

DIARY OF H. M. JUDSON

Presented by S. B. Morton

Omaha, May 30th, 1862.

NOTE: For Censuses see pages 74 $\frac{1}{4}$ -74 $\frac{1}{2}$ -76 $\frac{1}{4}$

79 heads of Horses & Mules

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On Thursday June 5th, 1862 the Omaha & Salmon River Mining and Equip. Co. made their grand exit from Omaha - Hileman & the _____ starting at 4 O'clock PM leaving Redfield to overcome his various attachments family civil at law & otherwise to follow in the eve - Our outfit consisted of 5 Mules a _____ light, one good mooring tent/s/ - 1500 lbs of provisions, mining implements etc & 50 or 70 lbs of clothing and comforts for each of us

We pitched our tent for the first time on Saddle Creek 4 miles from town - near the preemption of the _____. picketed our mules, cooked our meal and considered ourselves fairly way neigh for the gold regions. At 11 PM we were aroused by the arrival of Red who was passing our camp and but the vigilance of Hileman would have had a much longer fruitless ~~off~~ course search after us.

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Early on the morning of the

6th) We are up & stirring and soon on the road - Without incident or difficulty we made the point of timber between Elkhorn Bridge & the Rawhide - midway & made our second camp - having taken our lunch & siesta on the hill west of Reed's Ranch No 1 - By this time we fell naturally into our respective positions Hileman-principal in the stock department - Redfield in the tent - bedding and miscellaneous departments & Judd in the culinary - We are none of us professing in our several positions but perform our duties with a will which makes the labor light & advancement toward perfection rapid. Fatigue to which we are unaccustomed & labor keep us late under our blankets on the morning of the

7th) And we take a lunch instead of breakfast very much to the disgust of the Capt of the Stock department and make a rather

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short drive getting dinner a little west of Fremont which with the addition of butter - eggs & a doubtful loaf of bread was pronounced very good PM we drive late & camped seven miles east of South Bend & prepare for Sunday the 8th) We conclude after consultation that one day in the week should be devoted to rest & such needful repairs as cannot be made while travelling. On this first Sunday we examine our wardrobes - our armory etc & take a memorandum of articles to be procured at Columbus - Ft Kearney or sent back for - while we yet have communications with civilization We also arrange conveniences on & about our tent the Harness etc & prepar the dinner as yet of the trip. Dinner over we engage in literary pursuits - Redfield has a new novel - The Earls Highness - Hileman a Magazine kindly furnished by Miss Etta H & Judd true to his instincts & education takes to Prayer Book & a sermon kindly given him by the Rev Mr. Hagar

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We retire early & after the rest of the day sleep soundly and break up camp early on the morning of the 9th) & get a good start - stop for noon a little west of North Bend. The PM drive we made longer & camped 16 miles east of Columbus - We have fallen in with a party which we think will do to tie to consisting of 3 men & an outfit similar to our own - They are from near Chariton-Iowa - J. W. Sprott, H. C. Ryerly - W. H. Humphrey - the later a stout healthy fellow whom Hileman has already dubbed the Jack Screw from the facility with which he lifts our wagon wheels for greasing - We still indulge in such luxuries as butter (they call it-who make it) potatoes & occasionally a lunch of bread & milk My first two efforts at breadmaking have not been the decided successes I could wish but a little experimental experience will bring it out all right

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10th We pak early this morning near Shinns ferry & find 90 teams detained by accidents to the ferry - some swearing

there - We push on & make some purchases at Columbus The subscriber is there threatened with an attachment by little Red Headed Katy making him even or nearly so in evidence of affection with Redfield vs the dorg (?) & Hileman vs _____ - He also has the satisfaction of assisting in overhauling the Omaha mail - receiving nothing but seeing among other interesting documents an Omaha paper (worth to us a round dollar) pass on bound for Neb center directed to the subscriber - On we go to ferry the Loupe fork with much anxiety but little trouble & camp for the day at the Barnums one mile from the river having made but one drive out of 8
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hours length - Here again we indulge in the luxuries of Butter & milk Here also we learn by Mr. Hayes of the ferry that the second edition of the Omaha & Salmon river mining & Equip Co left Omaha on the eve of Monday the 9th. We also learn of the raid of the Sioux among the Pawnees only ten miles from our camp & of the Killing of 14 of the Pawnee & one Sioux - We get an early start on the morning of the 11th) are favored by a slight sprinkle of rain from a shower which must have been had east of us & which is the first rain we have seen on the trip - We stop for dinner a few miles West of Prairie Creek (Mr Hurleys) having narrowly escaped a flounder in a slough & a plunge in the Platte - by the assistance of our friend the Jack Screw we got safely through all & camp with about 20 other wagons five miles west of Eagle Island Here my third attempt at biscuit has proved a perfect success - good - I have also added another to my list of professions - I am now master of the tonsorial art - In other words - "I Ken cut har" I have cut Redfields hair as I defy either the renowned Jerry Crump or his exceeding opaque partner Mr Leostive to do it - Another arrival in our camp - Two Wagons 15 head of cattle etc - We here overtake old Mr Forbes with their train making repairs - We really have quite a populus city here which tomorrow will be more lonely then Goldsmith's deserted village

Thursday 12th) We start at 5.15 AM and drive about 12 miles to a camp below

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the point of Grand Island - rest from 11 AM to 2 PM & go to within 5 miles of Jesse Shoemakers & stop on the Platte for night - No incidents worth mentioning have occurred today unless it is that three mules ran away but were soon brought back by Redfield on a fourth - It is perhaps time that I mentioned the order of routine of one daily life - All hands up together in the morning - Hileman goes after the mules which bear the following euphonious names "Club" (the favorite) "Split-ear" - "Dolly" "Dandy" * "Tom" - Redfield begins by packing the beds & striking the tent & Judd gets after the coffee & grub - Breakfast over & plunder packed - Judd takes the lines & off we go - the drive is shortened by anecdotes & song watching and speculating on the accompanying emigrants - At noon Hileman puts out the Mules on picket -

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Redfield starts for novel & Judd for water. Sometimes a short nap comes after dinner but oftener we call upon or are called upon by our neighbors - The eve camp is like the noon only the tent is pitched & bed made for the night - we retire as soon as dark & ~~sleep soundly~~

"Consign to Heaven our cares & woes

Then sink in undisturbed repose"

& get up refreshed - strong & hearty - I have written my first letter today to Charley to be mailed at Grand Island City - Four days more to Ft Kearney & then for "lots" of news from home - We this morning -

the 13th) get the earliest start get 4.15 & drove nearly 20 miles to camp on wood river - push on again till 6 PM & camp for the night just across the Wood river from the mill - We are 30 miles from Ft Kearney & I have spoken to the Stage driver to stop for me in the morning to go to the fort by stage - Must go and get along without - Redfield

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and Goliah go after fish and catch a little string of shiners & we do not put up the tent the weather being fine for sleeping out of doors - We have passed today some beautiful landscapes formed by the very numerous islands in the Platte which is very unusually high - As many as 20 or 25 of these little islands may be seen at one view & presenting a beautiful appearance - Here we get a jar of fine butter from Judge Townley & late in the evening active amidst clouds of mosquitoes which keep us bounding all night - Hileman in addition to the mosquitoes is blessed with the toothache - Before the camp is astir on the morning of Saturday

the 14th) I take the stage for Ft. Kearney at Lambs station two miles out from Camp we stop for breakfast which by the
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way is my last breakfast on dishes & plates etc. & consists of eggs - chickens etc but am here by Porter the ex messenger dissuaded from going today - With the hope of being able to get over tomorrow I stop for the train to come up while the stage goes on - I was sadly missed in the camp the bal. of our party making a sorry breakfast without the cook At Pecks formerly Johnsons we stop for dinner - get some potatoes etc & push on for Byrds - Here we get letters & papers from Omaha Letter from Dr. Miller from Brunham with his "picture" enclosed from Charlie etc Our fare is hard owing to severe wind & dust penetrating everything. We here see our first Buffalo (but in Bryds yard) Time to retire - Hileman takes to the wagon & Red & I to the Brewery & sleep on the floor - A very fine sleep we have too - Here we are presented by "Jim"
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the Stage driver with Ice (what a luxury) enough for three days use - bless him - Early this morning

Trinity Sunday 15th June

We start for the Platte river ten miles distant to pass the day - One of our party kills a prairie dog the first one we have seen. We reach the river in a thunder storm & find it falling but still so bad that I cannot get across - It makes

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me nearly sick I had anticipated the visit at the fort so long - But disappointment is my particular lot & I must submit but not till I have here expressed my great regret - Here we are to bid adieu to civilization & enter upon camp duties & life in earnest - No more meet or pass the stage & habitations of civilized man

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We now enter a new country & entirely new scenes - I sincerely hope that adventures to be recorded here may be scarce - We here form our guard or night watch the party consisting by this of four teams - 10 men & 14 head of mules & horses - We expect in 14 days to reach Ft. Laramie - I here rec'd by Porter from Ft Kearney letters from Frank **Clark** - Oxford - and Jordan Omaha - Have written to Jordan - Charley & Drs. family at the fort & have four miles to walk this eve to get them into the hands of a driver to be mailed at Bryds tomorrow Instead of the walk I anticipated I ride a strange mule & get along well - On my return I find the boys have let my bread burn badly & meat done to a crisp Very tired I retire without once opening my prayer book - Our new watch take their stations &

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help us peaceably through the night

Monday 16th) I am the first one roused in camp by the watch & have breakfast nearly ready when my "Pards" ("Pickard") get up - We set sail early & I now feel for the first time as if

"I'm afloat - I'm afloat
and the river is free."

We pass a train of near thirty Ox teams camp for dinner after a drive of about 15 miles - Amidst a luxuriance of flowers - Cactus - Geraniums etc - I would like much to present to some of my flower loving friends a fresh boquet every morning & would give them a fresh variety - evening also. We pass several ravines deep & dry & look longingly for water for the eve camp before we reach it - The ox train came up

with us & all camp together - We start before them on the morning of the

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17th) about 6 am & have a long drive through sand hills about 20 miles to the river for our noon camp - Here cook the last of our turtle (Joe calls it Whine baruper caught the day before & dragged about ten miles under a wagon for Redfield's benefit - Have a bad alkali camp & conclude to push on a few miles for night camp We find a splendid one on the bank of the Platte "barrier" the mosquitoes which are of the hugest kind Have today had a fine view of an antelope chase by a greyhound belonging to the party - Ran about three miles followed by the dog & two men one on a horse & one on a mule The antelope was too much for them & gave them a beautiful pair of heels Twas a fine chase & observable for a distance of three miles

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One of our party "Joe" today killed a hedgehog or Porcupine Tonight is my first nights watch & I must make the journal short Have made our usual average of 25 miles today - Another train of mules etc which passed us Sunday has been with us nearly all day - The road is full of people & we can't get very lonely - We have seen nearly all day too - trains & teams on the south side of the river - Our drive this eve was late - camped after sundown - an unusual occurrence but in good quarters - The moon one hour high I am called my partner of the watch (Lockwood) & pass the remainder of the night among the stock - I routed the camp early 18th) & we got breakfast & under weigh by 5 Oclk - Today see many antelopes & Joe makes

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two ineffectual attempts to kill one - We had a guest to dinner one Anderson who has a Ranche on the other side of the river but is now on a trading expedition on this side - He was very ^{gassy} grassy & our boys said he lied We have had a hard day at 20 miles on acc't of sand bluffs & roads & a mile or so of water setting back from the river - Have seen

some beautiful prickly pears in blossom some fine fragrant roses & some other flowers - We are camped alone tonight - an unusual occurrence but have mosquitoes "till you can't rest" - Had-as the old ladies say good luck with my bread - ditto beans a quiet night - Redfield & Jack on guard & get off on the road before six oclk on the morning of

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Thursday 19th) After a drive of about two miles we get mired in a slough & break a single tree on the leadbars - We drive 3 miles the bal of the morning & make about 15 miles over a very sandy bad road - Passed several fine springs & drove through a beautiful clear sand bedded creek pass an ox & cow train of near 40 teams from one of which we obtain a whiffletree - We make our noon camp for the first time on the north Platte but few miles above the junction Here Jack repairs our bad bars & again the full team is strong & sound - A very hard country this - we are now passing through - I certainly commiserate the miserable condition of the Indians & game which try to live here - In the afternoon Joe & Henry take a tramp in the bluffs & wound two antelope but get neither of them - We pass a huge ox train

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twice & one of the Antelope is recovered by men belonging to the train - We get a small piece for our breakfast on the morning of

-Friday 20th - The road today has been very bad - had two bad sloughs in the morning & sand bluff in the afternoon Red obtained a beautiful weasel caught by a boy & dressed & stuffed him for the first of his collection of curiosities

We met this a.m. a man on horseback on his return hunting two lost horses - He overtook us again in the afternoon having been fortunate enough to find them after a ride of near or quite 30 miles - We camp for dinner near a beautiful spring which having no name & being worthy a

good one I give it mine & call it "Judd's Spring" - It is a basin as large as a wash tub formed by the boiling up of a fine column of water in the center - the sand Page 20 continually slides toward the center & sand & water are all the time in motion - the sand sinks so quick that there is all the time 18 in of clear water above the boiling sand It is very cold water & a great blessing to the traveller It is just about 100 miles west of Ft Kearney & 40 rods south of the road just after leaving or rising a sand ridge I left a card in the travellers P O - a split stick stuck up by the road side - for Peck Gilbert & Co - We are camped for the night on a beautiful clear stream only half a mile from its mouth & a part of the ox train has come up & camped near us - I bought a pan of milk of a girl I saw milking a cow & we made a good light supper - The afternoon has been intensely hot & Hileman has been sick under his Page 21

vest but is better tonight - We have a storm of wind on hand & think before morning we shall rain with it - Have put up our "Home" for the first time in several days - Sat 21st - The storm last night continued nearly all night & at times quite severe We were roused once by a scout from the camp below - 4 miles - & informed that their cattle to the am't of over 100 head had stampeded in the storm & could not be found - The morning is fresh & fine "The lark sings loud & high" - We have the worst sand bluffs yet to climb & descend Meet a train of 7 wagons from Salt Lake 5 days out from Laramie - no news of importance - pass several fine little clear streams & numerous wells - No Springs like Judd's resembling a hugh grey marble bowl - nor any water as cold - We camp early on the river bank opposite an island covered with timber - something we have not seen for days of any am't -

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No camps near us for a wonder & we think we are likely to pass a quiet Sunday - Cooked our last Potatoes today - "Red" dined on "Terrapin" & supped on snipe - The prairie is on

fire in several places but is too green for rapid burning - We think we are 150 miles from Ft Kearney & 130 from Ft Laramie - good luck will take us there easily one week from tonight - Hileman keeps up the horrible practice of shaving - thinks he must appear just as well when he writes as if he called in person - Joe is sick tonight - calomel - rest - diet - guess he will be ok tomorrow - My arms are quite sore with sunburns - I having foolishly exposed them - We have a good rest until late on the morning of Sunday the 22nd - After breakfast I do my first washing & mending - Read the Psalm for the day of the month for the benefit of the party - Here we are overtaken & called upon
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by Manning - Mellus & Parks - They are in co with one of the McFaddens & his sister who drive on & leave them in our camp - We pass a very lazy day - All the party congregated most of the day in one tent - In the evening have some Hymns at a Methodist meeting including a beautiful Welsh hymn which we loudly commended & had repeated In the eve I call upon our new neighbors Manning & Mellus & they conclude to go on with us in the morning - It is my watch tonight & I take the last half & "pipe" all hands early on the morning of Monday 23^d) We drive all the a.m. through the hardest sand we have yet had & soon after our noon rest the leading team Joe & Jack get mired in a slough & one mule down - We go to their assistance with a team & soon bring them out We take Manning & our own teams through with an extra pair of mules

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The rest get through alone by a severe effort - We have hard pulling near the entire afternoon & camp late on the Platte having made but about 20 miles the day - Scott says in the "Lay of the Last Minstrel" that

"Love rules the camp - the court - the grave etc"

I think he knew very little of life in camp on the plains of western America or else I dont know (which may be the case) what love is - It may on a tight fit & far fetched be brought in on the plea that "the course of true love never did run

smooth" - This eve we have a two hour rain after I get asleep on the ground under my blankets alone and of course I get the benefit of it all - I get up when the last watch is called turn my bed & blankets over find a dry spot inside my pillow (Overcoat) & try it again - I feel no ill effects from my involuntary bath & we get off at 6 on

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Tuesday 24th) The road & appearance of the country are improving & we flatter ourselves that we shall meet little if any more sand - We stop for noon at the mouth of a fine creek & enjoy as we have often done without before mentioning it a most delicious bath - In one place this a.m. Parks got stalled & we helped him out it being the only difficulty we have had today thus far - I found a beautiful new rarity of flower this a.m. - It is white with a tinge of pink of the shape & size of a single leaf rose - The plant & buds resemble the Fuschia & it has the fragrance of the lilack - Hileman & I have each pressed one to preserve We travelled nearly all day yesterday with McFadden but today he is out of sight I predick that we will reach Salmon River before him - The weather is intensely hot except (which is very seldom) it is cloudy & then we have a greater annoyance than the sun in the mosquitoes (which are immense) & gnats - You who ever take the pains & trouble to read this must bear in mind that it is written under very adverse circumstances - sometimes on the ground while lying under the wagon & in various other ways equally inconvenient & always in a hurry - Our P.m. drive was a good (one) & over a good hard road to camp on the Platte. Was up with my bread & beans till long after all but the guards were at rest -

Wed 25th) We get off before five oclk - pass McFadden - also a train of some dozen families in camp - Pick up a stray horse on which "Joe" takes a hunt while the owner of said estray meets us & waits in our noon camp for "Joe" to come back which does with a huge Rabbit & reports having

seen two Elks

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We pass some fine specimens of flowers some fine Cactus in blossom & a very fragrant plant resembling Pennyroyal I forgot in its place to mention the delicate sensitive plant we found below Ft Kearney - So very sensitive that hitting it with the foot in walking by it would close the leaves of the whole plant We have driven about 15 miles this a.m. & without water - have several times been in sight of the 41 wagon train - Will pass them soon - The country is getting poor again so poor that only Cactus & Prairie dogs thrive - Have passed numerous villages of the latter today & some sufficiently populous to be entitled to the name of city - Our noon lunch & siesta we take at one of the numerous wells by the road but one of the seldom met good ones

Soon after noon met a shower that detained us for near an hour & caused a dispute & amicable settlement in

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our wagon - See the first sign of life on the South side of the river in the shape of a small ox train bound East We think we passed Ash Hollow early this morning - the place renowned as an Indian battlefield when seven years ago Gen'l Harney whipped the Sioux We are camped for night at a Well - a good one - about a mile from the river & $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the big ox train of 40 wagons - Heavy dew & cool night

Thurs 26th Start at 5 oclk - good road - drive till 11 oclk & camp near the river - Meet & pass a Mormon train of 82 wagons probably 700 head of cattle - Today have been in sight of Court House & Chimney Rocks nearly all day - Had a very intensely hot & dusty PM - Hileman has been sick all the afternoon & quite sick - He got off to walk the last qr. mile to camp & fainted away & lay several minutes on the

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ground while we killed the first Rattlesnake we have seen I found him soon & he was brought to the tent on a Buffalo

Robe - We call this camp - "The Hospital" - Redfield being sick with a diarrhea - I also have the symptoms but no time to be sick - We all pass a poor night but get up much better though later than usual on the morning of Friday 27th) - The day is intensely hot but we drive till near noon & camp near a train of 21 wagons nearly opposite Chimney Rock a very singular formation which has the appearance of having been set up as a monument the point of which is as high as the surrounding bluffs - Showers are about us & the air is much cooler & pleasanter All the invalids are

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convalescent & doing well - PM we go through two ugly sloughs without damage except to Parks who breaks a King bolt - Redfield is taken suddenly ill & lies down by the road with his tobacco pouch & brandy bottle - He was got into the wagon & by eve camp recovered I gave him in the mean time 2 blue pills - think he will be ok in the morning Saw the coach this PM on the other side of the river - It really looked like an old friend - was bound for the west & we hope carries letters for us - Nothing unusual in camp except an unusual amount of mosquitoes - they were terrible - Sat 28th - Passed a half breed's lodge (Borries an acquaintance of Redfields) & a trading post also the lodge of a full blood Sioux - Met a Mormon freight of 40 wagons & Page 31

probably 400 head of cattle bound for Florence - Passed a train nearly as large bound for Salmon River - noon camp on the Platte still in sight of Chimney Rock - All well in camp today with the exception of a fit or two of the sulks - not considered dangerous but very disagreeable - PM we drive 10 miles & camp again on the Platte receive a visit from an Indian - give him his supper - Joe & Jack bring in an Antelope Fawn which is now ready duped for breakfast Sunday 29th) Having a poor camp on acc't of wood & water we conclude to drive on to a good camping ground this morning

We roll on late in the morning - meet a Mormon train of 40 wagons & about 400 head of cattle - pass 2 or 3 cattle trains - an Indian village of 17 lodges where we buy several pairs of moccasins & finally camp about noon on the Platte a

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short distance below Rawhide Creek & 12 to 15 miles from Ft. Laramie - Our Antelope furnishes all with several meals & is relished universely - We left "Red" at a French Indian traders near our last camp when he proposed to pass the day - Would I was in Omaha the bal of this day - We got the first view of Laramie Peak one of the range of mountains called the Black Hills - distant probably from 80 to 100 miles - Redfield came back just before supper sulky & sullen as ever - We have a little rain just at bed time - I have today written to Mrs. Kellon - father & Frank Clarke the letters to be mailed at Laramie My watch tonight from 1 oclck -

Monday June 30th - We are all astonished this morning by the refusal of Redfield to go along with the party or to permit the team to go - the cause he assigns is that some of the party have insulted him - The party has used all of us well

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only cracking jokes on each other & he does not appear willing to take what he gives - Jack insists upon giving him a drubbing but restrains himself by a strong effort - Hileman tries persuasion - no use - makes one proposition after another - but no use - finally gets tired beyond his patience & begins to harness the wheel mules - Redfield sneaks up & takes the lariat off of one & starts him out on the prairie loose - then while I try to catch him he cuts the lariats from the rest & swears the train shall not go - Hileman mounts the mule he was harnessing & goes after the lot which take the direction of a Frenchman's ranch & herd - Soon Jack - Joe Manning & some others go to Hilemans assistance while I finish pack in the plunder - Redfield goes down to the Lodge and there they have more high

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words & more propositions or rather a repetition of the old

ones out to no effect - Red sees the probability of the boys getting the mules coming back in advance of the party - says tis all settled - sneaks up & takes off the nuts from the wagon wheels on one side & starts down the river & hides or pretends to hide them - on the arrival in camp of all hands the proposals of Hileman are renewed & he also loudly calls for proposals from Red but gets none but the old one to abandon the party who have so many times assisted us & in whom Hileman & I can see no wrong but on the contrary have ever received the kindest & most gentlemanly treatment - Would we could report the same of Red - Jack & Joe finally make some leather knees, put them on - I load Reds baggage which he says should

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go with the rest of his property but he does not wish to aid the start by putting it on himself - I "mount the boys" & off we go leaving Red with his grey mule "Tom" -the saddle - bridle -white coat -Knife & pistol & tobacco pouch - Once the wheel comes nearly off but we stopped in time to save it - it is soon repaired & we finish the drive of 12 miles for dinner & camp near another Frenchman's lodge - of such contemptible conduct or of the man who could perpetuate it there can be but one opinion - Even the Half breeds & french whom he counted upon as his friends condemned them - I have not room in this little book as I wish I had to note down some of the conversation that occurred in the above described controversy - How some advocated administering a good ducking in the river - some a regular bruising etc, etc. while he threatened

