

53 STEWART

Love, Helen Marie Stewart

DIARY OF HELEN STEWART

1853

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D I A R Y O F H E L E N S T E W A R T

1 8 5 3

April the 1

we took pasage in the steamer arctic at pittsburg for oregon and started for oregon and started the 2^d I enjoyed myself as well as could be expected the people were all very agreeable indeed I was sorrow when I had to leave some of them I never went out to see eny of the places that we stoped at but there is some splended scenry along the banks of the river the Missouri looks very strange beside the clear waters of the Ohio

there was no moonlight while we was coming up to st. louis which I was very sorrow for, as the arctic was not going eny farther we have to go on the honduras to st. Joseph it was not neer so pleasant as the arctic it was very nice comeing up the Missouri there was such romantic looking rock towering away up it brought me in mind of some old runned castle I have read about and the shot tower look so strang siting away up on the top of thoes high rocks

one eavening we past where there was a fire kindled in the woods and it was winding and spreading along the side of the hills it indeed looked beautiful and oh you could see it so far it was so beautiful on the water then the moon was shineing bright, it aded more beauty to the romantic sceniry round there was some terable storms, we got to St. Joseph on wed the 20 in the night and we staid on board all night but with all the moonshine and stormes we arive all well and we was glad to see each other again after the short seperation we are camping about two miles out from town by black snake creek

Aprile 29

nothing particular has happened today just the old round of hunting

along which about it was
a dreadful hard job
I was afraid they would
crawl they looked like
ground rats when they come
out of the water we
decided to light some up
on the one side and see
on the other I fell some
what easy tonight the
fellows all go to bed
and sleep to get and the
children and my crowd
were on the out side
again we was afraid

to read all but after
we read awhile we thought
that the light might
attract attention so we
put it out and began
went to sleep but the
yellow fever was so
bad could not sleep
I fancied I heard
howling and loud
screaming and all sort
of noises later I heard
got over safe and I was
glad we have not had
the difficulty that we
do have other than

cattle and trailing about I have been trying to fish but cannot catch any
only little ones

Aprile 30

part of our company has started and we are to meet them at the ferry
the whippoorwills are chirping and they bring me in mind of our old farm in
pensillvania the home of my childhood where I have spent the happiest days
I will ever see again

May 1

this is sabeth it has been very stormy but it has past over and all
nature seems revived everybody is rapted in there own immagination some
is writing some reading and some is stroleing about I feel rather lonesome
today oh solitude solitude how I love it if I had about a dosen of my ac-
quaintances to enjoy it with me

May 2

another of my dear sisters has left the pleasent hearth of her father to
enjoy another it apears she has joined heat and hand with Fredrick Warner
on the eave of our leaving St. Joseph on (1853) our long tiresome journey

May 3

I think we will get started today I will not say much about the road
we came any more than we had a great deal of trouble we was within three miles
of the ferry when the ferry boat sunk and dround three men one of them was
an imigrant his widow and family is in our companey now we will have to
go to Iowa point

May 4

we are getin along pretty well stiking in mud holes and dubling teames
all the time we pass two little towns they ware very nice little places

oregon and savanna oregon has a very nice courthouse in it the houses in them is nearly all one story and a half high

this is sabeth day we are going to cross the nodaway river today it is a beautiful small stream clear water then there is a long hill to go up then the road winds along the top of the hill it is a good road all the way there is some good looking farmes as far as you can see

we come now to the Missouri and cross we travel a peace when Stewart broke his wagon he will have to wait and get it mended we are going and is to wait at the big blue for them there was a little boy died belonging to one of the company there is a good many laid by the rode side who no doubt had dear loving friends to mourn their loss

there is nothing for your eye to meet but far spreading prairie and now and then a few wagons and some droves there is one hill after another it looks beautiful to look around and see the groves of trees winding among the hills and the clear water murminding along in the fragrant shade indeed it looks so inviting one can not withstand the temptation of enjoying it a little while

