

Mary Jo Sprague

COED - Census of Overland Emigrant Documents
PAGE 1: Document Description

Document ID: (50LEN01)

Emigrant's last name: Lenoir Surveyed by: MJS 46
first & middle names: Slater E. Date surveyed: 9-26-95
Title: [Letters May 23, 1850; May 28, 1850; and Sept. 18, 1850]

Year of journey: 1850 Year written (if different): _____ Page numbers surveyed: 1-5
Type of document: L (D - diary; J - journal; R - reminiscence; L - letter; N - newspaper article; G - guide; A - autobiography; O - other)
Items in document: _____ (use all applicable codes)
M - daily mileages D - emigrant drawings P - emigrant maps Q - maps by editor K - biographical sketch
I - Introduction B - bibliography N - Index X - photos F - footnotes/commentaries

Published? (Y/N): N Location of original document: OCTA Library (Merrill Mattes "Platte River Road Narrative")
Entry #874

For PUBLISHED documents only:

Published in: _____
Publisher: _____ Year published: _____
Place published: _____
Editor's (or translator's) last name: _____
first & middle names: _____
Notes about publication history: _____

For UNPUBLISHED documents only:

Notes about format of document: Photocopy of handwr. Gen manuscript

Notes on back? _____

Emigrant's occupation: _____ Origin: _____

Age: _____ M/F: M With family? (Y/N) N No. in family: _____

Departed from (code): J3 Arrived at (code): C7

Date of departure: 05-17-50 Date of arrival: 09-18-50 (use form mm/dd/yy)

Party: _____

Mode of travel: W (one code only: W - wagons; P - packing; L - passenger lines; H - handcart; X - other)

Number of wagons at departure: _____

Number of people at departure: _____ total _____ men _____ women _____ children

Draft animals of departure: X oxen _____ mules _____ horses _____ other (use X or a number)

Other animals: _____ (H - horses; C - cattle; S - sheep; P - pigs; F - fowl; D - dogs; X - other)

Guidebook used by emigrant (enter either a title, or an author and title, if given):

Routes: IB 1W _____ (use codes from the trail maps)

Notes on back? _____

COED - Census of Overland Emigrant Documents

PAGE 3: Survey of Names (page 1 of 1)

Document ID: (SOLEND 01) MJS46

Last name	First names	Age	M/F	Origin	Party	Page	Date (mm/dd)	Codes	
								1	2
Russell	Mr.		M			1	05/23		
Spence	Mr.		M			1	05/23		
Persinger	James		M			1	05/23		
Rockford	Mr.		M			3	05/28		
Greer	Robert		M			5	09-18		
Wilson	George		M			5	09-18		
Spence	Riley		M			5	09-18		
Spence	Robert		M			5	09-18		
* Persinger	James		M			5	09-18	B	
Bennett	Dr.		M			5	09-18		
Hart	Brother		M			5	09-18		
Parker	Ja.		M			5	09-18		
Wilson	Wat		M			5	09-18		
Fields			M			5	09-18		

CODES for column 1:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| A - birth | G - marriage (*) |
| B - death, illness | H - registered name |
| C - death, accident | I - name on roster |
| D - death, murder | J - turned back |
| E - death, other/unknown | K - traveling east |
| F - name on grave | |

CODES for column 2:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| L - capt. of party | R - Black |
| M - guide of party | S - Indian |
| N - military | T - Hispanic |
| O - govt. surveyor/explorer | U - non-US citizen |
| P - trader | V - Mormon |
| Q - non-immigrant | W - joined other party
or left party |

Codes may not apply to all names. Use up to 2 codes in each column, if multiple codes apply.

*For marriages, bracket the spouses' names and number the couples sequentially.

Slater E. Lemon

MUTC

Mo. H. S.

See Murray's notes

Place Road Road No. 100

July 1874

May 25 1850

My Dear Mother

I have written myself this evening for the purpose of writing to you for the first time to inform you where, and how your lost son is getting along you would have gotten a letter from him before this but opportunities for writing are but few I have written several letters but did not see any persons on the back track until too late. We are about thirty five miles from Blue river and one hundred and fifty from St. Joseph. We have been here about two hours and from two to three hundred persons passed some full of women and children. Mr. St. Martin bought three yoke of oxen for me in St. Joseph and also one hat, one dollar, four shirts, 60¢ for the rest of the clothing. Mr. Russell says he can furnish. I would not have left in the manner I did but I thought that this would be the best chance I would have I saw one of Mr. Spence's sons and James Persinger yesterday they were all well I have been well with the exception of one day. We will start about now in a few minutes.

Slater E. Lemon

MUJC

See money of money

Plate Road Road Number

Sub # 874

May 23 1850

My Dear Mother

I have written

myself this evening for the purpose of writing
to you for the first time to inform you
where, and how your lost son is getting along
you would have gotten a letter from me before
this but opportunities for writing are but few
I have written several letters but did not
not see any persons on the back track until too
late. We are about thirty five miles from Blue
river and one hundred and fifty from
St. Joseph. We have been here about two hours
and have two to three hundred inches passed
some full of women and children. Mr. Russell
bought three yoke of oxen for use in St. Joseph
and also one hat one dollar, four shirts, 62¢ to suit
the rest of the clothing. Mr. Russell says he can
furnish. I would not have left in the
manner I did but I thought that this
would be the best chance I would have
I saw one of Mr. Spence's sons and James
Perringer yesterday they were all well
I have been well with the exception of one
day. We will start about now in a few minutes

and go on until about 10:30 at night. All the
rest are well. Give my love to all and kiss
the children for me. And now my good night
farewell, farewell

St. Louis

May 25. We are all well

EXTRA
COPIES
(NOT COMPLETE SET)

Free Territory May 29. 1850.

