

(Matters collection)

Schneider, Charles G. SC 84

MEMORANDUM - 1852

- April 15 - From Milwaukee to Waukesha. Good weather. Good roads. Lodging in Waukesha. 17 miles.
- April 16 - Waukesha to Ottawa House. 16 miles. 1/2 day rain. Road hilly. Camped in the open.
- April 17 - Ottawa House through Palmyra and Whitewater. Camped.
- April 18 - Sunday. Whitewater through Fort Atkinson. 3 miles. Camped on the peninsula with Norwegians.
- April 19 - Through Madison. Lovely surroundings. Camped on the west side of Madison.
- April 20 - To Cross Plain Hotel. 16 miles. Raining hard. Camped.
- April 21 - Delightful weather. Camped in the woods after partaking of roasted duck.
- April 22 - Weather warm. Passed Mineral Point and camped 4 miles beyond.
- April 23 - 19 miles this side of Galena. Many California emigrant wagons in sight. Rain this night. Camped.
- April 24 - 4 miles from Dubuque. Rained hard during night. Camped.
- April 25 - Sunday. Rain and cold. Crossed the Mississippi at 3 o'clock per steam ferry. Lodged in Dubuque.
- April 26 - Left Dubuque at 11 o'clock. Roads very bad. Lodged 7 miles from Dubuque.
- April 27 - Weather fine. Passed cascade (28 miles). Camped 1/2 mile beyond.
- April 28 - Weather warm. Within 4 1/4 miles of Iowa City. Many wagons in sight. Camped just outside of city.
- April 29 - Passed through Anamosa and Fairview. Very swampy region. Camped in the woods after partaking of roast chicken.
- April 30 - Crossed Cedar River per ferry. Rain and storm during afternoon. Camped within 10 miles of Iowa City.
- May 1 - Passed through Iowa City and across Iowa River per ferry. Camped along side the river one mile out of town. Hay cost 6 shilling per 100 cwt.
- May 2 - Sunday. Heavy thunderstorm early in the day. Little grass. Fed no hay. First of May 100 wagons (Cal.) passed the city. Camped 7 miles from the city after enjoying a splendid meal of roast chicken, pigeon and snipe, such as one ought to have every Sunday.
- May 3 - Traveled 19 miles. Camped.
- May 4 - Traveled 16 miles. Camped.

- May 5 - Crossed 18 miles of prairie. Camped. Excellent grass. No wood. Corn 1⁰⁰ per bu. Oats 6 shilling. Inferior wheat 1⁰⁰. No hay to be had. 50 miles past Iowa City.
- May 6 - Thunderstorm. Camped in the woods.
- May 7 - Heavy thundershower early in the morning. Passed through Newton. Camped in the valley 35 miles this side of Fort Desmoine.
- May 8 - Rain. 4 miles of pasture. Crossed Skunk River. 38 wagons in the camp. Camped on the prairie.
- May 9 - Sunday. Good weather. Fine woodland. Chestnut trees in full leaf. Crossed Desmoine River in the afternoon. Passed through Fort Desmoine. Crossed Corn River. Camped outside of city.
- May 10 - Clear weather. Bought 112 lbs ham in Fort Desmoine at 7-8 cents per lb. Drove 5 miles in afternoon and camped. Gaurreling.
- May 11 - Splendid weather during the day. Rain at night. Camped.
- May 12 - Hot during day. Thunderstorm at night. Camped.
- May 13 - Hot during day. Terrible hail and thunderstorm in the evening. Elk and deer were numerous. Camped.
- May 14 - Storm. 5 miles this side of Nishany Buttany. Camped.
- May 15 - Bought 1 yoke oxen but returned them at a loss of only 1⁰⁰. Heavy thundershowers during the evening. Good water. Wood and grass. Camped.
- May 16 - Camped. Sunday. Cold north wind. At noon we again crossed the old road in Indian Town which we had left in Desmoine. Camped on the prairie.
- May 17 - Weather fine. Crossed ---- River per ferry. Camped 21 miles this side of Kaneshville on the prairie.
- May 18 - at 8 o'clock at night 3 men set out for Kaneshville afoob. Arrived at 4 in the morning. Bought tickets for portage. Saw the city. Returned at four in the afternoon. Met the wagons and, due to scarcity of grass, camped 1½ miles this side of the city. Council Bluffs is in a rocky region and settled by Mormons.
- May 19 - Bought supplies. Flour \$11.50. Bacon 16¢. Rice one shilling. Coffee 1 shilling. Sugar 16¢. Whiskey 40¢. 100 ropes 40¢.
- May 20 - Bought 1 yoke of 4 year old oxen for \$62.00. The streets of the town so crowded that no wagon could pass.
- May 21 - Heavy rains. Rested.
- May 22 - Rain in the forenoon. Rested.
- May 23 - Weather hot. Took a walk to the Missouri River. Attended a meeting of Mormons during the afternoon.

