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Green text indicates insertion in original diary.
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Extraneous indicates material that appears to be extraneous to the dated entry.

Diary, 1849 **Churchill, Stillman, 1823-1899**

Vault MSS 663 [\[1\]](#)

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1
Lowell March 27th 1849.
Journal of Incidents and Travels
to California

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1849

March 1849

March 27, 1849

2
March. 27.th
Left Lowell at 8. A M.
arrived at Lynn 10½ A M. The Sagamore
Comp were invited to partake of a Collation
at 1.P.M. a free gift by the Ladies.
In the Evening we had a special gathering
with the Ladies spiced with dancing
↔ at Sagamore Hall; lodged at Lynn
Hotell, weather cold and rainy

March 28, 1849

March 28.
Met at Sagamore Hall ¼ before
1. to transact some Co.. business; adjourned
to 3, o'clock P.M. Thursday; voted to start
from Lynn. at 3. for Boston rain or shine

March 29, 1849

29,th
Weather rainy and cold. Met at
Sagamore Hall at 3.P.M. left Lynn at
3½. was received at Boston by the Bay State
Co. at 4¼ arrived at Stonington Depot
at 5 escorted by said Co , arrived at
Stonington at 8½. P.M, took passage on
board the steamer Rhode Island for N.Y.

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March 30, 1849

3

March. 30.th

Weather changeable, Passed whirl or hell gate at 5½ A M arrived at N. Y. at 6½ took breakfast at the Earl House at 9. Visited Trinity Church, Castle Garden, Tombs, 5 Astor House, Fountain, &c. &c. Weather fair; visited the National in the Evening.

March 31, 1849

31st

Left N. Y. for Pennsylvania at 12. A. M. in the Steamer John Potter, went 30. miles in Steamer 60. by Carrs arrived at Pennsylvania at 5½ P. M. took supper and lodgings at Copples I. Jones'es, opposite the exchange Weather fair

April 1849

April 1, 1849

April 1.st

Weather fine to day; attended Church in the forenoon on New Market St heard an excellent discourse delivered by Willam L. Dennis of the Baptist denomination; In, the afternoon visited the fairmount watter works; Girard College, Penitentiary, Wire Suspension Bridge, and other public works, Text in the forenoon Matthew 6ch 19. 20. vs.

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April 2, 1849

4

April 2.

Weather fine, left Pennsylvania to day at 11. A M. arrived in Columbia at 8. P.M. left immediately in the Canal Boat. in the morning ascended an inclined plane a spur of the Allegheny Mountains an elivation of 176, feet,

April 3, 1849

3rd

Weather clear and beautiful. We again took passage on board the Canal Boat, ✚ traveled to day in said boat; soil in the surrounding Country

poor 4

April 4, 1849

4th

Weather fair, Country to day presents the same appearance as yesterday

April 5, 1849

5th

Weather fair, arrived at Holidaysburg at 6½ P. M. all well, and in fine spirits distance from Columbia to Holidaysburg 1.73. miles time of travile by Canal two days 20 hours, lodged on board the

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5

boat on pig iron

April 6, 1849

6th

Left Holidaysburg 7½ A. M. assended 3 inclined planes perpendicular height 1396. ft whch is the elivation of the Allegheny s. Numerous coal mines abound here of great richness; traveled this afternoon by canal; whole number of locks 17.2.-6 feet each amounting to an elivation of 1032. feet ^weather fair

April 7, 1849

7.th

Weather fair. Company all in good spirits passed through several villages. beautifully situated on the banks of the Alleghany river also one tunnel 818 ftt, in length arrived safely in Freeport at 11 P. M.

April 8, 1849

8.th

Weather clear and beautiful. remained in the city over the Sabbath, we ascended the mountains adjacent, took a retrospective view of the river and City accompanied by a telescope, scenery beautiful.

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April 9, 1849

6

9th

Weather fair Company all in fine spirits; left Freeport this morning at 12½. o'clock, was safely landed at Pittsburg at 10½ A. M. Pitts ~~Freeport~~ is decidedly the largest and most business place between Philidelphia and Cincinatti being the head of steamboat navigation; it comands the whole trade of the waters of the Mississippi, Missouri, and Ohio rivers; there are also extensive iron and Coal mines thereby rendering fuel cheap and labour plenty,, This place presents to the traveler the appearance of a City on fire on account of the coal smoke rendering most of the City invisible at any one point, This place consists of three beautiful islands. Eache connected by large and expensive bridges; at this place the Co-voted to discharge Mr. Dixon on complaint of misconduct and swindling a large amount of money from the Sagamore Company

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April 10, 1849

7

10th

Fine weather; left Pittsburg at 5 A. M, in the Steemer De. witt Clinton, called at the town of Beever in Ohio distance 80 miles from Pittsburg to Beever. left this place in the afernoon arrived at Wheeling Virginia the same evening nothing worthy of note at this place.

April 11, 1849

11.th

Weather beautiful. left Wheeling at 1¼ after being detained 14. hours we took in 63. persons at this place for the new Elderado swelling our numbers on board 150. for California

April 12, 1849

12.

Weather fair company all in fine spirits the scenery along the banks of the river beautiful


April 13, 1849

13.th

Weather changable, we arrived at Cincinati at 7. A. M. this is a lorge and flourshing City, it presents to the traveler

the New England City of Boston.

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8
both for its commerce and inland trade
it commands a greate portion of trade
from the head waters of the Ohio to the
mouth of the Mississippi. left this
place 2½ passed north bend 16 miles
below Cincinetta  had an [-]x[- -] lelent view
of General Harrison's former residence
and the mound of his buriel place, also
the old Chimney, the remains of his former
dwelling and stands directly in front of his
new Mansion near the bank of the river
the whole presenting a very beautiful
appearance

April 14, 1849

14.th

Weather fair awoke at the dawn of day
and found ourselvs in Louisvill Kentuckey
a beautiful, healthy, and flourishing City
the river here has several feet falls, there
is a cannal here 2 miles long containing
3, locks where Steemers can pass through
in sarftey. Saw the great Kentuckey Giant
at Slippingsport - he is 7 feet 8 inches high

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left Portland 1 mile below. 12, A. M. and arrived at
Evansville early on the morning of the 15th

April 15, 1849

15th

Weather clear and cool passd the celebrated
buchaneer cave this is a deep hole in a rock
near the waters edge said to be the resort of
a numerous band of Robbers

April 16, 1849

16th

Fair weather found ourselvs upon the waters
of the Mississippi the Country along its banks
presents rather a dreary aspect there being high
Cliffs on the Misouri side on the opposite
side low, flat, and marshy, thereby rendering the
soil unfit for cultivation, or grazeing. The
inhabitants earn a livelihood cheafly by cutting
wood for the supply of steemers.