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to let loose the Indians upon us. It is to be hoped we may not see him again this side of Laramie the distance to which place I yesterday misstated - We are still 23 miles distant & cannot reach there before tomorrow toward noon - What will come of the operation remains to be seen though we now have the best of him & to pay for such dastardly treatment we propose to keep it. We drive on in the afternoon Redfield coming up in sight before we leave & stopping to talk with

the Ranchman We drive 8 miles to Rawhide Creek a dry stream bed & just as we camp Redfield rides by us - For safety we double our guard - load all our arms & pass a rather uncomfortable night but without disturbance - Tuesday July 1st - We get a very early start & two miles out we pass Redfield at a Ranche & considerable Indian Page 37 village - He passes us again on his pony during the morning & reaches the fort a short time before us - We drive a mile above the skiff ferry & camp - get dinner & then Wm - John Jones - Manning & myself start for the Fort - We pay fifty cents for our passage & after a walk of little less than a mile reach the Post - a pleasant locality composed of good buildings - We get Hileman & I each three letters - Manning one & Dr Owen one - make a few purchases at the Sutter's when we learn that a party of Dragoons are sent to arrest Hileman - When we reach the river we find our wagon on the way down to the ferry with four or five of the company along under arrest - Joe Jack & Hileman - We are told to go back to the fort & not come over the river - The soldiers & men then

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proceeded to get the wagon across to the fort & tried to swim the mules out succeeded with only one "Dolly" - We all went to the Gen'l (Gray) & he sent us to Capt Harrington whom the Gen'l appointed Provost Marshal for the occasion & he after some few preliminaries gave us the _____ of the post on Hileman's word that we would appear before him at 9 oclk the next morning We were given our Supper in the Infantry quarters & made our own bed in the same - Made the acquaintance of some very pleasant officers - Re read our letters & our papers - talked & laughed over the matter & went to bed when the Soldiers did - Thus ended a very remarkable day & left us where we never dreamed of being in Uncle Sam's garrison & a part of us

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prisoners - the bal all witnesses

Wed Jul 2d - We are up early - breakfast with the noncommissioned officers & after parade are summoned before the Capt the bal necessary having come over by Joe's going after them - The examination now going on the Gen'l & several other officers being present - The taking of evidence takes the bal of the forenoon & before dinner all are without hesitation acquitted - The charge against Hileman was the taking of the forcible possession of his property & moving it under his protest (Redfield's) - Against Jack & Joe was for threatening lynching & sticking a picket pin into his grey mule "Tom" - The decision on the property was to divide by Hileman retaining 3 mules & Redfield one and the wagon - The provisions & bal of plunder were equally divided Redfield paying Hileman \$23 for my passage

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but all under protest - He (Red) does not like the verdict - & finds himself worse off than when he came here - I think his reputation here has suffered severely - Toward night after much delay we get a team & have our share of the plunder hauled down to the river We get it over ourselves by hiring the boat & Tom Parkes acting as boatman - All get over but John & I who went back & remained one night more at the Fort John the guest of Leiut. Randolph & I of Orderly Sargeant Baker who have all the time been very kind to us

Thurs July 3d - Up - breakfast & smoke as of yesterday - finish my letters & leave them with the Tel. operator to be mailed - Lets see have written to Father - Charlie - Frank Clarke Mrs Kellom Sarah & my brother

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Through the kind assistance of Leiu Randolph we obtain a pair of lead bars - a great necessity - & by 8 oclck we bid Fort Laramie a long adieu - 'Tis our first & I'm sure my last visit - Our introduction was rather unpleasant than otherwise & it has been the scene of much vexation & trouble to us - We leave Redfield there in anything but an amiable mood & dissatisfied with everything even himself - He has to thank the regular officers who agree with him in his secession sympathy for what he has got or that he has anything left

We reach the river & soon get across find Joe-Jack & Henry there with the wagon nearly ready for a start. Are soon ready & with our newly arranged team of six are soon off in good style & spirits - We find plenty of sympathizers among the

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immigrants & Ranchmen - All agreeing that summary justice should have been administered to Red without permitting him to go to the fort at all - At the ferry we bid Oliver good bye - He starts for Omaha tomorrow (July 4th) We now have 6 mules a riding pony & five men with our wagon - a strong force & good one in every particular - We drive about 6 miles & stop a Blacksmith shop for dinner & there find Parkes - all the rest of the party having gone ahead - We have hills & bad road before us & no water for 15 miles. Immediately on our start we plunge into the Black Hills & drive over a very romantic & picturesque road constantly up or down & the scene continually changing - We get an occasional glimpse of the snow covered top of Laramie Peak & after a hard afternoon's

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work just before dark again reach the Platte river when we find the bal of our party encamped near 3 other parties in all amounting to probably 60 wagons - Our mules are picketed over a mile from camp for better feeding - We get our supper & eat it by the light of our lantern & late in the eve roll ourselves in our blankets & sleep till Joe's well known voice bids us get ready for breakfast on

Independence Day

Friday July 4th 1862 - - - -

We get an early start & drive 16 miles to a spring & creek where we get our dinner - The afternoon drive is short & we find a camp near a small lake with a party of 6 wagons mostly from Wisconsin headed by Capt Bristol - We think

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of joining them for the bal of the trip. Evening - We have just had a meeting of our whole force & concluded to join the company mentioned above under Capt Bristol - Manning makes

some demurs but finally falls in & we are agreed & off we go together - We close the day with the singing of the old "Star Spangled Banner"

Sat July 5th We start at 6 oclck under our new Capt but find that their rules & regulations differ very little from ours - Our own little family affairs are somewhat changed - We have Hileman's three mules harnessed with the other partys three mules making a team that cant be beat. Still the "Ball Team" though the bells were left on the harness which Red had awarded him - Jack Henry & Hileman take care of the Stock While Joe - Chief & I subdo the
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culinary - The pony is called the cooks though all take a turn about on the good looking - good natured - lazy fellow - We go along easily - with mutual dispositions to aid & live in peace & can now give or take jokes without fear of offending - Our Capt is a Congregational Clergyman & we also have another in the party the Rev. Mr. Walcott - a fine appearing elderly man so we shall not want for a monitor to watch our morals or for good examples for our conducts - We today met a train of 92 Mormon wagons in charge of our old friend Sam Rogers who rode in advance in a regular buggy (so funny) with his wife - Manning saw him we did not - He reports the Indians some what troublesome & the gold reports
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all night - too extravagant to believe We also met some California packers who camped last night & yesterday (the 4th) with Carlisle & 13 of Shields & they say they had a grand celebration of the day roasting an Ox etc - We are now in camp on the Platte a half mile from the road & have wood water & grass in abundance - fine camp - fine day - fine spirits - fine everything -

Sunday July 6th We keep our blankets till quite late - get up refreshed & pitch into breakfast with a will - We pass the forenoon making little repairs washing clothes & doing extra cooking - In the afternoon we have a Sermon by our Capt (Bristol) delivered to a very attentive audience of nearly every

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member of the camp - The singing performed by Thrall,
 Mellus - Fletcher & Judd & consisting of the old favor-
 ites - ^{Almütz}~~Chuntz~~, Balerna & ^{oll}~~Byrdston~~ the latter to one
 old favorite familiar 25th Hymn - "I love thy Kindgom
 Lord" - It seems really as if we were not out of reach of
 civilization though 700 or 800 miles over the prairies &
 Mountains - I presume such afternoons as we have passed
 are rare in this region - I hope to see more of them -
 I really like these Sundays on the plains

Monday July 7th - We drive near thirty miles today & over
 a very mountainous country - I have walked near on quite
 3/4 of the way & have had some fine views of our train -
 Laramie Peak etc. from the tops of the mountains. We
 today saw the first horned frog & immense flocks of Salt
 Lake crickets - We camp late a half mile from the river
 & pass a rather uncomfortable

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night on account of mosquitoes etc.

Tuesday July 8th We find a fine spring ½ mile from where
 we had passed the night - Joe & I in advance catch & re-
 turn to his owner a runaway horse The owner belongs to
 a party of 4 trains & 10 men will join us for safety
 tonight - At a Frenchman's Lodge 100 miles from Sweetwater
 & 85 from Ft. Laramie I give 75¢ for a pair of Moccasins -
 We learn there of further Indian difficulties The killing

of 15 men - taking their stock - taking 135 head of horses from some Cal. emigrants etc. etc - We drive about 10 miles & camp for dinner.

We have for the afternoon drive a rough road over hills-steep & hard like the afternoon of yesterday - A tremendous shower is hanging nearly all the afternoon over the route we travelled yesterday - A

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bearer of dispatches passes our noon camp in a buggy with 3 horses - Not near enough for us to hail him - We drive till near dark on account of scarcity of grass & camp at last under a bluff near a half mile from the river but with a large Cottonwood grove very near us & in the commencement of a fine shower or rather succession of them - We got up one tent - set out stove in the door & get & eat our supper very comfortably " " wet feet which are soon remedied - We are all tired & retire early & soon forget Indians & all our troubles - Having taken some medicine the eve before for a disordered stomach & headache I keep my blankets on the morning of

Wednesday July 9th - till Joe has breakfast nearly ready - I ride most of the way to noon camp by which time

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I am myself again - The road has been very Sandy & quite hilly. We pass a train of 4 cattle teams & also leave behind the

4 teams mentioned yesterday they having stopped for night - camp nearly an hour before we did - Guess they don't like our society - Very Well I think we can get along without them quite as well as they can without us - They have four ponies which a fellow left & ran away from when hollered at - Supposed to have been stolen by him farther up the river - We miss Redfield much - We miss his 200 lbs live weight to dress Miss his grumbling his sulks - his overhauling & our reloading his baggage for him His wise suggestions in regard to the road - the stock - the cooking - his care for his tobacco pouch & pistol His fine portly form under the wagon while the rest are at work & most of all his groanings & complaints with trouble beneath his rest.

Yesterday & today we have been travelling almost within hailing distance of the road on the south side of the Platte & see an occasional team winding its weary way along - about an hour before camp last night we passed Deer Creek & a Stage Station - The buildings look commodious & comfortable for adobe houses - Here also is a Tel. Station & usually a ferry - It is now out of order & we had no communication with the other side - About the middle of the afternoon we pass a Frenchmans Lodge - Who confirms all previous Indian reports save the killing of 15 men - He says keep a sharp look & you will not be molested -

We have a hard drive for seven miles & come to the first bridge across the Platte

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To avoid six miles of sand hills we pay 50¢ pr team for both bridges & cross to the south side - The bridge is a very good one - has seven piers & the abutments - built entirely of hewn logs obtained from the beautiful mountain about three miles from our camp. The tollman at the bridge frightens us with stories of Indian depredations - Their determination to take all the horses & mules that offer to pass them - passing the cattle unharmed - of the inability of the soldiers to do anything with them - Of the Indians daring them to fight & of there being some 30 soldiers missing - supposed to be killed etc. etc. We drive till late & camp about a mile & a half from the bridge on very poor grass - The latter part of the night is my watch & I retire early

Thursday July 10th -

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Expecting to stay in camp till near noon we do not rouse it till the sun is peeping over the hills - Soon after breakfast a man from the station above rides by in search of a mule - He says the trouble is greatly exaggerated & that the Stages are running through again regularly - Cheering news surely - The first Robin I have ever heard sing in Nebraska, I heard from 3 to 5 oclck this morning -

It was the real old song & I could almost imagine it was by the same old bird & in the same old Maple tree in the door yard in old Chenango - Bless the bird. One of our hunters this morning brings into camp a black tailed deer - he had been out on the mountain all night - Joe goes out late this morning & at noon brings in an Antelope - a large one - We have remained in camp a half day being in good feed & one horse having given out last eve & the team was helped to camp by Jack with the pony - In the afternoon we drive to the upper crossing passing a Sioux camp of 7 Lodges & one Frenchman's - John bought a pair of moccasins of a sick Sioux - We reached the Station past in advance of the Stage bound east & got our letters in to the hands of the driver paying ten cts. each for carrying them to Deer Creek to be mailed - I wrote from here to Charlie & Burnham - Our party sent about 25 letters - We meet here a party of Californians who said we would be humbugged at Salmon River - They eased our minds on the score of Indians having seen but one solitary Indian

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this side of Salt Lake They had seen the grave of the 2 men who were killed but who would not have been had they not first killed an Indian -

After a half hours stay we crossed the bridge

a fine one of 26 piers beside abutments & owned by the stage Co. - It probably cost from \$15,000 to \$20,000 We drive about a mile & a half & find a good camp but soon learn to our sorrow that the mosquitoes contest the title with us - They are perfectly awful - I am literally eaten up while I write though sitting in a smoke sufficient to nearly choke me - A strong wind rises about bed time & the mosquitoes are vanquished & we pass a very comfortable night after all our fears -
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Friday - July 11th) We get an early start - Joe & I taking the river road while the train takes the hills We have a walk of about four miles & quite a romantic one - We pass a Stage station which is the only point of importance but there are some points of interest in the varying scenery - Near noon we make our last camp on the Platte & are overtaken by 4 teams who say they left Omaha on the 10th June - 5 days after us - They report Peck Gilbert & Chandler 100 miles behind us - They conclude to join us & so we now have 15 teams about 53 men & feel quite strong I made a mistake above in the location of the Station - We passed it soon after our noon camp & here bid a long adieu to the old Platte River.
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We have followed it long & till it is reduced to quite

a small clear & tolerably clear & cold stream - It has been unfriendly to us at both Fts. Kearney & Laramie but has to make amends served us well these long - hot & dreary days & we cannot leave it without some little feeling of regret -- The pouting severs the last but one of the links which brings us to home - The kindly looking Telegraph still remains having crossed with us from the south side of the Platte at the last bridge - Our afternoon drive is over an awful country formed of stony ridges running parallel with each other & connected by barren valleys from 2 to 3 miles wide & covered with sage & grease wood - We camp in an unfrequented

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ravine - Well remembered by Joe who accidentally discovered it 12 years ago & which abounds in rich grass & boasts a fine Spring - Is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the famed Willow Springs - We camp early & Joe & Jack start out for a hunt - while all around the camp is every variety of employment - cooking - greasing - tending stock - writing - playing cards etc. etc.

Saturday July 12th - We get away from camp at 5 oclk & drive about 12 miles passing the Willow Springs though all that is left of the Willows is the stumps - We camp for noon on a small stream $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the road while Joe tries to catch a trout but fails

We leave camp about noon & have a long hard drive, but make the Sweet Water river for our Sunday camp a very pretty place of a little green grass - Sage & grease wood brush

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will make a place pretty - Not a tree in sight even on or among the rocky bluffs all around us - We are in sight of the Devil's Gate (for description see Monday) and Independence rock - Have seen no Indians yet & are beginning to think we shall not see any - We have been in sight of an immense train of cattle teams nearly all the PM - Hileman rode ahead & overtook them finding Bob Shields & some other acquaintances among them - They have near 70 wagons & camp tonight near Independence Rock about four miles ahead - We have passed today two good Stations deserted - ostensibly on a fear of Indians but we think there are some other good reasons - We were fortunate in getting our letters on board the last Coach over the road at the bridge & by only half an hour - Shall probably get no mail to or

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from home till get it by way of the mountains on the western slope We have passed a deserted wagon apparently sound except one wheel which had been partially used for firewood - One horse was turned out from our train & left & another nearly gave out but was with some difficulty got through - We have a warm full moon & glorious night fine for the watchmen - I would like much to be on guard in Omaha till Monday morning - I think there would be an old fashioned choir meeting in the pretty little church tonight

Sunday July 13th) We get up late & of course have a late breakfast - Then many of the camp get to washing - I get my clothes hung out on the tent ropes early Joe & Henry ford the river & are off to the

mountains on a hunt John gets

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on his fancy slippers - shaves & pricks himself up & tries to imagine himself in some comfortable parlor - We learn that the first Co. of soldiers is out a few miles above us - in fact their horses are some of them down with ours feeding - They are all ordered over on to the Denver & Cheyenne Pass route & have in the course of a week Cant blame the soldiers or Stage Co for wishing to get out of this abominable country - Its only fit for the Indians & I say let them have sole & undisturbed possession of it - I had a most delicious bath in the sweet water this morning - It is a fine sandy stream about 3 to 4 rods wide & in places 5 & 6 ft. deep - It empties into the Platte a few miles below us. Jack has been up to the crossing a toll bridge (50¢ each team) & saw the soldiers - They are packing up & getting

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ready to leave tomorrow - I have written Charlie today & hope to send by some clever officer to Ft. Laramie - Joe & Henry have ret'd - Killed nothing but a curious, small, furry animal like the jerboa of Cal & So. America - They climbed the rocks to an Eagles nest & had some splendid views - We had at 4 oclk a sermon by Mr. Walcot a good one - Text "We ought to obey God" Singing by the choir of last Sunday - Sang Coronation - Nuremberg & Ariel - The boys are repairing one of our Wagon wheels which we fear is getting weak. Two wagons have come into camp today - One brings the horse we yesterday turned out to die & the other a live woman - a rarity in our camp - We have 2 men on guard with the Stock across the river on account of grass & 2 men also guarding the camp - Nights cool & we sleep sound.

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Monday July 14th We start at 6 Oclk I've myself & pony in advance as far as the station - 3 miles - We pass an Alkali Lake a great curiosity - It reflects the mountains like a mirror - contains a small red animal or rather insect similar to a polywog & the beach is encrusted with fine Saleratus - Alkali abounds in the grass - pools & everywhere except in the running water & with all our care 2 of our animals were alkali'd today We have passed the dead carcass of many cattle - probably killed by Alkali - At the Station we learn that the soldiers & stages are going via the mountains to Denver 250 miles distant - I get Charlies letter into the hands of the stage agent to be mailed at Denver & consider myself fortunate - Here we cross the Sweet water on a 50¢ toll bridge & 3 miles travel brings us to Independence Rock Named by

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Fremont he having passed the fourth of July at that point - It is about a mile long by 1 qr wide has a round top & is not as high as the surrounding mountains probably 150 ft high. Its isolated situation though within half mile of the road marks it as an object of interest 4 miles farther brings us to "the Devils Gate" & I truly say that it accords with my ideas of what a gate of his builders would be - The gate posts are two mountains of rock with scarcely any vegetation visible here & there a stunted pine growing out of the crevices - The walls are four hundred feet high perpendicular & vary from two to four rods apart - Through this chasm the Sweet Water dashes & foams at a tremendous rate & has the course entirely to itself as in all probability no human being has

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ever made the passage through We (some dozen of us) climbed to the

top & lying down peeped over into the awful abyss below - It was certainly the most awfully grand sight I have ever beheld - Too grand for a fair description from my weak pencil - Joe & one or two others climbed over the rocks down a gorge almost perpendicular & finally came out below all safe - I preferred a more easy & less risky descent - We found our party in camp about a mile from the gate & here overtook a part of the large train mentioned Saturday - One of the party had stolen from another \$160 & made off but was retaken & the money recovered - We pass in the afternoon another party of Soldiers - one or two more deserted Ranches & after a long drive camp for night on the

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bank of the Sweet Water - taking the stock across again for grass - Joe & Mr. Ives start out for an all nights hunt - We prime & reload our guns & retire to battle the mosquitoes -

Tuesday July 15th - Joe & Ives return late without any game - Soon after breakfast - I am taken sick with bowel complaint & keep the wagon nearly all day - taking essences of Jamaica Ginger for a remedy - We met a lone Californian on foot this am He says we'll have no trouble with the Indians - pass more deserted Ranches & Stations & splendid views of the mountains - some with smooth bald summits & others in snow caps - We have a poor camp for noon & remain but an hour. In the afternoon we meet 2 Squads of returning soldiers with
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 their freight wagons We terminate the days drive with 3 miles of heavy sand - 2 up hill & one down & are glad to get into a camp with passable grass but a mile from the river - We overtake the rear of the large train we so nearly passed last week - We pass today too the graves of 2 men probably 12 miles apart made under these circumstances On the 8th June a party was passing here & an altercation occurred between two men where

one shot the other - The same day the offender was tried by a jury -
 condemned for murder & shot - They were on their way from Central
 City Col. Ty (Ter.) - bound for Salmon River - The dispute was
 about a horse - The murdered mans name was Scott and his murderer's
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Tony

Wednesday July 16th - We this morning get a fine view of the snowy
 range - the very backbone of the Rocky Mountains. Tis a most
 beautiful sight to see the tall peaks in the early morning sun glisten-
 ing like molten silver - I wish I was able to sketch or even describe
 the varied scenery in these mountains - tis too grand for me - We
 overtake the 40 wagon train this morning which has been so long ahead
 of us & within a days drive - I find Meeker & his wife with them
 whom I had seen at the Herndon for about two weeks - Mrs M was so
 unfortunate as to dislocate her hips at the Loupe Fork ferry & has
 suffered much inconvenience as well as pain from it - Their train is
 detained today by an accident occurring in their camp last eve by
 which a woman was shot by a glancing

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ball in the face - the ball lodging in her shoulder - Our Doctor &
 the team with him stop to attend her & extract the ball & we have today
 but 12 wagons - Some four teams from the large train wish to join us
 & among them Meeker - We water toward noon at the well of a deserted
 station & soon stop at what is called Ice Springs a kind of slough
 where ice they say can be found by digging - I don't like to dig
 except for gold While in camp some ox teams come up with us which we
 passed last night & we find with them - Wheeler who was formerly
 Marshall of Omaha He has his wife & a cat with him beside some 20
 heads of stock He directs us where to camp for night & says he will

overtake us there - at Warm Springs 10 miles ahead We roll on
& by an error of judgement

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our Capt permits us to pass the Springs & we make a drive of 15
instead of 10 miles & camp in a deep hollow on the bank of a creek
without grass We get into camp after sundown & before our supper
is ready we are joined by 3 teams from the 40 wagon train Meekers
among the number. We give our stock grain & then against the unjust
remonstrance of Manning we unanimously with the exception of his
lone voice conclude to wait for daylight before going to the small
patch of grass the Capt has discovered a mile & a half ahead -
Manning offers to go on if he can get one team to go with him but
gets no response to his offer. Having seen several suspicious
characters today & learning that we are camped on the identical spot
where the two men were killed by the Sioux - we increase our guard
tie our stock to the wagon wheels & prepare for any emergency

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Thursday July 17th - We pass the night without disturbance perhaps
owing to our vigilance - I slept very little the first half of the
night & the latter part was on guard - At 3 we roused the camp and
as soon as harnessed & packed begin to climb the hill out of the hollow
Lockwood is dissatisfied with the route & strikes off by himself to
find the river road - On the top of the hill near half a mile long we
find the grave of the two men murdered by the Indians with this in-
scription on both head & foot board "James McGraw & brother in law
from Ill. were killed by the Indians June 28th, 1862 and his wife
taken by them Beware of Indians"

We push on about a mile & find a small patch of very good grass turn
out our stock & get our breakfast all but Manning & one other team

from Denver which overtook us yesterday - They particularly Manning are

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so disgusted with us that they conclude to leave us to our fate & abandon us heartlessly- I think not one of the whole train but is thankful for the riddance of the double distilled contrary fellow & heartily wishes we may see no more of him - but we shall he will sneak back before night & be as impudent & contrary as ever - Our noon camp was in a vale on the top of the mountains where we found a Spring & a little grass - here Mr. Lockwood came back to us sick of his flight - While here we have some sprinkles of cold rain & a cold breeze blowing all the time - We make a stop of only two hours & begin to descend the afternoon drive being all down hill - We find a beautiful camping ground for eve two hours before sundown with a fine cold spring & plenty of grass - We have for fuel only Sage brush which burns well but emits an odor unpleasant to some.

