

Diary of
WILLIAM E. CHAMBERLAIN
April 11, 1849 - August 20, 1849

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12 purchased 2 mules of Barbour. O'clock - Our new mules

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of them & was left
Barbour gave me a horse & a mule to hold back - after
a run of 1/2

[Overland journey from Iowa to Sutter's Fort]

at night at
Paris Miles - about 200 miles from Iowa

in the
Paris Miles - about 200 miles from Iowa

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Diary of
WILLIAM E. CHAMBERLAIN
April 11, 1849 - August 20, 1849

11th Apl 49 Started from Iowa (?) in company with Doct H Ketcham & Danl Barbour with waggon & 4 mules. Went to Esq. Barbours Miles Weather pleasant. roads good

12 purchased 2 mules of Barbour started about 11 O.Clock - Our new mules soon became frightened - D. jumped out to catch hold of them & was left behind harness gave way - so that I had but one mule to hold back - after a run of 1/4 to 1/2 mile stoppt them without any damage- Stopt at night at Paris Miles- Slept for the first time in a waggon- a mule got loose in the night. Caught him after a good deal of trouble. Soon after leaving Paris stalled in a mud hole. A man came with a pair of Oxen and helped us out of our difficulty- Cold drizzling rain - roads exceedingly bad stalled twice

& had to unload & carry our loading some distance - Stoppd near a house at night & after a supper of

Friday May 18/49 After 11 days stay in St. Jos Making preparations

Started this morning on our long and somewhat dangerous journey to

California - Our mass consists of Leonard Crawford Doct Ketcham

Thos Hook Danl. Barbour & myself- We have 11 mules- 8 of them packed,

the other 3 and two ponies for the Saddle- our provisions consist of 375#

pilot bread, 115# flour, 200# side bacon, 27# tea & several other small

articles- Found it pleasant to be once more on our way, especially as we

have been for some days in the neighbourhood of Several cases of Cholera-

4 or 5 having died but a few rods from us. We proceeded on our way a

short distance when I went back to town to attend to several small matters

which had been neglected- on my return found our train stoppd about 2 miles

out with a pack saddle broken & Doct K. went back for new one & the others

proceeding I remained on the bank of the Missouri for his return. Almost every article in St. Jo. required for an outfit is high, except bacon, sugar, Coffee, Saddling & Smithing particularly Small jobs, from 2 to 4 pieces- having many articles to dispose of we sold at $2/3$ to $3/4$ cost in Ind. Emigrants generally burthen their teams with an over Stock of provisions & clothing-

In about an hour those who had proceeded came back, having taken the wrong road, through the obstinacy of Danl. B.- After repacking the Docts mule we retrd and found Hooks horse had thrown him & Danls 3 mules had got away-- I went on the right road about half a mile left my pack mules & went in pursuit of the lost ones. They were found just at evg. about half a mile off & retrd by a farmer- packs entire- D's Gun and Saddle bags missing We found both & we all proceeded to our camping ground for the night $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from town.

19th Morning rainy - Started about 10 Oclock - Came to Savannah ferry 8 miles, crossed over at $5\frac{1}{2}$ oclock - Came 4 miles down the river through a prairie to a small stream [sic] near the base of the bluffs where we encampd

20th Sunday - In camp - heavy showers - took all hands to hold up the tent got very wet, just at night removed to higher ground about 50 rods where we were shelterd from the wind - Made a large fire & sat up all night, drying, & after 12 oclock watching stock -

21st Started, after drying our baggage, about 12 oclock. had several showers, country hilly prairie, not an acre level - passed an Indian village - After dark came to the encampment of Mr. Dunham of Quincy & 5 others - lay down near a small fire after a watch of $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ & slept without a tent passed today 18 waggons -

22d After a cold night (Ther. at 45) started 12 in company - Mr. Dunham

& 4 others from Quincy, Ill. & Messrs. Greathouse & Madeira of Alton, Ill.

Country more rolling day fine Passed several new made Graves passed

several watering places Encampd Sun one hour high 22 miles from Iowa

Mission - 25 miles to day. Camping ground good - in a grove on the left

hand of the road - water good - and a spring from a neighboring

23d Started at 9 after some trouble with a horse - Cold day - Country getting

more level - wood & water scarce - passed one waggon the mules of which had

been stolen 3 yoke of oxen from a waggon which we passed this morning

missing - passed 3 cases of cholera in waggons mules travel better &

packs keep in place better than at first. Attempted a cut off were defeated

by a stream, the banks of which as usual were very deep with mud - Encampd

at 7 oclock about one mile north of the road near a stream & plenty of wood -

Saw as we supposed 2 Indians watching on distant hills & guarded with

unusual vigilance through the night - I watched from 1/4 of 12 to 1/2 past 2.