April 17, 1849

17.th

Weather Changeable. passed Jefferson Barracks 12 miles below St Louis the seat of the western division of the army; There is nothing sublime in its location or appearance except a Tower; there are several towers in the river

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10

which arise to quite an eminence; we arrived at St Louis at 10½ A. M. took passage immediately on board steamer Belle Creole. St Louis is a large and flourishing City; is also the great emporium of the west and also comands the entire trade of the far western states and territories; This City is built on an eminence of about 30 feet above the surface of the river, the country lying back of the City is level for miles arround and produces an abundance of all the grains comon to the New England soil; tobaco is cultivated to considerable as extint of a superior quality; the inhabitants of this city are of mixed races; a large majority however are French and Americans; Several large Indian mounds are found in this Vicinity

April 18, 1849

18th

Weather fair; we held a general meeting of the Sagamore Company, Voted to admit Mr Baker as a member of this company, also Mr Hudgins, with the privilege of his wife accompanying him, also Mr Laman ~~and~~

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11

the last 3 were from Tennessee, lef this City at ½ past 3

April 19, 1849

19th Weather fair we came up with the Steamer Saluda she had both her shafts broken and was unable to procede, we took her pasengers on board numbering 16 among the number were several feemales bound for California; the land upon both sides of the river is scarsely fit for cultivation

April 20, 1849

20th

Weather fair and warm; our Steamer struck several

sand bars this forenoon; so that we had to retrace our steps as far as Osage river, but were succesful the second time, in passing through another chanel although the river is literally filled with snags, we called at Jeffereson City at 10 A. M. the Capital of the state; there is nothing either beautiful or interesting about this city, the State house is built of white soft stone and is in full view of the river we arrived in Boonville at 6 P. M. all in good health and spirits; here the company were busily engaged for 1 hour ½ in unloading their effects and getting it under cover for the night

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12.
here we found Mr Jewett and Kellum awating our reception, haveing been sent forward in advance of the company to purchase Mewls and provisions. a part of us took lodgeings, with them at a private house; and the rest at the Hotel

April 21, 1849

21st

Weather fair. our company awoke this morning much refreshed haveing the privilege once more of resting our weary bodies upon the banks of Terifirmi; after being confined for the last 3 or 4 weeks cheafly to canal boats and Steemers. The company were cheifly engaged to day in putting their wagons together, and looking out a camping ground, we finally pitched our tents about 1 mile from the city in a beautiful grove which ocupies an elivation of nearly 75 feet above the Missouri river; the timber is chiefly black walnut, cotten wood Hickory and some white wood; Deers are numerous and great numbers of wild Geese and Turkeys abound here. 🏠

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April 22, 1849

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22.nd

Weather fair. We all remained in camp to day but little is doing. here we dug into an Indian mound the result was the remains of Indians bones.

April 23, 1849

23.rd

Weather changeable. some of the compny have gone to see about their mules while the rest are busily engaged in doing nothing but Learning

to cook, have not made much progress to day in the art

April 24, 1849

24th

Weather fair; the campny are engaged to day in halter breaking and leading their mules from Moore and Partee's farm about '4. miles distan from our camping place, it took 3 of us to lead each mule, a more tired set of children never lived then we are this evening

April 25, 1849

25.th

Weather the same, the company are engaged to day in making tent [-]is, pickets, and makeing waggons seats and boxes, &c, &c, we had the honor of receiving a visit from the Laides and Gents of Booneville we entertained them with music from the Sagamore [^]band

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Mr Rice Violinist, several of the company danced and all went merry as a marriage bell

April 26, 1849

26th

Weather fair to day recievd a visit from the Preceptor of the Academy also from a Lady formily of Boston the assistant teacher, of the same institution and were by several of their Pupils. the Lady sang several hymns which were much admired by the company

April 27, 1849

27.th

Weather fair and beactiful; The people of Boonville and vicinity after haveing a few days acquaintance with 50 live Yankees finally came to the conclusion that they were not such huge monsters as they formily supposed, and have now commenced to throng our camping ground in large numbers several of the Ladies have expressed a wish to write their future destinies with several of the young Gents of the Company but were sadly disappointed

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April 28, 1849

15
28.th

Weather fine, to day, the company had a general invitation to spend the evening at Mr Traceys of which we accepted. and entertained the Citizens with a description of the New England manufactures, industry and Commerce.

April 29, 1849

29th

Weather fair; to day being the Sabbath a part of the Company were engaged in hearing Mules and attending to their Camp duties while the remainder attended Mr Bells Church.

April 30, 1849

30th

Fair and pleasant. the Ladies and Gents of Mr Bells Church visited us to day and sang several hymns, among the number was a Miss Munroe who sang several select peices alone which were much admired; they gave us an invitation to attend a party at Mr Bells to morow evening which we accepted

May 1849

May 1, 1849

May 1st.

Weather fair

This day was spent the same as April 28.

Except a drenching which we received on our return to camp

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May 2, 1849

16

May 2nd

Weather fair Nothing doing in camp to day

May 3, 1849

3rd

Weather fair, owing to the neglect of the officers of the Company our harnesses and other effects were left at Columbia; they did not arrive til to day, the company were busily engaged in adjusting their harnesses and fixing waggons in the evening we attended a party at Mr Quarleses one of the aristocrats of that place

May 4, 1849

4th

Weather fair to day all were busily engaged

in preparing for a start, a meeting of the company was called and motion was made to sell to spare wheels and to start wagons No 1 and 2 to morow if possible Voted in the affirmative

May 5, 1849

5th

Rainy this morning, it also continued to rain without cessation through the day. owing to which the company to procede on their journey, and remained in Camp inactive

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May 6, 1849

17

6th

Weather Changeable the company were engaged this morning in clearing and sweeping the interior of our camp ground and making benches, and other preparations for the reception of Mr Mitchel a Unitarian Minister of Boonville ✦also Citizens of Boonville and Vicinity ✦ here Mr M.. delivered a discourse, the Ladies occupying the right front seats Gents left a little farther to the left in the rear were several horses and buggies which gave to the whole a very interesting appearance, we were ♥♥ highly entertained by the discourse a which was very instructive and there was no disturban

May 7, 1849

7th Estimated No of Citizens in attendance 300

Weather fair, division No 1. and one waggon of Division No 4. started to day, went a few miles and camped near a streem of water name unknown which was the first sight we have had of the Prarie