- May 24 - Drove through the city to the ferry. Did not arrive until noon due to crowded streets. Fought and struggled until 9 o'clock in the evening with the result that only 1 wagon and 1 yoke oxen were transported across the river. This necessitated standing armed guard over the cattle and wagons during the whole night until 5 o'clock in the morning we were able to transport the remaining 3 wagons and at 11 o'clock the 11 yoke oxen. The cattle had to fast for 30 hours. We could buy dirty Missouri water (which people here call lemonade) for 1 shilling per glass. Drove from 8 to 10 when at last we found grass. We expected to rest here for two days but heard after 3 hours that it was not safe to be so near to the Indians loafing around nearby because of the possible theft of our cattle. The Indians were all very fond of beef but had no stomach for raising cattle themselves. Just as we were ready to resume our journey, six Indians riders came galloping along only to disappear again when they saw that all our supplies had already been securely packed, and found no opportunity to steal anything. We broke camp at 3 o'clock and arrived at the next camp at 7 o'clock, which now comprised 16 wagons. Good grass and water. I stood guard this night for the first time on the plains. We also forded a small creek where a smart Indian (Jim Dix) had made a bridge of rushes and demanded 1 shilling toll for each wagon. We also ~~forded a small creek where a smart Indian (Jim Dix) had made a bridge of rushes and demanded 1 shilling toll for each wagon.~~
- May 26 - Drove from 6:30 to 12 noon and from 2 to 7 in the evening. Today there were often 50 wagons in the train and more than 100 within sight. This night Pahaw Indians in camp, 4 miles this side of Elk Horn River.
- May 27 - From 6:30 until 12:00 - from 2 to 7. Crossed Elk Horn River per ferry. We are now in the Pawnee District. The Pawnees man is one of the most annoying of the plains and we are therefore constantly surrounded by them and they are begging or stealing. They slay the cattle or drive them away when they are not held off by superior numbers, as was shown today. We passed their lower village which (according to them) contains 1000 warriors. Several were with us over night. We had therefore greatly strengthened the guard. Our corral numbers 16 wagons.
- May 28 - From 7:30 to 11:00; rested in the afternoon. Closed corral at night and distributed sentinels. At 1 o'clock at night a company pursued by Indians arrived at our camp and enlarged it considerably.
- May 29 - From 7 to 11:00; 1:30 to 7:30. Today a train of three wagons occupied by German immigrants joined us. They had been chased by Indians who killed one of their cows. It happened that there were 43 wagons in the train as we crossed Shell Creek in the afternoon. Here was another so-called "bridge" at which we were supposed to pay 1 bit for crossing, and now a laughable situation arose, namely - the string of wagons had become long-drawn out and the way led around the corner of a wood, so that the foremost wagons were quite out of sight. We were just over the bridge when we suddenly heard a volley of shots ahead, then piercing cries from all the line of Pawnees stretched along side the trail; but the next moment they had all disappeared into the woods. The cry "Pawnees" rapidly travelled from one end of the train to the other and there ensued a great confusion. The first wagons were halted to permit the others to come up. The situation was thus - the Indians seeing the wagons had been extremely bold and threatening and several Americans had fired at them. The result was that a young Indian

was shot in the back and left lying where he fell, and several other Indians were wounded. Remarkable was it to see the rapidity with which guns were handed out of the wagons. From this point we proceeded four miles further to the top of a rise in the prairie. Here a corral of 49 ox teams and another of 60 horse teams was closed. Because we were not far from the upper Pawnee village and feared an attack, the cattle were driven into the corral immediately after dark, and the necessary sentrels posted, and the watchword given. Nothing further materialized however.

