

Wabash, Indiana
March 24, 1955

FOREWORD

The complete and accurate copy on the following pages of the diary of John Neff has been prepared primarily for his children and grandchildren. As you read it, keep in mind that he was making no attempt to inform or entertain anybody, and certainly could not foresee the reproduction of his diary a hundred years later.

One point not made clear in the diary is the fact that he walked all the way from Birmingham, Iowa to California. He was given a "free ride" with the company for driving the cattle and this he did on foot, well over 1500 miles.

His story is a simple, factual, day-by-day account of the trip as far as Salt Lake City. Unfortunately, the little 2- $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4- $\frac{1}{2}$ " leather bound book was completely filled by that time and he kept no further record. He went on to California and engaged in placer mining not too far from Sacramento at a place called Lancha Plana, no longer on the map. In 1858 he and his older brother, Peter, who had preceded him to California, with their gold money sewed in chamois vests and carried in a chest, came back east by boat by way of the Isthmus of Panama.

The little diary book is in the possession of Lawrence Neff. The entries are written in pencil; the writing is good but so dim that my mother spent many long hours with a magnifying glass some ten years ago in making a copy. I hope that the descendents of John Neff take some interest in this record of the trip he made on foot across our country one hundred years ago.

John L. Ford

DIARY OF JOHN NEFF

The beginning of the trip to California. Left Springfield April 11th 1854 at 2 P.M. arrived at Dayton 4:20 left at 4:40 Miamisburg at 5:00 Carlisle, Middletown, Trenton, Hamilton, Glendale, Carthage, Ludlow, Cincinnati.

Put up at the United States Hotel, fare 75 cents, took the boat "Telegraph" April the 12th at 1 P.M. Arrived Louisville in the same night at 12 o'clock. Took steamer Fashion from Louisville for St. Louis. Thus, at 1 P.M. arrived at Cairo on Friday 11 o'clock P.M. and Sat. 11 P.M. at St. Louis.

Left St. Louis next day 6 p.m. (Easter Sunday) arrived at Keokuk next day at 11 P.M. Left Keokuk on hack at 6 A.M. arrived at Birmingham the same day at 7 P.M. Next day came to Iowa City. Left there May 2 and went 7½ miles.

May 3rd Finished rigging and started at 2 o'clock P.M. and went a distance of ten miles and put up for the night at Mr. Kindrich's, the weather was fine.

Thursday May 4th left at 12 and put up at 3 P.M. for the night, had gone 7 miles.

Friday May 5th found the finest ox dead in the morning, went about 10 miles today. The weather pleasant.

Saturday May 6th went about 11 miles, the weather clear and very warm. The country is very beautiful, mostly prairie and very hilly.

Sunday May 7th, went about 15 miles and camped on Chariden river. The weather clear, cool and windy. The country looks fine and fertile, mostly prairie and more level than yesterday, the best grass we have had since we started.

Monday May 8th, went about 15 miles, some rain early in the morning. The country and grass is about as yesterday. Bought two head of cattle. The weather very windy.

Tuesday May 9th went about 15 miles, held an election in the morning and elected B.C. Turman as Captain of the company. The weather was clear and very windy, the country hilly and all prairie except along the larger streams.

Wednesday May 10th. Mr. Nokes very sick with measles, only went four miles to Garden Grove on the account of being detained by a man about 50 miles back overtaking us and claiming a heifer in the drove. After fussing and disputing with us about a day he gave it up and we came off victorious. The weather cool, clear and pleasant, the country more settled than it was 20 or 30 miles back and in better cultivation and just as hilly.

Thursday May 11th. Mr. Nokes is still very sick. We arrived at the head of one prong of Grand River and stopped for noon. Ben and I examined the gold we had got in exchange at Garden Grove. We mounted two horses and went back and got good money in exchange. We went about 15 miles and camped at a deserted house on the prairie. The land all prairie but a little along the Grand. The country rolling as before. Rain and disagreeable weather in the afternoon.