May 8, 1849

8th

Weather fair. the Company all started to day except one team of No 2 No 5 waggon was unable to proceed only 2 miles and returned to old Camp with No 2, which place we reached about 10 o'clock

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when we arrived at Camp found one of our Co- quite sick; Dr Page prescribed for him and the nest morning was able to proceed

May 9, 1849

9th

Weather fine; we awoke at the dawn of day, ate our breakfast and again resumed our journey, we moved on 2½ miles when our Mules became unmanageable and so entangled that we were obliged to unharness them all and tie them to trees. after getting them all harnesed again but one and while engaged trying to unhitch the last he pitched at us with such fury, that instead of [^]striking us he struck on his head and instantly broke his neck; we were then compelled to harness one of the spare mules when we again resumed our journey, traveled 4½ miles further and camped near a small stream on the Prairie distance of travel this day 12 miles

May 10, 1849

10th

Weather fine; left camp today at 8 o'clock soon after we started the mules of ~~and~~ wagon no 7. again became unmanageable, and while running very swiftly down a steep hill the wagon upset

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19

and ~~+~~ broke the spire, throwing our provisions and other effects in every direction, after packing the upset baggage upon the other wagons we traveled 2½ miles and camped near a creek a short distance from the Prairie.

May 11, 1849

11th Weather fair we again repaired our wagon and struck our tents, and traveled on a few miles over a rough road, when the axle of wagon No 4 broke which hindered us about two hours, when all was again ready, we drove to township No. 42, and camped

May 12, 1849

12.

Fine weather today; we arrived at Georgetown about noon, the road from here the next 8 miles was very rough where we camped near a small stream, it was here that we had the first view of the grand Prairie; the sight was beautiful as it extended to our left as far as the eye could reach

May 13, 1849

~~14.~~13.th

Weather fair, had a fine road today after traveling a few miles we again camped

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May 14, 1849

20

14th

Rainy to day; the company again mooved on a few miles to a formers log hut, he gave us an invitation to go a deer hunting with him which we accepted, after hunting about an hour we saw 5 deer, we gave chase for about 2 hours when they all escaped without injury from a Sagamore ball and being somewhat weary we again returned to our canp

May 15, 1849

15th

Very rainy; we harnessed our mules and traveled 13 miles and camped again on the Prairie

May 16, 1849

16th

Fair to day; the road to day very rough, about 11. oclock we came to a large creek which took us several hours to cross. here the company were obliged to lower the waggons down the first bank, and on the oposite shore we had 45 men engaged in hawling each team and waggon up the bank, we mooved on 2 miles farther and camped


May 17, 1849

17th

Weather clear and beautiful; we moved on

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21

and crossed 2 creeks, while engaged in crossing the last we broke an axeltree, when we were safely landed on the oposite bank, we furnished another axeltree and proceeded one half mile from Warrensburg and camped  near a small stream on a low peice of ground

May 18, 1849

18th

Weather fine; the company were busily engaged this forenoon in assorting their chest of tools, a part of which we sold at Warrensbury; in the afternoon harnesssed our teams, and traveled 12½ miles, crossed a large creek with some difficulty and camped, leaving the Prairie on our left

May 19, 1849

19th

Weather changeable, we harnesssedup our teams

this morning very early we arrived at a village called (Lone Jack) at 11, o'clock there is a carpenter & blacksmith shop and 1 or 2 log huts here it is the most filthy place I ever saw the land here is very good we camped 3 miles from here on the prairie

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May 20, 1849

22

May 20th Weather clear & beautiful &c
No traveling to day the Co remain in camp to rest their bones & recruit our teams as we are all nearly tired out nothing new to day

May 21, 1849

21st Weather fair

We all arose this morning at dawn of day in good health and fine spirits our camp is situated about 12 miles from Pilot Grove 20 from Independence in a southeasterly course Mr Hooker & Varnum left here this morning for Independence to get letters for the Co we left here at 8 A.M. traveled a short distance and broke an axletree & hound we soon repaired them & again started on crossed little & big blue rivers little Blue is a very small stream Big Blue is 20 yds wide with a ledgy bottom depth 3 feet we had some difficulty in getting up the banks as they are very steep traveled 3 miles & camped grass plenty

May 22, 1849

22nd Weather clear with a north wind

We left our camp ground this morning unusually late owing to Mr Hudgins & wife leaving us

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23

the cause of their leaving was her ill health the company gave them most of their iron bars drills old iron pegs &c &c to partly pay them back their assessments they then left for Independence. we harnessed up our mews at 10, o'clock passed the Missouri Frontier at 12 A M near or on the line is a small log hut used for a store & dwelling house the last trading house in Missouri it is 18³/₄ miles from Independence Southwest we saw on the road several graves on one the name of, J N Ives, visited a pyramid of rock with many names engraved thereon passed Govenor Edwards had 6 ox teams we passed several creeks from here

to day & camped the Shawnee Country commences
here traveled 20 miles to day

May 23, 1849

23rd Weather rainy accompanied with the most terrific lightning and heaviest thunder I ever witnessed clear again at 10, o clock left camp at 1 P M roads slippery but hard distance of travel to day 12 miles

May 24, 1849

24th Weather clear and beautiful struck our tents & left the ground at 7 A M ½ a mile from a stream grass good traveled 8 miles & passed an indian hut the inmates had all deserted it a fearing

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the Cholera. there is a spring a little below the hut of pure water we all filled our water casks had a bath below the spring & again resumed our journey passed the santafee road this forenoon come to a spring & stream at 11 A M & stopped for dinner this afternoon we crossed a stream 35 milis from the line water good met several Co.,s of emigrants on their return home owing to the death of the owners of the teams no game in this vicinity crossed a stream called Roosanabee the banks are steep & difficult to pass 9 miles farther there is an other called Wakarusia they are both considerable streams very difficult to pass there is an indian hut here one man sick here after crossing there is ½ a mile of wood land then we come to the prairie again for the next 1½ miles the bottom is low & very wet we commenced crossing at sunset & it took us till 10 PM to gain the high ground we doubled the teams & then left 3 wagons on the bottom the rain was pouring in torrents accompanied with Heavens lowdest artilery

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25

& the most vivid flashes of Lightning which literally lighted up the earth we pitched our tents in the shower & spent the time as best we could till morning distance of travel 20 miles

