

Copy of Journal of

Dr. Faylor or Thomas of ~~his~~ his
experiences crossing the Plains in 1849

Many of the words in his manuscript
are doubtful: such are indicated by
interrogation(?) The writing is in pencil
It is written in the same book in which
he kept his medical accounts. Some of them
written in ink. dated 1848 and early 1849
in Marquette, Illinois - others late 1849 & 1850
written in pencil in California - His
journal breaks off abruptly on his arrival
at Haughton. Nowhere does he clearly
indicate what were the names of himself
and companions -

Way bill of distances. Camping places ^{re} on the best
Route to the gold mines # From the Hot Springs
which is distant from the Great Salt Lake 18 miles
down the Valley 37. Good camping places none of them ³⁷
more than 10 miles apart. Thence to a branch of Marys River
8 Thence through Canyon to Warm Springs. Crossing ^{L. 8}
the Branch 9 times (8) Thence to Marys River (good
camping all along) (19) Thence to Martins Fork (60
over a hill through a Canyon to where you again
strike Marys River good camping (30) Thence to a
Hill where you a good camping all along (72
" To the next crossing (Good camping (46) • over
a divide without grass or water (14) Thence to
the second or lower crossing of Marys River
(Good camping) (19) to the lower ^{Camping} crossing place on
the River grass scarce (26) To the slue. poor camping
(15) Thence to the sink of Marys river (20) 387 (The
best water here is in a slue that passes:
through a bend and narrow Bluff) here you may
discover new track at Lower left that Childs
intended to make which may be nearer &

1.1
(2)(14) and a shorter distance (without going?)
By the Baltimore route ~~to~~ from the Hot Springs
near grass and water (20) to Truckee river good
Camping (25) The road forks at this place (404)
you will take the left hand road to Salmon
Trout river (good Camping all along) (25) Thence
turn to left across a bend good camp (15)
up the river (8) (good?) (12) to Pass Creek Canyon
good camping every few miles (42) Through Pass Creek
Canyon (5) Red Lake at the foot of the dividing
ridge (good camping nearby) (11) Lake Valley
very good camping (6) over the highest ridge
to the rich valley good camp (10) to the
Back Springs good camping by the way (13)
Camp Creek (Poor Camp) (10) Thence leaving the
ridge and turn (your animals?) into a
valley 2 miles to the left with plenty of good grass
(10) Then to Pleasant Valley (12) (5-69) Thence?
where you find the first Gold diggers unless
some have been discovered since last summer
grass is scarce and water plenty

7
1/2
(3)
from P. Valley to Capt. Sutters (35)
to San Francisco by Tide Water and good Navigation (230)

1.1
#1849 Following is the Journal
(spelling as in original manuscript)

Sunday May ²⁰~~30~~th Left our encampment on the Platte river some 60 miles above Fort Kearney about say eight this morning in consequence of the grass and fuel drove 5 miles and stoped to graze our mules and get [breakfast?] The country through which we have traveled presents no variation of scenery whatever. The river on our right. The bluff ^{or} rather a sandy ridge on our left before us as well as behind the only thing the eye can detect is one continuous plane occasionally dotted by Emigrant Wagons and Cattle of which there is an immense number. I have not kept an accurate account of the number we passed since crossing the Mo. river but should judge about 500 - The emigrant in crossing the plains will experience many difficulties and trouble scarcity of fuel want of grass bad water and heavy roads are some of the privations he must expect to suffer. say nothing about guarding his

7.1
animals want of sleep &c. The weather today is though rather cool in fact for the last week we were obliged to wear our overcoats and gloves - it has rained almost every day and night for (ten?) days making the roads scarcely passible - I think from today's appearance however (?) we will have some fine and settled weather for 36 hours there has been a strong east wind blowing not our common brises but what would be called in our country a regular built hurricane. but we are secure from harm as there is not a tree probably within 20 miles of us - After breakfast we left our encampment & traveled over the same beautiful though monotonous Valley. The never ending Platte - The roads improve a great deal. We encamped for the night about 3 o'clock. near the river. from an island we obtained sufficient wood for Culinary purposes - This is the first wood we have had for 10 days. during which time our cooking has been done (wads?) and Buffalo Chips - Today we discovered a number