Friday May 12th. Mr. Nokes no better. The wind blew at 11 o'clock and it began to rain. We stopped and stretched our tents and stayed about three hours and nearly drowned out with rain, wind and water. We drew our stakes and traveled on in search of timber to camp by. Found it in a mile and a half. We drew up logs and made low heaps of fire. Though it rained we fared comfortably for the night. We went about six miles today.

Saturday May 13th. Mr. Nokes some better. Went about 19 miles and camped on four mile creek at noon, crossed Grand River at 5 in the afternoon and went two miles to Rapid Creek and camped for the night, the weather cool, windy and cloudy, the country hilly and all prairie except along the river and creek. Pisgah the Mormon town has all gone down except two cabins.

Sunday May 14th. Mr. Nokes still better. We went about 18 miles, 10 till noon, took dinner in a slough, went four miles and loaded wood to cook for the night, then went on 4 miles further and camped for the night. Got news from the Bluffs that the Indians were fighting and broke up two companies.

Monday May 15th. Mr. Nokes up and we went about 16 miles. Went about eight and stopped for noon in a slough and about eight camped for the night at a stream and had wood plenty to cook by. Some rain in the morning and commenced in the evening and rained all night and made too much water to make it pleasant. The water ran in the tent.

and made us all wet. I had my watch under my head and it got full of water.

Tuesday May 16. Dried my watch and got a late start, went about 18 miles about six till noon and stopped at a creek, some timber here and went 12 miles in the afternoon to wood and camped. It rained all day, the loud wind roared, the rain fell fast; we yielded not to the blast. The country is about the same as we passed before.

Wednesday May 17th. The weather about the same as yesterday. We went to seek a better retreat and went about a mile and found it and yielded to the blast. We concluded to stop till the weather got favorable, built up fires and dried off. Some of us went hunting. Plenty of brush and timber here. The weather got clear and pleasant in the evening.

Thursday May 18th. The weather cool and cloudy, went about 18 miles, 9 till noon and stopped on the prairie and 9 in the afternoon. Camped 2 miles beyond the Nishna, boating across the Nishna at 5 o'clock. The toll on the bridge cost \$5 here. Three drove all together about 400 cattle. The prairie looked spotted with wagons and cattle. There is quite a settlement here.

Friday May 19. The weather in the forenoon very good, in the afternoon pleasant. Went about 12 miles and took dinner in the prairie. In the afternoon went about 8 miles and camped near west Nishna. The country about as before. Another company found us in the afternoon consisting of two families and five hands and two teams and 25 loose head of cattle. Mr. McCoy, the proprietor.

Saturday May 20th. Weather pleasant, crossed western Nishna in a ferry boat, fare 25¢ per wagon. Swam the loose cattle across, went about 12 miles, about five in the forenoon and seven in the afternoon. Captain held a consultation with his hands and concluded to refund them the money they paid for taking them through if they continued faithful and peaceable throughout. Crossed Silver and Cay Creek.

Sunday May 21st. The weather clear and warm, left Cay Creek and went about five miles and put cattle in a lot and rebranded them, then went about 5 more through the Bluffs to Thanesville, arrived there at 5 o'clock in the evening, then went one mile south and camped for the night in a large prairie. Five Indians came begging for money.

Monday May 22nd. The weather clear and warm. I wrote a letter to Adam Neff. We drove up to town and fitted ourselves out for the journey, then drove up the river between the bluffs six miles and camped for the night at the foot of the bluffs. They present a strange but delightful scenery.

Tuesday May 23rd. The weather very warm, drove up to the river, the grass and rushes nearly waist high. Between this and the river a steam ferry was established and this day we were the first to cross on it. All got over safely but the last load did not land right. The cattle rushed to one side and nearly sank the boat. One ox fell overboard. He swam a mile and went ashore on the opposite side of the river.