May 25, 1849

25th Showers this morning clear at 10 A M st struck our camp tents & left at 2 P M traveled 10 miles & camped near a good spring grass plenty 6 miles from Wakarusia we left the low prarie & ascended

the higher prairie perpendicular height 50 feet
road good we had an excellent view of the lower
prairie & surrounding country, on the height near
the summit there is several stone heaps of
large size. ~~this evening~~ Mr Hooker, Varnum,
& train have arrived this evening from Independ-
-ence & the evening was spent in perusing the
letters they ~~b~~ brought from there some a laughing
& some a crying it will be remembered I was laughing
distance traveled to day 10 miles

May 26, 1849

26th Weather fair struck our tents & left at 7 A M
traveled 14 miles to day in the forenoon & halted
to rest our teams 2 hours the prairie for the last
14 miles has been level & grass a plenty

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distance of travel this afternoon 10 miles passed
the Virginia Co one of the [-]men had his arm
broken by being thrown from his mule & they
were obliged to camp for several days cool this eve

May 27, 1849

27th Weather clear & cold distance 24 miles
we all remained in camp to day resting our
teams & our selves nothing a going on except
cooking some of the men are up to their
e elbows in pork fat & greasy flour making
up dough & baking bread

May 28, 1849

28th Weather fair we harnessed up our
teams & left the ground at 8 A M roads
good arrived at the Kansas River lower
Ferry the teams were all safely landed on
the opposite shore in three hours without
difficulty the ferry boat is made of rough
hewd plank navigated by indians of the
Potawatamies tribe they are intelligent &
good looking they cultivate the soil & live
in huts very comfortable there is 5 miles of
low wet land over the river which is all
cut up & difficult to cross in the spring

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27

the ferries are 12 miles apart traveled 6 miles
this afternoon there is a mission station 2 miles
from the ferry camped on a ridge of high
land gr grass wood & water plenty

May 29, 1849

29th Weather clear distance 15 miles
again left camp ground at 7¼ A M traveled 9 miles
& come to a creek name unknown the banks are steep
& difficult to pass 1 mile of low ground over the river
cut full of ruts 2 miles from creek there is several
indian huts on the right where they live comfortable
back of the huts there is some wood land owned by
the indians we bought 2 trees of oak for which we
paid 2 dollars they know the value of money we
made some new axes & hounds out of this timber,
timber generally poor Mr Hooker & several others took 2
teams & left this morning for the upper ferry to purch-
-ase provisions as we began to entertain fears we were
short owing to the roads & time spent in crossing the
streams the Co from the ferry have arrived this evening
with several sacks of flour & some bacon grass wood
& water plenty no traveling to day several emigrant
companies have passed on their way home

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May 30, 1849

28
30th Weather clear this forenoon and dull in the afternoon
with showers we left the camp ground at 7¼
& traveled till noon it commenced raining about
2, o clock & we were unable to resume our journey
no wood very near all busy this afternoon in telling
stories & thinking of the mines distance 10 miles

May 31, 1849

31st Weather fair left camp at 7 A M & traveled 8
miles & picketed out our mules over a creek grass good
met a company from Lexington Missouri on their
return home also 2 other Companies 1 from Tenn,
the other from Illinois they were disappointed about
the roads & grass & told some hard stories which
we never realized 4 miles from here we come
to the Big Vermillion there was so many teams
to cross we were obliged to ~~re~~ return ½ a mile
& camp for the night distance 12 miles

June 1849**June 1, 1849**

June 1st Weather clear left camp at 6 AM & at 9
the teams were all safely landed on the opposite
shore of the Big Vermillion we had to lower down
the wagons on one side & haul them up on
the other with ropes after we crossed we drove till 7 PM
there is 1 mile of bottom land partly covered

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June 29

with timber there is a large frame house two miles from here where a ~~missionary~~ missionary resides it is 2 stories high & stands ½ a mile from the road to the right 3 miles from the house we left the low prairie & took the ridge road to the right & camped for the night grass wood & water plenty distance 6 miles to day

June 2, 1849

2nd Weather fair left our camp ground at 7 A M the roads good with the exception of crossing some of the streams we forded several to day passed a number of indian ~~huts~~ mounds near the road camped near a beautiful spring of pure cold water it is entirely hemmed in with willow trees men in good spirits altho the company make slow progress distance 20 miles to day

June 3, 1849

3rd Weather fair the company are engaged to day in repairing their wagons overhauling & equalizing the loads according to the strength of the mules as some of them have nearly exhausted their strength some of the ~~C~~ ~~o~~ ~~b~~ ~~a~~ ~~l~~ ~~o~~ ~~n~~ ~~g~~ ~~i~~ ~~n~~ ~~g~~ ~~t~~ ~~o~~ ~~t~~ ~~h~~ ~~e~~ ~~W~~ ~~o~~ ~~l~~ ~~v~~ ~~a~~ ~~r~~ ~~i~~ ~~n~~ ~~e~~ ~~R~~ ~~a~~ ~~n~~ ~~g~~ ~~e~~ ~~r~~ ~~s~~ ~~v~~ ~~i~~ ~~s~~ ~~i~~ ~~t~~ ~~e~~ ~~d~~ ~~u~~ ~~s~~ ~~t~~ ~~o~~ ~~d~~ ~~a~~ ~~y~~ ~~w~~ ~~e~~ ~~r~~ ~~e~~ ~~w~~ ~~e~~ ~~r~~ ~~e~~ ~~x~~ ~~c~~ ~~e~~ ~~p~~ ~~t~~ ~~a~~ ~~f~~ ~~e~~ ~~w~~ ~~c~~ ~~a~~ ~~s~~ ~~e~~ ~~s~~ ~~o~~ ~~f~~ ~~C~~ ~~h~~ ~~o~~ ~~l~~ ~~e~~ ~~r~~ ~~a~~ ~~i~~ ~~n~~ ~~i~~ ~~t~~ ~~s~~ ~~m~~ ~~o~~ ~~s~~ ~~t~~ ~~s~~ ~~o~~ ~~o~~ ~~t~~ ~~h~~ ~~i~~ ~~n~~ ~~g~~ ~~t~~ ~~o~~ ~~d~~ ~~a~~ ~~y~~

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June 4, 1849

30 June June

June 4th Weather fair we left the camp ground at 5 A M the mules feel their good keeping & travel freely to day we halted at 11 A M after dinner a monthly meeting of the company was called they voted to start hereafter at 5 A M if practicable which caused a great deal of language of a personal nature to be used the effects of which afterwards broke the ~~C~~ ~~o~~ ~~u~~ ~~p~~ which however was lucky for all of us after the meeting broke up we again broke our ranks & started reached the Blue River at 5 P M & camped on the spot that Bryant did 2 years before there is a grave ~~here~~ here several years old it is a beautiful spot the banks are covered with trees there is some fish in the river they will not bite a hook distance 25 miles to day

