

**JOHN FRANCIS FREEMAN**

Diary

1852

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Transcribed

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[numerous extraneous double commas in text]

1852 April

A Journal kept by John F, Freeman from Alden, McHenry, County, State of Illinois, on his way to California, Started

<sup>^</sup>Wednesday <sup>^</sup> April 14<sup>th</sup> A,D, 1852,,  
And Comcing[commencing] at home L First day 11 miles,, ,,

April 15<sup>th</sup>  
Last night expence, 50 cts to day noon 10 cts

April 16<sup>th</sup>  
stayed at Belvidere last night,, bill, 50<sup>cts</sup> to day noon. 15<sup>cts</sup>

" [April] 17<sup>th</sup>  
"[stayed] 4 miles West of Rockford last night bill ,50<sup>cts</sup>

" [April] 18<sup>th</sup>  
Layed over <sup>^</sup>to day <sup>^</sup> Sunday, ,, First Week 62. miles,,

" [April] 19<sup>th</sup> Monday 19<sup>th</sup>  
off again,, Bill 2 nights & two days \$1,12½

" [April] 20<sup>th</sup> Tuesday,  
bill last night <sup>^</sup>& 1 bush Corn, <sup>^</sup>.60<sup>cts</sup> noon <sup>^</sup>Oats <sup>^</sup> 15<sup>cts</sup> ,, Rained this P,M,

" [April] 21<sup>st</sup> Wednesday  
" [bill] " [last] " [night] ,75<sup>ct</sup> ,, 3 bush corn 60<sup>cts</sup> Ferrying the Mississippi \$1,00, hay, 20, &  
Hay, 06<sup>cts</sup> ,, Sent Letter No 1 here

" [April] 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Last night we slept in the waggon for the first time Hay to day noon ,05<sup>cts</sup> Hay to night at  
,50<sup>cts</sup>, cwt,, 32,<sup>cts</sup>

" [April] 23<sup>rd</sup>  
" [Hay] " [to] " [day] " [noon] ,25<sup>cts</sup> ,, Oats bush 2½, 50<sup>cts</sup> ,,  
Ferried the Wapsapinica ,50,,

" [April] 24<sup>th</sup> Saturday,  
Corn one bush 30 cts., Oats 10<sup>cts</sup>., Hay 150, <sup>lb</sup> 35<sup>cts</sup>[sic]

" [April] 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday,  
to day we have stopt., 2 miles East of Tipton  
Last Weeks travel, 124 miles || Now 124

62  
186 miles from home

to day it Rains || Both Well,, Appetite good ,, ,,

Places that we passed through,, The Country Etc., The first day (14<sup>th</sup>) fare, Crossed Cold  
Spring Prairie,, 15<sup>th</sup> Crossed Bonas Prairie Weather fare & pleasant,, 16<sup>th</sup> Stayed at  
Belvidere last night to day Weather fare rainy,, 17<sup>th</sup> Weather fare <sup>in A.M.,</sup> <sup>Squally in the., P, M.,</sup>  
passed through Byron

" [April] 18<sup>th</sup>  
Layed over <sup>to day</sup> Sunday <sup>East of Mount Morris</sup> <sup>also Buffalo Grove,</sup> Country good,, Weather fare

[April] 19<sup>th</sup>  
Off again passed through M, Morris to day, Weather fare  
at Fulton City, over into Lyons weather fare

[April] 20<sup>th</sup>  
Through Millageville,, this P,M, Rain,,

[April] 21<sup>st</sup>  
Union Grove this morning,, Crossed the Mississippi this P,M, into Iowa

[April] 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Last night slept in the waggon for the first time,, Country to day, I don't like, Prairies wet  
in De Witt County,, through DeWitt,, Weather fare,, Roads bad

[April] 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Weather cool,, roads bad,, Ferryyed the woWapsspic[sic], fare, 50

[April] 24<sup>th</sup> Saturday  
cool,, Roads bad,,

[April] 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday.  
Layed over today,, Rain to day

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[April] 26<sup>th</sup>., Monday 1852  
Off again to day,, pass through Tipton,, Hay at .30 <sup>100 lb</sup> <sup>cwt</sup> Ferry the Cedar River, 75<sup>cts</sup>  
one bush Corn, 25<sup>cts</sup>

" [April] 27<sup>th</sup>

2 bush Oats 50<sup>cts</sup> one doz bundles Oats, 25<sup>cts</sup> dried Apple, 75[?] at Iowa City, one Bag 20<sup>cts</sup>  
Nailes & Rosin, 15<sup>cts</sup>, 2 Bars Lead, 10 Weather fare,, Ferrying the Iowa River 25<sup>cts</sup>,  
Oats 6 bush \$1,50 one Gal Molasses 60

April 28<sup>th</sup>

Weather warme,, Oats in the bundle 7, <sup>bundles</sup> 20<sup>cts</sup> Country good

" [April] 29<sup>th</sup>, Thursday,

cool, one Bag Corn, 50<sup>cts</sup>, passed Hutch Cors old trading post,, Crossed Bear Creek,,  
Camped in a Grove, Made 17 miles,,

" [April] 30<sup>th</sup>

Morning quite warme, P,M, Wind blows hard accompanied with some rain,, Grain & Hay,  
scarce <sup>scarce</sup>, Bought 30 lb of hay for ,25 cts,, Last night we turned our team out for the first  
time, no Hay to be had,, No Grass of any account hard fare for our teams,, Prairies very  
rooling, Roads good to day,, Made 17 miles

May 1<sup>st</sup> 1852

It cleared off last night,, To <sup>day</sup> warme & pleasant- Crossed a Prairie to day 17 miles  
acrost,, To day Roads good,, Prairies rooling,, land good,, Made about 19 miles 9

" [May] 2<sup>nd</sup>,

Last night had a thunder shower,, Lightning sharp, Some hail To day layed over,, It  
cleared off to day about noon, warme,, Last week Made 103 miles in all 185

103

288 miles, up to

last night

" [May] 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Last night their was 26 teams camped around us,, Off again this morning left 23 teams  
behind,, & traveled on about 4 miles & came to a small Creek the water had been up &  
carried off the slabs from the stringers [of a bridge],, Some teams was ahead & put on the  
slabs before we came up & they all crossed safe but our team the slabs slid along from under  
the wheels & let our wgeon[sic] down onto the stringer & also bruised one of my Oxon,s legs,,  
But their <sup>was a</sup> plenty of healp by so we got out without much trouble & went on,, bated at 10  
A,M, Crossed the North fork of the Skunk River,, 6 miles from their to Newton, County  
seat of Jasper County, Roads good,- Made 20 miles,, <sup>Bought 1 bush ears Corn for 55cts pr lb sold \*\*\*\*</sup>  
<sup>5cts</sup> Camped to night on the Prairie,,

[May] 4<sup>th</sup>

Cool in the morning P,M, warmer,, Crossed Indian Creek this A,M, & Crossed Skunk  
River, 12½ <sup>o'clock</sup> M[Meridian = noon],, & bated here,, 3 bush Corn at 35<sup>cts</sup> per bush \$1,15,  
Made 19 miles

" [May] 5<sup>th</sup>

Rained about 2 hours from 10 o'clock A.M, till 12, M, Made 12 miles Crossed the Des Moins river for ,50 cts

[May] 6<sup>th</sup>

Last night a hevvy thunder shower,, Started to day at 10½ o'clock, Roads slipry & muddy,, Rain again at 2 o'clock P,M, about one hour,, put up [shadow] Made onely, about ,7 miles

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May 7<sup>th</sup> 1852

Last night <sup>in the night</sup> it rained again,, This morning clear & warme through the day warme & pleasant Grass grows fine & Growing[?] time To day being my birth day I had a pleasant day for it,, A small Hail storm at 5 o'clock P,M, 17 miles Made to day e~~~~e

[May] 8<sup>th</sup>

Threatened to rain in the A,M, <sup>To day</sup> Mailed No 2 Come through Winterset to day P, M, pleasant & warme Made 18 miles

[May] 9<sup>th</sup>

Camped out on the Prairie last night,, Crossed yesterday & to day a Prairie of 23 miles,, To day being Sunday & we being out on the Prairie we was obliged to drive to day till we came to timber, to day fine, cool in the morning,, Made 12 miles

From the 3<sup>rd</sup> up to now we have made 105 miles 289

105

394 Total of Miles

Camped to day noon beside of Middle River,, Roads Good, Etc We travel more miles than we Make, considerable,,

[May] 10<sup>th</sup> Monday

We got on to a Prairie of 35 miles acrost, fare, cool wind, Crossed Middle River at 4¼ o'clock P,M, ,,

Our company now consists of 4 teams,, 23 Oxen,, 3 Cows,, & 10 men,, The first teams that we met with, that we calculated to stick to them, was on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April at Sun down, 2 Teams & 5 men,, & From Solon M<sup>c</sup>Henry Co, Ill, Names Joseph Shepard, Job Pierce, Selder Peebles, Jno & Silas Ward,, Next team was May 7<sup>th</sup> From Fort Des Moins, 3 men one Waggeon & 6 Oxen & 1 Horse,, names unk[n]own to me yet,, Mr Fuller <sup>& others</sup> from Ritchmond came up to our comp[any] last night, Ox teams they had Made to day 22 <sup>25</sup> miles, I thought,, all of that. Some dead horses & Oxen along side of the road, I notice,,

[May] 11<sup>th</sup> Tuesday,

off this morning at 6½ o'clock,, a little cool to day,, Come through Cammels Grove after a drive of 10 miles, at 11 o'clock, Roads Good & Croocked enough,, got across the Prairie at noon to day, the 35 mile Prairie Then came [blot] onto another, drove 10 miles on that,, We have come 45 miles this week, since Monday morning,, Made to day 22 miles,,

according to my estimation it is 118 miles from Winterset to the Bluffs we have been making up hill ever since we left the Des Moines River,, 98 miles up, to now,,

[May] 12<sup>th</sup>

Off at 6 this morning,, drive of 5 miles brought us to Nishabound[sic] river 2 miles to Indian Creeck & Village of the same name, Camped to night on Mt, Scott in a grove at the Mt, Made 21 miles, Very warme in P,M,[?]