This is 14

we have got to the minehaw creek it is bad crossine but midling good grass we camp here there is some of the streams bridge and we paid tole but ther was some that would not do it and the Indians followed them two days and we heard that there was some that had all there horses and cattle stolen I believe it was the same ones

May 15

nothing particular has happened today we are geting along very well so far when it is plesant wether I enjoy it very much but it is disagreeable in the wors degree when it is raining and no fire to dry ourselves at

May 17

it is fine this forenoon and Agnes and I have been walking and have passed the wagon and we are good peace before them so we have sat down at the side of a little run to waid untill they come up it has been rather stormy this afternoon they had just got the oxen waterd and well started again when there came up a hailstorm and some of the oxen was unhiched quicker then ever they ware but it has turned to rain and the sun is shineing out through the clouds and is seting lovely al the cattle are eating buisly there are very tired tonight we heard the wolves hollowing one night which makes me feel very eary it is lightning all round and the face of the moon is obscured under dark clouds and the wind is blowing and I am in the wagon trying to write a little the lantern is tied to the ridge pole every body is in bed but agnes and myself i believe and we would be there to but we have wait till the apples are stewed enough the watch are walking about to see if all is write

May 18

it is dreadful cold and the wind is blowing so hard and so cold that we cannot get any breckfast indeed I never got out of the wagon atall three wagons past us to that had the covers torn of them I fear they suffered from the hail and wind

we stopt at a place where there is a small creek and some wood and we breckfast and dinner all at one we camped by a small creek I do not know the name of it it is a beautiful night the moon is shineing very clear and I onely see one white cloud in the sky we hear the Indians are very trouble- some before but we have not had any trouble with them yet there is 10 wagons in the company now and we are all well but Lizzy and she has the eri- sipelis and the children has the houghpin cough

May 19

we got to the big blue today there was a man dround just before we came up he was with a drove of sheep and there was sheep dround.

May 20

we have come about 13 miles today good grass and water it has been very warm today we have past a large drove of sheep

May 21

oh it is warm it is lightening round and round as the appearance of _ _ _ at last the thunder begins to role the lightning flash and the erefick black clouds moves in all there terifying grand _ _ _ _ _ that I think evry minit the covers will be torn of or the wagons upset I sit in the wagon in despair and hold the door shut which was no easy job and indeed it was laughable to look out and see the fellows that was sleeping in the tent for it blew over and they crawled out under it they stood and tried to hold it but they could not

May 22

it was a dredful storm last night it was not in our intention to travel on the Sabeth but we find that we do more harm by stoping then moving on we came to a very bad looking place there was the peaces of a wagon that had been broken down but we got through and it was not neer so bad as it looked

May 23

we have had a long days travel today we past three graves neer the road two of them died the same day and both buried in one grave we have crossed big sandy and little sandy creeks which were nothing but sand we come to the little blue it is a beautiful clear water and not so good for drinking being very warm we follow this water a long peace there is trees

and bushes growing on each side all cotton wood and willows

we camp very bad grass we passed many dead oxen and some living calves and sheep I have so little time to write that I have missed from 23 to 27 but it is no difference for we have not been traveling for two day it being raining the road is extremely slipy and there is very steep hills to go up and down and that it makes it very difficult and hard

there was neer us a grave that had been dug open and a women head was layin and a come sticking in her hair it seems rather hard

May 26

it has been raining all forenoon but it has cleared of now the boys are playing ball and they have had a fine game at leap the frog a play which I have often heard of but I never saw it I realy thought it be end. I never was so much diveited in my life

May 27

we have been traveling over a very hilly road the land is very broken and now some parts of the road is very sandy we camp on the banks of the blue no grass

