

Henry W. Starr journal
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Richmond, April 2nd, 1850.

We started for California, namely Benjamin Lamb, C. H. Sharon, Wm. L. Brown, O. McKinsey, Thomas Monley, Levi Alred, Johnathan Whitacre, Burgess Wilcoxon, Jacob Lamb, Jeremiah Starr, Henry W. Starr and arrived in Cincinnati on the same day where we were joined by D. Huston, where we remained until the evening of the 5th when we got on board of the steamer John Hancock for St. Louis which place we reached on the evening of the 8th during a snow storm and were shipped on the Bay State next morning for St. Joseph's, Missouri which place we reached after a tedious and unpleasant trip owing to the cold weather and the selfish and mean disposition of the officers of the boat on the 15th inst. Slept in the wagons that night in St. Joseph. Weather wet and cold. April 16th, 1850.

It rained all day and one day in this place satisfied us and after a hard days work in the rain and mud we got out on the Oregon Road 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from town where we had to sleep in the wagons again. 17th.

Was dry and pleasant and we made our tent and put it up and had the satisfaction of sleeping a little more comfortable.

See Mattie
 Peter's Run Road Manifest
 Entry # 975

18th.

Dry but cold. I was quite unwell this day and I wrote home.

Nothing of importance occurred until 26th.

Oliver H. Sharon arrived on this day with the word that he and J. Lamb and Levi Alfred had purchased our cattle in Illinois and he left them in charge of Lamb and Alfred.

27th.

D. T. Huston started back to meet the boys and help them along with the oxen.

28th.

Sunday. Wrote home again.

29th. Rainy and cold.

April 30th, 1850.

Jeremiah Starr was very sick with the bilious fever. He was sick for one week. Nothing else of importance except the arrival of the Boys with the Cattle until May the sixth when we left St. Joseph for Oregon the County Seat of Holk County our cattle were not accustomed to work and we were all new hands at driving and taking both together we made a very awkward appearance but still we succeeded pretty well. We found an empty cabin and took peaceable possession of it turned our Cattle in the yard to eat supper and went to bed. (7th) Awoke in the morning and found the ground covered with snow and it raining waited here until 10 o'clock for the Centreville boys when they arrived we started for Savannah the County

seat of Andrew County this is a beautiful village 3 miles from the Missouri River surround by a rich Prarie and said to be a healthy place. we encamped 2 miles above the Town.

8th we drove 8 miles to day and encamped on the Nodoway River. this River is about 6 Rods wide and 20 feet deep

9th We ferryed the River this morning and arrived in Oregon the County seat of Folk County a small but Thriving Village at the extreme edge of Civilization we encamped about one mile from Town on the Old Fort Road.

10th we traveled over the Ridge for 5 or 6 miles and then struck the little Tarkeo Bottoms Crossed the little Tarkeo and encamped on Sqaw Creek.

11th Traveled up the Tarkeo Bottoms to where Dr. Evans & Co were encamped on the Big Tarkeo 20 miles above the town of Oregon 38 from Savanah and fifty from St. Joseph.

12th Sunday

13th Monday. Started in 60 weth Dr. Evans & Co the Richmond Co, the Centreville Co, and a camp from this state traveled 18 miles up the Missouri Bottoms and encamped for the Night on the Edge of the Bluffs. Water $\frac{1}{2}$ mile pasture good

14th Started over the Bluffs for the little Village of Lindon here we were afraid we would not have flour enough

and bought 300 lbs for \$15.00 this was the last village we passed in the States we traveled out $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles having made about ten miles this day.

15th traveled up the Bottoms 16 miles to Bowmans Ferry

16th Crossed the River on a Row Boat and encamped on the Bank here we found excelent spring watter and for the first time considered it necessary to guard our Stock.

17th commended our march across the plains as soon as we get off of the River Bottoms we strike the Prarie it is very Roling and no matter except in Sloughs

and timber is so scarce that it is dificult to get enough to Cook our meals the Roads were good and we made about 20 miles and encamped by the Road side where there was no wood nearer than 4 miles Some of the Boys went on the Horses and packed enough to Boil water for Coffee and we used slough watter and done very well for the Night

18 traveled over pretty much the same kind of a country as yesterday and encamped on willow Creek, a Small branch some distance of to the Right of the Road having made about 16 miles Water and wood abundant but the grazing short

19th the same broken prarie as before with sloughs water rather more abundant timber very Scarce untill we got to Saline River where we found wood plenty but Water

scarce as the River water is salt and we had to get our water from little springs or Rather mud holes along the Bank of the stream we had traveled about 20 miles this day and concluded to by by $\frac{1}{2}$ the day to wash and here we had the first prairie Storm such a one as is never known at home the wind Blew a perfect hurricane the Rain poured down in torrents and accompanied with almost constant flashes of lightning and the thunder Rolled as if Heaven and Earth were coming in contact

20 We got our wagons fied by 2 o clock and took up our line of march again crossed the River on a Prdge and got up on the hill to see once more the same kind of Broken prairie as far as the eye could Reach traveled about 10 miles and found two willows by the side of a slough here encamped again and done pretty well for wood & water but grass short

21 Nothing worthy of note for about 15 miles when we come to a little stream with timber her we got our Wood for the night and hauled it along after we left this stream we found found gravel hills with stone plenty but such stone as will be of but little or no value as it is entirely quarts of all shapes and sizes we traveled about 20 miles and encamped again on a slough

22nd. We traveled over pretty much the same kind of a country as the day before for about 18 miles to where we

struck the platte Bottoms where we found wood and Watter Chopped some wood filled our watter vessels and Hauled about 2 miles out in the bottom where we encampd we saw the first Indians to day that we had saw they were of the Pawnee Trive they are noted Beggars and thieves we entertained the Chief and his son and another Brave for the night we posted out an extra guard for the night but they made no attempt to steal anything and departed in the morning apparently very thankfull for the favour shows them here we experienced another of those Terific Thunder Storms.

23rd we traveled all day up the Platte Bottoms without comeing nearer the River than from 2 to 5 miles there is very little timber on the Platte here but the bottoms are splendid if there was anything like spring watter here it would be a delightful country but the two most essential things Timber and watter will always be a great detriment to the Settlement of this country by civilized man. we made about 20 miles to day and encamped off of the Road. about 1 mile distant from the River and had to carry our wood water from the River

24th we continued our course up the River and at noon found ourselves on the Bank of the River it is a wide Sheet of water spreading over a bed of sand with barely depth enough to float an Indian canoe and fordable at

almost any point on Horse back with low Banks and innumerable Small Islands dotted over with a few Cottonwood and Cedar trees the water is much the same as the Missouri water but not so cold on each side of the River from ten to twenty miles apart the Bluffs rise abruptly from the Bottom and present a beautiful appearance from the Road the Road was not so good this afternoon and we only made about 18 miles we passed through an Indian Village which had been Recently deserted it consisted of about one hundred Wigwams they were curiously constructed and denoted a goodeal of skill and ingenuity but the poor Indians after they had completed it were driven from their home by the Sioux who Still keep horrossing them. there Indian Trails along the Bank here which are paths or furows worn in the ground about 15 inches wide and from 6 in to 2 ft deep and perhaps 15 or 20 of them along the side of each other from one to Two ft apart, we encamped on the River Wood Scarce Water poor & grass rather indiferent G. W. Connor Shot a deer here the first the Co had killed

25th we continued up the Bottom about 12 miles the Bottoms getting narrower until the Bluffs come up to the River here we had to climb the Bluffs and travel over them about 2 miles up hill and down across the ravines running in to the River they are numerous as the land is

a light loam & Sand and it looks like floods of water has poured down them at sometime but they are all dry at this time after traveling about 2 miles we again descend to the Bottom where we find Rather more timber the Bottom here is not more than from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile in width the Road pretty good after making about 20 miles we found a branch or slough of clear water here we encamped for the night again wood plenty and pasture abundant another storm this night but we were somewhat sheltered by the Bluffs.