[May] 13<sup>th</sup>

It rained some last night, Roads slipry a little this morning,

a drive of 1½ miles brought us to a Creeck & another mile to another, 5 miles from camp off at 6½ o'clock to day

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Nishbotny River, here we Ferryed our Waggeon & one yolk of Oxen,, For Ferrying 20<sup>cts</sup>,, Windy very,, We crossed several Creecks to day,, Country uneven, soil good,, some bad mud holes to day otherwise Roads good,, A few squalls of rain this P,M, ,, Made 18 miles

[May] 14<sup>th</sup>

Some rain last night,, Very windy,, it cleared off cold this morning,, P,M, warmer, but windy,, at 9 o'clock A,M, we came in site of the Missouri River,, arrived at Kanessville at 2 P,M,, Here is a big crowd waiting to be Ferried across the River,, Flour \$8,00 per cwt,, Corn 20<sup>cts</sup>, Corn[possibly deleted] Meal 50<sup>cts</sup> per Bushel,, Here we bought a few fixings for ourselves,, [name deleted] Company now consists of two more teams,, <sup>Made 12 miles</sup>

[May] 15<sup>th</sup>

Camped on the bottoms, Grass scarce,, Last night we kept a watch for the first time,, Considerable many are returning home from here,, <sup>To day I mailed Letter No 3 home,, to Alden McHenry Co Illinois</sup> to day we layed up,, it rained again to night a thunder shower,, ,,

[May] 16<sup>th</sup>

To day we was off for the upper Ferry we got up into town & stoped to trade a little, & when [we were] ready the Cows was gone & that gave us a good chase. we found them down to the old Camp ground, drove 8 miles

[May] 17<sup>th</sup> Monday

pretty good feed we are in now, Layed up to day, we are in under the Bluffs now 7 miles North of Kanessville,, To day fine,,

Yesterday very windy,, I washed to day,, this morning a Frost,,

[May] 18<sup>th</sup>

Cool a little,, still remain on our Camp ground,, Yesterday Baird bought him a Cow, 2 years Old. Payed \$8:00 for her,,

[May] 19<sup>th</sup>

Nights some cool,, any quantity of teams at the Ferry. waiting to get across,,

[May] 20<sup>th</sup>

To day we drove down to the Ferry, Frost last night,, To day fine, they ferry them over to day post haste, 4 Ferry boats & another expected to be launched to night,, this P,M, I went across the River for the first time into, Nebraska Terr, one man died here this morning, it is reported the Cholera, & so sayes the Doctor, Come to day 5 miles,,

[May] 21<sup>st</sup>

Last night I worked on the Ferry boat, Made 5 trips, 12½ cts a trip, 62½ cts., and last night their were 2 more died of the same Complaint. of the same Comp[any],, our turn has come to cross and we are crossing rapidly, boats trip [last] 20 to 40 minutes, 5 boats, one just launched, the River here is rapid, about 140 rods <sup>527 yds</sup> across it,, all over at 5 o'clock drove out 2 miles,, For Ferrying \$2,50,, <sup>To day I Mailed a letter for home No 4,</sup>

[May] 22<sup>nd</sup>

Roads unevan,, & crocked, Passed Crossed a Creeck this P,M, & a fresh Grave, Name on the head board J, F, Moor,, Made 16 miles

[May] 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday,

to day we drove. after a drive of 6 7 miles we came to Elk Horn River, on the Ferry they charged \$2 a waggeon, so we went to

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work & Ferryed our selves across We Ferryed over to \*\*\* Some Indians around to day,, Weather fine, Made 10 miles

[May] 24<sup>th</sup>

Last night 4 Indians camped with us,, To day Baird & I bought us some Mogacins,, we meet the Indians to day occasionaly,, Baird swaped his heifer for an older cow payed \$8,00 to boot,, Made 20 miles

[May] 25<sup>th</sup>

Weather warme, the country along the Platt is level,, crossed Shell Creeck this P.M, ,, Last night some more Indians camped with us again,, Indians are beging of the teams every day,, The Pawnee tribe that we are passing through now,, Made 15 miles

[May] 26<sup>th</sup>

Roads tolerable good, this P,M, at 5 o'clock we had a hard thunder shower for a few minutes, acompained[sic] with a little hail Weather hot, feed good, Made 20 miles

[May] 27<sup>th</sup>

Last night, Musquetoos thick almost eat a body up,,

after we started out this morning about one mile we came to a very bad slew had to double teams,, At 2½ o'clock we Forded Looking Glass Creeck,, at noon feed scarce, night

pleanty,, Weather hot & dry,, 20 miles

[May] 28<sup>th</sup>

Crossed or Forded Bevar River this morning after a drive of 2 miles next was Plum Creeck 6 miles from Bevar River, next Ash Creeck [blank] miles from Plum Creeck,, Next Cedar Creeck 8 rods [wide] 2 feet deep good Fording,, Made 20 miles I should think. Camped on the banks of Loup Fork, to night,,

[May] 29<sup>th</sup>

Forded the Loup Fork this morning with out any difficulty, 10 teams Crossed over in 2 hours, about 50 rods across, after we got over we stoped for the day & washed Etc,,

[May] 30,, Sunday.

we thought it our duty the most of us to jog along to day, 8 teams, went on with us with the rest, 2 teams we left behind, because they would not drive, they were <sup>2</sup>Wards, & <sup>3</sup>Buringhom<sup>s</sup>[Buringtons],, to day pleasant, but very warme in the middle of the day, I should think we drove 20 miles to day,, Roads partly mudy & partly sandy, low ground,,

[May] 31<sup>st</sup> Monday.

Off at 6 o'clock, We soon came into Sand bluffs, about 8 miles through the sand, then we came out onto a small Creeck, ~~called Prairie Creeck~~, No Water from where we started this morning till you get to this said Creeck,, here we had about 4 miles of low ground, soft Roads then we came to Prairie Creeck, one mile from here is a nother small Creeck, Roads from Prairie Creeck to Wood Creeck good,,

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Made 20 miles

June. 1<sup>st</sup>

Camped on the Prairie last night,, I saw this morning 3 Wolves, one of our men shot at one of them,, after a drive of about 3 miles we came to Wood River 15 feet wide, good crossing,, Prairie Creeck to Wood River [blank] miles, Roads good, Weather warme, with a cool breese,, the road <sup>alps</sup>[?] about 2 miles from the Platt for some distance, Roads are very dusty & dry,, Water rather scarce, to night we Camped near the Platt & also a good spring of water 1 mile west after you come down to Platt,, 18 miles Made,,

[June] 2<sup>nd</sup>

Off at 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> o'clock this morning,, Good weather to drive to day,, From Wood River to [blank], Two deep revenes,, 35 <sup>miles</sup>

To day noon we passed water, for our Cattle at two little wells,, Prairie Dogs along the road, or a little off,, P, C, Taylor,, shot a deer last night but did not get him. wounded him,, Come to Platt River about 4 o'clock Crossed two revenes, & Camped, Made 17 miles, Weather hot,,

[June] 3<sup>rd</sup>



Last night it rained tremendous hard, Wind blew a gale,, I thought that it would take the waggeon <sup>over</sup> every minute, it commenced at midnight & lasted about one hour, Morning cool. wind blows quite hard,,

It wet up our bed clothes & some other things, but not very bad,, To timber & water 13 miles,, A Small Creek, 4 miles, Timber & water, in summer <sup>water disapears generally,</sup> This morning one man of our Company was taken Sick with a diaree, in the P,M, he was taken down worse. & at the last hour of the day P,M, (at 12) midnight he died with the Cholera, his name Wallace Maxfield,

~~4<sup>th</sup> Weather cool,,~~ To Elm Creek 6 miles <sup>bad crossing,</sup> timber & water, <sup>water</sup> cross this at 5 P,M, & Camped,,

[June] 4<sup>th</sup>

Weather cool,, This morning we buried Mr Maxfield,, he had a Brother with him, he travels on with [us] to day again, To Buffalo Creek 9 miles Roads[sic] joins Platt River 5, miles, Grass poor, to a deep Revene 13 miles, Here poor feed, Grass poor,, Pleanty of Buffalo Chips for Camping but they don't go first rate to day, they being some wet, Made 25 miles, Willow for fuel close to the river, to the River 1/2 mile,

[June] 5<sup>th</sup>

Cool this morning, This morning the rest of Our Company came up & passed us after we started out 2 or 3 miles we passed them again,, & left them behind,, to Ptah Lake 13 miles,, This P,M, at 5. o'clock, they[sic] came a thunder Shower for a few minutes, 16 miles

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June 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday

Layed up to day, Grass Middling[?], Close to Platt River, the river is full of Islands all a long here, timber on the islands,, water poor. We have drove 3 days with Alkali water occasionally,, Our Company are all together again,, This P.M. a little shower,,

[June] 7<sup>th</sup>

Monday Off again this morning at 6 1/2, , To day Cool & windy,, the road joined the Platt 13 miles from Ptah Lake, Sandy Bluffs here, to Skunk Cr 7, follow it up to the Ford 5 miles, to day I have seen 7 New Graves,, Camped 3 miles West of Skunk Cr, Made 28 miles

[June] 8<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday Buffalo Chips for fuel. they work tolerable fare,, 3 miles from Camp brought us to two exelent Springs, to the head of Pawnee Swamp, Mestayer's Creek, 12 feet wide Good crossing, some Grass, no timbr. roads a little sandy in places, Last timber, <sup>7 miles,</sup> on the north side of the Platt, for 200 mile Wide Creek, 2 miles, 10 feet wide, Black mud Creek 3 miles plenty of water & fare Grass, Buffalo Chips, Camp here, Made 26

Wednesday [June] 9<sup>th</sup> Wednesday,

Weather fare, Grass Creek 10 miles, North Bluff Creek 4 miles, 6 rods wide, low banks. Good crossing, Now have sandy roads over sandy bluffs to, Buffalo Creek 11 miles,

Several small streams along here, Good camping, along here anywhere ~~made 25 miles~~

10<sup>th</sup> Thursday Weather warme, To Shepherd's Creek, 4 miles, A number of small streams in this neighborhood, & soft places, **Wolf Springs & Creek**, 3 miles. Good grass, roads sandy occasionally,, **Petite Creek**, 6 miles, 5 feet wide, Good water & a fare place to camp. Sandy Bluffs along here <sup>3</sup><sup>1</sup><sup>3</sup> mile) Duck Creeck, 1 miles 12 feet wide, Plenty of good cold spring water. good camping, evry thing pleantiful, Rattlesnake River 7 miles 25 feet wide, current swift. water good, & good crossing, the road is now quite sandy to Cedar Bluffs, south of river, About opposite them near lat 41° 13' long 102°,, after passing several little Creecks you come to **8 Camp Creek** 12 feet wide, water plenty, & good, Grass fare, to Horns Creeck. 5 miles, 25 f wide, At the foot of a steep sandy Bluff, hard tugging to ascend, little or no grass & a scarcity of fuel, to Watch Creeck 4 miles 10 feet wide, road turns here & runs close to the river, to a point opposite of **Lone Tree** 4 miles, Which stands about 350 yards south of the road, to Ash Hallow south of river, camped opposite of there to night, here we met Blogets & Co

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Letter Expresses for the States, here some of us improved the opportunity & wrote home I did myself one to John Freeman No 5 & Mr Baird

61 Human Graves up to this date from Missouri river

12<sup>th</sup> Saturday wrote one & put in with mine, Fare & a stamp 28. <sup>cts</sup>,, to Castle River 3 miles, 8 rods wide, 1 1/2 feet deep, swift current, good water, & good crossing, & good camping, to Calm Creeck 8 miles. this cannot be depended on for water, & [you] may not find any for 20 miles, roads runs near Platt River, to Indian mound 18 miles, the roads are sandy & to day we drove on account of no feed, heavy along here to Crab Creeck, 2 miles, 20 feet [wide], Grass poor,