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We find today for the first in many days a new variety of flower & quite fragrant - It is a beauty - pink in color combining several tints & is of quite delicate construction We are averaging 20 miles travel per day John is on guard tonight - Somewhat different from our camp of last night

Friday July 18th - We have had a cold night & the frost this morning is severe Had to break Ice on our buckets to get water out of them - a new sensation for me to experience in midsummer - We find Manning & the Denver team awaiting us about a mile from our camp & I think they are glad to get back We see more of the pink flowers - so singular - without a leaf or other evidence of a plant than the two small stems coming up through the sand & bearing the beauty - We are in the midst

of a flowering mass in bunches as large as a pan & covered with a delicate white flower and

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emitting a rich delicious odor - almost intoxicating - We find the sweet water River again about 3 miles from camp now reduced to the size of Front Creek & camp for noon when some cross & others do not - Here again find the Telegraph which we had lost sight of for a couple of days - Are in the vicinity of "Landers Cut off" & may safely say we are in the south Pass - A mile from this is the residence of Col. Bridges & some US soldiers stationed - Our Capt & Joe went a half mile & across the river to see the Col. an opportunity I very foolishly neglected - They described him as a small shrewd-quick man about 55 or 60 years old & has spent his whole life in the mountains Has killed his score or more of Indians & hates them still - He pleasantly gave them all the information he could which was a considerable & among the rest was the unpleasant item that we

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must go from Ft. Hall to Ft. Wallawalla - While in camp at noon some of our boys indulged in gambols & pranks on a snow bank some six or eight feet deep - only a short distance from camp - While here too the 40 team train comes up with us & among the rest the Dr. who remained with them to attend the woman who was shot He with some 3 other teams (perhaps more) will come on & join us tonight which will make us a train of 16 teams & will include 3 ladies & a baby - We have travelled this pm 7 miles - have got a start of a mile on the "Cut Off" & have bid good bye to the Salt Lake - California & Oregon road & the host of emigrants upon it - Shall see no more of the Telegraphs - the last link between us & home is now broken & we can have no communication for month's

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Our camp is in a bend of the hill behind us & the Sweet Water before us & our stock on the opposite side for better grass - The big train is in camp in sight on the hill on the East & an otrain near on the west - I tried the Sweet water this eve for fish but got nothing but bites & if I remember right those were from Mosquitoes - I am disappointed in the appearance of the South Pass - I had expected to see rough precipitous mountains on each side the road & in fact to climb such & that the real pass would run through a narrow gorge & plunge quite suddenly down on the western side. Instead I find we are travelling over a quite level but somewhat rolling terraine varying in width from 10 to probably 25 miles - A fine hard gravel road - The snow caps are only visible on the right & probably 15 or 20 miles distant

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It is said that Col. Bridges & "his boys" once attacked a party of Indians where our camp is made & killed 27 of them - the Next day pursuing & killing more thus filling them with a terror of his name from which they have never recovered -

Saturday July 19th - We are in camp till after seven O'clk - the beginning to rise & continuing till noon - Our party kill four sage hens a fowl which subsists on the wild sage & is nearly as large as a turkey - they are fine eating - We are joined by 5 wagons 9 men 4 ladies & a baby from the large train which will make one train when Meeker comes up tomorrow 20 wagons - 7 Women - 2 babies - about 50 men & 60 head of stock - Among the acquisitions are a Mr. Root with another mans wife - They had travelled together several days in the large train - the husband & wife had a falling out - husband took a girl from the train & started for Salt

*note-Turn two leaves.

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Names & Residence of our Party (Capt Rev. S. Bristol - Dartford Green Lake Co Wis.

	J. W. Walcott	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	G. Beynon	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	Wm. McKimson	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	W. G. Ives	Fulton City		Illinois
	Joshua Hollingshead	Fulton City		Illinois
	Tho's Fletcher	Rosendale		Wisconsin
	L. W. Coe	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	Cha's Combs	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	Jas. D. Smith	Rosendale		Wisconsin
	Nathan Hunter	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	A. B. Thrall	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	J. H. Eugh	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	A. R. Hargrave	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	E. M. Geiger & wife	Quincy		Illinois
	Robt. McComb	Lewiston		Illinois
Master	C. W. Geiger	Quincy	(4 yrs. old)	Illinois
	James Phillips	Fairplay	Grant Co.	Wisconsin
	Robt. Phillips	Fairplay	Grant Co.	Wisconsin
	Dan'l Hunsaker	Fairplay	Grant Co.	Wisconsin
	Eugene Smith	Fairplay	Grant Co.	Wisconsin
	John Lockwood	Steamboat	Rock Co.	Iowa
	Wm. H. Shepard	Mankato	Blue Earth Co.	Minnesota
pg. 74 1/2	W. Kegerreis	Mankato	Blue Earth "	Minnesota
	Ferd' C. Roosevelt	Mankato	Blue Earth "	Minnesota
	H. R. Meeker & wife	LaCrosse	LaCrosse Co.	Wisconsin
	Frank A. Ford	Sparta	Monroe Co.	Wisconsin
	Joseph W. Sprott	Chariton	Lucas Co.	Iowa
	Wm. Henry Humphrey	Chariton	Lucas Co.	Iowa
	Henry C. Ryerly	Chariton	Lucas Co.	Iowa
	John C. Hileman	Omaha	Douglas Co.	Nebraska
	H. M. Judson	Omaha	Douglas Co.	Nebraska
	J. P. Manning	Omaha	Douglas Co.	Nebraska
	John Mellers	Omaha	Douglas "	Nebraska
	Tho's H. Parkes	ElkHorn		Nebraska
	Cha's Freeman wife & child (babe)			Minnesota
	E. A. Temple & wife	Ottumwa	Wapello Co.	Iowa
	Caroline	Ottumwa	Wapello Co.	Iowa
	Wm. Michaels	"	"	Iowa
	Wm. Chandler	Ottumwa	Wapello Co.	Iowa
	S. M. Rice			New York
	W. P. Roberts	Belmont	LaFayette Co.	Wisconsin
	John H. Jones	Pickatonie	Iowa Co.	Iowa
	Henry Owens	Pickatonie	Iowa Co.	Iowa
	Dr. Wm. B. Jones wife & two boys	Belmont	LaFayette Co.	Wisconsin

Taken on 31st July in camp described on pages 53 & 54

pg. 76 1/4	Edward Wait	Beaver Dam	Dodge Co.	Wisconsin
	Peter B. Laraway	Beaver Dam	Dodge Co.	Wisconsin
	James Durant	Calamus	Dodge Co.	Wisconsin
	Fred K. Henry Martin	Buffalo	Erie Co.	New York
	Edward Sapp	Farmington	Fulton Co.	Illinois
	Wm. Scott	Apple River Station		Wisconsin
	J. K. Root	Cedar Rapids	Linn Co.	Iowa
Root-	Sam Clemens	Cedar Rapids	Linn Co.	Iowa
	Mrs. Bailey	Cedar Rapids	Linn Co.	Iowa
	Merit P. Gibson	Comanche		Iowa

	J. W. Walcott	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	G. Beynon	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	Wm. McKimson	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	W. G. Ives	Fulton City		Illinois
	Joshua Hollingshead	Fulton City		Illinois
	Tho's Fletcher	Rosendale		Wisconsin
	L. W. Coe	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	Cha's Combs	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	Jas. D. Smith	Rosendale		Wisconsin
	Nathan Hunter	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	A. B. Thrall	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	J. H. Eugh	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	A. R. Hargrave	Ripon	Fon Du Lac	Wisconsin
	E. M. Geiger & wife	Quincy		Illinois
	Robt. McComb	Lewiston		Illinois
Master	C. W. Geiger	Quincy	(4 yrs. old)	Illinois
	James Phillips	Fairplay	Grant Co.	Wisconsin
	Robt. Phillips	Fairplay	Grant Co.	Wisconsin
	Dan'l Hunsaker	Fairplay	Grant Co.	Wisconsin
	Eugene Smith	Fairplay	Grant Co.	Wisconsin
	John Lockwood	Steamboat	Rock Co.	Iowa
	Wm. H. Shepard	Mankato	Blue Earth Co.	Minnesota
pg. 74 1/2	W. Kegerreis	Mankato	Blue Earth "	Minnesota
	Ferd' C. Roosevelt	Mankato	Blue Earth "	Minnesota
	H. R. Meeker & wife	LaCrosse	LaCrosse Co.	Wisconsin
	Frank A. Ford	Sparta	Monroe Co.	Wisconsin
	Joseph W. Sprott	Chariton	Lucas Co.	Iowa
	Wm. Henry Humphrey	Chariton	Lucas Co.	Iowa
	Henry C. Ryerly	Chariton	Lucas Co.	Iowa
	John C. Hileman	Omaha	Douglas Co.	Nebraska
	H. M. Judson	Omaha	Douglas Co.	Nebraska
	J. P. Manning	Omaha	Douglas Co.	Nebraska
	John Mellers	Omaha	Douglas "	Nebraska
	Tho's H. Parkes	ElkHorn		Nebraska
	Cha's Freeman wife & child (babe)			Minnesota
	E. A. Temple & wife	Ottumwa	Wapello Co.	Iowa
	Caroline	Ottumwa	Wapello Co.	Iowa
	Wm. Michaels	"	"	Iowa
	Wm. Chandler	Ottumwa	Wapello Co.	Iowa
	S. M. Rice			New York
	W. P. Roberts	Belmont	LaFayette Co.	Wisconsin
	John H. Jones	Pickatonie	Iowa Co.	Iowa
	Henry Owens	Pickatonie	Iowa Co.	Iowa
	Dr. Wm. B. Jones wife & two boys	Belmont	LaFayette Co.	Wisconsin

Taken on 31st July in camp described on pages 53 & 54

pg. 76 1/4	Edward Wait	Beaver Dam	Dodge Co.	Wisconsin
	Peter B. Laraway	Beaver Dam	Dodge Co.	Wisconsin
	James Durant	Calamus	Dodge Co.	Wisconsin
	Fred K. Henry Martin	Buffalo	Erie Co.	New York
	Edward Sapp	Farmington	Fulton Co.	Illinois
	Wm. Scott	Apple River	Station	Wisconsin
	J. K. Root	Cedar Rapids	Linn Co.	Iowa
Root-	Sam Clemens	Cedar Rapids	Linn Co.	Iowa
	Mrs. Bailey	Cedar Rapids	Linn Co.	Iowa
	Merit P. Gibson	Comanche		Iowa

Manning
Mellers
Parkes
Lockwood
John Jones
Roberts

Owens
Smith
Mr. Jones
Wickey
Westfall

left train + took
Calif road up raft
river to So. Oregon.

	Luther Dickey	Iowa City	Johnson Co.	Iowa
	C. M. Westfall	Iowa City	Johnson Co.	Iowa
together	1. 2 Germans one with a wife from Denver			
	2. Mr. Wheeler (City Express wagon)			
	3. Jake Sheppard - French			
	4. Jeager			

Iowa City 11 wagon train

	Hiram Watts	Iowa City	Johnson Co.	Iowa
	A. J. Cassady	Iowa City	Johnson Co.	Iowa
	Edmund Hainson	Iowa City	Johnson "	Iowa
	Chas Hainson	Iowa City	Johnson "	Iowa
	J. C. Henley	Iowa City	Johnson "	Iowa
	Jos. F. Failes	Iowa City	Johnson "	Iowa
pg. 76 1/2	Isaac Ijams	Iowa City	Johnson Co.	Iowa
	John Wilson	Iowa City	Johnson Co.	Iowa
	J. P. Orcutt	Iowa City	Johnson Co.	Iowa
	Henry Murray MD	Iowa City	Johnson Co.	Iowa
	Pangburn	Leavenworth		(Kansas)
	Bernard	Leavenworth		(Kansas)
	Coreys	Leavenworth		(Kansas)

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	Bernard	Leavenworth		(Kansas)
	Coreys	Leavenworth		(Kansas)

Jack Robinson "an old mountaineer at Ft. Bridger"

"Old Tim Goodwill" character reference for two soldiers from Salt Lake City,
Newton Myrick and Hugh Parks.

Jesse Shoemaker's on the Platte - a stop few miles west of Prairie Creek (Mr. Hurleys)

At Ft. Laramie:

General Gray
Capt. Harrington
Lt. Randolph

McShannon of Omaha on another train

Page 75 (76)

Lake with the train while Root with the wife came with us - Comment is unnecessary - This afternoon we saw a herd of some 40 Elk - old & young - they divided & our hunters took after them but only succeeded in breaking ones leg. They passed just ahead of us on the summit of the pass - We are in camp on the Sweet Water again for Sunday but are on the western slope - have a nice camp - good feed etc. & just at the junction of Landers Cut-Off proper & a cut-off of Landers Cut-Off 15 miles from last night's camp & 22 from Co. Bridger's Post - it being Saturday eve & thoughts strongly running on home & far distant friends it is proper to cheer our spirits that we should have our camp song gotten up for the trip & which through neglect has not till now been inserted & made a part of this journal

Page 76 (77)

CAMP SONG

Now Happy Land of Canaan

Composed & sung by the Author on the top of Chimney Rock during a brilliant sunshine -

1

I will sing you a new ditty
Though you may not call it witty
Tis descriptive of our trip to the gold land

Where the gold tis said abounds
And rich treasures may be found
Where we're going to that happy
land of Canaan - Ho - ho - ho

Ho - o - o - o - o - The days of the gold
nuggets' coming
So never mind the weather
But get over double trouble
For we're bound for that happy land of Canaan

PAGE 77 (78)

2

Our attachments were so strong
And took so very long
With the aid of some gentlemen in waiting¹

*** note - turn two leaves - - pgs. 76 1/4 & 76 1/2 are continued on pg. 36 and pg. 36 1/2 of this copy.

1. Officers

2

To get ready the "Bell team"
 And our plunder loaded in
 For a start for that happy land etc.

3

One fine afternoon
 I think the fifth of June
 We severed all our various happy unions

Made one final bow
 Bid good Bye to Omaha
 And set sail for this happy land of Canaan

4

So now were on the track
 You may bet we won't turn back
 Till we prospect every nook in the mountains

And if the gold is there
 We are bound to have our share
 When we get to that happy land etc.

PAGE 78 (79)

5

We have "Joe"² to do the hunting
 Redfield does the grunting
 While the Ex Sheriff³ does the mule training

"Jack⁴ & Hawk⁵" do the driving
 And Judd⁶ engineers the cooking
 As we go to that happy land etc.

6

But somehow all along
 Everything was going wrong
 And twas plain that some kind of storm was brewing

Till just below the Fort⁷
 His meanness all broke out
 And we left "Red"⁸ for that happy etc.

2. Joseph Sprott of Iowa
3. Hileman
4. Henry Humphrey of Iowa
5. H. C. Ryerly of Iowa
6. H. M. Judson
7. Fort Laramie
8. Redfield

7

At the fort he made complaints
 Of Hileman Joe & Jack
 That they were theives & had threatened him a "baiting"⁹

But when the thing was tried
 All were satisfied he lied
 And had no business in that happy etc.

PAGE 79 (80)

8

We have now some forty men
 By the occasional falling in
 Of a team in good order & training

And with our hearty fare
 And good driving but with care
 We hope soon to see the happy etc.

9

We find mountains - streams & boulders
 Indians - Rattlesnakes & Soldiers
 And often times it does a little raining

Then there are gulches - ravines springs
 And ten thousand other things
 On this road to the happy etc.

10

We have an abundance of fine game
 From an Elk to a Sage Hen
 Huge mosquitoes by the millions (waiting) to tie in

Raw plants & fragrant flowers
 With natures own huge rocky towers
 May be found on this road to happy Canaan

11

We are well prepared to travel
 Or as some would say scratch gravel
 With a hand used to almost every calling

Page 80(81) Our Captain is our preacher
 And grand nature is our teacher
 On this trip to the happy land etc.

9. See Irish dictionary

10. Mr. Bristol of Wisconsin

Of our life along the road
 A great deal may be said
 Opinions vary as our tastes do according

But our trip will do for me
 And when the western slope I see
 I shall tarry in that happy etc.

My song is nearly done
 And T'were better not begun
 But if you think it worth the little trouble taken

When I get a little more time
 I will give you better rhyme
 When we get to that happy land etc.

Page 81 (82)

Sunday July 20 - Still in the So. Pass Pass a quiet day - Washing mending sleeping etc. as usual - Early in the am Meeker & Co come up & we also have another addition to our train which probably will not again change till we reach Ft. Hall & stands thus - 22 teams & about 60 men - A very good train - large enough & not too large - The weather during the morning has been fine & quite warm - The afternoon cloudy - cold & unpleasant with a slight sprinkle of rain - has much the appearance of November with its dark clouds hanging around the tops of the snow banks on the north - We have a considerable snow bank not 80 rods from camp - Our sermon this pm by Mr. Bristol was most excellent & well adapted to our wants The text -- Mark 8th 35th 36th & 37th verses - His description of the immortality of the soul was as fine as I have ever heard & his caution to us gold

Page 82 (83)

seekers not to forget that if we should gain the whole world & lose our soul we should profit nothing was beautiful & well timed I was particularly pleased with his petetion in the opening prayer in behalf of our distant friends - his asking God to watch between them & us

while we are absent from them - The singing today was by Mr. Root & his lady passenger assisted by Thrall & consisted of three new set pieces - very good, but hardly appropriate - seemed very little like worship - The lady appears to be an accomplished singer & has a very good & well cultivated voice Two or three slight attacks of mountain fever among them "Joe" are improving

My attention has been called today to a fact I had not before noticed that I am positively getting fat & my little glass shows a very perceptible filling up of my usually sharp face -

Page 83 (84)

I have been over this eve to visit the aforementioned snow bank & picked a very pretty boquet within a very short distance of it - Twas my first real encounter with snow in midsummer

Monday July 21st - Get a late start but make 12 miles for noon camp which amounted to leaving our wagons in the road in the order & line of travel & turning the stock loose - Joe has been quite sick all night with severe pains in his head & back - He slept very little nor let me - This am he calls the Dr who administers an emetic & also pills - Our road has been rather descending - rough over the hills but soft & rather on the slough order between - have passed the first stream bound for the Pacific - Soon after noon we pass a fine stream over a new log bridge built by the soldiers - Then we go over rocky hills or rather mountains - passing a short distance

along side the "Little Sandy - over another Mountain & camp for
Page 84 (85)

night on the west bank of the Big Sandy - Owing to a long drive & several vexations delays - the losing our camp kettle in fording the Big Sandy & getting our team into a snarl at the foot of a hill we arrive late in camp & considerably out of humor - We are fortunate in getting milk enough for supper from a cattle train near which

PAGE 42 OF THE TRANSCRIPTION IS MISSING (1-29-1991). See Original diary Pages 84, 85, 86 for missing text.

which causes their meat to taste of the same - Just before dark we conclude to stop for supper & to feed while Ryerly goes ahead on the pony to hunt water - Lockwood has already taken another of his cuts off & now Manning drives on & leaves us again We get our supper & just as it is getting dark we start on our road again - Joe is quite sick but stands the ride very well After a drive of three miles we are met by the welcome intelligence that Green River is but two miles ahead & we

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can already see the camp fires on its banks - Our messenger had found the river - had met Manning & directed him to it & sent us the joyful news - We had not suffered at all but disliked night driving & beside were then satisfied all doubts & apprehensions removed - By 11 Oclk we were in camp - Our stock out to grass - beds made & ready to retire. Wednesday July 23 - Up early & fortunate enough to find our tin buckets lost in the Sage brush last eve - We find a large train already nearly crossed over the stream (about 14 rods wide & very rapid) on an impromptu boat made of two wagon beds tied together & pitched to make them water tight - About 10 miles below is a ferry boat built by emigrants & held by a party charging \$4 per team for the use of the boat - Another train is this morning crossing above us - probably on their wagons.

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The train across the river lost two horses last night - by Indians or thieves the lariats being cut & the horses gone - Guess they had a sleepy guard - We have a report of 2 men who were hunting stock on foot with three more on horseback being killed by the Indians on Friday last not far from here - The horsemen got away while the footmen were surrounded and shot to death with arrows.

After breakfast we select two wagon beds & all go to work with a will - We make a fine craft - a foot board makes the bow - tent poles the oars - horseshoes the row locks & she goes without a rudder - We tow the craft up a short distance on each side of the river to get a good start against the rapid current - The forward bed is used exclusively by the two boatmen the second carries nearly a wagonload of freight with a passenger or two on

Page 89 (90)

the top & another bed is floated behind & so we go making a round trip about every half hour - We this afternoon get over about 10 wagons with their freight - A train of cattle teams which we passed yesterday in attempting to ferry or ford some ten miles above us have been unfortunate enough to lose two wagons - They also lost 5 head of horses - a small party tracked them for 12 miles & discovered the camp of the thieves - white men - They came back & 40 men started out in pursuit in the hope of surrounding the party numbering about 12 The train which ferried at this point yesterday remain all night on the west bank - In the train we discover a former resident of Omaha McShannon who kindly furnishes us a bucket of milk - Their Capt has been to the next stream 5 miles ahead & finds a boat

Page 90 (91)

built by emigrants & sold by one train to another as they come up for two dollars & a half - Joe today catches 2 large suckers & Mrs. Temple catches some Suckers & a regular Salmon - a large one at sundown we quit work - get our suppers & those who are wet change their clothes - Our wagon has been gotten over - is reloaded & our tent pitched on the west bank most of the train stop on the east side with the stock - Only one lady (Mrs. Meeker) has crossed today - We are all very tired & after the Author's song to an appreciative & delightful audience we all retire.

Thursday July 24th - The party in pursuit of the horse thieves has returned unsuccessful - They followed them far toward Mormondom - a significant fact from which we all draw the

Page 91 (92)

same inference - We get early to work & progress finely swimming over between the loads a party of half dozen or more horses & mules - Meeker & Sheppard catch a fine lot of trout while the subscriber fishes in vain for even a bite - With our best exertions we were till 5 pm getting over the last load. We immediately start for the next branch 5 miles distant & make the drive & get into Corral before dark - We find only a part of the train just before us across - buy the boat for \$4 & thus secure the next chance to cross - We find Shannon again who brings us another bucket of milk & some of our party are permitted to milk cows which otherwise would not have been milked - Plenty of milk & light suppers in our camp tonight We find this stream a little more rapid but not quite as wide as the one last passed - Will not have to

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unload our wagons & can get our train all over in a half day - We secured our stock inside our Corral for the night - Ate our mush & milk in our tents - rolled ourselves in our blankets & slept sound till the sun was far up on the morning of

Friday July 25th The Capt early rises all hands to take the stock out to grass & all get up but me - I am awake from another nap by Shannon with another bucket of milk Isn't he a jewel & so kind to bring it - Will accept nothing for it - The least I can do for him is to record here such a rare instance of generosity - We busy ourselves in various ways - some get a fine trout or two - others wash clothing - others cook - others mend while some guard the stock - I sally out to fish-

find poor fishing - but get a fine lot of mild onions for our dinner -
At one oclk we get the boat & are soon at work - have a

Page 93 (94)

good gang of oarsmen & put them (the wagons) across at the rate of
4 pr hour - The boat is a substantial one of hewn plank - very heavy -
rowed by an oar each side & a third one for a rudder - Mr. Root is
courtmartialed for neglect of work & when remonstrated with gets into
a passion & calls the Capt a liar - The party sustain the Capt
unanimously & we nearly decide to leave him on the east bank - We
finally conclude to take him over & request him in future to travel by
& take care of himself - Another delinquent - who only joined us in
time to get over the two streams with our assistance & who has done
nothing toward helping the train is charged \$2 for ferriage which is
distributed among the oarsmen - We have some difficulty in getting the
stock to swim the stream - some of them coming out a half mile below
the starting point on the same side

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several times - others would go directly over the first time trying
like sensible animals - We finally get all over - Cross two or three
sloughs to a higher bench of land & camp & get our supper before dark -
Have done a large half days work & all feel pretty tired - Another
train of 20 or more wagons has come up - paid us what we gave for the
boat & get several of their wagons over this eve - We think ourselves
very fortunate in getting over so quickly & with so little trouble -
The only damage sustained being the loss of an eye by one of the
"Independent Rovers" horses - probably caused by a club & in urging
them into & across the river - Our supper is of course late & we
retire late & very tired to bed - Have a guard of 8 men on watch
tonight & it is probably well we do or we might have lost some of

of the stock - The party to whom we sold the boat & whom we

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left crossing were probably careless and neglected their watch as they lost all their cattle & all their horses & mules but 5 or 6 by a stampede - The occasion they don't know but probably by Indians or renegade white men - Being on guard the latter part of the night - I rouse the camp early on the morning of

Saturday July 26 We immediately begin to rise a long stony hill or mountain - The road all day is hard & rocky - Five miles from camp we cross a bad little stream - muddy banks - On we go & camp for dinner without water - 10 miles more & we reach a considerable stream but fordable where we find two soldiers in waiting in want of provisions - They represent that they belong to a party of 19-3 mos men who were enlisted at Salt Lake & had recently been sent out to recover a drove of 150 head of horses stolen last Sat eve from Jack Robinson an old mountainer at Ft. Bridger - Their names were Newton Myrick & Hugh Parks - They referred us for character to "Old Tim Goodwill" & said they had eaten their last provisions of any & every kind & expected to commune on horse meat today - They were certainly fortunate in meeting us - We gave them provisions to last the party four days in which time they expect to reach Ft. Bridger 150 miles distant on the south - They had tracked the Indians 100 miles above us to the east of Ft. Hall & gave them up - They report that just before they passed us here a train had been attacked by the Snakes - one man killed - another wounded & some of their cattle killed We go on for another 10 miles & camp late a half mile from a bad stream & where the mosquitoes are large & ferocious - The Capt says the authors song does not do them justice and must be revised - We sleep on our arms with our stock picketed close in the Corral & get up late on