26th we started again at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 o'clock here we come to what we supposed to be Grand Island the whole Bottom here is surrounded by water a branch of the River on each side very near the Bluffs many places so near that we had to climb over the Bluffs the Road Bad weather warm the Thermometer stood at 50 in the shade at noon we made only about 15 miles to day and encamped on the Bank of the River and cooked with Willow Brush and a little drift wood (Storm)

27th we started at 7 o'clock the weather cool and pleasant the Bottoms gradually growing wider but rather of marshy Soon after we had eat our dinner we were traveling along the Bank of the River we saw a young Buffalo Jump into the River from the opposite Shore and make directly for our waggons we waited until he had had landed and then he was so near exhausted that we captured him without firing a gun tied him behind the wagon and led

him to our place of camping Sloughered him and had the pleasure of feasting on Buffalo we mad about 20 miles to day and encamped on the River again where we done very well for the night

28th we took up our line of March at $\frac{1}{2}$ past seven O clock the Bottoms here grow wider and become dryer and level and as beatiful as at any point on the River that we saw. and about 3 o clock we come to the Independence & str Jo Road come in to the Platte Road after the Roads come together there was a perfect Jam of teams of all Kinds pack trains and some foot travelers we arived at New Ft. Kerney about 5 o clock this is a Noted place at the head of Grand Island about two Hundred and Twenty three miles from where we crossed the River it is a small place consisting of three frame houses 2 of unburnt Brick and a number of Mexican hovels built of prarie sod containing 155 soldiers one sutlers store Blacks with shop Post office & these was an order published by the Road Side for bidding Emigrants camping nearer than one mile of the Fort here we saw a No of tame Buffalo belonging to the ft. - we drove out about 2 ms past Making about 26 miles and encamped on a slough without wood and very poor water but by this time we had got used to doing with poor water and little wood

28th we started early this morning to try to pass other Teams on the Road drove hard over an excelent Road Nothing

of note only the No. of emigrants were so much greater than we had anticipated that some of our Co were very much discouraged. we made about 20 miles to day and encamped on the River Bank and drove our Cattle over on to an Island to Graze. pasture good wood scarce

30th we started again very early with the Intention of passing other trains drove hard in the forepart of the day to accomplish it did not succeed very well and finally gave it up as useless the Bottoms and Road are so much the same on this River that one discription is all that is necessary to discribe the whole Road. We traveled about 25 miles to day and encamped on the River again and as last night drove our cattle to an Island to graze

31st we acted a little more reasonable this morning did not start quite so early and drove moderate and steady over level dry Roads and made about 25 miles again and encamped on the Bank of the River here we had to cook our meals with Buffalo chips and it Rained in the night and wet our chips so that we could not get them to burn in the morning consequently we did not cook much for breakfast

June 1st we started pretty early and drove about 25 miles the road very good with the exception of a few dry ravines we had to cross we encamped at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 o clock on the Bank of the River and drove our cattle to an Island to graze grass very good and wood plenty here we had another storm of wind Thunder and Rain

2nd we started pretty early this morning passed over pretty much the same kind of a country in the forepart of the day when we struck Ragged Bluffs with here and there extensive Beds of Marl and large Rocks of the same we made about 20 miles to day and encamped on a little creek which empties in to the Platte just below the forks here we had excelent Watter and the grass was very good but no wood for miles

June 3d We started about 6 o clock pretty much the same kind of a country as we traveled over yesterday for about 8 miles where we come to the crossing of the south fork of the platte there is one Road that runs up on the South side of the south fork and another that crosses and runs up on the North side we concluded that while we could cross we would do so the River at the crossing is near one mile wide and not to exceed 2½ ft deep it runs very swift over a bed of loose sand and gravel and we had to keep our waggons in motion after we started in to the stream for so soon as a waggon stopped it commenced sinking in the sand but our co all got over without any difiiculty we drove about 8 miles further and encamped on the River and found excelent pasture on an Island wood scarce no water but River Watter we traveled 17 ms to day

4th we started about 7 o clock the weather wet and cold we traveled up the south fork about 5 miles and then struck across the Bluffs some 6 miles to the North fork and traveled up the Bottom 2 or three miles to where we

again struck on to the Bluffs the whole face of the country has undergone a change since we crossed the River the Bluffs are more Rugged and composed of Granite Marl gravel and sand the Bottoms are Narrow and not very productive the Road was heavy and made about 16 miles and encamped on the Bluffs far from wood water and grass and done the best we could considering all these disadvantages and that there was a cold drizzling Rain all night.

5th started pretty early through a cold Rain and found the Road much worse than we had saw it before having been so much Rain and so much travel on the Road that where there was any Loam or soil it was badly cut up and where there was none there was as a general thing a perfect bed of sand consequently it was a bad drag all day about noon we again struck the North fork of the Platte But found no Wood and very little grass the Bottoms are so narrow in many places that we had to climb over the Bluffs and when we did travel along the River the Road was equally as bad as on the Bluffs. and we only made about 15 miles to where the Bottom grows wider and by driving our stock to an Island we got pretty good pasture.

6th took up our line of march about 6 o'clock found very little of interest but had Roads rugged Bluffs and poor soil until about eleven o'clock when we come to Cedar Bluffs where there is a few scattering cedars but but by the time this years emmigration passes there will hardly be even stumps enough left to show where it was we cut

some wood and hauled it along soon after we passed it we found two excellent springs of pure water running out of the Bluffs near one mile from the river this was about the first pure spring water we had tasted since we left the Missouri River and although it was freestone water it went well. here the Bluffs begin to present truly a Mountainous appearance and we had to climb to the top of them as the River runs right at the foot of them and after climbing up a steep hill and traveling some 3 miles we come to what is called ash Hollow or creek but it is hardly worthy of the name of creek being like all other creeks in this country dry here is where the Indians attacked the Trains last year and it was well selected for an attack being a very deep ravine and grown up with scrubby ash and Hazle bushes. Here we were advised to take in wood to do us 70 miles as we would find no more for that distance and we prepared accordingly we traveled down the Hollow about 1 mile and again struck the River 1 mile from where we left it to climb over the Bluffs having traveled over three miles to make the Bottoms were narrow and the Road that runs up to the upper crossings of the south fork coming in here the pasture was very scarce and we drove till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 o'clock in hopes of finding better pasture but at last were compelled to put up with almost none and we encamped on the bottom having made about 23 miles

7th we started $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 o'clock our cattle look bad but having had but half feed about one mile from where we encamped we passed through an Indian village consisting of some 20 wigwams they are Chians and Sioux a miserable degraded and dirty set of fellows too lazy to work but perfect adepts at stealing and begging. We drove about 5 miles where we stopped to rest our cattle and sun our provisions and clothing and staid here until morning.

8th we started very early this morning the weather extremely warm the Road very heavy being dry and sandy the sand cut up so that it cut in very near half way to the Hubs in the evening we traveled over the Bluffs about 4 miles and again struck the Bottom where we encamped with very good pasture having traveled 25 miles over the heaviest Road we had yet saw.

9th started about 7 o'clock the weather cool and pleasant having been a great change since yesterday the Thermometer standing yesterday at noon at 96° in the shade and to day at noon at 64° but this is not an uncommon occurrence here. There we met some Mormons on their return to the states who carried letters back for us at 25¢ each after traveling we arrived opposite Castle Rock and encamped having traveled 20 miles over a very hard Road.

10th started at 7 o'clock crossed a small Creek within 2 miles of where we were encamped (of clear water) about

16 miles from this creek we passed Chimney Rock traveled 2 miles further & encamped Making 20 miles

11th started early the Roads good a little sand in places we struck the foot of Scotts Bluffs halted for dinner and filled our Kegs with Water Roled on within 4 miles of the trading post on the Summit of Scotts Bluffs making 15 miles 12 traveled on to the trading post where we begin to descend again here we found excelent spring water again on both sides of the Road. some 4 or 5 miles further we found good water for ourselves and Cattle in sevaral places of to the Road about 8 miles further on we crossed Horse Creek traveled 2 miles further and encamped on the Platte Making 15 miles

13th Started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 o clock the Roads rather heavy and sandy we stoped for dinner on a spring Branch the spring some $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the Right of the Road about 4 miles further on we come to another of those trading posts here is another small sprinkling of timber. we come out to the River again but the bottom is not very productive producing little beside sage and Cactus we made about 20 miles and encamped on the River again

14 We traveled 14 miles over a very Rough Road to where we struck Laramie River this is a deep and swift ford but we crossed with out any difficulty Fort Laramie is situated about 1 mile above the ford it looks singular to see so many fine Houses reared up out here in the plains we

are not allowed to encamp within less than 1 mile of this place and we traveled out about 4 miles further and encamped on the platte River again making about 20 miles here the Mormon Road on the North Side of the River comes in and we have the whole Salt Lake Oregon and California Emigration on the one Road

15th we started at 7 o clock and after traveling 2 miles up the Bottom we struck on to the Bluffs for 1 or 1½ miles where we again descend to the Bottoms down a hill so Steep that we had to put a rope to the hind end of the waggons and hold them back here we wattered again from the platte River and then left it for the Bluffs not to see it again for so soon after we leave the River we pass the warm Springs this is a very Strong spring of clear water but warmer than the River water at all times of the year about 5 miles further we pass Porters Rock we drove on about 2 miles further and come to Bitter Creek and encamped making 20 miles grass. good but the water Bitter as the name of the Creek denotes but we found good Spring water

16 Started about 7 o clock traveled over pretty good Roads corssed Bitter Creek twice and arived at Dead Timber Creek with out knowing that we had left the valay of Bitter creek this is a fine little stream with plenty of timber and very good grass here we Concluded that as it was Sunday we would encamp and ly by and fix up a little

17th We started Monday morning very early traveled down the Creek about 4 miles and then commenced the ascent of the Black Hills after climbing one of the Hills about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile high we have a delightful view of Laramie Peak and the surrounding Country We crossed Horse Creek and here we found an excellent spring of pure cold Water here we took in wood and water for the night and then ascended another high Bluff and found pretty good grass where we encamped for the night although the 17th of June we were in sight of Snow on Laramie peak and it was so cold as to render an over coat agreeable & we made 22 miles to day