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday To Ancient Bluff ruins <sup>10 miles</sup> north of road <sup>1 mile</sup>,, Resembles ancient fortifications castles etc in ruins,, some cedar on these ruins,, Road joins river 11 miles <sup>a little rain to day in the evening</sup>

[June] 14<sup>th</sup>

Monday to day we layed up, found good feed, & shortened or[?] reach to the waggeon, Etc, Weather pleasant, Last night we could see Chimney Rock 21 miles ahead. south side of River,, This P,M, we had a Hail storme & rain & wind blew hard enough,, First rate feed as ever was,,

[June] 15<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday We stayed here to day. some of our company,s oxen feet are getting sore so we thought it best to hold on to day, & let our Oxen recruit up a little & rest, we send a team off to the Bluffs to day & get a load of wood (cedar wood) the Boys killed an Ox that was <sup>lame</sup> left by somebody, for some Waggeon grease & Mogacins to put on their oxen,s feet,,

[June] 16<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday Off again, at 7 o'clock, Weather a little cool. 11 miles from the ruins the Road joins the River,, to Court house Rock 10 miles south of River 10 miles, we bated to day noon about opposite of it,, Grass lite,, We have got some of our Waggons shortened up & I think that they run liter by thi[s] mean<sup>s</sup>,, This morning Mr Maxfield thought he would wait for some acquaintance to come up he calculated to wait till noon & then come on, Crossed this P,M,

some sand bluffs, Camped to night near the river, Grass not much, Alkali a plenty of it,, Made about 18 miles to day,, My watch to night,,

[June] 17<sup>th</sup>

Thursday To day we rolled on again; morning pleasant. Grass not stout anywhere along the Road, to day noon we got up a little past Chimney Rock,, Scotts Bluffs next 25 miles from the Chimney, this P,M, about 4 o'clock, their was a hard wind for about 1/2 an hour, accompanied with a little rain, Mr Maxfield come up to night he did not find his friends,

[June] 18<sup>th</sup>

Morning pleasant, Last night their was a man di[e]d about 1/2 a mile from us; with the general complaint on this road,, Road joins the river 12 miles Lat 40°, Good grass & good camping Capital hills or Scotts Bluffs 11 miles road about 1 mile from river,, Spring creek 5 miles, 12 feet wide

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Friday you do not cross it but follow along it for some distance it is said that it has many beautiful trout in it,, Prickly Pares begin to show themselves a little above Chimney Rock,, To night we in sight of Laramies Peak of the Rocky Mountains 17 miles

[June] 19

Saturday Morning pleasant, we camped last night on Spring Creek beside of a beatiful spring of pure cold water,, from where the road joins Spring Creeck to where the Road joins the River & two Ravines 5 miles,, Grass good along here at Spring Creeck,, Blue Rock in the Bluff to the right 8 miles,, Many rattlesnakes are conce.aled along the bluffs,, We got up a little past Blue Rock & stoped to bate just 12 M[eridian = noon]. when we stoped, we stoped about 35 rods from the river (the Platt) & some of the Boys went in Swimming, Mr. Silas H. Baird (My partner) was in also,, for one, their was 6 or 7 of them in, Mr Baird asked me if I was going in, I told him No sir, & that was the last word he ever spoke to <sup>me</sup> & I to him,, for he never got out of the River,, Their was 6 men in it at the same time they never saw him drown, the water was very deep just below where they went in the last they saw of him he was swiming down stream he spoke to the Boys that the water was cold & said to them that they must not be in long for the water was cold. the water was so muddy that you could not see in it half an inch & the current swift, Their was diligent search made for him but [we] could not find him, Some of them that was hunting him went down 10 feet & did not reach the bottom,

We examined some of his things & what money he had left was \$11.37, eleven dollars & thirty seven cents, this I have taken charge of myself, till I it is probaly[sic] I get through. if their is no prevailing providene,, We drove on to[sic] till we found feed & layed by for Monday, To day Mr P, C, Taylor left one of his Oxen on account of [being] sore footed could not get him along, ([sic] he had onely 2 Oxen on a lite Waggeon, & yesterday Wards boys left one in the same way, ([sic] he <sup>P. C. Taylor</sup> got a cow of the Captain,, to put in side of his Ox to draw his waggeon along, put up at 5 o'clock P,M, Grass middling, this evening their was 2 more teams come up & camped with us.

Made 21 miles

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[June] 20<sup>th</sup>

Sunday To day we layed by, & went about 20 rods to another camp & heard a Sermon from Rev Mr Baggler., Text Exodus 20<sup>th</sup> Chapter 8, 9, 10 & 11 Verces, he spoke well,, to day pleasant,,

[June] 21<sup>st</sup>

Monday Off again this morning,, Weather fine,, this A,M, we reached timber once more, we have come now 200 miles without timber on the North side of the River,, From Blue Rock to timber 16 miles. here is sandy roads to Rawhide Creeck. 7 miles, this stream is dry in the Summer,, it cannot be depended on for water, touch Platt River in 2 or 3 miles,, 18<sup>7</sup>[?]  
miles

[June] 22<sup>nd</sup>

Tuesday Camped with in 6 miles to Platte River Ferry, 7 rods wide, 5 or 6 feet deep, swift current, Here several of us went over to the Fort, 2 miles from the Ferry, Here I posted <sup>postage 10 cts</sup> a Letter to John Freeman (No 6) Fort Laramie is beautifully situated on Laramie River, her[e] now their is 60 Soldiers stationed,, Ox shoes \$,1,00 pr pair, & nails to nail them on with ,50 cts pr do<sup>z</sup>, They didnt any of us get any at [that] price,, For Ferrying a man over & back ,25 cts,, Feed poor,, Here we have got to make our Own guide for 100 miles to the 3 Ferry on the Platt, From the Ferry to Gravel stone Rock 4 miles, <sup>Sold 100 lbs of Flour for \$8,00,,</sup> U,S, Farm one mile, to a Clay stone Monument 3 miles,, 3 miles from the Ferry. I sold one cwt. of Flour for \$8,00 Al[1] I could get, for I had to much Load, We drove off one mile from the road & camped Grass tolerable,, 9 miles <sup>to. day</sup> ^,,

[June] 23<sup>rd</sup>

Wednesday Last night it rained a little , Off again at a little past 7,, To where road joins river 17 mils roads very rough through here one very seat[steep] hill of about 60 rods up,, To a spring down in a deep revene 2 miles here we camped for the night,, to day it rained in the A.M, back 2 miles is first rate Water & cold,, Sold 78 lbs Corn Meal \$1,50,, <sup>3. Graves</sup> ^ 18 miles,

[June] 24<sup>th</sup>

Thursday Morning cool,, 9. miles brought us to a Spring,, Some rain this A,M, and in the P,M, had quite a shower,, 10 Miles brought us to a dry Creeck, Some water when I come through,, encamped to night on a hill, where we can see Mountains above the clouds,, [blank] Graves seen to day,, Made 20 miles,, The roads to day are more level than yesterday as <sup>much as</sup> ^ 12 per cent above par,,

[June] 25<sup>th</sup>

Friday Warne this morning, & it held out to be a pleasant day, Roads more even than usal, 10 miles brought us to the river,, here along here the road touches the river occasionally, Graves 3 to day,, 3 miles brought us to a dry Creeck, Roads improveing,, 7 miles on the road joins the River, here we encamped. Grass, Wood, Water plenty, Made 20 miles,,  
W

[June] 26<sup>th</sup>

Saturday Pleasant,, to day we have layed by to make a bellows, to make Nails to Shoe Oxen Some

that had not shortened up their Waggeons. before have done it to day; One Cart made out of a Waggeon, by Wards boys,, Those two teams that fell in with us last Week left us to day gone on ahead,, Laramie Peak in sight of us, South about 40 miles,, Snow bank on the top North Side,, it rained a little just at Sun down,,

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[June] 27<sup>th</sup>

Sunday | June Off again this morning pleasant, in 4 miles road joins the River,, 2 miles to a deep revene & river, 3 miles to the top of a s[t]eeep hill where the de[blot]t is s[t]eeep, here we drove off of the road 1 miles to dine but no Grass,, here their was a dead human body seen floting in the river, it was on the opposite side, but the river is dangerous to swim,, Such a swift current, 6 miles road joins the river one mile on their is a revine with a good Spring of pure Cold Water, the 2<sup>nd</sup> reven[e] from where the road comes off of the Bluffs this P,,M, the Road has been very rough,, 7 Graves,, 16 miles,,

[June] 28<sup>th</sup>

Monday Started at daylight 3 miles & stoped to bate,, (for we had no feed last night,,) drove our cattle up a revene about 2 miles & found good grass,, drove [blank] miles to where road joins the river,, to a sand bluff South of road near the river 6 miles, to a dry Creeck 3 miles, to where road joins the river 3 miles,, this P,M, their was a strong wind, so that dust in the road blew was a perfectt cloud of dust,, Not very pleasant,, 4 Graves,, Miles 16 We met some Packers from California. 40 days from their,,

[June] 29<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday We encamped last night near the river,, drove the cattle up on the bluffs & found some feed for the Cattle,, Morning pleasant,, Nights cool,, There is a Ferry across Platt river here where the road joins the river,,

Had last night an Ox shod forward (Bairds Ox) bill 40 cts,, to a ravene with running water in it 3 miles,, you now pass over a sandy road to ravene gravel & rock bottom, near river some water in it 5 miles,, heavy sandy road no grass near road, bluffs & timber to foot of it & round passing between[sic] round a bend 7 miles, sandy roads & no grass near road,, Made 19 miles,,

[June] 30<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday To foot of Hill 3 miles Grass scarce, to second Ferry to foot of a large sandy Hill,, Heavy sandy road over hills to River 2 miles.. Roads dry, sandy & dusty,, Roads very dry,, To third Ferry 5 miles,, here at this time there is two Boats runing has been more this Summer,, Charge for Ferrying a Waggeon \$5,00,, Cross over & back in 10 minutes, here you want[] to take in Water <sup>to last 26 miles</sup>, drove out From the Ferry 3½ miles & encamped,

5 Graves two that had drowned in Platt River. at the Ferryes,, Grass scarce,, We have to use Wild Sage Brush for Fuel,, Made 13½ miles

Thursday July 1<sup>st</sup>

Pleasant,, From Ferry up to top of Hill 7 miles,, To <sup>Mineral Spring</sup> Pojsonous Lake 6 miles

must not let your <sup>Stock</sup> drink here for it is said that it will kill your stock,, but we took our Cattle down this run 1 mile & let our Cattle drink all that they wanted, & I don't believe that it will hurt them,,

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To Avenue Rock 7 miles, To Alkali Springs & Marsh 2 miles, ½ a mile From here we turned off to the left ½ a mile & found good Grass & encamped, here we found good grass for our Cattle,, <sup>Made 20 miles</sup> a good spring of Cold Water,, this P.M. some of our men went out Hunting did not come in till midnight could not find our camp,

[July] 2<sup>nd</sup>

Friday To Willow Spring Creeck 4 miles Good water, Willow Springs 5 miles first rate Water, sage for fuel,, here at the Springs their is plenty of Willows for fuel,, Early their is plenty of Grass but the branch is quite miry,,