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Sunday July 27th - The usual occupations of the day occupy the morning - The cook keeps our stove hot from the beginning of breakfast till long past dinner - The mosquitoes are perfectly outrageous - Manning makes an effort to get a part of the train to go on & travel the day - As usual - fails - Our bill of fare for dinner is - Coffee light bread - crackers - corn dodger - bacon - Beans - honey - Applesauce - Pickles, etc. etc. - At 4 o'clock we are called to hear an exhortation by Mr. Fletcher a Wesleyan Methodist - He speaks from 2 Cor - 4th 17th - calling it an exhortation twas very good - the sermon to close on the same text by

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Capt Bristol was also good - The singing was done by Mr & Mrs Meeker Thrall & Judd - tunes Ortonville & Olmutz Ariel was to have been sung but by mistake was left out - Stock close in Corral - lunch on Mush & honey

Monday July 28th Camp roused at 3 1/2 o'clock a party takes the stock out to grass - another with shovels & picks goes down to the stream 1/2 mile off to make or repair a road - after breakfast away we go & consume an hour in crossing the train - The teams were driven across to the West bank a steep one & a lariat then tied to the end of the wagon tounge - a dozen men then helped the team up in a hurry - On we go for three miles toward the mountains - snow caps - & soon we plunge into a Canon (Canyon) along side a good sized crack - For two miles or more the road was comparatively

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good & the Canon a half mile or more wide - vegetation abundant & roses as well as a great variety of flowers in profusion - a perfect garden - We cross the stream several times during the day & often

drive some rods in its bed - The Canon grows narrower & we drive over rocky bluffs - then through Springholes till finally we are forced into a noon camp by one of the wheels of one of Mr. Rice's wagons giving out We are strung along a space of a mile or more 2-3 or a half dozen wagons in a place - Our wagon is in a romantic spot - about 100 ft above the stream & a qr mile off - can just catch glimpses of it through the willows - On the other side the mountain rises very high with snow within a qr of a mile & the whole mountain on our side covered with fir-Pine & quaking ash trees - Mosquitoes & horseflies are immense & so thick -

Page 100 (101)

Down by the creek we pick strawberries while some busy themselves in taking out some fine trout - say 2 pounders - The dinner over - damage repaired & on we go to find a horrible road - narrow - rough in places over a track entirely of sharp rocks without the relief of a particle of earth - up hills where some of the teams had to be pulled up & then let down by ropes - We pass Springs cold as ice - have snow to our hearts content on which Mrs. Temple & others prance their horses - Tis truly an awful road but through a beautiful and romantic Canon - T'would look more pleasant to us riding through on the cars - We come to a very bad stream & slough a short time before dark and suddenly conclude to camp while 3 or 4 others are wallowing & floundering in the mud We have a fine mess of trout for

Page 101 (102)

supper & still another ready for breakfast - We are all very tired with our hard days work of only 10 miles & after a few songs to help get up a good humor - mules tied to wagons - guard set-off among the blankets. I forgot in proper place to mention the marks of Beavers in our _____ camp - Trees nearly or quite a foot through were

knawed off in regular cuts having the appearance of having been done by a 1/2 or 3/4 in guage - Their dam is in the stream just below & some of our party report having seen it & where the varmints had slapped the mud with their tails on the banks - Among so many beautiful fir trees one attracted especial attention It was about 50 ft in height - its branches coming out very near the ground & running into a perfect cone in form - I think it the prettiest tree I have ever seen & would make a splendid ornament in a town -

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Tuesday July 29th) As soon as day begins to peep Joe with his rifle starts into the mountains - Capt Bristol & some volunteers soon after start out to make a new piece of road while the muleteers drive off their stock to grass & the cooks get to work at the breakfasts. Tis a very cold morning - more like January than July - Joe gets back to breakfast & brings 2 Grouse - Reports having seen and wounded a large animal - of a dark yellow color & with a very long tail - Probably a mountain lion - The road starts hard - opens with deep & heavy sloughs - Soon we find it better & for about 3 miles is tolerably good - Then we begin to ascend the mountain through heavy pine timber - tall & slender with a sprinkling of fir & Aspen - Tis a dismal road as well as bad one - though the singing of the wind through the forest sounds like familiar old time voices.

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We go up steep ascents - over miry spring holes - down rocky decents where with wheels locked we have to hold back & steady the wagons down with lariats We camp for noon on a tributary of either Bear or Snake river - without grass & of course make a short stay - We cross this stream several times in the afternoon - pass close to

snow banks on either side of the road & have them hanging over us on the brows of grand old mountains high above us all the time - We pass this afternoon a beautiful grave made in an opening in the forest & directly beneath a fine fir tree - T was made on the 27th inst (only 2 days ago) & was enclosed in a picket yard of hewn timber - A board set into a notch sawed into the tree informed us that the grave contained the remains of Mrs. Elizabeth Paul - aged 32 years - beneath some kind friend had pinned a paper on which were written 3 beautiful & appropriate verses & which I

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regret very much I had not time to copy - Our evening camp is in a romantic canon - surrounded by the forests & mountains & beside a small stream - Birds sing & after night fall the frogs peep & sing like Spring Hank is slightly unwell tonight & Joe is on guard after midnight -

Wednesday July 30th - I find breakfast all ready when I get up - From various causes - a very cold morning the principal one - we get a late start - near seven o'clock before we draw out in line of travel - I forgot to mention yesterday the passing of a log building the first we have seen for a hundred miles or more - now deserted - probably built by the workmen on this road & had over the door in large blue stencilled letters "Fort Snyder" - Here was recorded in pencil on the logs the passage of Capt. Maynadur (?) & Co. last summer

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Many names were written on the logs as they are on all prominent trees & rocks which we pass - I left my autograph with the date for the benefit of the Omaha's following us - Mr. Ives this morning found a half mile up the mountain from our camp a plain trail made by horses

& mules running along a high ridge - He also found strong evidences of foul play committed by Indians or white men far meaner - There were piéces of harness - a horse collar - a new unsoiled pr of boots - Moulds wrench etc for a navy revolver - 3 powderhorns - a brass spur & various other things - Had we have known of the discovery in time we should have sent out a party for further search - Three or four miles beyond we found beside the road a grave - on which was nailed a paper stating that Mr. Carariaghs Co had opened the same
Page 106 (107)

on the 27th thinking to recognize the corpse as some acquaintance gone before & had found a body only six inches under ground - unknown - with a bullet hole in his temple - an arrow about the grave - a bloody shirt etc. - Twas so far decayed as to be immovable appeared to be a man of 50 yrs of age - This man was evidently murdered & probably the murder was connected with the transaction by which the things Ives found were left - I am satisfied twas white men did the deed _ We climbed the mountains over a fair road all the morning & stopped late without feed for our noon repast & rest - I can't help mentioning the beautiful fir trees again They are so beautiful - so tall & symetrical sometimes in immense bodies - then in clusters of a half dozen in another field surrounded by smaller ones making a beautiful group - again a single tall-large tree branching from the ground & perfect in form as if made by hand

Page 107 (108)

Our road this afternoon has been awful in the extreme - up steep-long mountains - down the same - over rocks & stumps - through canons crossing the insignificant stream every few rods & often driving for rods in its bed over the rocks. Sometimes filling up holes - again cutting away trees & making a new road as I presume almost every

train has done before us & will do after us - Through the Canons & where the snow banks still bridge the little mountain torrent it is hard to tell where the original road made by "Lander" was - Our men are almost unanimous in condemning the "Cut-Off" & heartily wish they had taken the old road - We shall long remember it & the year of the brave General's death - On the mountain sides we found a great profusion of flowers - among them some fine double roses - rather late in the season at home but in time in this spring like climate

Page 108 (109)

We have found in the vallies today ripe strawberries - higher up green ones & still higher just in bloom - We have another impromptu camp for the night - were driving late for grass & came to a very bad crossing - two light wagons ahead got safely over The rest gave it up & turned out for night - On the mountain a mile from camp some of our boys found grass We get our suppers one at a time as we can get time to eat it - When all are done we move the stove into the tent door for comfort for tis very cold & even as I write on this 30 evening in July my fingers are so cold I can hardly hold my pencil. I am too like the rest - very tired - have travelled on foot all the day & worked hard beside as one of the Capt's Co of "Sappers & Miners" Hank Ryerly is on guard the first watch tonight - past 11 o'clk -

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Owing to finding good grass on the mountain near & to the necessity of repairing the road through the stream ahead we get a late start - 9 o'clk - The cold may have had something to do with it as twas severe & the sun's rays were late finding their way down to the ravine where we were shivering - An hour was consumed in getting the train all over as well as some hard work - One team mired & a wagon broke down etc. - then we climb the mountains again - over another ridge winding

around the sides & plunging through the narrow ravine at the bottom & immediately begin a new ascent - Was the road more tolerable & travellers in better humor we should enjoy much some of the views along the road - they are turly splendid & so varied & changing - Tis a fine sight to look back from the top of a mountain & see the long train winding around the side of the one last past - the wagons & teams looking like liliputian

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affairs in the distance and apparently in places going almost perpendicularly down till they dive out of sight & again appear just below the point of observation - The air is so pure & clear that the new moon is accompanying us all day as distinctly visible as at night - Joe this morning finds a stray Muley Cow - drives her a mile or so - get tired & leases her - Wash takes her along with his pony & we have her now in camp - Sometime past noon the row of our party emerge suddenly from the wilderness on the top of a mountain & behold at its feet a wide Canon leading into a broad valley in the distance - They involuntarily give 3 cheers & down the hill we go - It is full two miles to the bottom of the Canon & it is a long time before the whole train reaches it - We camp near a beautiful gravel bed stream & prepare with light hearts - singing "Ain't you mighty glad to get out of the Wilderness" etc. to get our dinners

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We decide to spend the balance of the day here & so clear away the logs & make a corral outside of camp & between it & the stream which is called the East fork of Salt River We spend the afternoon like a Sunday repairing - washing etc.- In the evening fire a pile of logs & brush making a huge campfire pleasant to behold & comfort-

able to feel around which we gather & have our chat - subjects the Indians - the terrible road - prospects ahead etc. of course conjectures on the results of the battles we only know have taken place occupy a share in our conversation - The query - When shall we hear from home the war & America generally again - The Author's song being loudly called for & at last demanded by the Capt was sung & rec'd three hearty cheers at its close - Soon all retire but the guard - & so closes down the cold last night of July

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August 1st-Friday - We are late astir & do not leave camp till past seven oclck At the end of a half mile find a crossing & the only really bad place for the days travel - a half hours work in the brush with axes passes us over & on we go into the spreading valley - find once more in place of the everlasting sage brushes a real bona fide green sward. The road is very dusty & evidences of camping lie on every side - Old stoves tin ware - boxes etc. etc. We have passed in the last few days the remains of several wagons showing plainly the severity of the road - Our party has been singularly fortunate in sustaining no injury of greater magnitude than the breaking of a king bolt or some trifling thing & have abundant reason to be thankful to an overruling Providence for this as well as a thousand other favors heaped upon us thus far on our journey - for

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exemption from seven storms - our very generally good health - our exemption from disturbance & molestation by Indians & renegade white men - our not having lost an animal by death theft or otherwise while all around us robberies have been committed - & even murders &

whole trains of stock stampeded - We drive about 12 miles & find a good camp on the same stream we have followed all the morning - In the camp we find the foot of a Cinnamon Bear which we learn was killed near the spot by a boy 17 yrs old - The bear was among the yellow currant bushes on the stream & attacked the boy - The fourth shot killed him - The same party afterward killed a half grown cub - On we go - soon ford the West fork of Salt River - a fine stream about the size of the Elk Horn & if it is the Simon Pure Salt River of which we read in Election times - deserves its popularity - I wonder if it significant of our success that we

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should be following it so near its source - 12 or 13 miles of good road up the fine valley brings us on to Smoky Creek one of the sources of Snake river - Here we find the train in which Shannon is travelling & of course get another supply of milk - Also a small train of 6 wagons which we last saw the other side of Bear River mountains & learn that the "Newbern Co" are in camp 3 miles ahead at the Salt Springs - Our fishermen bring in about 15 lbs of trout this eve & we are this eve well to do - Today have travelled 25 miles - Yesterday 10 - the day before 15 & the day before that - Tuesday - about 12 We get a small pail of butter a rarity here in our camp - crawl off to bed one at a time -

Saturday Aug 2 - We get away about 7 oclck on a tolerable good road find bear tracks

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fresh in the dust of the road - 3 or 4 miles from Camp we find the Salt Springs & salt enough they are - the earth is encrusted with a fine article where the pools have been & the stones over which the water has run are nicely frosted. We drive seven miles - turn out

for noon & make a short stay - Soon after dinner the road begins to wind up the mountain sides & from that till sundown we go alternately up & down - zigzag etc over logs - rocks stumps & places where there is apparently no bottom - we repair in places - Pull up by hand & let down in others & finally get out to the edge of another valley late to camp - Have met today the first calamity of the trip - Smith - Joe - Engle & Fletcher lost a horse - the faithful old fellow worked to the last - dropped suddenly dead in his harness at his post - Their blind horse which gave out just before we reached the Sweet Water & was left & then brought up by the next train had today given out again & PAGE 116 (117) their load with the awful road was too much for the pony & old Bay - Our supper is late & we eat by the light of the moon - Shannon's train has got along & are in camp a stones throw from us - All are tired & with the pleasant assurance that I will be called out on guard at half past twelve I crawl in with Joe who has been in bed with a sick headache ever since we have been in camp - John is on guard the first watch & about one o'clock of - travel 20 miles - Sunday Aug 3d - calls me up - I find Ives Mellas & Lockwood for partners & with John's stories & huge coffee pot we pass "the wee small hours agint the twal" rather pleasantly than otherwise - This standing guard though is a bore & decidedly the meanest feature of the trip - About 4 o'clock we rouse the camp to turn out the stock & I begin my culinary operations which with my washing occupies the whole forenoon - This washing

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is another bore beside being confounded hard work if a fellow half does it - Don't think I shall set up a Laundry - The Newbern Colony which camped about a mile from us & the train Shannon is with have

rolled on today - We must have had in the space of a mile at least 100 wagons last night - We have a beautiful day A fine breeze & are out of the way of dust Frost last night as usual - The boys find while out with the mules feeding an abundance of strawberries & we luxuriate on them for supper - Our sermon by the Capt from John 16th & later clause of the 33d verse was to the point & fitted the case of some of our party who are rather desponding. The singing by Thrall Mellus & Judd was very hard would hardly be called singing - We attempted - Marlow & Hamburg & fell little short of murdering them - After the sermon I have my usual little Prayer Book service which

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I never neglect - Before we retire the "journal (as the legislators say) is read & approved" - speculations made on what a week may bring forth & one by one drop asleep to be woke early on the morning of

Monday Aug 4th We leave camp at seven ocl^k precisely - drive over a rolling country till toward noon we descend to a broad valley having a considerable lake in the distance - We pass a grave containing the body of a Woman killed by a stampede of cattle teams belonging to the Newbern Colony which left our camp yesterday morning - It also contained the corpse of a babe left by the woman Mrs. Paul whose grave beneath the fir tree has been before described - We camp for noon at the point of bluff nearest the lake and our sportsmen have some sport with the ducks which are very plenty - The lake is quite large but apparently shallow & contains many rush or tall grass Islands

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We make a rather short stay and drive long & hard over an extremely

dusty road though otherwise good till sundown when we reach a broad valley through which runs a considerable stream - We camp before reaching it near a fine Spring - We have passed many dead cattle today the number increasing - Mrs. Bailey has bot (bought) a fine cow & we now have 2 with the train & as often as our turn comes can get milk at 5¢ a qt - enough for our coffee at a time - I have forgotten before to mention a change in our stock department - Our lazy-good natured good-for-nothing pony "Jack" has been some days ago traded off for a young roan fellow - about as lazy & a _____ match - "Sam" is too young for much service but will do for the little riding we require.

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A singular effect has been produced upon the hands of many of the party by the concentrated rays of the sun in the narrow Canons - they burn almost to a blister & then comes immense cracks & very sore & troublesome - Mine have been very bad but begin to get better -- 25 miles.

Tuesday Aug 5th - In the hope of meeting some opportunity of sending a letter to Salt Lake after we strike the junction or at Ft. Hall I this morning write friend Charley - We drive over an awful dusty road so bad that the drivers look like Charcoal heavy crossings numerous streams - a mile from camp "Granite Creek" - 2 1/2 further on Myrtle Creek a considerable stream clear & quite sluggish for the mountain country - I do not see why these streams are not named as they might be some appropriate name suggested by the appearance or surroundings - The name giver seems to have had no idea of the fitness of things - as in

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Carrion & Skunk creeks we find no purer better water or prettier

streams on the route - I could give them all names by which they would be known when reached even was there never so much discrepancy in the distances between - We are camped or rather turned out for noon along the road for the space of a mile with nothing in particular to mark the locality & here made the second trial of our new arrangement - a cold lunch for dinner - Works well & saves the cooks a deal of labor Sheppard today has caught some fine trout - About 4 ocl^k we come to a bad little stream to cross & before we repair the road & get over t^{is} near 5 ocl^k & we conclude to camp - An early & well cooked supper makes us all good natured despite the disappointment of not seeing Ft. Hall The streams we have crossed today all run into & help to make up Snake River - The lake we camped on yesterday noon is called Otter Spring Creek - Was ever a name so inappropriate - It is surrounded as far as we could see by an immense level grassy prairie - probably in places 25 or 30 miles wide - Speaking of suggestive names we have a man in the train of the name of Dickey or Dickie We closed the eve in our tent with a good game of Enclue - We play about once in three weeks as often as we can get time when we are not too tired Manning & one or two others are too sagacious to feed their stock with the rest & so send them off to the mountains with their men to stay all night - Manning was displeased with the vote by which we camped here & entered his solitary protest - against it afterward tried to instigate others on team with the rest to go on

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Wednesday Aug 6th - Cloudy & cook morning - first in many days without frost - Capt is offering seats in the Omnibus for Ft. Hall this morning to go through by day light - It takes one drive about 10 miles for noon camp passing a junction with another road from the South -

Don't know what it is - Afternoon drive about same distance & camp still some 20 miles from Ft. Hall - Have found today an abundance of Service berries - very like our whortleberries - layer & grow on bushes like Quince trees - Bears are very fond of them - We have met this eve a party of packers from Cal who give a very discouraging report of the Salmon river mines - Don't think they know as much about them as we do - They tell us too which we begin to believe that we have got to go to Ft. Wallawalla - I get off the letter I wrote yesterday am to Charley - with addi-
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tions - by one of them & am pleased with the opportunity though twill probably go to Ft. Laramie to be mailed

Thursday Aug 7th - Soon after we leave camp this morning we discover a small party of Indians on a neighboring hill looking down with greedy eyes upon the 3 or 4 lazy teams still in camp - We halted & sent back for the teams & they came up in a hurry - As soon as we were out of way, they paid the campground a visit - on their ponies which had till now been kept out of sight - They followed us at a respectful distance to where an Ox train had been in camp & we saw no more of them - We drove through the dust till we overtook the Ox trains & camped for noon to avoid their dust - We found a Mormon trading station near us & they inform

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us of the Deer Lodge mines & insist upon the existence of a good road through to Lien Mullins road & Salmon River - Tell us long stories & try to induce us to go up from here - We camp for the day near their Station - consult upon the subject & vote to go on via Ft. Bois etc. - These Mormons are in wagons & have several wagons & harness brot from above - of course left by men who have

been obliged to leave them - It is the impression of some that \$5 pr wagon for ferriage - wagons etc is the inducement for urging emigrants to take this Deer Lodge route - we are in sight of the three Butes - singular looking - Tall mountains & probably 30 miles distant We are camped near Shannons train again - A small party of Indians are with their ponies at the station about a mile distant have had a look at them only at a distance -----

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Friday Aug 8th

We leave camp at half past six with the Ox train (Capt Walker) & get mixed with it - All arrive at the ferry of the Pont-Newf together - 8 miles from camp - Our party crosses first & go into noon camp - The stream is 6 to 8 rods wide - not swift - & ten miles distant empties into the Snake river on the north - The ferry boat is two skiffs with a platform of poles across pulled by a rope stretched across the river - We take two wagons at a time & get over fast swimming the horses

The ferry men tell us here tis 300 miles to Deer Lodge - that the diggings are limited & that they have crossed over 300 teams which have turned back from Deer Lodge - That tis but 200 miles from here to Ft. Boise & 416 to Wallawalla & Powder river & Salmon both on the route - We are satisfied we are on the right track & all feel well - We learn today that McClellan has

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possession of Richmond & that the southern army is broken up into guerilla bands - John writes from here via St. Lake to Geo. Smith & I enclose a note to Charley The indians left at the last station have come up & camped on the hill near the ferry There are 10 or 12 loaded wagons here trading from Salt Lake - Flour \$6

to \$12 - Butter 40¢ - Eggs 40¢ - Dried Potatoes 30¢ - Whiskey \$8 - Molasses \$6 - etc. We immediately on starting ford a beautiful gravel bed creek - then rise a hill & travel all the afternoon on a level bluff nearly all the time in sight of a fine stream on the north & oh! how dusty The road is - The drivers are the dustiest set of men I ever saw - One can only tell where their mouths are when they open them - tis truly beyond description - We camp for night as soon as the road touches the bottom land & in grass nearly as high as ones head

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We have to come down to sage brush again for wood & get water from an apparent slough but what proves to be good spring - two large pools & containing fish - here met a train of 11 heavy freight wagons from Salt Lake & bound for Deer Lodge - I think we shall before Spring hear more of & from Deer Lodge - Jack left us at noon on his pony to go ahead & overtake some friends Have travelled this afternoon about 12 miles making 20 today - very good considering we have ferried the Pont Newf - Joe & Hank on guard tonight

Saturday Aug 9th We get an early start & soon reach the South bank of the Snake river - A pretty moderate clear stream from a half to three fourths of a mile wide & follow down on a bluff - so dusty at a distance we come unexpectedly upon the Falls which deserve more than a passing notice - Above the fall the river

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is about a half mile wide & narrows through high piles of volcanic rocks to a quarter of a mile - The whole fall is probably 30 ft but no one place exceeds 10 ft descent. The water tumbles promiscuously over rocks a perfect foam for an eighth of a mile & glides smoothly away - A huge rock near the middle divides the stream like Niagara

& taken together the fall bows in the same way Sheppard who has seen both says this is equal in beauty & grandeur to the falls of St. Anthony in Minnesota We learn today that the freight train we met yesterday has been once before to Ft. Hall - thence made an unsuccessful attempt to get to Salmon River via Ft. Boise - thence to the Jumboldt & now back to Deer Lodge having been 3 months on the road from Salt Lake

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Soon after 4 oclk we meet Jack returning on a strange horse in great haste to inform us that a party of 150 Indians have attacked a train ahead - have killed one man mortally wounded another & slightly wounded 3 men - driven off the stock & pillaged the train Jack had stayed all night with Capt Kennedy's train & was riding along alone and nearly ran on to the Indians - He caught a horse which had broken away from them left his pony & mounted him & hurried back to hurry up to the scene The Newbern Colony & Capt Kennedy trains & then came back for us - He also went back to the next Ox train 3 or 4 miles in the rear & informed them of what was going on - We drove very

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late till long after Sundown & when we reached the place learned that a mule train from Iowa City had first been attacked & nearly at the same time the attack on the Ox train of 13 wagons Cha's Bullwinkle of New York a little in advance of the Ox train was first killed - his 4 horses & \$6000 in money taken - The party with the Ox train ran behind the bluffs after trying to form a Corral - 3 men with good rifles got behind a bluff & fire till one is wounded & they retire having seen five Indians fall - The ground is covered with feathers - flour - corn etc. - Jack returns & reports having seen

the Indians going over the hills driving their stock - About a mile from the scene we camp for the night & soon the Ox train comes

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up making us pretty strong - The other trains have gone ahead to find grass Our two trains put out a strong picket guard of which I form one on the last watch - All quiet though we believe we are watched - travel not less than 30 miles