18th Took up our Line of march pretty early crossed several small Branches most of which were entirely dry and at Noon arrived at LaBonte River this is a beautiful stream with a grove of timber on each Bank here as the day before we took in wood and water for the night and traveled over a succession of hills and hollows. and come to the Red hills or Bloody Fort these hills are as red as Brick and streaked through and in fact resting on a bed of pure plaster of Paris it presents very much the appearance of an old Brick Kilm and they continue 5 miles we encamped on these Hills for the Night having made about 21 miles

19th We again struck off over the Red Hills and soon struck a small stream and then found rough stony Hills until we come to another small Branch with plenty of water and an excellent spring bubbling out of the Bank here we

again ascend the Bluffs and travel over them until we come to it. La. Prele River where we took dinner this is a beautiful stream the current very rapid from here we had a rough Mountainous Road until we arrive at Fouché Boise River where we encamped for the night Having made about 20 miles

20th We again travel over high hills for about 4 miles to where we struck the North fork of the Platte again and kept down the sandy Bottoms for some 5 miles to where we Cross Deer Creek here we took dinner and found excelent Watter and plenty of Wood but poor grass the Road was good. In about 9 miles we struck mud Creek this is a small Branch destitute of grass and wood 2 miles further on we found a beautiful Grove of timber on the Bank of the River a beautiful place to encamp but poor Grass. Here we staid for the Night having drove as near as we could Guess 20 miles

21st We started early and found the Roads good until we come to Mud Creek here the crossing was bad we crossed over and stopped for dinner after dinner we traveled 8 miles up the Platte to the upper Mormon Ferry the Roads pretty good with the exception of two little muddy Creeks that we had to cross we encamped near the Bank of the River Wood scarce & grass very poor we mde 19 miles to day

22nd We found an excellent Ferry here and were detained but a few minutes in crossing our Wagons and Horses we paid \$5.00 apiece for our Wagons and \$1.00 a head for Horses We swam our cattle over which detained us until 11 o'clock and then we had to travel 26 miles before we come to grass Water or Wood we commenced the ascent of the hill at the River and kept going up for 7 miles before we arrived at the Summit we have a fine view of the surrounding Country and to any person who was not already tired of such scenery it would no doubt have been pronounced sublime but what charm had barren prairies to us who wanted grass and water for our stock and nothing in the vegetable Kingdom visible tent Wild Sage and Cactus here we stopped and took dinner and supper both together and determined to make the 26 miles before we slept. from the top of the Hill we begin to descend on the opposite side the Road rough for about 1 mile from here we found it excellent still descending for 4 miles further to where we come to Mineral Spring & Lake this spring and Lake are both Poison and from here until we strike the Rocky Mountains we have such places to dread and the Road is strewn with dead Cattle Horses and Mules from the effects of it $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from this Lake we come to Rock Avenue and 2 miles more up a sandy Hill we come to Alkali Spring &

Swamp. surrounded by high bluffs and very miry and smells bad 4 miles further we found a small Stream of clear pure Water and encamped about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1 o'clock at night having made 26 miles since 11 o'clock. No wood but sage and the grass poor

23. After resting our cattle until about 10 o'clock we started again to try and find better pasture about 3 miles from this place we come to Willow Springs here we found excellent cold Water but no grass consequently we were compelled to leave it. from here we begin the ascent of Prospect Hill and go up about 1 mile from the Summit we have a Splendid view of the Surrounding Country to the Sweet Water Mountains 5 miles over a very Heavy Sandy Road we come to a small Stream & Swamp and a very cold Spring about 20 rods below the Road this Water looks pure and has a pleasant taste but the branch above and the grass are both Poison as we found out to our sorrow we turned our Cattle & Horses on it and in $\frac{1}{2}$ an Hour they were nearly all of them vomiting and showing every symptom of being poisoned but we effected a cure in every case by drenching them with Lard and Vinegar but it weakened them down very Much, here we were compelled to stay until morning but we watched our cattle to keep them from drinking any more Water

24 Our Cattle looked bad having been sick and had no Water or grass since they were poisoned and we had 14 miles to go to Sweet Water River that being the first

Water that we were willing to risk their drinking the Road for the most part was very heavy being through dry Sand badly out up the day was Hot and Sultry and we did not arrive at the River until near Sun down and our Cattle were very near exhausted here we encamped $\frac{1}{2}$ mile below Independence Rock Here we stopped with the intention of staying to recruit our Stock Having made 14 miles 25th Laid by to day on the Banks of Sweet Water River this is a rapid Mountain Stream but like the Platte the Water is full of Sand but it answered our purpose very well Independence Rock on the North Side of the River this is a solid rock of granite said to cover 52 acres of rather of an Oval Shape and about 200 feet High I had full time to examine this rock and I found more names Inscribed on it than any man could put there for a year and I put my Name with the rest here we found the Cholera or diarrhoea very prevalent and as the grass was not so good as we expected we Concluded to drive further 26th we crossed the River below Independence Rock $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles from here we come to what is called the Devils gate this is worth a visit from any person passing the Road it is where the River passes through the Mountain it appears to have cut it way through the Solid Rock for $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile from the bed of the River to the top of the mountain the walls rise 400 feet Perpendicular and the Water rushes down over ledges of Rocks with a noise resembling

distant thunder $\frac{1}{2}$ mile South of this there is a dry Sandy pass through the Same mountain almost level with the valey. through which the Road passes and it looks as though it was designed by Nature for a Road the Road was pretty heavy to day being most of the way through deep sand we traveled 14 miles and found good grass and encamped on the Bank of the River

27th We got a late start this Morning the Road Still Heavy up Hill most of the way and Sandy the valley of the River here is from 10 to 20 miles in width but it is not very productive being one continuous bed of Sand from Mountain to mountain covered with Sage and the Mountains are a Solid Mass of hard granite producing nothing on the North of us. And on the South only a few Sunted pine and the Ravines full of Snow we made 15 miles to day and encamped on the River again

28 We made an early Start and found the Roads Still Heavy for 5 miles to where we cross the River again crossing pretty good $\frac{1}{2}$ from this place we crossed it twice in one hundred yards the first crossing very bad we had to raise our Wagon beds to keep the water from coming into them the Road Still continues up hill and sandy for about 6 miles thence down hill to the River here we encamped again Making 15 m

29th Here we thought it best to leave one of our Waggons and divid the load between the two we had left about 5 miles from here we passed Ice Spring and Slough where

there is said to be plenty of Ice 2 feet from the surface the Road was very Hilly and Sandy and we had a hard drive until we got within 1 mile of the River where we descend to the level of the River again and cross over here we encamped again grass pretty good made 16 miles

30th W Started at 7 o'clock the Road Sandy and winds round the bluffs for near the River for 7 miles to the 7th Crossing this we avoided by climbing over a Steep gravelly bank for about 1 mile after we got over this we had pretty good Roads for about 3 miles to where we commence the ascent of the Rocky Mountains here there is a Succession of high Stony Ridges very hard to get up and dangerous for Waggon we finally reached Strawberry Creek on which we encamped grass very good Water pure and plenty of Sage for fuel we made 19 miles

July 1st We Started early the Road Solid being composed of Sharp gravel and Slate hard on sore footed Stock 1 mile from where we Started we crossed quaken Asp Creek a Small branch of the Sweet water from here for a distance of 4 miles we have a good Road to where we cross the North fork of Sweet Watter River and 3 miles further we cross Willow Creek pure water and 4 miles from here we cross Sweet Watter for the last time we eat dinner here and then traveled Six miles further and found good watter plenty of grass and Wild Sage in abundance here we encamped making 18 miles

2 We concluded to ly by and rest our Stock our water here consists of Snow running down from the Mountains and is excelent for washing as I have fully tested it having Just got through with a big Washing

3d We made an early Start this morning & Passed Twin Mounds these Mounds rise to a great height in a perfect Conical Shape but unlike the Mounds of our country they are the Works of Nature and not of man. The Road here is a level plane and continues so with very little ascent to the Summit of the South Pass 3 miles from the Mounds we arrive at the Summit and now commences the descent of the Pacific slope of the Rocky Mountains the Mountains on both Sides rise Sevarel hundred feet higher than the Pass the Altitude of the Pass is Seven thousand and Eighty five feet above the Level of the sea 3 miles from the Summit we come to what is called the Pacific Springs and Swamp the Watter is very Cold and pleasant tasted but is not best to drink very much of it $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from here we cross the Pacific Creek a small Swift Stream but the Watter not good. no more Watter for 21 miles from here we traveled 8 miles to dry Sandy we drove 5 miles further and found pretty good grass and encamped for the night without Watter haing made about 23 miles

4th We started early this morning the Road good about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from here we come to the Junction of the California and Oregon Roads here we took the left hand Road for

Salt Lake the Road was level and rather heavy being Sandy $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles from here we come to the crossing of Little Sandy the Water is Muddy the Current Swift some grass on the Banks of the Stream here we took dinner after dinner we had rather heavy roads for $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles to where we crossed Big Sandy this like little Sandy was Muddy and Swift and at the ford 7 or 8 rods wide and about 2 ft deep we drove down the River about 1 mile and encamped having made about 18 miles

15th We started about the usual hour the roads were pretty good not much of note here the country presents the same arid appearance that it has for several Hundred miles back nothing to be seen for miles but Will Sage Sand and a little bunch grass Peculiar to this Soil and Climate if it was not for this grass this Country would be truly a desert about 10 miles from our camp we stopped for dinner and found Water for our Stock about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile to the left of the Road the big Sandy here makes a bend towards the Road after dinner we drove about 7 miles over a rough Road and come to the big Sandy again here it is about 8 rods wide and 3 feet deep we drove about 1 mile further and found pretty good grass and encamped for the night having made 18 miles.

