

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN

ELISHA B. LEWIS

Diary of overland trip to California, 1849.

BEGINNING

Loring, James L	1860
Roberts, James	1864
Ross, William	1852
Shurt, Geo. W	1852
Bradway, J R	1853
Dalton, John E	1852



*
* OVERLAND TRIP TO CALIFORNIA IN 1849 *
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* ABEL FRANKLIN LEWIS, CAPTAIN. *
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DIARY OF ELISHA B. LEWIS, SON OF ABEL F. LEWIS

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1849

An account of the expedition of A. F. Lewis J. H. Rogers,
E. B. Lewis B Grogg & Henry Dievendorff Citizens of Turtleville
Rock county and State of Wisconsin Kept daily for reference and
amusement.

April

5 Three of the first named left home on the 5th owing to its
raining on the 4th which day had been set for our departur with one
good waggon and 4 yoke of oxen with one new milch Cow. Our load
consisted of Pork Flour Meal heard and soft Bread and other provision
to the amount in weight of 2000lb. and clothing sufficient for each 2
years Also armes Ammanition in an abundance Each supplied with Bedding
&c and a good assortment of Books and Medicans for a new country. The
last named Grogg and Dievendorff having stayed behined the last named
having gone to Mich, on buisness and not ready when we left. Roads
very bad after a long rain before we set out

April

5 After taking leave of our families and friends at 8 oclock in the
morning weather fine but roads bad, we set out on our journey for
California by way Galenia Ill, and Council Bluff Arived at Beloit
five miles and after stoping a short time made our way to Rockton 4
Miles crossed Rock river at this place and took a S W Coarse found the
roads very bad proceded 2 Miles and put up for the Night

Distance traveled to day

12 Miles

Friday 6

Found we had rested very well over night this morning the wind blew hard and cold. fed our Cattle and started on it some commenced raining very hard proceeded 2 Miles found hay for Cattle had breakfast at 9 oclock and comfortable Quarters in a farm house continued to rain till one oclock. we then started on our road 2 miles got into a slough backed rails 1/2 mile pried out our waggon went 4 miles and put up for the Night raining very hard

Traveled to Day 8 Miles

Saturday 7th Clear Started at 7 oclock hired a man to Draw half of our load on account of the badness of the road 4 miles put up at a place called 12 Mile Grove 12 Miles from Rockford

Traveled to Day 10 Miles

Sunday 8 Got Breakfast feed our team Being advised we thought we had better take the road to Savanna started found the road very bad hired a man with 2 yoke of Oxen to go with us through some sloughs, continued our course all Day through an open prairie and put up to Night within 2 Miles of Cranes Grove. Traveled to Day 14 Miles

Monday 9th

Arose early fed our team got our breakfast hired the man with whome we stoped to go with us with 2 yoke of Cattle to Cherry Grove Started found the roads better then we expected travled through a prairie cuntry to Day without passing a house got to Cherry Grove and proceeded on the road to Savanna 2 Miles and pit up for the Night

Travled to Day 20 Miles

Tuesday 10 Got up Early had a Cold windy Night got a Bite to eat fed our cattle and started for Savanna arrived to a small village called Mount Carroll situated on the Telegraph line from Galena to Dixon at 10 oclock Continued our cours for Savanna and arrived at that place Situated on the East bank of the Mississippi 3 oclock in the afternoon Stopped hear to wate for the two we left behind Namely Grogg and Devendorff

Drove to Day 15 Miles

Wendsday 11 heard nothing from our company back continued in this place untill Weandsday the 18th before we were joined by the rest of our company J H Roges having gone to Galena to engage passage for Hanible for our company and team on a Steamboat

Thirsday 19 Received a line from J H Rogers by mail that the steem boat War Eagle would be in this place this evening also stating the price of freight passengers teams and &c to Hannabal, the Boat arrived 10 oclock in the evening had our waggons on the landing ready to go on board left Savanna 1 oclock

Friday 20 Passed rapidly down the river frequently leving small Buisness Towns in the rear arrived to Hannabal on the morning of the 21 landed our teams and waggon and sent our provision by water in care of one of our company Namely A F Lewis

Satterday 21 Left Hannabal with our teams for St Joseph by land went 13 Miles west through a country of Pirarie and wood land found Good Hay Corn Oats &c and put up for the Night

Sunday 22 Concluded to let our teem rest through the Sabbath Day got breakfast reading and writing passed the time away

Monday 23 Got up Early in the morning found our team in good condition after resting through the Sabbath fed them got our breakfast and started at 6 oclock found good roads comenced raining at 11 oclock had a fine Shower passed through a small town by the name of Clinton went 1 Mile and camped by a fine sream of watter for the night with wood a plenty

Travieled to Day 21 Miles

Tuesday 24 Left our camping place at 6 oclock found a very rough road for several miles while passing through Timber land occationly crossing shroort strips of pirarie whare our road was very good passed through a Town by the name of Paris 12 miles from our camp ground this Town is most beautifully situated on high ground which givs a fine prospect of the country around after leving Paris we crossed a delightful pirarie of three miles and camped for the Night Having Travieled to

Day 18 Miles

Weandsday 25 After a good nights rest arose early fed our teen got our breakfast and started at 6 oclock found the roads very rough however dry our road to day was principlly through Timber Passed through 2 small Town to Day viz Madison situated 12 Miles from Parris on high ground and building appear very ancient Milton situated 7 Miles from Madison passed through 2 Mils of timber after leving Milton Crossed a pirary of 4 Miles and Camped for the Night Making Traviel to day 20 Miles

Tuesday 26 Started at 6 oclock found the roads very rough went 5 Miles passed through a Town by the name of Huntsville situated 6 Miles from Milton buildings mostly built of Brick Continued on our road Eleven Miles through Timber land got into a slough shouveled

out and camped for the Night

Making to day 17 Miles

Friday 27 Left our camping ground at 6 opened onto a prairie of 7 Miles wide crossed it and came to the Sharon bottoms roads very bad for about 1 Mile passed through a Town by the name of Heytsville situated 22 Miles West from Huntsville fed our team there and continued on our course opened onto another prairie continued to travel without passing a house and camped at Night at Indian Grove

Making to Day 22 Miles

Saturday 28 Left our camping ground at half past 6 with some anxiety to find some habitation for our cattle had no grain last Night and nothing but grass to eat after traveling some 4 Miles came to a house purchased some corn for 30 cts per Bushel fed our oxen and went on and arrived to the Grand river about 1 o'clock crossed on a ferry boat paid 1 Dollar went up onto a high prairie and camped for the Sabbath

Traveled to day 18 Miles

After camping we took our seine went to a small pond and drew out 7 fish Called Buffalo which weighed 1,50 lb

Sunday 29 Got up in the morning drove up our cattle and fed them and made out a good breakfast of the fish we caught last night passed off the day in reading and singing got supper and retired to rest had a very windy night with rain and hail

Monday 30

Got up Early drove up our cattle and yoked and fed them ate our breakfast gressed our waggon and started Our road to Day was through prairie except occasionally passing through strips of woodland from one 1/2

to 3/4 Mile in wiadth had the misfortain to day to break out our reach in our waggon but having toul^s and a Man to use them that obsicle was some over come we travelled to day 22 Miles passing but 2 or 3 houses and Camped on the pirarie near by a Grove where wood and water was a plenty turn out our cattle to grase fixed our waggon got supper and went to bed well sattisfied with our Days work

Tuesday May 1st

Left our camping ground at 6 oclock passed through several groves and crossed small pirarie which was thinly settled the inhabtance in this part of Missouri have a great chance to pick location without quariling We travieled 18 Miles to day and camped in a beautifull location where wood grass and water were a plenty

Wendsday May 2 When we awoke up in the morning we found it raining very hard^e it some however heald up - we drove up our teem got our breakfast and started on our road found the roads very bad so much so that we did not make much progress to day passed through a small Town by the name of Kingston the county seat of Caldwell Co and Camped 7 Miles from that place Making our Traviel to Day 15 Miles

James

Thursday May 3

Left our camping ground at 6 oclock found the roads as yesterday very muddy the country through which we passed to day more thickly populated than any we had come through for 100 Miles previous Passed by large improved farmes to Day and through some beautiful contry devided about equal as to Timber and pirarie Passed through a small Town at evening by the name of Plapsburgh it being the County Seat of Clinton County and situated on the opening of a large pirarie

went one Mile from Town and Camped for the Night having Traveled to
day 16 Miles

Friday May 4 Got up this morning after a rainy night and drove up our
cattle got our breakfast and started at 6 oclock commenced raining
sone after starting drove 2 Miles and camped to wate for more favour-
able wether wated about 2 hours stoped raining and we got up our teams
and started the roads to day were oncommon bad frequently being hub dea
in mud Purchased 3 Bus of corn for which we paid 2/ per Bus Crossed
one pirarie on which we saw a number of carkeses on inquiring learned
they were Government propity and that nearly 1175 Mules had starved to
Death During the passed winter We camped to day at half passed 3
oclock within 16 Miles of St Joseph After traveling 12 Miles

*12 1/2
more* ✓ Satterday May 5 Had a wet unplesent Night arose this morning Early
got up our team and ate our breakfast and left our camping ground at
6 oclock for St Joseph found the roads very bad to day on account of
the fall of raigh more or less for 3 or 4 Day and the great Emergration
for California on the roads purchased some corn to Day for 20 cts per
Bus We arived on the platt, ^{Missouri State a little north} river about 12 oclock Ferried our waggon
on a boat and swam our oxen through the river After crossing continued
on and Camped within 5 Miles of St Joseph on a bautiful Prarie where
we saw the smoke of the camp fires in all direction and it looked like
a number of small villages at a Distance

Traveled to Day 11. Miles

Sunday May 6 Got up this morning found our team got breakfast and
drove to St Joseph to join the man who went by the way of St Lewis
found him camped about one mile from town and indead it was to us a
sight to behold we could compare the emmergration to nathin but a

traviling city As near as we could learn there was near 1500 California
teems in and about this place there is 2 ferry boats constantly
playing acrost the river and have been for several days yet the streets
are literally jamed full of waggon so that there is no probibility
that we can cross for several Days we gased on this picture of
emergration untill our eyes were satisfided and we retired to our
waggon to rest Traveled to day 5 Miles

Monday 7 Arose after a comfortable nights rest got our breakfast
then onloaded our waggon for the purpos of taking off the projection
and make them narrow put them on with 5 inch projection Went to Town
to see what the prospect was for crossing found the street full of
teems for 20 rods back from the ferry went to our camp and retired
to rest

Asketive

Tuesday 8 To day E B Lewis Maid an Exaltry and ironed it off
Shortened the reach got our waggon together and put on our load for
the purpos of leaving the first oppertunerty we had to cross the
river on Weandsday we moved our teem to the ferry but did not get
acrost untill Friday the 11th after crossing we traveled 6 Miles
through timber land which constituted the Missouri bottom after
crossing the bottom we came onto the Missouri planes we camped in
company with about 50 waggons and for the first time we looked
back upon United States we had now crossed the line of civilization
and entered upon the country belonging to the Red men of the forest.
our object was now to get in company with the Wisconsin teem for the
purpos of organising to cross the wiles of America