My Dear Mother

I have again seated myself to write a few words to let you know that I am well and enjoying myself more than I expected. We after an long days journey without any water that was fit to drink or scarcely any grass, we reached the Platte river, an dry looking stream without any wood scarcely to cook with. This is only a branch of the Platte; the grand Island is just opposite us, on which we drove our cattle and horses. We left St Joseph on the 17 and we are now three hundred miles from St Joseph averaging twenty five miles per day. We are now surrounded by several large droves of cattle. I have seen but few Indians none but friendly. I have seen no buffaloes yet but I have seen some antelopes and the ^{fresh} feet of buffaloes ^{fresh} feet. All have been well but Mr Rochfort said a few cases of diarrhea. We will get to fort Kearny to day about 12⁰⁰. We are now about to start and I must stop in order that I may send it back from the fort. Give my love to all. I don't know when I will have another to write. Now my dear mother once more good bye.

1850-29

Free Territory May 28. 1850.

My Dear Mother

I have again seated
myself to write a few words to let you
know that I am well and enjoying myself more
than I expected. We after an long days journey without
any water that was fit to drink or scarcely any
grass, we reached the Platte river, an angry looking
stream without any wood scarcely to cook with. This
is only a branch of the Platte; the grand Island is
just opposite us, on which we drove our cattle and
horses. We left St Joseph on the 17 and we are now
three hundred miles from St Joseph averaging
twenty five miles per day. We are now surrounded
by several large droves of cattle. I have seen
but few Indians now but friendly. I have seen
no buffaloes yet but I have seen some antelopes
and the ^{fresh} feet of buffaloes ^{fresh}. All have been well
but Mr Rockford said a few cases of diarrhea.
We will get to fort Kearny to day about 12⁰⁰. We
are now about to start and I must stop in
order that I may send it back from the fort.
Give my love to all I don't know when I will
have another to write. Now my dear mother
more good bye

at been first in their narrow beds. Among the mountains
 of the west along the road to see if any of my party
 had a tin more ^{the} could within the of
 we might or have given in a day. There was hardly
 a sickness on the party, sometimes we would
 board in the river. There were also a good deal
 found dead by the road and some more found
 their several instances where men have been
 killed. Several old and young all we had to show
 to our camp and lay no for some thing to eat
 We we got to the frozen river, then would come
 so I saw from the time we started things were
 by the mountains. I never saw such a thing as a night
 like a bunch and that is always kept in
 there is enough to make a person sick, but one
 mountain. They are like ticks and the water
 of snow or a few cracks, come in and drift
 will not to show a hundred miles or less, on a point
 of Angkor and then. Some get from the plain
 three days. I believe about every third or with in
 8 or 10 and from there to Angkor, for we stay
 a long and tedious trip. We reached there on the
 6th. I ~~got~~ down to see to you. After
 done now I am permitted

My Dear Mother

Colonie Sept. 18, 1838

was Robert Owen, George Wilson, and James
 Livingston - was left in London when very sick.
 and also Riley, and Robert, Alphonse. I have heard
 since that James Livingston, but not Riley, and
 Robert Alphonse were killed and were remaining on
 off in near near Bologna on the south fork
 off have been here after a week and have
 not with more than our horse, and a good many
 say that they are not doing that well. Mr. Russell
 and Dr. Bennett have gone to Sacramento. I can
 do nothing left back on career next with an other
 Hill's horse broken down with the and horses.
 I look for him never every day
 will do I remember - I think that horses
 will be in my hand to come to California
 I will believe that I have seen in the week he
 had me. I do not believe that money could
 induce me to try it again. I was greatly disappointed
 when I found that Dr. Bennett had gone home
 I great money. have gone home, and will go of my
 will, and many are waiting. Till the weather
 is a little cooler for better that Alphonse and Hills
 I understand will start home in a few weeks
 I don't think Dr. Bennett will stay
 here long. I don't start home in a few weeks
 I don't know but that they will stay. I will
 come home with Alphonse if I can. I don't know in a
 world in a little paper, some of my first work

Miners are not doing much this season, some are ^{doing} well
 some have taken out fortunes in a little time:
 But the most are ^{not} much more than clearing
 expenses. I have my oxen and my horse with Mr. Russ
 on a ranch. Cattle and horses sell well. Flour
 25cts. per pound potatoes 20 beef 25 pork 25 molasses
 from 25 to 4 dollars a gallon sugar 30 to 40 cts per pound
 butter 1,00 per pound and so on. Give my love to
 all kids the children for me. Tell brother Watt and sister
 Len to write. Oh now my Good Mother good
 goodbye, but all meet again is the prayer
 of your
 J. P.

on
 & it
 6

There was also a grand ball
 sometimes we would
 say. There was hardly
 a without the ^{low} of
 to see if any of my friends
 had. A very interesting