6th We were compelled to ly by to day on the account of sickness in the Company. D Lance of the Centreville Co. D. Bailey of the Economy Co. H Watson of the Boston Co.

and B. S Wilcoxon of the Richmond Co were all down with the Flu O McKinsey here met with a considerable loss he had bought an excellent Indian Poney to ride through and he had his head Tied to his foot letting him graze and in this Situation he undertook to cross the creek where it was deep and got fast in the rope and drowned before assistance could be rendered him. This is a disagreeable place owing to the wind which is blowing the loose Sand in clouds which almost exclude the light of the sun, immediately over us. and renders cooking or sunning our Cloths entirely out of the question We are encamped for the first time in California some 5 or 6 rods from the Oregon line we have been in Oregon pretty much ever since we left the South Pass.

7th Our men having got better we concluded to start this morning the Roads were pretty good but dusty for 3 miles after this they were rather rough for 7 miles to where we come to Green River this is a rapid Mountain stream some 16 rods wide and 10 or 15 ft deep at this time but it is said to be fordable in the fall after the Snow is melted from the Mountains that being the Source from whence the Water all comes to make this River which is one of the Principle tributarys of the Colorado we arrived at the Ferry about 12 o clock and after eating dinner and resting awhile we undertook to swim our Cattle across the River but failed in the attempt and tried again and again

with no better success in the mean time we had crossed our Waggon over and some of the Boys were still on the opposite Side without their coats and the Ferryman would not even let us have the boat to go after them but they fared better than we expected as there were teams on the other side who had men on the Side we were on and we took them in and their Co done the same for our boys. make 10 miles

8th We made another attempt to get our Cattle over and failed again and kept working until 12 o clock when we succeeded in getting them all over but 1. we lost one out of our team by drowning. our horses swam right across. After dinner we hitched up and drove down the River about 2 miles to a good damping place there is plenty of bitter cottonwood on this Stream and it went very well to have wood to cook again as we had little or none since we left Ft Laramie but the wild Sage is a very good substitute. made 2 miles

9th We started Pretty early this morning in about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from our camp we left the River and Struck across the Bluffs for Blacks Fork through a sandy desert the road heavy sandy and Sevrael Steep Places to pass and the Country if Possible more Barren and unproductive than any we had saw being so poor in many places that the Wild Sage could not take Root and the Sand blowing about in clouds. We generally have high wind from the Pacific from 10 o

clock until night and as we have not had rain enough since we left the Platte to lay the dust at times and places it is almost insufferable We arrived at blacks Fork in good camping time and by turning of below the Road we found excelent pasture for our Stock having traveled $15\frac{1}{2}$ miles without water. We made 18 miles.

10. We had to ly by to day D Lance having got worse and being considered by the Physician unfit to travel we have a beautiful camping Place 150 miles yet to Salt Lake

11th We were still compeled to ly by D Lance growing worse

12th D Lance died this morning In him we lost a most examplary man one whom we always found Cheerful and resigned come what would. We gave him as good and deacent a Burial as we could. but it looked hard to consign him to the grave Coffinless.

13. We took up our Line of march very early this morning we had excelent Roads for about 5 miles to where we Struck Blacks Fork 2 miles from here we cross Hams Fork a clear cold Stream after this we had Some prety rough Stony Road for 2 mile to Blacks Fork again here we took in water and Struck across the bluffs halted for dinner on the Ridge about 3 miles from the Creek after dinner we found the Road pretty good for 7 miles to where we strike the creek the 4th time this is the last we see of it from

here we had a sandy road for 6 miles to a creek two rods wide here we encamped for the night having traveled about 25 miles

14th We got rather a late start this morning we crossed the creek and after getting off the Bottom we found the Road pretty good until we ascend the second bluff here we found rather heavy sandy Road for the distance of 16 miles to where we come to a clear and rapid Stream rushing down from the Mountain with the velocity of the Wind here we found plenty of timber and grass plenty after dinner we hitched up and drove up to the Fort some 4 miles the Fort consists of 4 Log houses Surrounded by high Piquets it is Situated in a fertile valey through which there is 7 Small Streams of clear cold Watter Passing. it is in the Snake Country we made 20 miles

15th We got rather a late Start this Morning Wm White of Economy was very unwell this morning after leaving the Fort we traveled up a valey between two Mountains the sides of which were covered with Scrub Pine after traveling up this Valley some two miles we ascend a high ridge for $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile and then go down some 3 miles to a beautiful spring and branch and then comence climbing another after getting to the summit we travele over a level plane for some distance to where we come to another spring of Pure cold Watter and a nice Spring branch here we took Dinner after Dinner we again comenced the ascent of the

Ridge after traveling up some 2 miles we again descend into a beautiful valey at the foot of the hill we crossed another Spring branch an just below the Road there is a beautiful Grove of tall cotton wood after traveling over a level plane for some 3 miles we come to Muddy Creek a branch of clear Watter 10 ft wide and 1 deep - 2 miles further we pass the coperas and Soda Springs and then comenced the ascent of the highest Ridge that we had crossed yet it being 600 feet higher than the South Pass and 1035 higher than Fort Bridger the Altitude being 7700 ft having arrived at the Summit we encamped for the night grass excelent but no watter except what we had houled along from the Creek.

16 We started about the usual time and soon commenced the descent of the Mountain which was lengthy and tedious we traveled down a valey enclosed on both Sides by hills 300 feet high to where we struck sulphur Creek this was the first Stream that we saw which discharges its Watters into the Salt Lake it empties into Bear river. We had pretty hard roads from here to Bear River there is a rapid a stream as I ever saw it divides into 3 channels where we cross it which makes it fordable after crossing we climb a very Steep hill after arriving at the top of the Hill we descend into a beautiful Valley where there is a luxuriant growth of grass and Several good springs of pure watter we followed this valley to yellow Creek

where we encamped at the foot of the bluffs making 22 miles Sage grass and water plenty

17th started pretty early and traveled down a deep ravine with high grassy hills on both sides with now and then a Cedar bush showing itself as we advance further down the hills begin to assume more the appearance of Mountains the valley is narrow but there are a number of Springs running out from each side of the Stream which forms quite a creek called Echo Creek we passed some beautiful groves of timber to day and encamped where the Mountains rise abrupt from the valley some 2000 feet high grass in the valley good we made 20 miles to day.

18th We continued down the Creek some 8 miles further to the mouth it empties into Weber River here we stopped for dinner this is another very rapid stream we traveled up the Stream through very deep dust for 5 miles to where we ford it fording good after traveling two miles we encamped on the River making 15 miles.

19th We made an early start this morning the Roads good but very dusty about 5 miles from where we were encamped the Road leaves the River and rises over the mountains ascent gradual for near 2 miles to the summit from here we have a splendid view of the high mountains South east of here after descending again to Weber River again we travel up a deep ravine the Road not very good for 5 miles we continue to go up hill at the Rate of 200 ft per

mile here we begin to descend at about the same rate the descent rough and Stony for 3 miles and here we strike a beautiful level Valley well watered and plenty of grass here we encamped for the night making 20 miles Wm White very unwell not fit to travel but wants to go on

20th we made a late start detained by Wm Whites being sick much the same kind of a road as we had yesterday afternoon we made 7 miles and were compelled to fly by on account of White. He died this afternoon at half past 5 o'clock of Inflammation of the Bowels & throat

21st We buried White of Economy this morning and made a late Start for about 4 miles we had pretty good road when we struck the Kanyon this is a very rapid Mountain Stream passing down a ravine in many places barely wide enough for a wagon road with the Mountains rising almost perpendicular near a half of a mile high we crossed the Stream 37 times in 8 miles and this 8 miles was decidedly the worst road I ever saw and at the end of it the Mormons have erected a toll Gate and Charge more toll than we are allowed on any Pike in the States here we come to the what the Mormons call the Cradle of the Valey from which we can see out into the great Salt Lake Valey we encamped 6 miles from the Citty on the Bank of the Kanyon Grass poor made 12 miles