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looks very rainy this morning they had to take the cattle over the creek for to get any grass atall and they have had a har job geting them back a sad accident mother fell as she was geting in to the wagon and the front wheel ran over her she was bruised but none of her bones is broke as she might have been hurt a great deal worse then she was we ought to be very thankful indeed the place she fell was sandy we come to a dreadful bad place there is a creek to cross there is four crossing and not one to mend another there was one wagon in a hole and another had just got out and there was upset and broke we was directed to one place as being the best so we try

it but odear odear and wagon goes down to the hub and takes its stand the cattle gets discourge and tangled and one fell down so they unhiched and put in other ones so they got out with some trouble but I think they ought to double teams before ever they try such bad places it comences raining and we soon camp toleable good grass no wood plenty of water come about 15 miles

sab 29

it commenced raining last eavening and it thundered the hole night and ahd forke lightning flew through heavens in a most terifick manner indeed a thunder storm on the prairie makes a person feel very lonesome I never felt so afraid of the Indians as I was before that night but I was not so afraid as to keep me from sleeping

we come to a creek but it was so swollown with the we cannot cross we have to camp come but about 8 miles not very good grass no wood we see no game except one hare wich was shot

I found a pocket book contain _ _ _ friendship cards and some poetry and some other things no doubt but the one that lost it would be very sorrow

May Mon 30

we started this morning when the sun was just riseing the creek has fallen so we can cross very easy it is a beautiful level road now we get to the platte at noon we have to travel along the botton it is a space of very flat land with a range of blufs on the left hand side the waters has been all over it at some time for there is little shells thick on it we camp tolerable grass no wood come about 12 miles

tews 31

we started early this morning had to take milk instead of coffee for breckfast have come in site of fort carney there was a very hard rain this

morning which makes very hard pulling for the water all stands in it and the ground is sandy and the wheels cut down and it is very hard work

two droves of cattle passes us today we pass fort carney there was a sholdier came and got the number of all of us and our cattle and he told us that there was a thirteen thousand head of people and ninty thousand head of stock the largest emigration has ever past yet we camp not very good grass no wood except a few willows it is comeing up another storm

weds June 1

we come on better roads then we had there is no wood on this side of the river we bought an adishnal yoke of oxen cost 80 dollars

we can see emgrants now as far as we can see for the winding of the road we have got in among the cactisus, we are going to take some of them with us if we can for they are so lovely

there was a man was going to cross the river with a drove of sheep and he put in thirty thousand and he got out five thousand the river was very high it is four miles wide sand bottom we camp neer it the men had to waid to one of the ilans to get wood very little grass it is comeing up a storm so we chain all the wagons together

June thirs 2

the storm past last night and was not much we start this morning at 9 oclock it is a fine day we see three antilopes to and some of the fellows followed them and fired at them but missed there was a wolf killed we see plenty of wolves we camp by a branch of the platte come about 17 miles

fry 3

we cross plum creek there is wagons standing in the place of a grog shop they have two sines up it is a bad crossing and Father was geting over the run and where he put his foot gave way and he fell into water on his back we we camp

Sat 4

we travel on a very level road and there is a great space of very level land on the one side there is a range of bluffs rugged and broken on the other side the river which is beautiful for it is lined with green trees we camp no wood plenty of water such as it is

Sab 5

this is sabbath it is a beautiful day but indeed we do not use it as such for we have not traveled far when we stop in a most lovely place oh it is such a beautiful spot and take every thing out of our wagon to air them and it is well we done it as the flower was damp and there was some of the other ones flower was rotten on the lower side and we baked and boiled and washed oh dear me I did not think we would have abused the sabbath in such a manner I do not see how we can expect to get along but we did not intend to do so before we started

Mon 6

we leave this sweet place and has a good road to start on we pass a good many wagons the road is very much the same only the bluffs higher then before and nearer the road