June 5, 1849

5th Weather fair left camp at 5 A M & crossed the river it was hard for our mules on account of its long sandy bed it is 100 feet wide bank steep road good the soil is of the first ~~gr~~ quality & timber plenty the water is roily distance 26 miles to day

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June 6, 1849

June 31

6th Weather clear & warm left the camp ground at 6 ~~am~~ A M, notwithstanding the 5 o'clock vote roads excellent all day over high table lands overlooking a vast extent of country the river in sight has a sandy bed & usually goes by the name of Big Sandy there was a heavy shower accompanied with a strong wind when we camped there was no grass owing to the emigration in advance of us we camped at 6 PM. distance 25 miles to day

June 7, 1849

7th Weather fair again this morning left the camp at 6 A M crossed the above ~~r~~ named river this morning distant from camp 1 mile a branch of the little Blue roads most of the day very good distance 20 miles to day

June 8, 1849

8th Weather fair; crossed a creek a few miles from camp 200 yards wide with a sandy bed and stream nearly dried up the water standing in pools; we came to the little blue again about ~~noon~~ noon and took dinner; felt much refreshed after drinking a draught of pure cold water it is a small stream 25 miles wide with a rapid

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32 June

current with some cat fish in it; two companies are camped here they intend uniting for the safety of each other as there is a report in circulation that the Indians are very troublesome in this vicinity; Dr. Page, and Mr Wilkins went a fishing and caught 3 beautiful cat fish, which made us all an exelant supper, traveled about 1 len miles and camped on the blue; roads good distance 20. miles to day

June 9, 1849

9th Weather fair with a cool breeze. we started this morning at half past 5, last evening I set my hook and this morning found a large cat fish, weighing about 3 pound the roads are hard and good; we hear left the river and traveled out of sight of it for nearly 2 hours on high table land and again descended to the river again; passed one grave this forenoon traveled on the river bottom till night and came to a halt, till monday morning, distance 22 miles

June 10, 1849

†10th Weather fair it being the Sabbath we remain in camp to day the company are engaged to day in washing their clothes

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June 33

& herding their mules fishing &c & on the Sabbath we always repair our wagons & adjust the loads
‡ distance from here to Platte River 27 miles

June 11, 1849

11th We arose this morning at 3, o clock & commenced picketing out our mules before we got done it commenced raining & blowing with great fury & continued til 7 A M it capsized one of our tents the others we held up at 8 we were again on our journey traveled 7 miles & stoped to get dinner in the afternoon we traveled 3 miles & camped for the night on the Blue again after supper we had our quarterly meeting & made choise of the following officers for the ensuing quarter Dr Paige President A H Price Vice President Mr Hooker Captain R Churchill First Lieutenant & S Churchill Comissary at large with unlimited powers to distribute provisions &c as he thought proper distance to day 10 miles

June 12, 1849

12th Weather fair left at 5 A M with the intention of reaching the Platte Bottom this evening we here leave the Little Blue to the left & ascend to the table land 5 miles from Blue we met Maj Belcher from Fort-Kearney & escort he informed us

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34 June

that 300 pawnees had been hovering arround or near the Fort & yesterday he pased them on the road & advised us to wear our side arms they were at war & waiting for a tribe of Chienns & were well armed but we did not see them his

es escort consisted of 8 men bound for Fort Leavenworth we traveled to day in company with some western men the Maj a[^]dvised us not to admit any indians near our camp nor allow any one but the captain to ~~en~~ communicate with them the pawnees had robbed 2 emigrant wagons & to day several companies of dragoons are in pursuit of them the road to day has been very good we reached the Platte at 6½ P M soon after we picketed out our mules there came up a terrible thunder storm which continued ,til morning the ~~bo~~ bottom is very large & beautiful & covered with grass distance 27 miles to day

June 13, 1849

13th Weather fair in the forenoon the roads heavy ~~this~~ this day owing to the rain last night distance to Fort Kearney from camp 12 miles ~~arr-at~~ arrived there at 4 P M we picketed [-] 10 or 12 ^{sup}

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June 35

head of cattle among the number there was several cows we milked them & drove them several miles when a couple of gentleman mounted on horse back arrived claimed property & drove them off we camped ¾ of a mile from the ~~f~~fort & 1¼ from the river the fort is situated on a level piece of ground the buildings consist of a Hospitale 'Black House' carpenter & blacksmiths shop & several other buildings built of turf & covering over several acres of land they are used for the various occupations necessary for the safety & prosperity of a fort situated 300 miles from civilization the garison numbers 200 persons including officers they live easy & on the fat of the land hunt buffaloes elk &c &c provisions cheap flour 2 dollars per hundred bacon do tools were mostly given away or sold very cheap a great many indians hover arround here the Pawnees & Chienns who are continually at war with each other distance 12 miles to day

June 14, 1849

14th Weather clear & warm we all remained in camp to day busily engaged in disposing of all the

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the clothes old iron & all other articles which could be spared voted to reduce our clothing to ~~8~~80 lbs each good order prevailed in the company

which we all considered a rare treat we put our
Hard Bread in sacks & threw the barrels
away sold the bellows & Anvil left books on
the ground cut the bones out of the hogs
joles to lighten it threw away 2 spare axes
& received 30 dollars for what we sold in the
~~aff~~ after-noon some of us done some blacksmithing
at the fort 3 of the Co bought ponies of the
soldiers the wolvarines visited us & tried to
b buy some liquor did not succeed we bought
a quarter of beef to day & we all had a noble
supper we have again adjusted our loads
ready for a start nothing more of importance
except an opportunity to send some letters to the
states the mail goes to Fort Leavenworth once
a month

June 15, 1849

15th Weather clear & beautiful left the fort at
~~6~~ 6 A M all in [-]good s spirits there is nothing of
thrilling interest to day there are several wells

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June 37

~~on~~ on the road side where we watered our mules
they were dug by the emigrants passed several graves
for the purpose of obtaining water for stock the road
most of the way is from 1 to 2 miles from the
Platte no wood very near & very little on its
banks several companies from the fort have
overtaken us ~~20~~ 20 miles from the fort we again
come to the river the water is roily & the stream
rather sluggish camped near the stream grass good
distance 22 miles to day