Wednesday May 24th. The weather very clear, calm and warm. The place we camped the night before had plenty of ripe strawberries. Went 18 miles, about 9 till noon. Took dinner at a slough, some timber here. Twenty-five teams in company here, went 9 miles till night, camped on Papen Creek, good grass and some elm and walnut timber on its banks. 27 teams camped here, mostly Mormons, one Mormon preacher among them. The Captain had him preach us a sermon after dark.

Thursday, May 25th. Stopped to wash, bake, shoot and fish. The weather pleasant and a good spring.

Friday May 26th. Went about 10 miles, one beyond Elk Horn River. It is very crooked and 9 rods wide. We crossed on a ferry boat, fare \$1.00 per wagon. The weather warm and rainy. The eclipse covered about one-third of the sun here.

Saturday May 27th. Went to the Platte River, a distance of 10 miles. Here we were solicited to help a company get back 11 head of cattle that were stolen by Indians. We turned out our military forces and found them butchered and the meat packed across the Platte River, came close on the hindmost. B.C. Turman, J. Turman and J.S. Thomas shot at him. Some rain today.

Sunday May 28th. Went 20 miles to within one mile of Indian Grove, 12 in the forenoon where the road joins the river. Here Smith drove his cattle in the river to water. Chained together the current took them off and nearly drowned them. They swam to the bank which we cut down to get them out. Drove 8 miles in the afternoon and camped on the bank of the river. Some rain again.

Monday May 29th. Crossed Shell Creek at 8 o'clock, a distance of three miles, went 12 miles till noon and camped at a small lake, went in the afternoon to another small lake, a distance of 22 miles. The weather has been damp and rainy all day. Shell Creek has been a great place for Indians to be troublesome. We got news of this and went there in a large company well armed but did not see any Indians.

Tuesday May 30th. Went six miles to Loup Fork and waited to cross the river. I wrote a letter to Isaac Neff. There was a tremendous rain and storm. The evening three droves all mixed up during the while one man had a horse killed by lightning. Mrs. May Thomas was complaining some. The river was up and the ferries got out of repair.

Wednesday May 31st. Ferried the wagons and swam the stock across the river. Mary Thomas very sick with the measles.

Thursday June 1st. Separated the droves, went about 16 miles, 8 till noon, 8 till night. Mary Thomas still very sick. Camped at a slough not far from the river. Some of us went fishing and some to bed, and about 8 o'clock J. McCoy's mare was stolen by Indians and missed a few minutes afterward. Our fishermen saw two Indians pass by near the camp.

Friday June 2nd. Early in the morning an alarm was given by one of Mosgroves Company that some of their horses were stolen, cattle run off and their camp was being fired on by the Indians and that assistance was demanded of us as quick as possible. Without hesitation we started some men armed and the remainder hitched up the teams and moved their camp. They were before us about four miles and Chaneys' company between us. We found the latter in as bad a fix as the former for all their horses, 16 in number, were stolen and their cattle driven away by being stampeded. When we arrived the war was ended, but one white man bruised by a ball. Six balls were in one wagon, one horse shot dead, one wounded and four stolen. One Indian was killed and two or three wounded. The companies all joined in and hunted and found the cattle. We held a consultation whether to go and fight the Indians or go on. We chose the latter, went on 12 miles and camped and built up a fort and prepared ourselves for an attack. Mary Thomas some better.

Saturday June 3rd. Our fortification was useless the previous night as no attack was made on the camp. We went about 22 miles west of the junction of north and south roads. No wood. Mary Thomas some better. The weather tolerably cool and cloudy. We camped in a valley with a hill all around. At dark it began to rain and rained very hard in showers all night.

Sunday June 4th. There was a lake of water all around us and nearly everything was wet. Went 15 miles, went 10 till noon and stopped at the roadside, then 5 in the afternoon at Prairie Creek. The creek was up and nearly past fording. We forded it however without damage by raising the wagon beds and camped on the western bank. A large train of Mormons that were ahead of us would not cross for fear, and did not cross. Mary Thomas still getting better. Have not come across any wood yet.