Tues 7

it is a fine day and we are moving along rapidly the time passes a great deal more rapidly than I expected it would we stop at noon and there is six horses and mules that had strayed away our fellows caught them and brought them along with us and when we got to the first ford the owners come and got them and they said they had lost all head he was very thankful and offered to pay them for their trouble but they would not take anything

wed 8

it is very warm we are going to the upper ford Fredrick shot two hares

but I do not like the taste of them we do not see so many graves nor dead cattle but plenty of buffalos heads and some liveing ones is seen but I have not seen eny of them yet

we camping good grass and water but no wood the mosquitoes is nearly eating us up

thirs 9

we started early this morning oh it is extremely hot the sun is sending down his burning rays there was three of the company out hunting but got nothing only one and he brought too liveing antelopes oh there are the dearest little things I ever saw we have stopt to eat dinner five of the boys are in swimming I wish I could go to so I do

we are ready to start again I am walking on before over the bluffs I never saw such a place for flowers of all kinds colers and sizeses we pass a good many little dog towns with the inhabitent sitting on the roof of each barking at us I did not see any of them neer to me we camp within a short distance of the second ford

frid 10

we got to the fording today and there was a good many wagons and cattle and sheep waitang to go over the sheep they ware takeing in the wagons but oh dear me it loked like a very bad crossing for some of the wagons went down over the beds some were just on the eav of turning over the cattle swimming and the men hanging to the ox yoke and the ox horns there is a place above and a place below some of the men has been to see them both and they think they will go up to the upper one

there was one dog dround and two hats lost here we have got to the upper fording and raised the wagon beds some inch and moved all the flower upon the slats we are taking over three today I am in the second one I was not afraid for myself but the poor fellows have a hard job waiding in up to the

neck and swimming some place tugging at the lead cattle with a rope round there head and hollowing and weiding a long whip about it was a dreadful hard job I was so afraid they would cramp they looked like dround rats when they come out of the water

we are divided tonight some is on one side and we on the other I fell some what eary tonight

the fellows all go to bed and Mary, Agnes and the children and my own dear self was in the out side wagon we was afraid to go to sleep and we had a notion to read all night but after we read awhile we thought that the light might attract atention so we put it out and deasnt went to sleep but the gallenippers was so badd I could not sleep I fancied I herd wolves houling and Indians screaming and all sorts of noises

sater 11

we have all got over safe and I am very glad of it we have not had the difficultys that we see many others haveing but it was not there wisdom or good guideing for if there had not have been a strong arm to help and guide we would come poorly out thank heaven for its goodness

there was the toung of a little old wagon broke not so bat but what it can be mend again a whip a had and a cap lost while going through there was two of the min lost hold and footing and drifted down below or under the cattle they might have been stund with the oxen strikeing them with there feet but they ware not they came out on the other side one of them minis a hat

we are campt upon a riseing ground the men is all very tired we are to fore we had to run and put blankets round them all when ever they came out of the water and drench them all with ginger tea and boiling coffee

Sabeth 12

it blew hard all last night and this morning but it is very warm now we took every thing out the wagons and the side of the hill is covered with flower

biscut meat rice oat meal clothes and such a quantity of articles of all dis-
certions to many to mention and childre included in the number and hobos (?)
that is neather men nor yet boys being and _ _ _ _ _ in and out hang
about and with all there is quite a varity

Mon 13

we had one the real jenuine platte storms last night oh it thunderd
and lightnend and hailed blew and rained we come a short distance of good
road but now we come to a very steep preciptious hills a hollows and ex-
tremely ruged and broken ground indeed there is some places that is nearly
perpindiculal down I do believe that it would need the wagons let down ropes
it is so steep

then we come on where the road keeps in the hollow where there has been
a creek but it is dry and nothing but with high mountainous rocks piled up
one above another we all get a drink of good cool water the best I have got
since we left home

we come to the north platte it is a very fine stream of water that I
have looked at so often on the map and followed all the winds of the trail
with my eye but now we are following it bodily we camp on a rising bluf
there is come up another platte storm I suppose

tews 14

it extremely warm we the road follows the river with very high blufs
walled allong the side with very high ruff rocks composed of sand pebbles and
sticks and all sorts of things semented together of a whitish colour we come
into very sandy roads we pass a gret many graves none of them this years ones

wed 15

it is very warm extremely sandy road nothing for your eye to meet but
some trains on the other side of the and high rocky blufs and on this side barren

sandy and lots of cattle and wagons moveing before and behind us and our selves moveing on in the general throng the sand reflecting back the heat of the sun in your face and makeing the swet trickle down oh this is going to origon

thirs 16

it is cool this morning and we have just got breckfast and the boys has gone out to gether in the cattle