22 we started pretty early this morning for the Citty we struck the Valey some 5 miles from the Citty near the

Utaw outlet this is the outlet from the Utaw Lake to the Great Salt Lake this Lake is some 20 miles South east of the City and the Salt Lake is 22 miles North west of the City this is a beautiful place beyond discreption by me. the City is situated about 3 miles from the Mountains and 1 from the outlet the Land is gradually Sloping from the Mountains to within 1 mile of the outlet and is of a black loose Sandy nature A Stream of watter rushes from the mountains and at the the Eastern part of the City it divides into two branches both of which pass through the City and Watter is good and very cold and an abundance for Mill purposes or for irrigation the air is pure and healthy being sweatened by the healthy breezes from the Lake up the outlet from the City there is one field Con- taining 15000 Acres most of which was in wheat some Corn but Corn does not do well here owing to the dry and Short ness of the Season but there is no greater Wheat Country in the World such crops I never saw an average crop is some 35 bushels per Acre Salt Lake Prices Flour \$25.00 per hundred potatoes \$15.00 per bushell and other provi- sions in proportion. they have the finest Cattle here of any place in the World here we have to travel 8 North of west Course upon the East Side of the Lake and go around the whole of the Lake. the City is situated in Lattitude 40° 45, 44., Longitude 111° 22, 34.,, Altitude 4,300 feet there is an abundance of timber in the Mountains

Mostly balsam Fir the houses are mostly built of Dobys or unburnt Brick they have a state House or Bowersy or anything you please to Call it it is used for Worship State House Court room Concert Room and Theatre the Citty is laid of in lots of $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres in the centre Square $2\frac{1}{2}$ in the second 5 in the third and so on untill it widens out into a farm and evry Mormon as he arrives has one of thes lots presented to him. which makes the Citty present rather an awkward and open appearance the Inhabitants appear to be Intelegant and Industrious and very proud of there Valley to which they have given the name of Deseret and here they say they say they bid defiance to the United States and they are well fortified being surrounded by high mountains on all sides and if an army ever invade this Valey they will have to pass through some of those deep passes in the mountains where a few men could cut off a whole army after arriving at the Citty we went out in a North west Course after we get out of the Citty we come to warm Spring they have both house here which is quite a luxury the watter is Just warm enough to be pleasant and comfortable 4 miles from the Citty we come to hot Spring and Lake here there is a large creek boils out from under a rock so storongly impregnated with Sulphur and minerals as to render the smell very offensive the Watter is so hot as to boil an egg in fifteen minutes 4 miles from here we struck a beautiful running Stream of

pure cold Watter where we encamped for the night the Grass very good Oak bushes plenty for fuel We made 14 miles
23d We laid by to recruit our Stock and view the Citty we bought 275 lbs of Flour for which we paid \$63.50¢
24 We are still in camp this is the day the Mornons celebrate their deliverance from Slavery it being the day 3 years ago that they Landed in this Valey I was not down to see their Celebration but it was represented as a ludicrous affair The Mornons are allowed as many wives as they can get & support it is said Old Father Young has only 26 yet and he has more than any other man in the Place

25th Some of us got ready and Started this morning others not ready we drove some 10 miles and encamped on a small rivulet excelent Watter Wood & grass

26th We laid by until noon when the ballance of the Co arrived and we made a Start on our Journey we traveled up the Lake some 8 miles to a small creek plenty of grass woods & Watter

27th The roads were fine this morning owing to a rain which fell last night (and this is a rare occurrence here as the Mornons say it seldom rains here except in the rainy Season) at 12 o clock we arrived at Weber River there has been a ferry here but the Watter has fallen so that it is fordable after crossing the River we come to Brownsville this is a Mormon Town if it is Worthy of the Name of Town it consists of 3 or 4 log cabins Surrounded

by Pickets here we took dinner here after dinner crossed several Small Streams and bad sloughs and about 8 miles from Town we crossed a beautiful Mountain Stream about three miles further we come to a small Stream and encamped Wood Water & grass excellent. 23 miles

28 Sunday and we did not start very early. soon after we started we passed two large boiling Springs of Salt water and close by this Water was strongly impregnated with Iron. we passed several Springs of Pure cold Water and about 8 miles from where we started we come to a beautiful Creek and stopped for dinner rested until 2 o'clock and then drove seven miles further to Box Elder creek and encamped having made 15 miles Wood grass and Water in an abundance.

27th We started pretty early the Roads for the first mile had some bad Sloughs to cross after crossing them we come to a beautiful Creek of as nice running Water as I ever saw but it was too Salt to drink We passed several fine Hot and some large Salt Springs at noon we arrived at large Spring of pure cold Water the roads were fine from here to Bear River Ferry where we arrived at 3 o'clock and crossed over almost immediately we paid the Mormons \$5.00 more for each Wagon the Stream is not more than 10 rods wide and is mostly fordable at this Season of the year but this was not the case at this time our Cattle and Horses swam right across with out

any trouble we drove on to the Hill and encamped for the Night the Grass was excelent plenty of willows for fuel River Watter a little muddy but cold We mad 17 miles 30th Our cattle were badly scattered and we were detained some time in hunting them in consequence of which we made a late Start the roads were good to where we stike Mud creek 5 miles from the Ferry this is a Stream about one Rod wide and some 10 feet deep across this the Mormons have erected a narrow bridge and as the last chance for Rbbing us the charge us \$1.25 per Waggon for crossing on it and we saw a poor Californian gathering his duds & provisions out of the Stream the bridge was so narrow that he had upset in the creek and got evry thing wet from here we passed over a ridge rather rough and Stony for 4 miles to where we again Strike the Valley Roads good but extremely dusty for some Six miles No watter near and we Stopped for dinner after dinner we passed up a narrow valley through the mountains the Road tolerable good but a little up hill for 6 miles to where we again Strike the Valley again the Roads are good for 4 miles to where we come to a large Salt or Salts Spring the Watter was about as warm as Blood and tasted very much like Salts we tried to destroy the taste by making Strong coffee but it would be Salts but here we were compelled to Stay for the night as it was 12 miles to any better. we had pretty good grass and Sage in an abundance. we made 23 miles

31st We started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 o'clock our cattle almost famished and the Road very dry and dusty and some rough Stony hills to cross and by half after 10 o'clock we Reached the 12 mile Spring this water was not very cold but it was pure and good and we concluded to stay here until morning this is 115 miles from the City up amongst the Bear River Mountains the Valleys are narrow and not very Productive but by driving our Stock $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Camp we found good pasture made 12 miles Sage for fuel

Aug 1st We got rather a late Start this morning the Roads good but dusty 6 miles from where we were encamped we come to Deep Creek this is a narrow deep and Swift Stream here we gave our Stock Water and drove on some 3 miles further down the Stream and took Dinner 4 miles further down we come to the Sink of deep Creek here the Water Spreads over the Sand plain and Sinks after leaving the Sink we traveled about 10 miles over a sand plain covered over with a luxuriant Growth of Sage with barely grass enough to keep the rabbits and Elk from Starving and arrived at Pilot Springs about 9 o'clock at night our Stock pretty well exhausted these springs are Somewhat different from anything I had ever saw there is three springs of Pure fresh Water which break out in the Sand plains some 5 miles from the Mountains the Wood was Sage we found tolerable Grass by driving the Stock $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles North of the Springs. Made 23 miles

2nd We started about the usual time the Roads were tolerable good for some 5 miles to where we rise on to the bench of the Mountain after rising on to the bench we come to a beautiful Cedar grove and the Sink of Some creeks here we found good Watter and grass and Stopped for noon We traveled along the bench and crossed sevarel deep ravines some of which were pretty steep pulling Out of crosse^d Sevarel Spring branches and arrived at Rock Creek this is a beautiful branch of pure cold Watter which comes thundering down from the Mountain over a rough Stony bed Grass excelent wood plenty Watter right

