

to be seen on its uninteresting surface. Prairie fires in the evening were the only excitement we had. The car shakes fearfully. As the station food is bad we "run" our own commissariat department on board; and with the potted meats, and delicious hot chocolate, guava jelly, and champagne which we provide, we "pan out" very well, and are having "quite" a "good time" in the enjoyment of three "square meals" a day.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4.—A very depressing day, being overcast and cloudy; affecting us the more keenly in consequence of the extremely fine weather we have been lucky enough to meet with. We experienced a very rough night in the car, and were nearly jolted out of our beds in consequence of indifferent couplings, and a bad track.

N.B.—Ye who may read this journal, and contemplate a journey by rail in the U.S.—We are on the Kansas Pacific Railway, stopped for lunch at Topeka on the Arkansas River, where the food was reported bad by those who tried it.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5.—Awoke but little refreshed by the roughest night we have had. It was generally believed that we had been off the track several times. Certainly, we often jumped far above