Satterday May 12 We for the firs time last night drove up our cattle
tied them to stakes driven into the ground to garde them H Devendorff

took the first watch E B Lewis the second and B Grogg the third which
To day we remaned in our camping place having the Misfortune to break
the king bolt to our waggon [□] last night H Devendorff went back to
St Joseph to get it mended returned about 3 oclock we were joined
to day with 4 [?] Southport teems they camped near to us for the night

May 13 Got up this morning grased our cattle and yoked them up and
started for the purpose of joining the Millwaukie Company which had
camped about 10 Miles distance. The contry through which we passed
to day was very uneven we arived to the Millwaukie camping ground
about 12 oclock turned out our teem and camped for the day

Travieled to Day 10 Miles

May 14th Commenced raining about 4 oclock and rained very harde untill
9 oclock at which time we got up our cattle and started in company with
the Millwaukie emergration the country through we passed to was pirarie
very rolling crossed Wolf Creek and came to a Indian Mision field
5 Miles from that place To day for the first time we saw the Red Man
in his one cuntry We camped to night nere by the Mision field and on-
yoked our cattle and turned them lose to grase got supper and went
to bed 18 Miles to day

May 15 Left our camping ground about 7 oclock before leveing a vote
of the Milwaukie company to receive us into their ranks was taken and
carried to a man We then proceded on our days work Our traviels
to day was intirely through pirarie occationly coming in sight of a
small grove the land is beautifully situated for farming with rich
soil we was highly entertaned through the day by the large amount
of emergration which was constantly heaving in sight as we travieled
on our way We had the curiosity to day to see a Wolf which some of

the men of our company went after but did not succede in getting.
We camped to night 1/2 Mile off of our roade by a grove it being the only timber we could see in any direction

May 16 Left our camping place at 8 oclock and proceded on our road our traviels to day as yesterday was through pirarie being so extensive as not to permit us to see the timber which serrouned it soil good and land slightly rolling we could see carivans to day more then a day travel ahead of us A pay Master General passed is [sic] to day from which we drew some usefull instruction so far as ~~regis~~ *regard* our safty while traveling through the country of the Red men First in relation to the manner in which they made and atact Second the manner in which they were armed This Man was and offerser in and army of solgers which was on there way to Orogen the number of solgers was about one thousand teems 680 - we were in advance of them about 30 Miles We camped to Night on rise of ground Maid a currell of our waggons, and picked our tents on the inside turned our cattle out to grase got our supper prepared our armes according to the Captains orders set the garde and retired to rest

May 17 left our camping ground about 7 oclock the rout to day as yesterday continued through open pirarie occationly passing small groves of timber at a Distance Camped to night on a small stream called the Nimehang ~~Est~~ *p Nemahaw*

May 18 Conclided this morning to Cross the river and camp for the perpos of wating for teems which were behind did so they came up with us about noon we did not leve our camping place untill morning

on account of the Distance to water which was 20 Miles After the evening watch was set and the evening nearly spent by the merry sound of the viol and unusual alarm was given by the firing of a gun in the direction which the heard was grasping Every Man was ready immediately to proceed with arms in hand to meet what ever might make its appearance when the which were hailed the cry was all is well It turn out to be the reports of a gun from another camp not far from us in that direction

May 19 After getting our breakfast the teams were yoked and preparation made for starting We left our camping place at 6 o'clock this morning for the purpose of getting to water which we supposed was 20 Miles distant from us but we were disappointed when we found a plenty of water, and wood for fire Every 2 or 3 Miles our course continued to day as for several days before through prairie quite rolling with a rich soil very well watered and wood more plenty then for some distance back we camped to night on a small brook where we found excellent feed for our cattle got our suppers and talked over incidents that had transpired through the day and went to bed

Sunday May 20 The Captain concluded that as we had spent Friday previous in resting we had better travel to day accordingly the teams were got in readiness and we left our camping place at 7 o'clock. We passed through beautiful country to day the face of it was generally a little rolling mostly prairie occasionally passing a small ^rove and water quite frequently Our roads have for some

| time been very good however to day it has been quite rainy which
| maid it some unplesent we camped at half passed 5 oc on high ground
| with wood and water plenty and the wind blowing like zeprie

Monday May 21

Left our camping ground this morning at 7 oclock after an advance of 5 Miles we came to the Big Blue river found the water so deep that we were obliged to raise our waggon bed to prevent the water from coming in contact with our provision the train got over safe and was on their way in the corse of half an hour this stream is about 8 rods wide quick current Our traviel to day was on pirarie passing occationly small groves with water concealed beneath there shaid we camped to night about 1 Miles from our road where wood and water was plenty Mr Grogg had been making a tente which we raised to night for the first time to sleep in found it very comfortable our travieles were on an everage from 16 to 18 Miles per day

Tuesday May 22 Left our camping ground at 7 oclock found our roads to day very good pirarie generally with groves at a distance water very scarce. this morning we headed a large train extending about 3 Miles it was a sight to be seen we crossed a small Brook and camped about 1 Mild from it at 4 oclock on account of one of the ✓ company who was taken with a severe atact of colory drew the waggons up in form of a corell and had him in a tent the Doctor maid every effort and got him more comfortable some set up to take care of him through the night and the rest retired to rest We camped near by the grave of a young man that had been killed by being throne from a waggon

May 23 This morning we mourn the loss of Capt Bevins who was taken sick yesterday expired at 1 o'clock in the morning his loss will undoubtedly be felt throughout the company the spirit which he has manifested has been that of benevolence the services were as follows after the corps were carried to the grave a short discourse was read by the secretary of the company and prayer by A F Lewis he was then interred but not without tears shed over his grave that did witness our sorrow of his departure. The company then proceeded to get the teams in readiness to leave our camping ground started at 1/2 past 7 o'clock our road lead us through very uneven country which was prairie water and wood quite scarce however as much as we wanted for our use we crossed a small creek and camped about 3 Miles from it on the prairie having taken wood and water with us Our travel to day about 18 Miles

May 24 We left our camping ground at half past 7 o'clock our road continued through an open country soil not so good grass poor very poor water face of the country uneven had some rain to day. saw several buffalo skulls laying on the ground Elk horn quite frequently for some distance back We entered to day into the country of the Pawnees Tribe and it was necessary for us to use great care to prevent them from stealing them (cattle) we shut them up in a corral made with our waggon we camped to night by a small creek found good grass but poor water Traveled to Day 20 Miles

May 25 Left our camping ground at 1/2 past 7 o'clock the most part of the country through which we passed to day was beautifully situated on the banks of the Little Blue river the Soil is rich the banks of

the stream are lined with timber consisting principally of Poplar and Oak The bottoms are about 3/4 Mile wide surrounded with high Bluffs We traveled to day 20 Miles and camped on the bank of little Blue where we found water plenty and grass quite good

May 26 Left our camping ground at 7 o'clock in the midst of several large companies the train extended about 2 or 3 Miles we drove in company until noon when they stopped to graze and we passed them and turned out our teams and let them graze one hour and started The country through which we passed to day was very rough some part and other parts good we camped to night on the banks of the Little blue
Traveled to Day 20 Miles

May 27 Sunday There seemed to be some dissatisfaction on the parts of the minority of our company as to the propriety of traveling to day we had been favoured with good roads all the week and had made upwards of a ^{or} hundred ^{or} Miles and it was but reasonable that our team should rest and the men also stood in need of rest but the majority ruled so there was no other way but to go in contradiction to the constitution by which we professed to be governed and also to transgress the laws of God which some of us hold as still more sacred We left our camping ground at 8 o'clock and traveled the forenoon on the banks of the Little Blue and stopped to feed and rest then started and drove 5 Miles and camped at 4 o'clock near by a small creek [□] the most part of our travels to day was through level country good soil no timber
Traveled to day 15 Miles to day had an opportunity to send a letter to our friends by some fur traders who were going to St Joseph being 250 Miles from that place.

Monday May 28 Left our camp this morning at 7 o'clock but made very

slow progress on account of 2 large tranes which were camped nere us and. were under way at the same time the Trane extended about 3 Miles with occationally the star sprangled was sent aloft to sepperate the differant companies naught was heard but the looing of Cattle the word of Command given by the offercers or the sound of the horn. The country through which we passed to day was leviel without wood or water we camped within 16 Miles of the Platt to Night

May 29 Left our camp this morning at 1/2 passed 6 oclock which was situated on the east side of a ridg of bluffs which surrounded the bottom of the Platte after we left the bluffs we came onto the planes which were as leviel as the floor we got to the Platte in travieling about 9 Miles travieled to in the afternoon about 8 Miles and camped at 5 oclock on a beautiful spot in our frunt stands Fort Carney and the Platte on the East and South we were surrounded with high bluffs and on the West was spread out the broad plain the end of which the eye was not able to see. we saw to day the Elk the Deer and the Antelope bounding over the broad spread plains

May 30 On account of the last nights rain we did not leve our camp untill 8 oclock our road lay along the valley of the platte from 1 to 3 Miles from the river the face of the cuntry is leviel but soil poor or rather sandy Water can be obtaned by diging from 3 to 5 ft on this part of the plains, no wood can be procured except from the ilands in the river We camped to night about 1 Mile from the river with out wood or water procured water by diging got wood from the river

Travieled to day 16 Miles

May 31 Left our camping ground this morning at 7 oclock the wind blew cold with apperance of rain commence raining about 9 oclock had frequent showers during the day On account of an oversight on the part of the Captain we left our road which lay back near the bluffs on high land and taking the river road we found very hard traveling and after finding our mistake endeavored to cross the flat to get to the other road On account of the softness of the ground because of rain several teams got set which made it very unpleasant for during the time it rained very hard we did not succeed in reaching the road to day and camped on wet ground which made it rather an unpleasant lodging place being all well we attributed it to one of the misfortunes of the journey and passed it off in good spirits The platte from where we first struck it varies in width from $3/4$ to $1\ 1/4$ Mile quite shallow water very midy current quick

Traveled to day 10 Miles

June Friday 1 Left our camping ground at half passed 6 oclock and after striking the main traveled road we made good progress our road as in days passed lay up the valley of the Platte it is a beautiful country the same range of bluffs lying on the south we saw the Antelope and the prairie dog to day in addition to the great trane of Emmergration in our front and rear Islands lay along up the river densely covered with timber we camped to night within one Mile of the river After Traveling 20 Miles

June 2 Left our camping place at 7 oclock continued our course up the valley of the Platte and camped after traveling 18 Miles on the banks of the river no wood excepting small brush which we procured on the side of the bank of the river

Sunday June 3 This morning a vote was taken to see whether a majority were in favour of resting to day found a majority of 4 accordingly we give our clothing a good airing and washed our dirty clothes as we had no other opportunity excepting on the Sabbath

June 4 Got up this morning and found one of our Mess quite unwell. Namely Mr Rogers his complaint seemed to be on account of a fowl stomach he had a pain in his head attended with considerable fever after breakfast fixed a bed in the waggon and started with the company traveled until 9 o'clock found him so much worse we were obliged to stop for the purpose of giving him rest and also to give medicine to relieve pain started again at 12 o'clock for the purpose of overtaking the company stopped during the afternoon one hour to give him rest and came up with the company sun about 1/2 hour high The wind blew very hard to day and the numerous carriages raised so much dust as to make it very unpleasant traveling our road lay up the valley of the plateau to day hemmed in with the same range of bluffs on the one hand and the river on the other

