

This diary contains some material that might make good anecdotes on a long bus ride. For instance, he refused to pay the tariff to cross Wolf River as he thought it was a scheme of the Indian agent at the mission. (See May 2.)

There is also an account of justice on the trail.

(See June 12 - 14.) See June 30 for an account of a rather elaborate funeral on the trail.

Medicine on the trail is also mentioned. On July 10, Green treats an accidentally inflicted of shotgun wound.

Diary of Jay Green 1852
Summary

Green also left from Duncan's Ferry. He says it's four miles above St. Joseph, but gives no more details.

His spelling and punctuation leave a lot to be desired. Yet, if his daily mileage traveled is fairly accurate, he gives a fairly detailed account of life on the trail.

Green speaks of the same stream between Wolf River and the Big Blue which William Lokenstine (1851) describes. He calls it the "Big Minahaw". I suspect it is the Nemaha River in present day Nemaha County, Kansas. It fits the description between Wolf River and the Big Blue. →

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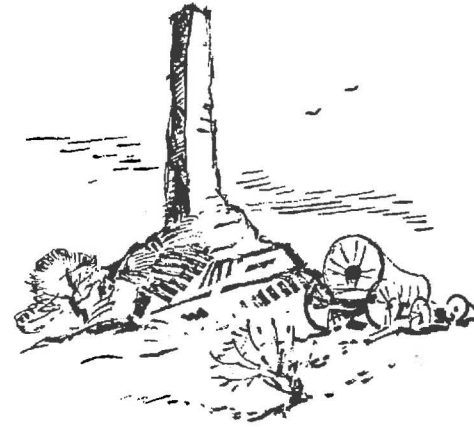
DIARY OF JAY GREEN

Covering the Period May 1, 1852 to
July 27, 1852, During the Crossing of
the Plains and Mountains in a Jour-
ney from Duncan's Ferry, Missouri, to
Hangtown, (Placerville) California.

SAN JOAQUIN PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
STOCKTON, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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THE DIARY OF JAY GREEN, 1852

May 1st 1852 I crost the Missouri river at Duncans ferry four miles above the city of St. Joseph traveled three miles and encamped for the night, Two miles from the ferry our feed wagon broke down and wee had some dificulty in getting it in to camp The evening was ocupied in the construction of a cart of which I was the boss workman. Wee ware visited by a party of Cica-poo (Kickapoo) Indians to hoom I gave some tobacco which seamed to pleas them verry mutch Face of the country verry broken interspersed with small groves and scatering trees
Days travel 3 miles.

May 2d I leave my encampment at eight oclock and persue my way over a rather broken country thin soil scatering timber twelve miles from my encampment a small streem Mosqueto Crick I pass another stream thirteen miles from Mosqueto Crick this caled Woolf river At this place there ware a number of Indians of the sack and fox nation colected for the purpos of taxing the emigrants for traveling through their territory and making use of their grass and timber. This tariff I did refuse to pay as I thought it a skeem of speculation got up by the Indian agent who resided at the mission at that time five miles west of woolf river
Days travel 25 m

May 3 This morning I pass the mission it is situated on a butiful prairie thirty miles from St. Joseph—I continue my march around to a small crick whare I encamp for the night—Face of the country rolling a verry few small groves of timber fertile soil
Days travel 20 m

May 4th five miles from my encampment I find a smal crick a thin skirt of timber extends along the stream five miles from this crick a small lake fifteen miles from this lake a stream caled Big minahaw no timber between these streams fine soil and a butiful country a liberal portion of time on the minahaw
Days travel 25 m.

May 5th The day stormey traveled fifteen miles past small cricks Elk and Elm cricks timber on both face of country rolling and delightful fertile soil I am now traveling through the loway nation Days travel 20 m

May 6 The storm having subsided the sun arose in all its splendor and the morning was delightful My company was buisely engaged in putting out such articles of clothing blankets and provisions as received damage from the pelting storm yesterday—at eleven oclock my train was upon the road I traveled over a slightly rolling prairie country encamped no timber Days travel 10 m

May 7 Wee arived at big blue river this day at twelve oclock and found its waters so swollen from the heavy rains as to render it imposable to cross except in boats, and without delay wee prepared two wagon beds for the purpos of ferrying a line was made fast to eather end of the beds and they ware drawn from shore to shore by the men, and before dark wee ware all safe across wagons and baggage leaving our mules tied on the opiset shore as it was to late to cross them Days travel 20 m

May 8 The Day stormey wee still remain at blue the valley of this stream is about two miles wide some timber cotton and walnut oak etc. etc. a trading post is cept here.