Monday June 5th. The creek three feet high. We went 5 miles till noon and camped on the creek. Plenty of timber here, the only timber for about 40 miles.

Tuesday June 6th. Went about 7 miles to Wood River and as it was too high to cross we laid by for the day. Some timber here. Weather cool and windy. There is a station, post office and all kinds of articles kept.

Wednesday June 7th. The fare across the bridge of Wood River was \$14.00 per wagon. The captain considered it too much. He got his men together and made a bridge and crossed over till noon. The other companies separated and left us. We went about 8 miles and camped in the prairie. The weather pleasant.

Thursday June 8th. Went about 24 miles, 12 in the forenoon and stopped at a small stream, the same in the afternoon and camped on Elm Creek. Our hunters killed a wolf and two antelopes. Weather fair.

Friday June 9th. Went about 22 miles, 10 in the forenoon and 12 in the afternoon to Buffalo Creek and camped for the night. Weather fair, some wood on Buffalo Creek. Here we saw the first grave of this year but have passed many of former years.

Saturday June 10th. Went 20 miles and took dinner in a slough and 11 miles in the afternoon to the river. Many places a crustacean formed of alkali. Weather clear. Another fresh grave.

Sunday June 11th. Went about 6 miles, camped for indefinite length of time to rest our teams. Some of the men went buffalo hunting. Some of them returned with the intelligence that they had wounded several and killed one antelope. The weather fair.

Monday June 12th. Went about 13 miles and camped for the night--did not stop for noon. Our hunters got back in the morning with buffalo meat. They had killed one and wounded several. The mosquitoes very bad. Passed another fresh grave.

Tuesday June 13th. Went about 8 miles till noon and stopped at the foot of the bluffs and in the afternoon about 10 miles and camped near the bluffs. Crossed Skink and Carrien Creek through the day, also two of the best springs I ever saw. The weather fine.

Wednesday June 14th. Went about 20 miles, 10 till noon and stopped near a marsh and 10 in the afternoon to North Bluff fork of the Platte. The weather fair. James McCollum taking the measles.

Thursday June 15. We went about 20 miles to Bluff Spring, ten in the forenoon and 10 in the afternoon. Stopped for noon on the bank of the Platte, the road through the sandy bluffs the whole days drive. J. McCollum very sick. Some rain.

Friday June 16th. Went 18 miles, 8 till noon and and stopped at the foot of the bluffs. 10 in the afternoon to small creek and camped on the bank of the Platte. Some rain in the afternoon. Crossed Petite, Pecaninny, Goose Spring, Small Duckweed, Rattle-Snake and small creeks. McCollum some better.

Saturday June 17th. Laid by for the day to get things in repair, wash bake, hunt, fish and the like, weather pleasant. McCollum on the mend.

Sunday June 18th. Went 20 miles, 11 in the forenoon to Wolf Creek, 9 in the afternoon and camped near the river where Loantrees was said to have stood. Weather fair. J. McCollum some worse.

Monday June 19th. Went about 16 miles, 10 till noon and six in the afternoon and camped on the river bank. The weather very warm. J. McCollum some better, Barbara Turman sick.

Tuesday June 20th. Went about 12 miles till noon and stopped for the day near Crab Creek. Opposite this was a French and Indian trading post. Some of our men waded the river to trade them some lame cattle for some that could travel. They spent the remainder of the day in trying to trade but did not succeed. Weather moderately warm. J. McCollum and Barbara Turman both better. Robert Davis very sick with diarrhea.

Wednesday June 21st. Did not travel any. R. Davis too sick to travel. John McCoy and Henry--also sick with the same complaint. Weather very warm.

Thursday June 22. Went about 9 miles during the day, none of the sick any better. Camped near ravine. The weather about the same as before.

