

JOSEPH CLINE KISER

Diary (portion)

July 3 - September 20, 1850

Transcribed

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JOSEPH CLINE KISER

Diary Fragment

1850

1

July 3^d

Drove 10 miles to green River and laid By all Day. Drove up the River 3 miles had fine grass Wood and Water here the first time its Been so for some time were[?] here the Boys got on Big Bust that Night singing and and[sic] Dancing and Fiddling and had thicket of Brush A fire to see By that that[sic] Blazed up 30 or 40 feet high and lighted up the Whole Island fine here old man clark[?] was very sick of Flux.

2

July 4th

Drove 3 miles to the Ferry and crossed to day and camped on the oposite side of the River here We had to swim our stalk over and was very swift and hard to make stalk go across it & is a large stream.

[July]5th

drove 22 miles. Left green River after driving five miles then driving[?] 17 miles to Blacks fork with out water This stream is about fifty yds wide and camped for the Night.

3

July 6th

Drove 28 miles Crossed several streams to Day wood grass and Water plenty.

July 7th

Drove 10[20?] miles and camped all day and Night on Black fork.

July 8th

Drove 1 ½ miles and passed Fort Bridger Bought some Beef at 10^{cts} per pound passes[?] the soda springs and Copper spring then the Rim of the great Basin and camped for the Night.

4

July 9th

Drove 13 miles to Bear River Down Hill most of the way After Noon crosed the River A very Rapid Runing River Then Drove 7 miles over a very fine valley of Land good Roads and camped on yellow Creek.

July 10th

drove 12 miles to Echo creek and Nooned At a fine spring to the right of the road Then drove six miles Along the same creek and crossed it 7 times very Bad crosing grass good.

5

July 11th

Drove 12 miles Along Echo creek crossed 7 or 8 Times very Bad crossing Narrow Roads mountain very high from 100 to 400 feet high Noon on the Bank of the Webber River Then Drove five miles and had fine grass.

July 12th

Drove 10 miles to the creek very Bad Roads crossed Canon creek 7 or 8 Times in 8 miles plenty & fine Watter & Timber Roads Bad creek very swift and very rough grass very poor

6

July 13th

Drove 19 miles and camped crossed a very high mountain plenty fine water all the way one panther shot by one of the company on the Top of the mountain.

July 14th

Drove 8 miles to salt Lake city and camped all Day and Went to church. Was surprised to see so fine Looking set of people In That Place This is fine situation fine Land & splendid water Runing Down from the mountains to all parts of the Town This Town is surounded By mountains[?] fine land.

valley 20 miles wide & 80 long & surrounded By mountains that has snow on the year round.

7

July 15th

Drove 11 miles and camped for the Night in the valley of the great salt Lake fine grass & plenty of good Water passed warm & hot springs this water is hot enough to Boil and Eggs[sic] An is some Kind of mineral water.

July 16th

Drove 4[?] miles to the Blacksmith shop and Laid up to Re cruit our stalk and fix our waggons and Lay In more of provisions we[?] Went to A Dance that Night A mongst the mormans had A fine Time of it and plenty of music.

8

July 17th

Laid by all Day had nothing to Do But cook and Eat george and myself Being In mes By our selves as We Divided out our mess[?] In to Three parts the Day Before fine water & grass and Wood plenty on the mountain one mile of[sic]

July 18th

Laid By all Day untill Evening Then I Went Back to the hot springs to Where jiles[?] & gauldin had camped and staid all Night Talked About Taking the cutoff pretty strong But gave it up and glad we did so.

9

July 19th

staid all Day At giles & gauldins camp very Warm Weather Laid and slep in the Tent A bout all Day Nearly

July 20th

Walked up to our camp at the Blacksmith shop With giles and found george very sick With the Diarea and A many more of our company was sick

July 21st

Went up Above Two miles to giles & gauldins camp Rained very hard Thirsday here Being An uncommon thing here this Time of the year.

