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DIARY OF GEORGE N. TAYLOR

Oregon Historical Society
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See PRRS, entry 1435

1853

April 14th Journal of A Trip Across the Plains in 1853 Commencing At
Phila^d Iowa April the 14th 1853. Ending At Oregon City Clackamas Co O Ter
Oct 12th 1853

The Train consisted of 18 Persons 14 Males 4 Females three Wagons 94 head of
Cattle 4 Horses 2 mules Names of Persons Mr & Mrs Cranson Thos Cox John
Stong George W Taylor Mrs Lamb Mary Anne Lamb Jacob Lamb John Lamb Jas Lamb
Goerge Short Ira Reed Judson Palmer Mr. S. B. Perry Mrs Margarett Perry &
Viola Perry Daughter Mr & Mrs Perry Mr Boots Mr Wm Renard Mr John Rainey Joined
the Train with one Wagon Left Mrs Lambs and went As far as Phila^d and Camped for
the Evening Night quite Cool

April 15th Morning Clear This morning we Bade Farewell To our Friends and Started
on our Long Journey for Orregon Crossed the Demoine River at Pittsburgh in Vanburen
Co five miles Below Phila^d on tje sa,e co. Crossed the Wagons and Stock Without Any
Dificulty got Across the River About Two Oclk P M and went as far as Dr Elberts Here
we Camped Night rather Cool for Comfort with the Appearance of Rain Distance 12 miles
Peafowls Makeing A great Noise not very Pleasant for Us to hear As It was A Sign of
Bad Weather from This Place Samuel I Taylor returned Home to Phila^d and Left Us to
Pursue our Journey Alone

April 16th Left Dr Elberts and went to the four Corners roads rather muddy Here
Camped for the Night after Supper Some of the Neighbors Called at our Cp and we had
Some Music On the Violin & the Accordion & Flute Weather favorable Somewhat Cloudy
without Rain

April 17 Left the Four Corners in the Afternoon Went Seven miles and Camped
Near the Town of Troy Troy is A Small neat Looking Town Day Clear and Pleasant We
Camped At Mr Pews Distance Traveled Seven 7 miles in Course of the Day we captured
Some Barnyard Pheasants which we Confiscated to Our own Use

April 18th Started from Troy in the Morning Passed through Bloomfield the County Seat of Davis County About Noon Bloomfield is A Small Town improving Pretty fast Situated in A good Section of Country Commenced raining About 11 Oclk and Rained A Greater Portion of the Day & Night

April 19th Traveled 17 mls and Camped At Tuckers in Apanoose County in the Evening two of the Horses ran off We followed them five or six miles and caught them Here grain was Scarce and we Could not get much to feed the Cattle in Course of the night A greater Portion of the Cattle ran off

April 20th in the morning we found most of the Cattle and Started on Our Journey Two men went Back to get the Lost Cattle which the Train went on as far as Centerville, the County Seat of Apanoose Co three miles Before getting to Centerville We Crossed the Shariton River A Small Muddy Stream Centerville is A Neat Looking Town With several Stores Situated in A good Section of Country

April 21st Left Centerville traveled six or eight miles and Camped At A farm House raining and Blowing most of the Day Here they Bought Some Hay which they were too Dishonest to pay for which was the Cause of Mr Cranson Loosing a good Cow worth \$25.00 for the Small Amount of 4 or 6 Bits he Lost A good Cow worth \$25.00

April 22nd Left our Old Encampment and went About 9 miles and Camped Near A Small Creek Here we got Corn for 75 cts per Bushel Appearance of Weather rather Lowering

April 23d Commenced Storming in the Night Continued raining until Noon Creek Very high on the fall Started at One Oclk P M Went 6 miles and Camped roads very Bad Corn 75 cts Per Bushel Nothing heard from the Lost Cow Weather Has A Dismal Appearance

April 24 Sunday Went 3 miles and Crossed Locust Creek Went About 11 miles further Crossed the West Branch of Locust these Streams are Deep Muddy Streams Heavy Timbered in Course of the Day we Passed through St Johns the County Seat of Putnam Co Mo The Town Presented rather A Dull Appearance roads Very Bad Appearance of Rain

April 25 traveled Some 16 mls out of Putnam Co into Mercer Co Mo. Nothing of Particular Interest Took place in Course of the Day road Bad Weather fine And Clear Traveled hard and Camped in the Open Prairie

April 26 Went 9 1/2 miles where I Took A Chill and Stopped At the House of Robert Cambell Mr Cambell Lived three miles East of Princeton the County Seat of Mercer County the Train went two miles West of Princeton & Camped at A Farm House Mr Cambell Was Strong Believer in the Spiritual Rapping He founded his Belief on the 11th Chapter of Hebrews and the Last Chapter of Daniel Cambells were fine Clever folks and ^Used me wel

April 27 Left Friend Cambells in the Morning Went 5 or 6 miles and Overtook the Train before I Overtook the Train I Passed Through Princeton the County Seat of Mercer Co To Day We Crossed the East Branch of Grand River This Stream is About one hundred feet wide rather A muddy Looking Stream Here there is A good Bridge Across the River Shortly after Passing this River We Come to the Middle Branch of Grande River When we got to the Middle Branch of Grande River It was very high No Chance of Crossing to Day Train Stopped for the River to fall

April 28th Commenced raining in the Night in the Night we got our Bed Clothes very wet Caused By the Water running Under our tent River continues Raiseing Every thing Looks gloomy We Expect to Stay here to Day as the Chance for Crossing is Bad the River is about 1 1/2 mls wide some of the Boys went out Hunting Game Scarce

April 29th Again the Boys went to Try their Luck A Hunting They Succeeded in killing 11 Mushrats 1 Plover 2 Ducks and ^Some Snakes Weather Clear and fine River falling fair Prospects for crossing Commenced Crossing the River About half Past three Oclk P M Succeeded in getting one Wagon and About half the Cattle Over Before Night We Camped on the Main Bank of the River on A Small Bank of land Entirely Surround Water Everything in Mud and Water Mr Palmer and Mr Ira Reed Come near getting Drowned By Swimming in Among the Cattle when they were in the Water the Cattle tried to Climb Over them in the Water Some of the Cattle we Suppose are Lost ferriage per wagon fifty cts

April 30th This morning we found the Cattle that had not Crossed the River without much Difficulty we got over the River without Looseing any more But not without getting them Badly mired as the Banks are very mirey after Crossing we had to Double Team to Cross the River Bottom to A high Prairie the Cattle we Supposed were Lost are not found here there is no regular traveled Road the Prairie is Partly Covered with water ten miles to the next House We Camped 2 miles from the River the Rest of the Train went on Cranson Stopped to Look for Some of his Cattle We are in Harrison the Co Line is East of the Middle Branch of Grande River width of River 100 ft

May 1st Sunday Wind Blowing rather hard and quite Cool Boys who were to Hunt the Catt have returned Bringing with them Some good fish One would weigh 30 lbs the other 10 or 12 lbs the Boys Sold their Chance ~~of~~ the Caves for \$4.50. We Left our encampment went four miles and Camped for the Night May 2nd Traveled About Seventee Miles and Camped onsheriton Creek A Large deep Swift Stream in Course of the Day we Passed through Bethany the County Seat of Harrison County there is Some good Buildings in this Town fine Weather Where we Crossed this Creek there is A Small Mill for Grinding Corn