Charles was ride _____ as fast as the beast would go and it stept in to a hole or tript on something but it piched him of and turned clean over on him hurting him very much his senses was gone he talked bout running on the mair and the chase all the time poor fellow I am afraid he is worse then we know yet I am very sorry for him for he is such a nice study quiet fellow if it had of been a wild wicked careless lazy fellow I would not have cared for him one bit but he dose not us to stop so we waited about one hour and then we started come about two miles but the rideing makes him worse so we are stopt again till see if he gets any better.

they sent for a docker that was about seven or eight miles on before us he come but with a very ill will and did not do anything more for him then was doing but he said he was not dangerourly hurt through care he will better

it excedly hot the cattle is spread all around some of the men is out hunting and some of them sleeping we heard of Stewart today that he had sold his little wagon and ware all well and geting along very well I do wish they could ketch up with us the children is grumblng and crying and-laughing and hollowing and playing all round all round while I am in the tent and it is far warmer in here then it is out for the lovely berse cannot get in here but the sun is shineing so hot little byron is linging beside me enjoying sweet repose

we all went fishing this evening there was 11 in number of us I believe they all caught some thing me I got two little wee things that was not worth ceaping and threw them in to the water again

fry 17

we started this morning at the usual time we got to court house rock we eat dinner neerly oposite to it and in site of chimney rock

to day we hear great word of the indians they say that there is five hundred of them going to fight we hear that they have laid down blankets that is the sine for the emigrants not dare govern them we shall see when we come up to the place whether it is true or not and that they have sent over the river to gether up more

there was one old bachlier poor old fellow that was dreadful afraid he looked as if he wished his eyes might go ahead a peace to se if it was true or not I had to laugh at him while his legs were running backward for he said that if the emigrants was stopt untill more would come up he thought it would be best just to have enough men with the wagons to mind them and the rest to go and kill every one men weamon and children and he would kill little sucking baby so he would for if they could not fight not they would kill white peoples babys when they got big enough so they would by G swearing all the time at a great rate poor little soul he has a toleable big body but a very little soul but old bachaliars ought to be excused a little all ways for they are not always accountable

but the great army that frightened him so proved to be an Indian camp and in deed they were very friendly with us for they was one come first and shuck hands with us all showed us a peace of paper that had the name of evry thing he wanted such as tobacco flower coffe and whole lot of other things he told to that his was the best family among them and that he had ten children I saw some of the prittyist girls to and they ware drest so nice

Helen Stewart

(15)

after their own fashion of course though I do not know wether old John has got over his panic yet or not

sat 18

we have had good luck so far one of our oxen was sick last night but better this morning the indians followed us so far today. oh it is beautiful there is such romantic scereneary we can see scots bluffs and a rang on the opste side that is far more beautiful o deare me it is so warm the dust is flying in a cloud

sabeth 19

it is a fine day extremely windy the dust is flying the poor oxen I do pity them so I wish they had goggles we come to an exslent spring of water but required some diging out it if runing out of a very mountain neer this spring is the hill that if you go up on it you can larimie peak I went up but it was such a dull dusty day we could not see any distance

mon 20

it is warm the cattle is travling with there touns hanging out there are so warm and tiard there is a storm comeing up

tews 21

this morning is a beautiful after the rain the road is leavel and good we past three dead oxen no a great distance apart what death they died I know not poor things we are nearing for laramie it is about five miles to it yet there is so many that is there before us waiting to get across that there is no grass neer it so we have to wait here awhile

wed 22

this is my birthday my eighteenth birthday I feel myself geting older but not any wiser