10

July 22^d

Bought A Waggon and Went to Fitting up again Bund to Leave the Train and Did so Paid one hundred Dollars for Waggon & harness &c.

July 23^d

Bought one horse and Paid one hundred Dollars for him and george Went on and got Two more of giles & gauldin horses While I fixed[?] up the Wagon Went to Salt Lake to get some provisions and cooking utencials making Ready to start on the Next Day saw Blair Ned & honel[?] this Day at the city.

11

July 24th

started on our journey for california A gain With a Waggon and three horses Drove 25 miles to Weber River and Camped for the Night had fine grass Roads Not very good heavy sand on the Last part.

July 25th

Drove 30 miles to Box Elder creek and camped crossed several fine Branches to Day fine grass and Water plenty wood.

July 26th

Drove 22 miles to Bear River ferry crossed & stoped to feed Then Went 14 miles Till Night and camped no Water nor grass.

12

July 27th

Drove 8 miles to hot Salt spring and Laid up all Day With But Little grass for our animals and Worst of salt water to drink here Went In & Bathed In the salt Water It was very clear and Nice to Look At but very salty.

July 28th

Drove 12 miles to sink creek and Nooned then drove then Went 6 miles to Deep creek and camped for the Night very Dusty Roads & But Little grass wood sage Brush plenty.

13

July 29th

Drove 7 miles to the sink of Deep Creek Then 9 miles to Pilot springs 7 miles to A spring at the foot of the mountain and camped plenty Wood and Water grass poor

July 30th

Drove 19 mile to casus creek crossed several creeks to Day had fine grass and Water.

July 31st

Drove 11[?] miles to the foot of the mountain After crossing the creek 4 or five Times to Day and camped on it for the Night.

14

August 1st

Drove 5 miles up the mountain to the fort Hall Road Then five miles to steep creek Then 7[?] miles to goose creek very hilly & mountain and rough In places.

August 2^d

Drove 18 miles Along goose creek All the Way Roads fine and grass plenty all Along the creek But Bad crossing the creek.

August 3^d

Drove 21 miles to 1000 spring valley After crossing Afootson[?] streach of 13 miles With out water or grass for stalk 5 or 6 miles roughe very ousts[?].

15

August 4th

Drove 12 miles to cold Water creek This creek is very poor it sinks and Raises and is Not good water At That some grass & wood.

August 5th

Drove 16 miles to the West End of Cold Creek valley past several springs some hot & some cold half Way Across the valley Road good A fine spring At Night good grass.

August 6th

Drove 17 miles to Kanion creek Head[?] hilly But good Ten miles to the first Water grass & Wood At Night.

16

August 7th

Drove 18 miles to the head of mary River good Roads & Water & grass plenty Wood Willow Brush.

August 8th

Drove 20 miles Down marys River all the Way Down fine grass and good Roads No water

But River.

August 9th

Drove 20 miles Down the River John Huffman Died This Day In the Waggon as We Was driving at[sic] Long At 6 oclock In the Evening We Camped on marys River again good grass.

17

August 10th

Drove 17 miles Buried Mr Huffman This morning on the right of the Road About 1 mile from the River.

August 11th

Drove 6 miles and Left the Rive Them[sic] Drove 17 miles Across A mountain the Last half very rough & stony Down A Canion.

August 12th

Drove 14 miles This Days Travel Was very Dusty had fine grass At Noon and Night camped on marys River All Night.

18

August 13th

Drove 20 miles the first part of the Road Was very Dusty and No grass and the After part good Roads & fine grass No Water But River.

August 14th

Drove 20 miles first part of the Road No grass Last part first rate grass camp on marys River.

August 15th

Drove 14 miles Then Killed a Beff[sic] and Laid up the Ballance of the Day on marys River This Days Travel Was very sandy and duty.

19

August 16th

Drove 22 miles With But Little grass and No Water Except River Water and camped on A slew of the River.

August 17th

Drove 15 miles and camped on mary River had our horses stampeded At Night They Run Through our camp Like A streak.