June 16, 1849

16th Weather beautiful this forenoon in the afternoon
cloudy with the appearance of rain & a cool breeze from
the East we here passed the Illinois company &
traveled in sight of others a few miles from camp
the road again strikes the river where we watered
our mules the bottom is from 3 to 5 miles wide
with craggy looking bluffs ~~onon~~ on the left while
we were turning out our mules at noon an ante-
-lope passed by going like the wind as they will
outrun the tail end of lightning we did not
get a shot at him & passed over the bluffs some
of the company rode out to them & reported they

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38 "

commanded an excellent view of the river & country
adjacent we camped this evening on the river with

some mormons from Salt Lake one of them was shot by one of the Co during a quarrel among themselves the Co voted this evening to travel to morrow which was a violation of the Constitution some pretending it was necessary which was all moonshine thus hardness continued to increase from day to day until its dissolution passed the first prairie dog town to day distance 28 mles to day

June 17, 1849

17th Weather cloudy in the morning fair at noon ~~there~~ there is some hard feelings in the company this morning by the church going members caused by yestardays vote some are for a division some for traveling & others for remaining ~~on the~~ ground at last we all started at 9 A M Mr Hobart & Stearns were the first cause of all the difficuty they are the most quarrelsome & difficult persons I ever saw & for pushing ahead regardless of the consequences one of them said he could go to California straight through Hell & he has since gone there he started from San Francisco for that port

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June 39

3 men came to our camp about dark said they had been a buffalo hunting & had lost track of their company we told them & they ~~& they~~ passed on their way rejoicing they had the first piece of buffalo meat I ever saw it was here we first saw buffaloes we saw several white swan in the river to day camped on the Platte distance to day 15 miles

June 18, 1849

18th Weather fair with variable winds we started ~~th~~ this morning at 5 & soon after passed the Telegraph Co who the evening before killed a buffalo they gave us a quarter it was the first I ever ate & sweeter meat I never ~~re~~ wish to see the buffalo weighed 1200 lbs we also had the privilege of seeing several hundred on the opposite side of the river by the help of our telescope we could see them very distinctly we also saw 4 antelopes running ahead of us for the bluffs they passed along ahead of our balls passed the second prairie dog town they are about the size of a wharf rat & live in large villages & make a sharp noise after we camped Mr Hobart made a proposition to dissolve the old Co & each one shirk for themselves

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in in the evening he wanted the hatchet buried

& all future & past trouble to remain dormant
but he did not continue thus humble a great while
grass plenty wood scarce distance 25 miles to day

June 19, 1849

19th Weather fair the wind continues to ~~bl~~ blow
very strong & has for several days started to day at
5 A M we are now out of the land of dues & dews
soon after we started we saw several buffaloes
some of the company gave them chase with their-
horses others were foolish enough to give them chase
or try to on foot those on horses succeeded in
getting several shot at them but to no effect
except to slightly wound one we simpletons on
foot chased after them 2 or 3 hours & then left them
safely plodding their way over the almost inacc-
essable bluffs on the top of them we had a
fine view of the country, wormwood grows in abun-
-dance on the bluffs the grass that grows on them
is called bunch ~~^~~-or buffalo grass ~~^~~or in the valley grass is good
& plenty the road is from 5 to 8 miles from the river
very hard level & beautiful no wood in sight
distance 25 miles to day

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June 20, 1849

June 41

20th Weather fair this morning notwithstanding
it rained most of the night accompanied with
sharp & frequent flashes of lightning & heavy peals
of thunder the darkness rendering all things both
in the Heavens above & the Earth beneath invis-
-ble which together with the wolves a howling ~~mm~~
makes us all feel somewhat tired of camp life on
the prairie left camp ground at 8½ A M and
traveled 1½ miles over low flat land & arrived
at the crossing of the Platte at 10 A M which we
had to ford we shoveled down the bank doubled
our teams & started not however without some
difficulty as the bed of the river is part quicksand
several of us forded the stream 4 times which
is ¾ ~~of~~ of a mile wide & rapid current we all
landed at 1 PM not hower without breaking
one wagon spire as there come up the most severe
hail storm I ever witnessed some of the hail stones
were nearly as large as hens eggs the shower lasted
½ an hour after ~~we~~ the shower we got our supper
& again started & traveled a few miles & camped for
the night several other Comps forded this evening

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the depth is from 3 inches to 3 feet we put our boxes & kegs on the bottom of the wagon to keep the flour from getting wet distance 10 miles to day

June 21, 1849

21st

Weather fair; left camp at 7. A. M.

the horizion ~~cool~~ clear with a cool breeze.

we were nessessar[^]ly detained this morning to

repair our waggon tongue, which we broke yest-

-erday fording the Platt; we procured a yoke of

~~oxine~~ oxen to draw our waggon to camp; we

traveled about 6 miles on the South fork of

the Platt, & then left it for the north fork

which is distant about 3 miles, straight across

the road leads over bluffs and high table lands

once on the top we had a full view of the north

and South forks of the Platt, but one bunch of bushes

or trees is to be seen in the distance as far as the

eye can reach; we decended into the valley of north

Platt, & traveled about 2 miles up the river; when

we halted to take dinner; this afternon we followed

up the river, till 5 P. M. when we came to some

sand bluffs; the grass being very poor on them

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June 43

we thought best to camp for the night on the river;

grass good; the masquitoes were very thick and troublesom

as they make considerable of an incision with their

proboscis causing some itching and considerable pain

distance 18 miles

June 22, 1849

22nd

Weather fair; when we come to look about last

evening, we found our feed was not very extensive

consequently a part of the Company were compelled

to leave at break of day in search of better feed; 4

teams being more luckey than the others did not leave

till 6 we passed them 5 miles from camp, where

they halted to get breakfast and feed feed for

their mules; we travled till a quarter past 11, when

we again reached the river; and halted for dinner,

while dining the other teams passed us, the road

this forenoon has been over high table lands, and

very uneven, the bluffs here make to the edge

of the river, we passed this forenoon a large

bed of Cactus in full bloom, which were very

beautifull; after dinner we again harnessed up

our team, and traveled about 6 miles, and all camped

together again; soon after supper, a petition was

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presented to us a wishing our signatures, the purport of which was a dissolution of the Company it was drawn up by (Dr Toothacher Mr Hooker,) Mr Hobert, Stearns & others, it took us by surprise but after a few moments spent in deep thought we thought it best to have a meeting called to try a vote of the company to see if they were willing that No 1, mess, and all others, who wished to, withdraw from the company, might have the privilege & receive equal shares with the other members of the company; Voted in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned till 6 the next morning, several Companies camped near us; distance 15 miles