it is a cold bleak day the wind blows extremely hard; we are washing and bakeing and fixing may little things there is lots of camps all around us some is moveing on and others are moveing in ther places we had some what of snow storm on my birthday the 22 of June 1853

thirs 23

we start to the ford and stops awhile on the above it there is some wagons there yet Mary Ag and I took a walk up some of the high hills and as we was comeing back we met in two Indians one of them was dressed fine he had a brod stripe of beads sowd in the middle of his blanket and his shoulders was just covered with them he had two peaces of some kind of fur and a long plated consurne it looked like a whip fastened to the back of his head and a black bird on the place where they ware fasend he had a small loocking glass set in wood string round his neck some thing to smell also it had a very pleasant smell I cannot begin to discribe all the fixings he had on the other one had nothing nice only his legins and shoes ther ware just covered with beads the drest one was very talktive and wanted me to get on his horse behind him and wride to where the wagons was

we at last crosts the steme it swift and deep we pass the fort and the grave yard I think it in a runis condition for so many big idle fellows lounging about there is harly any fese it is all broken down cattle and every thing else can go in and tramp all over it the names are cut on head bord

then we come up a very long hill and camp rite on a cactas bed for there is nothing else here

fry 24

it is very warm and some parts of the road is very sandy we come up one very steep hill then the road keeps along the top there is a low valley on each side we commence the black hills today we leave the one road and take

another that takes us thirty miles nerer and cross bitterwood creek and camp
on the top a hill it is a beautiful night it is so calm and quiet

sat 24

we come over some long high hill and down steep rugged ones down on to the
bottom again we are now stopt takeing dinner and as our wagon is the place
where all the rabble comes to they wont let us call them fellows but any how
I never get leaf to write one bit I often wish we had a lock and key for
our door there is a huge train and drove passing us now

sometimes I think our Agnes is made of lode stone for she draws to her
wonder powerful I belive it that they all come to see one especialy I
wont tell you who he is though I am afraid she might be very anghry
we come to a very nice road and we camp very good grass

sat 25

we cross another branche I do not know the name of it it is a lovely
place very romantic looking we camp neer the bluffs a good peace from the
stream

one of the company broke his wagon tounge some have to stop sooner then
usual plenty of grass thank providence we have not waned for that yet
the wind is blowing very hard

sabeth 27

a beautiful day I wish I could go to meating some place but in stead
of that I mount a horse and help to drive the lose cattle we do not go far
untill we come to the river where we stop the ballance of the day

we are going to see the great canion indeed it is well worth going to
see I went threw it but I cannot begin to discribe it it was one of the
most romantic looking places I ever saw in my life there was five of us
went through it is not what I thought it was we got to the end of it

just before dusk and it dark long before we got home

Mon 27

we do not see neer so many Indians as before but we see plenty of mexi-
cans which is a gret deal worse than the others ther are the most disgusting
looking people Mexicans indians and half breeds all mixked up together there
are the most deceeteful ugly set ever was there are so filthly

tews 28

we have come over some horable rodes it is just up one hill and down
another and very rocky it is very hard on the cattle feet the fine small
chuck is so sharp it grinds of the wagon tires at a great rate ware past
laramie peak now for good

wed 29

we come down a long hill and along level peace nothing new to see at
all there is a greate many changes in the aperance of the bluffs and planes
but there are not romantic like there ware on our first part of our journey
it blew so hard we could not proceed on our way so we drove down in a hollow
place among the bluff we are some shelterd now the dust and sand blew
like a cloud thro the air

thirs 13

we do not travel today we have not to stop often

fry 1

this if the first day of July oh we do not today

sat 2

oh dear we have to stop today to but it will do the cattle a great deal
good for some of them has sore feet and the rest is tender but I thin we be
very thankful they are no worse

sabeth 3

we start this morning I think it is hardly right to rest two days and then start on this day but we are all so wicked that we do far more harme when we are stopt than when we are going it is a beautiful day day very warm some of them spyed a bufflo one man out of our coumpany and two out of another took it and killed it