May 9 I am now on turkey crick twenty six miles from blue river found a large cliff upon which I found maney names enscribed and dates of years gon by, upon this rock I carved my name and date May 9th 1852

Days travel 26 m

May 10th My travel today has bin over a high rolling prairie country thin sandy soil produsing a short groth of grass I am encamped on the prairie without water or feuel in conciquence of this I had no supper except a pint of milk which I purchased of an ox train who encamped near us

Days travel 20 m

May 11th I travel over a portion of the same kind of country as yesterday, wee are now encamped on little blue a stream about four rods wide skirted with willow and cotton wood timber

Days travel 18 m

May 12 Wee leave our camp ground at usual hour and persue our way up blue the valley of this stream presents a singular appearance as it is narrow and bounded with high sandy bluffs—The country back from the river is a vast extended plain soil appears fertile sand and loam

Days travel 22 m

May 13 Up little blue, at twelve oclock I leave the river and over a rolling country baring north of west six miles to a small crick in crossing this stream my lead mules turned short and brake my wagon tung—here again was trouble but it will not do to dispare I with the asistance of Mr. Gray my partner and a man from an other train stoped behind to splice the tung when this was completed I traveled on and found the train encamped about half a mile west of a small crick the principal game is antelope graus

Days travel 10 m

May 14 At an erley hour my train was upon the road which led over a roling prairie country here the menasue [mirage?] first made its appearance it appeares like a lake at a grate distance when you get near the supposed lake it vanishes and another is seen at a grate distance in some other direction. At other places you can see the air rising in columes like smoke this is seen in a clear sunlight day

Days travel 25 m

May 15 travel six miles then enter the sand hills which range along the platt bottom leaving these hills get a fine view of Fort Kenney (Kearney) which is ciatuated about half a mile from the platt river at the head of grand island.

Days travel 18 m

May 16 wee follow the trail which leads directly up the platt

Days travel 15 m

May 17 Wee leave at an erly hour the valey is widened to a considerable breadth verying from eight to ten or fifteen miles, fertile soil produsing a good groth of grass

Days travel 30 m

May 18 Wee travel on over a good road, at this place there is a small portion of timber there has bin no timber before except on Ilands I pass a small stream today caled plum crick

Days travel 30 m

May 19 The time for starting has now come and wee are summonsed to harness and hitch up every man in camp is buisy some taking down the tents some packing the wagons and others harnessing the mules—The travel this day lays directly up platt I pass some cliffs of rock the first I have seen on this stream Wee pitch our tents on the bank of the South Platt about four miles above its junction with the north platt directly whare the bluffs come to the river

Days travel 25 m

May 20 Wee travel about four miles then decend into the river bottom here wee find a small slough wee cut wood for the night, about four miles from this place my attention was drawn to some men riding at the top of thier animals speed upon stoping my team I saw four buffalows one was runing in the direction of my wagon one was coming across the river and the other two had taken shelter in some willows on the bank of the stream I amediately drew my rifle from the wagon and was determined to have a shot I set out on foot to head the afrited animal when a man gave me his mule to ride I rode quickly over a ridge and stationed myself the hidious looking animal soon made his appearance and with a well directed shot I pearsed his hart he bounded up with grate speed for a short distance then settled into a lazy trot for about one or two hundred yards—he then stoped turned and looked back and seeing his perseuers near he turned again to run he made a few leaps as if mad and fell—by this time I was overtaken by some of my train wee took a goodly portion of the beef and went on in percuir of the train, leaving the carcass for the wolves which inhabit this country in grate numbers—The valley is not so wide as before it veries from four to six miles a fertile soil having a kind of wild blue grass

Days travel 25 m

May 21 Persue my way over a level bottom to an inclined plain with

short blue grass—after leaving ascend and travel on high ground—About three P. M. I cross the South platt this stream is half a mile in width has a rapid shallow current not to exceed three feet in depth and very muddy the bed of which is quicksand .
Days travel 25 m

May 22 I travel over high rolling country. About sixteen miles from the crossing of the south platt I find ash hollow a deep narrow ravine I descend with difficulty through this ravine to the valley of the north platt at this place we were obliged to let our wagons down with ropes—a few ash trees at this place from which it takes its name—a good spring at the mouth of this hollow which is very rare for this reason (region) of the country—After partaking of a sumptuous dinner one of the delicacies of the plains, a buffalo soup, I pursue my way which leads directly up the north platt at this place about three quarters of a mile in width and is a very rapid turbulent stream

Days travel 25 m

May 23 Leave at the usual hour travel on the bluffs about four miles then descend to the river bottom again.

