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Martin Vivian's Day Journal *

Edited by
Walker D. Wyman

Martin Vivian, a California immigrant of 1850, was born in Kentucky in 1806. He was married to Susan Louen in 1827. There were ten children, nine of whom were born before the time of the overland trip to California.

About 1833 he yielded to the westward urge, and moved to Missouri. "After several years, as well as moves", he left Lafayette County, near Dover, for California. With him were his oldest son, William, and a neighbor family, the Frobishes. They followed the Platte River route, took Hudspeth's Cut-off, and the diary ends near Humboldt Sink.

But the journalist did get to California. His expense account gives evidence of that. He ~~had~~ returned to Platte County, Missouri, after "several years", but his son remained in California. Here at Camden Point, he lived for sometime on a large farm, owning his black labor supply; and was a minister of the Gospel on the side. "When the Civil War freed his help, he sold out in '64' Outfitted a small train - four wagons of staple articles - Flour, Bacon etc. - Sixty cows with three Males. A wonderful 'Family wagon' slats and feather beds...", and they were off for Helena, Montana, where this veteran immigrant "beat his luck in '49' 'all hollow'." He died in 1890.

(1)
Dover Missouri. Started to California April 20th, 1850.

1st day Traveled ten miles & camped near Lexington [Missouri]

21st. Trav. 5 M. to Little Sny. (2)

22.	.. to Nelurs-- expenses in corn, oats, eggs----	\$4.95
	In Lexington at Bells Store----	15.75
	Give Smiths	.50
	To Fletcher charges on freight of Sugar Molass.	2.07
24.	.. Cowards--bought at Lone Jack (4) bale washpan	
	Curry Comb-----	0.67½
	.. Coward's Corn 81/3 bu at	50¢
	50¢ .. 4 bu oats. 5 -----	5.66 2/3
		<hr/> \$29.60

Delayed much time for corn and Grass to Trading Post on Kansas River. On the way all stock took stampede. Lost two horses and mule for two days. Taken by Swnee on Waker Russia. (5) Cost (6) \$6.50. Bought Buffalow robe at Post. Cost \$3.50. One tug 50¢. Grass rope 50 cts. to mend Ox chain 85 cts. One whip 37½--Crossing saw \$2.25 cts.

May 6. Laid by one Day and traveled 12 miles to Lake. At the
of the Caw upper ferry there is a little town called Un-
ion from the Union of the Pottowotomies and Shawnees. There
is also a Government agency and Trading Post there and sev-
eral stores. This little town is situated on a beautiful
Prarie eminence $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the Ferry of the clear and beau-
tiful Kansas which is about two hundred Yds. wide, marked
along its margin and some of its bottoms with skirts of tim-
ber which in an extended view of the unmeasured Plains a-
round appear as a dark irregular steak in the distance,
athwart the wide expanse. The face of the country from the
State Line on Independence Road to this place is high and
dry with less swamp lands than in the State, in many places
beautifully undulating and well situated for farming. Tim-
ber plenty, being high and well watered-- The ravines are
generally deep being perhaps on an average fifty feet below
the General Slope on the high prarie, while still above Gen-
eral Surface of high prarie. You may see strung out in the
distance a long the large branchd creeks & River mounds, hills

and ridges of earth and lime stone to the highth of several hundred feet. The sides of these mounds are often very steep and regular with here and there a very large white lime stone washed naked on its slope while in their brows is Generally imbedded a solid naked stratter ⁽¹¹⁾ of the sand rock exhibiting in the distance by the sun's rays a cloud of the richest and most sublime grandeur bespangled and streaked with its sparkling silver stars and striped. The scene is sometimes enchanting beyond description. There appears to be a continuous strater ⁽¹²⁾ of this rock in all the praries from the southwest of Jackson C. ⁽¹³⁾ to a few miles west of the Big blue. ⁽¹⁴⁾

May the 7th. Grass being good we laid by here. I attempted to wash my first garment. Skinned my finger so badly it's not well yet. ⁽¹⁵⁾

.. 8th. Traveled up Caw River bottom 15 miles. Passed Catholic Mission and several creeks and encamped near a lake. This Mission has two schools here, one for Males & one for Females. ⁽¹⁶⁾

May 9th. moved 6 miles higher up the bottom to Vermillion Crk. where Grass was fine and Grazed here till Monday the 15th, occasionally taking a mess of fish and waiting reinforcement for here is the ⁽¹⁷⁾

outside settlement of the Pottowatomies who were at war with the
savage Pawnees. The Pawnees skulking around here stole 3 ponies
from the Pot. a few days ago--⁽¹⁸⁾ since to their cost they went in
full chase after them while we lay here, recovered their ponies,
killed two Pawnees, returned, and in a night War dance over it,
eat their hearts and hands--⁽¹⁹⁾

Here fell in with a company from Ohio organized Monday 14th
traveled from Vermillion to a little creek fringed with every
----- . 18 miles, Water and timber plenty but grass tolerable.
Here we met with a sprinkle of Texas Muskit Grass.

14th Traveled about 18 miles this day. a stop on another little
Creek having Cedar.

Wednesday 15. 18 miles again brought us to the Big Blue. This is
another pretty stream about 40 yds wide, $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft deep in low water
and abounding with fish of the Cat and Gar Kind.

May 16. Traveled 12 miles and camped near the junction of the Inde-
pendence and St Jo. road, on a high prairie.⁽²⁰⁾ Here the wagons
were strung thick as far as the eye could reach and having had
no rain since the 6th the clouds of dust from them were disag-
greable. 4 or 5 miles west of the Big Blue the high bluff, Bro-
ken Prarie, and lime stone ceasce giving place to the gently rolling

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and level prairie, where occasionally may be seen an Antelope or Elk.

F. May 17. Traveled 20 miles and encamped $\frac{1}{2}$ M. from Timber and Water.

Sat Traveled about 20 Miles to a little creek and encamped $2\frac{1}{2}$ Miles West. Grass very short. Water plenty but not good, wood scarce, and therefore Traveled Sunday in search of better Grass and Water 9 miles to Little Sandy and finding it dry continued on 4 or 5 miles and turned off to the left to reach the Big Sandy 2 miles East of the crossing. Here we found water plenty but grass very short. It has now become so dry and dusty and the Road so thronged with emigrants and the Teams consequently beginning to fail that the prospects were alarming, while many Prayers were going up for rain. For a day or two back several turned back whose accounts were greatly deterring in that Grass grew worse and worse onward. Fortunately the wished for object came this night in such heavy torrents with loud Thunder and wind that I sometimes feared we should be carried with the storm.

Monday 20th Spirits revived (d) and having Traveled 7 days successively laid by for stock to rest and Wash up.

Tuesday 21. Traveled 8 miles from crossing Big Sandy to little Blue; (21)

~~6~~

on the way fell in with William Chinn and Jackson Vivion. Went onward up the Blue for ten miles and encamped making 22 miles. The Road literally filled with people from all parts with ox, mule, and horse teams, packers, and some going it on foot, of various size companies from a lone man to twenty odd waggons in a train. I will note here that coming from Lexington to some 50 miles West of the Big Blue the travel is North, North West, and even sometimes North East, and thence so far it is nearly due West. This little Blue is a pretty ⁽²²⁾ Stream about 40 ft. wide with rapid current, seemingly no ripples of great _____ of current _____ and depth. The General direction from where we strike it is, upward nearly due west. But of many short circular bends very thinly skirted with cotton wood almost exclusively.

