

August
 another birthday. I wired my congratulations
 to be followed in a day or so by more realistic ones.
 We finish our business in the
 Board of Examiners & adjourn. —
 Mr. Deville & I have a chat on photogrammetry
 re; Mr. Burgess not having returned I am
 obliged to lay over till tomorrow as he is to
 give me my instructions in reference to my
 trip to Alaska.
 King, Clayton, Webb & I were together after
 5 P.M. — Webb returned home in evening.

Tuesday 20
 fine, warm
 At noon Mr. Deville & I called on Mr. Burgess Dep.
 of Ministry re my Alaska trip. In a few words
 Mr. Burgess gave me my instructions, they being
 primarily & principally to find out what the United
 States parties are doing, and then to gather such
 information as may help in designing the plan
 of future work, and also such information as
 will assist in discussing the boundary question
 and place us in a position to deal intelligently
 in the matter without fear of being hampered
 by the United States. — All correspondence
 re Alaska was placed at my disposal.
 — I felt that great confidence had been
 placed in me in placing ^{me} in charge of this
 work, work which has an international bear-
 ing. — I will assiduously strive to merit
 the confidence reposed in me and shall labor
 to the best of my ability. I was given carte
 blanche as to how to proceed to carry out
 the end aimed at. — Upon invitation I
 took luncheon with Mr. Burgess at the Rideau
 Club. Afterwards I was with Mr. Deville again
 then saw J. Johnson, but he could give me no informa-
 tion, then I read Geo. Conner's letter re Alaska
 Boundary written in 1875. Then King, Clayton & I

had a char & smoke till 6 P.M.
 With 10-45 P.M. train off for home.

Wednesday 21
 close
 warm

In Lums at 8 a.m., leave again at 12-20 P.M. for
 Hamilton, here the Carnival is in full blast.
 I had to walk to Lums; Mrs. Julius & Oskar were
 off to see the sights. Reached town at 8 P.M. where
 Marie met me at the Station. Saw ^{W.} Kesperer on the
 train for a minute. —
 I told Marie of my expedite Alaska mission.

Thursday 22
 warm

Father drove me to Gall where I did some business,
 & then took the train for Hamilton, Marie getting on
 at Preston. — The boys were glad to see us, After dinner
 we all, including Lila & her mother went down town
 to see the trades' procession. We occupied a good
 place in Skinner's store for viewing the same.
 The first part of the procession was good but the end
 consisting of milk, ice & water carts could well
 have been omitted. Later I took a walk with
 the boys. After tea we came down again also
 Luit to see the fireworks. We found the top of the
 roof of the store the best place of seeing them. —
 They were very good and much enjoyed by the boys
 & us. — Returning to Lums we chatted, about
 11-30 the boys & the ladies retired, when Luit & I
 chatted & smoked till 2 1/2 all discussing
 my trip & mission & other subjects. —

Friday 23
 warm

I returned home at noon. Busy at my
 accounts; at 10 P.M. Marie returned being
 met by me at the Station. Marie saw our
 boys off on the train for St. Catharines going
 on a short visit to Carl. — Mr. Kesperer
 came with the train also.