May 3^d Started at ten Oclk went out of Harrison Co into gentry Nothing of Particular Interest took Place in Course of the Day Weather fine roads muddy to Night we Stopped with Mr Summerville after Night We went to Hear His Daughter Alice Hannah Summerville Perform on the Dulcimer She Performed Very well with some flattery Induced her to Perform for a Considerable Length of time She was quite A good Looking young Lady Between her good Music and good Looks I almost fell in Love with her

May 4th Went 8 1/2 miles and Camped for the Night raining and Very Muddy toDay I seen An Adder 6 ft Long we Camped Near A House

May 5th Went to Gentryville and Crossed the West Branch of Grande River got Over the River without Any Accedent after Crossing we went out Seven miles and Camp on the Big Prairie this Prairie is 22 miles without Any wood We found Some water in A Slough the water was good Clar water Distance 14 miles

May 6th Left our encampment on the Large Prairie We Camped at the Edge of the

timber Corn 35 cts per Bushel Weather Lowering the next Prairie we Cross is 15 mls wide

May 7th ToDay we went 15 mls and Camped in 10 mls of St Josph the County Seat of Buchanan Co Mo here is fine sections of Country we Camped in a fine Valley Cranson Bought himself A Horse A Pleasant Evening rather Roads much Better than Usual

May 8th Sunday morning Clear and Beautiful we are on A Large Prairie and have A view of several Miles Left our Camp and Crossed Little Platte Went to River 102 there We Camped for the Day Cranson and Myself went to St Joseph to make Arrangements to Cross the Missouri River at St Joseph This Last Mentioned Stream is 6 mls from St Joseph When we got to St Joseph we met our friends who Left Us on the Middle Branch of Grande River I was glad to See them and they Appeared Pleased to meet us Mrs Perry was in good Spirits She is A fine Woman and I Believe A Sincere friend to me after Makeing arrangements to Cross the River we went Back to our Camp on one hundred and Two where we Camped for the Night

May 9th In the Morning we Drove our Cattle to Joseph got to St Joseph About 10 Oclk A M Commenced ferrying Shortly after getting in the Town Had Every thing Across the River By 4 P M This Evening we Camped in the Indian Ter for the first Time our encampment this Evening was on the West Bagk of the Missouri Opposite St Joseph Mo This Town Does Considerable of Business at this Season of the year I think it is kept up By the Emigration at This time it is quite flourishing

May 10 in the forenoon the most of Us went Over to St Joseph to Trade for Such Things As we Needed on the Plains in the afternoon we went Out Six miles through What is Called the Missouri Bottom to the Edge of the Plains Here Was A Lot Indians they charged 25 cts A piece for Every wagon that Passes Through Their Ter Some of Our Company Paid Other of the Did Not They were Expert Marksmen With the Crossbow To Night we Put Our Cattle A Coral after Night The train Organized the Train so as to proceed with Safety Those so Organized Were Mrs Lamb and her Hands Mr Rainerd Mr Boots

Mr John Rainey Mr Cranson & Hands they entered A Compact for mutual Safety and we will notice how Long it Lasted this Evening We Came Among the Kicapoo Indians Six miles from St Joseph Mo in the morning Our Cattle was safe somewhat Diferent from what we Expected

May 11th Left Our encampment among the Kicapooos traveled About Twelve miles and Camped on A High Prairie grass rather scarce in Course of the Night the Indians were Prowling About the Camp Trying to Steal C^Attle One of the Boys George Short Shot at an Indian But without effect However we had one man almost Scared to Death the Scare was worse than if they had killed him if they had killed he would not have felt his misery as It was he felt It Plainly this unfortunate man was Mr Stephen B Perry

May 12th Went twelve miles and Camped near Some Indian Encampments on A Small Creek where there was a tool Bridge and Some Indian Huts they were friendly Indians and Used Us well There was Two Squaws at this Place which were very Pretty Mr Judson Palmer And Myself went to the Indian Camp to See their Girls they appeared glad to See Us to Day we Passed the Indian Agency at the Agency their is Several Houses A good Store and fine Farm Tonight we have to Guard our Cattle This was hte first night I had to Guard

May 13th Left our encampment traveled About twenty miles and Camed on the Open Prairie in forming the Coral Cranson Broke His wagon Tongue Thos Cox & John Stong went two miles to get Pole to make another nothing of Particular Interest happened in Course of the Day

May 14th Traveled About Seventeen miles and Camped on A high Prairie the general Sppearance of the Country Prairies High and Rolling interspersed with Belts of timber timber rather Scubby

May 15th Left our ^Encampment and traveled some twelve or fifteen miles and Camped on the Nimehaw river found A good Camping Place with good water and Plenty of wood the

Bank of River opposite our Camp was Deep Steep This River is About four rods wide water Clear here It was Supposed was the Dangerous Part of the Country on Account of Indians To Night Mr Wilson Staid At Our Camp Mr Boots and me were on guard to Day is Sunday One Month on Our Journey to Oregon

May 16th Left Our Encampment went one mile and Crossed the Nimehaw River where the road Crosses the river the Banks are Very Steep here was Several trails Crossing the River or About to Cross here Some of the Old Ladies waded the River they were afraid to tide in wagons after Crossing the River we went out two miles and Camped on the Prairie Here we had a fine View of the Country general Appearance of the Country High Mounds rolling Prairies Beautiful Valleys in the Distance was A Belt of Timber on the Nimehaw River Rocks A Coarse Granite Similar to the Independence Rock Here we thought our Cattle were Lost we Let them go out of Sight and did not find them for some time Mr Day and Wilson Caped Near Us

May 17th Left our Camping ground and went traveled 10 miles and Camped on A Small Creek Plenty of water wood & Grass in Evening we had A Light Shower of rain

May 18th Traveled About twenty miles and Camped near Big Blue River here our Cattle ran off and we had some Difficulty finding them Did not get till Late in the Morning Here for the first time I seen the Ohio Train they Camped About one mile Below us on Big Blue River

May 19th Went to the ferry on Big Blue got ferried Over in a Short time after getting to the ferry ferriage three Dollars Per wagon there was A man Drowned in the River A Short time Before we got to the River after Crossing we went out Six miles and Camped on the Prairie Prairies high and rolling

May 20th Traveled About twenty three miles and Camped on A Small Creek Below our Camp on the Creek we found plenty of Grass the Ohio Train Camped Near Us in Course of the night we ran A wild Animal into Mrs Lamb Wagon He was A ferocious Animal However Herself and Daughter Mary Succeeded in Domesticating the ferocious Beast

next morning he was quite Docile We named the Beast Ira the Beloved Son of Mrs Lamb
Mrs Lamb About to Leave the Train Guarded to close Last night for Comfort

May 21st To Day we traveled Some ten miles and Camped near A Slough Near our Camp
there was A good Spring of water Grass rather Scarce in the Night there was A Hard
rain the Ohio Train Camped near Us on the Slough in the Day Boots Broke His Wagon in
A Bad mud Hole He repaired his wagon in A Short time and we moved forward This morning
Lams Left Cranson to travel with Wilson

May 22nd To Day Sunday we traveled 14 or 15 miles Over a Prairie Country Prairies
high and rolling Grass rather Scarce Camped on Sandy Creek A Small and Almost Dry
Creek with A few Willow Brush Growing on the Banks This is the Middle Sandy