Wednesday 22 Rained _____ again last night, Traveled north & North West across a large bend in the Creek/ 15 miles & encamped again upon it. Grass short and thin. Met today from Fort Scott ⁽²³⁾ a company of traders having six waggons seemingly loaded with Buffalow-hides and furs-- They say grass will be better after reaching Platte. A few scattering Buffalow and antelope along here-- The whole country very sandy and gravelly. Praries in places very broken, in others level. Not rich--

Thursday 23c. Traveled 15 miles up the Blue, left it and went 5 miles miles further and encamped on a small stream in the Prarie. a little wood and plenty water.

(24)

Friday 24. Traveled 25 miles and encamped on Platt bottom 15 miles below Fort Kearney. This Platt is most remarkable stream I have seen. Its Bottoms are bounded by sand hills from one to several miles in width, thinly coated with short grass. Its bottoms on south side do not yield a shrub larger than a switch here, and I am told they do not to the crossing of the south fork 150 miles above the Fort but it grows on all the Islands which are very many & on the other side appears to be plenty. Its waters run nearly level with the surface even in ordinary tide, it seems; and over a bed of pure sand are as muddy as any hog wallow, and from its width, muddy appearance & running ^{so} near the surface you would suppose the River swollen with a freshet and very deep. Yet here it is not more than about two feet and I am told that it is rarely more than 4. dig anywhere in the bottom about two feet and find water in a bed of pure sand. This stream does much in characterizing the turbulent Missouri and is so like it (it) might fitly be called the turbulent Missourian. It is full of quick sand making it in many places impassable.

(25)

(26)

Saturday 25th Came to Fort wrote home, and traveled ten miles further up the River in search of wood. but in vain. Encamped at head of Grand Island in search of Willow Switches Grass poor on account of exception[al] grazing. Here some dozen or more wggons in view of better grass/.found a way of Fording the River it being too low and not more than 3½ feet in the channel and about 2 miles wide. Here the boys caught several fish 8 or 10 inches in lenght By a very singular method. The whole bed of the River is composed of sand bars and basins-of-various hights anddepths the bars, Just beneath the general surface, and being composed of or partaking the nature of quicksands their tops arefull of indulations like little basins and though the currant of the River is rapid ther(e) being no timber the wind having a far sweep from the plains when blowing across. Spreading the water in a gale over those bars with such force as carries the fishes into those basins and leaves them till another gale may come and give [them] a chance to get out. thus, watching they caught several.

Monday 27. Traveled 22 miles up the bottom on a beautiful road and encamped on a little creek. (27) Water and grass plenty. no wood but willow bushes. It stormed again Last night most heavily with

hail rain thunder Lightening & wind, Blew down nearly all the tents, caught the cattle out of the coral, wet all hands and bed-clothing, giving us a twitch of the Elephants tail. ⁽²⁸⁾ Passed William Chinn and company lying by. Alfred with the measles & Wm taking them.

Tuesday 28. traveled 20 M. encamped in openbottom and used Buffalow chips. ⁽²⁹⁾ nights and mornings too cold to stand with great Coat on evenings too warm to be with one---

Wednesday 29. traveled 24 miles encamped where the River comes near Bluffs, Cottonwood and willows plenty Grass but tolerable. Here we find Evergreen thinly scattered in the sand hills. The hills here and for some miles back more elevated & broken, in all forms, presenting the most Romantic scenery-- In places the ravenes between the hills have their bases level with the bottom for many miles in the hills to follow their windings which are so serpentine and intricate that you may follow them for several miles in gaining a few hundred yards. The hills are places of perpendicular walls to the Highth of a Hundred feet or more, to the sides of which the swallows build & in which the pestilent wolf makes his kennel and where in places are sometimes found piled many carcasses of the Buffalow either by being forced over the abrupt

declivities of the hills into the chase by the wily Indian in to them, or in their stampedes, or attempting to cross the hills when the ground is frozen.

Thursday 30. Traveled 22 miles and encamped on a little creek between the bluffs and the river. No wood, not even a switch, poor grass-- The high abrupt Bluffs have ceased. There is a little spring here the only one since we struck the Platte. ⁽³⁰⁾ This and all the will wa-
⁽³¹⁾ter since coming to the Platte is bad being imprignated with Soda.

Friday 31st Traveled 22 miles and encamped, Still no wood Slough wa-
ters & grass. William Chinn and Company came up, Alfred getting well Wm. did not take them.

Saturday 1st June Traveled 16 miles and encamped Buffalo chips plent-
ty no wood slough and river water poor grass. this day Our com-
pany killed four Buffalo Bulls, for the first which served about
75. or 100 men. Killed near our Road from being run by the trains
on the north fork over to us. We had new and fine sport though con-
nected with considerable danger from the first shots only wounding
and their attempting to flight. The last one was very large measur-
ing 11 feet and 3 ft 8 or 10 inches in depth. perpendicular through
the chest. He would not suffer man or horse to come nearer than 25
or 30 steps. Dr. Gordon at about that distance fired a double bar-
rel musket whereupon the Bull and his horse wheeled at once, the

horse and rider falling together the Bull pitching at them with Draedful fury, but both rising instantly in flight he stopped turning his side and standing in furious anger for another and nearer approach. By this I prevailed an a Gentleman who had discharged his piece to hold my horse. I dismounted walked around him to his broad side and let off my Rifle as near as I could at his heart whereupon he bounded & then stood a moment in sullen stillness and fell Dying in a few moments. The buffalow is the most terific and frightful looking animal to man or beast I ever saw. I presume there is no horse (which) can be ridden very close to one untill trained and I have no doubt they are among the most dangerous if apporached when wounded.

(32)

Monday June 3d Traveled to crossing upper frod 10 miles crossed River & went two miles toward Ash Hollow & camped in high prarie. No grass nor water but from a storm of rain all night the River at the ford is about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile, is $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft deep, full of quick sands.

(33)

Tuesday 4th. Traveled 3 miles to Ash Hollow down hollow. Good water here. 3 to river & six the bottoms and encamped on the north fork in view of the famous Castle bluffs-- Rained hard in the night & continued next day till ten. Manny encampments of Sioux.

Wednesday 5 Traveled 15 miles and encamped in bottom near another Indian Village. While feeding the beggars One cut the picket pin from my horse.

Thursday 6th Traveled 12 miles and crossed a creek several miles west of which is a fine spring within about 30 yds of the Road to right under bank of open Prairie. The only first rate one since reaching the Platte. Then 8 miles and encamped in View of the Famous Court House ^(3rd) which stands apparently 3 miles south of road, but really when traveled it is thought to be 8. I visited it and say I never had been so deceived in distance. Its Base is situated a little west of a Beautiful clear creek 30 or 40 feet wide and 18 inches deep emptying into Platte a few miles East of the court house It is about 200 yds in distance at the base standing upon a wide eminence some fifty feet above the Valley is between 200 & 300 feet high to top of cone which I suppose to be 30. or 40 ft. The square at the top I recon to be 40 or yds across the longest way. It appears to be composed almost entirely of sand slightly cemented. There are but few parts partaking of the nature of stone and these increase as you ascend to the summit with exception of these it can be very easily cut. and there are thousands of names cut in its sides from its Base to the very top, mine among them. From the top of this one may have an extensive view of the River and its Bottoms for 10 or 15 miles

which
each way through the Road runs and the surrounding Country. and
at the time I visited it one with a telescope might have counted
hundreds of waggons at a view. But without which they appeared
in the distance like small specks too thickly grouped to be counted.
From this court house also we had a most beautiful imposing and
deceptious view as to distance westward of the famous Chimney Rock (36)
apparently 3 miles off at the Bluff edge of Bottom two miles from
Road. Several of us made our way to it and I think we were between
3 & 4 hours in reaching it. This is a natural Curiosity, Majes-
tically Grand and approaching, if not reaching the Sublime. It
is composed more of a Soft Sope Stone. The Base of the cone stands
upon a beautiful elevation Green at the foot of the bluffs that
cover an area of 40. or 50 acree, is near 200 yds in Diameter and
rises 140. or 50 feet tapering to 70 or 80 from whence another rises
tapering by a Steeper and quicker asscent to about 15 feet Diameter
upon which stands the chimney in a square of 15 by 12 feet per-
pendicularily rising without perhaps lessening to about one hun-
dred feet. The adjacent Bluff. from a North Eastern View at from
quarter to half-mile distance while it is not so great a curiosity
presents an enchanted Scene of Beauty and Grandeur combined with
Greater elevation and Magnitude, its being richly decorated with
the beloved Evergreen, and its top Gently Rolling & broad clothed
with verdure.

