not the individual words but their roots. For instance - dinner is called "Abittawikijikawimetijsuwin" meaning half-day-eating, Abittawikijikaw being "noon", Abittaw - half + Kijikaw - day. A very peculiar derivation is Pijessiwok meaning - thunder. - Pijessis is a bird and when it thunders an Indian legend ascribes it to the shooting of some big bird. Charles my cook told me that when he was at Lesser Slave Lake an Indian had a feather which was supposed to be from this semi-celestial bird. It was the feather of a peacock Charles said but of that bird of course the Indians are ignorant and hence believed in its supernatural origin.

— Charles is a French Canadian who when a lad enlisted in the service of the Hudson Bay Co., married a squaw & has remained in the country ever since. He is a character. — Last evening some squaws bought potatoes but the price they asked was far above the value of the potatoes. ^{dupont to help them} They carried them