- May 30 Pentecost. Early today the train was divided. We drove from the spot at 5:30, four wagons together, until 10 o'clock when we had a warm meal; for in the last camp we had had no wood. From 12:00 to 5:30, driving. We camped on the arm of the fork with many other immigrants, but had previously concluded to travel alone as much as possible in the future. This is one of the most magnificent regions imaginable.
- May 31 From 7:30 to 11; from 2 to 7, over the second arm of the Loup fork and to the borders of the Pawnee Indian. (Shubart's wagon upside down).
- June 1 From 7:30 to 11:30; from 2 to 7. Over the third arm of the Loup fork. Here we saw two strongholds, several miles apart. The first was built by white persons, 40 x 50 yards in size, with a strong 8 foot palisade surrounding it. This was partly burned. The second, thrown up by the Indians, was about a quarter of a mile in circumference, and was surrounded by an earth wall on three sides. The fourth side being protected by the Loup fork, which it adjoined. Inside the surface was undermined, and the well formed caves, well preserved, were an odd sight. We see no more Indians. Beautiful region.
- June 2 From 5:30 to 1:30; from 5 to 7. Over Loup fork twice as big as the Milwaukee River. The bed contained quicksand. We found it necessary, first in the middle of the stream to drive downstream 1/2 mile before we could reach the opposite bank.
- June 3 6:30 to 12; from 2 to 7. Through Prairie Creek. The preceding night there was a terrific storm. I stood watch the whole night through and was therefore thoroughly soaked. Ten Indians paid us an early visit. Today I went hunting. Had to go through Prairie creek up to the shoulder in crossing. I reached camp late, fooled.
- June 4 From 5:30 to 11; from 2 to 7. Over Wood river. Signs of cholera.
- June 5 From 6:30 to 11; from 1 to 6. At Platte river camp.
- June 6 Sunday. Early thundershower. From 7:30 to 12:30; from 2:45 to 6. Over Elm creek. Bad district.
- June 7 From 10:30 to 6. Captain Williams who had his wife and seven children with him died this morning at 7 o'clock of cholera and was buried at 9 o'clock..

Today we left his train, in which there were still two sick people, on whose account they had to lay over. Our people are not quite well, either. The sickness or attack usually lasts from 24 to 48 hours and is caused by drinking the water from wells dug in the valley of Prairie river.

- June 8 From 7:30 to 12; from 2:30 to 6:30. Two miles from Platte river, from which

we had to get water; camped. Passed fifty new graves from Missouri river to this place.

- June 9 - From 7 to 11; from 1 to 5. Today we saw the first herd of buffalo, but unfortunately they were far away. Wolves in great numbers.
- June 10- Rested. Washed. Dried provisions. Today there passed Capt. Williams' Company. On the 7th three more of their party had died.
- June 11 From 6 to 9:30; from 1:30 to 6:30. Today we passed the Capt. Williams' Company, in which six more men were sick, so that there remained only one man to each wagon. This night we found two strong spring (M. G. W.)
- June 12 From 7 to 11; from 1 to 6. Early today a pack of wolves woke us from a deep sleep. They had come to a few feet of the camp, howling. This noon we came to a region in which we found only 1 tree in 200 miles, yet buffalo meat is plentiful.
- June 13 Smdy. From 6 to 1; from 4 to 7. Over sand hills. Here Fastbinder's wagon tipped, the oxen running away. The wagon tongue had broken. Many articles lost and damaged. Evening storm.
- June 14 From 7 to 12; from 3 to 6. Today again over sand hills. This night on watch. Wolves 8 feet distant.
- June 15 From 6:30 to 11:30; 1:30 to 6. This morning H. was so angry over being unable to get water (for cooking) that he wanted to break his wagon into pieces. Bravo!
- June 16 6:30 to 11:30; 2 to 6:30. At 10 o'clock today we passed a lone cedar tree which had been chopped down.
- June 17 6:30 to 12; 2 to 6:30. This morning an antelope hunt. Shot one at 5:30. Then we visited Cobblestone bluff which rises several hundred feet, granite out of the cracks which red cedars grow. It is a lone eminence in the valley of the Prairie river.
- June 18 From 6 to 11. Afternoon. We rested because Pfeiffer was ill.
- June 19 Rested. Went hunting.
- June 20 Sunday. Rested. Pfeiffer still sick. Here time hung heavy on our hands; we were ~~see~~ camping on the prairie, and it was very hot. The valley is very wide.
- June 21 5:30 to 11; from 1 to 6:30. We were thinking of driving to Fort Laramie, 90 miles away, where we will probably find a doctor.
- June 22 6:30 to 11:30; 1:30 to 5:30. At 8 o'clock today we passed Chimney Rock a small, steep incline in the center of which a 30 foot high pillar of stone arises, explaining its name. Aside from this there are many interesting rock formations on the south side of the Platte river.
- June 23 From 6:30 to 11; from 1:30 to 5:30. This morning we passed Scott's bluff, about 200 feet high, south side of the river.