24 Started at about 9 - travelled about 25 miles encamped amid appearances

of showers - rain soon came down - got everything as well sheltered as

possible under tent. Heavy rains with incessant thunder & lightning through

most of the night and to add to the turns of the scene Mr. Dunham of

Quincy Ill was attacked violently with Cholera purging and vomiting all

night nothing giving relief. I was on guard two hours drenched with rain

and passed the remained of the night in tent wet and cold and all baggage

wet through. getting better This is the first day that I have really

25 In the morning dried off self & baggage Mr. D. very bad remained there

till towards night Ketchum & Barbour returned for home on the forenoon left

Mr. D. in the hands of his son & a neighbour with promise of all necessary

help from a camp encamped near by poor fellow I fear this is his last day

in this world - death on the plains tis a fearful thing - 6 of us started

toward night made about 5 miles & encamped. for several days past

Sometimes nothing to be seen but the distant outlines of the prairie of

26th Started at 8 1/2 Made about 20 or 30 miles to Big Blue River. Day cold & cloudy. Hard wind in our face. Hook sick symptoms of cholera.

Creathous sick -

27 all went on except Crawford Hook & myself H. worse very weak, frequently vomiting no appetite - occasional stools - A Physician from a Neighboring encampment came to see him, says he has not the Cholera but his sickness may end in that. This is a beautiful Sunday morning & the scene exceedingly beautiful - our tent is pitched at the foot of a gently sloping hill covered with grass - & at the edge of the valley of the river - the air fragrant with the perfume of the blossom of the wild grapes a gentle breeze the day pleasantly warm and all but sickness calculated to raise the spirits even under the thought of all left behind left behind [sic] - Oh for one sweet hour with those I love. What course I take we know not - to linger here is unsafe to ourselves & H cannot go on with us - Well every hour has its own difficulties - I will not anticipate trouble - I have passed through trials & hardships since I started think I would once have thought insurmountable. Altho. apparently the most delicate of our party I have had the best health & been more exposed than any other - God grant me a continuance of health but above all grant that I may always love & try to serve him - Afternoon - H I think better no symptoms of Cholera. just heard that Mr. Dunham was getting better This is the first day that I have really depressed in spirits since I left home and today only by spells sometimes my spirits rise and I really enjoy the scene went to the top of the hill or rather to the high ground where I had a most lovely view of the swelling country for many miles around Not a tree to be seen except in the valley of the Blue river and its branches & ravines which are filled with trees bushes & vines such a view we have often had for several days past Sometimes nothing to be seen but the distant outlines of the summits of

the rolling lands not a tree & bush in sight yesterday the country was quite level for many miles resembling in the distance the blue ocean. A family from Ill or rather several families are encampd for the day about 1/3 mile from us - they are all very kind made some milk porrage & gave me a canteen of milk fresh from the Cows which is quite a luxury.

28 Capt Chapin of Hann (?) near Marietta (?) kindly consented to take Mr. H. in his waggon today we went with him about 10 miles.

29 Made arrangement with Mr --- of Quincy to take Mr. H. on to California in Capt Chapins train. Crawford & myself started with 3 mules ea. traveled about 30 miles - passed 9 fresh graves - saw with troops about 50 waggons to

30th Rain commenced just as we started - hard rains thunder lightning & wind during the day took shelter from the wind in a ravine which we traveled up some distance - passed a com. of Pack Mules from Independence which came into the road on the 28 about 1 mile ahead of us encampd at night with waggon belonging to the Oregon party from where we got milk on the 27 - found Greathouse & Madeira with them G. having had Cholera heavy

31st Showery all day came in company with the Pack Mule train found Francis Roots & Isiah Collins with them left them at Noon & toward night came up with a horse & mule waggon train where we found Doct Patrick as he having been sick with Cholera encampd with them and took supper & slept in his tent passed for 15 or 20 miles along the valley of the little Blue - very beautiful - some miles over level plain a Buffaloe skull occasionally seen - At night 4 trains encampd in sight -