May 23rd To Day we traveled 10 miles and Camped on the Last Sandy this Creek is
three or four rods wide Clear water Sandy Bottom Plenty of Wood and Grass our Camp
was at the East End of A half Circle formed By the Creek we herded the Cattle in the
Circle Today we joined the Ohio train Composed of Seven Families 10 wagons three
Spring Carriages 177 Head Cattle 14 Horses Number of Persons in the Train About 40
Names of the heads of Families in the Ohio Mr Earhart Wolford Wife two Sons and two
Daughters Mary Wolford Amelia Wolford Chas Wolford John Wolford John Wolford Wife one Son
one Daughter Lewis Wolford and Elizabeth Wolford and Miss Elisabeth Adams his Niece
Devolt Wolford Wife And one Son Oliver Wolford Miss Martha Jane Shilling his wives Sister
Mr Knox and family Mr Steward and family Mr Cranston & family Mr Hicks & Family

May 24th Left our encampment and traveled About twenty and Camped in the Open
Prairie we traveled most of the Day on the Banks of Little Blue in Course of the Day
we had A Difficulty with A Dutch train owing to the trains Crowding on us however
they Settled the matter without fighting in the night the Cattle Partly Stampeded

May 25th Rained in the morning we traveled About 10 miles and Camped on Little Blue
River

May 26th Traveled About 10 miles and Camped on Little Blue River Rainy Weather

Slow Traveling

May 27th Left our Encampment and traveled to the Second Small Creek Distance 16 miles Grass very good this Creek is within 25 miles of Platte River Roads Bad Prairies Broken water Scarce Passed Wilsons train yesterday A Pleasant Evening

May 28th Saturday we traveled About 15 miles and Camped on the Prairie about 3 miles from Platte River to Day I was Back to Wilsons to Wilsons train to see Mr Judson Palmer who was Sick when I went Back he had A chill on him Mr George Short Had Been Sick but was getting Better

May 29th Left Our encampment on the Blues and went within one mile of New Fort Kearney we Camped within the fort Boundaries they were going to make us move off their Land or fort Boundaries here we had one hell of A time Guarding our Cattle wadeing the Sloughs East of fort Kearney in the Platte Bottom

May 30th Went to Fort Kearney the fort Contains A few fraim Houses or Barracks and A few mud Houses made out of Dobies there was About 50 Soldiers in the fort is in A Beautiful site with a view of Several miles in Every Direction after Leavel the fort we traveled 18 miles and Camped on the Platte River Bottom Grass tolerable good

May 31st Traveled 6 or 7 miles and Camped on the Bank of Platte River Grass Scarce Appearance of A Storm

June 1st went 15 miles and Camped on the Bank of Platte River Raining hard Grass rather Scarce

June 2nd went 15 miles and Camped on Platte River as Usual Platte River on the Rise Grass rather Scarce

June 3d Went About 15 miles and Camped about one mile from the Sand bluffs to Day we Seen 4 Buffalo

June 4th Went 16 miles and Camped Near the river Grass good Food & water Plenty In Course of the day we Crossed three Streams of water the Largest was CreeK

Nothing of Particular Interest took Place in Course of the Day

June 5th Went 16 miles and Camped on the Prairie Grass good Water Plenty No wood roads Good

June 6th Went Some 15 miles and Camped on the river in Course of the day we Seen Some Buffalo they Were on the North Side of Platte the Hunters killed One We were traveling on A High Bluff Bank of Platte river and had A fair View of the Whole Maneuver here was A great many Buffalo Skulls Grass wood & Water Scarce

June 7th To Day we remained in Camp most of the day Attending to washing and Suning Provisions Cattle getting Lame Principal Disease was the Foot Evil in the Night it rained and Our tent was enundated I Left our tent and went to Pap Wolfords Here Cranson Began to Show his Wolfish Principle and Shortly he got A Check to his Cowardly Actions

June 8th Went Some 20 miles and Camped on the Bank of Platte Weather fine roads Good Nothing Particular Indterest Took Place in Course Of the Day

June 9th Went 20 miles and Camped at the Upper Crossing Of Platte river the River was rather deep for fording They had to raise their Wagon Beds 12 inches then in Some Places the Water ran into the wagon Beds

June 10th Crossed Platte river and Camped on North Side We Crossed the River Without any Accident not without Some hard Labor wadeing in Platte River is very tiresom on Account of the Sandy Bottom & Swift Curent Mrs John Wolford was much frightened in Crossing the river the Wagon Come near floating Down the River With Mrs Wolford her Daughter & Niece Miss Elisabeth Adams

June 11th Went from North Platte to South Platte Distance 23 miles the road from North Platte to South Platte is rather rough almost Mountainous we Struck South Platte at Ash Hollow here is A good Spring where we got Plenty of Cool water We went three miles further and Camped at rocky tower Today we Seen Mrs Lamb G Short Judson Palmer & Mr S B Perry Perry & Palmer Come to our Camp in the Evening Palmer remained

Over Night with us Judson Palmer Has the Ague & Looks Bad

June 12th Went twelve miles through Sand & alkali in Course Of the day We killed one Antelope in Evening there was A Storm Camped on An Open Plain not far from Platte River

June 13th Went 18 miles and Camped Near the River Musquetoes Very Bad in Evening We had A hard rain

June 14th Went 16 miles & Camped Opposite Solitary Tower & Lone Tower distant Eight miles it does not Look to Be more than one mile from the road it is Eight Hundred ft high from the road it dont Appear to be Over one Hundred ft in heighth We camped A Short distance from Tower Creek

June 15th Went from Castle or Courthouse rock to Chimney distant 16 miles Chimney rock I Should think is About five hundred ft from the Base of the mound to the top of Rock When a person is on the rock they have A great View of the Surrounding Country Most of hte Ladies Belonging to the train went Up on the Chimney they were All well Pleased with the Sight

June 16th Went from Chimney Rock To Scotts Bluffs are A Beautiful and Picturesque Scene The Bluff resemble A Beautiful in Distance We Passed to the Left of Scotts in A gap in the hills To the Left of this road is Good Springs and Plenty of good Grass to the Left of our Camp was Several romantic Looking Bluffs one them I named Solomons Temple Here we got the Lousy Yanke who was Agraïd of Indians he was A hard Old Case About as hard as they make them Tonight I was on Guard Moon Light and Clar

June 17th Traveled 18 miles and Camed A Short distance from an Indian Town Here there was A great many Indians About our Encampment They were Rather nice Looking Indians In the Afternoon we Crossed Horse Creek this Creek is three or four rods wide water muddy near this Creek is the Cold Springs They are A Perfect Curiosity the water Bursts out of the Ground as thick as A mans Body

June 18th Traveled Twenty miles and Camped four miles East of Fort Larime In

Front of our Camp there was high and rugged bluffs Grass Scarce Springs Up the ravine We Camped About mile Below the Springs - Close to the bluffs On those Bluffs there was A good Surply of Dry Cedar wood The Indians at this time were Surposed to Be troublesome

June 19th Went to Larime River near Fort Larime and Camped for the Day Tomorrow morning we Expect to Cross the River in the ferry Boat as the Bridge had washed away Previous to our Arrival At the River We drove the Cattle on the Bluffs Opposite The Fort to get grass Lambs are Camped here at this time today we Passed James Coxs Grave to the right of the road on A mound he Died in Spring of 1850 on his [way] to California Two Solitary Cottonwood trees Mark the Place of his Last Home and Calm Repose

June 20th Today I went to Fort Larime to Send Some Letters to my Friends in the States in the Fort there is three or four Pieces of artillery and firearms of various Sorts Poorly Situated to make A Vigorous defence Against the Indians Large numbers of Indians About the fort the Buildings are generally dobies the Site for the Fort Beautiful after Looking at the fort I returned to our Train after Crossing the Riter to Ft Larime we traveled out Six miles and Camped near Platte River Grass moderately good dust rather after Leaveing Larime Larime Peak to our Left Presenting A dark Appearance to the Eye of the Weary Traveler