3d We started at 6 o clock the Roads were good with the exception of one or two Ravines we crossed 2 spring branches and at noon come to the Casus creek we crossed over the Banks Steep and the crossing bad we crossed over and stopped for Dinner in grass up to our Waggon beds after diner we traveled up the Casus 1 mile to another crossing Worse than the first being Steeper and sidling but we all got over without accident by putting a rope to the hind end of our Waggons and letting them down after crossing we found good roads up the creek for Six miles to where we found an exclent camping place on the creek where there was plenty of Wood Watter and Grass. here we encamped we are in the Shoshone Indians Valley Numbers of which come to our tent and beg for evrything they see they are a lousy dirty set of fellows and will steal any thing they

can lay their hands on we made about 18 miles
4th this being Sunday and a good camping place we concluded to ly by and rest our Stock
5th We started Pretty early our cattle in fine Plight Our Poney Strayed off last night or was Stolen by the Indians he is no where to be found we again cross the Casus creek and 4 miles from where we Started we come to the Mountains 5 miles further we come to the Old Ft. Hall Road pretty much all the way up Hill Just before we come to the Junction of the Roads we come to the famous Steeple Rocks between which the Ft Hall Road Passes through an avenue Just wide enough to admit a Waggon 2 miles further up the Mountain we found a Small Spring branch on which we stopped and took dinner 3 miles further on top of the mountain we come to Steep Creek a Small Stream the banks covered over with Quaken Asp here commences the the descent of the Mountains some places so steep that we locked both wheels and tied a rope behind and held our wagons back 7 miles further over a rough mountainour Road we come to goose creek and Valley here we found pretty fair grass and Watter and Sage. Made 21 miles and encamped
6th We Started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 o clock the Roads were fine up the Valley but we traveled slow very dusty & warm we made about 9 miles and Stopped for dinner we Still continued up the valley the Watter was not very good the Stream

runs to far through Willows and high grass the grass was good wood plenty we made 18 miles and encamped
7th we started pretty early this morning the Roads were good for 1 mile here we leave goose creek and turn to the right up a deep ravine down which there is a Small Stream runs to goose creek here the road was very Rough and Stony, and the Stream had to cross to the left of us there is a Number of tall Rocks detached from the Mountain and Standing Perpendicular on the end after Passing these we come into a small Valley here the Roads were good but it continued only 2 miles then commences a rough hilly road about 8 miles further up the hills we come to some Cedar bushes here we stopped in the Shade and sat our Luncheon but did not unhitch our Stock is there was no grass nor watter near after noon we found pretty much the same kind of Roads for near 5 miles where we come to thousands spring valley this is quite an extensive valley in which ther is numerous Springs or natural Wells the watter in some of which is good and others stongly impregnated with alkali and minerals of various kinds we found an excelent Sprin at the entrance of the valley gushing out from under a large Rock but here there was no grass we started down the Valley to get grass about 2 miles down we found a good Spring and some grass but we thought it would be plenty lower down and drove on 3 miles further we come to another spring of good watter but no grass 2 miles further

down we encamped in the Sage without water or grass We made 24. the hardest day drive we had yet made 8th we intended to start early this morning but our cattle were so scattered we were a long time in collecting them together we drove about 5 miles to cold water Creek here we found good grass but the water was scarce as the creek consisted of some holes dug in the ditch and the water standing in them we watered out of our buckets and turned our cattle out on the grass and staid until after dinner we had fine roads this afternoon down the Valley not very dusty but hard and we passed several Natural Wells some of them deep and containing good water, others too strongly impregnated with minerals we made 8 miles and encamped the grass good but we had to drive our cattle back near 2 miles to one of those wells for water plenty of Sage for fuel here we found our poney again a company from Illinois had met him straying back and brought him up made 13 miles 9th We started early this morning the roads very good we passed several Springs of good water and some very hot Springs we traveled about 6 miles along the side of a running branch after leaving it we traveled across the Sand plains for 2 miles to where we struck a small branch where we took dinner after following it some 3 miles to a Spring after dinner we struck across the hills we traveled up a long hill not very steep and the road smooth

after arriving at the Summit we descend to a valley and travel along it to where we found some excellent Springs to our left here we encamped the grass good water excellent and Sage plenty Made 21 miles.

10th we started about the usual time the Roads were good but very dusty for 4 miles here we descend a very steep hill and climb another equally as hard after this for 2 miles we travel over a heavy Sand plain for 2 miles to where we descend another steep and long hill to Canyon Creek Valley here we found an excellent Spring we traveled down the Valley 6 miles further to another Spring here we took dinner after dinner we traveled down the Canyon Creek for 8 miles and encamped Wood Water and grass plenty we made 20 miles

11 This being Sunday we did not start very early We traveled down the creek to near where it empties into the creek here we cross the Creek and those two Creeks from the Humboldt or Marys River this is a beautiful Stream here we traveled all day through fine grass on the north bank of the River the valley is wide the Roads good We made 15 miles and encamped on the bank of the River good Wood & Water and the grass not surpassed in any Country.

12th We started at 6 o'clock this morning our Cattle in fine order for traveling here we witnessed something we were not accustomed to on this trip a very heavy dew it

is generally as dry in the morning as at noon there was quite a rain on the Mountains to the left of us yesterday but we did not get much of it we have saw but one rain that has laid the dust Since we left the Platte and that was in Salt Lake Valley We found the Roads good for about 5 miles to where we crossed a beautiful Creek here we took the bluffs for about 1 mile and come to a very Steep bill where we descended into the Valley and traveled along the valley for 1 mile and then leave the River for near another mile the road heavy and dusty we descend again to the Valley the descent not bad 2 miles further down the Valley we Stopped for dinner After dinner we traveled down the River bank for 10 miles the Roads good and in many Places the grass as high as the Cattles backs. We are now in the Root Diggers territory the are a diminutive Dirty thieving part of Creation there were Numbers Prowling about our Camp last night and to night we again see them Prowling about but they have Stolen nothing from us yet but almost evry day we see men who have had their Horses Stolen there is a great many dead Horses on the Roads along the River We made 20 miles and found excellent grass wood & Watter

13th we Started at 5 o clock and Struck the River after noon and crossed it 4 times in five miles some of the Crossing were pretty deep and difficult the Roads between the crossing passing down between high hills over rough

sidling Roads we made 20 miles Wood Water & grass good
14th we started at 6 o'clock our teams in fine order for
traveling about 7 miles from our encampment we struck
the hills after traveling up the hill for near 5 miles we
descend into a small Valley in which we found a spring
here we took dinner and watered our Stock there was no
grass we rested 1 hour and again commenced the ascent of
the Mountain about 3 miles we come to the top of the hill
and could see out into the Valley some 9 miles distant
here we again descend into a Valley or Canyon in which we
found excellent Spring Water we traveled down this Canyon
some 5 miles and then had to climb over the hills again
the ascent Steep long and tedious and the dust very trou-
blesome this was one of the hard days drives it was 8 o-
clock when we got to camp we made 24 miles Wood Water
and grass good

15th we Started about 7 o'clock the Road for the first
mile was good when we come to the Mountain and had to
climb it this was about as steep a hill as we had yet
come up after we arrived at the Summit it was nearly knee
deep in dust and up hill and down for 3 miles to where we
come out into the Valley we traveled 4 miles further and
Stopped for dinner on the bank of the River. after dinner
we left the River for a couple of miles the Roads
the rest of the way excellent we made 16 miles and encamp-
ed for the night Wood Water & Grass good. here the Emi-

grants have seen trouble with the Indians on the 13th the Red Skins Stole a Number of oxen from a company from Illinois the company followed them about 15 miles into a gorge of the Mountain where the Indians broke out in great Number and fired on them and they seeing that the Indians so far out No them fled for their lives with the exception of one W. G. Shields who got cut off from the Comp and has not been heard of Yet they are committing depridations nightly on this River. (16 miles)

16th We started at 6 o clock the Roads were good for about 10 miles 2 miles of dusty Road when we come to the Point of a mountain around which we had to Pass for 2 miles over a very Rough Stony Road to the River here we took dinner After dinner we passed over a saleratas bed for 5 miles there was such a crust covering the ground that it presented very much the appearance of a snow at home we traveled 3 miles further and encamped on the River again the Wood Watter and Grass good we made 22 miles Here the Indians had Stolen some Cattle from a company of Emigrants and were pursued and overtaken and a battle was the result in which the Whites lost one of their men It appears that the Indians have commenced it in earnest and they are enraged enough to commit any atrocity whoat ever

17th We started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 o clock the Roads good running close to the River for near 12 miles the bottoms wide most of the way and plenty of grass here we took dinner.

after dinner we again take to the bluffs for $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles over a very heavy sandy Road to where we again Strike the bottoms the bottoms here are very wide and covered over with Saleratus. Slough which make it difficult about grazing we undertook to get to the River across the Sloughs and got $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Road and had to return to the Road looseing 3 miles and then we had to go some 4 miles further before we got to the River it took us until 9 o clock at night Wood Water & grass good (24 miles)

18 we did not start very early this morning it being Sunday we traveled down the River, close to the camp we had one pretty bad Slough to cross, after this we had an excelent Road running close to the River this Road had not been traveled much before this Spring we made 10 miles and stoped for dinner on the bank of the River after dinner we struck the bluffs and traveled over a dry sandy Road for about 8 miles to where we again struck the River here we encamped again Wood Water and grass good made 18 miles

19th We again made a late start the Roads running over a saleratus bed for 2 miles after this we left the River and traveled over the sand plains to get shut of the Sloughs there was So many large Sloughs between us and the River that we could not get back to it we traveled 13 miles further and then Stopped for dinner but did not loose our Cattle as there was nothing for them to eat. we did

not rest long here after dinner we traveled down the River bottom but the main Road Struck over the Bluffs by crossing 2 bad Sloughs we cut off some 4 miles we stoped at $\frac{1}{2}$ past three o clock having traveled 4 miles over bad Road the Wood water & grass good (we made 19 miles) About 11 o clock the guards raised the alarm of Indians we got up and prepared for action but there was no enemy to be seen we fired a few rounds into the Willow bushes where they had been heard and were supposed to be lurking after which evry thing was quiet. this is the second battle we have been in since this morning Just as we were yoking this morning we heard a great firin of guns and looking up to the bluffs we saw what we supposed to be a skirmish and some man hollowed that the Indians had overpowered and were running the whites this was enough evry gun in our Camp was snatched and away we run helter skelter over the hills but immagine our disapointment on arriving in speaking distance of the poor emmi-grants we were running to aid they coolly informed us that their Cattle had Strayed away and they having found them were firing to inform the ballance of the Co of their success.