Days travel 24 m

May 24 Leave and travel over a high rolling sandy country pass a small creek this morning, about twelve miles from this stream I find another creek at this place I nooned—at this place I find court (court) house rock, it is situated on an elevated piece of ground on the bank of this stream about five miles to the left of the road—I visited this in company with Mr. Baldsley—it is an enormous pile of very fine sand stone, it resembles clay when at a distance This rock is about three hundred feet in height four hundred in length, one hundred in breadth, at the base and twenty five feet at the top And has the appearance of a fine building—coming on to the bottom found the grass good soil fine

Days travel 24 m

May 25 This day I visited Chimney rock which is two miles from my place of encampment to the left of the road—Chimney rock is situated on a high ridge From its base to its top it is three hundred feet it is a fine sand stone and is easily cut with a knife upon this rock I inscribed my name and date May 25th, 1852. Following the river about fifteen miles I came to the place where the road leaves the river. this place is called Scotts bluffs at this place I find three lodges of Indians and some traders these Indians belong to the Sioux nation—At this place I nooned Here I leave the old trail and take a cut off passing through a gap in the bluff—which was very winding and difficult These bluffs present a magnificent scenery at this place I got a good supply of seeder (cedar) wood enough to last me three or four days there is no timber in this reason (region) of the country—After passing the bluffs about two miles I find a trading post, the valley is wide here and rather wetish producing a good growth of grass

Days travel 26 m

May 26 Travel five miles then ascend a range of sand ridges, thence to a clay bed this portion of the country is thickly set with prickly pears—a short distance ahead I find Hans creek a considerable stream of pure water

bottom I encamp near the ruins of an old fort or traders station the river comes near the bluffs at this point

Days travel 25 m

May 27 I leave my encampment and pursue the trail which leads me up platt about three miles then ascend a hill about six miles, upon descending this range of hills I find the Laurime (Laramie) River it is a beautiful stream and has a very rapid current, the garrison of Ft Laurime is situated on this stream about three miles from its junction with the platt—it is a brick structure and of good workmanship I arrived at this place May 27th 1852 at 12 o'clock M,—Mr. P. Green, Holeman and Allen stopped with their families to rest wash and get some smith work done—no grass Mr. Gray Kipp and Baldsley thought it best to move on to good grass and await their coming Consequently three wagons of the train moved on up platt about six miles and encamped for the night we were visited by a number of Indians among which was two girls who appeared to be of rank in high station among them they wore long robes made of antelope skins neatly trimmed with colored cord and highly decorated with beads—There were many lodges of Indians in this vicinity these Indians belong to the Sioux nation

Days travel 15 m

May 28 I move on up the platt about six miles from my encampment I find a trading post about two miles from this point I leave the river and ascend the hills this portion of country is called the black hills after traveling about four miles I find a stream called bitter cottonwood creek traveled on about one mile and encamped for the night

Days travel 13 m

May 29 The part of my train which I left at Ft. Laurime not overtaken me as soon as I expected and thinking them not far behind I concluded to move on leisurely,—After leaving my place of encampment about a mile I succeeded in killing an antelope we stopped and dressed the animal and it was divided among the three wagons—resumed march over rough hilly country—about ten miles from bitter cottonwood I nooned and found good grass after crossing a small ridge I find the valley of a large creek After leaving my coars leads me over hills After traveling about twelve miles I came onto the platt bottom and encamp

Days travel 21

May 30 Travel up platt then ascend the hills, and travel over a rough hilly country Destitute of water and timber for eighteen miles—wild sage in abundance, I have traveled five days in sight of a high towering peak—(generally known as Laurime's peak) I come onto the river Labante encamped for the night As we encamped early in the afternoon and having a plenty of dried fruit spices and brandy, and a good supply of antelope meat—the two Cooks—Mr Dye and Mr Ellis thought it advisable to make a few minutes pyes—while they were engaged in this business the remainder of the company were fishing.