June 21st We remained old camping Place Grass wood and water Plenty nothing of Particular note happened in Course of the day About as usual in all Camping Grounds Somwhat Monotonous

June 22nd To day the Ohio Train Left us for to look out for our selves After Parting with our old Friends we were Left Alone wind blowing Cold and raining Slightly In the afternoon we traveled About nine miles and Camped in the Bluffs Wood and water Plenty In the Long run we got Along Moderately well

June 23d To day we traveled twenty miles and Camped on A Small Creek Today I Seen

the first red Bluffs They were rather A find Looking Sight

June 24th Traveled nineteen miles And Camped on the Bank of Platte River in Course of the day we Passed the Kenyon of Platte River this was the Most Enchanting Scene I have Seen on the route the depth of the Kenyon where the River Passes through Black Hills I should think was Between two and three Thousand feet in depth oneSide of the Kenyon was Perpendicular the other in Some places was Slopeing So A Person Could climb the Side of the Kenyon Thos Cox and myself went About one mile in the kenyon here we Scaled the Side of the kenyon and Come over the Top of the Bluff to our Train The sides of the kenyon were Composed of Red rock To night our horses ran off and the Musquetoos Amost devoured us Alive This kenyon was inhabited By Black Swallows in Great numbers

June 25th To day we traveled fourteen miles and Camped on Levonta Creek in course of the day we seen twelve Buffalow of Various Sorts Cows and Calves they were wild Looking Cases

June 26th Left Lavonte Creek and Camped on Lappeele Creek distance nineteen miles here there was good grass and water water was Clear and Beutiful This Cræk was named after A man Named Lapeele who died on this Creek Several years Ago the Cause of his death is supposed to be this He was A trapper in this Section of Country during A Severe rain and Snow Storm his fire died out And having no means of Starting fire he Perished with Cold or Sutch is Story Concerning him A few rods Below where the road Crosses horseshoe Creek there is A Perpendicular fall of About Eight feet the fall is in Shape of horse Shoe I suppose the Creek was named after these falls we Crossed this Creek on the 24th

June 27th To day we lay By to rest the Cattle in Course of the day Thos Cox and me went out on Some of the high points of the Black Hills that were three or four miles from our Camp Lambs and Perrys Camped in Same Grove with us Mr Judson Palmer has the Ague and Look very bad In Course of the day My Friend Mrs Perry and me had a talk Concerning our friends at Home

June 28th To day we traveled nineteen miles and Camped on deer Creek Grass Scarce wood Plenty Mrs Lamb Camped Close to Us with her tried Friend Ira Reed Judson Palmer un well This was the Last time I Seen J Palmer

June 29th Went twelve miles and Camped near an Akali Swamp this was A dangerous Place for Stock of All Sorts the Ground was covered with Soda and Saleratus

June 30th Went to the Upper crossing Platte River Good grass and water We Camped near the Bluffs in Course of the night our horses ran off we did not get them to night Ferriage Six dollars Per wagon horses fifty cts per head Cattle 12 1/2 cts per head

July 1st In the morning we found the horses and Crossed the Bridge After Crossing the river we traveled Eight miles and Camped in the Bluffs in the Afternoon there was A Severe rain and hail Storm we had to do our Cooking with Sage Brush in the night the Wolves came near our Camp to mew A Carcas of A Dead Cow the Ohio Train camped near us

July 2nd Some of our Cattle were Missing I went forward in Search of the Cattle I went on as far as the Willow Springs and found the Cow in the Missionary Train I left the Cow I Left the Cow and went Back to Cransons wagon on Platte River In Course of the day Passed the rocky Avenue Poison Springs Today I traveled About fifty miles

July 3d I went Ahead to get the Cow that I Left with the Missionary train the yesterday In Course of the day I Passed the Poison Springs willow Springs Clarwater Crk Small Ck About Six miles from the willow springs this Creek Lallys(?) Close to the Left of the road Some ten miles further on I Crossed Sage Creek this is a Clear Stream of water Up this Creek there is good grass from here I went to Sweetwater river two miles East of Independence Rock here I camped with Ohio train to the right of the road there is A Lake Covered with Saleratus

July 4 In the morning I went to Independence rock distant two miles from our

Camp This rock is Compose of Coarse Granite ¹t is About one hundred and twenty ft high two Thousand ft Long About three hundred ft wide the Ascent of the rock in Places is quite Easy in others it is amost Perpendicular in Places the rock is Covered with Names of Persons going to Orregon And Cal To day there was Celebration At Inde[pen]dence rock there was A Celebration of the fourth of July today I found the Cow two miles west of Inde rock in Chamberlain train to day I went to the devils gate rattlesnake Mountains this Evening I camped with the Ohio Train three miles East of the Devils gate In the Evening they drank Success to the fourth on A Soda Plain

July 5th To day Iwent Back to Independence rock and Met Mr Cranston Mr Cranston got his Cow After Meeting Cranston I went to See the devils gate Here Sweet water Passes through A Point of the rocky mounta^{ins} the depth of the Kenyon is from four to five hundred ft the Sides of the Kenyon are Perpendicular this is one of the greatest Curiosities on the route. When I was on the highest Points of the devils gate I had A fair View of Independence rock the rattlesnake mts And Several Spurs of the rocky mts And A Vast Extent of Beautiful Country

July 6th Went About fifteen miles over heavy Sandy roads In the Evening we Camped near the noumain grass Scarce

July 7th Went Six or Seven miles and Camped at the first good Grass And Let the Cattle rest

July 8th Went Sixteen miles and Camped on the Banks of Sweet water Road heavy and Sandy Today we beheld for the first time the Snow Capped rocky mountains far to the west They had the Apearance of White Clouds It was A majestic Sight to the Eye of the Curious We kept to the Left of Sweet water

July 9th Today we went from Sweet to Sweet water A^uain Distance twenty miles In Course of the day we Passed A pond where there was Plenty at the depth of Eight inches under the Surface of the Pond In the Pond where we got this Ice the Surface of the Pond to A Considerable depth with A person Weight The Ice was not very wholesome

Thos Cox was Sick with Mountain Fever

July 10th To day we traveled About Twelve miles and Camped near rocky Bluffs roads very dusty Grass wood & water Plenty This Evening we are Camped within twenty Seven miles of the Summit of the rocky Mts Weather rather Cool

July 11th Today we traveled About Seventeen miles and Cpt near willow Creek in Course of the day we Passed Several Small Creeks and Some Small Lakes Roads dusty to day we Seen Snow Banks About ten feet in depth the Rocky Mountains are A Short distance to our right Covered with the Snow of many Summers and winters The Snow Banks we Seen were on Strawberry Creek

July 12th Today we traveled twenty one miles in Course of the day we Camped two miles from the Pacific Springs to day we Passed through the South Pass of the rocky mountains The South Pass resembles A Large rolling Prairie The Pacific Spring are rather A Continuation of Swails This is the first water that we Seen that runs Into the Pacific Ocean here the water runs Westward today the roads were fine

July 13th Went About twenty miles And Camped on Little Sandy we found no water in Course of the day Grass Scarce today we Passed the first road that Leads to California it turns to the Left about five miles Before we Come to Little Sandy

July 14th Went from Little Sandy three miles west of Big Sandy Big Sandy is A nice Looking Stream some four rods wide it forms the East Boundary of the desert Weather warm roads dusty now we are on the desert Between Big Sandy and Green River

July 15th Went About Sixteen miles and Camped About one mile from Big Sandy Grass Scarce roads dusty Cranston In rather A bad humor dark of the moon Dog Days at hand

July 16th Today we went from Big Sandy to Green river distant Sixteen miles Sand deep And hard Pulling on the Cattle dust very Bad to day I suffered Considerable for water In many Instances we Could not See the Loose Cattle or team Today I Left Cranston And waited for hicks In the Ohio Train

July 17th Today the Ohio train Come up they got In About noon After Crossing the

GITAYLOR

River we went out four miles and Camped Grass moderately good today Cranston was In A terrible Pett But did not hurt Any Person..