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June 23, 1849

June 45

23rd Weather beautiful & instead of starting as we should have done the horn was sounded at break of day & a meeting was called according to adjournment
✶ a motion was made for division no 1 & all others who might see proper to withdraw to receive their shares of all the company property & travel as they see or thought best but it was soon noised about there would be a general withdrawal from the Co except No 5 mess as all the other divisions were forming themselves into new divisions agreeable to their own strength & mode of traveling as soon as this news come to our hearing we thought with others it was best to call a second meeting & dissolve the old original Sagamore Company of Lynn Mass & leave it without any existance which was voted in
✶ the affirmative & the company again formed themselves into 5 separate messes proper officers were chosen to divide the mews & all other property that could be divided the wagons were unloaded & the provisions stacked up in a pile the committee then commenced dividing them out equally among the 5 messes which they continued to do through the

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day there was another committee appointed to divide the teams which they accomplished to the satisfaction of all those things that could not be divided were sold at Auction & the funds divided among the members during the settlement all is peace & harmony Mr Jewett is very sick at this time & not able to vote we gave him a rum sweat & appears easier this evening there is an indian camp 1/2 a mile from ours

we visited it & it has the appearance of having been a fight robably between the pawnees & Chienns one indian was completely buried up in buffalo skins & blankets, beads, & horses bones &c were scattered in all directions

June 24, 1849

24th Weather fair we all remain in camp this forenoon busily engaged in dividing the property & adjusting the wagons about noon we had our Auction sold all disposable articles & No 5 mess received after paying 11 dollars for Mr Baker & buying 4 dollars worth of company property \$41.15 cts after the money was divided we all signed a bill to show the old Sagamore Co was extinct

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June 47

we were then left to travel by ourselves without Captain Hooker or any of his inferior officers & also both of No 1 mess who were the orignators of all trouble they had 2 wagons 14 mules & 10 men they left at 5 PM the other teams remaining together all goes on pleasantly & satisfactory Mr Jewett is improveing

June 25, 1849

June 25th Weather fair there is now 29 of us togather & 8 wagons we are well united a better feeling has never prevailed since we left the states the Wolvarines have overtaken us they say they passed 700 indians who were much enraged at some emigrants who had poisoned a part of their number among the number a son of the Chief & they were in persuit of them well armed with bows arrows & spears we left camp at 5½ A M our road this forenoon has been over bluffs & through sand on the streams while we were at dinner a couple of men come to our camp from over the river we invited them to dine with us ~~we~~ which they accepted they were from Council Bluffs said they passed several hundred indians

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the Chief come to their camp & demanded pay of them for crossing over their country & killing their buffaloes they answered them by a general muster & display of fire arms & the indians immediately dispersed while we were at dinner several oxen came in sight of us some of the Co saw them first & run for dear life after them arrived first & claimed all but one he was so

poor the wolves would not eat him &
they said No 5 might have it I took it as an
insult & let them drive them ahead which
they did till the next day at noon when the
wolverines again overtook us claimed them &
drove them off which was sport for me
passed ash hollow several good springs here
camped on the river distance 25 miles to day

June 26, 1849

26th Weather beautiful left camp at 6 A M
the Co are all in fine health & spirits the
roads however are sandy & heavy the sand bluffs
continue on our left & rise to considerable eminence
& being mostly broken they present a rough
exterior grass poor wood scarce & the mules

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June 49

Are thought much of we passed some of the
most magnificent looking bluffs I ever saw they
looked in the distance like ancient edifices or
palaces No 5 mess sold ½ of a spare mule to
Mr Varnum of Dracutt it belonged to messes
No 4 & 5 & was valued at 30 dollars traveled 17 miles

June 27, 1849

June 27th Weather cool & cloudy started from camp ground
at 6 A M soon after we left we met a team on their
return to the States the reason they gave was their
team was sick & there was no feed I thought they
looked as if their mothers didn't know they was out
the sand bluffs have left us on this side of
the river on the other side they extend as far as
the eye can reach the top is near level & look
like large fortifications the tops are stone & dotted
with trees which look beautiful it is so long
since we have seen any we had one of the heaviest
showers this afternoon I ever witnessed it blowed
a perfect gale & the rain come in perfect torrents
which lasted ½ an hour injureing our roads very
much we come in sight of Courthouse Rock
at 4½ PM immediately after we come in sight

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of Chimney Rock which was hardly discernable
in the distance it looked like Bunker Hill
Monument & about 15 miles ahead we camped
on a ridge of land near a swamp good grass &
water & sage for wood the above rocks are
in sight from here the mosquitoes bit like
scissors distance 18 miles to day

June 28, 1849

28th The weather this morning is mild & beautiful we had showers through the night but the road is very good & we are gradually ascending an inclined plane land & grass very good passed Court House Rock this forenoon distant 1½ miles Chimney Rock has been in sight most of the day we camped opposite & about 2 miles from it & looks like an inverted tunnel it is 150 feet in diameter at the base & in the shape of a bell 75 feet high the second elevation is 50 feet high all the way of a size it then projects back & has a third elevation height 50 or 60 feet & 15 feet in diameter whole height near 150 feet distance 23 miles to day

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June 29, 1849

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June 29th Weather fair left camp at 6 A M proceeded 4 miles & found a spring of pure cold water on the right directly below near a small stream is a blacks[-] shop, store & dwellinghouse, all owned by a trapper from Missouri they are all under one ~~roof~~ roof built of cedar the only kind of wood in this vicinity he married an indian squaw by whom he had several children & they seemed to enjoy life as well as the best of us some of our men got their mules shod here distance from Fort Laramie 55 miles we ascended the summit at 9 A M & had a view of Laramies Peak distant 150 miles it seemed to give us all new life as it was the first view of a spur of the Rocky Mountains we had seen the road continues good passed several sand bluffs also horse creek brother Rodney & myself visited Chimney Rock this morning & found a great many names engraved thereon we also left ours high up on the Rock, Scotts Bluffs have been in sight all day we left the river 8 miles from the bluffs & traveled through

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th valley which is surrounded with bluffs some of them look like the works of art, resembling large palaces they are dotted here & there with cedar trees & look very beautiful they derived their name from an emigrant by the name of Scotts who died here camped 3 miles from ~~top~~ top of bluffs distance 23 miles to day camped on Platte

June 30, 1849

June 30th Weather fine left camp at 5½ A M
a few miles from camp we come to a spring of
pure cold water filled ~~our~~ our casks & proceeded
on our journey passed several sand bluffs which
look very barren our road leads towards the
river in a valley and very good traveled 23 miles