Traveled to day 19 and 1/2 Miles by Chain

June 5 We started this morning under different circumstances than usual. for the company which we had been connected with had dissolved and every Mess turned loose on their own hook The reason was some thought we drove too fast some too slow some was not suited with the time they drove so of course every man this morning left when he got ready and drove to suit himself we drove 17 Miles to day camping Near a part of the company however our tent was set alone the country through to day similar to that of several days back Mr Rogers was better to day but quite tired riding

June 6 Left our camping place this morning 1/2 passed 6 oclock had a very heard rain through the night and found the road very soft this morning we were some obliged to stop however on account of rain it commenced raining about 9 oclock we lay still untill 12 we then continued on our coarse and camped after traveling 15 Miles within 2 Miles of the forde on the Platte whare we crossed the South fork distance from Fort Kerney 100 Miles and from St Joseph 428 Miles.—
Traveled 15 Miles to day

June 7 Left camp 1/2 passed 6 ocl went 2 Miles and crossed the South Branch of the Platte about 20 Miles from the frks the river was 3/4 Mile in width and water from 12 to 18 inches in depth we were obliged to keep our teems moving when we entered untill we arived on the oppisite shore on account of the bottom of the stream being composed of quick sand which would let the waggons down immediately on stoping after stoping a few minits we proceded on the way we had not advanced far before a bofalo was discovered which cased considerable excitement throughout the camp Eyery man grasped his rifle and ran in the direction of the gain but he some made his escape we saw from 500 to 600 Indians to day in passing through their Village they were dressed vere well as a general thing in their way ornimented with beads silver plate shells and &c we camped about 2 Miles from their villiage on the Main Platte river After Traveling 15 Miles

June 8th Left our camp this morning qr before 6 oclock we traveled along the valley of the platte 6 Miles then our road lead us up onto the range of the bluffs which lay to our left we traveled untill Night on high table land when we struck the flats on the

platte by descending upwards of 200 feet above the level of the plain and camped 5 o'clock Travel to day 18 Miles

June 9 this Morning we left camp 1/2 passed 6 o'clock had rain through the passed night and found the weather rather cold this morning our road to day lay through uneven country some of the time rising sandhills and again traveling on the river bottoms we passed Oak and Cedar Grove and camped about 1 Mile from it where the high bluffs with their rock bound sides were overhanging us and a number of Cold Springs gushed from its bases
Traveled to day 20 Miles

Sunday June 10 We remained in camp some during the day shortened there wagon beds and reaches to make the draft as easy for there cattle as possible I was busy writing a letter to send home which I had an opportunity of doing on the 11 by a man that was returning to the States from Salt Lake About 5 o'clock a party of Indians came down the river and camped within 6 rods of our tents they were very friendly but we thought best to lock out for them so the cattle was either tied with ropes or shut in the corral

Monday June 11th Left our camp at 6 o'clock weather fine after rain through the night traveled one Mile and ascended the bluffs and struck across to Ash hollow a distance of 4 Miles from our camping place we then wound our way down its sandy bed one Mile and arrived to the platte bottoms again our trail laying at the foot of the rock bound bluffs which were in height from 2 to 300 ft above the surface of the plains having the appearance at a distance of being some Ancient fortification Our road to day was very heavy

-20-

having to draw through sand from 4 to 10 inches deep we travel
to day 17 Miles and camped on the river where the mosquitoes were
ready to take possession of us and all we possessed

Tuesday June 12 Left our camp at 6 o'clock roads very sandy at 9
o'clock commenced raining very hard continued to rain until 1/2
passed 11 moved on at 12 o'clock continued our course as we had
done along the range of bluffs grass to day as a general thing
quite good we were in company to day with several trains and
camped at 5 o'clock soon after camping we had a very hard shower
attended with unusual sharp lightning and loud thunder Our
travel to day was 16 Miles our camp was to the right of a cedar
grove which was distant from us some 4 or 5 Miles on highland

June 13 Left camp this morning at 6 o'clock our roads quite wet on
account of the last night rain during the forenoon found the country
quite uneven passed Pine Grove situated to the right about 4 o'clock
came in sight of the Solitary Tower and Chimney Rock supposed to be
distant 30 Miles Camped at 5 o'clock After traveling 18 Miles

June 14 Left camp this morning 1/2 passed 5 o'clock a part of the
company left the train to visit the Solitary Tower we found the
grass very wet with dew which made it quite unpleasant traveling ☐
the distance which we had to travel was about 9 Miles we performed
the walk in 2 hours and a half we shot one antelope on the way ☐
crossed Spring Creek which is situated about 80 rods from said Tower ☐
The Tower is situated on high ground without any other bluffs near
by the Elevation is between 6 and 800 ft above the level of the

Platte we had some difficilty in making the ascent but by the help of holes cut in the side of the bank we succeeded in reaching the top [we found the names of many of the emigrants carved on the face of this Solitary Tower and some as far back as 1846 we left our names ingraved on its surface after our curiosity was satisfide we set out on our return to the train which had made considerable advance on the road we came up with them after they had turned the cattle lose to grase at noon we were very tired and glad to rest after 2 hours we started for Chimney Rock which was in sight but some ways ahead whare we stoped this noon was a young man buered who had died of Colary during the afternoon we overtook a company who were burying another of the same disceas he was an old, man, and had left a famaly of six children in the states and was going to California in hopes to better his circumstances We camped to Night within 1 Mile of Chimny rock there has been on our left during the after part of the day high bluffs

Travieled to day 18 Miles

June 15th Left Camp at 6 oclock & stoped to take a view of the Chimney Rock this is a natural curiosity the base is formed in the shape of a moune ascending up to the highth of 100 ft then comes on the Chimney which is in surcunferance one way 10 ft and about 20 ft the other way and ascends as near as we can estimate it 90 ft [it is composed of Clay and sand mixed and so dried as to make it like soft stone or chalk [I carved my Name on the surface of the rock, and overtook the teems at 11 oclock [we camped at noon oppisite the Corthous a monument simular to the rock as far as

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material is consumed it rises from its base perpendicular about 80 ft then there is a mound located on the top that rises the same high the mound is composed of limestone I went alone to see it and when I arrived to its high I fancied I saw large and spacious Edifices but a short distance from me I cut my Name on the rock which was situated on the top left camp at 1 o'clock traveled a short distance and left the river to strike across the bluffs which was 15 Miles to the river we camped after traveling 20 Mile opposite Scotts bluffs

June 16 We did not leave camp this morning as early as usual on account of our stopping last night where we had not water and two of the company left camp to go to the river after water for coffee for the company the distance was 5 Miles we started at 7 o'clock after driving 8 Miles we found water for our cattle also a good Spring of cold water for our use we fed our teams got a bite to eat There was a small trading post here a blacksmith shop and grocery I went to see the manner which the Sioux Tribe bury their dead, it is to weave a basket in which to lay the dead by using hoops similar to a barrel hoop and placing them a proper distance apart they were with buckskin so as to make them very strong then they fix in a buffalo robe in which the corpse is laid and covered with another it is then fixed permanent in the top of a tree with cord fastening it to the limbs We saw this noon the black hills one of the peaks of the rocky Mountains We camped to night near horse creek about 1 Miles from the crossing after driving 20 Miles found good grass to remain over Sabbath

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Sunday June 17 remained in camp I attended preaching for the first time since I left Savanna some of the company were buisy shortning their waggons beds and others airing their goods and buisy bakeing

June 18 Left camp at 6 oclock our road to day some part of it was good and other parts very sandy we struck the platte after travieling 14 Miles from the place of our morning camp drove 2 Miles and camped near its bank. the cuntry through we pased to day was quite unevene the platte is sprinkled with island which were partialy covered with small whitewood whare we camped wood and grass were good

June 19 Left Camp at 6 oclock the face of the cuntry rough and the road sandy we camped at noon on Spring Creek 8 Miles from Larima ^(Larima ways) river. started at one oclock got to the river at 5 oclock found the streem deaper than usual with a very strong current water 3 ft deep ☐ we crossed and camped one Mile from the forde and nere by fort Larima. This Fort is oned by the American fur Company there is a small trade carried on here but they deal mostly in furs which are sent to the States There are ni Solgers stationed here at present but some camped wating for a government train to come up which is behind some 2 Days traviel they are bound to Origon for the purpos of building a fort on bear river which is inhabited by a Warlike tribe of Indans who trasspass upon the rights of the white inhabi- tance which are settled there We found quite a number of Emergnants disposing of there waggon and packing through on Mules from this place We had an oppertuneity of sending letter to our friends who live in the States by paying 10 cts apiece June 20th Left our camp at 7 oclock stoped a short time at the fort then proceded on

our journey we here left the platt our course lay across in the direction of the Black hills the face of the country very uneven soil poor and more weeds than grass during the afternoon our road lay along the base of rock bound bluffs which were slightly timbered with Cedar and pitch pine we passed the warme spring which gushes forth forming a stream sufficiently large to supply the Emergrants and their cattle with water we camped about 2 Miles from it on a rolling prairie Making our travel to day 14 Miles

June 21st Left Camp at 7 oclock crossed the prairie on which we camped which was 4 1/2 Miles 4 Miles from camp we passed the porter rock descended a long hill and struck the Bitter water Creek crossed it during the day several times found Springs of cold water in abundance the Country very uneven our road lay through the valley between high ranges of bluffs and was most of the time very good excepting occasionally short pieces of gravel of coble stone we camped at 5 oclock after traveling 16 Miles

June 22 Left camp at 6 oclock our travel to day was over hills and through valleys sand from 4 to 6 inch deep and a mixture of coble stone which made it very hard wheeling we camp at 11 oclock on Horseshoe Creek near by hebers springs this is a beautiful creek about 20 ft wide and from 12 to 18 inches deep it is well timbered with cottonwood. Some during the day washed their cloths and others were shoeing their cattle We found the grass very poor however on account of the distance to water from that place we concluded to stay in camp untill the following day traveling to day 10 Miles

June 23rd This morning we left camp at 1/2 passed 5 oclock with

a stretch of 18 Miles without grass or water our road to day was indeed mountainous with some stone it was most impossible some time to find sufficient rope at the top of the mountains to keep the waggon still to lock the wheel we camped after traveling 18 Miles On the ^{Caliente} Labou[n?]te without grass but had good water

Ju 24th Sunday We were obliged on account of the scarcity of grass to travel to day since yesterday morning we have been traveling through a barren wast without grass and water scarce and but little wood. the country is throne up into mountains the face of which is covered with wild sage amonets which mirieds of grass hoppers and crickets swarm the last named grow from 1 to 2 inches in length and 1/2 inch through there body the soil which composed the country through which we pass in the forenoon was of a copper color or red the roads was very dusty so much so that it was imposible some of the time to see the forward yoke of cattle Our road in the afternoon was a light clay we camped to night (after traveling all day without grass or water) on a small creek by the name Al[?]erpereal which had a small groth of underbruch in which we turned our cattle to brows Traveled to day 19 1/2 M