Saw on the 29 3 Elk - C. snapd at one but could not get his gun off -

June 1 Started at half past 8 came up at 11 with Patricks train which started at 7 - took dinner with them - while there Madeira & Greathouse overtook us in the afternoon overtook Hoyt Isabel & 4 other parties

10 of us in all stopt at night on a small creek have traveled for 3 days past most of the time along the Little Blue the last 6 or 8 miles over

level high plains

2d - Came to the Platte Bottoms having rode about 35 miles over plains but little water no wood encampd near Fort Kearny plains covd with waggons cattle Men Women & Children

3d Sunday - In camp - went to the Fort exchanged tents with Lieut Woodbury - last night slept in the open air - having no poles -

4 Made about 40 miles passed numerous trains of Mule & Ox teams - Doct White of St. Louis & family in carriages - at night Crawford sick - weather pleasant wind strong from the South

5th Started at 8 passed 3 government trains with troops about 50 waggons to each train one Regiment for California - have passed 760 waggons up to this log. Since leaving St. Jos. Made about 30 miles to day encampd near a company of Mormons - got from them an abundance of Buttermilk - Sweet milk & exchanged our Lantern [?] for Butter - had an excellent supper of butter cakes - no wood. use buffaloe chips - exchanged our frying pan for one with a handle - got the Mules Shoes tightned - turnd in about 10 oclock - heavy Showers during the night took 5 others in our tent stood guard 1 1/4 hour had no room to lie down afterwards Saw today several trains of waggons on the opposite side the river. Strong wind all day from the S. E. dust very uncomfortable

all

6th Wind S. showers continue - Started at 11 - Soon after the sky assumed the darkest aspect I ever

crossed over to the North fork of the Platte - about 2 or 3 miles across - I can compare it to

thick white riding - on guard last night - last eve could not see anything indigo & a tremendous

(PAGE TORN)

on wind rain & hail - got a quart of milk & made a supper of Milk water

through it all -

shelter under

till night encampd

through ash hollow & good spring & encampd near the river at 8 1/4 o'clock -

about 5 -

but a good

supper appears before we could get up our tent - supper of better apples - & coffee

[PAGE TURN]

No

has been (?)

On rainy morning - got up a fire & cook with difficulty - water of the liv'd of weed (?)

Platte very playey - & shallow bottom of the river from 1/2 to 1 mile wide - 7th Morning left Mosquite

Well road with camp - hills very short - Snow & rain - Very generally Camp at 8 - reached the ford of South fork of Platte at 5 - crossed where 1/2 to 3/4 wide - did not wet our packs. Came up at Noon with a train who had just kild a Buffalo - found 2 men starting out, their loads of Whisky, cheese, raisins, &c - limb cheese at 20 cts per lb 1 pt whiskey at 20c. Pepper same, to this time -

75 Butter - encampd 5 miles above

10 Sunday - Started late - rode to see a Buffalo heavy showers last night

had to hold up the tent. train in chase of 5 & lightning - passed Fortness

rock - encampd without wood & a little hills - Soon saw Buffalo chips

wouldnt burn cold water & meat number of others & men on the bank of river - [PAGE TURN]

the heaviest shower this night 1 or 5 or 6 were kild tent could not even

lie down Balls quilts each

11 Sat: 2 or 3 miles the A. M. Overtook train with passed Court House

Rock. Bluff higher & mountainous in appearance. encampd about 1 mile from

Chimney rock to a full view - in a valley to left are several prairie can

near by was a plain. but we could not see it - got some milk from an overment -

very wet roads to day ground cold for miles w all water - O & I have left

sorts of fantastic Dress-Jays - have not wetted our mules - Mosquitoes in

swarms - 25 miles today - Chimney rock 15 miles from Fort Laramie -

crossed over to the North fork of the Platte - about 2 or 3 miles across -

12 - 13 were last night - hard wind this morning - cold & tired & stiff - Slept while riding - on guard last night - last evg could not cook anything

started at 4 - found no water & on Pratte from Chimney rock - hard to judge for want of fire - got a quart of milk & made a supper of Milk water

of whiskey & bread - Same this Morning - passed Owens train - divided into

3 or 4 parties - Saw Jacob Ogle - Comp. &c from Oxford. left the bottom of

the N. fork passed over the hills about 12 miles. Came again into the bottom -

through ash hollow & good spring & encampd near the river at 6 1/4 O.Clock -

rising in almost every fanciful shape like castles, towers, &c.
Slight showers before we could get up our tent - supper of batter cakes -
buffaloe chips for fuel.