- June 24 - 6:30 to 11:15; 1:00 to 5:30. Today we passed blue and yellow clay and chalk foundations.
- June 25 - 6:30 to 11:30; from 1 to 3. Arrived at Fort Laramie. It lies on Laramie Fork, on the south side of the Platte, on a slight rise between the mountains, and comprises twelve houses, (some of canvass) the others of clay, in addition to the barracks. At present there are few troops located there. Flour cost \$20.00 and everything else 4 times the ordinary price. Here we saw the Sioux Indians for the first time—a fine, strong man.
- June 26 - From 12 to 8 in the evening. Today we traversed mountains. This is a bad trek for the cattle inasmuch as the way is very steep and stony. Also no water is to be had. Trees stand singly and far between - red and white cedars and pine.
- June 27 - Sunday, from 6:45 to 11:45; from 1:30 to 6:30. Today we passed red hills and flint formations. Remarkable are various flowers, among them two kinds of cactus, one with red flowers, the other, of a circumference of five to six feet and very numerous, has yellow flowers.
- June 28 6:30 to 12; 1:30 to 5. Hill and valley. Little grass.
- June 29 - From 6:30 to 11:45; 2 to 7. Hill and valley. Little grass. A man was killed by white persons.
- June 30 - From 7 to 11:30; from 2:30 to 5:45. Hill and valley. Big detours. Saw a vein of hard coal. Wild wormwood in great masses. Little grass.
- July 1 - 7 to 11:30; 2 to 6. Hill and valley. Little grass.
- July 2 - 6:30 to 11:30; from 1:45 to 6:45. Hill and valley. Little grass. Here two men were drowned while trying to drive cattle over the Platte river to graze on the opposite side.
- July 3 - 6:30 to 10. Rested in the afternoon. Hills and valleys. Little grass. Today Pfeiffer tried to walk a short way. We lie $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles below the upper ferry of the Platte, which I hunted up. There is a trading post here, as well as a blacksmith shop. To shoe a yoke of oxen cost \$32.00. Transport of wages \$5.00. The cattle swim across. Gallon of whisky \$9.00.
- July 4 - Sunday. From 6 to 12; 2:45 to 6:30. This morning we saw the Platte river for the last time. We followed it 600 miles. Today our way continued over hill and valley. Twenty-nine miles no good water. Hardly any grass. One ox so lame that he can hardly walk. Afternoon storm and dust so that one could not see three paces off. Evening. No water, little grass. Herbst sick. Biebrich sick. All wheel tires except ours are loose. We have for a long time seen no wood. The earth surface is hard and covered with saltpeter, and nothing grows but wild wormwood. There are many cattle carcasses near the bad water. The air is foul.
- July 5 - From 6:30 to 12; from 2 to 5:30. Hill and valley and at 9 o'clock we found spring water, much dust, little grass.
- July 6 - From 7 to 12; from 2:45 to 6. Forenoon deep sand, salaratus and alkali water, which is covered with a white film, and spreads an offensive odor.

In the afternoon we arrived at the Sweet water. Passed Independence Rock, where a trading post had been established and reached the Rattlesnake mountains. Little grass.

- July 7 - From 6:30 to 11; 1 to 5:30. Today we passed the Devils Gate. It consists of a 15 to 25 foot wide opening passing through a mountain 300 to 400 feet high. The walls are absolutely perpendicular. The Sweet water river flows through it and fills the entire opening at the upper end. Again a trading post. Little grass.
- July 8 - From 7 to 11; 2 to 6. In the valley of the Sweet water, between snow covered mountains, and so cold that one freezes in winter clothes. Much alkali water, and therefore a great number of dead cattle. Added to this a second and best ox of ours went lame. Grass has been growing here previously, but now no more. Before us snow capped mountains in sight.
- July 9 - From 7 to 10:30; from 1 to 6. This morning we had to drive through the Sweet water three times within two miles, which necessitated my going through the cold water in depths of three to five feet. There were 300 wagons waiting in line for the trip. Two tipped over. Little grass. Many dead cattle.
- July 10 - From 7 to 12:30; 3 to 5:30. Hill and valley. No grass. The other drivers also found their cattle becoming lame. Seventeen miles no good water. We could see
- July 11 - Sunday. From 6:30 to 11; 1:30 to 6. Forenoon rocky way. Cold afternoon, hill and valley; warm. Little grass. Many dead cattle. Tonight we camped in a partly snow-filled ravine. The strawberries started to blossom here (snowballing).
- July 12 - From 6:30 to 11; from 1 to 6. This noon we passed the Sweet water for the ninth and last time. Way passable. Little grass. This night we put up near a Black Feet Indian camp.
- July 13 - From 8 to 11:30. Afternoon rested. Over the South Pass summit which is 7,500 feet high, the Great divide. We lay at Pacific Springs and as we will see no grass nor water in 23 miles, and our cattle are somewhat lame, we shall stay here several days, for in the last 350 miles we have found very little grass. We drive the cattle 6 to 7 miles from the road and wagons to the south Sweet water. We remain there overnight. Very cold.
- July 14 - We are standing watch, because our comrades could not find us until late to relieve us. Here we had to fast thirty hours as a result. Good grass. Many Indians.
- July 15 - Washed.
- July 16 - Hinted storm.
- July 17 - Again on sentinel duty. Saw a number of sage hens and antelope. Nights are cold.
- July 18 Sunday. Broke camp early. From 9 to 3. Much dust and decide on Salt Lake route because there is more grass than on Sublette's Cut-Off. We are again