Friday 7th Traveled 22 miles and encamped in the bottom 1 Mile west of Chimney Rock. either this or the night previous had a hard stor(m)

(37)

Saturday 8th Started in View of Scott's Bluff traveled 22 miles and encamped in the Valey 3 miles west of the Eastern foot. no water but plenty of cedarwood in the Bluffs some two miles from Road. These bluffs form a projection from the continuous time they bound the Valey and are separated from it by a Sand Ridge and by from (?) it in a north east Direction to the River cutting the bottom in two. A few miles below the Eastern foot the road comes to the River then turning up the Valey to the left leaves those Bluffs to the right and passes over the Sand ridge that separates them from the continuous line at the upper end of the Vale where are Several fine Springs. These Bluffs Seem to be but three at their base but from their tops being notched & jagged by the Storms of time to a great depth Seem more like three Groups of Bluufs of the most various forms and Dimensions of Great curiosity and Grandeur, exhibiting Towers, Castles palaces Domes Cathedrals Temples and Mansions which from their highth magnitude and decorations of verdure and evergreen present more curiosity, Grandeur and enchantment than language or the pencil of the painter can Describe-- From them the Black Hills of the Rocky Mountains about Laramie 50 miles distant may be plainly seen.

(38)

(39)

Sunday 9th Traveled 18 Miles & reached the River bottom again near
 the mouth of Horse creek. ⁽⁴⁰⁾ Grass being plenty 1 mile above the
 Crossing of this Creek & the cattle having been sparsely served
 for two days we laid by on Monday.

Tuesday 11th Traveled ten miles along the edge of Bottom and over
 Sand hills to river Just below mouth of clear Slough 20 feet wide
 and 3 or 4 feet deep, at the head of which 1 mile up the bottom
 is a fine boiling Spring which formed the crystal stream I thought
 a Slough. The bottom is thickly _____ with tall moss inhabited by
 Schools of fish and the Musk Rat. Here we Nooned Grass Tolerable.
 Cotton Wood a quarter off to River. Then traveled 8 miles passing
 a little indian encampment or Village and Trading establishment
 and encamped. ⁽⁴¹⁾ Grass scarce. Wood plenty at the River. The land
 here is very Sandy and gravelly and in places the large black and
 pebble stones are found with occasional piles of Rock.

(42)

Wednesday 12th Traveled 15 miles to Laramie fork, two to Fort and
 five miles out and encamped on the immediate Bluffs of the _____
 Platte Taking water from the River Pine and Cedar plenty along
 along the Rivers here. The Laramie is about 150 yds wide here in
 view of its mouth, very Rapid and dangerous to ford when Deep, was
 about four feet deep when we crossed. One man lost in it same day.
 The garrison is situated immediately on its North Banks on a beau-
 tiful clear level. Gravelly Bottom Site. Defended by the two Riv-
 ers and the Bluffs The buildings are pretty Good and the Fort seems
 to be kept in good condition By accomadating and generous Officers
 to Emigrants. The number of Emigrants who passed here up to June

(43)

11th/50 was as follows

Men	18790	Waggon	5122
Women	270	Horses	15890
children	271	Mules	4900
Total	19331	Oxen	9650
		Cows	1248

Thursday 13th Took the Bluuf Road after lying by till $\frac{1}{2}$ passed twelve
 ve Traveled 12 miles and encamped $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles East of the Famous Warm
 Spring. ⁽⁴⁴⁾ no other water or wood & grass plenty. Being thirsty I
 drank freely of this clear water boiling from the foot of Bluff in
 Rich abundance and warmer than River water in Summer Returned to
 camp took Supper in Good Health but immediately took Dierhea,
 went out on gard at Midnight with my Son. Soon became So feeble
 I started to Camp. but finding I was unable & beginning to Sink.
 called to my Son to Send for Dr. Gordon & Came to me. he took
 hold of me & being much affected at the heart I told him to Sit
 down & let me lean upon him. I sank upon him my heart convulsed
 and not able to perform its Office. in sending the blood to the
 Brain. I lost my reason for the most part only being conscious
 of what I have stated, that I was dying in the arms of My Son far
 from home on My Way to California and being thus conscous I Bid
 the world adieu. The whole brain was partially deranged, Some or-
 gans perhaps totally and was much convulsed in pain which seemed

to grow worse for about five minutes to about the last gasp of life when by degrees the heart regained it (s) action and the brain it (s) reason leaving the whole System very weak and much deranged, was assisted to my tent took Calomel. too weak next day to ride horse back. Took the waggons over very ruff, hilly road. Goodrich & Hase in running a horse race to the waggons one's horse threw him and in a fright ran up to _____ mine and six others took stampede ran off and well nigh killed one ox broke waggon and fearing for my life I crawled to Back end of Waggon & by tent rope Swung off & dropped without being much hurt. Second recovering after drank a little coffee which made me Sick and upon reflection became convinced that I had been poisoned by the warm Spring water. Others Drank of it whom it maden Sick. Yet Some drank whom it did not (41)

Friday 14th Traveled 20 Miles over Sandy road some hilly, some level crossed Bitter Creek Several times & passed on to a Spring on a little dry ravine. Encamped. little E. of d. peak. (44)

Saturday 15th traveled over very bad road--- crooked high hills & very many of them Deep Vales, many red sand hills rocky, with coarse gravel & sand and the surface of road hard as a pavement grind the locked tire faster than theruffest grindstone. & wearing Cattle's feet to _____ in a few hours. To Labonte River 23 1/2 Miles and encamped plenty wood very little grass a little west of L. Peak passing within (48) (49)

6. or 8 miles of it nearly all day and in View of the Snow on the North Side near the top.

Sunday 16th Traveled 20 Miles to A. La Prele rivir and encamped plenty Wood very little grass. (sd)

Monday 17th Traveled 23 miles _____ crossing Boxholder Creek west still five miles higher up the River and encamped on the Side of red Sandy & nearly Barren Bluuf 1/2 Mile from River. (SI)

The emigration very heavy along here. Two conoe or raft ferries near here. one at mouth of Deer Creek another some two miles below. Price of crossing per Wag \$4.00. The country all along here for from fifty to 100 miles _____ abound with wild Sage--

Tuesday 18th this morning upon awaking found my Tent Covered with Snow wind blowing quite cold and the foot chain of Mountains nearest the River was holding it at their tops throughout the day. I wore my Blanket Coat Roppers and a bed Blanket folded over me till evening and could not Keep warm riding. Traveled up the River bottom about 18 miles the road being crooked to avoid deep ravines and To wind the River bends Sometimes being compelled to crass very deep muddy ravines with Steep banks-- and encamped on the River where we expicted to Raft.