August 18th

Drove 18 miles over Deep heavy sand all Day had very poor grass and Teams very much[?] Tired Down very Bad Water.

20

August 19th

Drove 20 miles over A very Dusty Road With out Any grass untill Night and camped on marys River.

August 20th

Drove 8 miles and camped here Where We found fine grass By crossing the River We made some hay and hauled With us Roads very Dusty.

August 21st

drove 22 miles and camped on mary River Water getting very Bad here Full of dead stalk Roads very dusty and But very Little grass for our Animals.

21

August 22^d

Drove 12 miles to some springs and fed our Teams on hay that We had Been having With us I counted 78 head of Dead stalk As I passed Along on the Last 12 miles Then Went 2 miles more & camped on A Slew.

August 23^d

Drove 10 miles to the Big meadows Where We made to hast[?] Across the Dessert There Was plenty of grass here for Any Amount of stalk very Bad Water and ground very Wet and swampy our animals had to wade In the water to get grass.

22

August 24th

Laid By making hay all Day here We had to Wade out to get water to drink As the Water Round the Edge of the slew Was so salt that We Could Not Drink it.

August 25th

Drove 25 miles to the sink of marys started About four Oclock and Drove Till Nearly Day and stoped and Let out Teams Rest No feed for them But What we gave them Water miserable full of Dead stalk and Tasted Like Lie and Looked Like it was About half Lie Roads very sandy.

23

August 26th

started Across the Desert At Two oclock In the Evening drove 12 miles untill dark and stoped and fed some of our hay Then Drove &[?] miles to fed Again good Roads This far plenty dead Animals on all sides Then drove 2 miles un till Day Light and fed Again and gave our stalk some Water That We had hauled With us for that purpose Roads geting sandy Then Went 12 miles over very Deep sand to Carson River This taken the Teams Till Two oclock The Road lined with stalk some Dead some sining[?] & That could just walk making for water.

24

August 27th

Drove 12 miles up Carson Rver[sic] & fed for Noon Then drove 4 miles and camped on Carson River for the Night very Little grass yet and have had none for About 100 miles Except What We hauled With us.

August 28th

Drove 5 miles over some sand & some very rough Roads and camped on Carsons River one and half miles to the Left of the Road some Little grass here the water In this River is fine and has plenty of Timber on it for our use.

25

August 29th

Drove 12 miles up Carsons River some very rough Road and some very sandy Roads part of This day Drive is Across a mountain first rate water here.

August 30th

Drove 8 miles A Cross a sand plain this is a hard a fises[?] of Road as we have had and Cattle very mutch Fatiegued some of our Teams could hardly make this plain struck Carsons River and crossed and drove Down 1 miles to grass and Laid up till morning to Re cruit our Teams grass pretty good here.

26

August 31st

Drove 15 miles After part of the Road sandy Traveled up Carsons River all day and camped on the River for the Night.

Sept 1st

Drove 7 miles and camped At the crossing of the River had fine Water Wood and grass plenty

Sept 2^d

Drove 18 miles over A desert of 12 miles In the start & Then came to the River and grass Then six miles more to the River again Then came to Carson valley and camped for the Night.

27

Sept 3

Drove 12 miles up Carsons valley to The mormon station a splended Looking valley and fine Timber on the mountains & first rate Water Runig Down out of the Mountains Into the valley fine grass and Looks Like having[?] more Than Any place since salt Lake valley for man & Beast.

Sept 4th

here giles & myself started And walked on and Left the Teams to Re cruit for the mounon Walked 20 miles to the canon & 7 miles through it and the roughest roads I ever saw Then 4 miles up a vally.

28

Sept 4th[continued]

and camped with some missouri Boys of giles Acquaintance first 20 miles of the days Travel over good Road fine Water and grass untill We got In the canion Where they had to pile Little Rocks A Round the Bigones[sic] so that a Waggon would stradle them some places so Narrow and such short Turns that it semed Imposible for A Waggon to go Through some places very steep verry fine Pine Timber through here and splendid Water last 4 miles good Roads crossing the creek Several Times.