Sunday Aug 10th - By 4 ocl^k we are on the road & about 3 miles ahead find the Newbern-Kenneddys & the wrecks of the mule train of 11 wagons & the Ox trains all together - We go into camp for the day & the Ox train close upon us - Have just 13 wagons in the whole camp today - We learn that in addition to the murder of yesterday two men from the mule train were found dead beside the road One a Mr. Hunter of Iowa City & the other an Italian who with his partner was with us over Sunday when we first

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struck the Sweet Water river It is believed these depredations are instigated & led by Morman men with white blood in their veins - During the forenoon the men are buried - stock closely watched while about 35 men armed start back to the scene of the murders to reconnoitur Our camp is a sorry one today - scarcely a smile to be seen & the jokes are infrequent - Capt Kennedy sells at auction the effects of the dead to supply the pressing wants of the poor wretches who have been robbed - A fine lot of books are sold & among them I noticed an Unabridged Webster's Distionary - brought \$3.00 Hank bought a little paper which inables me to dontinue this narrative We have in camp 4 men going east with pack animals just from Salmon &

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Powder Rivers - We invite one of them to dinner & just as we sit down an express rider comes from below for the Dr to attend Capt Kennedy who led the volunteers this AM - He reports that about 5 miles back from the road they come upon the Indians 20 in number with the stock - The Indians are armed with rifles which carry 200 yds & at the first fire a part of the volunteers stampede - Capt K in trying to rally them is mortally wounded - They fall back to the road where is an Ox train of 10 or 12 wagons passing & when our informant left were trying to keep the Indians at bay - Our dinner table is immediately deserted Joe & Jack with our guest L. Billman of Iowa joining a party to go to their assistance which is immediately off

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Capt Bristol with a few more soon follow making a reinforcement of 30 or 35 men - Our camp is on the alert - the stock brought close in - Of course speculation runs high - many surmise as to the number - objects etc. of the Indians are made - All are agreed that they are led by a good proportion of white men - perhaps renegades & perhaps not from Salt Lake - Some think they have recognized men seen at the ferry of the Pont-Newf - This evening our men return along with Capt Walkers train & the small one before mentioned - The fight today as they report it was a very serious affair - The party of the morning were 7 or 8 miles from the road when they discovered the Indians & then began a running fight for that distance

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Six Indians & some ponies are known to be killed - 4 of Capt Kennedys company are killed & 3 wounded himself among the latter & tis feared mortally - Two of his men who were killed were left among

the Indians from necessity - Joe & Jack with 14 others went far out among the hills to look for the dead & wounded They have had a hard time & are nearly tired out - The wailings of the friends of the killed & wounded can be heard throughout the camp & are truly heart rending - One of the killed was scalped - Joe this morning caught in the river a fine lot of Chub - Some of our boys were left behind yesterday near the falls to fish & came late to camp & knew nothing of the disturbance till they reached camp - They caught

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a fine mess of fish & among them a nice trout or two - John is on guard tonight

Monday Aug 11th - Capt Kennedy is reported better & some hopes are entertained of his recovery - An effort is made to start a mounted party of 100 men to recover the bodies of the 2 missing men but Capt K's advice strongly urged is taken & the idea is abandoned - A young lad by the name of Adams who with his brother was with the party yesterday lost his brother in the engagement - His sister is the woman who was mortally wounded on Saturday - He is a brave boy & tis known he killed an Indian His grandfather

was killed by Indians in Kentucky - The names of the men killed
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yesterday are C. Leeker & Geo. Adams - the missing & believed to be killed are Noonan & Wm. Motes - All of Iowa The Indians name was Massimo Lippi - I saw one of Mr. Bullwinkel's cards on which beside his name was 374 Sixth Avenue New York - A couple in Capt K's train were to have been married yesterday but postponed the ceremony indefinitely - Just at dark last night Capt Dan's Co which we left at Green River ferry came up & we had last night a tent city of probably 600 souls - The Iowa City Mule train conclude to
t

travel with us & the Capts all conclude to go to Raft river 13 miles distant with their trains - Twas

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a fine sight when all rolled out on to the road about 9 oclk this AM - considerably over 200 wagons & mostly with long Ox teams & making a continuous train near or quite 3 miles long - About 2 miles from Camp our train leading we come to a pretty stream with a succession of small falls varying from 2 ft to 6 or 8 in height between the place where we ford it & its mouth. 3 miles farther we enter an ugly looking Canon of about a mile in length though a good road - Our Capt with his gun takes the top of the bluff on one side & Hollingshead the other & so we go through - Keeping a sharp eye out for Indians - We are not molested & soon after one oclk we

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reach Raft river a horridly crooked little narrow stream & camp on its west bank - many of us have walked the whole 13 miles & carried guns & I have not been so tired on the trip as today - After about an hour & a half the Ox trains begin to come in & bedlam has begun - drivers yelling at their teams - children crowing & hallooring - cattle bellowing etc. all combine to make up a deafening hubbub & till all are finally settled in their respective Corralls confusion reigns supreme - We hear by Billman of the McLaughlins a few days ahead of us - John writes home & I give Mr. Billman a letter of introduction to Charley I this eve for the first time get the names of the wounded in the

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fracas of Saturday & Sunday - They are beside those before mentioned

Tho's J. Adams
 Tho's Bradford
 John Walker
 A. J. Cassady

John Miller
 John Patterson
 Ephraim Taylor
 An Italian of the name of Giovanni Benvenuti
 from St. Paul Minn.

Tuesday Aug 12th We this morning bid good bye to Manning - Mellus - Parkes - Lockwood - John Jones - Roberts - Owens - Smith - Dr. Jones - Dickey & Westfall - They take the Cal road up Raft river bound for Southern Oregon while we keep our eyes straight ahead - No tears are shed & no regrets expressed - In fact we feel considerably relieved & think we have had our train

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purged of many a contrary - stubborn disposition & shall have less contention & fault finding - The above refers to only a part mentioned - We roll out with the Iowa City train attached to ours making us still one team more then before they joined us & the above mentioned party left - As soon as Kennedy's party bury the young woman Miss Elizabeth Adams who died last night they follow us close in our wake all day - We stop for a lunch & to rest the stock for an hour about midday - give them the water we have brot in our kegs & on we go making Swamp Creek 20 miles by 4 Oclk - We have had a hard rocky road all day & through the most

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barren country we have yet seen if the thing were possible - The climate is growing more mild - nights not so cold - mosquitoes less & snow capped summits not so frequent A rumor we had in camp this morning of a train of 18 wagons being attacked on the road we have today driven over has we think proved a humbug - Jack kills a Jack Robbit today as he walks along with his rifle - Quite a subscription was raised in our camp this am for the relief of the robbed in the two small trains - Clothes & provisions of considerable amount

were given & all I think made comfortable for the remainder of their journey - Capt K is reported to have stood the ride very well

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Wednesday Aug 13th

Capt K is reported worse & at the request of his train we conclude to pass a portion or the whole of the day here - It seems very like Sunday the usual occupations of that day employing everyone - I even get out my little Prayer Book - I gather a few - all I could - of the seeds of a kind of wild pea - quite pretty & fragrant Our Capt kills a large Crane & some of our hunters discover a flock of bona fide Prairie Hens & get one or two of them - A couple out hunting find where an apparently large train of provisions has been robbed & demolished a year or more ago - Fresh Indian signs are plenty - It is reported that the Snakes & some other tribes are now holding or

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or are about to hold a grand Council at Soda Springs about 50 or 60 miles south of us on the Cal road to consult on the expediency of "wiping out" all the emigration - We think their depredations for this season only just begun & that those who follow us will fare hard - We feel that we are getting past the worst places & shall with the assistance of a Kind Providence who has thus far shown clearly his guardianship & care go through unharmed - Capt K is this eve reported better & says we must travel tomorrow - In the eve we have a good game of Euchre & some-body beats somebody badly

Thursday Aug 14th - We leave camp about 7 Oclk closely followed by Capt K's

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train - A drive of 9 miles brings us to the crossing of Swamp
Creek - 4 miles further to the Snake River again & still 4 miles
more to Goose Creek which we reach - dusty & tired & camp for the
day amid a luxuriance of Wild Rye & plenty of grass for this country -
Our sportsmen are soon among the Grouse & many fall victims to their
kill - An hour later the Ox train rolls into Corral near us -
Have had the huge snow banks of the Salmon River in range far on
our right all day & some smaller range with less snow on the South
much nearer _ Our present force Am'ts to 65 wagons & 130 or 140 men -
I am glad to have another day pass with nothing concerning Indians
to record - Hope to hear no more from

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them - I believe we shall not though some are confident - we shall
We are always keenly on the alert & can not be taken by surprise -
I am in-clined to the belief that Bulwinkels gold tempted the cupidity
of the men at Port-Newf ferry & that they came to the Indian village
& by promises of plunder easily persuaded them to undertake the
Capture of the weak & almost defenseless party - The white men pro-
bably took the gold & let the Indians pillage for their share - 17
miles today

Friday Aug 15th We get in motion at 7 Oclk & in a refreshing shower
which has hung on the mountain in our rear all the morning - Tis the
first rain we have had in weeks & we enjoy it much -

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It lays the dust for several miles & makes the air feel fine &
bracing - Seven miles brings us to Snake river again & then we follow
it past a huge volcanic rock for an Island & over a road filled with
the same till we are brought to an impromptu camp by the sudden &
severe illness of Mrs. Meeker - The Capt is ahead in search of grass

but has to return - The Ox train passes us here & the old Dutchman with a young wife finds one of his Iron Axles broken We drive a short half mile & camp for the day on acc. of Mrs. M being unable to travel - The Ox train goes on 12 miles to Antelope Creek - In the course of the afternoon - M & team

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comes up also the Dutchman who has divided his load between Sapp & Durant & left his wagon - I take 4 large trout from the rapids near & nearly or quite kill a large Rattlesnake several of which have been killed today - Many trout have been caught & if we had better grass would have a fine camp - This eve Mrs. M is better - I am on guard tonight -

Saturday Aug 16th - Rouse the camp at half past three - After breakfast our Capt is given discretionary power to call for a start whenever Mrs. M is able to go - Several of us try the trout again but get nary (a) nibble - Several more Rattlesnakes are killed near what is supposed to be a den of them in the ledge of rocks along the rapids -

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Mrs. M being unable to travel we remain in camp all day - have a call from one of Capt K's train which we think awaiting us 10 miles ahead Some are disturbed by the appearance in the distance of a man on horseback - It was probably one of our new men was out in that direction but not on horseback - Many of our men go fishing & in addition to a large lot of fine trout get a thorough ducking from a thunder shower - the first we have had since we left the Platte river - The day passes slowly away - All are anxious to nervousness to be on the road or rather off the end of it - but we can't go yet - Mrs. M is getting better & may be moved tomorrow - Our guest reports Capt K

walking about this morning - This Sanke river country with culti-
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vation would sustain a numerous population - The soil seems rich
& deep except in places where there are evidences of volcanic
eruptions & the rocks are strewn over a considerable area - Some
of our men think they discovered the crater of a defunct volcano
on the last days travel - The showers of yesterday & the day before
prove that irrigation as in Salt Lake would be unnecessary & though
appearances indicate that there has already been frost still most
kinds of grain could be raised and nearly all the vegetables -
Twill some day be a populous country -

Sunday Aug 17th Still in Camp delay - Mrs. M is pronounced unable
to travel & we are requested to wait another day At a meeting of the
camp tis decided to do so much against the will of many

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though the vote to remain was unanimous when taken - We pass the
day as best we can - re read our last letters - old books & papers
etc. & try hard to be contented - Sheppard catches a fine lot of
trout - Some kill Rattlesnakes one of which had the affrontery to
cross our Corall & was about to be picked up by a yearling child of
Freeman's when discovered by its mother He soon paid for his
temerity - At 3 o'clk we have our usual Sunday service - The sermon
from Acts 17th-31st was good as Capt Bristol's sermons always are
The singing by Root - Thrall & Mrs. Bailey very good - The only
familiar tune sung was Ortonville - John has the last watch tonight
Ordered to be ready to leave at 6 1/2 am -

Monday Aug 18th - At last we leave Camp Delay - the scene of much

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anxiety & the death of many Rattlesnakes probably not less than a round
hundred We get away about 8 o'clk & move very slowly over a very

rocky road - The spring-buggy in which Mrs. M is carried is eased over the rocks by hand but still she suffers terribly & often faints - Dr. Murray of the Iowa City boys who was called this morning says she can without detriment go on - We reach Sinking Creek 12 miles distant at 2 oc'lk & expect to stay for the day - Tis a poor ground - little or no grass - poor water etc. - Here we a cow from Hatcher of Capt K's train who left us on his return yesterday morning - His train had gone on to Antelope Creek 10 miles ahead on Sat & D. Y. Collins & one or

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two more had come back to this place to look for him - He said Antelope Creek was good for camping the road good & that they would await us there - Before stopping to unharness the Capt called our party together had a report from Dr Murray to the effect that Mrs. M could ride as well (as well) as lie in camp & by a unanimous vote we decided to take a lunch & without feeding the stock push on - Showers had threatened us and as we went on we found the dust laid the air fine & without hindrance made the drive comfortably before dark & found the train (Capt K's) encamped on a fine stream & in good grass - Mrs. M is better than this am and all hands feel well pleased with

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our drive of 22 miles & improved position - We passed just about noon so say Joe & the Capt a fall in the river where the whole stream is confined to a gorge of rocks not over two rods wide & has a fall of 30 ft in 100 yds - probably a crater of an old volcano as the rocks etc. indicated some terrible eruption - All are in good spirits - Joe gets out his flute & Judd sings the camp song for the benefit of some of Capt K's train who called to hear it on Friday eve but were disappointed - The wolves take up the song &

make it echo all night -

Tuesday Aug 19th - The Ox train is early in motion & at 8 o'clock we follow on The morning is cloudy & promises rain -

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travel 12 miles over a stony road mostly along a creek whose banks are precipitous rocks nearly all the way perpendicular & often 30 & 40 ft high - At noon we cross the creek where I catch a couple of small trout The afternoon is like the morning drive only shorter by about 4 miles making 20 for the day - We camp with the Ox train again on the bank of the same creek which grows deeper & here is not less than 60 or 70 ft to the water - Here we are to leave it 2 miles from where it empties into the Snake river - Our road today has been over an immense plain covered with the interminable Sage brush - Will we never get out of it

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Wednesday Aug 20th - We are roused at 2 O'clock this AM by Wail (Wait) who brings the intelligence to our tent that Henly one of the Iowa City boys while on guard had been shot with an arrow & wounded in the arm near the shoulder - Of course we all turn out & while the bal of us stand shivering in the camp with the cold the Capt takes his "Ambush men" & starts out to hunt the would be murderer - Very soon we hear a single shot from Ives who was in the ravine on guard with Henly - All is then still till broad day light when with the assistance of a dog the red skin is tracked & routed - Blood was found where Ives had fired & he had lain wounded on a green deer skin among the rocks & sage brush - As soon as discovered our

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men gave a shout & many shots were fired at the fellow - They gave chase & at the end of about two miles overtook him exhausted - When

near him he begged as well as he could by throwing up his hands etc but nothing could save so audacious a scoundrel - Several pistol shots were fired into his breast without his falling & when the foremost man came up with him he showed fight with his fists & his brains were beaten out with a gun barrel - He was almost naked Had probably followed us a long distance watching for an opportunity to shoot - The guard slyly - take a horse or two & gun & be off - He Page 159 (160) appeared to be about 25 yrs of age & was a stout well built fellow - The wounded man is sick at the stomach but his would not serious - We of course get a late start - Soon after leaving camp we discover 3 Indians searching the ground over - We judge from appearances etc. that they find the body of their comrade - We keep close to the Ox train all day which left camp ahead of us - At noon we reach a place on the bluff where the river is accessible though a mile & a half distant & down a terrible hill - It is a singular & really romantic spot - Opposite us the rocks rise 600 ft perpendicular from the river - except a steep slope

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down to the waters edge - 3 huge Springs come out of the walls & foam & tumble to the river making pools the waters of which can be distinguished from the river for a long distance after reaching the same level - Some party probably Indians build a campfire some think a signal to other parties near the most distant springs - We have a long hard & dusty drive in the afternoon & just before sun-down descend a long hill to the river bank & camp on very poor grass and in the sand - 5 Indians are discovered on the opposite bank - The stream here is narrow & rapid - rolling over huge rocks - We get our suppers - make our bed in the open air & lie down with the expectation of being roused to fight or

Travelled 22 miles today

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hunt Indians before morning - Showers are hovering around - the wind blows - sand flies & altogether tis a most disagreeable camp -

Thursday Aug 21st - No disturbance last night - Up early - Stock taken back a mile or so to find grass - Ox train ordered to leave before sunrise but don't get off - 5 friendly Indians visit our camp bringing Salmon to "Swap" They are tolerably good looking fellows - The Ox train leaves a wagon & in the course of the day unyoke a cow - roll her out of the road & drive on - We have a hilly sandy road all the morning & make but about 8 miles - We noon about a mile west of Capt K's train & part of our train a qr of a mile still farther on - on

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acc't of grass & all on the same stream - called Salmon Falls river - It is now about 2 rods wide & in depth up to the wagon bed - Near us on the opposite side of the river is a small Indian village of perhaps a dozen "Wickeyups" of friendly "Shoshonees" - One visits us & assures us that we have passed all the bad Indians - behind us they are very bad - They recently stole his peoples ponies & shot one of his men in the hips - before us all are friendly - I make a "swap" with an Indian boy - give him a fish hook for a hair line - They are more primitive Indians than I ever expected to see using still the flint head arrows etc - After noon drive is much like the morning for hills with dust in place of sand

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The River above the fall is from 1/2 to 3/4 of a mile wide. We soon come in sight of the Snake river again & have a fine view of a nice little fall made by a creek pouring over the rocks by

several mouths & falling a hundred ft without impediment - Some of our teams are getting weak & have to be humored - We make a short drive of only about six miles & reach Salmon Falls early in the afternoon - Our camps are about a mile apart & we are just against the fall. The whole descent is probably 30 feet but it is so long & gradual in the fall as to be little more than an overgrown rapid - Tis very pretty to look at & a favorite camping place as well as resort of Indians - Two or three families are now here who live by "swapping" with the emigrants - They catch a great

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amount of Salmon wading out on the falls & spearing them - One fellow this eve brought in 15 which would average 20 lbs in wt - a butcher knife or half dozen fish hooks buys one & a couple of biscuits gets a large slice - Several of our party have tried in vain to get a trout but nary one have we "corralled" as yet - We meet here 7 Cal packers or rather they are from Oregon - They say that the indians are friendly below - that we are 180 miles from Ft. Boisie by this route but can get there in 100 by fording the Snake & going down on the other side - They say a large party of Flat heads are near us on the north & a train one day in advance of us on our road - They tell nearly the same story of the mines as

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the last party we met - We are thinking that we are getting pretty well through the hostile Indian country & lie down tonight with a feeling of greater security than we have for a long time enjoyed - A train of U. S. Soldiers from Ft. Wallawalla are on the road this way & we shall probably meet them in 2 or 3 days - They exert a

good influence here even if they are not called upon to fight - I think we already see it - We think if there are any trains behind us that they will have a rough time - Mrs. M is very much better - Our wounded man is doing well & altogether we are doing finely - Have made very near 80 miles already this week - Are booked for an early start & I must off to bed - The roar of the fall is a splendid lullaby -

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Friday Aug 22 - We leave the Falls at 7 1/2 ocl^k & immediately begin to rise a long hill or mountain in some places very steep - from its top we discover the Ox train just drawing out of Corral & have a fine view of a huge bend in the river as well as a vast extent of this powerfully mean country - We drive about nine miles & turn out on good grass - When about to start a messenger from the Ox train arrives requesting us to wait till they come up as the actions of the packers at last nights camp were suspicious - We have had our fears so much & often aroused that we suspect everything & everybody Our senses are all acute & on the alert at every sound & circumstance - Last night one of the guards saw two Mules

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leaving the Corral & thinking someone might be leading them fired his pistol & considerably alarmed some - We remain harnessed & ready for a start for an hour & a half & when many have become very anxious for their safety & not a little for our own we espy them at a distance slowly toiling on - On we go our teams half watered with the water brought in our Kegs & have another nine mile drive & go into camp on the bluff called "big bluff" full 600 ft above the river & after the sun had set - Tis a mile to the river & a great undertaking to bring up water - Of course we

have late suppers - Some of our horses are given out - May be able to go on in the AM The Ox train comes into Corral near two hours later & quite dark -

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Tonight a comet is distinctly visible near the constellation of "Ursa Major" Some of our party strike the track of a large snake crossing the road as we came up the big hill this AM - They followed it a short distance & killed a huge Rattlesnake - Have seen today & yesterday a good many of what Joe calls California Lizards - about a foot long - head like a Rattlesnake & beautifully spotted -

Saturday Aug 23 The stock having had no grass since yesterday noon are early taken out to feed - After breakfast - which some are late in getting we decide after a lengthy debate to remain here until Monday - Tis a miserable camp - dusty a terrible place to get to water & grass distant Its not by my vote we staid

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here today - But if we stay today we can tomorrow & that I am in favor of - Three Indians on their ponies came into camp this morning & have been here more than half a day - Hurst bought one for flour etc. & Jack traded "Sam" for another one giving a shirt & 2 fish hooks "to boot" - Fish hooks are a good currency & seem to be a legal tender - I have never been much in love with "Sam" have had little to do with him but still hated to see a bigger brute mount him & start him off to perpetual slavery - Poor fellow he has a hard life before him - A little after dark & just as I had got into bed or rather onto my blankets a gun was fired at the foot of the first hill toward the river - A dozen or more soon

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assembled & learned from Mrs. Freeman that her husband & the young man "Billy" had gone down for water with a horse a short time before - Soon came another report & then Temple halloed to them & was told to "lie low" By & by they came up & reported that they had seen 3 Indians who skulked as soon as discovered - They left their horse - water & all & hurried up to the foot of the hill & fired to have the camp on the lookout for them - A pleasant prospect surely for being on guard tonight - As usual the last watch "Chubb" the pet is missing tonight - he went down with some other stock & no one specially to care for him & chose to stay all night - John thinks he is gone for good - Several other animals are missing having been left & lost in various ways Their chances are poor

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Sunday Aug 24th - Along watch last night but very quiet one - Joe Jack & Hank were also on guard - All of our households except John - The horse that Freeman left with the water were found early & Chubb also came to light - Think he is safe as no Indian can get near him - It makes me almost homesick this AM to find myself in this horrible place & for so long a time - Will we ever get through & hear again from friends who are today enjoying all the good things of this life - All the new vegetables - Potatoes - Tomatoes - Melons - green corn etc. etc. - I wonder how a pie looks - I think I'd recognize one yet if I could see it - I wish I could see a town today & people with clean clothes on & sit down to a dinner table with a cloth & crockery on it - Well! Well! they won't all have bacon - how consoling - The day is intensely hot & oh dear how

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dusty our camp is - It occupies every place & pervades everything -

Is so pleasant in ones teeth - The usual service was held today near Capt K's Corral & we had quite an audience of women - Capt Bristol preached one of his best sermons from Rev 3d 20th The usual choir did the usual good singing - Today I don for the first time my new bed ticking pants & feel really dressed up - John & Jack with a number of others are to stay on the bottom with the stock tonight to save one trip & facilitate an early start - Guard set very late & all late to bed

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Monday Aug 25th - We get away from Camp discontent about 7 oclck the Ox train having over an hour the start of us - We immediately begin to rise a hill very steep & sandy road & before we get to its top find it near two miles long - Then we cross two more ravines not quite as long but quite as sandy - Terrible road for our stock - Our team is reduced to four Mules today - Ives taking a pair of them & with them 300 lbs of our load Jack puts his new Indian pony into Ives team also - The fellow does not know what to make of it but is persuaded by a black snake to go along tolerably well - We drive on & on pass the Ox train turned out - pass patches of good grass

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& finally after some half dozen teams have from necessity stopped stock given out we turn out for noon having come about 12 miles the last two fast descending - Afternoon drive of 2 miles brings us to the river again & we corral a half mile from the Ox train & a qr from the river - This has been a well used camping ground & the Irons of many wagons are scattered over the ground - Tis worthy of note that we have passed today a large amount of Wagon tires along the road - The hot sand & scarcity of water tells powerfully upon the wagons - The boys