Friday June 23rd. Went about 15 miles, 10 till noon and 5 in the afternoon. Camped opposite Convent Rock. The day very warm. The sick all some better.

Saturday June 24th. Went about 20 miles, 10 till noon and 10 in the afternoon. Camped opposite Chimney Rock. Weather very warm. The sick all better but R. Davis some worse.

Sunday June 25th. Went 19 miles to opposite Scotts Bluffs. Weather very warm. The sick all better.

Monday June 26th. Went about 10 miles in the forenoon and 5 in the afternoon. Weather very warm, the sick all better.

Tuesday June 27th. Went about 14 miles and camped on the river bank, 8 in the forenoon and 6 in the afternoon. Weather very warm, some rain. The sick better.

Wednesday June 28th. Did not travel any until evening. We were shoeing lame cattle. Went about 5 miles in the evening. Some rain. All well again.

Thursday June 29th. Went about 14 miles, 7 in the forenoon and seven in the afternoon. Weather very warm, some rain but little grass.

Friday June 30th. Arrived opposite to Ft. Laramie at 11 o'clock, a distance of 3 miles. Four of our men crossed over to the fort on different kinds of business. The company mailed 16 letters. We went about 8 miles through the course of the day. Weather very warm.

Saturday July 1st. Went 17 miles across the Black Hills. The road hilly and stony all the way. Found several very cold springs in a dry creek 8 miles from where we started in the morning. Camped where the road joined the river up a ravine by a good spring. Weather very warm.

Sunday July 2nd. Passed over a hilly and crooked road, came to a creek in about 12 miles. There is a spring where we approached it and took dinner here at noon. No grass. In the afternoon went about 5 miles to Spine Creek and camped for the night. Tolerably good grass here and elegant spring about the ford $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. The weather very warm.

Monday July 3rd. Went about 15 miles and camped on the river, crossed a creek 4 miles from where we started in the morning. The road crooked and weather very warm.

Tuesday July 4th. Did not travel any. Some of the men went on a hunting excursion. The women did their washing. Some of us spent the day singing. It was a day of sorrow to John Thomas and wife. They had been acting so mean and hateful that the whole company detested them. They found it out and pouted all day. The day was warm but we had a pleasant shade.

Wednesday July 5th. We started again. The first two miles rough and hilly, after that good road and went about 15 miles, seven in the morning and turned off the road $\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the river to noon. Found very good grass here. Eight in the afternoon and camped on the river bank. The weather was very warm. John Thomas and lady were crying in the morning and pouting too. Nobody was sorry for them. They concluded to unload their things and not continue with us. We were very glad of this. The captain gave them his yoke of cattle back and some provisions and sold him a wagon on credit. One man of another company had compassion on them and took them along.

Thursday July 6th. Went about 16 miles, 6 to where the road left the river. The road good so far. We now took across the hills, the road very hilly, rough and rocky. Went 8 miles till we descended to low land. Went 2 miles and camped for the night. The weather cool and windy.

Friday July 7th. We went about 16 miles, the road a little hilly for the first few miles then tolerably good road all day. B. Turman went out to hunt and did not get back. The weather cool and windy.

Saturday July 8th. Did not travel very far. Some of us went fishing and caught a number of fine ones. Ben came to camp about 10 o'clock, had killed two antelopes and said that he saw about three buffaloes. Four of our men now mounted horses and went in pursuit. At three o'clock they came back with about 4 hundred pounds of buffalo meat. The weather very warm.

Monday July 10th. Went about 14 miles. The most of the way sandy. The weather about the same. We were in sight of 3 companies. One opposite the river had about 60 wagons and about 1000 head of cattle. The wagons loaded for Salt Lake.

Tuesday July 11th. Went about 12 miles, 4 to the upper Platte bridges, from there to the upper ferry and 2 miles then camped for the night. We drove the stock over the river to good grass. The road very crooked, hilly and sandy.