July 18th Went eight or ten miles And Camped on A Small Creek grass good roads rough

July 19th Today we went four or five miles and Camped near A Small Spring Today Mrs John Wolford was very Sick Hick Wm Knox A dutchman And myself Guarded the Cattle and horses at the foot of A Mountain Some tree or four miles from camp In the night we had fears pf An Attact from Some Indians Today Miss K Come out in flying Colors for A Bait I aught to have humored the Joke for Sport was on hands

July 20th Today we went to hams fork of Green River distant twenty mls here we had A good Camping Place Plenty Indians About the Camp water good And clear Plenty of grass the Indians Killed A Buffalo near our Camp Tim got tight in Course of the night

July 21st To day we Crossed the mountains from hams fork of Green river to Bear River distant twenty five miles to day we Passed over the roughest & Stepest roads I ve Seen on the route on those Mts there was Snow Banks In Course of the day we Passed the Quaking Ash Grove Balsom of Fir Grove These are fine Groves of fir and quaking Asp Timber This is the first Fir Timber Ive Seen Good grass At our Camping Ground on Bear River To night I am on guard the dutchman got mad And Left Earhard Wolford

July 22nd To day we Lay By and let the Cattle rest for the Grass is Excellent today we Amuse our Selves By hunting And Laying Around the Camp

July 23rd Went fifteen miles And Camped on Bear River Grass moderately good roads rough Weather Warm In the Evening there was A Storm

July 24th Went two miles And Camped for Sunday yesterday we Crossed Thomas fork of Bear River on A Bridge By going Up into the hills Some two mls you Can ford the Crk But the Road is very bad to day we Crossed over the Slough on A Bridge ferriage per Wagon one dollar today most of the Boys and Girls are A fishing After trout in the River

July 25th Went fifteen miles and Camped on Salee Creek Grass good nights
Cold days hot

July 26th Went twenty miles and Camped on Bear River Grass Wood & Water Plenty
When the Last Mentioned Articles are on hands we get Along harmoniously

July 27th Went twenty Seven miles and Camped near the forks of the roads one
Leading to California By the way of Salt Lake the Other to Oregon to night we made
A dry Camp in Course of the day we Passed the Soda Springs and Steam Boat Springs they
are Great Curiosities the Steamboat Spring resembles A Steam Boat Scaping the water makes
A good drink

July 28th Went twelve miles and Camped on A Small Creek Grass Very good

July 29th Crossed the Snake River mountain And Camped at the first Spring West of the
Mts here was the Best Spring I ever Seen In my Life In this Section of Country there is
fine Springs this Spring is to the Left of the road first after you Come over the mts
grass Scarce

July 30th Went Sixteen miles and Camped on A Small Grass good wood rather Scarce

July 31st Went to Snake River and Camped on the River Bluff water good But difficult
to get grass good in the river Bottom Musquitoes Very Bad There was A train Close
to Us It was from Indiana It Belonged to Mr Sunderland of Ind

Aug 1st Went Seventeen miles and Camped Roads dusty

Aug 2nd went Seventeen miles and Camped on A small Creek near the River this Creek
was full of Petrified falls or dams that had Been Composed of wood And had Changed to
Stone here there was Plenty of dry grass In Course of the day we Passed the American
falls in Snake River here Snake River About Sixty feet in About two hundred It is
A fine Scene here I Seen the water Bursting out of the Ground in Large quantities

Aug 3d Went fifteen miles and Camped grass tolerable good No water

Aug 4th Went twelve miles and Camped on raft River grass good roads dusty Snowy
Mts In sight



Aug 5th Went from raft river to Muddy Creek distant twenty one miles Grass Plenty
Roads Dusty Weather Hot in Extreme

Aug 6th went from Muddy Creek to Goose Creek distant fifteen miles this is A deep
Muddy Stream formed of Small deep Streams here we had Plenty of Grass and wood

Aug 7th Sunday we traveled from Goose Creek to Snake River distant fourteen miles
grass Scarce roads rough and dusty hot weather here we put in our Sabbaths in hard
traveling over dusty roads

Aug 8th Went to rock Creek and Camped near the foot of the Mountain Grass w od
and water in Abundance

Aug 9th Went from rock Creek to rockstone Creek distant twelve miles Grass good
roads rough And rocky Also very dusty

Aug 10th Went twenty miles and Camped on the Plain without water for the Stock and
A Short Allowance for our Selves roads Bad Nights Cold

Aug 11th In the morning I went forward to See how far we had to go before we Come
to water At noon they train got to Snake River where they Could water the Stock
the Cattle Almost gave out before they got to water the descent to Snake was difiicult
the banks were over one thousand feet in heighth from rockstone Creek to this Place
Snake River runs most of the distance in A Perpendicular Kenyon one thousand feet in dep
here there is no chance of getting water for Stock the distance without water is thirt
miles To night we Camped on Snake river two mls Above Psalmon Creek No grass worth
Mention today I rode All day hunting Camping ground And found no grass today I seen
Some Beautiful in Some of the Creek on the North Side of water here we are on A
barren waste

Aug 12th Went to Salmon falls Against noon in the Afternoon we Crossed the River
on A ferry Boat in Crosing the river Mr E Wolford Lost one horse by drowning after
Crossing the river we went out three miles and Camped on Clar water Creek here there
was Some good grass Above Salmon Falls on the North Side of the River there is some

Perpendicular water falls of over one thousand feet in height the Most Beautiful
A Person Could Imagine At Samon Falls the fall is About twenty ft fall in 300 Yds

Aug 13th Went from our Camp five miles and Camped Lower down on the Same Creek the
distance is over high Lands Covered with deep Sand we descended A Steep hill and
Camped near A Spring grass Excellent general Appearance of the Country Covered with
Sand and Sage Brush Inhabited with Frogs Lizards and Indians

Aug 14th Went twenty miles And Camped on hot Spring Creek today we traveled
fifteen miles without water we Started on this Stretch without knowing how far it was to
water Across this Stretch there is heavy Sand and Steep hills hard on Cattle &
horses In the morning we Crossed Kenyon Creek this Creek falls into A deep Kenyon
A few rods below where the road Crosses the Creek the ford is very rocky water Swift
ford Somewhat difficult the rocks About this Creek were In the form of all Sorts of
Basins Somewhat In the shape of A honey Comb Kenyon Creek five miles from Clar Creek on
leaving Clear Creek we Come up A Steep hill

Aug 15th Today we Lay by to let the teams rest In the night hicks and Know Lost
An Indian Pony it was Supposed to be Stolen by the Indians as they were In the
vicinity We Spent most of the day in hunting for the Pony the Search useless Weather
Very hot the water In this Creek Is kept up by hot It is Poisonous to Stock
hundreds of dead Cattle in the Creek we Camped up the Cceek one mile from where the road
Strikes the Creek here we done wrong for down the Creek three miles there is good
Springs of Clar water and Plenty of good grass So muthh for the want of knowledge