Wednesday 19th Declined Rafting from the Danger traveled ten miles to

52

upper ferry. where there were five boats. Crossed waggons and horses. Waggons at \$5.00 horses at \$1.00. Swam the cattle without loss and encamped west of the ferry 3 Miles-- No water nor wood and very little grass This is a dangerous River to cross being about 222 yds wide and the current very Rapid from bank to bank. The twelfth man at this ferry this spring was drowned to day in attempting to swim it on his horse. Yet many of the thousands who are drowned along here by the Gold Mania in their wild and foolish hardihood still venture to swim it and I shall not be surprised if all the crossings history should record for this season fifty deaths from this folly. I was told there were 2700 dollars taken in at these ferries on Yesterday and I calculate not less than 50000 dollars will be cleared here this Spring.

53

Thursday the 20th Traveled 25 miles to head willow Springs no Grass from the ferry to this place nor good water till we strike the branch of these Springs some three miles East and therefore there is the greatest danger in the Alkali waters on the way.

Friday 21st. Traveled 23 miles & arrived in sight of Independence Rock--- A large mass of isolated rock where the road crosses Sweet-water River

Saturday 22nd. Rested our teams in the midst of Alkali lakes Two miles East of 1st ford of S. water. (54) The whole valey of the Platte and tributaries seem impregnated with Carb. of Potash or Spda &

the waters are more or less affected by it, particularly the Sweet-Water which receives its name from the Sweet tastes of the water-- The water is very apt to cause Dysentary & other unpleasant sensations & does not quench the thirst unless acid of some kind is used with it.

When the waters of the lakes subsides by evaporation the Soda is left on the ground from 1/2 inch to 1 1/2 inches in thickness that on the surface resembles blisters & is as fair as fine flour. Emigrants collect and use it in making bread.

Sunday 23rd. Travld _____ miles. Passd the Rock. It seems to have been thrown up in a fused state and Cracked into hundreds of pieces in the act of cooling-- There are many names painted on it where the road passes-- 5 1/2 M. further passd the Devils gate where the little river runs through a mountain the rocks standing perpendicularly 400 ft. high--

(55)

(56)

Monday 24th. Travld (15 M.) up Sweet-Water. The little river maintains the characteristic features of Platte & Missouri all the way very. low sandy banks, quick-sands bottoms & Alkali waters-----

Tuesday 25th Traveled up Sweetwater 19 miles and encamped

Wednesday 26th Traveled 10 Miles and camped a little west of Bitter Cotton Wood.

(57)

22

21

Thursday.27. Traveled 17 Miles and encamped

Friday 28 Traveled Ten.Miles & encamped about Six miles west of the last crossing of Sweet-Water and $3\frac{1}{4}$ East of the Famous S. Pass ⁽⁵⁸⁾ on the River 1 mile to Right of Road. and having had but very little grass from the ferry, but had bad road and water and finding good grass here we laid by from noon of Friday till Lord's day Morn. The rest was of much benefit to myself as well as to the teams in mean time the men took a hunt to foot of the snow covered Mounts 5 or 6 miles north and killed Several Young Antelopes and Sage Cocks that afforded us a relis ^(h) of fresh meat.

Sunday 30th Started again. Came to South Pass in $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles 4 miles more brought us to the Pacific Spr. and 17 more to Little Sandy ⁽⁵⁹⁾ ⁽⁶⁰⁾ making $24\frac{1}{4}$. Miles for the Day. Here by the side of this creek we encamped for Water's sake there being none from the Pacific Spring to this. Very little Grass from Sweet Water to this creek & very little here and no wood but a few willows and wild sage-- Little Sandy is about 18 inches Deep & 30 feet wide.

Monday July the 1st Traveled to Big Sandy which was said to be _____ Miles. but it cannot be more than 9. where we are to take a Desert to green River of from 35. to fifty. ⁽⁶¹⁾ So we turned up the creek Several miles in Search of Grass to recruit before taking the Desert. and encamped one quarter past 9 A. M. Drove stock two or three miles further to Grass. No Country or Travel has Disappointed my expectations to much as this one. So far. I had pictured

in fancy that in passing all mountains which and the little vales between were Generally heavily timbered. we should have plenty of the finest Springs. Grasses in the Valeys but to Asscend & descend the highest and most rugged and Difficult Steeps imaginable. But instead the chains of mountains are Separated Generally by extensive plains over which the road runs and which with very few exceptions & these on the bottoms of the largest Streams are almost destitute of Every Species of Vegetation except wild Sage that almost every where abounds and emits a very Strong sickning and Disagreeable Smell. the face of. the Country almost is Sand Gravel and Rocks of perhaps nearly all varieties. many of the Mountains Especially the Sweet-water which are the only ones we have passed immediately by, appear to be composed entirely of the hardest Granite Stones of almost every Size and form with Generally a Smoth Surface Jointed wedged & piled together till there tops in points and cones terminates far above the Snowlines and may be Seen from favourable points 50 or 60 miles. Some of them have pine and Cedar Growing from their Slopes in the crevices of the Rocks. others Destitute of all Vegetation. No doubt there are many Springs in the Mountains but the Vales between are often so extensive over which the road runs, and Sandy that their waters must sink before crossing them leaving Deserts where but for the Sandy waters we perhaps perhaps the best watered Country in the World--

Much more of the road level and hard (er) than I supposed. But all the waters Creeks rivers wells & Springs of this country seem to be imprignated Strongly or Slightly with mineral. The Alkali waters are very numerous and some of them very strong producing Death in a few hours-- and a great misfortune on this road is that where they are most numerous and dangerous the purer waters cannot be had and therefore passing over the Dry hot Sands the thirst is so much increased that it is hard for Man or beast to refrain their taste percerve the Danger. This is the chief cause of Much Sickness and of the loss of Much Stock. We passed on yesterday 11 head of oxen and 4 horses having Just died we suppose from this cause-- Some two or three Alkali springs and lakes I think are all of. which we have been informed and warned by Book and letter. writers on this route. But I feel very safe in saying there are hundreds if not thousands of places thus far where those waters are found & are either dangerous to health or Life-- having remained here til ¼ past one P. M. We started for Green River through the Desert and reached the upper ferry at 12 of. the next Wednesday there being no grass we watered & rested trains one hour-- & passed 4 miles to lower ferry From thence drove Stock 2½ miles on Bluffs for Grass where we kept them till thursday morning but got verry little Got our waggons ferrryed

by Dark at \$7.00 each. Brought Stock in next morning. Swam them
 and started for a Branch of Green River at 1/2 past 8 A. M. Traveled
 8 miles to it & two up it to grass and encamped at one. One ⁽⁶¹⁾ 0'-
 clock making from big sandy about 60 miles without Grass & 45
 without water in fact there is very little Grass or Good water
 From Laramie to this place. Staid here till Saturday morning
 where we had plenty of bottom Grass but not of a good quality the
 ground and grass being thick with Soda. Then Decamped & left the
 Creek in one ⁽⁶²⁾ Mile Taking the Sandhills & Steep hollows towards
 Bar River in view of its Snow Caped Mountains.

Saturday 6th July Traveled 18 miles over a ruff road of high barren
 hills and hollows plentifully stored with Springs and occasional
 groups of the Aspan and encamped on a little Branch of water but
 tolerable grass and wild Sage.

Sunday 7th Traveled 10 Miles to what was supposed to be Harris's
 fork of Green River (the road being still more Mountainous and
 difficult of Asscent & descent.) This creek is 25 or 30 ft wide
 2 1/2 ft deep clear cold and rapid. has tolerable Grass Wild Sage
 and willows. Prizell being here too Sick to Travel we remained
 till Morning.