June 25th Left Camp at 6 oclock after driving 5 1/2 Miles we camped to give our cattle a chance to feede for we had not found any grass for three days previous we found a little patch and a fine spring we staed untill 1/2 passed 1 oclock and then resumed our journey after traveling 3 1/4 Miles we crossed a stream by the name of Fourche Boise 30 ft wide 2 ft deep curent rapid good Timber on its banks 4 Miles we struck the North fork of

June 26 Left camp at 6 oclock drove 3 1/2 Miles and camped on deer creek about 40 rods from whare it emptied into the Platte ☐ we was beautifully situated in a grove with a good spring of water near by Our company had been detained on account of shoeing their oxen so that we said in camp expecting when the Co came that they would conclude to crosse the Platte They arived to our place and camped in the afternoon arangements were made to ferry the next day by paying 14/ per waggon Grass was very poor for several Miles around There is an extencive bed of Stone coal 1/2 Mile abouve our camp

June 27 This morning we were up in good season got breakfast and had our teems in readiness at the river for crossing Commence at 8 oclock and at 12 oclock our waggons were all ferried over and cattle swam acrosst the river we hitch on and were under way at one oclock having had good luck and a plenty of fun during the opperation after travieling 4 Miles we camp for the Night having found better feed to night then for 2 day previous however rather ppor at that

June 28th Left camp at 7 oclock it take us longer this morning to get our cattle yoked on account of there being mixked with other hurds which were graseing nere we found the roads very heavy to day on account of sand which was from 4 to 6 inches deep there was one buffalo and one atelope killed by our company to day which gave us all a fine dich of fresh meat We passed some very extencive coal mines and camped on the platt at Night in a small grove but found but very little grass We travieled to day 14 Miles

29th Left camp at 6 oclock found very heavy roads and hills to mountain high we saw toads to day with horns which was quite a curiosity to us we left the platte river to day for good and camp to night about 5 Miles from it we was obliged to drive our cattle to the river for water and found good grass there

June 30 Left camp at 1/2 passed 7 oclock we were obliged to make a great days drive on account of our passing through the alcaly country and to make it more unplesent for our cattle we could not turn them loos to grase or give them water to drink we counted upward of 30 head of cattle to day which had died on account of drinking this water our roads were very good to day we passed extencive coal mines and camped on willow creek

We travieled to day 25 Miles

Sunday July 1st We found no feed whare we camped last night and started before 5 oclock this morning in hopes to find some grass for our cattle before driving far we found it by driving 5 Miles ☐ camped nere a small streem about 1/2 Mile to the left of the road The countr[y] is as it has been mountaineous and barren producing nothing of account except wild sage which groes in an abundence Travel to day 5 Miles

July 2nd Left camp at 7 oclock found heavy roads during the forenoon but better in the after part of the day passed several alcaly lakes grass very poor camped to Night on the bank of the Sweetwater nere by Indipendence rock this rock coveres some 20 achors and is in high 40 yard it is composed of grammit a great meny which have passed by this rock have left their names carved on

its base The Sweetwater where we crossed it was 5 rods wide and 3 ft deep quick curent We travielerd to day 16 Miles

July 3 Left camp this morning at 1/2 passed 7 oclock followed up the valay of the Sweetwater saw considerable alcaly dried on the surface of the ground soil sandy mountains on eather side composed of rock similar to the Indipendence rock 5 Miles from camp brought us to the Devils Gate a place whare the water of the Sweetwater forces its way through the mountain the passage is from 20 to 60 feet and walls rise perpendsckuler on eather side 400 ft This was a grate natural curiosity to us I went through it by clanbering over rocks ☐ we found good feed and camped at noon on the river bottoms during the day. during the afternoon we had an oppertuneity of exploring the rocky mountains with there snow caps and found it very interesting and curious to us We are now in the rocky Mountains

Travielerd to day 8 Miles

July 4 We did not leve camp untill 1/2 passed 12 oclock we found good feed and concluded to stop and let our cattle rest It being the 4 day of July we though of home and the many days of the like we have spent in the richest enjoyment but we are now under differant circumstances Instead of the roaring of the Cannon and the beating of the drum we rest under the shadow of the Rocky Mountains whare God has dispaidd himself in the works of Creation and in the country of the red men and beyound the bouns of civuliseation whare nothing is heard (aside from the Emergrants) but the houling of the bastis of prey We passed away the time in a way that was highly entertaining to us In the mornning a Sallute was fired from the camp we then left in companes to explore the Mountains the company which I was

with ascended the highest peak we had a delightful proctpect of the surrounding country on the North extended a range of Mountains with a leviel plain at its base in which is several alcaly lakes On the East extends the range upon which we was for about 2[?] Miles 2 Miles from this is the Indipendence rock we could see trams of Emergration for day traviel in our rear on the South the Sweetwater occupied a plesent valey of 6 Miles in width then arose the Rocky Mountains with its Snowy Cap On the west we could see the hugh mountain throne up even to the clouds showing its banks of snow We fired several rounds with the 6 Shooter and returned to camp at 11 oclock and partock of a good dinner and amongts the other luckeries was a supply of fruit cake made in Millwaukie for the occation we had our teems ready to start at 1/2 pass 12 oclock amidst the firing of Guns and the hurrah of the company we camped after travieling 12 Miles on the river bottoms the evening was spent in the firing of 6 shooters and Guns and singing songs and drinking tosts this is the most lively Celibration that I ever attended

July 5 Left camp at 6 oclock here the roade leves the river and stricks it again at the distance of 8 Miles We camped here for the day found good feed Some ocupied the balance of the day in washing their cloths some were out on hunting excurtion while others were climing the Mountains I ascended the highest Peak nere and could see the snowing mountains before us or on eather side A number of learge trains of waggons passed us this afternoon The distance from this place through the South pass is 7.5 Miles The country through here is the same as it has been for weeks passed barren produceing nothing but wild sage excepting on the river bottoms whare we find

some grass also in ravins made by the washing of water from the mountains

Traveled to day 8 Miles

July 6 Left camp at 6 oclock Saw a man (by profesion a Mormon) bound for the Salt Lake with a flock of sheep found the road sandy however quite good we forded the river 3 times to day and found the Middle ford very bad we camped after driving two miles from ford. found good grass and wood suffitient for cooking perposes Traveled to day 13 Miles

July 7 Left camp at 6 oclock which was nere the 2 fords here the road leves the river for the distance of 8 Miles we camped after crossing the forde 8 Miles from our morning camp found rather poor feed for our cattle and concluded to remain in camp untill evening then to hitch up and to make a drive of 16 Miles which ley between this ford and the next place we struck the river. this drive we had to perform without Grass or water We left our Evening camp at 7 oclock drove untill 12 oclock at Night then let our cattle rest in the yoke 2 hours then started on and arived at the river a short time after sunrise found midileng feed and camped for the Sabbath which was the 8th The heat of the sun diring the middle of the day is very oppressive and frequently freeses ice 1/4 inch in thickness during the night We were in the vicinity of the wind river Mountains wether it was the occation or not at all events the wind blew a perfect haricane so as to almost render it imposible to keep our tents standing several were blown down and some badly torn on account of being up last night we found sleep very agreeable to day and occupied most of the day in that way Traveled on Satergay night 16 Miles

July 9 Left camp this morning at 7 oclock and forded river on which we was camped and travielerd 3 1/2 Miles and forded the river again we camped 5 Miles from last ford nere whare the road leves the river making our traviel to day 8 1/2 Miles our road to day has been considerable stony and uneven with a cloud of dust beating us in the face occationed by the blowing of the wind. all things considered we call it an unplesent days drive found grass rather better than common and water right at hand with wood.

July 10 Left camp at 7 oclock after traveling 1 1/2 Miles we left the river our road ascended high rocky bluffs requiring great care to prevent breaking our waggons we drove 9 Miles and camped for noon on Strawberry Creek after one hour rest started found the road better this afternoon travielerd 4 miles and crossed a branch of the Sweetwater found banks of snow here 10 ft deap and eat of it we camped 2 Miles from that foudn on willow creek within sight and 14 Miles of the South Pass our traviel to day is 15 Miles

July 11th Left camp at 8 oclock a sad affair took place just as we left a Man with 6 lb of powder and several bunches of matches tied in a hankerchief was walking when it fell from his arm to the grownd ☐ the matches ignited as he was ^{started} stoped to pick it up He was burned very bad but it was thought would recover. 4 1/2 Miles from camp brought us to a branch of the Sweetwater 3 rods wide 2 ft deep ☐ stoped to rest our teem 8 Miles from camp without grass or water 8 Miles further brought us to the dividing ridg which seperates the water that flows into the Atlantic from those that make there way into the pacific making us in time just 2 Months from the time we

crossed the river at St Joseph 2 Miles from the ridg brought us to the pacific Spring 1 1/2 Miles brought us to pacific creek upon which we camped found good grass and water Our travel to day was 19 1/2 Miles

July 12 Left camp at 7 oclock and with it the snow cap Mountains our ~~road~~ to day lay across a plain 22 Miles in extent with neither grass or water we camped on the bank of the Little Sandy This Stream is 2 rods wide 2 1/2 ft deep quick current To day and 4 Miles back from our camp we struck the forks of the road one going by the way of Fort bridges the other taking Sublets cut-off Here we spent some time in consulting to see which rout we would take it was finally settled by two men chosen by the Co. we took the cut-off ☐ it is calculated by going this rout that we gain 5 days travel however there is a distance of 35 Miles to be traveled without wood water or grass

July 13th Remained in camp untill 11 ocl then started for the purpos of making Big Sandy river which was 6 Miles distance this brought us to the long drive we stoped to recrute our cattle found good feed by driving our cattle 5 Miles from camp The country since we left the pass has been a wild wast producing nothing but wild sage excepting on the narrow bottoms of the rivers which is all the Emergrants dependence upon for feed for his cattle I made a yoke this afternoon for one yoke of the oxen one having been to short for them to work easy in ☐ our teams are in good condition full as good as when we left home however hundreds of cattle are laying dead by the road side Travel to day 6 M

July 14th We lay in camp intill 3 oclock for the purpos of recruting our cattle for the long drive we had before us. we had the cattle ready and left the river at qr passed 3 oclock drove untill 11 oclock at night and stoped 2 hours started again and drove untill 6 oclock in the morning stoped 2 hours and continued our march and arived at the river at 1/2 passed 4 oclock our teams were in a famishing condition for the want of water The road has (as we ascertained after ariving at this place) been masured 3 time during the last week with the road meter and distance found to be 51 1/3 Miles across this desert producing no grass of account and destitute intirely of water ☐ We furnished our cattle with from 1 to 3 qurts of water this we brought with us from big sandy We were disappointed when we learned that we had to ferry over this streem (the Green river) this river is from 6 to 10 ft deep and 18 rods wide we camped on its bank on the evening of 15th found no feed for our cattle to night

July 16th Found good feed for the cattle by driving them 4 Miles remained in camp to day arangement were made to crossed the river ☐ the price is \$4.00 per waggon and swim the cattle. We expect to cross tomorrow I was on gard last night the distance from camp prevented me from reaching camp untill 10 oclock I found Mr Grogg very sick with what is turmed the Mountain fever he had severe pain in his head back and bowels we had a Docter to him During the afternoon he got some easzer by rubing him with cayenne pepper and alcahall

July 17 This morning we found Mr Grogg some better so much so that we started with the company at 8 oclock to drive to the ferry a distance of one mile decended a very steep hill was obliged to

chain both back wheels found several trains at the ferry when we arrived but having registered our train we were detained but a very short time Our waggons were all over at 1/2 passed 12 oclock we then swam over the cattle which took some little time on account of the swiftness of the current and the depthe of water we camped after crossing on account of the distance to water and the sick another having been taken sick to day by Name of Mc Chorter The Lutenent from the Government train distance 3 days back has been with our train for 2 days this afternoon an Express was brought from Oregon City to his train he took it and proceded to the train with all hast ☐ The express was brought by a half bread accompened by a full blood Indian they came through from Oregon City to this place In 31 days killed and tired out 29 Horses he received a compencation of \$10.00 per day but no one could find out at present the contence of the express all however conjectured trouble between Foreners and Americans in California and that these troops had been ordered to that place some 300 head of work cattle was on the way to ascist them.