9th rainy morning - got up a fire & cookd with difficulty - waters of the

Platte very clayey - & shallow Bottom of the river from 1/2 to 1 mile wide -

well covd with grass - hills very abrupt - Sandy & rocky - but generally

green - many beautiful flowers - prickly pear & some others of the Cactus
tribe - Some in blossom - Scarcely ever out of sight of waggons - numerous
trains encamped near us this morning - think we have passed about 1200 up
to this time -

about 10 miles in such pain in all my limbs - night very cold.

10 Sunday Started late - rode about 20 miles - heavy showers last night
had to hold up the tent. tremendous rain thunder & lightning - passed Fortress

rock - encampd without wood & a shower covering the sun Buffaloe chips
wouldnt burn cold water & Bread for Supper - encampd on the bank of river -

the heaviest shower this night I ever saw all wet in tent could not even
lie down - mosquitoes

11 Started at 8 - In the A.M. Overtook Doct Snyder &c. passd Court House

Rock. Bluff higher & mountainous in appearance - encampd about 1 mile from
Chimney rock in full view - in a valley in which are several ponds one

near by we find so salt we could not use it - got some milk from an encampment -
very wet roads to day ground covd for miles with water - C & I have left


the others behind for 2 days - have not watched our mules - Mosquitoes in

myriads - 25 miles today - Chimney rock 65 miles from Fort Larime -

12 - Showers last night - hard wind this morning - got up tired & stiff -

started at 8 - found we were 2 or 3 miles from Chimney rock - hard to judge

of distance by the eye - A mule lame about 12 O'clock rain hail thunder &

lightning took shelter under a wagon. passed a handsome rock shaped thus 

were several hours passing it altho seemingly not a mile from it - Many

other isolated peaks or continuous chains of bluffs resembling works of art

rising in almost every fanciful shape like castles, turrets, towers &c encampd at night in a valley where we got some wood & good water from a spring up a ravine about a mile distant had some warm coffee & batter cakes after 2 days of cold comfort - raw pork, & hard bread - encampd near Capt Woodland & family

13 Mule too lame to pack or ride took it on foot. Came about 20 miles. Mr C. occasionally spelling me in walking - when we stoppd I could scarcely put one foot before the other - encampd without fire the night cold - spirits below zero lame, hungry & cold. I for the first time wished myself back - slept badly in much pain in all my limbs - night very cold.

14 Got up & after stirring about a little felt better - Cooked some coffee & pork at a neighboring fire. Started at 9 oclock - Mule improved a little packed her - the morning delightful distant mountains in sight plains more extensive - wood in view - distant mountains seen - My spirits which yesterday & last night were depressed have changed with the scene & I have felt happier since I started on my journey - toward evg came to the ford of Larimer Fork of the Platte near the fort - too deep for fording went up to the ferry opposite the fort - got baggage taken over & swam the mules - got wet & being unable to get a fire at our camp, night coming on lay down with wet pants and wet feet

15th Quite well in the morning got up a good fire had some fresh Antelope a warm breakfast & wrote home & spent the day till 3 A.M. at the fort & camp - Met with Doct Avery of T. H. Came out about 3 or 4 miles to good grass, wood & water - exchanged mules with a Mr. Drake of Cincinnati.

16 Went for my new mule & before I got him to our camp he fell down & of course followed his example but without hurt - rode him today - Our road today has been hilly & rocky we are now in a pine timber region - Mountains in full view - particularly Laramie's Peak -

have seen through the country we have passed over a good many beautiful flowers several species of the cactus in bloom - Emigrants are lightning their loads - throwing away bread Brown Beans &c by the road side cutting up waggons for Pack Saddles all hurrying to get through early - over the Elk Hills following Burnt Wood Creek several miles - a clear stream sandy bottom - with plenty of wood - left the stream toward night came 2 or 3 miles & a shower coming on encampd without water - got a canteen full from a waggon which with bread soaked in it with a little whiskey we made a supper pd 50c today for 1 Qt Whisky - have suffered for 2 or 3 weeks with sore lips a common complaint on the road - about 26 miles today -