Monday the 8 --- Traveled over the first hill about 2 miles from

Eastern to western base, and perhaps 250 Yds high there on a Crook-
ed Road and ridge, for four or five miles to what I term the As-
pan Springs. 150 Yds to the left of road a thick grove of Aspan
Just above the Side of high M't which we had to ascend and Des-
cend verry high and Steep and then another Still higher. The
Eastern Slope of which _____ and covered with the Balsam pine
and Aspan. This pine would make the most beautiful ornament for
a Yard I ever Saw. From the top of the Mt which was naked we had
a very extensive View of Bar River 6 or 8 miles off and its Still
higher Snow caped Mountains beyond. We reached its bottom late
and encamped on a little branch $1\frac{1}{2}$ from river. Grass more abund-
ant than any where west of Laramie, Wild Sage and Buffalow Chips
for feul. I suppose several of the Mts we passed over to Day
were from their base from a Quarter to half Mile high perpendicu-
larly. On this bottom is a Species of Flax growing wild which
if cultivated no doubt would make good lint-- This has been by
far the coldest day I ever felt for the Season. Though clad in
rappers and blanket over coat I could neither keep warm riding
nor walking slowly.

Tuesday the 9th Traveled Several Miles down the bottom to a Creek
said to be Thoma's's Fork (64) Struck it at foot of right hand bluff,
passed up it around the bluff $\frac{1}{2}$ mile up to cross [ing], the cross-
ing was divided into the parts. the 2d one the worst, had to raise

the beds after crossing turned down the creek again to River bottom in reaching it the road is pent up to a few feet in width by the rocky Mountain on the right and so filled with large Rock it is difficult to pass. and dangerous to waggons We passed down the bottom to the elbow of the Road and encamped on a little Branch running into Elbow of. River from west Grass plenty and Wood at bluffs This days journey I estimate at 18 miles-- On Bar River bottoms is a Species of Grass very plentiful in places much resembling the blue Grass-----

Wednesday 10th July Passed down bottom around Elbow $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to a creek 2 ft deep $\frac{1}{2}$ mile lower the road takes the mountain Bluffs very rugged for 12 miles to River again and Six miles down to a little Creek and encamped making 20 Miles. Grass fine no wood but Green Willows & Buffalow Chips-----

Thursday laid by.

Friday 12th Traveled 22 Miles leaving River for five or Six and encamped on bottom Grass water & willow plenty.

Saturday 13th Traveled 8 miles to Beer Springs. (65) 4 to Soda Springs 2 miles further and nooned, and two miles west to Hudspeth cut off— here the river turns much south The plain extending however North

& West for many miles. the straight forward or left hand being the cut off and the other the fort hall. Road. We took the cut off 8 miles to Bluff and five over them To water to left of road and encamped, on Spring, branch in small hollow among Mountains. (66) Grass & wood plenty throughout last Valey we cross on leavong river there are views and beds of Rock to a Great depth Seemingly which are of a dark color and porous like honey Comb and appear to have been burnt, in fact this Rock appears down the Valey from Soda Springs and in Surrounding Mountains and the Veins in many places after leaving River are opened from Surface downward to an unknown depth from one to two & three feet wide as far as one can See as if an Earthquake had Sundered them.-----

Sunday 14, laid by till Noon then Traveled over Some of the worst mountainous road for two or three miles we have had on the whole route, We made Ten miles to a Creek and camped Grass tolerable plenty of _____ wood This Creek is large and runs around an Isolated mount in the Vale Where the road leaves it and has a face at the foot of the Mouth of 10 or 15 feet

Monday 15th Traveled Southwest to day over the low Mountains and Vales on Good road, considering 22 Miles finding Springs little creek and grass plentiful and camped.

Tuesday 16th Traveled Still Southward over Still better road finding Grass and water plenty 14 Miles and Nooned at a fine Spring in a Vale $\frac{1}{4}$ Mile to right of. Road--- The wild flax is still found here in the Dry and richest Valley. The highest Mts have Snow and generally. Cedar or pine & mixed more or less with rock while nearly all high and low are clothe (d) with Verdure more or less from the vicinity of Bear River to this place enclosing Some of the richest Valies producing various Grasses in abundance particularly herds Grass and Wild flax----- Afternoon still traveled South west for some Miles on good road between low ridges to foot of mountains where it turns west up a very narrow defile of ascent between the high Mountains to Summit making four or five miles, then about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of steepest and rockiest and most difficult descent of any on the route and camped in the Vale making 12 miles no water.

Wednesday 17th Traveled ___ miles To Water and two To Grass and nooned, making 18. Then went 8 miles half of Distance up a Canon of Mount ⁽⁶⁷⁾ passed from 1 Mile East of encampment which was in two or three miles of Summit. Grass and Wood fine Grass on left summit of mountain.

Thursday 18, Traveled over and Down the defile were Twelve miles finding 4 or 5 Springs with a running branch down western Side

upon which we encamped. Good Grass wood plenty to near foot.

Friday 19th Traveled two or three miles to the Valley and across to first Creek Said to be western branch of Raft River making 16 miles to noon the grass in Valley till you reach the River then only tolerable, willow and Sage afternoon went to an other creek near western edge of Valley where the Road by Fort Hall curves in and five miles farther to a Spring branch and camped making 27 miles Grass Good next the mountain willow sage wood.

Saturday 20th Traveled Southwest up a Valley in View of Dust rising from Salt Lake road and Descended from its Summit to a branch and nooned at 13 miles where the Valley turned South East towards S. Lake then taking S. W. between Mountains of Volcanic Rocks brought us 10 miles to small creek and encamped. Grass tolerable next Mts and pine---

Sunday 21st Traveled through the Defiles among those mounts of Rock Six Miles which brought us to S. Lake Road. ⁽⁶⁸⁾ Gain of travel by the Cut Off on Fort Hall Road 1 day on S. Lake 2 days five miles further and nooned where Road leaves Valley & 2 miles to Summit of Mt over Sideling road then 7 Miles over very Steep ascents and descents rocky and Sandy to Goose Creek ⁽⁶⁹⁾ making 20 Miles Grass and wild Sage plenty The Mts in this vicinity are very rugged and

give signs of having been burned

Monday 22d Assended Goose creek 12 miles on good road and nooned
Grass and wood plenty Then Six miles more up it where road
leaves it & camped Grass tolerable & willows Johnson was yes-
terday vilently attacked with Dierhea & Vomiting

Tuesday 23d The road takes up a little branch through a gap in Mts
following it for Several miles to it(s) head along which Small
patches of Grass then over Sand & gravel hills and vales without
grass and water for twelve miles to a Spring then with out grass
5 miles and camped in Thousand Spring Valey making 20 miles

Wednesday 24 Traveled 20 miles and Camped in Valley Grass and water
abundant but alkaline-----

Thursday 25th Traveled To head of Cannon where was a Spring of water
not very Good to noon without grass then over hills and Vales to
Cannon Creek Vale without Grass and Camped at a tolerable Spring m
making 27 M. wild Sage & but little grass then down Valey 2 or
three miles to where Grass was _____ but strong with alkali and
dangerous for waters, to noon on Friday 26th 13 Miles Laid by
till next morning--- Grass and water tolerable wild sage

(79)

Saturday____ 27 down cannion Crk 11 Miles and nooned Valey S. and
water Good then 10 Miles down River for grass and Camped Grass
and water plenty.

(71)

Sunday 28th Traveled 11 miles and nooned on River then 5 miles and
 crossed North branch of Humboldt then Six and Camped on River
 making 22 miles for Day Grass only to be had on River bottom and
 then full of miry alkali Roads very Sandy, no Springs on this
 R. So far----

Mon 29th Traveled 12 Miles down Valey and Nooned on River among
 Short Grass not Good and then down bottom 10 miles to where pack-
 ing Road takes up Steep bluff Grass good across River.