Our traviel to day was 1 1/2 [sic] Mile and we went to bed tired

July 18 Left our camping place 7 oclock our road lay along the river for 4 Miles some part of this distance was very uneven and stony we then left the river 2 Miles brough us to a ^{circultus} ~~sinuatus~~ round in the road to avoid a high mountain our road for 4 Miles was very uneven we then struck a branch of Green river on which we found grass very plenty we camp after travieling 4 Miles on the banks of the streem ☐ our traviel to day is 14 Miles

July 19th Left camp at 6 oclock found a very uneven and rough road

to day came down several steep mountain brook our draw bolt making one decent passed a number of spring brooks to day and camped at night near a spur of Freemonts Peak

Traveled to day 21 Miles

July 20 Left camp this morning at 6 ocl found the face of the country uneven and roads quite stony occationly a bank of snow laying by our path we camped at noon on a beautiful stream of water and found the best of grass. Groves of Norway pine are intersperced through this part of our travel we camped at night after traveling 20 Miles on a high ridg of land with a grove in our frunt and a beautiful spring of water near by. Thair is a good soil of land here and grass groes in abundance

July 21 Left camp at 6 oclock 2 Mile brought us to the worst decent which we had made on account of its length and steepness accompened with stone in fact our road to day was the most of the way over hills and through vallies we struck the bear river bottoms about 3 oclock and found a good road to our camping place which was on one of the forks of this river called Thomases fork myself and two others left the train at thare noon camp and struck across to the bear river (distance about 4 Miles) for the purpos of catching some fish So that we did not get to camp intill after dark having to travel 10 Miles after striking the river we camped here for the sabbath, after traveling 18 Miles

Sunday July 22 Slept rather late on account of our terisome days travel yesterday got some breakfast done up some cooking washed some cloths spent some time in reading and sleeping and so passed the time

away [the valley of Bear river is from 2 to 5 Miles wide and abounds with grass of different kinds the river is some 5 rods wide 3 ft deep water rily the country through which we have been traveling for several days is well watered with springs pure and cold The bear river mountains so called from the great amount of bear caught here are situated on the south side of the streem the top of which is covered with snow We are having a cold rain this afternoon attended with heavy thinder. all however are snugly camped

July 23 Left camp at 6 oclock this morning our road for 1 Mile was very rocky winding around the base of a high mountain nere which we was camped we then struck the bare river bottoms again and found a beautiful road the remander of the day occationly crossing spring runs which made in the mountains This bottom has grass in great abundance suffitient for all the emergration that probibly will ever cross the plains 10 of the Snake Tribe were in camp this afternoon wareing the gard of beggers rather then traders we camped on Smiths fork a branch of bare river after traviling 16 Miles

July 24 We left our beautiful camping place this morning at 7 oclock [our road for the forepart of the day was extreemly Mountainous and rocky we made the ascents without much difficulty but in decending we found it most imposible with both hind wheels chained to keep the waggon from pressing the oxen beneath its load we camped to grase our cattle at noon on bear river bottoms started after 2 hours rest our road this afternoon has been been along the valley of the river and has been good A great abundence of grass grows here [The trout fill the streem and springs of pure cold water gush from the base of the Mountains We passed through a Snake village to day

of some 12 Lodges in it and camped after traveling 19 Miles on a branch of Bear river 2 Miles from its mouth

July 25 Left camp at 6 oclock we have had a good road to day our travel has been up the valey of the river Mountains on eather side with there snowy tops we crossed several small streems which rise in the mountains to our right and empty into the bear river we traveled 18 Miles and camped about 3 Miles from the river caring our wood with us 1 Mile and water also

July 26 Left camp at 1/2 passed 6 oclock the cuntry through which we have traveled to day has been quite rolling however no difficult hills to clime and but a few places that required us to lock down our road ley to day from 2 to 3 Miles from the river no water except in one place whare there is a spring south of the road at which we watered our cattle. 5 Miles from our morning camp. The road strikes the river at the Soda and Steemboat Springs at which place our curiosity was highly gratified these springs are situated about 200 ~~rods~~ Miles from the South pass and about 50 Miles from fort Hall and within 20 rods of Bear river on its North side They are in a beautiful grove of cedar, and surrounded by rich valleys and plains, high rolling hills, and volcanic vales, and mountains There waters are perfectly clere and very delicious to the taste when dipping the watter from the springs the effervescence is still going on in your cup untill you place it to your lips when if you can withstand its suffocating fumes you have a most delicious draught In the vicinity of these springs there are several other soda springs which however are much less important then those I have just discribed Here them

(How deep?)

are several conical elevations about 5 or 6 feet in height in the top of which is an aperture of 6 inches in diameter from which the water gushes out. these look more like the work of art than that of Nature but they are really natural. About 100 rods below is the Steamboat Spring as it is called which discharges water and gas in the same manner but in much greater quantities and with a report quite similar to that produced by the emission of steam from the escape pipe of a steamboat hence the name Steam boat Spring. It is located on the river bank and flows from the top of a rock about 4 feet above the surface of the river. The top of the rock is in form of a tunnel some 3 feet across the top forming a hole in the center 8 inch in diameter the water spouting at intervals 3 or 4 feet above its surface. the water is warm and highly impregnated with soda. ☐ we camped to night one Mile from Steamboat spring. Traveled to day 14 Miles

July 27 Left camp at our usual time this morning roads to day good ☐ 4 Miles from camp brought us to the forks of the road one leading by the way of Fort Hall the other making a cut off and striking the main road distance by the cut off 9.3 Miles but by Fort Hall 230 or 240 Miles we took the cut off. We crossed a valley 8 Miles wide which extended from Bear river to a range of Mountains south of the ridge which separates the waters that flow into the great basin from those which flow into the Pacific ocean across this plain or valley is shown vivid traces of volcanic action. We camped to night after crossing a part of this range on a small creek made by the melting of snow on the mountains

Our travel to day is 15 Miles

July 28 Left camp at 6 oclock and commenced ascending a mountain from the foot to the top 2 Miles this being the worst of our travel to day however the road through the day has been very uneven although not what we call bad road the wind blew quite hard which raised so much dust it was very disagreeable driving We crossed the same stream we camped on about 4 Miles from camp which ran through the mountains we camped on another stream at noon to feed which was 15 yds wide and from 2 to 4 ft deep 8 Miles brought us to another creek on which we camped for the sabbath found very good grass all the way through
15 Miles to Day

July 29 Remained in camp to day I had a large washing of cloths to do to day 7 shirts 3 pair socks 1 frock 1 pr pantaloons and they were all very dirty I got through in good season and read myself to sleep after about 2 hours got supper we have had a very pleasant day after a cold night we found ice this morning in the washdish 1/8 inch thick Since we left the South pass we have as a general thing found frost in the morning

July 30 Left camp at half passed 5 oclock for the purpose of getting start of a number of Trains which were camped near us We took the lead. the train this forenoon was about 3 Miles long, our road after leaving the creek commenced raising a mountain we arrived to the summit at 10 oclock being a distance of 6 Miles some of the way quite steep struck a small creek 3 Miles from the summit of the mountain 1 Mile farther brought us to another, quite small 8 Miles brought us to another our road this afternoon has been very good we camped 1 Mile from where we crossed the last named stream found plenty of grass and that to in great abundance since we struck this cut off

The cuntry is mountanious and broken but some parts has a good soil but will never admit of cultivation the Altitude being so great that we have found frost amost every morning since we left the South pass and frequently ice Travielerd to Day 18 Miles

July 31 Left camp this morning at 6 oclock found a good road to day with the exception of 4 Miles which was rising and decending a mountain the ascent was very gradual however rather stony bpt the decent quite stony and very steep this was on our afternoons drive 6 Miles from our morning camp we came to a beautiful spring brook, ☐ it headed about 100 rods above whare we crossed it we found no mor water for the day but camped after traveling 11 Miles from the aboved named streem. Having Travielerd to day 17 Miles found good grass ☐

August 1 We had the misfortune last night to lose 15 head of cattle we hunted for them untill 8 oclock when it was thought best to start with what cattle we had and get them to water accordingly we hitch on taking all the waggons but 2 we got to watter at 1 oclock having travielerd 16 Miles we found the road tollarable good but very dusty The cattle was found on or nere our trail about 5 Miles from our morning camp they had followed a dry ravine in persuit of water but found none the men who oned them drove them through with us to water and after leting them rest 2 hours started back after there waggons This strech that we have travielerd over without water as measured by the roadometer is 27 Miles good grass the most of the way, we have good spring water to use here

Aug 2 We found the 2 waggons we left behind yesterday in camp this morning they got to camp at 2 oclock in the night We left our camp

this morning at 8 oclock found a good road to day but water very scarce 9 Miles from camp brought us to a spring of water quite small 3 Miles brought us to another very little water 7 Miles farther to a good spring which afforded water suffitient for our cattle and on which we camped for the night The country which we travieled to day has been quite mountainous but our road was winding through the valleys which made our ascents and decents very gradual Travieled to day 19 M

Aug 3 Left camp this morning at 7 oclock The Spring on which we camped ran parilell with the road after traveling 8 Miles we camped on it for the day. found a good road good grass and good water We spent the afternoon in washing and baking

Aug 4 Left camp at 6 oclock to cross a wide valey which lay before us. the streem on which we camped yesterday settled into the grownd about 100 rods below our camp our trail to day lay through a wild wast nothing growing except wild sage soul composed of a clay collered earth and very light so as to make it very dusty traveling. 14 Miles from our morning camp brought us to a fine spring of cold water which afforded a great suffitiencty for our cattle 6 Miles brought us to another creek 12 ft across it 1 foot deep current very quick we camped on it for the night we are nere whare this trail intersects the Fort Hall road distance from the head of Humbolt river

Travieled to day 20 Miles

Aug 5 Sunday On account of resting one day during the passed week it was thought best to travel a part of the time to day Left camp at 7 oclock our trail lay up the streem on which we was camped found the road quite stony to day in places and camped at 11 oclock

in a valey of the R[?]aft river after traviel 8 Miles on the same stream we was camped on this morning We found a fine lot of Clams in this stream which we caught and had a regular clambake. they were very good and answered very well for a change - Traviel to day 8 Miles -