able to use all six of our oxen. Met Werner and son.

- July 19 - From 6:30 to 11:30; 2 to 6:30. Much dust, little grass. In sixty hours we slept only two. In five nights on watch three. The whole day no water.
- July 20 - 7:30 to 11:30; 1:30 to 5. Over Big Sandy river. At night the first of the dangerous Shoshawnee Indians came into our camp.
- July 21 - 7 to 11; 1 to 4:30. Between 11 and 1 o'clock over Green River per ferry. Price, \$3.00. Cattle had to swim. Many Indians. Much vermin. Little grass.
- July 22 - 7 to 11:30; 1:30 to 6. Much dust. No water. Night, water and grass.
- July 23 - 6:30 to 11:45; 1:45 to 5:45. Today we crossed three rivers, one so deep that the water came into the wagon box. Today and yesterday very hot. Nights very pleasant, although snow-capped mountains are still in sight. Good grass.
- July 24 - 6:30 to 12:30; 3 to 7. Over 4 streams. Passed Ft. Bridger (Blockhouse).
- July 25 - Sunday. 6:30 to 11:30; 2 to 7. At noon no water. Bad road. Stony hills. The best ox again lame. At night Witz and Bieb quarreled. Very hot day. This night cold as in winter. Good grass.
- July 26 - From 7 to 12; 2:45 to 5:30. Over Bear River. Bad and stony road. Herbst and Witzel quarreled. Mountain road upward 4 to 6 miles and descending again; we had to put brakes on both wheels. Here we met seventy-five traveling Indians.
- July 27 - 6:30 to 1:30 2 to 7. Drove into a deep canyon and crossed the river below 18 times, with constant danger of upsetting. One ox so worn out that it can hardly follow, though free. Herbst wants to stay in Salt Lake.
- July 28 - 6:30 to 1; 3 to 6:45. Over Weber River, then over a high hill and then into a canyon; many times crossing a stream. The way to Salt Lake zigzags in canyons steep, stony and bad.
- July 29 - From 6:30 to 11:45; 2 to 5:15. Five miles very steep and stony to the top of a hill; 2 miles ditto down again. Then less steep to a creek, where we found a store and blacksmith shop. Every day good grass (pieberries).
- July 30 - From 8 to 1; 3 to 5:30. Over a very steep and high hill, then into a canyon. Crossed a creek 19 times downward. At 4 o'clock we came out of the mountains and had the Great Salt Lake valley and the city in sight. The valley is several hundred miles long and in some places over 100 wide. At 5 o'clock we arrived in the city, where we bought grass, and remained. The city, inhabited by Mormons, has a compass of five miles and lies on a small rise. The houses are widely separated, are made of unburned blue brick, are usually one story high, and neatly built. Among the most prominent are the statehouse, the governor's house, the Tabernacle and two breweries. The city is watered by means of ditches leading from the mountains, and similar conditions prevail on the farms. The region is fertile.
- July 31 - Today we had the forefeet of two yoke of oxen shod; price per yoke, \$6.00. During that time we shortened our wagons, bought what we needed and drove from the city at 6:30 P. M. At 8 o'clock darkness and rain compelled us

to halt. No supper and no breakfast.