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have a mile & a half to take the stock to grass - The wolves make the night hideous with their howlings

Tuesday Aug 26th We get up early - get our breakfast in a hurry & are off at 5 Oclk to drive till we find grass - We pass a guide board which says a party 12 days ago lost some stock by Indians & were obliged to burn some of their wagons - We (the train) go on up a long hill & around it - & travel about four miles where we strike the river again - Joe & I take a short cut up the mountain & reach the camp in about 2 miles - We meet 2 Indians travelling with their packs on their ponies - Have passed several old deserted "Wickeyups" - Not many Indians in the Country but ugly as -----

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"Ferd & Shep" lose a mule last night She has been sick since Friday eve We make quite a long stay - take a lunch etc. John is sick with diarrrahea Afternoon we proceed slowly along the foot of a hill close on the bank of the river After driving 2 miles we are brought to a halt by a word from the Capt whose team with two others has given out - We go into Corral & wait their arrival - When they come up the order is to remain all night - We get our dinner in a hurry & eat it quicker being very hungry - At night the stock is taken to the top of a high mountain for grass & is then guarded all night - We conclude to leave our heavy old wagon & make an arrangement with Ferd & Shepp to put our load on to their wagon

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We immediately begin to carry out our plan & before dark the change is made & the old wagon run out one side - We sleep in the open air & turn in late to be roused at 4 o'clk on the

27th Aug Wednesday - Off we go without our breakfast & drive 6 miles - As we are leaving camp behind everybody - One of the guns goes off by accident - doing no damage except to Miss Chandlers old coat & tear a hole in Hanks Buffalo Robe - A very lucky accident as well as careless one - After breakfast we push on over a horribly rocky road which tries our wagon - One breaks an Axle & the road is well strewn with the wagon wreck - We go on promiscuously some far ahead & some far behind till the head of
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the train stops where the road again leaves the river - An hour later the Capt comes up with his team all given out - We have met two Indians one of which "swapped" a Salmon with "Wash" for two biscuits - One had a mate to John's old "Fuke" & wanted ammunition Our new arrangement works well for the team but is hard on the Cooks - compelling them to overhaul the entire load & repack it every time anything is cooked & beside the wagon is full to the bows & no room to ride a step - The river here is a fine Stream - good steady current - uniform in width & in many places presents a beautiful appearance - Joe killed another huge Rattlesnake this morning when we had to drive two miles around a ravine to get
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ahead a qr of a mile - After a long rest & a consultation we conclude to fill our water Kegs etc. & drive to grass for the night or as far as the teams could go all together - The Ox train is far ahead of us & on we go very slowly two or three teams give out & are patched up & brought along with the loose stock till we go into camp at dark on tolerably good grass & on the top of the hill as we suppose between the bend of Snake river & Keiser River & 5 miles from each - Have made 15 good miles today - We do not

pitch our tent but spread it in the Sage brush & one (or) two families 9 in all lie down together - Sleep well till Thursday Aug 28th - We are early astir get a hasty breakfast & off we go in pretty good spirits - Our road descending

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& tolerably good we soon get glympsces of the valley beyond & espy the Ox train in camp & their herd grazing - We roll on & soon reach - not Keiser but the Snake still - The Ox train has seen no Keiser River & it must be still 10 miles ahead - We fill again with water & roll on expecting to find feed & stop a few miles ahead - The Ox train is detained by the illness of Dr. Collins but will follow in the afternoon - We pass some beautiful sand hills pure & clean as a snow bank & as fantastic in shape - We leave this valley by a long tedious hill & find on the top a table about a mile wide - As we near the western slope we are signalled by the Capt & some others ahead - good cheer - Soon we get sight of Keiser River valley green & beautiful & an involuntary cheer rises in

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each throat - We are still five miles from the stream & many rush ahead on foot - Some have seen a train in the distance coming toward us & we speculate upon the probability of their being the expected soldiers or pesky Indians While some of us are bathing the train comes along & we cross & go into camp about a mile from the ford & such a camp - tis really refreshing to camp again on the bank of a fine gravel bed stream & on good green sward with wood & grass in abundance - The train was surely the soldiers - 3 Co's who have orders to go to Salmon Falls & await the arrival of Capt Crawford & escort - They have provisions for the destitute & are designed as a protection & relief to the emigration - We have

travelled about 13 miles today &

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are booked to remain till Saturday morning if not till Monday -
 The Indians are ugly below & are constantly committing thefts
 & depredations There is quite a body of the vagabonds a short
 distance above us on the Keiser & very soon after we had
 Corralled a dozen or so were seen coming toward us - They seemed
 aware of our movements but not of the soldiers - When they got
 near & discovered two or three soldiers in our camp they quickly
 dropped their bows & arrows in the grass & came forward without
 them - A mounted soldier made them return & get them & then started
 with 4 or 5 for their camp some two miles below he intended to
 examine them with their guide & interpreter but they gave him the
 slip on the way down by dodging

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into the willows - The rest remained but a short time in camp & stole
 off home - The soldiers are a terror to them & their presence here
 is of great benefit to us - At least making us easy in mind if not
 preventing positive trouble - Notwithstanding the depredations on
 the road the soldiers have seen no Indians They have with them a
 man named Tomy who has met them & is returning to try & find a
 brother made captive this season not far from Salmon Falls - They
 have also a party bound for Deer Lodge valley prepared to ransom
 some children supposed to be held captive in that vicinity - We
 are all feeling well tonight & after supper the Camp song is loudly
 called for & sung amidst great applause many joining in the chorus
 with a hearty will We play Enchre

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till 9 oclk & past & then retire to a good sound rest -

Friday Aug 29th - We keep our blankets till quite late - no hurry on a day of rest - After breakfast the Military camp moves up to a bend a half mile above us - They make a very good appearance on their very good horses - have about 400 horses - 30 Wagons & something over a hundred pack Mules - The soldiers seem more intelligent & better behaved than the generality of soldiers are - Not an Indian has been near our camp today - I have been induced by the convenience & beauty of the river to do up my washing It has been one of the hottest days we have experienced

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Late in the forenoon the Ox train appears & goes into corral between us & the Military camp - Some half dozen of their men who were driving a weak cow some distance behind their train a few miles back were frightened by the appearance of a few Indians at some distance & left their cow behind & ran -

This eve our Co. votes to remain here over Sunday - They also attempt to pass the Maine liquor law on acc. of a dutchman having sold some of the soldiers some very bad whiskey - One of the soldiers is so much discouraged that he can't get back to their camp - He amuses us with his nonsensical jargon for a long while in the eve & when at 1/2 past 12 I come on

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guard I find him wandering around the camp - I lend him a shawl & blanket & easily persuade him to try a nap -

Saturday Aug 30th - When relieved from guard being very sleepy I "turn in" for a nap & consequently get a late & lonely breakfast - The boys try hard to get a Salmon from the river today but fail - One was caught yesterday by someone of our Co & the Indians say they are plenty in the Keiser - I do up "a heap" of mending &

darning - A great deal of tightening bolts soaking wheels - shifting loads - re-setting tire etc. going on in camp today - I think we shall leave here on Monday "all taut" & teams in good heart - Powder river is still ahead & is no doubt our destination Shall all regret leaving this pleasant camp & as much on acct of the feeling of security we enjoy as for any other reason

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Sunday Aug 31st - John on guard last night - One more long day here & then we move for somewhere - Today I feel more than ever before the loss of the privileges of the little brick church & the enjoyments of the chorus - I doubt not Omaha would today furnish some other enjoyments in the way of vegetables of all kinds fruits & most of all the news - The soldiers report the latest news at Wallawalla as the resignation of Sec. of War Stanton - the appointment of Gen'l McClellan to fill the vacancy & the promotion of Gen'l Halleck to fill the post of Com. in Chief - We are to have preaching in each of the three camps today - I think my little Prayer Book worth them all & now for my part of the service - - -

I have just been up to the Military encampment for the first time
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passing Capt K's very quiet camp I come first upon a party washing-plastering - lancing & otherwise doctoring a lot of poor galled mules which have been injured in packing - They are truly a woful (woeful) sight to behold - Next I come to the QrMasters Margin where a case of shoes is being distributed - then on through the camp & see a perfect beehive for industry - Some mending - some washing - some fishing - some cleaning muskets & swords - some repairing harness etc. etc. etc. "ad libs" - At the upper end is the blacksmith - his forge and old Gun Carriage with a bellows in place of gun - a real Anvil on its natural block & his shop as large as Goldsmiths black-

smiths ever was - He has plenty of work - Over 200 animals to keep shod - Then I pass around by the pack train

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Their packs neatly ranged in rows like cotton bales or perhaps more like sacks of corn & the animals closely ranked along one side - I am well paid for my visit & better than ever satisfied that a soldier's life is not the life for me - At 1/2 past ten we have a sermon by Mr. Bristol in Capt K's Camp The audience was a large & attentive one & composed of full delegations from the 3 camps - The text - Mark 4th & latter clause of the 41st verse - Sermon good - Singing by Mr. Roots family quite indifferent - The last piece "How beautiful in Zion" positively bad - The day like yesterday intensely hot - Mer. standing or rather ranging like yesterday from 96° to 100° in the shade - Jobs at cooking offered without takers - Afternoon sleepers are numerous wherever a shade is found -

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At 5 O'clk we have another sermon in Capt K's Camp by a soldier - one Mr. Taylor from Rogue River valley - His text from Romans 5th 6th was pretty well handled - The singing was an improvement on the morning performance - Having learned that a Co. of Packers are with the soldiers bound for Salt Lake I take the opportunity to write to Charley & get my letter off with several others - We have quite a discussion this eve on the Question of moving on in the morning - A petition quite numerously signed by both Capt K's train & ours asking for an escort through the dangerous country was today presented to Col. Maury who says for answer that he thinks our two trains capable of taking care of themselves - Our capt did not sign the petition &

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has some think spoiled our escort by his representations & in-difference - A meeting is called for 4 1/2 oclk tomorrow morning to decide the question.

Monday Sept 1st - We are early astir & have our breakfast out of the way - The meeting appointed for this morning met at the Capt's call very late & on hearing a report that another woman was quite sick in Capt K's train & that they should not move voted not to start - A renewal of the petition question much to the disgust & chagrin of our Capt seemed to take the attention of some - A motion finally carried appointing a com of 5 to wait upon Col. Maury & learn what he could or would do - Harrison - Henley - Temple - Meeker & Judson were appointed or elected such committee - The Col. still declined to do

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anything for us his only argument being that our two trains combined were strong enough to resist any attack we might meet - The Col. & his two Cos with a small pack train & 12 wagons left about 7 0'clk bound for Salmon Falls leaving Capt Harris in command of the bal - The committee were renewing their petitions to him for an escort of 20 men & with a fair prospect of success when news arrived of the arrival of two trains from the East - They proved to be a small train from Iowa & a small train from Denver combined & they report having seen the dust rising from another advancing train as they were leaving Salmon Falls - They have in their co. a part of the co. of Packers whom we met on the 6th Aug & who two days later had

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been attacked by Indians - 5 of their no. wounded - 13 of their

horses killed & 3 with their packs taken off by the Indians - They fought them for 3 hours & proved themselves brave fellows - The next day they found a wagon by the roadside with the scalped corpses of 4 men & tracked another wagon far down the ravine - The four men were from Denver - some others were wounded - The wounded together with two families took the Salt Lake road from Port-Newf ferry carrying our letters - so says John the Packer by whom we started them & who is now in our camp - The new train is about 100 strong & mostly good & brave men - among them Joe's old friend, Mr. Russel - the weather today is a trifle cooler - The new train Capt has about 40

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wagons & 100 men & some good looking women - They have an occasional dance & get over the road in good spirits At their request we all remain here another day & all are in hope that the train supposed to be seen may arrive before night - We have quite a populous City here of about 600 souls - 125 wagons & about 850 animals - Dancing is going on in Capt K's train this eve & Jig dancing & songs in the new one.

The morning is cloudy & the thunder & lightening betokens showers Soon after breakfast they begin & come down very easy at intervals & so cool & refreshing - Sapps poor old mule which has for a day or two been trying to draw her last breath - succeeded this

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morning in accomplishing it - Forward noon the sky clears & the sun comes down very hot - Some soldiers on a Scout today about 7 miles up the creek brings back a seine & report that a party of Indians fishing with it left it to them - The report is current this afternoon that a train is back on the river at the next camping place - We

hope they may come up this eve & they must have acquaintances along - The new train caught a fine Salmon or two today in the Keiser by some called Middle River with a Seine made of old gunny sacks - In the eve the wind is strong from the north but not cold The new moon is now old enough to give us beautiful evenings & tonight is one of em

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Indian trail about 2 miles

Wednesday Sept 3d - We are roused at 3 O'clk & by 5 o'clk we roll out of camp comfort alone leaving it with mingled feelings of regret at the leaving & anxiety to get on - During the night some 18 wagons mostly from Denver have arrived & some find acquaintances among them - They have been exempt from Indian troubles - When we get fairly on the road at the suggestion of the Capt the men shoulder their guns - take positions in the raw & rear & on we go - We make by half past eleven the river about 13 miles - After a good deal of contention & cross firing we vote to remain here till morning - The train which came last into camp before last night - comes on about two hours

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later closely followed by Kennedys train - The latter lost half their cattle last night by stampede but had recovered them & come on - Mr. Russel - an old acquaintance of Joe's & whom we saw several times on the Platte came along with us & is now a member of our family

Wednesday Sept 4th - We get away from camp at 7 o'clk & travel about 12 miles occasionally touching the river & over a very dusty road - About 12 o'clk we reach Castle Creek so called from some singular looking rocks having the appearance of old dilapidated castles & other ruins - soon Capt K's train arrives & Corralls near us - After

remaining an hour & a half we are ordered to

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hitch up & drive on a mile or so for better grass - With rather a bad grace (our load being nearly all on the ground & our party scattered about) we comply & find grass higher than our heads & just abreast of the Castle rock - on the other side of the corral runs the creek a small crooked stream - behind us the open road with Kenneddys train & a mile or more higher up the stream the new train comes late to the creek & corralls - We put out a picket guard & have beside a small guard in the corral of which I am one & the first time on the trip that I have tried the first watch - Nothing unusual occurs during the night & we are roused at 3 1/2 o'clock on the morning of

Friday Sept 5th to resume our march

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We start alone & make a couple of miles before we see the other trains moving - We move with strong raw & rear guards & present to the wily savage rather a formidable appearance We have any amount of dust often 6 or even 8 inches deep - We are overtaken (Capt Kassley's) who report the meetings of two Indians who say that a heap of wagons are passing down on the other side of the river - have probably been up to Deer Lodge or Ft. Linhigh the old mormon settlement & Flowing Mill - The men also say that they saw 5 or 6 other Indians at a distance & also that some of their party with glasses saw last evening some 25 Indians come to the Creek some miles above their encampment & get their stock

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which was grazing there - The fires we saw yesterday on the mountains we are satisfied were signals of some kind - We stop for noon on a

fine little stream - very cold - eat our lunch including the bal. of our mess of excellent greens - give our stock the few bundles of grass we brought along & then on we go - immediately beginning to rise a long hard hill - We have to use lariats as of old on most of the wagons & have very hard work - From the top we can see our forerunners drive away back to Camp Fear & also the two ox trains reaching from the foot of the hill far off to the east - I should have mentioned yesterday that it is said the Indians two years ago beseiged a party of 30 or 35 men on the very spot on which we were corralled & killed all but 3 after a 3

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days fight - Some report seeing nearly a whole skeleton on the ground - I myself saw a skull & probably could have found more by searching - We leave the other trains beginning the ascent & roll on through the dust & just before sundown stop near the road & two miles from any water - It all must be brought from a creek which comes from the mountains (Humboldt) on the south & sinks into the ground We are still 4 miles from the river & having driven 8 miles since climbing the hill without water - we in mercy to the stock conclude to stop here for the night Have made 16 miles today & as hard miles as we have had in days - All are extremely tired tonight - I should have mentioned before the very singular meteors seen by the Capt & Joe on Wed the 4th & by

Page 202 (203)

Sapp on the morning of the 5th before daylight - They were flying over head & made a great buzzing - appeared to be all of a glow & travelling very fast - Our stock is left out with a guard all night - About daylight of

Saturday Sept 6th the other train known as Capt Jack's (Capt.

Kasley's) passes us & about seven Oc'lk we start on soon followed by Capt K's train - We drive a long 5 miles & reach the river thence follow the river for several miles & finally after a drive of about 12 miles altogether bring up on a creek abounding in grass & looking very pleasant - considering the country we are passing through - Quite a sensation was created in our camp this morning by the report of the discovery of gold in the little cold creek at the foot

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of the big hill we climbed yesterday - They report finding considerable color & some of our party were strongly in favor of going back & following the prospect up to the mountains - Mr. Brewster whom we met at Keiser River travelling toward Salt Lake in search of his partner & who returns with us today heard from him by a Packer who came into camp soon after dinner & reports him (Hill) within a days drive of us with their wagons - We had in camp today what the soldiers called a Scorpion but it is not - It has no sting & is not black has no resemblance except in size & somewhat of shape - It bites with pincers like those of the Ant but on a much larger scale - I killed with my cane this morning the only Rattlesnake we have met for some days.

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All three of the trains are camped on this (Alkali) Creek tonight - have driven 13 miles - The eve is spent in Enclue - Songs, etc. Sunday Sept 7th - Capt K's train moved on this morning - Report says some of their Co. are living on bread & water - flour being the only provisions they have - Capt Jacks "Happy Camp" vote to remain here all day - After breakfast a party goes to the mountain on the south about 5 miles prospecting - they find the color but

no great quantity - They find some Wickeyups which they burn - One of Mr. Wheeler's (the City Expresswagon) team a horse dies today without giving his owner any notice - We have a service at 3 O'clk in the "Happy Camp" Mr. Walcott

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preaching from Roms 8th 28th - A very good sermon followed by remarks by Capt Bristol - The singing was by the congregation - Ortonville - Balemia? & "A charge to keep I have" - The audience was a good one & attentive & intelligent comprising many women & some babies - They afford a pleasing contrast to Capt K's train - the superior intelligence being clearly perceptible even in the children - We have a beautiful evening the full moon making almost as much light as day -

Monday Sept 8th Our Corall uncoils at half past six closely followed by Capt Jacks train - Two miles travel brings us to the river & 2 more to some fine looking springs which much to the chagrin of some who carelessly

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tried them proved to be warm - really so hot that the hand can only be dipped into them & that must be an adagio movement - Appearances indicated that they possess mineral properties but what we did not examine to learn - Some one rode up while we were examining them & having been decidedly fooled - exclaimed "drive on boys drive on - H--l is less than a mile from this place" - We drive about 10 miles altogether all the way near the river & camp for noon on its bank - We here luxuriate on greens enjoy our short siesta & then toil on two thunder showers - a great rarity - pass just behind us in the course of the afternoon & evening - We make only about 6 miles (2 miles per hour) in

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the pm - 16 for the day & camp for night on high ground 3/4 mile from the river - Capt Jacks train comes on late & camps about 2 miles east of us -

Tuesday Sept 9th Geot (Get) off at 6 1/2 o'clk & 3 miles from camp strike the river & follow it the bal. of the day - drive 7 miles in the forenoon & 8 in the afternoon from the Owyhee near Ft. Boise" Have seen the dust raised by Capt K's train today & Capt Jacks has been a few miles in our rear all day - Hall with his 2 wagons & 3 other wagons have kept ahead of us & have gone on this eve - No very important events to record today - Wash has killed 2 ducks &

Page 208 (209) Uncle Bob has killed a sage hen We have seen one lone Indian - I suppose it must have been "lo" we read of - on the other side the river - He was adorned with a red shirt & with his gun on his shoulder trudged on through the sage Brust without deigning to notice us with all the stoicism & indifference of his race - The road has been mostly heavy sand all day - but the face of the country shows a very perceptible improvement - Grass has grown plenty & even some insignificant flowers have dared to appear - We have a very good camp - near the river - stock is on good grass Capt. Jacks train is about a

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mile from our camp - All quiet on the Potomac & thus "closes night her pennons down"

Wednesday Sept 10th - We get out on the road a little before 7 o'clk & have a long drive - full 13 miles - to the "Owyhee" which we come suddenly upon notwithstanding we were looking for it - We find Capt

K's train encamped on the east bank they having arrived here at 10 o'clk last night - We ford the stream & drive down on the West bank near 2 miles on acc of grass etc. before camping - Capt Jack's train pitch their tents close by the ford The road has been mostly heavy sand & around a huge bend in the Snake river which we left

Page 210 (211)

some 3 miles back & do not expect to see the tortuous to us bends & coils again - From the bluffs on the road side today I had a view of the Boisee (Wood) river for miles - Its banks appear to be timbered with some growth considerably larger than willows - the largest we have been accustomed to seeing for a long time - We had for Supper a game pot pie composed of quite a variety - Rabbit - Sage Hen - Duck & Pigeons - K's train starts out this eve just as the sun is setting - We are feeling pretty well this eve thinking we can begin to see through to one destination & sing the Camp Song with a zest - One week more

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of uninterrupted travel will take us to winter quarters on Powder River - Fort Boisee at the mouth of the Boisee river 5 miles below this was our old trading post of the Judson's Bay fur Co. but was sometime since abandoned - It is the point where emigrants coming down on the other side of the Snake ferry back & leave it - It is said that 80 miles travel can be saved by that course - crossing above - near Salmon Falls - but from the course & bends of the river I should very much doubt it - We are again in the United States - the Owyhee being the boundary line between Washⁿ Ty & the state of Oregon - It is also the boundary line between the Snake Indians (which we shall long remember) & the Ponnacs (Bonnax) - quite an

important point - We sleep about the same as in the Ty (Terr.)
& wake amidst Ice & severe frost on

Thursday Sept 11th - By 6 1/2 ocl^k we are on the road - leave
the river directly behind us - travel a mile then ascend a short
steep hill - travel two miles & enter a Cannon from which we do
not emerge till we reach the Malhem river 2 hours before sunset -
All the forenoon it is up grade & we noon about a mile from the
summit - from there tis down grade to the river - About 2 miles
from noon camp we meet the Mill Express bound

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for Salmon Falls with despatches - We get from the two men - all
the late news - concerning Richmond - New Orleans & the Mississippi -
Culpepper - Charleston etc. The Ox train has kept about 2 miles
in our rear all day - K's train was encamped when we arrived on
the opposite side of the river - This is a broad level bottom &
the grass higher than our heads - Joe & Chandler have been ahead
all day & not once seen between the camps I learn this eve that
yesterday a man from Capt Jacks train who went back a few miles
to hunt a lost steer found him killed & as

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he was leaving was shot at by an Indian - Of course he made a
lively retreat - concluded he didn't want the Steer - Have today
taken 16 good miles from the 95 between the Owyhee & Powder rivers.
Friday Sept 12th - Our family met with a loss last night in the
shape of one of Hank's mules which died apparently from poison
probably some weed - It was the 6th animal lost by our train
which in that particular as well as many others has been singularly
fortunate - Many were surprised this morning by the appearance of
Brewster with his 3 teams He came in last night having driven

a part of two nights to overtake us He said the Indians were getting too thick to suit him - quite a party

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visiting his camp one day - They told him where we camped on the ground etc. & were well posted on our movements although we had not seen an Indian - Mr. Root who has become disgusted with our Capt & some others remains in the morning to come with some other train We start at 6 ocl^k - cross the river about 25 yds wide & 2 ft deep & drive through Ks camp - They are a sorry - disconsolate looking crowd - Bad luck has attended their whole trip & last night their cattle died in pairs - They have lost 11 head in the past 24 hours Five miles from camp we cross a stream bed containing some slough water - It is good enough for stock & they drink it readily - Our road is the

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best we have had for weeks - through an Alkali bottom with the fine Salaeratis thick on the ground - We stop for noon in a Canon about 8 miles from the Slough & 2 short miles from the camp find the Sulphur Springs - a fine one All our stock is watered there & it cannot be dipped fast enough to diminish the quantity - Here we make a mistake & start on expecting to reach Brick Creek in 5 miles - down & up all the way in Canons we go out of one into another - the wind dead ahead all the time & the dust terrible - even those on foot cannot escape it - Tis the worst we have had - The weather changes from a hot scorching sun at noon to almost freezing cold when the wind can strike us - Overcoats & gloves are in