Tuesday 30th Traveled three miles to Crassing River passing Bluffs
 road Crossed River four times in ten miles in twelve miles
 Bluff Road came to Valey Bluff Road 18 miles then 5 miles Down
 River to where R takes bluffs again and camped $\frac{1}{4}$ Mile Grass
 only tolerable Sage _____

Wednesday 1st August Took bluffs Road Dry Dusty & Rocky without
 Grass 20 Miles to River One Spring about half Dry crossed River
 & Camped 1 Mile below grass on North Side-----

Thursday 2d Traveled down valey Twelve miles through deep Dust To
 noon, Laid by and Camped _____ on bluff on River Grass Good

Friday traveled over Short bluff into Valley Traveled 29 miles to
 River where Grass and water was good Road very Dusty running far

from River and Grass with Alkali Slough between wild Sage and Greace wood only grows there five Miles before Camping road and River [three lines unintelligible]

Saturday 4th Traveled down Same Valey the road leaving river _____ right through Sand gravel _____ alkaline, Sage and greace Wood for twelve miles and turned off _____ miles to that [which] was tolerable Grass coarse then Down Same valey for nine miles and not reaching River Camp on Slough nearly Dry, Grass but tolerable Sage wood.

Sunday 5th Traveled 13 Miles in Same Valey and nooned on Slough Grass and Slough water plenty then _____ miles to foot of bluffs steep and rocky to where River comes to bluff near Road _____ bluff to bottom and camped on Slough

Monday 6th Traveled _____ miles _____ and Laid by till Tuesday, Roads very Sandy now [no ?] wood but Sage and willows nor Grass except on Sloughs and they are thick and Miry all the way on both Sides of River-----

Tuesday 7th Traveled 15 miles to noon not finding grass Sooner then 12 miles and camped on Valey Grass among miry Sloughs -----

Wednesday 8th traveled three miles and came to last crossing of

River on old Road, unaccessable this Year by high water or Sloughs
 Emigrants were crossing a little above, we went below Ten miles and
 crossed. The road being over deep heavy sand and getting over about
 night encamped on North bankch very little grass, This was Thursday
 9th

Friday 10th Traveled Ten miles on good road on low bottom but deep
 heavy sand on the high the road passing near River frequently and
 nooned without grass ____ from all I can Learn Emigrants should
 cut grass about last Crossing ____ old Road to ____ to Sink as we
 are told There is none after leaving its vicinity. (73)

-35-

(74)

.The Happy Man-----

- 1st How happy is the Man
 Who hath chosen wisdom's Ways
 And has measured out his Span
 To his God in prayer and praise
 His God and his Bible is all that he Desires
 And his holiness of heart continually aspires
 In poverty he's happy for he knows he has a friend
 That never will forsake him though time Shall
 have an end
- 2d He rises in the morning
 With the Lark he tunes his Lays
 And offers up his Tribute
 To his God in prayer and praise
 And to his labour he cheerfully repairs
 In confidence believing that God will hear his prayers
 In whatev'r he engages at home or abroad
 His object is honor and Glorify his God--

3d With Joy he hails the Morning
That Rolls the Lord's round
And in the Courts of Zion
He's ever to be found.
His Seat among his brethern he's ever sure to fill
Low at the feet of Jesus to do his Master's will.
He claims his Father's promises and freely doth bestow
His goods to the promotion of righteousness below

4th Tis thus you have a history
Of him from day to day---
Religion is no Mystery
It is a beaton Way---
And where upon his pillow
He lays him down to Die
In hope he now rejoices for he knows his God is nigh
And while life's lamp is flakering his soul on wings
of love
Flies home to realms of Glory to regn with Christ above

5th This Body then is laid
In the cold and Silent Tomb
There to lie undisturbed till then Reserrection Morn
And when the Arkangel shall Sound the dread alarm
In Triumph he arises to his Dear Redeemer's arms
In union with his Brethern he there resumes his Lays
And he offers up his Tribute to his God in prayer and
praise.

Chorus

O Sing to me of Heaven

O Sing to me of Heaven

In Heaven above no Sorrow are Known

And there is no parting there--

(Verse)

O Sing to me of Heaven,

When I am called to Die

Sing Songs of Holy extacy

To waft my Soul on high

When cold and Sluggish Drops

Roll off my feeble Brow

Burst forth in Strains of Joyfulness

Let Heaven begin below

When the last moment Comes

O watch My Dying face

And Catch the bright Seraphic Gleam

Which ov'r each feature plays

Then to my raptured eyes

Then to my raptured ears

Let one Sweet Song be given

Let Music charm me last on Earth

And greet Me first in Heaven.

Then 'close my Sightless eyes
And lay me down to rest
And clasp my pale and icy hands
Upon My Lifeless Breast--

Then 'round my Sense-less clay
Assemble those I love
And Sing of Heaven, Delightful Heaven
My Glorious Home above---

The White Pilgrim-----

I came to the place Where the White Pilgrim lay
And pensively Stood by his Tomb
When in a low whisper I heard Something Say
How Sweetly I Sleep here alone

The Tempest may howl and the loud Thunder roar
And gathering Storms may arise-
Yet calm are my feelings, at rest is my Soul
The Tears are all wiped from my eyes--

The Cause of my Master compelled me from home
I bid my companions farewell--
I left me Dear Children who for me do Mourn-
In far Distant regions to dwell

I wandered an Exile & far from My home
To publish Salvation abroad
The Trump of the Gospel endeavoring to blow
Inviting lost Sinners to God

And while among Strangers and far from my home
No Kindred nor relative nigh
I met the Contagion and Sank to the Tomb
And my Spirit to mansions on high

Go tell my Companions and Children most Dear
To weep not for me though I'm gone--
The hand that hath led Me through Scenes dark & drear
Hath Safely conducted me home-----

[Expense Account] (75)

Whiland I washed at Hangtown -----	\$26.00
Washed of Bot. Dirt---	34.85
Paid for dirt. 5 dols own money.	
Washed in prospecting -----	10.00
.. on Mathinis Creek --	22.40
.. Sold Boards to Jones	7.87½
I did one day's Work for Roberts-----	5.00
	<u>106.12½</u>
Subtract. 5 dols pd. for Dirt-----	5.00
	<u>\$101.12½</u>
Paid in Dust to Gordons	\$52.10
.. March -----	20.00
.. Capt Hurst	11.90.
.. in prospecting	6.30
.. Doctor's Bill-----	5.00
.. medicine	0.50
	<u>\$95.80</u>
Feb.1st/51 Paid for Meals to Sac. and back	\$6.00
Paid. fare down-----	3.00
.. Goods --- - 6 - -	18.50.
.. Hauling Goods.---	.50
Feb.6th paid fare to Ranch	\$7.00
Paid Ranch fee	50.00
for Poney---	60.00
Received for Steer-	50.00

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2

40

Paid Titus. --	5.00
Paid Thompson	5.50
.. for Salt	1.00
.. Meal for _____	10.00
.. Crossing Bridge	4.50
.. on going back with Cattle	10.
Crossing ferry	4.00
for lodging	5.00

Vivian paid of private funds-----

For. Salt for Company.	\$1.00
1 lb Tobacco for Botts.	0.50
4 lb pork ----	1.50
7 .. Beef	1.75
10 lb pork ----	3.80
2 .. Beans --- \$1.60.	.90
Medicine for William	1.00
In prospecting from Baker's	
1 Jar of pickles---	1.25
11 lb Bacon	4.40
16. flour.	4.00
1 point Brandy by Powl	0.62 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>\19.72\frac{1}{2}$</u>

for Supers at MainTop Powl paid----- \$3.00
 for Vivion's tobacco. 0.25
 For flour on first trip from Bakers 50 lb
 \$10.00