- August 1 - 4:15 to 9:45; 2 to 5. At noon no grass. Evening good grass. Last night we came across warm springs; today hot salt and salt peter springs, which were very clean and rose from the rocks, both giving off an offensive odor.
- August 2 - 7:15 to 1; 3:15 to 5. On the east side of the valley, away from the settlement the way is hilly. Here we were compelled to exchange the black oxen for a miserable yoke of steers, because the oxen could proceed no further. Yesterday we met Kreuzer's company, out of Milwaukee. Plenty of grass.
- August 3 - 6:30 to 11:30; 1:30 to 4. Away. The vegetables taste mighty good. In the afternoon Werner caught up with us, and remained with us. Way and Grass good.
- August 4 - 6:30 to 11; 1 to 6. Over Box Alder. This afternoon we reached the last settlement, sixty miles from the city. Way good, grass good.
- August 5 - 6:15 to 11; 1 to 5:15. This forenoon our way proceeded past a semi-circle of springs covering 40 to 50 feet, the water at one end being seethingly hot, and at the other quite fresh and cool; they formed a lively creek current. afternoon over Bear River for the second time, per ferry-price \$2.00. Good road, good grass.
- August 6 - 6:30 to 11:30; 1 to 6:30. In the afternoon we came across water which was somewhat salty and warm. The cattle would not drink it, and in the evening we found no water at all. Way good, grass fair.
- August 7 - Early, 1 to 6; 9 to 3 (on guard with G. W.). It was not until 12 that we came across a river with good water. Way fair, feed good.
- August 8 - Sunday. Rested at Sink Creek. Good rabbit hunting and roast. Herbst drunk. Feed good.
- August 9 - 3 to 9:30; 12 to 7. At 8 o'clock found 2 springs of good water. In the evening we camped at Stoney Creek. Water good. Travelled 27 miles today. Road fair, Grass good.
- August 10 - 7:30 to 12; 2:30 to 6:30. Early today to our astonishment, the creek was dry. As we travelled up its bed to investigate the water came down in waves toward us. Remarkable! Towards noon we reached de Cassure Creek. In the evening we camped at this river. Road and grass good.
- August 11 - Rested, washed and mended. We kept the wagon wheels wet. Wind tipped the wagon over. We ate white bread for the first time since entering the plains, and I am happy we have no more cornmeal.
- August 12 - 6:15 to 2; 4 to 9. At 10 o'clock today we came into the Fort Hall road. In the afternoon we traveled over high and overhanging hills, at times so steep that the cattle could not hold the wagon, even with the brakes set. This going lasted until 9 o'clock at night when we found some grass and water.
- August 13 - 7:30 to 12; 2 to 5:15. Along Goose creek. Way fair; grass ditto.

- August 14 - 6:30 to 12; 2 to 7. Way very hilly. Feed bad; many dead cattle; water bad; herbst sick.
- August 15 - Sunday, 7:30 to 11:45; 1 to 3:45. From early morning to 4 in the afternoon no water. Tonight it is bad enough. Much dead cattle. Way good. Feed fair. Werner today drove ahead.
- August 16 - 6:15 to 12; 1:30 to 8. Over the mountains on the Humboldt side. Much dust and stink. Good grass.
- August 17 - 7:30 to 11:30. Rested in the afternoon. Quarreled. Good grass. Head of Humboldt.
- August 18 - 6:15 to 11:15, 1:30 to 6. Much dust, camp alongside the Humboldt. Good grass. Good way.
- August 19 - 7 to 11:30; 1:30 to 6:30. Good road. Good grass. Schubert sick (fever).
- August 20 - 7:15 to 11:15; 1:30 to 5:45. Good road and grass. Forenoon cold and cloudy. Afternoon hot and pleasant.
- August 21 7 to 11:30; 2 to 4:30. Bad road; grass fair. At night the water froze.
- August 22 - Sunday. 8:15 to 11:30; 1:30 to 7. Seventeen miles over steep and stony hills. So dusty that one could not see. To midday no water. At night stood guard in the Willows along the Humboldt. Feed bad.
- August 23 - 7 to 11; rested and fished in the afternoon.
- August 24 - 6:30 to 11:30; 1:30 to 5. At night we learned that this morning, at this place, about 100 Indians attempted to drive off the cattle connected with six wagons that are stopping here, but were driven away by the men of an Ohio train of twenty-three wagons, who rushed to the rescue. The fight lasted a half hour during which time many Indians were killed and wounded, and two whites slightly wounded by arrows. The Indians fled over the bluffs, from which point we could plainly see their village and previously stolen cattle and horses. There was talk of a general assault on the village by the emigrants. Many persons who had incautiously wandered from their trains in the past had been fired upon. As the willows along the Humboldt are so dense that one can hardly pass through them, they offer a place of easy escape for the Indians.
- August 25 - 6:45 to 11:45; 1:45 to 5. Over salaratus soil. Good grass on the river.
- August 26 - 6:45 to 11:15; 1 to 5:30. This night six Indian riders entered a neighboring horse team camp and remained over night. They were equipped with rigles. The emigrants wanted to trade a rifle for an Indian pony, but we prevented them from doing so. Remarkably enough, in the morning three Indians and three horses belonging to the camp were missing.
- August 27 - 7:15 to 1; 3:30 to 6. At noon over sand hills. Rabbit and chicken hunt.
- August 28 - 7:15 to 12:30; 2:30 to 6. Way sandy in the afternoon. Good rabbit hunting.
- August 29 - Sunday. 8 to 11:45; 1:45 to 5:30. Way sandy. Rabbits plentiful.