Aug 16th Went from hot water Creek to Carson Creek distant Sixteen miles roads
rough and dusty grass Moderately good this is the third Creek from Snake River

Aug 17th To day we went fifteen miles and Camped on the Plain without water
In Course of the day we ascended A steep Mountain after Comeing up this hill we
Cross A Creek we went on Some Distance further and made A dry Camp today Mr Knox
Left our train to the right of our Camp there is A high Mountain Covered with

Snow Close to our Camp there is A high rocky Mn

Aug 18th Went ten miles And Camped on Grave Creek grass wood and water good
In Course of the day we Crossed two or three small Streams of water here there was ten
grave close to the road One of them was John Saddler of Vanburen Co Iowa he was an
old Acquaintance of mine in Iowa he Started to Orregon In fifty two this rocky
Point of A Mountain is the only Monument to his memory

Aug 19th To[day] we went 15 miles and Camped on the Plain 4 miles from water
In course of the day we Passed the Boiling springs the Springs form A Circle of
About four rods in diameter the water is Boiling hot one man Mr Bele got his hand
Scalded

Aug 20th Went ten miles and Camped on A Small run water water Scarce In course
of the day we crossed Charlottes fork water good And Clar In the Evening there was
near A hundred wagons Camped near us Bunch grass good Mr Sunderland Camped Close to
us Cattle dieing In great numbers

Aug 21st Went Sixteen [miles] and Camped on A small Creek grass good water Scarce
In Course of the day we Crossed white horse Creek In Course of the day Crossed
White horse Creek roads dusty

Aug 22nd Went fifteen miles to Boise River Grass good water Clar roads dusty
And very mountainous here there is the finest Grass I ever Seen on the
Emigrants continue Comeing in until Midnight we Guarded the Cattle on the north Side
of Boise River

Aug 23d Went fifteen miles and Camped on the River in the Best of Grass here
we Expect to Lay by for two days Leslies train is with grass Six or Eight ft high
here we are Laying Around the Camp helping Johny

Aug 24th To day we are Laying About the Camp or watching the Cattle so they will
not Stray Away and get Lost Several trains are Camped near us among them are
Mr Miller of Ill he has A fine Looking daughter Miss Charity Miller



Aug 25th Today we are Laying by to let the Cattle recruit In course of the day they tried fishing It Proved A Poor Percentage _the fish are rather Sharp to be Caught by every one that Comes Along

Aug 26th Went ten miles and Camped on the Bank of the River Situation for our Camp fine as Could be wished Roads very dusty hard on the Cattle took A disease that killed them in A few minutes

Aug 27th Went 10 miles and Camped three miles East of the Crossing of Boise River grass good roads dusty We Can See the Spurs of the Blue Mountains to our Left on the South Side of the Snake

Aug 28th Went three miles and Crossed Boise River Ford very good after crossing we went twelve miles further and Camped grass good

Aug 29th Went Eight miles to fort Boise we Crossed the River in A ferry Boat kept for to Cross Emigrants Price Per wagon five dolls. Fort Boise is Composed of A few doby houses Mostly Inhabited by Indians our Cattle & horses Swum over the River In the Evening there was A Couple Married Mr Wm Knox to Miss Agness Minford Ohio for A Bridal Bed in the Sand

Aug 30th Went from Snake river to Malheur distant twenty miles without water roads dusty day very hot got through without the Loss of Stock here is where the new road turns off from the Old Emigrant road going Into the Lower Part of Willammet Valley the new route Crosses the Blue Mtn In A pass And Crosses the Cascades Into the Upper Part of the Willammet Valley

Aug 31st Went fifteen miles and Camped without grass good day for traveling quite cool roads very good

Sept 1st Went Seventeen miles and Camped on Burnt River grass very good today We had our Last view of Snake river that delightful Stream that may [made?] a heavy heart It disappeared in A Mighty kenyon in the Mountains that Lay between the road and Clarks River

Sept 2nd Went nine miles and Camped on Burnt grass in A kenyon to the right of our Camp hard to get to In Course of the day we Crossed Burnt River Six times roads rough and Crooked Also very Brushy Cattle difficult to drive for the Brush We are Surround By Mountains on all Sides Brandys Camp

Sept 3d T day we Crossed the river four times here we Leave the river for ten miles this Evening we Camped on A Small Crooked run we Crossed this run Eleven times in three mls at our Camp there was good In the Evening there was five men at our without Provision three of them were of Dimacks train from Ill he Lost his teams on the South Side of Snake R. Scenery in this Section of the Country Beautiful The mountains are Covered with fine timber

Sept 4th Went fifteen miles and Camped on A Small Branch of Burnt River In Course of the Day we Passed Fruits Trading Station on Burnt river here I Seen Frank Crook To day we are Passing through A good Section of Country

Sept 5th Went five miles and Camped on A Small run grass very good Water for Stock Our Camp is Surround by high hills these hills are Covered with Bunch grass of the best quality from the top of these hills I Could See the Blue Mn at the head of Powder River they Look Blue

Sept 6th Went from A Branch of Burnt River to A Branch of Powder River distant twenty two miles in this distance there was no water Most of this distance was Covered with heavy Sands road hilly and in Some Places Mountainous Before we Come to the Slough of Powder River we took to the Left and Camped on A Small Branch of Powder River to the Left of our Camp was the Blue Mountains Covered with fine timber here the grass was fine water good

Sept 7th Went fifteen miles and Camped on the third Branch of Powder River grass good wa ter Clear and good Here the Indians had Potatoes and fish to Sell here we got Some fine Trout This Section of Country is the finest Ive Seen on the route Land rolling and Covered with the finest of Grass with numerous Streams of water forming the three main Branches of Powder River

Sept 8th Went ten miles and camped in A Valley four miles from the Grande ronde
We Camped near A Small Spring this is A fine Little valley Inhabited by the Indians
In Course of the day we Crossed the ridge Between Powder River and the grand ronde
where we Come down Into this Valley there is a Poplar Grove

Sept 9th Went four miles to the top of the mountain Overlooking the Grand ronde
Went three miles further and we were at the Bottom of the mountain In the grand
Went Eight miles to where the road Leves the ronde and Camped near A Spring and Creek
here we had good Grass for the Stock On the mountain Overlooking the grand ronde is
one of the finest Scenes I ever beheld In my Life The Grand rond Valley is About Sixteen
mls wide by About thirty Long Surrounded by high Mn on All Sides the Valley is Covered
with fine grass running on this grass are Large droves of the finest Looking horse
Owned by the Kiuse and Nesperse Indians They are good traders They Come here to
Gather Cammice for Winter use In this Valley are Numerous Streams of water the Largest
is grand ronde river

Sept 10th T o day we Layed by to Lett the Cattle rest In Course of the day there
was A great many Indians About the camp were Busy trading for Guns Clotheing Blankets
and Sutch Like Articles our Cattle Are dying Occasionally

Sept 11 Went ten miles over Mountains and rocky roads and Camped on grand ronde
River here grass was Scarce wood and dead Cattle In Large quantities

Sept 12th Went twelve miles and made A dry Camp nine miles from G_rand rond River
you Come up A very Steep hill where there is Logs to keep the wagons from upsetting
after you get up this hill you Come Into An Open Glade of timber to the Left of this
Opening in the ravine you will find water Standing in Pools In A dry run the Same
you Cross at the Steep hill Very Little grass In this Part of the Mountain