Green Creeck 3 miles, not to be depended on for water,, In reaching it you cross,, Prospect Hill, from which you have a beatiful view of the country, Harpers Creeck 3 miles Good Water, south of Road,,

Woodworth Creeck left of road not to be depended on for Water,,

Greas wood Creeck 2 miles, 10 feet wide, Plenty of Water, no Grass, or fuel, road is now heavy sand for several miles, Weather fine, 18 miles,

[July] 3<sup>rd</sup>

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July Salaeratus Lake west of road 6 miles,, In, this neighborhood their are many Alkali springs & Lakes. Water unfit for man or beast,, **Rock Independence.** 4 miles, On the North side of Sweet Water 600 or 700 yards long & 120 to 150 yds wide,, hard granite,, it is quite [a],, curiosity. hundreds no doubt have been on upon[sic] its top within the last year or two,, Almost the entire stone is coverd with dates & the names of visitors painted theron with red, white, black Etc,, About 1<sup>st</sup> 42°. 30'. 15",, I went on top of it myself, & I heard a short Oration for the 4<sup>th</sup> then they had 3 or 4 rounds firing guns on the top,, you strike the Sweet Water just below the Rock, Sweet Water crossing 1 miles 8 rods wide 2 to 3 feet deep, beatiful stream & has a swift current,, Devils Gate west of road 5 miles, This is a curiosity worthy of the travelers notice,, the rocks are 400 feet high & perpendicular through which the Sweet Water forces its way, the best view is from East end of it,, Cross two small Creecks 1 miles timber scarce, Grass scarce now, early probly plenty, drove about 1 mile & cross the river & drove up into the Mountains, found good grass & camped, good water, wood & Grass,, 9 Graves,, at the Salaeratus Lake you can gether bushels of it we getherd some of it, & I don't see but what it makes just as light bread, as Salaeratus that is Manufactured in the States, we have tried it in most every thing, Made 18 miles,,

[July] 4<sup>th</sup>

Sunday Layed by found some good grass, so we concluded to let our Cattle eat it up,, To day fine,, at Rock Independence is the commensmen of the Rocky Mountains,, to day I had some Green Corn that had been dried,, the Rocky Mountains are a naked rock nothing but a few dwarf pine,, grow on them,, they are solid granite To day is concluded to lay by, for our Cattle

have not eat up all of the Grass,,

[July] 5<sup>th</sup>

Monday To day they are making Ox shoes & Nails, also shoeing Oxen, Etc,, Last night my watch,  
Rather cool to day,,

5<sup>th</sup> Cool to day,, Last night my watch,, We concluded to lay by & let our Cattle eat up what  
Grass their was left, (enough for them (a Week)[]), To day a nother team joined us 11 is  
all,, Some firing guns to day,,

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[July] 6<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday Off at 6½ o'clock this day,, Our Cattle have not eat up all of the grass, but they have given it a  
hard one, they came out in better condition than when we drove in,, day pleasant,,  
Creek & steep Ravene 6 miles,, Sandy roads,,

Alkali Lake south of road, 4 miles,, Roads good & solid,, little grass,, Sage Creek 5  
miles not to be depended on for Water,, near Sweet Water all the way.. Stone Bluff 3  
singular bluff to the left of the road,, Three Feet Creek, 1 mile, Sage for fuel all along,,  
Made 19 miles,, 9 Graves,,

[July] 7<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday Last night our cattle marched right off as quick as we unyolked,, part we found in the night  
the rest this morning about 8, o'clock, 8 miles ahead of the Camp, so we did not get off till 10,  
o'clock,, in the night it rained some,, To Bitter Cottonwood, 3 miles 12 feet wide,,  
some timber, here the road leaves the River for 6 miles, at noon to day we had a Hail  
storme & rain To Ford N<sup>o</sup> 2, Sweet Water,, 6. From Council Bluffs 756 miles,, Good  
Crossing,, Road Turnes between rocky ridges 2, miles,, At the end of them you ford the  
river twice within 50 yards which [is], Fords N<sup>o</sup> 3, & 4, Sweet Water <sup>rather</sup> Bad crossing,,  
leave river again,, <sup>here one of our</sup> Co Waggeon[s] <sup>tiped</sup> over just as comeing into River, nothing broke,  
righted up & went on,, drove 4 miles & Camped,, 10 Graves,, Made 17 miles,,

[July] 8<sup>th</sup>

Some grass last night we had,, From Ford No, 4, to Ford N<sup>o</sup> 5, 8 miles,,

Thursday here you leave the river for 15 miles, & find no good water in that distance,, Grass scarce  
Ice Springs 6 miles,, low swampy piece of ground to right of road,, dig down 2 feet you  
will find ice at all times,, but I would <sup>not</sup> use this Ice, alkali close by, Steep descent 9 miles, A  
barren desolate country all the way,,

Ford No, 6, Sweet Water 1 mile,, willows plenty,, soon after crossing you come to a small  
Creek about 20 feet wide,, then ascend a bluff 1½ miles to the summet, encamped here,,  
Grav[e]s 9 Made 22 miles,,

July 9<sup>th</sup>

Friday 3 of our Co.s Waggeons left us last night, the Captain's Waggeon for one, went on ahead,,

found some Grass for our Cattle,, To Ford No, 7, 4 miles,, Ford N<sup>o</sup> 8, is but half a mile from N<sup>o</sup>, 7, ½ mile river bank and stream, part of the River,, Musk-rat Creek 5 miles,, Water good & cold. Road leaves the River, 4 miles, And winds through, around & over steep rough hills & hollows, dangerous to Waggeons,, 3 Lakes 1 mile, have the appearance & taste of Soapsuds,, Small branch & Swamp 3 miles,, No Grass,, To small Creeks 2 mi Water & some Grass, early, Strawberry Creeck 2 m\_ 6 feet wide,, A good place to camp, plenty of Willows,, here we camped,, It has been windy to day,, dust plenty of 10<sup>th</sup> it in our eyes,, Quaking Asp Creeck 1 mile,, A [blank] Graves,, Made 18 miles,,

[July] 10<sup>th</sup>

Saturday M<sup>c</sup>Achran,s Branch (of Sweet Water) 3 miles,, 2 rods wide, Water good. roads good to Willow Creeck 2 m\_ Water good. Willows & a good camping place before the grass was eat off,, now we have good roads for 10 or 15 miles,, To Ford N<sup>o</sup> 9,, Sweet Water 5 miles,, 3 rods wide,, Their has been snow in sight for several days, to day I had some & had a little play of Snow balling,,

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L night our Cattle had but a little grass, they begin to look bad,, On Wind River Mountains, North [of] us to day their is any quantity of Snow, it is said that their is perpetual Snow on them (& I believe it, here[?] within[?] a mile[?] or 2 of the[?] River & drove up a small run about 2 miles & camped found good grass, Water & Wood plenty, last night our Cattle did not have much grass,, Graves [blank] Made 11 miles

[July] 11<sup>th</sup>

Sunday To day we layed by,, first rate grass,, here their is Wild Clover in with Prairie grass,, Wild currents plenty,, Plenty of Snow close by (80 rods from camp,,) The country is not as rough as it was back, here where we are now & for several miles around,,

[July] 12<sup>th</sup>

Monday Off at 6½ O,clock this morning, Weather fine,, Cross Ford N<sup>o</sup> 9. this morn,, here we leave the Sweet Water for the last time, <sup>"A little Frost this morning"</sup> the next stream we meet with will be heading[?] the same way we are agoing,, To **South Pass**, 10 miles, it is a gradual ascent to the Pass,, 3 miles before you get to the Pass is Twin Mounds,, To Pacific Springs from the Pass 3 m,, Water good, no grass now,, Pacific Creeck 2 m\_, bad crossing,, Dry Sandy 9 M Water not first rate, rather brackish,, he[r]e we camped <sup>on the</sup> <sub>Western Slope for the first time,,</sub> we have drove 26[sic] miles today & our Cattle have not had no grass, &

Wednesday Made 24 Miles,, ,, We passed over the Summet at 20 minutes before 12, M[eridian = noon] Altitude 7,400 feet above the level of the Sea,, Roads this P,M, are rather sandy,, Made 24 miles,,

[July] 13<sup>th</sup>

Last night our Cattle got away, but we found them this morn\_, Some grass,, We concluded to lay by to day, for one of Our Oxen is sick.. Henry Arthur, with a diarrhoea, We drove our Cattle off 4 or 5 miles, & found good water & Some grass, you can't find grass this season without going off of the road from 2 to 5 ms,, Their is 4 Waggeons from St, Louis camped with us to waiting for us,, I thought that we were opposite of the Wind River Mountains 3 or 4 days ago, but I was mistakened, So now we ain't anymore than opposite,, nearly all covered



with Snow,, We sent a team up to the spring & got our cans & casks filled with good, cold, & pure Water,, To night their were considerable many camped about here it made quite a town,, There has been a perfect jam on the road ever since we left the Upper Ferry on the North Platt,, in a day or two we will be out of some of this crowd & probaly where we can find feed nearer the Road,, A small shower this P.M, ,,

[July] 14<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday

A Fog this morning, it cleared off fine,, This morning the Boys fe[t]ched in an Antelope,, We fixed up a Hammock for Mr Arthur & rolled on, Off. 10½, late start,, To Junction of Great Salt Lake Road & the Oregon Road on which is Sublets Cut off 6 miles,, The left hand to Salt Lake the right to Fort. Hall & Sublets Cut, off, We took the left hand Road,, To Little Sandy 9½ M.s, camped here Water & willows a plenty, Grass poor,, To night we tried our Antelope, & it went first rate,, Made 15½ miles

[July] 15<sup>th</sup>

Thursday

Weather hot to day,, To Big Sandy 14 ms Water & willow, plenty <sup>follow down 4 miles, good</sup> crossings,, <sup>drove 5 miles & camped,</sup> Last night Mr Taylor was taken sick with the Mountain Fever,, Last night my Watch, Feed poor, very,, Roads rather sandy,, Country quite level,, ,, Made 19 miles Roads have been dusty to day

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[July] 16<sup>th</sup>

Friday

Last night our Cattle didn't have any water drove about 3 ms & came near the Sandy & watered Grass tolerable, at noon we came to the Sandy again <sup>after</sup> a drive of 12 miles, follow down it ½ mile & then you leave it,, here is another Junction, the left hand road to Salt Lake the right to Green River <sup>or Kinneys, cut off,</sup> 18 miles, here you wanto[sic] put on Water for their is none fit for use in that distance,, drove out 5 ms & camped, found good grass, Roads good,, Made 18 miles

[July] 17<sup>th</sup>

Saturday

This morning a drive of 3 m<sup>s</sup> to another Junction we took the left & went to Holidays Ferry, we reached [it] at 1, o'clock P,M, For Ferrying \$3,00 per Waggeon, a nice stream about 14 rods. across,, Folowed up the River 4 miles & camped, timber plenty,, The most fun that I have seen to day was after we camped, one of our Men tied an Ox to a yolk & he got scart & run in amongst the other Cattle & played around a spell, but no bones broke,, quite [a] sight Made 17 m<sup>s</sup>