Days travel 20

May 31 My company not yet having come up I resolved not to wait longer—at an early hour my company which was composed of eleven men and three wagons were upon the road about six miles from Labante I came to the

which is red as verry red brick I find a small crick pass up a ravine then descend to the valley of the lapeal I cross the Lapeal and persue my way about twelve miles to little Dean Crick
Days travel 25 m

June 1 four miles to platt bottom, thence five miles to big Dean crick thence across big Dean one mile to the platt here I cross this stream on a bridge—About ten miles from the bridge I find a fertile bottom of the platt river I encamped for the night—we had scarce picked (picketed) out our mules when a violent storm of rain and wind ensude (ensued) accompanied with sharp flashes of lightning and heavy peals of thunder

Days travel 21 m

June 2d three miles from encampment ascend the hills destitute of production except scrubby sage I find myself at the upper crossing of the platt After grasing our mules and partaking of a good cup of coffee wee again resumed our march find a narrow bottom of the platt river encamp for the night
Days travel 20

June 3 I now leave the platt and take my coars westward twenty six miles to willow spring find no grass—no good water—at this place I nooned and had a prairie Dog sirved up for Dinner I set out for Sweetwater river most of the way entire desert I arived about mid night and camped making a trip of forty eight miles in one day and half a night—
48 m

June 4th Leaving encampment about a mile I find a lake the banks of which was white as snow—I found the substance to be saleratas—After two miles I find Indipendance rock—I find a ferry cept by three mountaineers they had a raft upon which they crost wagons Six miles from this place I find the Devels gate a pass in the mountains through which the Sweetwater passes—I am now at the foot of the rocky mountains and persue my way directly up the valley of the sweetwater
Days travel 19 m

June 5 one mile from my encampment I find alkalye lake here I leave the river pass around a hill to the river again
Days travel 30

June 6 Four miles from my encampment I find the canon of the Sweetwater the river being high and the road impasable I turn and cross a Desert of deep sand about sixteen miles to the upper crossing of the sweetwater—at this place I find a number of lodges of Crow Indians these Indians are the most filthy of the North american tribes except the diggers I cross the river and move four miles to a good patch of grass and camp

Days travel 24

June 7 I now leave the Sweetwater and ascend the rockys mountains among which I have bin traveling three days the summit of the rocky mountains this clump or peak is generally known as the wind river mountains at the aspen spring I nooned After leaving I find a crick about four miles, another three, another five, tributaries of the sweetwater, the last stream I was obliged to ferry with my wagon bed this ocupied a good part of the night
Days travel 24

summit of the mountains—is many miles wide, it is a grate plain, lying between two high peaks,—the south pass is generally known to the emigrant, upon pasing between two considerable hills, Directly after pasing this place I find Pasific spring this is the first water flowing westward

Days travel 18

June 9 Cross pasific crick—nine miles from this place Dry Sandy crick, ten miles from this place little Sandy. After leaving little Sandy about seven miles I find big Sandy I encamped for the night no grass of any importance

Days travel 26 m

June 10 I am now encamped on the west side of big Sandy preparing for a desert of forty one miles—At one oclock P. M. I enter the Desert travel twelve miles—past this desert mostly in the night which renders it imposible for me to discribe this portion of country the general production however is sage and grees brush

Days travel 41

June 11 It is now ten o'clock A. M. and I am on the west side of the Desert at the crossing of Green river—at this place I find a ferry this stream has a verry deep and rapid current After crossing wee stoped a short time to rest our animals and refresh ourselves no grass—This is caled the half way place of the grate theroufare to California—After leaving the ferry I persue my way over a verry rough and mountainous country ten miles here I find lost river (on blacks fork of Green river) here I encamped for the night and found plenty of grass, and willows for fewel