Sept 13th Went ten miles and Camped on A Branch of ronde River Plenty of Grass
to the right of the Road in The Timber Water In A Branch to the Left of the road

In A run nights rather Cool for Comfort Weather rather Cool A greater Portion of the
time

Sept 14th Went twenty miles and Camped at the foot of the Blue Mts roads very the descent of the mountain is Steep but not Sideling In the Evening there was Plenty of Indians About the Camp In the Evening It rained Considerable grass very good Mountain Scenery sinne the Brow of the Blue Mountain is Beautiful giveing A View of A vast range of Country

Sept 15th Went fifteen miles and Camped at the foot of the Bluffs Bunch grass good In Course of the day we Crossed the Umatilla River we Camped two miles West of the Umatilla Close to the Bluff

Sept 16th Went 17 Seventeen miles Across the Bluffs after Crossing the Bluffs we went two miles and Camped on A Slough General Apperance of the Country Mountainous Timber Principally Cottonwood five miles to the Indian Agency on the Umatilla River Tomorrow we Expect to See A house onve more Weather Cool disagreeable traveling

Sept 17th Went five miles to the Indian Agency here we Crossed the Umatill Riv The Indian Agents house is A neat one and half Story Building 18 By 28 ft Painted White this house is the first Ive Seen Since we Larime At the Indian Agency I got the Number Persons Wagons Horses & Mules Cattle that had Passed the Agency until the 17th Sept 1853

Number of Persons	5789
Wagons	1729
Horses and mules	1721
Cattle	15296

After Leaveing the Agency we went to Butter Creek distant ten miles here there was Plenty of good grass and water Indians About the Camp in Large numbers grass Bunch grass

Sept 18th In the forenoon we Lay by In the afternoon we went out Eight miles and made A dry Camp grass Very good After Leaveing the Creek the Surface of the Count Ascends gently Here we Come in View of Mt Hood due West of Us and to the North of

Mt Hood we Could See Mt St Helens Both these Points Were covered with Snow they are fine Looking Mountains Mt Hood runs up quite Sharp towards the Top While St Helens is of an Oval Shape tonight my Bed as usual was on the Sand out of doors

Sept 19th Went Sixteen miles and Camped on A high rolling Plain we Made A dry Camp In course of the day we Passed the well Springs here we got Plenty of water for Cooking and for the Stock All this time we were traveling over A high Section of Country We Could See Severall Snowy Peaks of Mountains at one View

Sept 20th Went Eleven Miles to willow Creek here there was Plenty of water and had Been Plenty of grass But It had been Eaten off After Leaveing Willow Creek we went nine miles and Camped in Cedar hollow In the Evening one of the wagons upset with three persons in the Wagon no Person Badly Injured Somewhat Frightened Mrs Wolford Lost one tooth In the Fall One young Lady Concluded She was killed But after walking About for A while She concluded She was Mistaken It was All A Fright Appearance of the Country high and rolling

Sept 21 Went over A high hill Into rocky hollow you travel up this hollow nine miles to A Small Spring here you Can get Small quantities of water for to drink By going down this hollow Some three miles you Come To John days River the road is very good we Crossed the hills to John Days River distant five miles the road is Steep and dusty we took the right hand road at the Little Spring I Suppose from report the Left hand road is much the Best At the time we did not know this At the time we Camped near where the road Leaves John Days River three miles from where you first Strike the River here I Seen Mr Knox and his Family Miss Angeline was As Pleasant as usual Mr Smiths train was Camped there

Sept 22nd In Course of the day the train got to the top of the hill and concluded to remain until morning And take an Early Start for the Cascade range of Mountains white are in fair View Mr Hicks Concluded to remain at John Days river And Let his Cattle recruit I went on with the Ohio Train

Sept 23d Went thirteen miles And Camped at A Spring to the Left of the here was plenty of water for Camp use and for the Stock on top of hiss at John Days River we took the Left hand road Leaveing the dalls to our right distance to the Columbia River twenty three miles without water After Leaveing John Days River we went nine miles over rolling Land Into A ravine Went four miles up this ravine to the Spring and Camped Grass good Mountain grass of good quality

Sept 24th Started at noon and went Eight miles to the Last Spring In this ravine here we Camped good grass and water this Evening Mr Woodson Jeffers and John Mcnrce of Yamhill County O T Camped with us they Come out to meet Mr John Jeffers who is on the Plains Back of us They did not meet John Jeffers

Sept 25th To day we Started with the Intention of going to deshutes River distant twenty miles after traveling Some distance we took A Pack trail to the right of the main route after traveling Seventeen miles we Camped in A deep ravine 1/4th of A mile to the Left of our Camp there is A good Spring here we got water for Cooking and for the Stock Today there was five Snow Covered Mountain Peaks In view Mt Hood Mt St Hellen Mt Jefferson Mt Ranier Mt McLaughlin to day we traveled over A high rollin Country with A fair View of the Cascad range

Sept 26th Went Down A Steep hill to deshutes River this is one of the Steepest hills Ive Seen on the route It was on the Pack trail to the right of the wagon road Itwas Steep Sideling and rocky After Crossing Deshutes River we have A Long Steep hill to go up distance to the top of this hill is About one mile the Cattle Swim the River Above the ferry the Wagons were taken over the River In A ferry Boat ferria Per wagon three dolls we got Over the River Safly Several Indians About the River Peeks trail Crosses the River A Short distance Above the ferry Such hill no one would Imagine without they had Seen Mountains after Crossing the River we went out three miles to A Spring And Camped good grass And water Ferriage for horses \$150 Footmen \$100 Cattle 15 ots

Sept 27th Went ten miles to Indian Creek and Camped at the foot of the hill here the Road from the Dalls Intersects this road Grass Moderate good here there is Some Steep hills on All Sides Some four miles Below our Camp on Indian Creek there is A Perpendicular falloff About 75 ft

Sept 28th Went nine miles And camped on three mile Creek three mile from Indian Creek we Crossed A Small Clear Creek of good water At our Present Camp there is Plenty of Grass Wood & Water here there was Several trains waiting to Start In the Mountain

Sept 29th Today we are Laying by to Let our Cattle rest Before we Commence the Mountain Mr Dimmocks train was Close By us To day they Started Into the Mn The BL4482r Girls 6272 49 h19ds 1s 5s5l [This is some kind of a code] With Their dresses Up to the knees One of them was the handsomest female Ive Seen on the road from the States to the Cascade Mountains To Night is rather Cold for Comfort In the Mn

Sept 30th Wen 12 miles to Deshutes hill And Camped on the Brow of this Hill grass Scarce Three miles from three mile Creek you Come to Barlows gate Here is A Small Stream and A Narrow Valley Six miles further over rough roads you Come to A Small Stream one mile further you Come to Another Stream two miles further you Come to Deshutes hill here is one of the Steepest hills in the Cascade Mountains At the top of this hill we Camp we are Surrounded on All Sides with tall Timber Varying In heighth from 150 ft to 250 ft In heighth Timber Yellow Red & White Fir And Pine Some

Oct 1st In the morning we went down the Deshutes hill which was rather difficult to go down after going down the hill we Crossed Deshutes Creek five times In course of 7 or 8 miles here we encountered heavy Sands for Some distance After this we went up A Small Creek for Some distance Crossing It Several times In course of the Afternoon here we was In fair View Mt Hood near this Sandy Part of the Road we Passed Fort deposite Where the first Emigrants who first crossed those Mountains deposited Sutch Articles As they did not need on the Trip

