

September to the east. This surprises me very much and for this reason - the line was working this afternoon, St. Pitt 14 miles east has a main line battery of 22 cells, there has been no storm here this afternoon from which I infer that the line is up between here & St. Pitt yet we don't get a vestige of current, which I think should be the case were the ground East of Pitt, hence I conclude that the ground is in the Pitt office. What strengthens my belief is that I know that the operator McDonald has a "permit" so that probably being Sunday he is now compass mounted and through carelessness put or left on the ground. Thus another good night was lost through some one's non-compliance with that precious word "duty". -

Monday 10
cloudy
raining
Cool

Busy Computing. We had a fire in the tent during the day, hitherto we only had it at night. - The sky was totally cloudy till 10 P.M. when it cleared as if by magic & I hurried to the transit, two stars had already transited, I got the next three, then again a cloud hurriedly appeared & obscured my polar star, I got the four succeeding it. We got exchange of signals but learning from King that it was cloudy in Winnipeg & impossible to get his set I thereafter stopped observing as the observations must be mutual.

Tuesday 11
pleasant

Busy Computing. - Observed at night. - A peculiar and unexplained occurrence happened to me tonight - the night was clear & I got my transits well but after setting for star 317 Pr. Jahn. of Aquarii I failed to see it - I hurriedly looked at my setting that was all right - but no star. - I believed at the moment that a cloud obscured it but as my next star 524 came on in a few minutes I had not time to go outside to verify my belief, after 524 had transited I went outside & there wasn't a cloud to be seen anywhere and thereby made a mystery of the occurrence. Tomorrow night if it is clear will solve the mystery whether the star is there or not. The fault lies possibly & probably with me yet stars have been known to disappear from the heavens. -
- I was much surprised during the hours set apart for exchange of signals that the Winnipeg operator let me

fully three-quarters of an hour ere he went to the observatory. There, altho' I frequently called him this Du Appelle as we were not as yet switched on to the C.P.R. line. He apparently adheres to the mean time of beginning of signals as told him by King when we started 1-30 a.m. (Central Standard time) but since then we have nearly gained an hour on mean time. I don't understand why King has not explained this to him for King must be sitting in his observatory as anxiously as I waiting for exchange. The clocks were brought for the fourth time in 11 days co-incident, but by alternate tapping we overcome the difficulty of distinguishing each other's beats. - We just got through three minutes before my last set of stars came on + I was almost sufficiently exasperated at the "sweetwill" of the Winnipeg operator as to affect my personal equanimity. -

— Having asked King whether he had sufficient observation for longitude + he replying in the affirmative I said I also had + hence tonight would finish the longitude work for here + that I would leave from here for Winnipeg, in which he acquiesced, - telling me that in the mean time he would make a survey in Calgary.

We

Wednesday
pleasant

12

On Monday Charles requested my assistant to write a letter for him to his son as there was an opportunity for forwarding it directly instead of the roundabout way by mail. As he had sent one by the last mail I said to my assistant that I would write it knowing what Charles wished to say. So I wrote it and instead of to the son addressed it to his wife - a squaw. I wrote such a one as a good husband would write to a good wife - amongst other matters in the letter occurred this passage "Ever since I left home I have sadly missed the sweet smile of your face." - When I had written the letter I called Charles and read the letter to him, he laughed heartily + said - "My wife will think I'm crazy, because I don't swear." - Comment thereon is scarcely necessary. I am afraid there are a good many wives not squaws who if they were addressed by their husbands lovingly would think that there was something wrong being so accustomed to harsh treatment. My letter is undoubtedly the first + last one that this squaw will receive. -

— In the afternoon walked over to Mr. Mann's