Days travel 10

June 12 I leave at ten o'clock and follow the river four miles here I cross and ascend the hills—There was a division of one of the teams belonging to my train this morning. Two men who ware partners in a team seing fit to seperate Did so without hard words. The principal owner in the outfit Mr Balsley took the wagon two mules and a hors accompanied by two young men and set out on his journey erly in the morning—leaving his partner Mr Beel behind with two mules Beel applyed to Mr. Gray my partner for conveyence to California wee took him into our wagon and traveled on pasing Balsley about two O'clock of the same day—about one mile from the grove Balsley rode up to my wagon and shot Beel in the left breast cosing (causing) instant Death—There being an ox train band by a company of thirty men wee concluded to await their arival they came up buried the murdered man and after a short counsil took the murderer into custody Wee then traveled on about six miles and encamped over a verry ruff and mountainous road

Days travel 17

June 13 A council being held upon the best way of disposing of the prisoner and it being agreed upon that wee travel on about thirteen miles to a large crick (hams fork of queen river) whare we expected to overtake a large train—in doing so our object was to get more council—accordingly wee set out for that place over a verry ruff and mountainous way Wee arived at Hams fork about one O'clock P. M. Here wee found a large ox train from Iowa a mule train from pensylvania and some packers making in all about

one hundred men After dinner the trains and companys were respectfully invited to meet and attend the tryal of Balsley for the murder of Beel—About three O'clock the companys met for the investigation of the matter A jury (jury) of twelve men ware chosen one of whom was an elderly man who acted as fourman of the joury The witnesses ware caled and sworn by the fourman—And gave in their evidence all of which the prisinar did not deny. The jeury gave an ascenting voice as to the prisinars guilt but could not agree on the punishment seven being for amediate punishment and five for delivering him to the authorities of California The company was then caled together and a vote was taken on this question and the majority of the company ware in favour of amediate punishment The jeury again asembled and after a short consultation returned with the verdict as follows Leanadas Balsley arise and receive your sentance Wee the Jeury find you guilty of willfui murder and sentence you to death by shooting tomorrow morning at six O'clock The prisiner retired to his tent for the purpos of writing to his friends A strong gard was posted over him during the night.

Days travel 13

June 14 The time has now come and a file of twelve men ware drawn from the company by ballott to execute the prisinar Twelve guns were charged six with ball and six blank and placed in the hands of these men no one knew who held the fatal guns This being done the file of men under command of the fourman of the Jeury marched about four rods to the place whare the prisinar awaited them under a strong gard The prisinar was then marched about eight rods to the road side with a blanket about his shoulders, by command the procession halted The commander with the prisinar stepped of (off) twelve payces in front of the file The blanket which had hitherto bin about the prisinars shoulders was then spread on the ground upon which the prisinar knelt down with his back to the men This was his chois This being done the prisinar then caled for a man who had conversed with him upon his future destany and requested a prair of forgiveness This man was one of the twelve who the prisinar had knelt before for execution—He laid down his gun and with a bended knee did offer up the Almighty God a prair in behalf of this retched man The executioner then stepped into his place and these words ware given (by the fourman) make ready take aim—the prisiner gave the signal for fire by raising his right hand this was his request One sharp report of twelve rifels and all was over The man was then buried and this inscription riten on a board and placed at his head Leanadas Balsley was tryed condemned and shott for the murder of Mather Beel June 14th, 1852 Both of Barn (Barren) County Kentucky I now persue my way from Hams fork four miles thence to summit of the mountain—I decend a verry steep and difficult mountain to marsh spring crick at this place nooned good grass through all these mountains

Days travel 20 m

June 15 This is a verry cold morning the grass is thickly covered with frost follow crick two miles to Bear river then follow down six miles here I



find a large crick—at this place I find a vilage of snake Indians I come onto the river bottom again fine soil wild flax is found here—eleven miles find a butiful spring crick one mile from this place find a slugish stream caled Thomas fork of Bear river encamped for the night Mr. Kipp a man from Michigan who traveled in my company was taken sick at this place the mosquetos ware so bad as to prevent our mules from feading until after sun set—When the cold mountain air drove them into the grass Days travel 20 m

June 16 I find a fine spring, plenty of fine grass no feuel of any kind—I now pass up a long and steep ascent my team war so thickly covered with mosquitoes as to hide the collar of the animals I now travel on a ridge thence through a deep and winding ravine to the summit thence ascent by a steep and difficult way to Bear river vally—after grasing my mules and par-taking of a good cup of coffee wee set out down Bear river vally