[July] 18<sup>th</sup>

Sunday

Morning plasant,, We elected a new Captain the other day (the 15<sup>th</sup>,,) So to day he thought it best to roll on his name, Peter Noby[Freeman spells this name several ways], from St Louis, M<sup>a</sup> A drive of 6 m<sup>s</sup> brought us to a small broock, water good. No Grass, 6 to a nother,, plenty of Sage for fuel, no grass except back on the bluffs, bunch Grass, At noon we had a nice little shower of rain,, Mr Arthur is fast recovering from his sickness. it turned into Mountain Fever,, Made 120 miles,,

[July] 19<sup>th</sup>

Monday, Camped by the side of a small stream, Sage plenty, water tolerable,, after we started out drove ½ mile & crossed brook, bad crossing,, day fine,, this P.M, we came out into Sublets Cut off & the Fort Hall Road,, we descended a long gill[sic] to get to it, water & willows plenty, no grass, plenty of water all along now, drove about 4 miles fa[r]ther & camped,, not much Grass, Made 20 m,

[July] 20<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, It rained a little last night,, ny[sic] watch,, drove about 10 ms & assended a long hill when at the top you descend for over a mile very steep & rather difficult, at the foot is Hams Fork, Good water, plenty of willows, no Grass,, drive 1½ mile & begin to assend the longest hill we have yet met with,, the guide says 2 m,<sup>s</sup> up it but I don't believe it is that much,, drove 1 mile after we reached the top & camped, grass good,, Poplar groves along, often,, 1 Grave,, Made 17m<sup>s</sup>

[July] 21<sup>st</sup>

Wednesday, We have a long stretch of up hill to day, 67 ms brought us to a grove of Fur trees & Poplars, to Stony Creeck [blot] m,s good water, you descend a long hill to this Creeck, to Bear River Valley 3 miles, into this Valley we descended the wist<sup>worst</sup> hills we have yet found; great care is used here. drove 6 ms & camped, Water good, & Grass, rather a dangerous place for stock, many springs holes,, Made 20 m,s 2 Graves,,

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[July] 22<sup>nd</sup>

Thursday, Layed by to day, Weather warme,, Ever since we struck the Sweet Water River we have seen a great many dead Cattle but a few dead horses, & the scent from them, after they have layed any length of time is any thing but sweet,, Mr Taylor is get'ng, so as to be about, he was out shooting at a mark & he also got supper to night, Mr Novy thought that he had served as Captain long enough, so this evening they elected Mr Taylor for our Noble Commander, for the space of one Week,, We have 11 Waggeons & 24 men, also 8 Women,, Company large enough. plenty,, We camped at the head of Grass Creeck,,

[July] 23<sup>rd</sup>

Saturday, Our new Captain got us off [in] a little better season than we have [had] along back,, To Smith's Fork 5 m,s here you turn sudently[sic] to the right into a gorge between 2 mountains Ford 3 times & return through the same gorge over a very stony place worse than any that we have yet found,, <sup>the</sup> Water is pure & cold also clear & a very swift current To Bear River Creeck 3 m's, Bear River 1 mile, To Thomas' Fork 10 m,s here instead of going up to the Ford 8 miles around we crossed a Toll Bridge, Fare ,50 cts,, <sup>Bought an arneful[sic] of Willows for a half dime of an Indian.,</sup>

[July] 24<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, to Brookharts Creeck 2 miles. then comes a long hill 2 miles up, tedious ascent,, downs[sic] it 3 miles, desent steep & stony,, Bear River 3 m,s\_ Weather warme, Roads dry & very dusty,, To Tallies Creeck 7 miles,, water good, clear & cold, To Willows Creeck 5 m,s, camped half way between these Creecks, Grass good. no Water,, Made, 20 miles,, Roads good along this Valley now,

[July] 25<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, Weather fine, Sold a pair of Boots for \$4,00 that b[e]long to Mr, Baird. To day we drove a little to make our next days [blot]er. To Willow Creek from Tallies Creek 5 miles, Willow Creek has 3 branches, Water good, Willows plenty, To Indian Creek 4 miles, We drove up this stream one mile & encamped. Water good, willows plenty also gooseburrys, Grass good, Made 12 miles,

[July] 26<sup>th</sup>

Monday, Morning fine, the roads fine, but dusty very,, To White sand hill 3 miles. here is a small brook of good water, the Guide says that their is no mor[e] good water for the next 17 miles. To Mud Creeck 8 miles, just before we got to Mud Creeck we turned down to the river some over a mile & found plenty of good water & fuel. we drove our Cattle across the River & found good Grass, to Soda Springs 9 miles, we Camped 1½ miles this side, in a beatiful grove of Cedar where their is an exelent spring of pure cold water,, here it is said their is a nice Soda spring,, but I did not see it,, Found Good grass North of this grove <sup>^</sup> Grave <sup>^</sup> Made 20 miles,,

[July] 27<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, We followed around the Grove & struck straight for the Soda springs in ½ a mile we came to the Nicest spring of pure\_cold water that I ever saw, almost a river comeing out of a rock,, the springs [blot], Here is some of the greatest curiosities that I ever saw,, the Best spring here is down close to the creeck, the water boils up sparkles up, you cannot get your head down to the water at all, the Water formes a stone as it dries, works up through a mound 10 to 20 feet high,, 1 mile you come to Sugar Creeck ½ a mile you come to a nother Soda spr  
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the best that I have seen down near the River to make it tast[e] good you want [to put] in some Vinegar or Acid & sugar, Lemon Syrup is the best, 80 rods is[?] Steamboat spring felt[sic] of the road 40 rods on the brink of the River, this is quite a curiosity to me, the water boils up 2 or 3 feet out of a tabular[?] rock, the Water is some warme. it tastes rather flat here you want to take in water for you will not find any mor[e] for 20 miles. To Junction Fort Hall Oregon road &- California road 6 miles from the springs, here you leave Bear River for the last time here it is rather difficult to get the water about 200 feet down to the River, you can fetch it up in Buckets & water your cattle comfortably. To the foot of the Mountain 8 miles, To Cadys creek 7 miles water good, Grass poor, plenty of fuel,, Made 22 miles

[July] 28<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, July, Morning fine, you ascend a hill now, the descent is rough & dange[r]ous to Waggeons to Shoshone Creeck 6 miles, 40 feet wide, 2 feet deep, Grass scarce around the Creeck, To Denisons River 3 miles, we drove up onto the hill about one mile & found some Grass, 2 dayes ago Mr Buringtons team left us & to day another one that joined us on the Sweet Water River,, While we were getting ready for a start one of our Missouriie teams took the Stampeed & that started mine & I was in the Waggeon at the time & jumped out & was after them, I just made out to turn them off[f] from a revene that was close by, they run about 30 rods & got down my off Ox, (2<sup>nd</sup> Yolk from the Waggeon) & draged him 3 rods, on his side, & I made out to stop them then, it hurt the Ox considerable, & broke off the Waggeon Aeap[?] 6 inches, I fixed it up, & started on at this time their was a nice little show of rain, it layed the dust for

a few miles,, Their is some trout in Denisons River but they would not bite, or else we should [have] had some of them for a supper, A Swamp & River 8 miles, their is a good spring, pleanty of Grass, here we camped, the roads this P,M, have been beatiful, Made 17 miles, this day,,

[July] 29<sup>th</sup>

Morning fine, to day we all went on but the Missourie [folks], they stayed back, we started out about ½ mile, we passed where some men were diging a Grave, for a man that died with the Mountain Fever, his health had not been good for 3 years, they were from Missourie. we followed up Black River 2 miles to cross & then followed down as far on the other side, The Road is <sup>now</sup> hilly, ascending and ~~hitt~~ descending to a branch of Good Water. 8 miles, it is 8 miles to the top of the hill ½ a mile down it is [to] a spring of good Water, 2 miles to a Creeck, then you ascend another hill, we rolled up a mile & camped,, Made 14 miles,, it has been rather warme & dusty to day,,

[July] 30<sup>th</sup>

Friday, We layed by till 4, o'clock P.M. ,, I done some washing this A,M, & at noon We had a thunder shower a pretty good one, we then hitched up & drove on. to a Branch 5 miles here we camped, had some grass, this P,M, little cool, we passed over a nice road this P,M, ,, Made 5 miles

[July] 31<sup>st</sup>

Saturday, Last night we had a little more rain to lay the dust,, To Spring Run 9 miles 20 feet wide, After this you will find no more water for 25 miles, this Creeck runs to the East & is good water, this Called Cash Valley by some, we got here 9½ O'clock A,M, & stayed till 1½ O'clock. P, M, ,, drove our Cattle off 2 miles, to Grass, We passed through some first rate Grass between these Creecks. Here we filled our Cans & Casks. & started for the Deasart,, in 4 miles the Road enters a deep reveene,. barely room for a Waggeon to pass in some places High Mountains on each side, through this gorge 5 miles to a steep descent, the greatest downhill we have yet had, We passed down in safty,, to Spring & Creeck 16 miles,, after we descended we came into a beatiful Valley, pleanty of Grass, as we Was coming into this Valley we had another nice little rain, We camped after Making 22 miles,,

August 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday,

Sunday, We are on the Deasart & have got to get off so we got an early start (about 4, o'clock) drove till 9, O'clock & stoped & bated, & got breakfast,, through this Valley their is 7 or 8 miles of good level road, then ascends a hill,, & Kanyon for about 4 miles to the summet, here it was where we stoped & got breakfast, & Give our Cattle the Water we that we fetched along, Grass good,, then we descend till we come to Water 4 or 5 miles, Here is a cold spring of Water, No Grass around here for 2 miles around. We watered up & went on 3 miles to good grass & stoped & bated To a spring 8 miles, 4 miles <sup>It rained that mom, a good smart shower,,</sup> We commen[c]ed ascending from Spring Creek, & in 4 miles, we come into another reveene or Gorger, Narrow. but wider than [blot]day, in 5 miles we come to said spring,, no Grass to Summet 3 miles, to a Cold Spring 7 miles, no Grass, We drove another mile & camped. found good Grass on the Bluffs,, to day we Counted 30 dead Cattle 5 Horses, & 2 Grass[graves?], Made, 25, m

[August] 2<sup>nd</sup>

Morning fine,, a little cold this morning,, This morning an other te[blot] stayed back because they thought that we drove to fast for, them, & they were calculating to lay by, a Week to recruit there Cattle, they feel we have one lame Ox, his hoof is comeing off,, To [blot] Creek N<sup>o</sup> one, ~~5 miles from Cold Spring, bad crossing, muddy bottoms,~~ to "[Creeck] two 5 miles, muddy bottoms, gad crossing, plenty of Willows & Grass on the bluffs To Small Branch 5 miles from Cold Spring, To Sinking Creeck 5 miles, Some Grass had to Cross muddy bottoms, To Ford N<sup>o</sup> 2 " " "[To Sinking Creeck] 4 miles " " [Some Grass] had Crossing " " [muddy bottoms] To East Branch of Raft River 12 miles