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great demand - Late in the afternoon & when all are nearly tired

out we reach the creek having made a 10 instead of 5 mile drive - making 25 for the day - About dark K's train arrives & some other scattering wagons - K's train has lost 5 head more of cattle today - Then seems to be an unaccountable mortality for Stock connected with the Malhem - Carcasses were very numerous all around the bottoms Here & the road beyond is strewn very thickly with them - We counted 17 head recently dead in the last 10 miles - The night is cold - rainy & disagreeable K's train allow their stock to run at large & even have no guard around their Corral - Joe & I are we hope on our last watch & with our bread & coffee
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manage to pass it off tolerably -

Saturday Sept 13th - Today we are 100 days from Omaha - very different from the 60 we expected to be - But we are most through & its of no use to "cry for spilled milk" - The wind still blows cold though the sky has cleared away - Brewster & some others came up last night - An Ox belonging to the man who takes Sapp & Martin through died last night - Just before starting a Packer arrives in camp from below with Tobacco & Whiskey for Sale He gives a very good report of the mines gives us the distance as 72 miles & tells us all about the country - he has a partner on Bunit River 12 miles ahead We uncoil about 9 oclk & follow a portion of K's train which starts out contrary

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to his wishes & causes a split in their train Several trains & parts of trains follow as fast as they can get into the road. It lies all the way in Canons & the wind still keeps up the dust - 5 miles from Camp we reach & leave the old Snake river again & for "positively the last" time - Like the old Platte it has been both a

good & false friend to us - has supplied us with water - grass & fish & has too led us through the most terrible country I have ever travelled & hostile at that - Many a scene on the Snake I shall never forget & hope never to witness again - As we round up the hill beyond the old fellow dragged his slimy folds into a very narrow gorge among tall mountains & suddenly disappeared from view - 12 miles from the Brick we corral on

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Brunt river amidst good grass & a numerous array of camps & corralls - Brunt River is a clear cold stream about 2 rods wide & averaging 3 ft deep - It has a most tortuous course among the mountains & is well lined with willows - 12 miles made today - - -

Sunday Sept 14th 1862 - We keep our blankets late & of course get a late breakfast - Capt Kasleys train comes on from the Snake & lies over on the Brunt to wait for us - Parts of some other trains also remain over Sunday - Brewster & party go on - Joe goes out prospecting - climbs & rambles over the mountain on our right - - finds the color nothing more sees the Snake river for a long distance - hills covered with timber a long way ahead of us - The usual occupations

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occupy the camp & the remark is current of many things - "this is the last time we expect to do it" - All seem pleased that the prospect is good for closing the trip before another Sunday - Our sermon at 3 o'clock from Jeremiah 13th 23d was practical & good - containing much good advice which cannot all be forgotten & unheeded - Thrall - Fletcher - Wheeler & Judd sang - Hebron - Balemia & Mailon - I believe I have not before mentioned that Root for the 3d or 4th time has seceded from the train being particularly down upon the Capt &

Judd - Hurst the elder has also succeeded on acct of the train taking him in hand for misusing his young brother - instituting a trial to adjust financial differences between

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them & bringing about a settlement to the satisfaction of the young Hurst - They joined Ks train & now that it is split they hardly know to what they belong - Tomy Hurst in the settlement gets one old friend the Pony Jack who has toted me so many pleasant miles along the Platte - I can better appreciate them now than when I was enjoying them - John & Hank are on the guard tonight - We have a report that a party of 30 men are successfully working claims on Brick creek 15 miles from the road - It may be true - This country should be good for something - A fellow came ahead of his team several miles yesterday to overtake friends ahead & was robbed by four Indians of everything he had which they wanted - He

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was unarmed & twas very little they got

Monday Sept 15th - We get straightened out on the road at 7 oclck - all the other parties preceding us - We at once begin climbing & letting down as of old just such mountains as the Black Hills - steep & stony - We pass several little mountain streams - cold & pure & cross & recross the Brunt 6 times before noon - The road is quite romantic - often running through thickets which meet overhead - then along side the stream & over a divide - The path too on one side is romantic - Often just wide enough for a single passenger & where a misstep would send him far down & into the water below - We find much evidence of improvement or advancement toward a habit-able country -

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We find - Birches - Poplars - huge Alders Sumacs - Plums - choke cherries etc. etc. - Have met 3 parties of Packers with horses going through to Salt Lake - They were small parties & one had 3 Indians in their employ as drivers - We turn out promiscuously on one side for noon having made in 4 hours about 8 miles Grass improves as the Sage Brush disappears & we can camp where we please Some stunted Cedars are appearing on the mountain sides & singing birds make glad our hearts - The afternoon drive is a short & hard one - four miles & up long hills - Pines appear on the mountains far ahead & invite us on - We camp for night a short distance from Brunt river on another little stream - With wood- water & grass abundant - -

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Uncle Bob (Mr. Russell) is our guard tonight - Most of the drivers remain on the side hills with their stock all night

Tuesday Sept 16th - Off at 7 oclck & make good time over a fair road - crossing the river 5 times more - plunging into groves & thickets - through natural arbors & again winding around on the side of the mountain - The road lies through a Canon the Mountain on each being very high & on one side full 1000 ft from a half way up to the top covered pretty well with Pines - verdure increases as we progress & new shrubs & trees appear - among them are Red & Black Haws, I suppose properly Hawthorn bearing a berry nearly the size & shape of a Thomapple & very sweet & pleasant to the taste We make about

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10 miles & camp for noon in a delightful shade on a little stream of cold water & at the foot of a big hill all the other parties are far ahead of us & out of sight - Have been detained 3/4 of an hour during the forenoon by a wheel on one of Mr. Temples wagons showing symptoms of giving out - The afternoon drive sets in with a huge

long mountain to climb - then we go down - down - through Canons - across streams & finally emerge again into the valley - now some 3 miles wide though rough & broken - of the Brunt River - We camp for night on a bench at the forks made by a branch with the Brunt - Have made this afternoon about 6 miles & here bid good bye to

Brunt River Joe has left us this eve in Co. with Mr. Comb to go
PAGE 227 (228)

on foot to Powder River - They take a mule to carry traps & plunder & leave just after dark - We can see the smoke from other camps & are not far behind some of them - Dead stock has been very plenty this afternoon & we have passed 2 heads alive but unable to travel - - Wednesday Sept 17th - Uncle Bob & I are up at day light to get breakfast in the absence of Joe - I make my first batch of raised bread & have luck of which no ancient dame could complain - We get away on the road at about the usual hour being marshalled by Mr. Ives in the absence of Capt Bristol who with Jack has gone up the little stream on our right to ascertain the cause of disturbance in the water - Before we leave

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camp a report is current that a lot of mining tools & provisions have been discovered a short distance up the creek - 3 miles from the creek we meet Mr. Culbertson an acquaintance of some of our party with 4 others & 3 Pack horses - who are just from Powder River & are prospecting this country They report Powder River as good or even better than we have before heard it - also that 50 men are mining on the little stream before mentioned & 100 men on the head waters of Powder & Brunt Rivers about 50 miles to the North West of us - They tell us also that the 3 parties we met with horses had stolen them from Ranchers on Powder River - Would that we had known it & intercepted them

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Some of our party are strongly in favor of camping for awhile & prospecting the country but they are a very small portion & finally give it up & we all go on about 3 miles & stop for dinner - The road in the forenoon has been very good generally level along the creeks - The afternoon drive jumps from one stream to another & over two long steep hills - We finally bring up at the Spring the last watering place this side of Powder River 18 miles distant - Here we find fragments of Kennedys & Capt Jacks trains they being broken all to pieces - Six miles this afternoon makes 12 for the day - We have no room for a corral & our train is standing mostly in the road - The stock is out on the hill sides

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& every owner takes care of his own - We fill everything that will hold it with water tonight & make all the preparation we can for a start before breakfast & very early - do not pitch our tents but for the last night we expect to be out sleep with as much of the starry canopy for a cover as can be discerned between the high hills forming this Canon We are roused about 12 o'clk at night to prepare for the 18 mile drive across the Desert & get away soon after one o'clk on the morning of

Thursday Sept 18th - This travelling by moonlight is a new feature - & rather pleasant for a few trials - everything has such an uncertain appearance - Away we go up through a long Canon over a good

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road - pass just before daylight the trains which have preceded us a day or two - The morning star appears - the one whose coming we have so anxiously looked for when on guard - Soon appear symptoms of old Sols appearance & finally when we have become tired with 10 miles

walking & hurrying with a long fast - he shows himself & we stop in the Sage Brush for breakfast - Coffee etc. restores our good humor & on we go - A half hours drive shows us the long looked for Powder River valley with its border of Pine clad snow capped mountains beyond - Ain't our hearts lightened - We are still a long way from the river & toil on through the dust some of us on foot far in advance of the teams - Before we reach the river John & I mistake the

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track & thinking to shorten it by a cut off are led 3 miles out of our way & after stripping & wading the river twice take a back track & reach the camp behind the teams - Our camp is on the west side of the river & just below the ford in grass higher than ones head - The ford is graced by a Ranche which today is also a Butcher State & well supplied with good Beef - It is the first thing in the shape of a house we have seen since long before we left the Cut Off - Here are camps on all sides - some cutting hay - some ranching cattle & horses - some preparing to plant out - prospecting etc. etc. - We learn that Joe passed here last eve at 4 o'clk & will be down today to meet us - The train comes in, in pieces but all get together in a tolerable corral - Hank starts for Auburn 10 miles distant on his mule.

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After our dinner of fresh beef the first we have tasted for months we pitch our tent near the river & prepare to wait for the next move of the river or throw of the dice - The river is small like the other streams we have passed but which are dignified with the names of rivers & is quite muddy from the gold washing on the head waters Prospect holes are visible on the mountain sides in all directions

but the most pleasing sight I think is the heavy body of real old Pine timber all over the mountain sides - After Supper our Capt calls a meeting of the train & in a very neat & pretty speech - congratulates the train on their safe arrival in the "happy land of Canaan" - compliments them for general good behavior -

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observance of the Sabbath etc. Expresses his opinion that tis the first whole train as well as most intelligent & refined that has or will cross the plains this season - He said much more that was appropriate to the occasion but which I have not room to record - thanked them individually & as a body for favors indulgences etc. & as they had no further use for a Capt - tendered his resignation & disbanded his train - The meeting was reorganized by the election of Mr. Henley Chairman On motion a committee to draft resolutions consisting of Judson Sheppard & Harrison was appointed - While the Com were absent Henley in behalf of the Iowa City party thanked Capt Bristol for forbearance for services kindly rendered etc. Mr. Cassady the wounded man returned thanks to the whole Co. for kindness & attention -

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The Com. after a short absence reported the following which was unanimously adopted -

Whereas

We of a body known as Capt Bristol's train having safely & with unusual good success performed the long-tedious & perilous journey across the plains from the Mo. river to the State of Oregon & our destination & being about to disband as a Company & being desirous of expressing to him our sense of the obligations he has placed us under - therefore

Resolved

That in Capt Bristol we have found a brave-faithful-efficient & willing commander - A social - agreeable & instinctive companion - an excellent teacher & a faithful & true friend -

Resolved

That we hereby tender him our heartfelt thanks for the abundant services so freely & ably rendered & that in taking leave of him as our Chief we still hope to retain him as our friend -

Resolved

That in any enterprise or calling in which he may engage he has our sincere wishes for his success & that we shall ever with gratitude remember the great obligations he has placed us under

Judson]	
]]	Com.
Sheppard]]	
]	
Harrison]	

Henley Chⁿ of meeting

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After the resolutions the Camp Song was loudly called for & sang with a will many joining in the chorus after which the meeting adjourned -

Friday Sept 19th - After breakfast many left camp for Auburn on foot leaving the train to move up the river about 8 miles to grass - I went with the party on foot & in a little over 3 hours walk we reach the town a flourishing mining town of about 200 log houses & more all the time being built - Many families still occupy their tents or a bower temporarily - We were just too late by only a

few minutes to see a frenchman hung for poisoning his companions one of whom died - He was tried in judge Lynch's court by a jury - convicted & was hanging when we arrived -

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There were probably 1000 people assembled to witness the execution - I found the town flourishing & lively - nearly every conceivable branch of business doing something - I found Stutsman & Bayles of the Bluffs - McLaughlin & family & the dark Barber Geo. from Omaha & learned with great regret that Mike Murphy has left here only yesterday for Boisee river prospecting - I also saw Dr. Porter a brother of John R - The population like all mining towns is changeable people come & go - now here now there & not till Winter sets in can be known the Am't of population in a mining town - Night closes down on our Corral in nearly the same position as usual - but all rest easy & quiet with no guard set & no fears

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of disturbance -

Saturday Sept 20th The camp is late astir - No one orders the stock turned out - no one rouses the camp to prepare breakfast for an early start - One at a time as inclination prompts them they appear - All good natured & at peace with everybody - No stories to be heard from the guard of the stump or rock which they had watched so closely strongly suspecting 'Twas an Indian' None yawning & grumbling for loss of rest - but all seem at home & enjoying what they are justly entitled to - a good rest with a sense of relief & a feeling that the terrible journey is at an end - After breakfast the large family dissolves - Joe & John divide in a very few minutes their effect & Sheppard - Ferd & Wash

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having already divided the things etc. of John - Wash & I are left out while the bal is put on board the wagon now owned by "Shep" - the mules all harnessed in & off we start for town I going along to bring back the stock for keeping on the grass along the river - I spend another two hours in town - see again the old acquaintances - learn more of the business of the place - witness some good gold washing & learn of the finding of a nugget of the value of \$170 - I learn on trial that I never knew much about high prices notwithstanding my experience in a new country - viz. Sugar 40¢ - Salaeratis 50¢ - Bacon 35¢ - Beans - Onions etc. and apples 20¢ - Coffee 50¢ - Beef & Mutton 15¢ - Flour (cheap) \$16 - Butter \$1 - Milk 21 per qt - Pies 50¢ ea - board \$12 pr week etc. etc.

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I get back to camp in time for supper & find the tent which has for a long time appeared like & borne the name of the Hotel nearly vacant - having ample room & looking comfortable & pleasant - The expected Express from Walla Walla due every Saturday had not arrived when I left town but later arrivals in camp report its arrival bringing a report that the Command of Lieut. Co. Maury which we left at the Keiser River had been cut up by the Indians together with much emigration - We all very much doubt it - think it a yarn or very much exaggerated - It is probably true that there has not for years if ever before been so much trouble from the "varlets" as the present season - We expect to remain

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here for a while perhaps for years - We are some 400 miles from Portland (tide water) - 140 from Walla-walla & 25 from the grande nde round valley Have performed a journey some 800 miles longer than

we anticipated & requiring six long weeks more of time. Have encountered hard fare dangers of all sorts including the hostility of the Snake Indians - from which our vigilance & strength undoubtedly saved us - We are a long way from home - deprived of very many privileges cut off from all luxuries & have fully made up our minds to take one lot & portion in this rough community & in their rough way indulging in the hope of a gain sufficient to remunerate us for all present losses & to speed the good time coming when we can again with our friends in a civilized

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community enjoy our ease & doubt not they will be the better & more fully appreciated from our present deprivations - One luxury we can enjoy which many in the mountains cannot we can write to our friends at a cost of only 35¢ a letter or hear from them for 25¢ Have rec'd no tidings this side of Ft. Laramie away back in the dim past & the first letter precursor of what will follow will be joyfully hailed -

Sunday Sept 21st Still in camp - Train almost unbroken - Freeman & family leave for Salem with an Ox team - No preaching today - I have instead luxuriated in the columns of a real newspaper (they only

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cost 50¢ each) the Weekly Bulletin printed in San Francisco & dated the 8th Sept - The news makes things look dark for our country But it is we hope the dark hour which precedes the dawn - Tomorrow we break up camp & while a part of our little community which has been through danger & trial together till they seem almost indissoluble or at least very loth to part - go up into the town & pitch their tents - the bal will again drive the pins about a mile & a

half this side -

Monday Sept 22d - This is a very cold morning - severe frost -
The camp breaks up & gets considerably scattered We drive
into town & pitch our tent to remain awhile on the hill on the
right of the town in company with Capt & Co. - Hunter & Co. -
Col. & Co. & near our old friend Brewster & Co. - As we were
driving into town

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a man stopped the Capt's team to inquire if any of his party were
from Omaha - I being near enough to hear his interrogatory
stepped up & recognized Dick Darling - He has been here some time -
has prospected some etc. He told me much of Mike & went with us
to where we pitched our tent - A rumor reached town yesterday that
50 miners on the head waters of ~~By~~ Munt River had been recently attacked
by Indians & nearly all killed - We are getting incredulous of all
rumors & pay but little heed to them - On the road 'twould have
frightened us - Well! I am now in town if not settled & fixed and

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before closing up the incidents or description of life on the road
or at all events changing it for life in a new & flourishing mining
town it is perhaps proper that I should close up the former with a
description of my personal appearance as I believe I gave the same
at the outset - Here goes - My stature is about the same viz. 6 ft
& 1 in My wt-ditto 165 lbs - their the resemblance ends - now I
am turned to the color of sole leather - face-neck & hands - my
face is cov'd with hair including of course a light red moustache
which very much disguises me - then my dress consists of a coarse
grey faded flannel shirt - a pair of satinett pants worn through on
the knees by breaking sage brush for fuel & well fringed

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on the bottom - of no particular color now & the original when new I would not dare attempt to tell - held up by a pair of greasy suspenders - a heavy pair of boots from which my anxious toes protrude & try in vain to get ahead of me & which have smelled grease but once or twice on the trip & are consequently unlike most bibles in being well red - My low round crowned greasy light felt hat with my pistol hanging on my left hip & faithful meerschaum protruding its stem from the breast pocket of my shirt completed the "tout ensemble" and leaves on record a fair picture of an Oregon or Cal. imigrant & a truthful one of

Yours truly

H. M. Judson

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Tuesday Sept 23d 1862

Today John with quite a party headed by the Capt have been out prospecting & return with but little satisfaction - Things look a little dark but will probably brighten up in a few days - I have done little else than keep house & cook - have been up town once & it seems pleasant to meet so many acquaintances as one now does - Our train being so generally distributed - We are on one side of the town - The east - East of us a qr mile is the famous French Gulch next to it the Lewis Gulch - West of us at the foot of the hill runs the main St. if it can be called such & is about 3/4 of a mile long running nearly north & south - the upper end of it runs into a real

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St. running East & West which boast 3 Express offices - several stores of various kinds - Hotel etc. - this st. runs from Freezeout Gulch on the east to another on the west which is being extensively

worked & runs the whole length of the town parallel with the st
 first mentioned The west side of this Gulch is being covered
 with Cabins & is the location of the several Whip sawmills
 actively engaged in making timber - Tis music to hear the old
 Pines come down with a crash that makes the ground tremble -
 In the eve the camp fires are lighted not only in town but on
 the mountain sides around & give the whole country a beautiful
 appearance -

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Wednesday Sept 24th

Today I have been with a party of 8 from
 our camp (Bristol Park) over to Powder River 4 miles - prospecting
 Tis hard work & not the least of it is climbing the steep long
 mountains - We tried many places - Gulches - Ravines etc. & finally
 the bed of the river & found "the color" in nearly every attempt -
 I tried a pan in the river bed my first attempt & was gratified
 at finding the said color - We were gone all day taking our lunch
 & siesta near a little cold stream in a ravine among the friendly
 old Pines & could easily have dreamed that I was pic-nic-ing in my
 old native state - the Empire - Like all new places this has many
 idlers - many from inclination & many new comers

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who have not yet found the work for their willing hands ☺ The
 Sts present a business appearance - On all sides are log buildings
 of every style & finish & in all stages of progress from the
 majestic standing tree to the corniced shaved shingled roofed
 edifice - Bedlam is outdone for confusion - All kinds of tools
 & implements constantly ringing - drivers yelling at their teams -
 trees falling - rifles & pistols cracking - blasts exploding etc.

etc. - - -

Thursday Sept 25th

This morning Meeker & family leave for Portland - They have been pleasant companions of our journey & we part with them with regret - Today have taken a stroll through the town met many of our train acquaintances - found
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Hottingshead & Hank who returned from Cal. Gulch sick - doing well - explored the mine that is being tunnelled under town - Met Ripley Mike Murphy's Salmon River partner & all together had a pleasant little scout -

Friday Sept 26

Go today with Wash to prospect a claim that is for sale - We get a little gold but are disappointed in the yield & beside think it nearly worked out - This is my first experience in gold working - Henley & Harrison have started today for the D alles for provisions - The weather changes today to decidedly cool & some slight flakes of snow flutter about A change of this kind puts a

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decidedly different aspect upon the appearances & prospects for a winter campaign here - It reminds us forcibly of close cabins & plenty of "Grub" or rather reminds us that we have not got them & have a poor showing to get them A fire has been raging on the opposite mountain for a couple of days but has now nearly gone out
Saturday Sept 27th

Very cold morning Ice an inch in thickness on the water in our buckets - Wash & I have prospected Lewis' Bulch a little - Are satisfied with it & with the price of _____

& interest Would buy if we could make the terms to suit all parties - Have made one trade today at

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all events - Gave my Pick & the handle for repairing my boots - The modest charge was \$2.25 for half soleing & capping them I finding the sole leather - I have today made up my mind to get nearer "out of the wilderness" for the winter, On looking at a map of this country I was almost frightened to learn how far I am still from civilization - still far far from the comforts - pleasures - advantages etc. to say nothing of the luxuries of civilized life - I find here nothing to do that I am at all adapted to doing - Have not means to start in any kind of trade or take advantage of good offers - A severe (undoubtedly) winter is coming on & I see no way to prepare for it By getting to some populous town

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I can at least live cheaper as well as more comfortable & better & will be most likely to obtain suitable employment - beside the thousand & one other advantages of such a town over a mining town with its roughs & far removed from all that makes life desirable - Yes, I must go - Would very much like to await the return of Mike but it is so uncertain that I cannot - I would too like to know of Chandler - Gilbert - Peck - Jones - LeGros - Baugh & the rest of the Omaha people - If they come through or what becomes of them - A lump of gold & quartz combined was today brought in from the Mormon Basin some 25 miles from here - It is estimated to be worth \$200-

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Sunday Sept 28th -

Cold morning - up late - Mr. Temple & family left for ~~The~~ ^{The} Dalles? - John - Mr. Rice & myself follow soon - can't tell yet who else - Mr. Rice is boarding with us from dinner today - We ate our first potatoes since we left the Platte for dinner - They were raised in the valley of the Willamet and sold here at 1/2 per lb - They were very ordinary potatoes but relished well after our long fast Sheppard-Joe & Uncle Bob returned last eve from their prospecting tour - Have discovered nothing very satisfactory but all condue to winter here - I passed a building today where religious services were being held. The congregation was small & mostly women - There seems to be more loafers on Sundays than other days but the most of the residents seem to take

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their rest by leaving off mining & working on their cabins

Monday Sept 29th

Today we are busy in preparations for leaving - In the evening take a stroll up town with Wash & am well repaid by a view of the hill sides lighted with pine wood fires - Every cabin or tent having a blaze near the door which scattered so promiscuously among the tall old Pines presents a beautiful appearance - It is reported that on Saturday 300 emigrant teams reached Powder river - mostly passing on for the Grand Ronde & ~~Un~~ ^{Un}atilla valleys - Some were too poor to go on & stop at Auburn - having lost their stock on the road - A subscription for their relief is in circulation in town today

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Tuesday Sept 30th & the last

In the forenoon we complete our preparations for another two weeks trial of the road - I make another extensive trade - My

Gun - Coat & Cap for "Grub" - After dinner we bid the Fairplay boys & some others in the camp good bye & turn our backs upon Auburn - We may be making a mistake & this may be an important turning point in our destiny but our judgement says go on & so away we go