Days travel 23 m

June 17 At an erly hour wee war upon the road—but scarcely had wee straitned out our train, when finding that Mr. Kipp (our sick man) being unable to travel wee determined on camping at the first suitable place we traveled on one mile here wee found a small crick at this place we encamped Mr. Peeters a partner of the sick man went in search of a doctor he returned with a Dr Johnson who adminestered to the sick man, left medicen and gave directions and then went on his way—This is a butiful valley about ten miles wilde flax is found here in abundance, the mountains high and capt with snow these mountains are timberd thinly with pine hemlock balsam and spruce

Days travel 1 m

June 18 Our sick man having somewhat recovered and thinking himself able to travel wee again set out down Bear river valley find three lodges of Snake Indians Leave the river and pass through a spir of the mountains travel on table land to spring branch here I nooned, large black crickets found in abundance descending from table land to river bottom find deep sand passing several small streams said to be poison—I find a small crick of pure runing water and on the west bank of this stream I find the celi-brated soda spring it is situated on the bank of this stream about two feet from the edge—it is clean butiful water and has a strong asid tinchurd with iron and has sry flitting from it like a glass of soda I travel on about two miles and encamp pasing a trading post and blacksmith shop

Days travel 27 m

June 19 This morning I visited steem-boat spring on the bank of Bear river it boils up with grate force throwing the water at intervals two or three feet high. Steem also ishevs from this spring, the water is about blood warm travel down Bear river four miles here I find the junction of the Oregon road at this place I find the crater of a volcano into which I did decend about twelve feet I now leave Bear river valley and ascend the mountains then descend a long and dificult way to a small crick past over a mountainous country to rush valley good water and willows for feuel the stream abounds with mountain trout Days travel 25 m

June 20 nine miles to gravel crick—pass a hilly country to Willow muddy crick thence to gravel crick and encamped Days travel 30 m

June 21 Pass through deep ravine graduly rising to the summit of a mountain then decend through a dificult pass—here the traveler should have all wheels locked and with grate care may decend with safety—at the foot I find a large valley cross a ridge at the foot of which I find a verry fine spring I encamped for the night Days travel 18 m

June 22 The man that travled in my train that was taken sick on Bear river is not able to travel this day—and we remain at the spring washing and recruiting—Wee ware visited by a number of Indians during our short stay

June 23 our sick man being so mutch revived as to think himself able to travel wee again set out on our long and perilous journey—country is verry mountainous and my way leads through deep ravines encamped for the night I went fishing and caught a fine lot of mountain trout Days travel 20

June 24 leave encampment and cross a ridge here I find the valley of raft river verry muddy and dificult to cross—after crossing travel over a barron gravely country three miles to the west branch of raft river nooned and found good grass cross west fork and follow up the stream seven miles from this crick cross raft river again here encamped for the night

Days travel 23 m

June 25 leave encampment at last crossing of raft river and turn left through a large valley find small branch this leads me into a romantic place caled the City of rocks—The mountains tower with sharp peaks, mostly of a sugar loaf shape—six miles from this point I find the junction of the salt lake road Days travel 23

June 26 leave encampment and ascend goos crick range two miles to summit—This range of mountains are the highest elevations in this reagon (region) of country. They are very rugged and dificult to cross some elevations of land are perpendicular or nearly so to the hith of two hundred feet then level on the top—hence I will call them table lands as I know no other name Days travel 20 m

June 27 journey up goos crick find a verry rocky road for several miles. travel over ruff and hilly country encamp find plenty of grass and water

Days travel 29

I now cross a ridge five miles to a large valley caled the thousand spring valley here I encamped Days travel 19

June 29 after leaving my place of encampment about three miles I find the boiling springs here are many springs—some so hot that I cannot bear my hand in them—steam arises—One of these springs make a huming bubling nois—I travel over many hills at length I come into a large valley and encamp I find many wells on deep spring (upon coming in to this valley look out for alcalye or some thing that poisens stock) Days travel 33 m