- August 30 - 7:15 to 1; 3:30 to 6. Dust.
- August 31 - 8 to 10; halted in the afternoon. Here we made our first cut of hay, because in the next three days of travel we would find little grass. Cut the grass with knives and sickle, and transported it over the Humboldt.
- Sept. 1 - 7:15 to 12:30; 3 to 6. No grass at the river. Here we were overhauled by Keller's train (in the night). There were several in the party from Milwaukee, among them H. Moeller.
- Sept. 2 - 5 to 10:30; 1:30 to 5:30. No grass. Bad spring water.
- Sept. 3 - 2 to 9; halted in the afternoon. Now we are at the upper end of the sink of Humboldt. This basin lies between the mountains and a strongly flowing stream loses itself therein and in spring the basin becomes a large lake. Just now it is a large swamp with reeds twelve feet high and some marsh grass. The higher ground is barren and covered with a white crust. The water at the lower end is salty. Because of this condition we had to retrace our way six miles where we dug a well, and found water only slightly salt. We also obtained a wagonload of wood from a distance of two miles.
- Sept. 4 - Rested and cut hay. Put water in casks because we are soon to enter the desert.
- Sept. 5 - Sunday, 7:30 to 3:30; 5 to 6. Good travelling. Passed a trading post at lower end of the lake. Junction of road. A little grass. At night water salty, yet we were compelled to put some of it in casks because we shall find no more in 45 miles. We took the Beckwith route and separated from F. Keller's train, which selected the Carson trail (on guard).
- Sept. 6 - 6:30 to 12:30; 1 to 6; and from 9 in the evening to 2:30 in the evening.
- Sept. 7 - 4 to 11:30 in the forenoon, when we reached the Truckee river. Travel for 30 miles is pretty good. The latter part is very deep sand, and here it was that we passed very many abandoned wagons, much equipment and many dead cattle. We gave our cattle one and one half gallons per head, and came through safely. We cooked once. The water, however, was so salty that we could not enjoy the food. Last night I drove and the night before I was on guard. We just passed through a pretty and clear mountain stream, (the T. R.) and rest now several hours away. Tired and sleepy we lay down at noon under the wagon in the midday heat, and think with satisfaction that we now have the worst part of the whole trip behind us. I am also thinking of the hot springs that we passed last night. About twenty in number, they flow from the hard rock, each with its own basin, the largest a little more than 20 feet in diameter, from which the water is at times driven to a height of twenty feet. This is the hottest spring of the lot. The others spout at longer intervals (Steamboat Springs). Afternoon from 3 to 5. Little grass.
- Sept. 8 - 7:45 to 12:30; from 2 to 6. The way today is over the mountains, which are entirely covered with sharp stones. Again at the river, where the road slanted to such a degree that at times four men had to hold the wagon so that it would not tip. Then again over sand and boulders. One would hardly believe that such conditions were possible. Little grass.