Aug 6 Left camp at 6 oclock After traveling 3 Miles up the valey we took nerely a Southern direction leving the stream on which we was camped which I understand to be the raft river which headed in the mountains at our right 5 Miles brought us to a spring brook an which we camped 2 hours at noon had a fine shower while here it being the only rain we have had since we came through the South pass we crossed 2 other small brook during our after noon traviel and camped 2 Miles from the last one crossed without water except what we caried with us we passed a warm spring this afternoon situated one Mile East of the last stream we crossed We are camped to Night with a wide plain at our left and high mountains at our right and being within sight of the Emergration which went the Fort Bridges and Salt Lake rout which road intercets our trail 7 Miles farther on

Traviel to day 16 Miles

Aug 7 Left camp at 6 oclock our coars lay more westerdly to day our road up a valey between high mountains A great many curious peaks of rocks may be seene while passing through this valey Having the apperance at a distance of being a city with its tall spires 7 Miles brought us to whare the Salt Lake road interceted our trail crossed another ridg and entered a valey 4 Miles in exten which we also crossed this valey being 12 Miles from goose creek we passed one spring 3 Miles from our morning camp it being the onely water we cross untill we

we arrived at goose creek valey from the last named valey you go through a pass or gap in the mountains to get to goose creek valey the cuntry through to the last named valey is very mountainious and uneven we had some very stoney road this afternoon and one place we had to let our waggons down by hand (with a rope) found one place very sideling whare 3 waggons had turned over this afternoon but we got over safely we cross the rim of the Great Bacin to day It being the 4 time within 10 Days We camped to Night 3 Miles East of Goos creek on a small spring Brook at the foot of a very steep decent Travieler to day 20 Mil we had a rabbit stew for supper which was very good. wild game in this part of our traviels is very scearse

Aug 8th Left camp at 1/2 passed 5 oclock 3 Miles brought us to goose Creek which is one of the forks of Lewis river that emptys into Collumbia river we then strick up the valey of this streem finding a good road and grass and water in abundence after traveling 14 Miles we camped Making distance travieler to day 17 Miles Had a very warm day

Aug 9th Left camp at 6 oclock continued our coars up the valey 8 Miles and camped for noon 2 hours got up our teems 3 Miles brought us to whare the road leaves this streem We watered our cattle and put on through the mountain gorges and found a very rocky road for the most of our afternoons travel we camped without water except what we carried with is Making our travel to day 17 Miles We saw several hot Springs some after leveing our morning camp about 3 times that of blood heat found the country barren to day nothing

growing but wild Sage 17 Miles to day

Aug 10th Left camp this morning at 2 oclock for the porpus of reaching water before the heat of the day found a good road and arived to water at 8 oclock this is a spring brook 17 Miles from the last we left on the afternoon of the 9th. We watered our cattle and proceded on our road 5 Miles and found a good spring feed rather poor camped untill 2 oclock in the afternoon hitch up our teems and drove 7 Miles and camped 1 1/2 Miles from our trail at the left found good grass but no water except by diging which can be had 2 ft below the surface Travieler to day 19 Miles the surface of our road quite rolling with mountains on eather side We crossed the rim of the bacin last night and our traviel has been to day down Hot spring valey

Aug 11th Left camp this morning at 7 oc wether fine after a cold freezing night got watter for our cattle about 100 rods from camp from some wells which had been dug for that purpos We travieler 7 Miles in the forenoon and camped where we found good feed and dug wells for water 2 hours started again and found a beautiful road down the valey and any quantity of grass and camped after travieler 11 Miles in the afternoon distance travieler to day 18 Miles Here we see the Humbolt Mountains at our left and the ridge which seperates California from Origen at our right

Sunday Aug 12 we camped last night in a beaufiful spot to remain over the Sabbath where we had grass in great abundence and also water we saw some red clover here we spent the day in airing our cloth and baking bread and cooking other provision Mr Grogg made some apple pies to day which were very good and quite a rarity We


get quite tired with our march through the week and are glad to rest on the sabbath however the work which we have to do keeps us quite busy on this day

Aug 13th Left camp at half passed 5 oclock 3 Miles brought us to the Hot Spring the water was scalding hot so that we could not hold our hands in it 6 Miles farther brought us to the termination of the valey we camped here 1 1/2 hours at noon [here is a good spring of cold water also water for cattle Travel in the afternoon 8 Miles and camped on a branch of St Marys or Humbolt river or at the head water we crossed a ridg after leving our noon camp which had a gradual rise on ether side our road to day has been good the country through which we have passed to day is as it has been except in valeys composed of a poor soil and may in reality be said to be a barren wilderness Traveled to day 17 Miles

Aug 14 Left camp this morning at 6 oclock road for 4 Miles good here the streem on which we was camped made its way through a Canyon in a Mountain leving a space just wide enough for a road which we found very rocky and in addition to this we was obliged to cross the streem 7 times and found some of the fords very bad the extent of this canyon is about 2 Miles and all things consideren we call it as bad a peace of road as we have passed through We opened from this Canyon into a beautiful valey well clothed with grass and water in abundance we camped 2 Miles from the canyon for noon 1 1/2 hours [continued on our coarse after traveling down the valey 8 Miles we camped for night having bearly water enough for our use the streem which we have been nere having settled into the ground this seems to be charicteristic of the country through which we are now travel-

ing

Traveled to day 16 Miles

Aug 15th We left our morning camp at 6 oclock our corse to day is South of west and continues down the valey high Mountains to our left and high rolling land to our right the left hand Mountains are called Humbolt Mountains there peeks are covered with Snow the melting of which formes runing streams down the Mountain but are swallowed up in the grownd before they reach the St Marys river We struck St Marys or Humbolt river about 2 ocl distance from our morning camp 12 M we crossed it and camped after driveing 8 Miles on the bank of the river this is a small streem not over 2 rods across it here but quite deep in places trout are caught here and are quite plenty  there is also considerable plenty of game here such as deer antelope rabbits &c Our road to day has been good however the dust which is blown about by the wind makes it very unplesent traveling The wether during the day is very warm but so cold nights as frequently to freeze ice 1/4 inch in thickness

Our traviels to day is 20 Miles

Aug 16th Left our camping ground this morning at the usual time our trail continued down the valey of the river untill noon our travel this afternoon has been over high rolling hills to avoid the canyons in the Mountains through which the river makes its way our road to day has been good but the dust which is from 3 to 6 inches deep and as light as ashes being blown up in such clouds as to render it impossible to see the teams one half of the time and some of the time being quite difficult to find the way ourselves Camped on the bank of the river and found good grass traveled to day 20 Miles

Aug 17 Left camp at half passed 6 our road continued down the valey of the river to day with high rolling hills or Mountains on eather side and as usual very barren soil poor except in the valey which produces grass in great abundence The wether to day has been somewhat cooler than useual and all apperiances bespoke an approaching storm a dark cloud was seene rising above the western horison and the distant thunder rolled on its apparents threats about 10 oclock the most terrible tornado burst upon us that the oldest amoungst us had ever experience the wind threw the dust up in clouds so that the men with the teems were obliged to turn them out of the road and get in led of the waggons and stop untill the wind had abated I was some ways ahead of the teems nere the river and secreated myself in a clump of willows and wated untill the wind ceased blowing We camped to Night on the bank of the river after Travieling 18 Miles

Aug 18 Commenced our traviel to day at 6 oclock our trail continued down the river 4 Miles from camp brought us to Martins fork this streem heads in the Mountains to the South 4 Miles farther and we came to whare our trail lays through a Kanyon in the Mountains and through which the river also makes its way. the distance through this kanyon is about 4 Miles the road quite rocky and crosses the river 4 times We then opened into a wide valey but found but little grass ☐ We camped for the Sabbath nere the bank of the river after travieling 19 Miles

Sunday Aug 19 We had a very cold night and found ice this morning 1 inch in thickness but a beautiful clear Sky and warm day We remained in camp to day airing our cloths washing some and baking bread &c for the coming week We attended meeing one and half miles from our camp

preaching by Elder Smith from Missouri State the meeting was opened by reading the 8 Chap Deuderon his remarks were founded upon the 5 Chap of 2 Kings had a very good discors returned to camp got super and soon retired to rest

Aug 20 Left camp at 6 oclock after a cold freezing night we had made arrangements to get an early start for we are in a great jam of Emergration and want to get the lead of them but they were full smart for us so that we did not get the better any. to bragg 2 Miles from camp brought us to whare our trail leves the river for 20 Miles We watered or offered our cattle water but on account of the coldness of the night and it being quite early in the morning they would not drink. We had before us a long drive to perform without water or grass and new they must suffer on account of the extreem heat of the day. But we set out our trail laying over high rolling hills and through mountain canyon through the last named place the road was extreemly rocky and in addition to that the dust was from 3 to 8 inches deep which made it indeed a laborious days drive both for our cattle and ourselves the first named having left the river without watter and it being 7 oclock in the Evening before we arived to the river or Camping place we found no grass and our cattle shoed a roving disposition which cassed some difficilty to govern We travieled to day 22 Miles. We are now travieling through the Utah Tribe and they are a theavish people taking every thing they can lay there hands upon. 3 nights previous 7 head of cattle and 3 horses were stolen. 3 Indians were shot and the propity recovered. last night 7 horses were stolen but have not yet been found. So that we are obliged to use the utmost vigation to Keep our cattle from being taken by the Indians

Aug 21 We found our cattle very much scatered this morning according-
ly the first buisness was to hunt them up and get them together we
had all things ready to leave camp at 7 oclock calculating to stop
the first good feed and let our teems feed 8 Miles brought us to
pasible grass and on which we stoped 3 hours we then contimmed our
march and camped after travelling 8 Miles we forded the river before
camping our travel to day has been through a very poor Country of
land which produses nothing but greaswood or Wild Sage we had to day
as useual clouds of dust around through which to travel this being
our onely surity

distance travelled to day 16 Miles

Aug 22 We rose after a comfortable night rest got breakfast and left
camp at 1/2 passed 6 oclock our trail continued down the valey of
the river to day and was good Grass more plenty to day than for some
days back nothing of note occured to day We camped to night at the
enterance of another large valey and found some Alcaly but good grass

18 Miles to day

Aug 23 Left camp at 6 oclock had a very warm forenoon but the wind
breesed up about noon which made it comfortable the remainder of the
day had a good road to day our coars to day has been north of west
and down a wide valey some 20 miles in width We travielerd to day
20 Miles and camped found good feed used willows for wood or fuel
which is all the wood we have

Aug 24 Left camp at 6 oclock our corse the greater part of the day has
been North west and down the river however leveing it at intervals for
5 or 6 Miles the valey is some 20 Miles in width with high mountains

on eather side our traviel to day has been through a barren sand soil D
no grass except nere the streem and but little there our corse has
changed instead of N. W. we have for 3 hours been traveling West with
a point of mountains runing in nere our trail and situated to our right D
We Travelled to day 18 Miles and 60 rods by chains and camped on the
river bank found tolperable feed and had a duck stew for supper