2/7 of which Botts and parks owe me for
 owe me for, \$2.85

2/7 for William and me 2.85

1 bacon ham--- \$2.75

Tobacco. for Vivion. .25

1 lb Salaratus---- 775

Parks pd for 1 pt of Brandy 0.75

pd. for Milk---
1.33 1/3
10.53 1/3

Botts and Parks furnished provisions

Botts and Parks furnished provisions from Diamond Spring

Flour 35 lb 5 lb Sugar--

12 lb Pork. 2 of Coffee-- 2 of Salt 1/2 Salaratus

Vivion furnished from Diamond Spring

Flour 100 lb Sack---- \$25.00

Pork 50 lb bacon 27lb 10.86

10 lb Rice 12.50

April In Antwine Vivion furnished

.. Sugar 14 lbs 5.60

.. Beans 5 lbs 2.00

16 Coffee 8 lbs supposed 3.20

Apples in Anturine 3 lbs 1.50

\$60.60

Paid out of common fund

Packing for Botts--	\$1.60
For Parkd---	2.00
.. Vivion---	4.15
.. Botts boots---	11.50
.. Pork. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 38 cts	5.50
.. 2 lbs Sugar. 40¢	0.80
.. pt. Brandy--	1.00
.. .. Molasses--	0.68
	<u>27.20</u>

Out of Common fund

2 lbs Sugar 40 ct	.80
Flour- 15 lbs 30/c	4.50
Brought forward	<u>\$27.20</u>
	<u>\$32.50</u>
Flour 22 lbs 30 cts	6.60
Bought Pork 8 lbs at 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts	\$3.00
Pd for packing 24 lbs sugar & 5 lbs Beans	2.90
.. .. Gun Blank(?)	35
Wm Bt while I was at horse Shoe of Flour(?)	\$4.40
Wm's expenses while gone after meet	5.50
Bt fifty lbs Sack of flour at 28 cts	\$14.00

10 lbs flour 33 .. --	3.30
$\frac{3}{4}$ of Soap [?] ---	37 $\frac{1}{2}$
6 lbs pork ---38 cts	<u>2.28</u>
	\$39.42 $\frac{1}{2}$

For Hauling provisions tools
& clothing to Bakers. for
Powels & Patrick --- \$16.50

For Tobacco for Self on
Horse shoe Bar 0.62 $\frac{1}{2}$

For Hauling Provisions tools &
Blankets for Botts to Bakers \$5.00

I bought cradke in Birds Valey and Shovel \$4.00

April 12th

Bought in Antwine for Company 10 lbs
Flour at 35 cts--~~\$~~3.50

April 16

Bt Flour 10 lbs of Dempsy at 33 cts	3.30
pork 5 lbs 37 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.87 $\frac{1}{2}$
$\frac{1}{2}$ Butter	.50

26 th

8 lbs Pork 37 $\frac{1}{2}$	<u>3.00</u>
	\$12.17 $\frac{1}{2}$

paid in prospecting \$1.25

.. for bacon & flour	<u>8.40</u>
	9.65

For Self wighed $9\frac{1}{2}$ lbs of Partnership Pork
 15th Ditto $13\frac{1}{2}$ lbs Ditto
 One 50 lbs Sack flour Out of which Glassford Sold
 18 lbs at 20 cts
 Self pd to butcher for $4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs Beef----- \$0.90
 To Butcher at 2 times for 9 lbs [?]----- 1.80
 Self pd for one heart of Beef----- 75
 1 Box Black p _____ [pepper ?] 50
 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb Beef _____ [?] \$1.70
 2 lbs Sugar 55¢ [35¢ ?] 70
 1 pintt Vinegar (?)

April 1st/50 On Way to Horse Shoe Bar

I pd for Botts Supper & Breakfast --- \$2.00

For provisions

Sugar 2 lbs ----	0.70
Pork 3 ..	1.50
Beef 3 .. ----	75
$\frac{1}{4}$ Tea ---	.50
Salaratus	62 $\frac{1}{2}$
Flour 9 lbs ----	1.80
	\$ 5.87 $\frac{1}{2}$
To Sundries -----	7.71
	\$13.58 $\frac{1}{2}$
	1.90
	<u>15.48$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

Botts C [?] to prospecting funds --- \$2.25

Birds Valey April 11

Paid for Botts & Self 2 lbs Crackers	70
4 .. Pork---	<u>1.20</u>
	1.90
Self bought one Cradle Shovel & Dipper	\$4.60
One plug Tobacco	50

Park & William

May 5th In Antwine left provisions for Wm & Park

Flour 19 lbs 28 cts	\$4.32
1 lb Coffee-- 40	--40

May 6th Wm expense from Antwine to Horse Shoe

for Packing	\$1.75
.. Eating	2.00
Wm pd. for Flour on H Shoe	6.90
Ditto .. 1/3 Bar Soap	6.50
I pd Powel	3.69
.. .. for Beef 4 1/2 ---	90
.. 9	1.80
.. 8	2.00
I furnished pork 9 1/2	
.. .. 50 lbs flour	

Footnotes

*

This diary was turned over to Dr. Louis Pelzer, University of Iowa, by Frank Vivian of Des Moines, Iowa. Dr. Pelzer has kindly permitted me the privilege of editing it. The introductory material was furnished by Mrs. Martha Vivian Wheelock of Long Beach, California - now an eighty-seven year old daughter of Martin Vivian. This information came through the courtesy of Frank Stacy of Des Moines, great-grandson of the journalist.

~~Notes~~

1. Located in ^{Lafayette} ~~Douglas~~ County, on the south side of the Missouri River, being "a very nice little town in what is called Taboo grove". Thomas M. Marshall (Ed.), "The Road to California: Letters of Joseph Price", Mississippi Valley Historical Review, XI, 239.

2. Little Sniabar Creek.

3. Probably a station or post near Lexington.

4. Lone Jack or Black Jack Point, located on the Santa Fe Trail some twenty-five miles from the present Kansas City.

5. Shawnee Indians.

6. Wakarusa River. The trail crossed it near the present Lawrence, Kansas.

7. Horseshoe Lake. Located on south side of the Kansas River, about two and one-half miles north of the present Lawrence, and about one mile north of the trail. This was at one time the channel of the river. Frederick Chouteau had a post here - "dirty lodges, good size"- from 1829 to 1845.

8. The so-called "upper ferry" of the Kansas River. It was four miles north- east of the present Topeka. The "lower ferry" was up the river near the present Leocompton.

9. This is the Baptist Mission of the Pottawatomic Indians.

10. Town.

11. Strata.

12. Strata.

13. Jackson County, Missouri. The north-west county of the state.
14. Big Blue River, a tributary of the Kansas.
15. For some notes on the seriousness of laundry in this overland immigration see Missouri Republican, April 11, 1849, quoted by Ralph P. Bieber in his "Diary of a Journey from California in 1849", Missouri Historical Review, XXIII, ~~543~~ 6.
16. St. Mary's Mission. Located on North side of the Kansas River, and about six miles west of the present Topeka. Established by the Jesuits at this location in 1849, being the largest Catholic Mission in Kansas Territory. In a report of 1853 the agent of the Pottawatomies said that "it will compete favorably with any school in the Indian country; and too much praise cannot be given to these kind people who have charge of it, for their many exertions to benefit this tribe." Some regarded this as the future capital of the Territory. New York Tribune, June 28, 1854, quoted in Transactions of the Kansas Historical Society, I-II, 264.

17. Vermillion Creek, tributary of the Kansas.

18. Pottawatomie Indians.

19. George Willis Read passed the Indians on the same day. He wrote in his diary; "We saw here a large collection of the Pottawatomie warriors, assembled to have a war dance over two scalps of their enemies the Pawnees, a tribe which is situated on the Platte. They cook and eat the feet, hands and heart of the slain." Georgis Willis Read (Ed.), A Pioneer of 1850 (Boston, 1927), 25.