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2[?] No more Water till we come to east[?] branch of Raft River At Ford No 2 Sinking Creeck the Road strikes out over a barren country at the right a large Valley presents itself to the eye, & we have a Valley of about 25 miles to go through

Monday,

The roads to day are exelent,, on this 12 mile streach. I could see the dust in the Fort Hall road, To the right off about 15 miles, & on the Salt Lake Road to the left 20 or 25 miles,, We have been going down hill <sup>or ascending around</sup> all day half a day through a reveene,, Counted to day 20 dead Cattle, 2 Horses & 1 Mule,, Made 25 miles,

[August] 3<sup>rd</sup>

Tuesday,

To day layed by,, to day Hot & clear, (We layed by on the east bank of the East Branch of Raft River),, Water middling. some Willow & sage for fuel,, [blot] deal of Course Grass for Cattle,, Our Company is getting to be reduced to 11 men & 2 Women, 4 Waggeons & 24 head of Cattle & 2 Horses,, I forgot to mention,when back on Spring Run, about the Grass hoppers I never saw the like before, the ground was litterly covered with them, they looked like bees swarming, When we drove the Cattle back to Grass they would not over half of them fly up, where the Cattle went along,,

[August] 4<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, 1852

Off at 6¼ O'clock,, morning cool & cloudy, we cross East Branch of Raft River this morning, bad crossing, muddy banks, & bottom, in the space [of] 2 miles we crossed 5 more branches (now dry) 5 miles to West Branch of Raft River, good crossing, Gravel bottoms, Water good,, plenty of fuel, such as Willows, 5 miles to Swift Water. Some Grass all along; along here the road is some stony, We commenced ascending at East Branch of Raft River & at Swift Water you gett in between the Mountains again, their is small Broocks all along, we follow up the West branch,, 3 miles to Ford. No 2,, this noon we had a nother little shower, to lay the dust for a few miles, for this forenoon the roads began to be dusty again,, Half a mile above Ford No. 1,, the Fort Hall road comes into this, by the loocks of that road their is not much travel on it,, half,, a mile above Ford No 2,, their is a spring at the right hand,, To Small Branch, 6 miles, it cannot be depended on for Water,

Rock creeck 4. miles. Water good, early. probly good grass. camped here, just after we camped we had a very heavy thunder shower, (llasted[sic] 20 minutes) 15 dead Cattle, Made 25 m

[August] 5<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, Morning fine, The rain we had last night layed the dust farely, We happened to have good grass for the Cattle last night,, To Small Creeck, 2 miles. Good Water, early in the season good grass, White Creeck 2 miles, 20 feet wide,, Water good just before reaching this we passed over a swampy spring peice of ground, their is some alkali springs about, at the foot of the Mountain, cedar creeck. 3 miles, 8 feet wide, good water,, Grass & fuel, & a good place to camp, we then drove immediately into Castle City or Steeple Rock, between two high mountains, wher[e] the old road goes it is narrow, the new one goes to the right. & a wider space to go in, immediately after which the most wild & romantic scenery presents itself to the eye, Rocks upon rocks, naked & piled up in the most fantastic shapes that can be immagined are seen extending in every direction,

August, This City or (Pyramid Circle as Hornes guide calls it) is 5 miles through & about 3 Wide & quite level, The gateway where we emerged from is a small narrow place in the rocks leaving just convenient space for a Waggeon to pass through,, A nother singular thing at the right where we emerged from the Castle City, is a Cedar Tree growing upon a naked rock, 200 feet high,, One & a half miles from the City, we struck the junction of the Salt Lake road, so <sup>now</sup> all the roads are again in one,, 5 miles further is a spring of good water, in here we encamped for the night, found some grass,, Dead Cattle 12 I believe,

Made 19 miles,,

[August] 6<sup>th</sup>

Friday, Morning fine, Mr Taylor was taken with a diarrhoea this morning,, 2 miles over a hill we come to Steep Creeck, good water we have considerable up & down hill now to Good Creeck, rather rough in places & sideling in others,, Six miles further is Birch, Creeck at the foot of a mountain,, 3 miles beyond is Goos Creeck. we crossed a small branch just as we came down to Goos Creeck, Goos Creeck or River is about 20 feet wide, We followed up this stream 10 miles & camped we passed some good grass to day, but we did not Camp where there was much grass, Made 21 miles,, this is the wildest loocking country through here that I ever saw,,

[August] 7<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, Started before sunrise & drove 4 miles & stoped & let our Cattle bate, found good grass, to day I wanted to lay by & let our Cattle rest & Mr Taylor [being] rather sick, let him have a chance to rest, but the other teams wanted to go on, so I thought I would; but since I have been sorry that I had not stayed,, 7 miles up Goos Creeck (Good grass all the way) the road leaves the Creeck & follows up a branch of Goos Creeck 3 miles, & enters a Mountain gorge, followed up the gorge 8 miles, & the road crosses twice in that distance at the last Ford we took in water their being no more for 15 miles, 1 mile to stoney bluff, we continued on 5 miles further. & found a very little grass, & turned out, plenty of Sage, Made 23 miles, & some of the way the road has been stoney & rough,,

[August] 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday,

we was obliged to drive after we got into this fix, 6 miles from our encampment we entered Cold Spring Valley, near the entrance is a small Creeck, no Grass,, Five miles further is Cold Spring about 5 rods to the left of the road.— water exelent,

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Sunday, 1852 There are also some mineral as well as dangerous Springs in this Valley, about 5 miles beyond this the road passes over some low hills into Thousand Spring Valley, at the East end of the Valley we encamped,, found the best of Grass,, but had no water fit for use,,  
,,Weather rather warme,

we drove our Cattle down about a mile to Water, [it will] do for stock, ,,I suposed that when we came into this Valley that we should find plenty of Water as soon as we struck, or else we should [have] filled our cans at Cold Spring, but the Wild Wheat was good, it had not been disturbed at the East end, Made 16 miles

[August] 9<sup>th</sup>

Monday Not having any water fit for use we was obliged to drive on, but our Cattle had a good chance to fill themselves before we started,, drove 6 miles & come to a spring of rather Muddy water, but good, but no Grass here 6 miles further we Came to some of the Thousand Springs, Water not first rate, but camped here found good grass,, The road rather dusty to day, Made 12

[August] 10<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, August Last night I should think that there were 2,000 Head of Cattle round about us, the Valley was full along here,, & Waggeons enough for quite a City,, The Road continues up the Valley,, 9 miles from our morning encampment we came to the Hot Springs, We nooned just below them, found good grass, Their is a sickish smell that comes from these springs, some of the springs are so hot you cannot hold your hand in them half a minute,, some were Washing in them as I come.along,, a few rods above these hot springs, there is a cold spring, Water good,,

In 8 miles further the Valley terminates by a noble spring of cold water, being the last water the second time runing eastward, There is an immense number of springs in this Valley- ~~some~~ thereby its name, some cold & good, others cold & bad, & others warme, or, in fact hot, the road here enters a revene between two mountains. To the summit 2 miles, night camped near the summit, grass, tolerable, Made 19 miles, quite a heavy frost last <sup>^</sup>night<sup>^</sup>

[August] 11<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, Morning fine & pleasant, Mr Taylor has got well enough to [stand] watch. he was out last night,, to the Summit 1 mile,, in 3 miles the Roads fork the right hand, in 3 miles you come to Water, the left 5 miles to a spring, this left hand road we took (it is said that it is nearer than the other road) in 13 miles more we came to some springs & camped, roads good, also grass, Made 22 miles,,

[August] 12<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, We followed this Valley down 2 miles & went over some low hills into another, Grass good all the way,, In about 10 miles. we ~~[blot] Kanyon Creeck, which is a tributary Stream~~ <sup>^</sup>Deep Fork<sup>^</sup> of the Humbolt, nooned on this Creeck, where another one comes in from the mountains of good, clear & pure water, we caught a few speckled trout this noon Here is thousands of [word/s missing] good grass, a drive of 9 miles more brought us to the ~~deep fork of the~~ Humbolt (or St Marys River) this stream is very low now, Grass has been good here, but now it is pretty much all eat off, here we camped for the night,, to day the roads has been good. with the exception of considerable dust, to day I have not seen but 2 or 3 dead Cattle,

the least that I have seen in any one day in a great while. The Weather has been fine to day,  
Made 19 miles,,

[August] 13<sup>th</sup>

Friday, This morning we hitched up & drove 2 miles, & concluded to lay by till monday, (the 16<sup>th</sup>) Mr  
M<sup>c</sup>Nair thought that he could not [af]ford to lay by so he drove on, Mr Maxfield,s waggeon,  
& my own turned out for this week[end], to recruit ourselves & Cattle, found first rate grass  
& water & evrything nessesary[sic] for camping, then we went fishing there are plenty of  
speckled trout in this river, we caught quite a number of them,, & a nother kind, there is a  
great deal of Clover in this grass,, the Cattle like it,, I bought 2 doz of Ox nails this morning  
for ,25 cts a dozen,, any Cattles fe[e]t are getting sore or tender footed,, the Ford here was  
good it [river] being low about 4 inches deep,, to day Made 2 miles,,

[August] 14<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, day fine, This morning we were visited by some Digger Indians, they denied themselves,  
called themselves Sho [blank] or Snakes., to day we caught some beautiful trout, I done  
some shoeing to day, set 6 shoes on Bairds Oxen,

[August] 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday,

another fine day, to day there was a great many teams passed us,, to day noon two other  
teams come in & camped by us.