A 25th Left camp 7 oclock 4 Miles traviel brought us to where our trail
leves the river for the distance of 6 Miles our trail crossing over
hills and through a mountain Kanyon after which we opened in to quite
an extensive valey travelled down this valey 8 Miles and camped where
the river dividing formes a large Island and upon which we turned our
cattle to grase. We have found grass to day very scarce and what thare
was intirely parshed up The soil is sandy and barren making our
roads to day very heavy Miles 18 to day

Sunday Aug 26 Remained in camp to day spent the time in reading
writing baking and washing A great menny Emergrants waggons have
passed us to day

Aug 27 We rolled out of camp this morning at 6 oclock after a cold
freasing night ice $1/8$ of inch thick our corse for several miles
this morning has been North of west around a bend in the river thence
south of west for the remander of the day we camped on the river bank
and found feed good and has been for the day in spots We saw a train
of 14 waggons from California to day bound to Salt Lake we learned
from them that provition were plenty in California and could be bought
very reasonable. also we learned that feed was very scarce the reman-
der of the journey which is some 4 weeks travel for oxen We learned also
to day that gold was found in great abundance in the mines and like-

wise we had got the Elephant yet to see before we had accomplished our journey 17 Miles to day

Aug 28 Commenced our traviel to day at 7 oclock we had a very sandy road in the forepart of the day crossed the river 2 times. feed very scarce to day our corse to day has been south west ☐ travelled 17 Miles and camped turning our cattle onto an Island in the river to brows willows 17 Miles to day

Aug 29 Left camp at 7 oclock. had a heavy road to day crossed the river 2 times found grass more plenty We saw quite a number of trains cuting grass to take the new cut off which leves this trail 50 Miles above the Sink striking into the head waters of Fether river the distance to grass from whare the trail leves this road is 70 Miles We travelled 12 [?] Miles to day and camped with a considerable excitement reigning in our camp as to which rout we should go 12 Miles to day

Aug 30 This morning found our camp in a great uproar cased by the excitement raised in refferance to the cut off it was quite cirtain that the company would split on the settalment of this Question ☐ some were in favor of taking the cut off and some not we finaly hitch up our teems and drove to the forks of the road one going the Old rout the other the cut off Lucky for us here was in camp a Government train with Supplys wating the arival of a Government which is on our trail behind The Leutenant informed us that the road which the Emergrants to the amount of 700 teems had taken supposing it to be a cut off as it had been represented was the road to Origen City and that they could not find a pass over the mountains

as the rout was only practible for packers they therefore must continue there corse for Oregon or winde there way back again Our road to day has been quite heavy on account of sand and some uneven we camped to night 4 Miles from the forks of the cut off having travelled 15 Miles to Day

Book 2

Ang 31

Left camp this morning at 6 oclock our road to day has been through a wild beren wast soil composed of wite clay and no grass growing we crossed the river about 5 Miles from our morning camp shouveling down the banks makeing our own forde we then struck onto a 26 Miles drive without grass our trail from 1 to 3 Miles from the river we Camped to night $3\frac{1}{4}$ Mile from the river it being as nere as we could drive to it with our waggons the remainder of the distance being filled in with clay peaks so that it was with difficulty that we could drive our cattle to water onyocked Our travel to day is 17 Miles

I saw a man to day from the neighbourhood of Clark Waits by the Naim of Coakley

Distance from the Sink of St Marys river 50 Miles

September 1st Our cattle had a poor chance for feed last night mostly willows which they broused Left camp at 7 oclock our trail lay through a barren plain growing nothing except wild sage or greese wood found no grass for noon wattered our cattle and continued our march the cuntry having the same apperence as day previous camped after travelling 16 Miles turning our cattle into a small patch of rushes to brous for the night Distance traveled today 16 Miles

Sept 2 Sunday We were obliged to travel on to day hoping to find some little grass for cattle for they were in a bad condition the day was extreemly warm and the dust being very deep rendered our days work very fateaging 12 Miles travel from our morning camp through a barren plain brought us to a slough whare we found water for our cattle also several good springs we were informed here that 6 Miles farther we would finde good grass after resting our cattle we continued our marth and found excelent grass as we had been informed we camped here to recruit for the desert which is distance from us 20 Miles Travel to day 18

Sept 3 We remained in camp to day quite a number of Indians came into camp to day they talked broken English and spoke of the form which gold is collected in the diggings they were dressed very well and appeared quite Inteligent and friendly but were great beggers A quite a number of trains left here this morning and moved down 8 Miles to cut grass to carry across the desert for there cattle Some 200 Waggon's were camped here when we arived last night and the ringing of cow bells the cries of children and the beating of the drum reminded us of a land of Civilisation The day has been spent in mending washing baking &c One man having gone to see what the prospects were ahead he returned after traveling 10 Miles in the direction of the Sink and informed us that grass was good for that distance to mow for feed for our cattle while crossing the Desert accordingly preperation were made to leve camp for that place in the morning

Sept 4th Left camp this morning at 8 oclock after having some difficulty in finding our cattle for amidst the multitude of hurds grasing nere the cattle got mixed and and some of them got drove off

before we were aware of it We however succeeded in finding all without much trouble Found the road quite good and passed several trains of Emigration laying up to recruit and also to cut grass We camped after traveling 10 Miles in a beautiful location where grass was abundant we found good water by digging about 3 ft The water of St Marys or Humbolt spreads itself over quite a large surface and remains also in stagnant pools being strongly impregnated with alcahy so as to make it imposible for us to use it for man or beast after dinner we made ready to cut our grass some with butcher knives some with sickles while others used a sythe which we carried in our mess [] we got a plenty in a short time for many hands make lite work [] we had it all brought up to the waggons and spread so that in a short time it was ready to bind up and pack away we have been highly entertained by the manovers of the Indians which have been about Camp this afternoon these are the Utes they are dressed in robes of the Antilope well taned we traded and bought there dresses which left them nerely naked there skin us of a dark complection and fetures resambling the Negro they are very athletic and quite inteligent a great many of the Tribe having been in the mines to work and some that said they was a going at the end of 2 moons which is the way they reckon time they are very fond of beads and other fixtures to orna-ment there head while there bodys may go naked

Sept 5 We remained in camp untill 1 oclock [] during the forepart of the day we buiseyed ourselves in stowin away our grass and baking [] Some few Indians came into camp to day bringing Antalope robes to Trade for beads several bought of them After geting thingh ready we started calculating to move down from 5 to 8 Miles the capt having gone to find a place to camp The train moved on [] one hour passed

after another untill the Sunk beneath the western horison but no Capt made his apperance darkness came but still no place to rest we had by this time passed all the grass and nothing but a barren waste of 65 Miles lay before us we finally concluded to stop and lay untill 2 oclock and then start and drive to the Sink which was 10 Miles distance Our Capt some came to us after travelling some 6 Miles in advance of us having lost the train while passing through some high reeds Our cattle stood in the yoke untill we got ready to start there being no grass and the water so poor they woud not drink it Travelled to day 12 Miles

Sept 6 We left our stoping place at 2 oclock A. M. continued on 10 miles brought us to the Sink of St Marys. had a good road mountains standing on eather side we camped here untill 3 oclock for the purpos of crossing the desert in the night the heat of the Sun being so intense during the day the greater part of the time to day has been spent cuting rushes for our cattle to eat so as to save our grass for them on the desert 1/2 passed 2 oclock we had our teams in readiness and started on a streach of 25 Miles which distance brought us to the boiling springs we arived to these springs at 5 oclock in the morning of the 7th Our road through the night has been sandy and some stony but as a general thing quite good We passed a great many dead cattl on our travels last night I should think on an everage one every 30 rode the stench of which was almost beyond endurance. our traviel from the Sink to the boiling springs is 25 Miles

Sept 7th This morning found us at the great boiling springs the steem of whos waters arose mingling with the cole atmosphere This is

The greatest Natural curiosity we have seen since we came on this rout. The country around shows vivid traces of volcanic action and beneath our feet lies in heaps the lava as thrown from the burning furnace beneath. But how to describe these singular springs I know not or at least so that a correct history can be drawn of them. They are situated on a rise of ground to the left side of the road in front and on the north lies a valley some 3 Miles in width and extending to the North East several Miles. To the North of this valley extends a range of Mountains. And on the South may be seen another range the course of them North East and South west. Our trail lying down the valley a little south of west. The number of the springs I do not know although they are very numerous but only 2 of them of great account. ☐ The surface of one is about 10 feet in Diameter and its water boiling hot continually discharging steam from its surface. The other spring is noted more particular on account of its ceasing to boil during the night and commencing at the rising of the Sun. It had just commenced steaming up when we arrived this morning. This spring is 3 ft in Diameter and its water is forced through an aperture in the rock some 2 ft below the surface of the ground and frequently boils with such vehemence as to fly over the top. I boiled a piece of meat done there in 15 minutes also steeped tea and took dinner there in company with Henry D. We remained here in camp until 4 o'clock cooling water for our cattle and resting and sleeping what we could having been 2 Nights previous without sleep and being obliged to travel to night to reach Truckee river which is 20 Miles distance and no water until we reach there from this place. The day has been extremely warm and on account of the great heat we deferred our march until 5 o'clock at which time all of our loose traps were packed and we ready to roll.

out of camp. Our road for 13 Miles was good the remainder of the distance was very bad the sand being the most of the way from 8 to 10 inches deep and we with our cattle were merely exhausted from the fatigue of nights previous We arrived to Truckee river at 5 and 1/2 oclock on the morning of the 8th We left one of our oxen on the desert he being limb weary was glade to find a resting place even on a barren wast but one ox was no object we was to work for our own Interest and our Cattle must go to water and where we could get grass for them before the Sun was far up or our team would have been no more For there want of feed was so great that they would reach for the whipstalk to eat while I was driving

Sept 8 We crossed truckee river this morning and camped to recruit this is a beautiful streem some 6 rods across 2 ft deep with a very quick current water soft and made by the melting of snow from the mountains We had a fine salmon trout for supper which Mr. Grogg cought

Sept 9 Continued in camp to day and attended Meeting nere by under a large tree preaching by Rev Thompson a Camilite he did not take any Text

Sept 10 We left camp this morning at 8 oclock our course lay West and up Truckee river through a very narrow valey with high mountain on eather side whows peaks reached even to the clouds rocks as a general thing coverede there sirface showing the affects of volcanic action Our road to day has been very rocky espatially the fords which have been 11 in number to day the current runing very swift and being from 2 to 2 1/2 ft deep and 6 rods wide we came to camp after traveling 16 Miles it being quite dark

Sept 11th We rolled out of camp at 7 oclock continuing our corse up the valey of Truckee river occationly fording the streem the fords continued to be as rocky to day as yesterday the face of the country quite rolling and yery stony and some heavy drawing through sand. We came to camp at 2 oclock P. M. after travelling 9 Miles here we found good grass it being the first we have had since we left camp on the morning of the 10th Mountains continued on either side of our trail with here rock bound sides We had a fine dish of Clambs for Supper Distance Traveled to day 9 Mi
Forded the river to day 4 times [Written in margin in copy]

Sept 12 Left camp at 7 oclock I left the train in a company to take a ramble on the mountains soon after we started we came across a mountain of Chalk we got several spimens and took with us to camp it was as pure an article as I ever saw The train crossed the river 5 times this forenoon and at noon we found ourselves on the oppisit side from the waggons the water being so deep we could not cross without swimming one of our company swam across and got some hard bread which we eat for our dinner We crossed after traveling a short distance carrying our cloths in our hands above our heads to prevent them from getting wet as the water was between 4 and 5 ft deep Our trail to day has been very rocky and two very steep ascents to make □ we struck a beautiful valey about noon and encamped after traveling 3 Miles from noon camp and cut grass to last us across a barren space of 35 mi this valey is about 10 miles in length and 6 Miles in bredth and clothed with nutritious kinds of grasses on which our cattle feed and lay down filled We have been in sight of snow cap mountain to day

high mountains rocky in there apperiance may be seen in any direction
Our travel to Day has been 10 Miles

Sept 13 We remained in camp to day drying our hay and cutting some
in addition to that we cut yesterday Nothing of account has trans-
pired to day Occasionally a train of Emergration rolles into the
valey and camps in here by us.