Oct 2nd Last night We Chained the Cattle to trees as there was no chance to get grass. To day went to the third Creek, West of Summit hill here we Camped Good grass one half mile Below us on the Creek In A Prairie this Prairie Is Said to Be A Portion of the Summit Prairie. It was very Swampy And Bad on Cattle to right of the road 1/2 miles after Crossing this Creek there is grass of A Coarse quality

Oct 3d Went Seven or Eight miles and Camped the first hill West of the Summit In Course of the day we Passed over Some very Bad roads We Crossed one Pole Bridge 300 yds Long Another 150 yds in Length roads Crooked Muddy And full of Stumps To day we Lost 6 head of Cattle Wome In one hell of An uproar Curseing Tom Paine and Orregon

Oct 4th Last night we guarded the Cattle all night Started At day Light to go to A Small Prairie to the Left of the road After getting to this Prairie we Lay by the Remainder of the day grass In the Prairie Very good here we Cut grass to take with us from this Place here Mt Hood was In fair View to the right of road

Oct 5th To day we went to Zigzag Comeing down the Laurel hill Is Considerable As Usual we had no grass for the Cattle we Cut Erowse for the Stock this was hard Liveing for Cattle on this trip

Oct 6th Went about Six miles and Camped near A trading Post here we got Some Grass for our Cattle In the night there was Several Persons from the valley About the Camp

Oct 7th Went 12 miles and Camped at The foot of the Backbone of the Cascade Mountain the Backbone Is the most dificult hill to Descend In A wet time that there is in the Mountain we got down In Safety As the hill went dry We got down Without dificulty

Oct 8th To day I went Back on the Back bone of the mountain to get an ox we had Left yesterday I did not find the ox After Returning to the foot of the Backbone I met Mr Devolt Wolford Mr Million Bronay We got our dinners At A trading Post Beat the Traders Shooting And went on to the train which had Stopped at the third Large

hill from Sandy we Waded Sandy raining hard At the time the train Stopped In mud and mire turned the Cattle out In the Brush

Oct 9th Seven miles to fosters Hill Very Bad Wet And Slippery we took Part of the Things out of the Wagons and Carried them Up the hill then By hitching nine yoke of Cattle to A Wagon we got up the hill Arived At Fosters About three Cclk in the Afternoon Thus we are About through With A long And tiresome Journey of Almost Six months Thankful that we got Into the Va`ley In good health taking All things into Consideration had A Pleasant Trip

Oct 10th To day I Left the Ohio Train At Mr Foster And I Started for Orregon City In Company of Mr Devolt Wolford On the Road from Fosters to Orregon City We Stopped At rather A Hard Looking Log Cabin to get Some dinner When We Stepped Inside of the house to Our Surprise we found A neatly frunished Room A Pretty Woman and fat Pretty Babe Here we got A good Dinner and went to Orregon City Orregon City is A Town of Considerable Business next In Importance Portland the first I[n] trade

Oct 11th To day I remained In Orregon City waiting for A Boat to go to dayton In Yamhill Co In Course of the day I was through the City Taking Items of the Odity of the Oregonians Spanish Spurs Lash rope and Indian horse the regular Uniform of an Oregonian

Oct 12th To day I start for dayton In Yamhill Co got to Dayton Late In the Evening I Come Up the River On the Steamer Yenhill To Shampoeg from thence I walked to Dayton General Apearance of the Country Mountainous and hilly Interspersed with Valleys I Still At Dayton Dec the 25th 1854

George N. Taylor

Dec 27th 1854 This Evening I am at dayton as Usual To Night I was At my Old Friends on Palmers Corner of f[our]th And fifth Streets one door Above the

Emporium Raining Considable At Times River on the rise.

[Note in pencil, evidently written at some later time] Old Friends Referred to Jas B. Jacobs & His kind Family will long be remembered by me as they seem to me as parents of the best His Famly consisted of the following members, Richard, Cyrus Samuel, Simon Girls Mrs Stockele Marian Levine Twins Cinderelle Frances Harriett Germans from Lancaster Penn At the Request of Gen Palmer, myself & Geo W Marpole [?] volunteered for the yacima War in the Evening I went to Fr. N. Martin met Jno Martin & Miss Nancy on their route to Dayton The Whole country excited about the Indian Maj Haller Driven our of the yacima country

Saturday Oct 13th 1855 Volunteered to go to the Indian war in Yacima Country A. J. Hembree Enrolling Officer time during the War or until Honorably Discharged from the Service at the time I Voluntered I was Working for Mr Steward Hanna near Dayton in Yamhill Co O T

Oct 14th I went to Lafayette to Buy me A Saddle and rigging and make other necessary preparations for starting into the Indian Country Purchased A Saddle & rigging from Mr Furgerson and Various other Articles at Dayton in Course of the day I got my Saddle blankets and Arms and Most all Articles that was necessary for the trip in the evening I returned to Mr Martins My temporary Home for the time Being [In pencil, Eliza Martin Fast Friend]

Oct 15th Monday To day I was Busy most of the day Getting Clotheing and other things ready for the trip Jno Martin went to Lafayette to Get My Saddle returned Late in the evening I went to Dayton to Settle with Some Persons and See Some of my Friends in that Place & Vicinity before returning I was At the House Gen Palmer Mr Jacobs Mr Davidson And Mr Holdridge returned to Mr Martins at 11 Oclk at Night rather tired

Oct 16th Got up early to make A Start for the Seat of War made Some Arrangements Before Breadfeast in respects to my Effect whitch I left in the Care of Mr N Martin After Breadfeast BadaDieu to my Friends and Started for Lafayette where the Company was to Meet organize and elect their Officers A J Hembree was Elected Capt of the Comp & Jno Hebler 1 Lieut Wm Wright 2nd Lieut J Chance Campbell 1st Sergeant Wash Ewing 2 serg The Compt at this time No near One hund[red] men Well mounted At 2 Oclk We Left Our Acquaintances at Lafayette and Went as far as Harrises on the Tauliton River here we got good fare for Our Horses But Very Poor for ourselves Spult[Spoiled] Meat Bread and Water for Our Supper in the Morning We got A Very Good Breadfeast

Oct 17th 1855 This morning We Saddled up our Horses and Started for Portland Where We were to Be Mustered into Teritorial Service We Arrived At Portland About 2 oclk P M andCrossed the Willammet river and Camped on the East Bank Opposite the City of Portland nothing of note Occurred in Course of the day We all got Safe When we come into Town we fired A Salute Otherwise things Went off Cooly and Without Mutch Excitement

Oct 18th To day we were Paraded on Horse Back after Parade Our Horses and out f was Appraised My Horse and Outfit :was Appr. at \$382 dollars after the Apprs got through their Business We were Mustered into the Teritorial Service By the Adjutant Gen of the Ser Mr Barmum and received By the Governor George L Curry we received the name of Co E O M V

Oct 19th 1855 Today most of the time we were Loafering About Camp or Trading A Little in the City in Course of the day the Compt from Polk Co arrived in Portland They were A fine Looking Co under the Command of Capt Armstrong David Cosper was In the Compt

Oct 20th We Still remain in Camp near Portland Although we had Order to Leave within 48 hours from the time we were Mustered into the Teritorial

(Oct 20th contd)

Service in course of the Day I had my Likeness Taken and Sent It to Mr Martins in Yamhill Co I got A Very good Likeness Considering It was A Very dark Day Oweing to the Darkness of the Day It was rather Light or Dim