[August] 16<sup>th</sup>

Mon Off again this morning at 6½ o'clock. Weather fine, but the roads very dusty, those two teams  
rolled out with us this morning, roads good, but very dusty,, our teams felt like traveling  
this morning they go ahead as though they had a good resting spell,, last night was rather  
cool,, This P,M, about 3 o'clock

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we had a beautiful thunder shower, it layed the dust for 5 or 6 miles, In 20 miles from our  
morning's encampment, we came to the West[?] Branch of the Humbolt, good crossing,  
now 4 inches deep & one rod wide (Very low) we drove over a hill, & come down onto the  
River again, followed down aways & camped. their are a great many packing through, passing us  
every day, some with Mules, horses & afoot,,

Made 22, miles

[August] 17<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, Morning fine & pleasant, the Grass that our Cattle had last night had been eat off some  
considerable, The road follows the river down, leaving it at intervals, passing over a hill  
occasionally,, we then follow the Valley down about 30 miles, good roads all the way,  
Passed 2 Graves to day,, the most trouble to day was the dust, wind blew, & the dust flew,  
Made 22.,

[August] 18<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, After a drive of 10 miles we came to the end of the Valley. early in the season the road goes over  
the Mountain, Late in the season the road follows the river down, crossing 4 times within 10



miles, Fords good, between the First & second Fords, a road comes in from salt Lake, across a Deasart of 75 miles, The roads to day have been insufferably dusty, The wind & teams made it the dustyes[sic] to day of any day that I have <sup>ever</sup> experienced, Made 21 miles,,

[August] 19<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, Off at 7, morning fine & pleasant, a drive of 4 miles brought us to a Creeck, a beatiful stream of good Water, 2 more to the foot of a Mountain, to the Summit 10 miles, in the course of 2 miles there is several springs, not much Grass. Summit to River 7 miles Drove 1 miles farther & camped, after crossing the River, Good crossing, We camped without any grass for our Cattle, & some of [blot] Cattle are getting foot sore, sore in their heels, Bairds off Ox is so lame that he can hardly go, Made 24 miles,, Dusty roads. we had to day, also windy,,

[August] 20<sup>th</sup>

Friday, Aug Off bright & early this morning, we had no feed last night. drove 4 miles & turned out to let our Cattle eat & get breakfast, found tolerable grass,, yesterday we overtoock M<sup>c</sup>Clouth,s team, also the Missouriie teams that we left behind. some time ago, they had come up & passed us while we were laying by, they are now travling with us, we follow[ed] the River down to the next Ford & crossed, we passed over a hill just before we came to the Ford, Feed good, followed down the River 3 miles & camped, Made 16 miles, Roads have been good to day,, I bought me a Pony & payed \$15.00 for him bought him this afternoon of a Packer,, Made 16, miles

[August] 21<sup>st</sup>

Saturday L by We concluded to lay by to day, we found good grass for our Cattle, also Mrs M<sup>c</sup>Clouth was taken sick last night,, good share of the Boys went fishing, some with Waggeon Covers & others with lines, Mr Taylor caught a fine lot of them, one Man killed a Prairie hen (such as are in Illinois) the firs[t] that I have seen since 100 miles this side of the Missouriie river, I cut my Waggeon Box off about 2 feet,, sold one pair of Bed tick pants at \$1,00, for Mr Baird,,

Aug.,

22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

off again this morning, this morning their was a frost, otherwise the morning is fine & cool, We follow down the River to Stony Rocky point, a very rough & stony place

Sunday, {after you leave; here you want[ t]o take in Water. for you have a drive of 30 miles without Water, unless, you drive to the River 4 or 5 miles, from the road., we drove to the river, ourselves, I have not seen but one Dead Ox to day, & one Grave, Made I should think 22 miles

[August] 23<sup>rd</sup>

Monday, Last night our Cattle were in poor feed, but this morning we turned them over the River & found the best of Grass, Mr Taylor shot a sage hen yesterday noon: we had it for breakfast this morning, (good eating) the mornings are very cool,, through the day, comfortable though dusty, it makes it disagreeable &c,, We followed down the River about one mile & crossed

over onto the south side, made 18 miles,,

[August] 24<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, We were not in the best of feed last night, but my Cattle. done very well, for I stoped between 3, & 4 O'clock & let them bate one hour, we found good grass. & then drove on till sundown, When we overtook our tra[i]n, The roads are the dustiest that I ever saw,, we eat it, drink it, (it don't taste good) & we breath it, also the atmosphere is full of it, in this dust their. is a great deal of Alkali in it, it [creates] sore lips on most every person, to day their is not wind enough to cary the dust off as fast as it rises,, 12 miles from camp we ascended a steep hill rather hard pulling, Sandy & stony, drove 3 miles farther & camped, found good grass made 15 miles,,

[August] 25<sup>th</sup>

Last night my pony & 3 other horses, One from N, Harison one from S, M<sup>c</sup>Clouth & the other for Paul Noring[?] were either

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Wednesday, strayed or stolen, for they were not to be found this morning Harison & myself. stayed, back <sup>^</sup> till noon ^ to find them, but could hear nothing of them, so we traveled on the road, in 2 miles ascends a mountain & in 4 miles come to the river again, the roads are sandy in spots, we then followed the river the rest of the day, the weather being warme enough- I caught up with the train about 4, o'clock,, made about 15 miles

[August] 26<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, Last night had tolerable grass, the road continues along the river some places sandy,, this fore noon we passed a trading post, last night S, M<sup>c</sup>Clouth started back after the horses, to see if he could find them, for he had faith in his belief that he could,, I lent him \$10,00, (ten dollars,) he is to return it to me in California, if he, found them,, if not, \$15,00, I should have, this afternoon we had heavy sand for 5 miles,, Made 18 miles,,

[August] 27<sup>th</sup>

Friday, Found good grass last night, nights cold, off in good season roads good but very dusty, Mr. M<sup>c</sup>Clouth returned this morning without the ponyes, but heard that somebody had taken them up & gone on ahead, the road in 10 miles ascends a sand hill & in half a[]mile returns to the river again, the road continues along the river bottoms the rest of the day, in the middle of the day, the weather is hot enough for comfort, Made in the neighborhood of 20 miles,, I guess at it,,

[August] 28<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, Last night found some grass so that the Cattle got along very well, we this morning in 2 miles from camp Forded the river onto the North side, to make a Cut off & better roads, followed down till noon, then we strike out over a barren peice of Country & in 11 miles come again to the river The dust to day is the worst that I have seen it before on the road ~~it was in our backs~~ the Wind was in our back & but little of it, [the dust] just kept along with the Waggeon, It is bad for the Cattle very,, While we were Crossing the river to day, one of our Waggeons from St Louis, turned over just as they were going into the river, We righted it up & went on, no damage done,, Made. 20 miles

[August] 29<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, Aug Poor feed [for] our Cattle had last night, so we thought it best to roll on [to] the first meadow,, about 6 miles ahead, we followed the river to day,, .& in 6 miles turned out, & stayed here till evening,, I sold Baird's lame Ox here for \$12,00, all I could get, he was not like to get better,, [sic] We have a drive of 50 miles without any grass, so they all say, those that we have met on the road that are- coming from California to meet their familys, Mr Maxfield sold an Ox to day for \$10,00 that was lame, The Ward's sold out to day, their Oxen (3 in Number) to Maxfield for \$75,00, they are calculating to pack through when they get to the Sink, For to the Sink it is 75 miles, this evening we drove,, 4 miles & camped,, Made 10 miles, Weather warme enough,

[August] 30<sup>th</sup>

Monday, this morning we layed in for a supply of Hay, for we have 50 miles, without any grass,, back of here about 2 miles the Lawson road turnes off, this I don't want to be taken[taking] this time of year, but their is some taking it though- This morning one of our men (name) Peter Cadwell from St, Louis, in Crossing the river to the Cattle, was drowned he & a horse that he was on, he was some 60 or 7[0?] rods up the river from us, the Willows on [the] bank kept him from our sight, till it was to late, when in the first place we found the horse, &. afterwards searched for him, & found him in a deep hole, found him by taking a long rope. & fastning some chains to rope, & draging it down, the rive[r] till we found him, his Age, 25 years,, the river is getting to be rather ryly,, To day at Mr Novye,s Waggeon ,, they had an heir come to see them (A, Daughter),, We concluded to lay up the rest of the day,,

[August] 31<sup>st</sup>

We rolled out to day, Weather fine, the road in 3 or 4 miles leaves the river [blank] miles, at noon we drove to the river. Mr Taylor this noon. packed up & went on. he was in such a hurry thought he must go, he was afraid that his Creditors at home. would take his farme away from him, that was his excuse, Etc,, We are now on the most barrenest Country that I ever was on,, The dust is the worst

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to day that I have seen it, the Wind in our backs, the dust very deep & lite, To Where the road joins the river [blank] Miles,, deep-revene, To where the road joins the river & it descends to the River though a long Kanyon 2 miles, Camped 2 miles back of this Made 20 miles

September 1<sup>st</sup>

Wednesday, to deep reveene 1 mile,, To river 2 miles, the road descends to the river through a long Kanyon, the road leaves the river for 14 miles, we started out befor[e] daylight & drove

\* Sept 1<sup>st</sup> roads very dusty,, Made 28 miles,,

8 miles out of 14 & turned down to the river, & got breakfast, & let our Cattle pick some Willows, & gave them some of our Hay that we fetched along, & then drove to where the road joins the river, & stayed here till 5, O,clo<sup>ck P.M.</sup>

[Sept] 2<sup>nd</sup>

Thursday, & then rolled out, to a <sup>good</sup> spring 11 miles, & stayed here till morning,\* & loaded on some Water & drove to grass, 6 miles, this is very near the Meadow, found some grass & sy[?] We commenced here to lay in our supply of Hay for the Desart,,

We stayed here till 4,O,clock. P.M, & heard that their was better grass ahead, (this that we have got is salty, to salty for Cattle,[]) we drove on a mile & a half. & came to the Meadow, or (Big slough I should term it[]), here is a trading post, & a spring, found good grass here & a plenty of it, for everybody, Weather fine, roads good, Made 7½ miles,,

[September] 3<sup>rd</sup>

Friday, We went to work & cut some more Hay, (For we throwed away that [which] we cut yesterday. & this is better than that was) we stayed here till about the same time.. that we rolled out yesterday, & rolled out 5 miles & camped, found good grass,, We have got our supply of Water & Hay took on our Hay & Water at the spring,, made 5 miles,,

[September] 4<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, Rolled out in good season, weather fine.. also roads good 6/c[?],, in 20 miles we came to the end of the Sink, at noon we had tolerable good grass, the Wat[e]r is not. fit for man or beast, it is Weakning for Cattle, here is another trading post, here we camped for the night. we had to feed our Hay that we had prepared for the Deasart,, made 20 miles,,

[September] 5<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, Started out early & drove 3 miles, & turned out to feed found some grass, here we have some of the Same kind of Water that we had last night, This morning we took the right hand road at the trading post, called the T[r]uckey rout,, the Left hand goes to Carson Valley, this is called the Carson rout,, Last night for some cause or other Harison & McClouth,s team did not come up, In the afternoon one of Harisons Oxen was taken sick, & that is what kept them back, I am fearful that something has happened, Mrs M<sup>c</sup>Clouth has not got well yet, since she was taken,, I took in another man this morning & he put in a yolk of Oxen, (got a stiff team now). I could not get along alone. so I took in this man he was in Novys,s team, Novy calculated to take the Carson rout, But after we started he came following along to where we stoped for Breakfast,, We got ready to start out on the Deasart at 10, o'clock A.M, drove till. one O'clock & turned out & bated (([sic] If you mind now,, there was 4 teames of us, that rolled out to gether, Maxfield. Tompson, Myself & another team that came up last night,, Noyes teams was not ready to start at the time we were, so[?] we thought that we could not stay any longer, so on we rolled, we had a good road the first 12 miles, When we commenced ascending gradual, for 5 or 6 miles. we found it stony along up here & on to the hot springs, 25 miles, from where we camped last night, these springs we reached at 10½ O,clock P,M, we stoped here & cooled some Water for our Stock,, some of them would drink & some would not, We stayed here, 2 hours These springs are so hot that you may fill a coffee pot with cold water & set it in these springs, & it will boil it in 5 minutes, From this spring on 12 miles we have good roads. then it comes into the sand

[September] 6<sup>th</sup>

& from here to T[r]uckee river is 8 miles, this part of the road is heavy sand, the heaviest part of the road across the Deasart, We stoped one mile back of the sand & [blot] feed our Cattle,

& gave them the most of the Water that we had left, for we toook on some more water at the Hot springs,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile after we came onto the sand, we came to a trading post where they sold Water for 50 cts a gallon, I did not buy any of it at that Price,, We got within a mile of the River when one [of]