20th We started at 7 o clock the Road was heavy and sandy and in many places there was heavy cobble Stones in the track which made it very difficult traveling we drove hard and only made 8 miles after dinner found pretty much

the same kind of a Road as in the forenoon and drove 7 miles further our Stock pretty well fagged out we concluded to stop Wood sage Watter & grass good (Made 15 miles)

21 We started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 o clock and had some hard sand hills to climb the Roads continues hard and sandy and the weather warm we traveled nine miles and stopped for dinner after dinner we traveled down the bottom some 3 miles to where we ascend a hard Sandy Hill to the bench of the Mountains this we concluded it was not best to cross to night therefore we concluded to enmamp for the night here we Killed a beef and Jerked. the meat by forming a kind of grate with Willows laid across Some Wagon tires 2 ft from the ground and keeping a slow fire under it all night. the grass was pretty good plenty of Willows for fuel (We made 12 miles)

22nd We started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 o clock after climbing up the sand hill we had pretty good Roads for 6 miles when we struck some rough stony Roads and traveled 2 miles to where we begin to go down hill gradually here the the Roads are cut into chucks for 4 miles further to where we struck the River and halted for dinner and pretty good grass for our stock after dinner we traveled over a pretty good road but very dusty this is a very crooked stream and the whole bottom is cut up with Sloughs so that the Road has to run over the plaines those plaines are coverd with grease wood & sage about 8 miles further

we found good grass and encamped for the night. Willows
grass & watter good (We made 20 miles)

23rd We started at 6 o clock all the forenoon we shaped
our course down the River bottoms the Roads good for 11
miles here we took dinner the grass growing scarce. the
watter warm and muddy after dinner we left the river and
ascended to the bench of the Mountain or rather an ele-
vated unbroken plain the land is a kind of loose Clay
mixed with something like lime or ashes and as it only
Rains here in the Rainy season a person can form no Idea
of the amount of dust and there is so much travel on this
Road that it is cut into chuck holes and the Soil is to
sterile to produce good sage or greese wood evea and
there is whole acres entirely bare. We saw some emigrants
this evening whom the Indians had Just Robbed of all
their bread and would no doubt have robbed them of more
of their provisions if our Waggon had not come in sight
when the cowardly Rascals took to their heels. 20 Indians
is barely a match for 5 emigrants they have guns but I
think not much amunition as they depend almost entirely
upon their bows in a battle and they will steal up to a
camp at night and if their is no chance to steal the
Stock they will Shoot them with poisoned arrows which
very often causes almost immediate death We have guarded
ours so closely that they have not been able to do us
any damage so far. We traveled 10 miles over this barren

place and encamped 1 mile to the left of the Road without any grass the Willows here are covered with honey dew and this gives them a pleasant taste to the Cattle and they eat them whether they will do any good or not is another question. but it is the best they can do there is something near 50 Indians encamped across the River from us but we do not fear an attack for we number 40 men. (We made 21 Miles)

24th We started very early this morning on the same dusty heavy rough Road as Yesterday afternoon the weather very warm about 5 miles from where we started the Road runs down to the River here we watered our Stock and then mounted a long hill and drove some 7 miles further and stopped for dinner but still found no grass for our Cattle we drove them to the River for Water and to rest. we took a long nooning spell here the Road very bad made 6 miles by dark and halted for supper after supper we started again intending to make the big Slough before we stopped we we made 10 miles by 12 o clock and again halted on a small Creek and Spring the Water good but no grass. here we learned the Slough was still 10 miles distant and concluded to remain until morning After tying our Cattle to the Waggon we tumbled on to the ground to sleep and rest our weary bones until 4 o clock (We made 28 miles)

25th We started at 4 o clock determined to make the Slough where we could get some grass for our starving

Cattle we traveled some 6 miles and halted for breakfast after breakfast we drove 2 miles further and found plenty of Slough grass and Stopped to recruit our stock and lay in grass for the big desert in getting grass here we have to wade $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile through Watter knee deep to the main Slough and then go in up to our necks and cut the grass and cary it out but by the time a man gets thus far on an overland Journey to California he can endure any kind of hardships without murmuring (We made 8 miles)

26 We started at 9 o'clock the Road very crooked and dusty good grass all along there is hundreds of dead Cattle and Horses in the Slough in all Stages of putri-faction which renders the the watter miserable but use it we must as it is all we can get we drove 6 miles and halted for dinner the grass being good here we concluded to remain until 4 o'clock and then drive till 12 at night We started at 4 o'clock the Road excelent here the Slough turns into a beautiful Lake with no grass on this Side of it this lake is covered over with Wild Geese and gulls. We stopped at 12 o'clock tied our cattle to the Waggon and fed them some grass and roled our selves in our blankets to sleep till morning (We made 16 miles)

27th We started early this morning the Roads good about 10 o'clock we arrived at the last Wattering place before crossing the Desert this is the sulphur Spring Spoken of last year by the Emigrants but the Spring is no where to be found now it being covered with watter here we lay by

until 2 o'clock and then took up our line of March across the Desert on the left hand road to Carson River the Road was pretty good we made 10 miles by dark and then halted for supper rested 1 hour and then roled on until 12 o'clock the Cattle very weak and tired and sevel out of the train giving out and left here to perish some shoot them out of pittty others hurry them out of the team and leave them to their fate Thousands of heads of heads of Horses & Cattle are now on this Desert some deal some dying and some wandering about hunting Watter such a destruction of property I do not believe could be witnessed any where else in the world as here presents its self I believe evry mile on the desert will average 25 Waggon's besides Clothing and all kinds of Tools and evrything except Provisions & Watter the Road is almost enough to kill man or beast there is such a Smell from dead stock in many places they lie so thick that the Waggon's are compeled to run over them We stopped at 4 o'clock to rest our weary Stock gave them what grass and Watter we had and took our breakfast (Made 36 miles)

28th Started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 o'clock the Road very heavy and sandy all the way up hill with dead Stock Still Still increasing in Number after driving some 6 miles one of our oxen dropped down in the road and we were compeled to go on with the rest to Watter we reached the Carson River at 1 o'clock ours being the 2nd team that got through out of the 8 that Started through with us and there was

but one more that accomplished it with out coming on and leaving their Waggon and Wattering their Cattle some 4 some 6 and 12 miles back We went back after Our ox that we left on the Desert but he was no where to be found having been drove off by a band of Robbers who are Stationed here hauling Watter out into the Desert and Stealing Cattle Water sells at 10¢ per pint on this Desert (I was told that the Desert on the Salt Lake Cut off is double the length of this one and one man is said to have offered \$500.00 for one pint of Watter and many of the emigrants come out of this desert with their tongues swollen out of their mouths and some were so far gone that they could not drink when they got to Watter and perished but I am thankful that I witnessed none of this) (We made 12 miles)

At this trading Post flour is selling at \$2.00 per lbs Bacon \$2.00 per lbs. Beef \$50¢ grass at 50¢ per bundle about the size of a common sheaf of oats No grass at this place but we rested our stock and browsed on Willows. 29th We drove on to hunt feed for our cattle about 7 miles up the River we found some bluff Grass our cattle were very weak and we concluded to stay until morning (We made 7 miles)

30th We started at 7 o clock our Cattle in bad Order for traveling 2 miles up the River we strike across the bluffs for 14 miles over a very rough stony Road to where we strike the River again here we found no grass but coul

go no further to night our Stock almost exhausted we tied them to the Waggon and let them rest until morning (We made 16 miles)

31st We started early this morning bound up the River for Grass which we found up the River 2 miles and conclude to put in the day here as the grass is good and our Cattle & selves both very tired in the evening Oliver Sharon and the rest of the Company belonging to his Mess come up packing on their backs having lost some of their Cattle on the Desert and sold the ballance as we were getting Short of Profisions it was deemed advisable to let two of our boys go on with them Huston & Alred. Soon had their packs ready and of they all went in fine spirits bound for the mines in 5 days the leaves only Brown Wilcoxon J Starr & myself in Charge of the Team Our Cattle are somewhat rested and filled up and we conclude to make the drive across the 10 mile desert after night we Started on to it Just as the god of day sunk behind the Mountains and found it a very heavy sand plain We drove 7 miles and gave it up till morning (We made 9 miles) Rue. Evans & Co are a head of us Wright Sanders & Ward are packing Crocker & Meek have rigged up a Cart and have one Yoke of Oxen to it so the Co are all Working on their own hook