Our party consists of John - Mr. Rice - Covey - Jake Sheppard (frenchman) & myself - We have four good Mules & alight load
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We are overtaken by a thunder shower - the only real one we have seen since we left the Platte Valley - It rains nearly the whole afternoon but we are all snug except Covey who is on the back of one of his mules & of course gets wet through McKennon & Hollingshead who were to come with us but changed their minds & took passage with a freighter passed us on the big hill & we again overtook them at the toll gate thoroughly wet - We were then overtaken by Mr. Root & Co. - The former party are in camp there - We drive on through the Canon & camp & Root passes us & camps nearer the river - We are in sight of the Blue Mountains & they
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are well covered with recently fallen snow - Look gloomy enough & fill us with some forebodings respecting the pleasures of our present journey - We are camped on Powder River just under the mountain - the snow looks cold - the ground is wet & the air is... cold. We have the remains of a wagon to burn & must make the best of this our first & uncomfortable night out - I should not leave Auburn entirely out till I pay it this compliment - that in the short week we have been there she has very much improved - A majority of the buildings there had no roofs - now the patches

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of pine shingles may be seen through the trees everywhere -
The streets too have been cleared of the fallen trees boughs
& chips & altogether it has been a week of unprecedented (in
my experience) growth -

Wednesday Oct 1st

The morning is very cold & a glance
at the mountains on all sides makes it colder - The sun tries
to shine - struggles for an hour or two & abandons for the time
the attempt - the cold - snowy - misty clouds hanging around the
mountains are too much for old Sol - We get away from Camp about
8 o'clock & can just keep warm by good walking - three miles from
camp recross the Powder at the old Crossing & strike down

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the valley - One has plenty of time while plodding along to reflect
on his position & prospects - to lay plans for the future & to
indulge in Castle building or any kind of fancy thoughts (thots) -
It has often occurred to me while thus jogging along that I would
like to pass through - Omaha or Oxford or any town where I am
known - I am sure I would as I appear on the road every day be com-
pletely disguised - We pass 10 miles from the crossing - Powder
River Slough - go on to the river & camp for noon full 15 miles
from our last nights camp - 3 teams are in camp here - families on
their way to anywhere that they can pass the winter - They lose

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ten fine Oxen here by death & look quite forlorn - the women of
the party look decidedly poverty stricken - the Sage brush has
been unkind with their clothes & they hang in shreds upon them -
After dinner we drive over a small hill a mile & cross Powder river
Then 3 miles to the same stream or another - at the crossing of which

the new road makes off for Auburn 27 miles distant by it & at a saving of 10 miles - We camp for night after a very comfortable day in all respects - the Sun having got the advantage afternoon & very much improved the atmosphere The valley down which we have been travelling is destined to be well settled

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It varies in width from 3 to 15 miles & often is skirted by a rolling prairie to the foot of the mountains which are well timbered - The soil is rich & light - bears luxuriant grass & susceptible to a high state of cultivation - The snow peaks surrounding must make showers frequent & late in the Spring & rendering irrigation unnecessary as in Salt Lake Valley Pikes Peak etc. -

Thursday Oct 2d

We get away from camp about 7 1/2 o'clock & make a drive of about 12 miles - noon on a small spring brook Are passed by McKennon & party After dinner begin to go up-up - continue for two miles & come suddenly

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upon the Grand Ronde starting apparently directly under our feet - We go slowly down the mountain - An awful one - tis as grandly steep & strong as the valley is pretty - We get safely down & camp about a mile & a half from the base of the mountain near a Ranch & spring - Have had a pretty comfortable day - A little snow this morning but sunshine most of the day - The moonlight evenings are cool & like late November in America

Friday Oct 3d

The morning is again cold & frosty - On the mountain behind us newly fallen snow lies some time after the

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Sun is up - We get away from camp about 7 1/2 o'clock & wind around the base of the mountains on the South side of the valley - We are again cheered by the song of the Meadow Lark reminding us of home & we hope of the pleasant in the future - we have sloughs caused by springs at intervals of about a mile & after about 6 miles travel reach the foot of the mountains where we are to begin the ascent - Here are some half dozen log houses in various stages of progress beside some 25 or 30 wagons with their loads of live freight halting at this point to deliberate on the feasibility of spending the winter

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in the Valley - A notice on the shingle sided grocery gave warning that the name of the town had been changed from Grande Ronde to Le Grand & that town lots would be recorded for the modest sum of \$2 - Here I met Al Cotterell who once boarded at the Herndon in Omaha while in the employ of Wood & King I learned after we left there that Andrews & wife were there & inquired for us - We make a short stop & begin the ascent & ascent it is - right up - almost perpendicular - We go up for a mile & then get a fine view of the valley - Tis grand indeed - About 30 miles long by 15 broad & level as could

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be desired - The stream runs across it in two or three channels not far separated & what appears to be a stream runs along the base of the mountain on the NE & joins the Grand Ronde near the gap by which it escapes Much the largest part of the valley lies to the north of the river - The mountains on all sides are well covered with timber & the Log Cabins of the settlers are well

sprinkled over it - Many hundreds perhaps thousands of heads of cattle were grazing in herds along the river & at the base of the mountains - Some 22 wagons of this years emigration yesterday entered the valley to settle - Tis really a grande valley - Grand to look at

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Grande to live in - grand to get into & out of at least that is our experience - We drive 10 miles further over ridges - up & down through gulches & ravines & reach the river for the first time - quite a pretty stream - larger & finer than the Powder river - Here at a Ranche the Wallah Wallah road strikes off & crosses the stream - we go on for a mile overtake Temple & party & camp for the day - While we are getting our dinner - Temple leaves & we learn that grass is much better a little farther ahead - We pull the pins again & away we go simultaneously with the beginning of a rain which bids fair to continue all night -

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We drive about two miles crossing the river three times & camp for night time under the noble old pines about 6 o'clk - We make a good fire - dry ourselves - have a dry tent & altogether are quite comfortable -

Saturday Oct 4th

Tis still cloudy but the rain has ceased & we get onto the road at about the usual hour & drive near 12 miles crossing Le Grand Ronde 14 times more making 17 in all & stop for noon just where we leave the Valley - Tis a very narrow but quite pretty valley & some portions of it are really beautiful - We meet all sorts of freighting - Packers

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trains - Mule & horse teams & Ox teams - All bound for Auburn &

loaded with all sorts of provisions - After dinner we climb a moderate hill & two miles from noon camp find a creek It has begun raining while getting dinner & now we are again on our way - rains so hard as to drive us into the wagons The creek runs through a broad Prairie on the hill top & on its edge in the timber some emigrants have settled & have 3 or 4 log houses nearly completed - 6 miles from the settlement we strike another creek by driving down a steep hill then through mud - Crossing the creek many times

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passing several camps & finally when men & animals are tired out we camp per force beside the road in a very tolerable place but very much to Mr. R--s chagrin who is ahead of us & is obliged to come back - It is dark before supper is half ready & tis quite late before we get thoroughly dried & all ready for bed - Have made today about 22 miles

Sunday Oct 5th

It has rained all night & is raining still

We turn out late - Capt says we must go on & so at 9 ocl^k we get started - We have a few miles of bad road - then cross a ridge & have a good road the bal of the day - We go almost imperceptibly up till we find ourselves

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among the clouds & completely enveloped by the cold mist On - on we go occasionally down but generally up till after a few miles of travel in what proved to be the summit we get a magnificent view of the sunshine from under the edge of the clouds & before us lays a vast rolling country & far below us - dotted or rather streaked with small lines of timber marking the course of the small streams -

On the right & left of us are the mountains still - here timbered - there bare of everything except luxuriant grass - Far in the distance are just discernable what we suppose are the prominent peaks

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of the Cascade Mountains Viewing the scene from under the clouds & all bathed in the warm sunshine - It looked truly magnificent & I never more than now wished that sketching had been included among the branches of my early education - We are now more anxious than before to reach the valley & a more congenial atmosphere - We have several long miles of descent still before us & down - down we go - full 8 miles of down grade but quite gradual brings us to the foot of the mountains where at a Spring a settler is just building his cabin & selling vegetables to the emigrants Three

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miles farther brings/us to Birch Creek where we find all the requisites of a good camp - Wood water & grass - We get an early camp & supper having made a good 25 miles on the first Sunday we have travelled since we left home & that without a stop - Although very tired we sit long around our good Campfire - tell our stories think of home & those who have missed us today & wondered where we would remember our usual service & "lie down to pleasant dreams" We wake late on the morning of

Monday Oct 6th - have a long hunt for the mules - take a long look at the rarity - a corn field the first we have seen for months & Page 276 (277)

leave our pleasant camp on the branch of Birch Creek behind us at 9 o'clock One mile brings us to the Birch Creek proper which we cross & thence away over a high rolling prairie About 10 miles from the creek we are given to understand by a log beside the road

that by following a path leading off some two miles we can find a spring - Don't want water so bad particularly as we have several gallons along with us - A little farther we stop under a hill for dinner the wind flowing great guns - The afternoon drive is over higher

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hills giving us an occasional view similar to yesterday - Away off to our right we can see an apparent depression of the valley where we suppose the great Columbia rolls in his majesty - We also see the timber man knip the course of the Umatilla which by the new road we are travelling we have headed & left far away below us - This new road is a Gov't road made at an expense of \$10,000 according to treaty made with the Kiouse (Cayuse) Indians by which it was stipulated that the road crosssing their reservation should be made to go around it - We thus lose the expected grati-

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fication of our curiosity by which we would see them at their home on the Umatilla - On we go - fully realizing that we are snuffing the breezes of the Pacific & though they are coming quite strong - still Messes. Lewis & Clark I venture to say were not more pleased with them than we - Our afternoon drive is fully if not a little more than 15 miles - Making a full 25 for the day & tis 8 o'clk before we descend a hard long hill to Butter Creek for camp - Of course supper is late & we are late to bed & so very tired that we sleep like logs & till very late on the morning of

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Tuesday Oct 7

We get away on the road about 8 1/2

o'clk & follow down the creek for 8 miles - passing 2 Ranches &

a third building At one we buy some feef 1/- pr lb - Temple whom we have overtaken buys flour at 15¢ & Potatoes at 6¢ Here are displayed to tantalize us with the remembrance of what we have lost by not being at home for the season - A few sickly cold looking watermelons - We camp for noon when the road leaves the creek & at 3 o'clk have taken in Wood & Water like a steamer & are on the road again - Half way (8 miles) to the Well springs
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We stop for night under a very steep hill & find a good shelter from the wind - an unlooked for circumstance plenty of dry cedar wood & good grass - I avail myself of the opportunity afforded by the wood & bake up our last flour - 10 O'clk before I can get to bed - Tis cloudy & cold & even the full moon is of scarcely any benefit to us - Tis a somewhat singular coincidence that John & I both suffer all night with the teeth ache -both are quite furious & get scarcely any sleep - I have not passed so uncomfortable a night since we left Omaha - Of course I am ready to get up early & so considerably out of humor turn out at five O'clk
Wednesday Oct. 8th

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to get breakfast - We get away from camp at 7 1/2 & by making a circuit of a qr of a mile avoid the big hill which has been our shield from the wind - I posted a card beside the road directing others to follow our track - 8 miles travel brings us to the Well Springs They are in a sort of ravine & in the top of a mound the ground descending in all directions - From constant use & disturbance by cattle the water is kept muddy but there is an abundant supply - A half mile farther we find a Ranche & the fork where the Wallah Wallah road takes off from ours - here is another

fine Spring

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of which good use is made - We go some 5 or 6 miles farther on & stop for dinner The weather which has been pleasant though cool all the morning has become disagreeable with wind & dust which continue all day - Being on the only road up & down the Columbia we meet a great deal of fr't bound for Walla walla - Florence - Elk City - Auburn - Wallula (Wallowa) etc. - The road is good but deep ravines to go through are frequent - Just before sunset we come to a considerable Hotel pleasantly situated on Willow Creek & find our old travelling companions here - Mr Kennon & Hollingshead We take in water & push

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on across the creek - enter a huge Canon - wind through it up a long steep hill & reach the top just in time to witness a beautiful Sunset scene - The Sun is just down between Mts. Hood on the south & St Helen on the north & his rays reflected on the clouds & the snow of their peaks presents a grand appearance - They are peaks of the Cascade Mountains through which the Columbia runs - Mt Hood on the South & Mt. St. Helen on the north side of the river Mt. Hood is said to be the tallest mountain in North America -

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One mile farther on we camp for night & tired from the days travel & loss of rest last night retire early Have today made our usual 25 miles

Thursday Oct. 9th) We leave camp a qr before eight & travel till near 3 o'clk before camping over a good road mainly up & down Canons with a ridge between - The six horse team comes up with & travels along several miles in our company & finally leads a round

about road to Rock Creek & lengthening our road about two miles
 We pass two Ranches & camp near Capt Jack & party - Cook our last
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meat & Capt Rice concludes to go on - We start just before six
 o'clk though warned that the grass is growing thinner as we near
 John Days River 7 miles distant - On & on we go cross the creek
 twice - the moon comes up & were we & the team not so tired the
 evening would be pleasant - Still on we go - Rice was never ready
 to stop yet but at last when he learns that the party are all out
 of humor with him he says we had better stop - John turns in with
 his face tied up in a wet towel for the teeth ache & mine are
 grumbling considerably to add to my comfort -

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At the Ranches we passed were gardens of vegetables - Cattle
 ranging where they pleased & a large flock of fine sheep helped
 to make a very tolerable home scene - We have travelled today our
 full 25 miles & have the satisfaction of knowing that we are on our
 last 50 this side of Dalles -

Friday Oct 10th - We start late thinking to make a short drive
 to a Store or Ranch on John Days river & get some supplies before
 getting breakfast - We are out of everything - have not even flour
 enough for a batch of bread - We eat the few biscuits we have on
 hand & make a start

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four miles of pretty rough road brings us to the river a hard
 looking stream over which is a ferry - not now in use as the river
 is fordable - At the Rancho we get some supplies & start to find
 grass - From the river we go immediately up a mountain side &
 mostly very steep - On we go no water yet - All out of humor &

grumbling is heard all around - we finally reach a Spring a small one a qr mile off the road - take in a little water & go on to find grass - From the river to this Spring is called 8 miles but in our state of mind & stomach it seemed much more - A half mile from the Spring we stop to breakfast & dinner & it finally proves to be supper too - As after the Meal of bread - Ham & Coffee we drive to the next Spring 7 miles which we reach long after dark nearly frozen & John & myself enjoying a fine season of the teeth ache - We get up some hot coffee & lunch on biscuits - Teeth get in better humor - spirits follow suit which gives us a better prospect for sleep than we expected - We met today an old Indian probably a Kiouse (Cayuse) with his blanket strapped on his back making good time up Rock Creek - By the way that little stream is more appropriately named than most we have passed - Rocks every

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where & sharp hard ones they are - I forgot to mention that last eve when camped near Capt Jack & party we enjoyed one of our old Snake river Concerts I favored the Augience with the Camp Song & Larry OBrien & in return had the satisfaction of hearing "Joe Bowers" & "Betsey from Pike" etc. - They are a jolly set of fellows & seem never to be out of humor with themselves or anybody else -

Saturday Oct. 11th - We get a late start - some time past nine o'clk & the Sun high up in the heavens - We pass another Spring a mile from

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Camp & 3 1/2 miles from it we reach another fine one where is a Ranche - We get some more supplies & start for Deschutes River 5 miles distant - We have been nearing the Columbia for several

days as could be seen by the high bluffs on the opposite side of where we knew it must run - We come simultaneously upon the Des-Chutes & the Columbia over an immense hill or rather mountain - the Des Chutes at the base & the Columbia full 3 miles off - We wind down the mountain side - the road steep & must wide enough for the wagon & finally reach the ferry where we are kindly permitted to pay

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\$4.50 for the passage of our party over this contemptible little stream - It is apparently an 8th of a mile wide - about 4 to 8 ft deep & the current rapid - It has no valley - but runs through a Canon in the Mountains so narrow that only in places is it wide enough for a wagon road beside the river - We drive about 2 miles alongside of it & then begin again to ascend - Up up we go for a mile or more & get a fine view of the Columbia for several miles - It is evidently very low but I was disappointed in its size It is so much smaller than

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I expected - viewing it from so elevated a point too makes it of course appear much smaller - half way up the mountain side we find an insignificant spring & stop on a sort of table land & cook our dinner & supper together - The sun is down before we are ready to start for the creek 4 miles farther & we have a dark drive before us - Covey rides ahead to select a camping ground - We go up for a mile or more - then have a half mile of level road & the bal. is down hill - At the foot we meet Covey & by his representations are induced to drive into a mans lane - yes between two board fences & stop

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near his barn & turn our stock into his pasture for the consideration of 25¢ per head - It is too dark to tell what the country is about here but the tinkle of the bells - the lowing of the cattle - the glimpses of the fences & barns & the lights about indicate the well frequented haunts of civilization - I regretted much that the last four miles of our road had to be driven after dark as I am sure I would have had a fine view of the Columbia from the increased elevation & could probably have seen some kind of a rapid or fall as such could be

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distinctly heard & at no great distance from us - We seem to be rather passing Mt. St. Helen in Wash Ty. on the north but are getting near Mt. Hood every day & the nearer we get the more majestic does he appear towering above all his surroundings by many hundred ft & wearing with much grace his old & yearly repaired Mantle of white - In buying some sugar today we become seiged & possessed of a qr of a newspaper - containing Tel ? dates of the first week in Sept - What a prize - worth more than the little parcel of Sugar though we are not disposed to complain of the low price of it - 20¢ per lb Well - I am alone - All our

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camp have been in bed for an hour but myself & on this our last night out as we expect I - but I won't muralize or Philosophize but will straight-way close my eyes & try the effect of a good nights rest -

Sunday Oct 12 -

Disappointed again - Have had a severe night with my abominable teeth - Rise late for the several'th.

time with a sore face & tired out - Get to work at the breakfast & get through it after a fashion with the assistance of Jake - Just before we start John puts Ranger & Squaw in his pocket in the shape of \$120 in gold &

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silver - Away we go down the creek - nameless as far as I know (Five-mile Cr) for a mile or so then up a long Canon then down the same - We pass numerous Ranches a Freight & Stage Station meet a real Stage Coach with Passengers on it etc - After 6 miles travel we stop beside the road to get our last meal on our travels - Here some brushing up is done - I leave some old Socks My old & well worn shoes & the old Pants in which I made my grand entry into Auburn - Away we go & within a half mile come suddenly upon the Columbia visible for some miles & in the distance under the

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mountain Dalles lies full before us - The river seems confined to a fissure in the rocks very narrow & probably very deep - In the rear of Dalles the position of the Garrison is marked by the old "Flag of the free" flying gaily in the breeze - We meet the same am't of freight & other teams as on other days & nothing but the pretty little white church in the distance indicates the sacredness of the day - We next come across a real RR track as natural as can be being laid from Dalles to Des Chutes. Soon we enter town & find many emigrants camped

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in the suburbs - We drive among them - find Meeker & wife & Frank Ford & pitch our tent near them - The mules are taken to a stable & we settle for a time however long or short it may be - aside from the dust our drive of ten miles today has been quite pleasant

owing chiefly to the evidence of our nearing the haunts of trade
& life

Monday Oct 13th -

I am up at 2 o'clock this AM on acc't of
my teeth - Can keep quiet no longer - build a fire & I expect
some of the campers about are roused by it rather earlier than
usual - Meeker & party leave on the regular boat at 6 o'clock - The
Whistle though a small affair sounds familiar & good - We have an
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early breakfast & off go John & Rice & before noon neither have
a Mule left - Mr. Rice gets for his Mules & Wagon \$550 - John
sells Chub "the Pet" at Auction & gets \$70 for him - I sleep most
of the forenoon = or while my teeth will let me & after dinner do
up my last (I hope) washing - For the first time I take a survey
of the Dalles - Tis quite a stunning place - The mining regions of
Salmon River - Powder river & John Days being tributary to it -
Before their discovery the river carrying business alone made the
town - There is no country to back it & if the mines fail -down
goes the Dalles - At present

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tis lively being engaged in furnishing winter supplies to the above
named localities & Ft. WallaWalla - It is judging from the new
houses in progress of building growing quite rapidly - It has some
fine large stores & its compliment of doggeries & gambling houses
The main street is sometimes flooded by the Columbia as well as the
ground floor of a good part of the town - The Dalles & Des Chutes
RR runs through the center of the entire length of Main St - Little
Schooners loaded with lumber etc. come up often & for freighting the
town is remarkable requiring much rolling stock & mules - The old

Penn. teams of 6 & 8 mules are much in vogue here - Here

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to tempt the emigrant are all the fruits he has been accustomed to probably of California growth - The Hotels are of the second rate order except in price - \$10 pr wk for board right to make a first class house - Temple & Party came in this eve - Capt Jack & crew also arrived today - In the evening the town is alive Billiard Rooms & gambling hills in full blast - Some of the latter equal if not excel the renamed old Denver Hall in its Balmyest days in the rarity of deuces for gambling Here too they have the _____ Spanish Monte dealer & the good humor provoking string band - Lager Beer Saloons are brilliantly illuminated & the loafers are all out - I never saw so many well dressed - nothing

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apparently to do young men in my life in so small a town The weather is quite warm & house flies swarm in our tent Tuesday Oct 14th - Have had a quiet night with my teeth & am feeling correspondingly well - After breakfast we strike the tent for the last time & pack our traps off to the Auction room - My poor goods brought very little - Robe \$1.75 - Pistol \$6 - Blankets \$1.75 We go to the "What Cheer House" to dinner where we remain during our stay in Dalles - It did really seem quite funny again to sit down to a regular table after an absence of over four months but appetite being good soon made a way of disposing of the good things set before me - In the afternoon took a long walk around town up to the garrison

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etc. - We are sent to lodge across the way from the Hotel - up stairs to a well ventilated chamber where we found sole occupants

of the room 3 single cot beds - They are very little improvement on mother earth we have been so long accustomed to but were it not for our usual comfort the grumbling teeth we could sleep very well on them In the night on turning over my cot gave way & Judd & I lay sprawling beneath my bed thereafter made up on the floor was more natural & we got through the night ok -

Wednesday Oct. 15th

We are up early to get our breakfast

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before going down to the boat Get a good one & notwithstanding the Landlords assurance to the contrary we were left by the Ox boat which we designed to take for Portland by about two minutes - We were still in time for the old line & hurried down to the wharf boat - paid our two dollars (reduced fare) & were soon on board amidst the confusion of trading Horses - Mules - Cattle Wagons etc. - When the boat would hold no more we pushed off & just as the sun gilds old Mt. Hood we are steaming down the Columbia - Tis a fine old stream clear & deep The scenery of a mile is the scenery of the whole - Are alike through the Cascade Mountains In an hour we have over

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taken & passed the little Oxⁿ boat - giving her a cheer as we pass - We pass an island on which are numerous Indian graves of a novel style an occasional solitary farm house nestled close among the mountains or a steam Saw Mill - Before noon we reach the Cascades where is a portage of 2 1/2 miles - the freighting etc. being done by a horse RR - At the lower landing we wait several hours for the boat to come up & get very tired & hungry - some invest a bit in a qr sec. of ginger bread - some in dry crackers but most whet their appetites to be able to eat the full am't of what they will have

to pay the boat per driver \$1 -

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At last the Julia arrives at Cascades - a good hour & a half is consumed in unloading & loading her up & shortly before sundown we are again under weigh. The scenery improves as we descend the river the mountain sides arranged in their autumnal robes look beautiful by the light of the setting sun - but most beautiful of all are the Cascades from which the Mountains derive their name - They are Springs & small streams which leap out of the Mountain sides some high up & have a perpendicular fall varying from a few to 200 or more feet - Some are so small & fall so far that nothing

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but spray reaches the bottom. They occur quite frequently in the course of the Passage & are most beautiful - We are making good time & it would be pleasant but for my old comfort the toothache - We see more or less of the RR in progress on the north side of the river & get an occasional glimpse of a small locomotive darting among the pines - On the Passage I get well acquainted with Clarke of Minneapolis & have a good chat with him - At ten o'clock we arrive at the dock in Portland having stopped at Vancouver on the Columbia now into the Willamette & up the same for seven miles since dark - We could only see that we were in a nine level country -

We proceed to the Columbian Hotel & from there to Delmonicos for Supper - then back to the Hotel & soon retire - Here we expect to stop in fact have got to stop - can get no farther - "broke" - "flat broke" - All the clothes we are seized & possessed of being on our back & our finances all told amounting to just ten cents - quite time to stop - to close this Journal & go to work.