Wednesday July 12th. Went about 18 miles, 8 till noon and stopped where the road leaves the river for the last time. We drove the stock across to grass, then went on till we got to a small brook where we camped for the night. Road very bad till we left the river then very good after. No grass.

Thursday July 13th. Went 14 miles then camped on a branch of Greenwood Creek. One of Smith's oxen died in the morning. We drove the stock 2 miles but found little grass.

Friday July 14th. Went 15 miles. Passed alkali and salaratus that can be gathered by the ton. Arrived at Independence in the afternoon. Here is the Sweet Water River, the first point we struck it the rock is almost covered with names from the base to the summit. We camped on the river bank near Devil's Gate.

Saturday July 15th. E.D. Hastings and I went through the Devil's Gate. It was quite a scene. We went about 15 miles and came on the river bank with bluffs all around us. Tolerably good grass here.

Sunday July 16th. We did not travel until afternoon. We rested the cattle and shod some of them. Another of Mr. Smith's oxen died. In the afternoon we went 7 miles and camped on the bank of the river. The wind blew terribly.

Monday July 17th. Good road. We crossed the 2nd, 3rd and 4th fords till noon. At the fords the road runs between ledges of rocks. In the afternoon crossed a low plain and camped for the night at 5th ford. Rain and hail in afternoon.

Tuesday July 18th. Crossed the 5th ford and went 11 miles a small creek. Here we took a new road to the left and went on three miles and camped for the night in a vale off to the left $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile found a spring with plenty of water and some grass.

Wednesday July 19th. Found a creek in four miles, went on 12 miles till noon and stopped near a spring for the remainder of the day and night. Found very good grass and water. Spent the remainder of the day shoeing cattle.

Thursday July 20th. Went 15 miles, 8 till noon and found a good spring and grass off to the left $\frac{1}{4}$ miles. 7 miles in the afternoon and turned off from the road to the right and camped near the river. Abundance of grass.

Friday July 21st. We did not travel any. We all thought it best to lay by and let the cattle rest as they were very tired and several sick. Grass here sufficient for our need. Caught a number of fish.

Saturday and Sunday 22 and 23rd of July. Still here. Saturday some of us went prospecting for gold and found some nearly every place they searched. Sunday all turned out, made a sluice and tried it again on a branch of the Sweetwater. Did not find as much as the day before, but caught an amount of fish in the stream. Frances Turman sick ever since we stopped here, some better now but Barbara took sick yesterday. A wild beast killed a steer in the night.

Monday July 24th. The small company of Missourians separated their drove from ours by reason of not wanting to go by Salt Lake. We came to a firm conclusion of going that way. We sold the flour we had to spare to them at \$15 per hundred. Frances Turman still better, Barbara no better. Benjamin took sick about noon. We

have been here now the fourth day and in sight of snow to the right all the time at a distance of 20 or 30 miles. We started from here in the afternoon and camped for the night on Pacific Creek. Three miles to the old road, 9 to the twin mounds, 3 to the dividing ridge on south pass, and 2 to Pacific springs and creek.

Tuesday July 25th. Went about 12 miles and camped for the night on Pacific Creek $\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the fork of the road, took the left hand road for Salt Lake but little grass where we camped. The sick all better.

Wednesday July 26th. Went about 22 miles and camped on Big Sandy for the night. About 5 miles to the crossing of Pacific Creek. No water from there to Big Sandy. Some grass.

Thursday July 27th. We went about 14 miles, 4 to the crossing of Big Sandy and 10 to the junction of the road. Salt Lake and Kinny's Cut off and camped for the night on Sandy but little grass. The sick about well.

Friday July 28th. Went about 12 miles. Crossed Sandy as we started and cut off to the left where there was no road to the ford and found it a very good road and by sundown saved 6 or 8 miles. Camped for the night on Green River. The best grass here and plenty of timber.

Saturday July 29th. Did not travel any. Concluded it best to rest the cattle and recruit them as we had very good feed.