Sept 14 We rolled out of camp this morning at 1/2 passed 6 oclock
3 Miles brought us to the termination of our grassy meadow upon which
our cattle had feasted for one and a half days here we arose a bluff
of some 10 ft in high a fair specimen of our days work lay before us
The ground being perfectly covered with stone and stunted wild sage
which precented a drery apperiance we travelled on useing the ut^umost
care to prevent breaking our waggons We struck the river (having
left it this morning) about noon and stoped to rest and feed our
cattle. here a fine pine tree stood on the bank measureing 6 ft in
Diameter we saw at a aistance not far from us the mountains well
timbered with the same We some moved on crossing and recrossing the
river 4 times during the afternoon and that not without finding them
Extreemly difficult on account of rocks which indead rendered it amost
imposible some times for the cattle to finde a place upon which to
stand we camped to night by the fifth forde however did not cross
it to day it being the 27 time we have crossed this river we are
to night sitting around our camp fires under the shadow of the lofty
pines to the West and in the direction of our traile lays a high
mountain heavily timbered with pine and at our feet the cristle waters
of the river are being dashed down the falles Our distance travelled
to day is 14 Miles which we call a heard days work we our cattle

to stakes driven into the ground and fed them the hay which we had prepared for them

Sept 15 The passed night was cold and this morning the little vegetation was white with frost we had our cattle fed early got our breakfast and left camp at 6 oclock after crossing the river our road turned abruptly to the right and commenced ascending the mountain which we found not so gradual as expressed by Brient but very rocky and in places very steep we arrived to the summit about 11 oclock and descended a long steep hill rocky of coarse and came to a pretty small bottom upon which we turned our cattle loose to graze there is a number of fine springs on this bottom and one spring situated about half way from this valley to our morning camp we remained on this bottom 2 hours then continued our march our road turning to the left and running nearly in a southern direction our travel this afternoon has been over a rolling and uneven surface of country heavily timbered with pine some being measured was found to be 19 ft in circumference and many from 130 to 190 ft in high We camped on a branch of Truckee river to night found good feed for our cattle our road to day have been very rocky Distance 14 Miles to day

Sept 16 Sunday Frost covered the ground this morning and ice froze 1/2 inch in thickness during the night We left camp at 7 oclock our travels to day were over a rolling country and through a heavy timbered pine forest road to day much better to day than yesterday ☐ passed over several small grassy bottoms through which small brooks made there way about 3 oclock descended a steep declivity and struck the main Truckee river traveled up its bottom 1 Mile our trail left the river again 1 1/2 Miles from this place we camped being within

1/2 Mile of the place where the Unfortunate Downer party attempted to winter It being 10 Miles East of the Summit of the Siere Nevada Mountains

Our travel to day 18 Miles

Sept 17 This morning having to cut grass we did not leave camp untill 9 oclock during the time some of the company went to see the ruins of the Downer Party this was an affecting sight around the cabins were strune the bones of the once liveing man or woman which had been boiled the flesh of which to serve for the sustenance of those liveing. Childrens shoes and fragments of garments were also scatered around the Mountainous primices The Cabins were all burned (except one) by General Curney in 1847 it is supposed it was done to prevent others from attempting to winter there. All things being ready we set out on our day march expecting to see one of the most toilsom our trail led us through a forest of pine and spruce timber 5 Miles from camp brought us to where we commenced ascending the Mountain. and now we had got to the Elephant although our ascent was gradual however extremely rocky and some of the time our trail led us over bear ledges of granit rock we arived to the last and steepest ascent about 3 oclock P M the length of it is some 400 yards We doubled our teams putting 8 and 9 yoke on a waggon and made the ascent but it was all we could do Our cattle would frequently break there foothold and fall back We now stood on the Summit of the great S Nevada mountains and above snow 1000 ft We decended from the Summit into a valey 4 Miles distance and camped finding good grass the decent is precipites and rocky this valey is 1 Mile in width and several miles in length with a fine~~x~~ streem of water runing through it and is covered with nutritious grasses we did not arive in camp untill

after dark and the weather was cold water freezing while standing by the fire.

Travelled to day 14 Miles

Sept 18 This morning a white frost was spread over the ground and ice stood in our water bucket 1 1/2 inches thick we did not move from camp to day but let our cattle rest for they felt there days work yesterday very senseably At noon I left camp in company with several of our men to find Brients Pass which is distance from the pass which we came over 2 Miles North we had some difficulty in finding it so that the Co got scattered amongst the rocks of the mountain and lost from one another except Myself and a Gentleman by Name of McCortner ☒ we discovered the trail near a small lake called Truckee lake The Sun had nearly set in the western horizon as we followed the blind path which Bryant made up this rock bound mountain We wondered that it could be possible that loose cattle could make the ascent there being some place 8 ft perpendicular where rock had been rolled in to fill up making a passway for the waggon wheels although a very indifferent one about half way up our attention was arrested and what I discovered to be a pair of snow shoes they showed marks of the white being made with an auger and hewed out with an axe we examined them and looking a little farther we saw the cause of this at once for before us lay the bones of some one who had perished in the mountains we conjectured it to be one of the downer party several having left there winter quarters which was near the above named lake and was never heard of again it is supposed they perished in the mountains we took the skull and continued our march toward the summit and arrived at that place as day light was disappearing got to camp 8

oclock we related our discoveries and showed the skull which we brought with us the conversation for the evening was respecting the sufferings of the Downer Party During our absence one of the company by the name of M. W. Burnet had concluded to ride on mule back to Sutters Fort and perhaps to San Francisco this gave us an opportunity to send letters and also to get them if any there was I had got belated in our exploring tour so that I had to improve the night I commenced at 9 oclock and finished at 1 oclock in the morning I then retired to rest very uncomfortably cold

Sept 19 this morning was cold and frosty we left camp at 8 oclock travelled down the valey 1 Mile turned to the left entering a pine and spruce forest country rocky and mountainous our road has been some of the time most impassible we have passed several small lakes to day clear as a crystal we camped to night on a little patch of grass hardly grass enough for feed for our cattle 10 Miles today

Sept 20 Left camp this morning at 8 oclock our road to day has been undiscibeable we have had nothing to compare with since we left the States clambering over rock and ledges has constituted our days works passing where we were obliged in several instances to let our waggons down the rocks with a rope we stoped at the base of one of these places having let our waggons down a precipice of 40 ft our waggons stand in the road there being no place even to set our tents ofr [sic] rocks in Yuba valey after travelling 8 Miles

Sept 21 We rolled on this morning at 7 oclock after having considerable trouble to get our cattle together they were browsing willows amongst the rocks and finding no grass they strayed from each other One ox was killed last night belonging to a Missouri team by the falling of a

tree which had been set on fire by the watch Our road to day in places has been extreemly rocky however taking the day through better than yesterday we crossed over a mountain in the afternoon the ascent and decent very steep and rocky and camped in a small valey between Yuba and bear river valeys Driving our cattle 2 Miles to grass

Distance to day 8 Miles

Sept 22 Remained in camp to day to give our cattle chance to recruit after there toilsom traviel from the summit to this place having been 3 days with nothing but willows and alders to brouse Mr Grogg shot a deer yesterday very large and fat this was a fine prise for us for we hankered after fresh meat much however had not been very successful heretofore quite a number went onto the mountains to hunt to day but I remained in camp

Sept 23rd Left camp at 7 oclock we have not had as many rocks to drive over to day as usual but several places to let our waggons down on the Mountain with ropes we camped in Bear river valey about 3 oclock Traveled to Day 7 Miles

Sept 24 Remained in camp to Day a part of the time has been ocipied in collecting pea vine to supply our cattle with feed as there is no grass for a distance of 40 Miles In this distance considerable is being done in the way of washing gold The first washings 7 Miles below our present camping ground The gold excitement has raged high in camp to day And arangements have been made in the Company to stop there and examin and if thought best will stop and send our cattle back here to graze in this valey Some messes have settled up there fairs and devided each taking his interist

Sept 25 Left camp this morning at 8 oclock our road to day has been a mountainous one and some parts of it very stony the country being heavily timbered with pine oak spruce &c some of the pines measured 8 ft in Diameter we camped in the vicinity of the gold washers being very tired Traveled to Day 14 Miles

Sept 26 We left camp this morning at 7 oclock passed over a rocky and hilly road arriving to a camping place at one oclock here we resolved to stop and commence operation and stay untill we ate the remainder of our provition to day passed us a Mule train 1000 in number sent by Government for the releif of the back Emergration which it was feared would not get over the mountains before winter set in

Sept 27 this morning found us by times buisely ingaged in making a machine by which to seperate the Gold from the sand the Crade is most in use we did not get them compleeted to day Father went down to a creek 100 yards from Camp with his tin pan this afternoon and washed out \$400 [\$4.00?] worth of Gold this was good wages for the first 1/2 day and being rather green


Sept 28 I finished our cradles to Day set them and got ready for opperation

Sept 29 to day we commenced collecting gold and being rather green at the buisness we did not expect to make^s/fortune the first day at night on weighing our little pile we found we had made \$15.50 cts for the first day this paid us for our time although considered quite to small a proffit Groog Rodges and Devendorff were at work by themselves They made about the same

S 30 Sunday We remained in Camp to day passed off the time in reading &c

We continued on this river at work 2 weeks and 4 days Father and Myself making during this time \$337. dollars The Company as a general thing got sufficient means to buy there winters stores but we done better than the generality of them The Company then left for Sacramento City and arrived in this place on the Night of Oct 27th this was like coming into our own Native Country our long journey over a wild uninhabited wast of country had almost rendered Civilisation a curiosity we here beheld a City not many large wooden Mansions were seen but something that would more readily attract the attention of a man who has been gazing on the works of Nature for one whole Summer Before us and on an extensive plain was spread out a Callico City a whole City made of canvass and Calico Sufficient to cover a population of from 6 to 10,000

After being in Sacramento City a few days we purchased a boat and set sail for San Francisco wages being high I thought I could make more at work at my trade than I could in the mines during the rainy season Carpenters wages being \$16.00 per day and the rain being so constant that a very little can be done in the mines during the rainy season



ELISHA B. LEWIS DIARY, 1849.

END