- Sept. 9 - 8 to 11:30; 12:30 to 6:15. Half mile over stones. No track visible. Over a very high hill and zigzag downward, so steep that when one wagon left the train it fell down the hill, a total wreck. We see blue wonders here, and wrecked wagons hanging over the edge and lying in the canyon bottom. Through canyons. Many broken wagons. Arrived at Truckie meadow. Grass good, On guard.
- Sept. 10 - 8:30 to 11:30; halted in the afternoon. The sierra Nevadas lie before us, majestic and reaching to the skies. They are heavily wooded with pine. One of the mountains is afire and presents a great sight at night, We also see scorpions here for the first time. Grass fair. Herbst and Pfeiffer quarreled.
- Sept. 11 - 9:30 to 1:30; 3:15 to 7. Way very stony, hilly and uneven. Dangerous crossing of the Truckie river, which is full of boulders and rushing waters. Wagons get caught on boulders in the middle of the river, but are eventually floated off. Reach the shore by swimming.
- Sept. 12 - 7:15 to 12: 2:15 to 3:15. Through pine woods. Uphill all morning. Arriving at the top one sees only an abyss - and there lies the trail. Brakes set on both wheels. Camped in a little valley. Almost forgot that it was Sunday.
- Sept. 13 - 7 to 11:15; 1:30 to 5:30. We left the Truckie route and turned into Henney's Cut-Off, which goes to Downieville, 50 miles away. The way passes alternately through pinewoods and valleys rich with good grass and wild clover. The whole region is the most attractive we have yet seen. Schubert has a fever.
- Sept. 14 - 7:15 to 12; 2 to 5:30. Away in the woods, passable mountain trail. Near evening we reach a lake in a widespread valley, and see the first ranch. We now find ourselves on the highest ridge of the Sierra Mountains. The air is raw and cold and snow never far away. Good water and grass to be found in all canyons (Ducks.)
- Sept. 15 - 8 to 1; 3:00 to 5:30. Today Biebrich went ahead to Downieville and we have now only five men in our party. Tonight there was a hard freeze. The woods become denser, the trunks higher - twenty feet in circumference and 200 feet in height common. In the valleys are ranches. The way leads three miles over hills covered with broken stones. See many abandoned wagons, and one family of emigrants, the man sick and with no food. Gray bears (grizzlies) occupy this district. Their weight runs from 600 to 1600 pounds. Saw their tracks in the road. But hay and took it along.
- Sept. 16 - 7:30 to 12; 2:30 to 6:30. In the morning we rode up a long and steep incline. Fed hay. In the afternoon we passed through heavy undergrowth and pine woods. Evening at Half Way water camp. Little grass. All done.
- Sept. 17 - 11 to 2:30; 3 to 5:30. Cut grass early today between the alder bushes. Took it along. The way is narrow and cut between hedges so that we were obliged to precede the cattle or follow the wagon. The cattle are exhausted, and do not want to proceed. The worst traveling spot on the entire trip. At 5:30 we arrived at Galloway's tavern, five miles this side of Downieville, where Biebrich came towards us. He had taken up

claims, and brought a bit of sample rock with him. We donot wish to and cannot travel further.

- Sept. 18 - Early today we sold our wagon for \$10.00 while still sleeping in it. Pfeiffer's wagon will remain here. At 9 o'clock we sold the oxen, practically all of them being sick from poison herbage eaten the day before. We got \$55 for them, per yoke. Now we are freed of our wagons and cattle. We proceed to divide. The articles are auctioned. Biebrich and Herbst are auctioneers. Certain articles that we could not divide, and which cost \$15, and were sold for \$31. The whole proceeding was very laughable. Each packed his things in a given spot, and he who had the least was really better off, because he had less to carry. (Under tall pines.)
- Sept. 19 - Sunday. I and C. L. became partners. Biebrich and Pfeiffer, who had taken a load to Dow. the day before, came back at 12 o'clock and brought two mules (one for me), which cost \$4 each. Now we descend the hillside four miles, and arrive at our destination at 4 o'clock. Chris brought down another load this night. Herbst and Schubert come in on Monday.
- Sept. 20 - Bought mining tools for \$46.
- Sept. 26 - Sunday. This week we worked in a claim near Downieville, Got out \$30. Slept in the open. Four cost 28 cents per pound. By close figuring we can live on \$6 per week for food. Weather good.
- Oct. 3 - Sunday. On Sept. 26 Biebrich rode to Sacramento. We have quarters now in Pfeiffer's tent. We found little gold this week. Bar on South Fork.
- Oct. 10 - This week we mined two different spots, and found \$84.
- Oct. 17 - This week worked in the bar; paid well; \$108 to divide.
- Oct. 24 - Sunday. Worked two days; little result. Wednesday and Thursday prospecting. Friday and Saturday took our tools to another place on the Middle Fork, three miles from Downieville. Set up tent. Settled down.
- Oct. 31 - Sunday. Worked this week, little gold—\$28.00. One day of rain.
- Nov. 7 - Sunday. Worked until Wednesday. Found only \$17. Broke camp Thursday. Went up river five miles, where we found a vacant house, which protected us from a terrific storm that lasted a day and night. The region is such as to permit easy operations. We are thinking of building a house on our new claim, and remain there this winter. There are no supplies within 8 miles and the footway in this steep and rocky region becomes at this season difficult and unsafe. (Middle Fork.)
- Nov. 14 - There were wild storms this week. Tuesday, Thursday and today, rain. Our new house is ready except for the roof. Flour \$75 per barrel.
- Nov. 21 - Sunday. On Monday, the 15th, we got bread from Downieville. Weather Monday and Tuesday rainy. Thursday rain and snow. Today blizzard, and go to Downieville for provisions. Our house under roof.
- Nov. 28 - Sunday. Weather Monday and Tuesday rain; Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, cold; Saturday and today rain. Eight days ago we were in Downieville to buy