Sunday July 30th. Crossed the river, found a very good ford. Went 17 miles and camped on Black's Fork of Green River, $15\frac{1}{2}$ miles to where we first struck it, $1\frac{1}{2}$ to where we camped on it. Found very good grass here. No timber but willows.

Monday July 31st. Went $20\frac{1}{2}$ miles 1 mile to ? Fork. $1\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ to the crossing of Black's Fork. Black's Fork again $12\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ miles. Stream 2 rods wide. Crossed it at its mouth $2\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ miles. We camped for the night at the mouth of it and found very good grass here but no wood but willows and wild sage.

Tuesday August 1. Went 18 miles, $11\frac{1}{2}$ to Fort Bridger, six creeks at the Fort, 4 east and 2 west, one mile from the fort to Black's Fork the last time $5\frac{1}{2}$ to the dividing ridge and camped for the night south of the road in a hollow. A good spring but not much grass. The road rough most of the day's travel. Margaret Winn sick.

Wednesday August 2nd. Went about 18 miles, 2 to a small creek at the foot of the hill of the dividing ridge of the waters of Green and Bear rivers and 4 to Muddy fork, 12 ft. wide, and 3-3/4 to Soda Spring to the left of the road. 8 to where we camped for the night, a spring to the right. The hills are covered with small quaking aspen trees. We found good grass. The road very hilly the whole days travel. Mrs. Winn some better.

Thursday August 3rd. Went about 13 miles to Sulphur Creek here we took dinner. 4 springs near here, several good water springs and one white sulphur and a ? spring south over one mile. We all went to see it. The ? had been all taken out. We skimmed some oil from the top of the water. 1-3/4 miles to Bear River. It is 6 rods wide and 2 ft. deep, many willows and some timber. 5 1/2 miles to where we camped for the night in a valley on a small creek by a large spring 30 ft. in circumference, 8 ft. deep and clear as crystal. Springs numerous in this region. Some grass but little fuel of any kind.

Friday August 4th. Went about 18 miles, 10 to Cache Cave and the head of Echo Creek and canyon and about 8 down the creek camped for the night near some springs and a ravine extending back 1/2 mile surrounded by a high mountain in which we kept the stock. Very good grass. Some cedar and aspen timber on the mountain and side.

Saturday August 5th. Went about 20 miles, 14 to Weber River then turned to the right. Weber at right angles 4 miles to the crossing of Weber thence to the left 2 miles and camped for the night in the mouth of the canyon on a small creek. A good spring here, somewhat brackish. No timber. Good grass. Echo canyon is 22 miles long, hills on each side from 600 to 1,000 ft. high perpendicular. A sound such as the cracking of a whip and the report of a gun will echo distinctly. The road crosses the creek 17 times in the 22 miles. Good grass all the way. We found Service berries on Weber River.

Sunday August 6th. Rested as the cattle were tired. We had traveled 120 miles within the last week. The women washed and the men went fishing.

Monday August 7th. Went 14 miles to the summit of a hill we were gradually ascending then 3 down the hill to Big Creek Canyon. Down Big Creek and canyon seven miles. The road very bad down this canyon and bordered by high willows. Some aspen timber in places. Camped in an aspen grove. Found tolerably good grass. Nothing bad about it but the crossing of the creek.

Tuesday August 8th. Went 9 miles to small creek canyon, 5 up the creek to summit of dividing ridge. From here we could see part of Salt Lake Valley. $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles down another small creek and canyon to Brown's creek and down that $\frac{1}{2}$ mile and camped for the night. We took great pleasure in rolling rocks down the hill which was very high and steep.

Wednesday August 9th. Went 13 miles to the Great Salt Lake City, 1 to the summit of a high hill then down. The descent very steep. 19 crossings to the foot of the mountain and to the city. We camped in town and took the stock over the Jordan River to pasture. Seeing a settlement reminded me very much of home.