17 Sunday - Started on an empty stomach came to Horse Shoe Creek 13 miles where we found Mr. Welch of T. H. got some dinner with him as good a meal as I ever made came on to Pearl River (17 miles) over Steep Hills hard sandy roads. very bad for the feet of animals - Pearl River a fine clear little Stream no grass on it - Woodruff, Bodin &c encampd near us - did not see them today 30 miles appearance of showers - but no rain first day without for about 10 ds - Saw on distant hills the appearance of a tower of large rocks I suppose, resembling houses - cattle are swimming
18 Started at 8 - about 12 came up with Bodine, Hooker & Clippinger after Came on to a Creek where we intended to have encampd with them but finding no grass continued on till night - came within a mile of the Platte - encampd on a hill near 2 mule waggons. An Indian encampment on opposite hills I suppose 4 miles distant. they had quite a number of fires burning during the night I was on watch about 1 hour - had a very sick day today from having eaten too much dinner yesterday with Welch - Beans &c - went to 30 miles today - an (?) of Ver. was drowned nearly opposite where I was
19 Saw 2 Buffaloe a short distance from us Several men went on foot & got a shot at them without effect - Came back & took horses in pursuit - upon us - took some medicine rode in a hot sun & through the dust about

Yesterday I exchanged my new mule for a pony - followed up the Platte about 10 miles to a creek where we found a great no. of waggons making preparations to cross to the North Side - are informed that several hundred waggons are now waiting at the ferry (10 miles above) made arrangements with a Co. who were preparing a raft of 2 dugouts with a log between lashed to take us over in the morning being very sick I lay down on the ground the greater part of the day - had a severe diarrhea - no appetite & am feverish - met with Mr. — with a buggy along with a wagon train Mr. — came to see me & a party of Florida with whom we traveled several days in Mo. Went to bed miserable to separate with his horse & mule & after I finally accepted - as I had enough. O for the comforts of home, the kind attentions of dear ones but agreed to separate from O - & find my way as I but could after a few days they are not for me

20 - This morning I felt a little better ate a little bread & drank some tea - 21st Mr. Wilson came in the morning & being assisted by Mr. Hopping packed had our baggage taken over the river - I went over with it & carried it over my shoulders and gave me up his buggy - all the way sick & came about 20 miles a steep sand hill some 6 or 8 rods to a grass plat a work of about 2 hours to White Springs took my suitcase & went to a spring of cold water & had having to rest after every load - The Scene today is a very interesting one - hundreds of men at work some preparing rafts - others up to their waists before having been very late - I lay for some time on the bank waiting in the water towing them up some taking waggons to pieces, some getting got up without fainting at night Mr. Hopping brought a physician to look after them together & reloading - about 80 waggons are now on the south side waiting to see Mr. Wilson was the first that seemed to understand my case & the right to cross - 5 rafts are making all haste in ferrying - cattle are swimming about in the river refusing to cross & constantly turning back - train after portion of Wainwright - to repeat it every 3 or 4 miles - saw nothing - but after train going up the road to the ferry - all present an appearance of life & the disease's which we have a description will every 3 or 4 miles - activity seldom exerted (?) in any civilized part of the world The platte 21st Sunday - My disease continued No grass where we are - water is about bottoms become numerous as we ascend - the stream more deep & rapid but little 10-15 miles to Independence Rock in the valley of the lower Platte - still timber skirts its shores - the land is sandy - grass short. rocky & sandy bluffs & the black hills are seen on each side - the whole country this side fort Laramie presents a view of roughness & stirelity I did not expect to see - A Mr Drennan (?) of Ver. was drowned nearly opposite where I was sitting in attempting to swim a mule -

21 Packed up with much difficulty exceedingly feeble - & bad diarrhea upon me - took some medicine rode in a hot sun & through the dust about

22 miles - at night could scarcely stand -

22d No better - considerable fever Came about 8 or 10 miles & encampd

C. very impatient [sic] as usual & abusive - just the reverse of what

I had expected from him - This afternoon Mr Hopping a packer with whom we had been formerly traveling came up - I had just taken an emetic - took

some Cholera medicine from him - he & Mr C. found a Mr. Alpheus Wilson of

Vir. with a buggy along with a waggon train Mr W came to see me & proposed to accompany me with his horse & buggy an offer I gladly accepted - as I had along side a creek had grass in abundance 3 or 5 packers appeared near by agreed to separate from C - & find my way as I but could after a few days