June 30 pass over a hilly country then come to one of the tributaries of the Humbolt or Maries river Mr. Kipp (our sick man) past a verry hard night it was thought he would not survive until morning he is rather drowsy today and when awaked by any one his mind is flighty I now set out and when within half a mile of the Humbolt (I being in the advance of my train) News was brought me of the death of Mr. Kipp I stoped my train and a short council was held and there being no suitable place of burial—it was resolved that wee move on untill wee came to a good place of encampment We crost the Humbolt about one mile here wee stoped and pitched our tents—And notice being given to two large trains of the Death of one of our comrads and the time set for his interment which was to be at four o'clock of the present day—the diseast (deceased) was a member of the Odd fellows society his funeral was attended by fourteen of his breathern one of whom was a verry able Clergaman—after sirvices, the boddy was conveyed to its narrow resting place in the order of the society spoken of—This being done wee repaired to our tents for the purpos of ajusting our wagons and make ready for a march on the morrow Days travel 15 m

July 1 I follow down Humbolt valley a large valley but a small portion of it is fertile grass along the river is a kind of red top and is verry fine for stock the willows from the river or sage brush from the hills is used for feuel by the traveler This part of the journey is considered very dangerous as the traveler is obliged to pass through the root digger tribe a nation of Indians cammence on the head waters of the Humbolt and is continued to the settlements of California these Indians are wild and verry hostile, they lurk along the river for the purpos of stealing stock, many of them have bin killed by the mountaineers and are no more regarded by them than a woolf—They are generaly small in stature ill formed and verry ugly features many of them are covered with hair so mutch so as to have the appearance of an orang-outang. Their feet is thick and of a bean or corn shape and almost as hard as a hoof Their weapons are the bow and arrow sharp pointed stick and sharp flints They open the graves of the dead that are buried in their land for the purpose of stealing the garments which are buried with them Nineteen miles from first crossing of the Humbolt I find a narrow pass in the mountain through which the river passes—encamp for the night

Days travel 22

July 2 down Humbolt travel about twelve miles pass several bad sloughs

July 3 travel over a hilly country to summit of a ridge then descend through a deep and winding Canion pass along side of the mountain over very ruff road descend through gulches and over ridges to river again

Days travel 29 m

July 4 (Sunday) I now cross Humbolt and follow it find a good patch of grass at this place I nooned and find an abundance of wild currens this delishus fruit is now ripe and is of a brite yellow collar (color) find a verry miry place wee had some dificulty our teems all mired down and wee ware obliged to pull them out of the mud by main strength of hand

Days travel 12 m

July 5 I leave and cross over the mountains to the valley again here I find a small slough come to the river again round a bend I find a large patch of grass I find several sloughs some of which are bad to cross, the traveler may avoid them by turning to the left soon after entering the meadow travel over a barren country the land looks like hard baked ashes the little flint stone of which the ground is literally covered resemble stoon coal or broken bits of glass as they are quite as black

Days travel 30

July 6 ten miles to the river the valley is very wide at this place find another slough I judge this to be smartly tinctured with alkalye two miles from this point I encamped and find a plenty of fine grass

Days travel 20 m

July 7 cross over a ridge thence to the river bottom again I now travel over barren desolate country

Days travel 25 m

July 8 ascend and travel on high ground The country back from the river is very barren descend to the river bottom again thence over a high point to a good patch of grass

Days travel 26 m

July 9 I now take up the line of march and travel down the Humbolt After leaving the river I find a desert of twenty miles at the end of this distance good camping at the river

Days travel 36

July 10 I ascend the table lands thence over sand ridges camp road leading to the river bottom very narrow and afording little grass An axident ocured this evening in camp Mr Peters took a double barrel shot gun out of his wagon in order to go on gard he sat on a water keg and comenced conversation with Mr. Dye who ocupied a seet near him Dye directed Peters attention to an Indian camp fire on the mountain side Peeters having laid the gun across his legs brought the musel (muzzle) in the direction of Dye when he turned to observe the fire upon turning one barrel of the gun was discharged taking affect in Dyes leg just above the knee causing a deep flesh wound I drest the wound and succeeded in getting out eleven fine shot and five buck shot (wee had no phisian with us) The aplication to the wound was cold water Two days after wee fell in company with a phasition who examined the wound and said it was doing well.