29

Sept 5th

Walked 6 miles to the foot of the first mountain 7 miles Across it and un common steep and rough very heavy Pine Timber an some piles of snow on it Then up the second again some part very steep and Rough cros a creek Between the Two mountains just At the Top of the 2d mountain We Went A snow Bank 10 or 15 feet Deep and A perfect Bed of snow that the Wagons past over and was very "cold" made 30[?] to Day and camped In the wash[?] one the rounng Between some trees.

30

Sept 6th

Walked 30 miles up and Down the mountains to Day the finest I ever saw Pine Trees six feet over and from two to Two hundred and fifty feet high pass Leak springs the coldest Water I Ever saw seemingly colder Than see very Duty[huh?].

Sept 7th

Traveld 20 miles to Weaver Town Through some of the Deepest Dust I Ever saw from 4 to 8 Inches Deep In some places on the first part of the Road Last 20[?] miles good Road water Bad Through this country staid At weavertown over Night.

31

Sept 8th

Went to hangtown to Day to see the place and to see Tom Sister[?] Went to Church and soron[?] Then Went Back to Weavertown and staid At Night here We Saw them Diging the first gold and thought it A pretty Dull show to make mutch money.

some Timber here

Sept 9th

Walked 12 miles to the Shingle madein[?] 10 miles to the Willow springs 15 miles to Daylors Ranch on the macossny River and stoped for the Night fine Roads all Day Last 25 mls fine country of Land Water Wolferiske[?]

Some Timber Along here

32

Sept 10th

Walked 20 miles to Dry creek 8 miles to the maCalomy River and stoped for the Night This days Travel Was fine Land and some Timber had A fine Rain Ine[sic] the Evening and Was pretty Tired of Walking some Timber Along here.

Sept 11th

Walked 8 miles to the colovares and got Breakfast Then 8 miles to stockton & found John With An ox Team & Then We went right In to the Aldorado and taken A snort of Brandy and put on A Load and Went 6 miles out to Rock House and staid At Night stop on a way stock[huh?]

33

Sept 12th

Drove 20 miles to Johns House Withe An ox Team and of coarse stoped for the Night This days Drive Was All the Way Through the plains and very warm a very pretty cosnt[?] of Land But Little Timber.

Sept 13th

John & myself Went Back to meet the Teams Rode to dry creek and staid At Night I slept In the hay stack all Night Traveled About 50 miles This day and was pretty Tired of Riding A mule certain 50 mls

34

Sept 14th

Rode to Weavertown and stoped for the Night At Nooks[?] Tavern Paid 20 cents a Pound for hay for our mules to Eat & sleep on the floor.

Sept 15th

Went 8 miles and met the Waggons and came Back to A Branch and stoped for the Night 3 miles from Weavertown John Dunn staid With us That Night We all slep under a Big oak Tree and had A good Time Talking About old Times and some About what coming on Ahead of us.

35

Sept 16th

Drove 17 miles and camped for the Night on the plains only Two waggon As the Ballance had gone to sacremento City We Was going to stockton had plenty Wild oats for stalk.

Sept 17th

Drove 40 miles to Dry creek and camped for the Night John George and myself only Together Now With one waggon and Two mule and we fed[?] them Though had plent of Wild oats for Them At Night Wolve howling all Roun At Night we[?] saw A lot In the morning.

36

Sept 18th

Drove 50 miles to john again got there 11 oclock At Night Every Body In Bed so That This Ened the Trip to California After a Long and Tedious journey of four months and six Days Travel.

Sept 20th [day missing]

Went mounting Antilope with Robt Simmons and got very Tired and Killed Nothing got

made a Mistake got
20 peferst hs[?]

mighty dry and Worn out on the plains Running[?] and could get No water got In aft dark After walking All Afternoon.

[END]