Sep. 1st we started at daylight drove 3 miles to the River and found good grass here we met with Wright & Co

again they had got tired of Ox packing and concluded to sell their Cattle and take it on foot We were fortunate in finding them as they had more provisions than they could Carry and we bought it We staid here until after dinner and then started up the River again the Roads good but dusty drove 10 miles and found excelent grass and stopped to graze and eat supper and then to drive on some further 1 mile from where we took supper we crossed the River the ford good after crossing we find but little grass we drove 5 miles further no grass. (Made 19 miles) 2nd Our Cattle have been tied to the Waggon all night and we started off with out breakfast we drove 3 miles and found but little grass turned our Cattle into a Willow thicket and eat our breakfast after breakfast we drove some 5 miles further and found tolerable good grass staid here some 3 hours and took dinner here was another trading post flour was selling at \$1.25 per lbs I saw a man pay 50¢ for 1 biscuit here such as I would have eat four of at home and 50¢ for a drink of Ginger beer we bought 6½ lbs of poor beef at 25¢ per lbs after dinner we traveled up the River 2 miles and then took across another 6 mile desert roug and sandy Cross the Creek again and encamped ½ mile down the River the grass tolerable good Watter is excelent here and Wood plenty (We made 16 miles) 3rd We started at daylight Immediately after leaving the River we Climb up a Moun&ain the ascent steep and tedious

we now leave the River for 12 miles and travel over a Rough broken Stone desert with the exception of a Chalk hill some $\frac{1}{2}$ mile across. here there was a Company from California hunting gold they told us that they found some but it would not pay and they were fixing to leave about 10 o clock we struck the River but found no grass here here was another trading post we leave the River here and follow up a small creek around the Point of a Mountain $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles where we found excelent Grass. here we staid 3 hours and then struck across a heavy Sandy Desert for $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles to where we strike the Carson Valley or Big Meadow as it is Called We drove up the Valley 4 miles grass good (made 24 miles)

4th We started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 this morning our Stock in fine order for traveling the Roads good. trading posts evry few miles this is a delightful Valley Not so large as the Salt Lake Valley But equally as fertile and as well watered and the surrounding mountains are Coverd with a beautiful Pine forest extending down the side to the Valley some of these Pine measure 4 ft over and are tall in proportion the Kanyons are said to abound with gold in fact we have saw some that was dug here and there is a large amount of Provisions being transported over the Siera Nevada Mountains to this Valley they tell us that it is to sell to the Emigrants but we are well aware that there is some other object in view from the quantity that is brought over and prices they sell at we yesterday paid

65 cts per lbs for 10 bls to day we bought at 12 lbs at 50 cts per lb Bacon and Pork is selling at \$1.00 per lbs fresh beef for 25 to 30 ¢ dried apples \$1.00 per lbs and evrything else in about the same proportion There is Thousands of head of Cattle & Mules & Horses grazing here and the whole Valley presents quite a buisness appearance and a Motley Crew we are Californian Emigrants & Mexicans. The Roads continued good all day we encamped on a Small Mountain Stream the grass and Watter not surpassed between here & the States we used sage for fuel (Made 20 miles)

5th We made a late start this morning with a view of driving some 4 or 5 miles and Stopping to make hay for our Journey across the Mountains as we understand there is no grass for some distance wecut our grass and Cured it and put it in sacks and are ready for an early Start in the morning (We made 4 miles)

6th We started early this morning and immediately began the ascent over a rough Stony and Sandy Road crossing innumerable small Stream the Carson River derives all its Watters from the Mountain Streams that rush into this Valley on all sides about 9 o clock we struck Kanyon Creek the principle one of the thousand Streams which form this River up which the Road passes we drove up it 1 mile and halted for dinner after dinner we passed through a beautiful Pine grove for 1 mile to where we crossed the Kanyon

Creek on a Rickity poll bridge after crossing we come to narrow pass up the Kanyon here we began to see signs of the Elephant and soon the various parts of the animal presented its self to view in the shape of huge piles of stones over which we had to pass and why any man ever imagined that a Waggon could pass up here is a mystery to me but they had passed over them and acting upon the Principle that what man had done man could do. We undertook to fight our way through and such rolling and tumbling of oxen and waggon I never saw the wheels would strike stone frequently that were two thirds as high as the fore wheel and then chuck down on to another Stone with such force as I would have thought enough to stave a common Road Waggon all to pieces but our little Waggon still bears up under it after traveling some 6 miles up and down hill through between Rocks just wide enough to let a waggon pass and the Road so crooked that you could not tell whether you would strike the pass or not and over piles of stone as high as our heads we at length Reached a small Valley where we concluded to encamp as we were worn out with whipping and hollowing and lifting at the wheels our Cattle were equally as tired as we were we found good watter but poor grass but we turned out untill dark and then tied up to the Waggon and fed them some hay (We made 16 miles)

7th We made a tolerable early start this morning after passing out of the valley we had some rough Road for $\frac{1}{2}$ of

a mile when we come into another valley where we found excellent Roads and the Road continued pretty passable to Red lake 17 miles from where where we started from in the morning here we halted for dinner and by driving our Cattle to the opposite side of the Lake we found pretty good grass after dinner we commended the ascent of the Mountain in earnest we thought we had saw the Elephant in the Kanyon yesterday but here he presents himself in a more hideous form the Mountain rises in an angle of about 45 degrees for 1 mile and many places much steeper over rough piles of Rocks with many short turns and sideling Places which render it dangerous after getting to the top of this hill we descended again about 1 mile to another small Valley it was late when we reached this Valley and the grass was 1 mile from the Road we tied our Cattle to the Waggon and fed them some hay (We made 12 miles)

8th We were Stirring this morning early eat breakfast at dawn of day and then drove our Cattle to grass let them graze until 8 o clock and then started over a rough stony Road up and down hill and by noon we had arrived at the foot of the great dividing ridge of the Siera Nevada here we found another small Lake around which we found some grass after dinner we commenced the ascent and found it very steep and tedious but not quite so rough as the other mountain for some 2 miles to where we come to a

small level plains from here we descended slightly to another rough stony ravine up which we traveled or rather tumbled over piles of rock to the side of the Mountain and then up the side of a snow bank for 2 miles further over as bad roads as any we had yet saw at the end of this 2 miles we passed through between a bank of snow on each side as high as our Waggon bows after passing this we arrived at the summit where it is too cold for vegetation of any kind and it presents a dreary and cold appearance bare rocks so smooth that the snow cannot even find a place to lodge but cold and desolate as it was here we found a Rancho which is nothing more than a tent or brush hovel with a man sitting in it with Flour Pork and Whiskey for sale they being the sole and entire article of trade in this country but as we needed none of the articles we did not stop but made the best of our way down the mountain to where we found a spring some 2 miles from the summit here we stopped for the night and found some grass for our cattle by driving them about 1 mile off of the Road to the right amongst the mountains (We made 11 miles)

9th We did not get off this morning until about 7 o'clock having had some difficulty in finding our Cattle the Road was hilly and rough most of the way at noon we had made about 7 miles we turned our Cattle loose amongst the Stone but they got very little to eat after dinner we had the same kind of a rough road up and down hill through as

fine a timbered Country as I ever saw we traveled some 7 miles further and encamped at a ranche but found no grass for our cold and hungry stock we tied them to the Waggon and fed them some hay eat our supper and went to bed as cold a night as we comonly have in the Winter at home (We made 14 miles)

Sep 10th very cold disagreeable morning after giveing our cattle a few bites of hay we again proceeded on our march over the mountains hills & hollows in 3 miles travel we find our selves at leak spring valy conclude to stay at this place a few hours some little feed took diner & proceeded on our march a very laborious hilly road to deep creek valy 8 miles distant Pass down a long succession of hills before reaching this valy Imediately after leaving this valy we have a long tedious hill to climb on the summit of this we encamped for the night making 13 miles; fed our cattle on oak leaves all that stock has to subsist on

11th Sep Some ice this morning but not so disagreeable cold as the morning before Our stock looks made a start about 6 o clock had a pasible road Made about 17 miles & encamped $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile this side of the forks of the road one leading to Placerville & the other to Weaver town had to feed on oak leaves cattle almost starved
12th Sep.

Made an early start all bound for Hangrow or vicinity

made 12 miles by 12 oclock took diner in a small vally 4 miles this side of town Afternoon drove 4 miles to the left on on a by road in order to find feed for our stock found pretty fare grass for our cattle Here we intend stopping untill we find out what we are going to do

13th Sep. H. W. Starr & myself started this morning for Hangtown in order to learn some of the fassions of the country & also to find some of our company that left us in carson vally but recieved no trace of them Returned to our Camp tired and hungry as well as out of heart

14th Sep I started to Hangtown early this morning took one yoke of cattle along in order to rais funds sufficient to buy tools to go to mining

Sunday 15th Sep

This day we kept as a day of rest

Hen. Starr