Days travel 18 m

July 11 I journey over a desolate country encamped and found but little grass The water is so impregnated with alkalye as to render it bad for man or beast The grass is of a salt nature and is unhealthy for stock

Days travel 19 m

July 12 I Follow down the marsh I cut some coars grass which grew in the water and caried it out on to the sand to make hay for to feed At this place our cooks did indeavor to cook some provision for the crossing of the desert but a general failure ensued as there was no feuel except grees brush this mizerable stuff when thrown onto the fire will blase and sputter like grees and water when thrown into the fire it will then go out sending up a thick black smoke

Days travel 8

July 13 I again set out eight miles from my place of encampment I find the head of Humbolt Lake this is a butiful lake ten miles long and six miles wide. The traveler should cut grass and take water eight miles before coming to the lake to last him across the desert—as little water as can be made use of from the lake for man or beast is advisable. This is the most god forsaken spot that the eye of man ever beheld water poisen verry little grass, no wood and the scorching rais of the sun puts a grate burthen on the travelers shoulders I now enter the desert from what I thought to be a desolate and indiscribable place of ruin but ah, how blind is the eye of the man that cannot see. The sean on the desert I will not attempt to discribe I will onoly say that the sink is a place of rest and hapiness compared to the desert This is a desert of forty five miles twelve miles of which is deep sand upon which I find the carcasses of animals the ruin of wagons and in fact all kinds of propertys—The traveler should enter the desert at ten oclock A.M. travel thirty miles feed and water then cross the sand in the night

Days travel 63 m

July 14 At three O'clock P.M. I now arive at Carson river and encamp for the night

Days travel 5 m

July 15 I am now enjoying the pleasure of a good shaid on the bank of Carson river This is a stream of pure water flowing direct from the Nevada mountains A good soil of land

July 16 I am yet at my camp on Carson river weather warm yet pleasant

July 17 I now take up the line of march and follow up Carson river thence over a desert of twelve miles a part of the road is verry rough

Days travel 17 m

July 18 I leave the river and cross a desert of twenty miles thence to the river again to a good patch of grass and encamp for the night

Days travel 24 m

July 19 I Folow up Carson river, thence over a ridge to a log cabbin at this place mining is done ten mile to the river again good grass A trading post is kept here I pass through a notch in the ridge to a wide valley thence to the river again find a fine spring crick

Days travel 20

July 20 I now travel up Carson valley eight miles here I find the Mor-mon station at this place I encamped and found good grass and excellent water Here is a number of buildings ocupied by traders—blacksmithing is done here

Days travel 8

July 21 Twelve O'clock M, Cince yesterday I have bin laying by resting

my team, I now leave and pursue my journey follow up Carson valley passing many beautiful spring cricks, my road leads me along the foot of the Nevada mountains which are high and capped with snow

Days travel 10

July 22 I now leave the most beautiful part of Carson valley and follow road along foot of Nevada mountains crossing many beautiful spring cricks I ascend nine miles to mouth of rocky canon find a bridge thence four miles over as rough a road as there is in the world to another bridge thence two miles and encamp for the night

Days travel 15

July 23 I leave my encampment and pass through hope valley ascend to the first summit of the Nevada mountain which is very steep and difficult—from the head of rocky Canon to the first summit seven miles I now descend five miles to a lake and nooned—thence four miles to the summit of the second mountain on the summit of this mountain I camped

Days travel 16

July 24 I now travel over large snow drifts and on to rock lake at this place I nooned and found no grass these mountains are timbered with pine balsam hemlock spruce and seeder all of which surpass anything of the kind I ever saw in height and diameter After leaving rock lake I find another lake half a mile thence pass over a ridge and two miles from this place find tragedy ~~spring~~ one mile from this place I find a mammoth cedar—this tree I measured and find it to be twenty two feet and seven inches in circumference altho it is very large yet it is not very tall it is nearly four square—three miles from this point I encamped and found good grass a trading post is kept here

Days travel 15 m

July 25 find beak springs two miles [paper torn] find beak springs in valley ten miles [paper torn] this place I nooned from deep valley [paper torn] springs eight miles thence to the mountain house six miles a rough mountain road trading posts are kept at all these places spoken of

Days travel 26 m

July 26 I am now twenty miles from [paper torn] on placerville. I leave the hangtown road and take the— spring road [paper torn] fork of the road to Diamond spring one mile, thence to road spring—ten miles thence to the Kingston house five miles

Days travel 25

July 27 This morning I took breakfast at the Kingston house and then road to Hangtown I arrived in Hangtown at nine o'clock A.M. This place is situated in a deep valley main street running through the center of the City—

The end Jay Green