rest Started over a hilly road hills steep & sometimes rocky passed a great

23d Mr. Wilson came in the morning & being assisted by Mr. Hopping packed

my miles and gave me up his buggy - altho very sick I came about 28 miles

to Willow Springs took my canteen & went to a spring of cold water & after

satisfying [sic] my thirst the first time for several days - the water

before having been very impure - I lay for some time on the bank unable to

get up without fainting at night Mr. Hopping brought a physician from Ohio

to see me who was the first that seemed to understand my case & the right

treatment - he ordered me 1 teaspoonful Laudanum 1 dr Brandy & a good

portion of Quinine - to repeat it every 3d stool - eat nothing - but after

the disease is checked to take a Sappington Pill every 4 to 5 hours Wilson

24th Sunday - My disease checked No grass where we are - moved on about

18-20 miles to Independance Rock in the valley of the Sweetwater - still

too weak to help myself much - have continued to ride in the buggy

25 Came to day about 12 miles with Mr W's trains & encampd with them to

enable him to make some arrangements as to provisions his interest in the

team &c The vally of the Sweetwater is 1/2 to 1 1/2 mile wide high rocky

hills on each side - nearly bald - the grass is dry sand & dust & heat

very oppressive - Canteen lost - 1 picket rope do 3 a shaft to be run

A French trading encampment happened to be near where we got an arrow

26 after completing our arrangements repacking &c we started a [sic] about 12 O.Clock - Mr W. having put on 3 mule shoes - The sun came out intensely hot - about 3 a shower came on cold & piercing which continued at intervals till night - I felt better for the change, altho too cold for comfort - had the benefit of Ws cloak - encampd with his train at night in a narrow valley surrounded by hills of rock -

27 After a cold night was calld up before sunrise to breakfast Overtook the train about noon & left them behind - Made about 28 miles - encampd along side a creek had grass in abundance 6 or 8 packers encampd near us

28 Started over a hilly road hills steep & sometimes rocky passed a great many trains about 160 waggons - the Government train Coln Simmons & Liedet [sic] --- & families - Snow coud mountains have been in sight for 2 days - very warm during the day - about 5 O.Clock after making about 25 miles

encampd on on [sic] a small stream 1 mile off the road near Willow Creek found good feed in a narrow valley 50 or 60 feet wide with high hills on each side a bank of snow several feet deep a few steps from us - the evg warm & pleasant - filld canteens & covd them with snow for tomorrows use -

29 Started early in the morning in about a mile came to Willow Creek & attempting to ford the buggy mule lost her footing & we went down some feet with the swift current - I jump up to my [?] breast in the water & Wilson did the same but we could not get through - I led his mules out & he struggled with mine She turned over and kickd & plunged to the great danger of limb & life he at last succeeded [sic] in getting where the water was not quite so deep & got her out of the harness after having broke a shaft short off we got her out unloaded the waggon & after great efforts, I being still very feeble & having been a good while in the cold mountain torrent, we got out the buggy & set about repg damages - a part of our bread was spoilt - our canteens lost - 1 picket rope do & a shaft to be mended -

A French trading encampment happend to be near where we got an auger gimlet

seems discouraged my health has improved every day - & yesterdays excitement cold bathing seems to have rather benefited than injured me - Sore lips (the under lip) are the most troublesome of any thing we have to contend with - Swollen, cankerd & painful in the extreme -

The flowers along the road are very pretty they grow commonly close to the ground & are different from any I have seen in the States In the afternoon came 9 miles to Big Sandy & encampd about a mile down the river - got in the evg some milk from a family near by, by the name of Robinson from Mo. formerly of Ky.

July 1 Sunday - got up late this morning sun about an hour high - boiled some rice - stewed some fruit had good coffee with milk & ate a very hearty breakfast found pretty good grass & lay by to day expecting this evg to take the 40 or 45^x miles to Green river, without water or feed - Altho Sunday I have had many things to do - some things to wash pickets to repair &c - O for the time when I can spend the Sabbath not as I have formerly spent it but as I ought read over a letter from my dear Charlotte -

^x53 miles as measured by the Gov. Train

Mrs. Robinson sent me down 2 peach pies - afternoon, had a shower which cooled the air & has made it very pleasant

2d Started last evg about 8 O.Clock soon after daylight stopd to feed & I layd down on the hill side to get some sleep.. awoke very chilly the night has been uncomfortably cold. the road for the first 30 miles tolerably level & good except in places where the showers of yesterday passd & made it quite muddy - the last 10 or 15 miles quite hilly - hills long & steep & as we discended the bluff near the river.

I never saw worse roads. tied both hind wheels of the buggy - reached