20. This road from St. Joseph, Missouri, was ^{one of} the middle gap on the Missouri River opening into the Oregon and California Trail. Three days before this (on May 13), Read noted that this road seemed better than the Independence trail. "From the most reliable information I can obtain, there must be one thousand waggons on the road from here to Saint Jo." Read, Op. Cit., 28.

21. Little Blue.

22. Little Blue.

23. Ft. Scott, Kansas Territory. Established about 1844, on ~~###~~ Marmanton Creek, a small branch of the Osage, eight miles west of the Missouri line.

24. Platte River valley.

25. Ft. ~~Kearney~~ was located on the south side of the Platte, ~~the~~ Read described it as having "three ^{FRAME} ~~frame~~ buildings, several out-houses, stables, etc., etc., built of sods cut from the Prairie." He believed the situation a charming one. One day it will be a place of note." There were three companies of soldiers there and some repair shops. See Read, Op. Cit., 39; and Albert Watkins, "History of Fort Kearney", Nebraska State Historical ^{Society} Collections, XVI, 227-267. ^

26. The trail did not cross the river here.

27. Probably Plum Creek.

28. Term used to indicate discouragement. For good explanation see A. B. Hulbert, Forty-Niners (Boston, 1931), 41, and passim.
29. Offal of the buffalo was used extensively after leaving the wooded regions.
30. Probably Diamond Spring.
31. Well water.
32. Upper Ford of the Upper Platte River. The other was made at Long Pole Creek junction. The trail divided here, joining near Chimney Rock on the North Platte.
33. This was one of the most difficult parts of the entire route.
34. North Fork of Platte.
- 35.

35. A famous land mark, said to have been named by St Louis Trappers because of a "fancied resemblance to a well-known structure in their own city." Hulbert, Op. Cit., 103.

36. A land mark which resembled a chimney, visible for a great distance.

Scotts bluff,

37. Present site of ~~Scotts Bluffs~~ Nebraska. An immigrant of 1845 said that the bluffs had the appearance of "dilapidated buildings. The whole viewed together has the appearance of a stupendous city in ruins with broken walls..." Washington Historical Quarterly, I, 138-158. H. V. Loomis's imagination was fired when he saw it in 1850: "we could see it as it were, standing upon a cloud, a huge rock covered with small trees, and as the cloud(sic) would rise and fall, it presented mutch(sic) the appearance of a theatre, the trees presented the appearance of the actors, the Rock, of the Stage, --- the cloud of the curtain, and Nature itself was the tragedy they were Acting, each one playing their parts to perfection." E. M. Ledyard(Ed.), A Journal of the Birmingham Emigrating Company(Salt Lake City, 1928), 27.

38. Not to be confused with the Black Hills of South Dakota.

These mountains were covered with cedar and pine which, in the distance, gave them a dark appearance - hence "Black Hills".

39. North~~h~~ Platte.

40. Junction of Horse Creek with North Platte.

41. This trading post was located a few miles ⁽⁸⁾ east of Ft. Laramie. Traders from New Mexico brought live stock here to exchange, or sell at dear prices.

42. The Laramie River flows into the North Platte here. Ft. Laramie, built in 1834, was located on the ^{North} west bank of the Laramie River, a short distance ^{above} below the Platte. It became a government fort in 1849. The road ~~from~~ Omaha crossed the Platte here to join the Independence trail. The latter fords the Laramie.

underline Collections only.
Quarterly only

43. The correspondent "Laramie", quoted in the Nebraska State Historical Society Collections, XX, 230, gave the following register of traffic through Ft. Laramie up to August 14, 1850: 39,506 men; 2,421 women; 609 children; 23,172 horses; 7548 mules; 36,116 oxen; 7,323 cows; 2,166 sheep; 9,927 wagons. Young, in the Oregon Historical Society, I, 370, ^{*Quarterly*} estimates that 2,000 of these immigrants went into Oregon.

Estimates of the overland immigration for the year vary from some 36,000 to 60,000. Considering the fact that many went over the Santa Fé Trail, as well as the more southern routes, even 60,000 seems to be a low estimate.

44. This was a strong spring of clear, warm water, available at all seasons.

45. Immigrants were often affected by the sulphur and copper in the water, diarrhoea being common.

46. Tributary of North Platte.

47. East of Laramie Peak. In crossing these mountains many wagons were left strewn along the route.

48. Labonte or Big Timber Creek.

49. Laramie Peak.

50. La Pêche River.

51. Box Elder Creek.

52. Hickman's Ferry. This enterprising boatman advertised in 1850

that "part of his company will return from there to the States and that he will carry back letters from all persons crossing at his ferry [sic] free of charge." T. M. Marshall, Op. Cit., XI, 245.

Some immigrants crossed farther down the river. Fording was rare.

53. Willow Springs. Good water.

54. The Sweetwater was forded several times.

55. Independence Rock was a noted land mark on the north side of the Sweetwater. Father De Smet called it the register of the desert, for hundreds of names were placed upon its surface. Edwin Bryant, in his What I Saw in California (N.Y., 1849), 125, says it was named by one of the first immigrant companies to Oregon, which celebrated the fourth of July there. It was some 600 yards long, 100 yards wide, and 40 yards in height.

56. The Sweetwater broke through the mountains here but the trail passed to the south of the canyon.

57. Cottonwood Creek, branch of the Sweetwater.

58. South Pass, the Continental Divide. So-called because it was south of the passes traversed by Lewis and Clark.
59. Pacific Springs, so named because their waters flow toward the Pacific.
60. Tributary of Big Sandy which flows into the Green River.
61. This was Sublette's Cut-off to the Green River and Ft. Hall. It was a common practice to start across here in the evening, and by driving at night avoid much of the discomfort in reaching the Green River, the first water. The other part of the trail followed the Big Sandy and Black's Fork to Ft. Bridger and Salt Lake.
62. Big Sandy River.
63. Bear River.

63. Aspén, a tree with white bark and fluttering leaves, known as the "Quakie".

64. Tomaus' Fork or Thomas's Fork.

65. Usually given name of Soda Springs. There were several springs in this vicinity, all highly charged with carbide gas, and were one of " the greatest luxuries on the whole route... equal to any soda water in the world!"

66. This is Hudspeth's Cut-off leading to Raft River, thus avoiding the longer road up to Ft. Hall and down the Snake River to the Raft. This route had been opened in 1849, and had the reputation of being the more difficult of the two. It became widely used in subsequent years.

67. Canyon of a mountain,

68. One branch of the Ft. Bridger-Salt Lake route joined the Ft. Hall-Raft River road near the place where Hudspeth's Cut-off did. For map, see Hulbert, Op. Cit.

69. Goose Creek flows north into Snake River. The journalist neglects to mention the City of Rocks, one of the natural land marks on the north side of ~~the~~ Raft River.

70. Canyon Creek.

71. Humboldt River was a broad marshy "river", which "sank" in the Humboldt Sink. It could be crossed at almost any point, except in high water seasons. Loomis wrote that his party had pictured "one of the most grand and beautiful streams which our country could produce, with beautiful roads running along its banks, and abundants[sic], and easy to get, but insted[sic], we find a crooked muddy stream, with a wide and swampy, Bottom ..." Ledyard, Op. Cit., 94-5

72. Humboldt Sink.

73. The journal closes near Lawson's Meadows where the road forked, the left going by the Carson River, the other by Applegate's Pass through the Cascade's. Since this is nearing the part of the route where suffering of man and beast was the most intense because of lack of water and forage, and general fatigue, it may be well presumed that the writer was a victim of what was experienced by most of the immigrants.

74.

The subsequent "hymns" (or are they poems?) were found in the front and back of the diary. No attempt has been made to edit them.

(75)

These items have not been edited.