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Monday, Sept.,  
Maxfield,s Cows layed down & refused to go any[]farther. So he went onto the River, & got a pail of Water & went back & got her, I did not have any difficulty with my team,, This River (Tuckee) is first rate Water, good crossing for we crossed as soon as we came to the River, We crossed & drove up the River  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile, & camped for the day, for our Cattle ar[e] some considerable tired, On this river is some cotton wood trees the first trees that I have seen of any size, since the other side of Raft River. about 20 miles,, The Guide spoke about the lone tree on the Platt & from their [to] here, (Sinking Creeck the other side of Raft River) it never spoke about any trees or timber, Spoke about Sage & Willows, & that is about all their is, is Willows, Sage brush & Grease wood, this here loocks some more like home, to See timber once more & first rate water,, here where we have camped there is but little grass, but our Cattle want rest as much as anything else,, [As] If you mind, I throwed away my Water cans & every thing that I did not need,, I did not see a great many dead Cattle on this Deasart, that had Died this year, [but] a great many old bones,, When we camped, we camped under a large cottonwood Dinner under this tree, & the wind blew quite a gale, & my dinner was well peppered,, made since we started yesterday morning 45 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles,,

[September] 7<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday,  
We rolled out this morning, we leave the river for 6 miles,, We heard of Novy,s teams this morning he came across with one Waggeon, & left the other on the Deasart he was going this morning after the other, Mr<sup>s</sup> Pen[blot] team came a cross, but left a cow, but was going back for her,, As I said before we came to the River in 6 miles, Some of the way it is Sandy, & some the way gravel, Some the way stone, when we came to the River we Forded, ([sic] their is another road over the mountain, but we Forded, crossing rough, we followed up 2 miles & crossed back: very stony & rough crossing, we then follow the River 4 or 5 miles, then go over a mountain to the river a gain, came to the River & camped, Grass. now, is poor-- Weather fine all this time Etc Made 17 miles,,

[September] 8<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday,  
Last night we had a Frost, & Water froze ove[r] that stood in a Bucket, & it was a pretty cold night,, but recollect that when we arrived at Tuckee River we come to mountains again, something that we have not been out of sight of since we come to the Rocky Mountains, soon after we started this morning we came in sight of Snow. on mountains ahead, I have not been out of sight of Snow over a Week since I left. South Pass, soon after we started we met with some nice patches of Grass, this afternoon we passed over a very rough & stony mountain, left the River for about 5 miles, followed up a mile & crossed, or Forded, Ford very rough, & in 2 miles we came to the Meadow. & soon after crossed a Slough, on a Bridge, went up a short distance & camped, Found first rate grass. Etc,, made but 14 miles & a hard days work at that,, made 14 miles

Thursday,  
[September] 9<sup>th</sup>

Last night we had a nother freeze <sup>or Frost</sup> colder than the night before, we stayed here till the

middle of the afternoon, when we concluded to move a little farther up the Meadow, we followed up the River, 1½ miles, when we forded, & followed up ½ a mile, & camped, where there is good grass, Made 20 miles,, Weather fine through the day,

[September] 10<sup>th</sup>

Friday, Rolled out this morn'g,, took the right hand road for the Town of '76[,], we have 18 miles without water & grass, the roads are very stony till we came to Peavine spring here we camped, found tolerable grass, but wood is [s]carce (pleanty of it above us on the mountain,s[)]) We started out onto the Sera Nevada Mountains this morning. we go along on the side of the mountains, & over some, The Weather has been rather warme to day,, made 18 miles,,

[September] 11<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, In 6 miles from our encampment we came to a trading post & water also pleanty of grass, roads rather rough to here, except 2 miles of level smooth road, then followed down a Branch 8 miles & camped,, of grass, water & fuel,, such as Sage, weather to day has been fine, 14 miles,,

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[September] 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday,

Sunday, We traveled on to day, 4 miles we came to the Summit of the Nevada Mountains, If I had not known that this was the Summit, I should not have known that we had crossed the main ridge,, From here to water & a trading post, 5 miles, we nooned here, to water. a gain, 12 miles, the road to day has been rather sandy in places, weather fine, warme enough, we drove another mile & camped, & made 22 miles,

[September] 13<sup>th</sup>

Monday, Our Cattle last night had a pleanty of grass, but it is getting to be rather dry, it is a drying up, I had an offer for my Cattle this morning, 70 \$70,00 a yolk, in one mile is Beckwiths house the first house that I have seen since I left Laramie, this is made of Pine Boards split, here we come into Pine timber pleanty of it, in one mile is a ~~Stough~~ small Slough of good grass, then we traveld over a mountain for 1 mile we then follow a Creeck for about 3 miles, grass along this,, the roads sandy, at Beckwiths house the roads, forlk[sic], the left hand goes to 76, & Maryesville, the right hand is called Beckwiths rout to Maryesville, 20 miles farther, This afternoon we passed a Ranch, & went over some hills, to Feather River. & camped. the grass is getting to be very dry, the woods was a burning where we came along this P,M, to day has been fine Made 14 miles,,

[September] 14<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, \* Rolled out this morning, weather fine but roads horrible. very stony, we traveled 5 miles & put up for the day Mr Maxfield sold his Oxen (3 yolks for \$230,00,,[)]) I understand that their is no grass ahead, Mr Bairds other Ox is getting to be lame, & I dont know but I shall be obliged to sell out my whole team, I want[ ]to go 30 miles beyond this, I have given up all hopes of getting to Nevada this fall, we have got into the mining country now,, I & my partner (Robert Dickey) bought one quart of Molasses for the sum of \$1,00., I had an offer for my Oxen this morning, \$140,00, that I could not go at all,, To the Town of 76, 5 miles over a mountain & a rough road,

\* made 5 miles

Wednesday,

[September] 15

then to the place of Rough & Ready 1/2 mile, they are to work along here at Quartz Rock, They offer here \$75,00 dollars a month & boarded, Board \$1,50, per day, Flour is selling at 28, cts per lb, Beef 30, to 35, per lb-,,

We got to this place at noon, drove 1/2 mile an[d] turned out to noon, no grass of any account, this afternoon we we[sic] drove to Beards Ranch 5 miles, over the roughest road that we have yet traveled, it is not onely rocky, but Mountainous, I got a Parcial glimpse of the Elephant, Recollect that our Company, consists of 2. Waggeons, Tompsons & my own, Waggeons do not fetch anything here at all, they will not fetch one dollar, I can get any quantity of them for that,, We onely made 10 miles today, & I worked the hardest kind for it,

[September] 16<sup>th</sup>

Thursday,

Rolled out this morning under a fare wind, Weather being fine, but cool. Pleanty of Snow above us on the mountains, also pleanty of Pine timber, after I got one 1/2 a mile from camp, A man came up & offered me \$200,00 for 2, yolk of Oxen & 2 Cows, but I could not let them go for that, And another. man came up & offered me more &, I tooock him up, two Cows at \$60,00 dollars, one yolk of Oxen (mine) \$80,00, & Bairds Ox & Taylors Ox \$75,00 dollars, also, R Dickey sold his Oxen (2 in Number) for \$80,00, the Waggeon had to be thrown in, for it would not fetch anything- I was to have the team as far as I went, to day anyway, so on we went up the Mountain steep. & hard to[sic] also up[?] down & up several [hills?] today the worst of any that I have yet seen, & I think that I got onto the Elephants back to day, We camped to night on Slate Creek. 1/2 mile below Slate Creeck house after making, as they call it 8 1/2 miles, I had rather go 40 miles on the Plains,,

Continued over the leaf, Made 8 1/2 miles

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Rout from Council Bluffs, to Fort Laramie along the North side of the Platt,,

	miles
From Council Bluffs- Roads hilly & crooked but, smooth	
To Papea Creeck	18
The road is croocked & uneven.	
To Elk Horn River,,	9
Here we Ferryed ourselves, Plenty of timber,	
To Bridge Creeck,	1
Very little timber on this creeck,,	
To Platt River	12
Plenty of timber here	
To a Small Lake,	3 1/2
Situated on the south side of the road, No timber up on it	
To another Lake,	3/4
No timber in this vicinity, A number of ponds along the road.	
<u>To the river again,</u>	9

To the river again	8
To Shell Creeck	2
Over this creek is a bridge, A little below is a ford,,	
To a small Lake,	6
This is dry except in the spring,,	
To River again	6½
A short distance from this point is what is called Long Lake. A little timber here, Most of the road is heavy & sandy,	
To Forks of the Old & New Pawnee Villages,	6
Old Pawnee village, Here is plenty of timber,, Here take your right hand road which leads to the banks being high you will find some difficulty in getting water, He Just before I came up here we took a new road to the right, Prairie road come out	
To Loup fork & Lake	5½
To Looking Glass Creeck,, this stream is not bad to ford.	9¼
To Beaver River	8½
This stream is nearly two rods wide,- There are two places to ford, not very bad,,	
To Plumb Creeck	6¾
This is a small stream,, Late in the season it is dry, Camping fare	
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To <u>Ash Creeck</u>	2½
This is bridged, one rod wide, timber here	
To the Old Pawnee Village	1¾
This village was formily[sic] occupied by the Grand Pawnee & Tappias bands but was <del>formily</del> burned by the Sioux Indians in the year 1846,	
To Cedar Creeck,	1½
This stream is near 8 rods wide & 2 feet deep. You have plenty of wood, water & grass,	
To the Ford,	4
here we Forded the Loup Fork, about 3 feet deep & some difficult to cross on account of deep holes it should be examined before Crossing, after crossing you will have low ground for [a]bout 20 miles, water occasionally.	
To Sand hills,	20
No water here unless you dig for it. here you have sandy road	
To a small Creeck	6
Low ground for about 4 or 5 miles Roads rather bad	
To Prairie Creeck,	6
Roads good to Wood Creeck or	
To Dry Creeck	1
Roads good so[sic?] no timber from the Fork till you get to Wood Creeck	
To Wood Creeck,	10¾
Plenty of timber, the road runs near the Platt most of the way	
To two deep Revenes	35
A stream close by for 3 or 4 miles, to	
To timber Creeck & water	13
To a small Creeck,	4



Timber & water in summer water disperses generally.  
To Elm Creeck 6  
bad crossing, timber & water  
To Buffalo Creeck, 9  
it is only a dry Creeck, no timber.  
Roads join Platt River, 5

	miles	miles
Distances from the Missouri to several prominent points		
From Council Bluffs Ferry to Fort Laramie, . . . . .	522	[ - ]
From Fort Laramie to South Pass . . . . .	301	823
From South Pass to Soda Springs . . . . .	221	1044
From Soda Springs to Head of Humbolt River, . . . . .	285	1329
From Head of Humbolt River to Sink of Humbolt River . . . . .	331	1660
From Sink of Humbolt River to Summit of Sierra Nevada Mountains . . . . .	211	1871
From Summit of Sierra Nevada to Sacramento City . . . . .	140	2011
From Sacramento City to San Francisco, about . . . . .	150	2161