July 1849**July 1, 1849**

July 1st Morning clear our camping place is or was
so poor we were compelled to harness up & drive
till we found feed we drove about 5 miles
when we come to a stream of pure water nearly
as cold as snow water just above were 2 others
& when united forms considerable of a stream
we passed over several bluffs which are barren
when we come to another spring & camped
grass plenty & sage bushes near distance 8 miles to day

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July 2, 1849

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July 2nd Weather somewhat cloudy & has the appe-
-arance of rain clear again at 5 A M our road this
forenoon has been the best we have had for some
days reached Laramie River at 4 P M it took
1 hour to cross over we packed over our wagons
raised up the bodies & passed safely over. the water
was 4 feet deep ¾ of a mile from here is Fort
Laramie. the buildings are made of dried clay
& a large wall surrounds the whole & presents
about the same appearance as Ft Kearney
the blacksmiths shop is near the river there
is a post office here established by the
emigrants each one paying 10 cts scores of wago-~~ans~~
are lying ~~in~~ in all directions & are worth
nothing provisions are the same we camped
¾ of a mile from the Fort grass poor wood near
distance 25 miles to day

July 3, 1849

3rd Weather fair this morning after breakfast
we took our mules to the blacksmiths shop
& had 2 mules to each wagon shod all round
& the others shod forward some of them which
cost [-]\$1,25 for each pair of shoes & we found

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July 3 the shoes & nails we tried to buy some meal but could not find any we wrote some letters & put in the office at the Fort it is rather pleasant about here we started from here at 4½ P M drove 8 miles & camped on a bottom near the river a steep hill to descend to the bottom grass & water good distance 8 miles

July 4, 1849

4th Morning beautiful last night we slept on a bed of camomile & the mosquitoes slept on us by the bushel we fired minute guns of 8 rounds each & done thinking is enough to answer for a first rate celebration we heard the echoes of our guns & almost stunning reports of hundreds of kegs of powder burnt by surrounding companies we could well imagine the comforts of those who were with their families & friends where plenty reigns enjoying the sports generally attendant on Celebrations many times did I wish myself home for a short time but to no purpose yet there was gold ahead which gave us strength in the hour of trial we remembered faint heart never-won fair lady & left camp at 6 A M roads hilly

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Mr Rice & myself in advance of the teams the road forks here one leads to the left the other to the right on the river it was the understanding to take the left we took it & traveled till 11 & waited 1 hour for the teams to come up they did not come & we started back to meet them but did not find them we kept traveling till we found ourselves where we left in the morning the teams had taken the right hand road they heard the roads were better & grass also on that road we then started in pursuit of them on the road we received a small biscuit of some emigrants & kept on our way a few miles & saw some soldiers from the fort who said the teams were ahead we kept traveling till 9 PM & found them camped anxiously awaiting our arrival the country this afternoon has been hilly & barren Mr Rice & myself traveled 46 miles to day after we arrived at camp we were so lame that we had to bathe in linament we then ate our supper & retired to rest & the ground felt soft to our weary bones it is here we first heard the warbling of

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56 July

the robin red brest the teams traveled 25 miles to day

July 5, 1849

July 5th weather fair left camp at 6¼ A M roads good this forenoon about 4 miles from the river & near the bluffs again reached the river an noon the first time since yestarday morning this afternoon we followed the Platte 6 miles the road then leaves the river & runs over the bluffs we camped here not knowing where our next grass would be where we camped this noon the river takes a bend through a deep gorge the mountains are several hundred feet high & perpendicular from the river up to the top of solid rock the space is so narrow the river cannot be seen but a short distance from any one point we passed through a piece of wood land the trees were nearly all cut down probably by the indians for what purpose we do not know distance 18 miles

July 6, 1849

6th Weather fair we left the Platte this morning & ascended the bluffs or as they are usually called Black Hills we found the road ascending most of the way for 12 miles very hard & good the junction of the Fort Laramie roads meet here we overtook several emigrants passed them & drove down

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a long steep hill to a creek called Labontee a french name we found water but grass was out of the question we drove under a cottonwood tree & took a bite & drove on to find grass for our mules we drove till we come to a second creek found water in some pools wood plenty but no grass this gave us all the blues for our mules look like the last run of shad & died meat is plenty on their bones we saw some hills which were very red & looked like red chalk also some white beds that looked like salaratus distance 27 miles to day

July 7, 1849

July 7th Weather clear & beautiful left camp at 6 A M found the roads hilly & hard we met 2 teams on their return to the states they said their was no grass the next 200 miles we had heard such stories before the country is barren & desolate & very uninteresting to travel over we drove till we come to Fole - Boise Creek we found several companies camped here recruiting their animals they told us 2 or 3 miles above or below there was a plenty of grass for us all we stoped & encamped drove 3 miles up the river or creek when within ½ a mile of grass we saw a buffalo

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in a ravine it appeared he had been wounded & was unable to proceed Mr Varnum returned to camp to get a gun before he returned 2 men came up who were in pursuit of him a few moments after our men came up with several rifles among the number- my own I reloaded it the others a firing all the while, I crawled behind some bushes & drove the whole charge through his lights he staggered & fell dead as a log we partly skinned him took some of the meat & returned to camp this evening we had a grand supper of this uncommon sweet meat

July 8, 1849

July 8th Weather fair the grass not being so good as we first supposed we determined to drive to Deer Creek 9 miles we left at 12 M the wind blowing hard & it was very blustering we found a ferry boat at the Creek but we thought it best to drive up the creek & let our teams recruit [-] 2 days which we did & found grass sufficient for all the emigration distance 9 miles

July 9, 1849

9th Weather beautiful we started at daylight & drove 7 miles up Deer Creek found excellent grass & camped for the day we spent the time in fixing our wagons overhauling our loads &

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cutting hay to carry with us as it is reported there is no grass for the next 50 miles No 3 & 4 were leaving just as we came up they left us some days before & we have overtaken them again

July 10, 1849

July 10th Weather fair we gathered up our hay threw away some beans coffee & some useless articles to lighten up our loads shod some mules &c &c Deer Creek is a beautiful stream about 15 feet wide & is said to abound in fish it seems like 'Vt' & 'N.H' streams & is well timbered with Cotton Wood & is a great place of resort for emigrants to recruit their teams

July 11, 1849

11th Weather fair left camp at 6 A M for the ferry drove across the bluffs three miles when we again come to the main road again

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Notes

[1] This journal is navy blue with floral gold leaf designs embossed on the front and back covers. It is 6½" x 8" and about ½" thick. It is written in black ink.

[2] This page and the rest of the book are blank.