we come to the bridge there is a store and a black smith shop and another house or two do not know what use they put them to there is a great many spaniards there they all had squaws one of them was making a bonet for her baby it was no dubt very fine in her eyes she was puting beads on it and o they are put on so regular in different shapes and coulers she was puting fring round the front of it of dimes she had so many of them I counted eleven gold dollars and I do not know many there might be of dimes and dimes

we had to pay five dollars for each wagon and four yoke of oxen and one driver a bit for each odd man and a dime a head for the lose cattle they ladies go over free of charge

we come about two miles of extremely sandy it was so deep that it was as hard pulling down hill as up we camp no grass the mosketoes are eating us alive

monday 4

this is the fourth in the States a great may neerly all is prepareing for pleasure of some kind but we are selerabrating it by traviling in sand and dust but we had a great dance tonight as and I went up on the hill and talked over old times and repeated some paraphrases and all the like of that and then we come down and danced untill neerly one oclock it done very well for want of better fun it is a geautiful eavening the stars shine bright we have excelent grass

tews 5

some places of the rode is very good we have evry verity of road we pass the stony evinue and the willow springs we ascend a long hill and descend the same and go over very broken ground the place is very different from it was on the other side of the platte it is a great deal worse we camp no grass nor wood we have to use sage the cattle has to eat it to poor things it is very cool this night the wind blue very hard this afternoon

wed 6

we travil over dreadful sandy road hard pulling the poor beasts did not get one bite to eat this morning we come fourteen miles independence rock we went upon it but the wind blew so hard I could not go all over it there was a grate many names written on it the wind still continues to blow very hard makeing the sand and dust very disagreeable indeed there is two traiding posts here we cross sweet water and come along now in the valley between the ranges of rocky mountains shure enough they look so stang to see greate piles of stone piled up to such dregtful hight we pass the devils gate we camp neer it we have had another quarl it is the third one of any account there has been yet but there is no saying what there may be yet

thirs 7

its extremly heavy rodes had every way it is rugh some places the sand is broke out leaving big holes that lets down the wagon with a jurk today the wagon went down into one of these hols while Hiram McGraw was takeing of his boot at the hounds the tounge went up and chrushed his ankle between it and the bed of the wagon it split an inch plank he fell back on the tounge where if he had not caught hold of the front of the wagon he would have fell down and perhaps been killed by it going over him but there is

nothing bad but might be wors he eskepud by geting one foot hurt and Mother with one wheel running over her legs wher both of them might of been killed thank goodness but we all get allong better then we deserve by a great deal we camp on the bank of sweet water middling grass plenty of sage

fri 8

cool this morning no better rodes Mary and John had to leave there biggest ox they had in there team he took something the matter with him they could not know what it was but they left him two miles back we are stopt to eat dinner it has come on a rain and it is pelling it down I am glad to see it we have had not any for a long time. we have no bluffs now just great piles of sand we camp this eavening all most on the top of one

sat 9

we come over heaver sand then we have come yet the alkali is very thick here the ground in some places is like a sponge it heaves up and down like a sponge when we pass over it

we pass 9 or 10 dead cattle to day from the effects of alkali I suppose we take dinner but there is nothing for the poor animals the road we come on this afternoon was good we missed four crossings of the sweet water by keeping the road we come we came on till neerly night and had to stop with out hardly a spear of grass and almost as little sage and no water

we happened to have some water enough to make tea for Marys folks and ourselves poor Mary got mishap for when she had evry thing ready and had them all called to supper Steward upset the te pot and an angry woman was she but as good fortune would have it there was still a little more water there was some of the folks none atall

Sabeth 10

we start early this morning without to milk and was going to breckfast
but we have nothing to make it of

we come down to the river cross over on to a little island and there
stops all day gets breckfast and dinner at once had some trouble hunt up
all the cattle for they kept no watch last nor has for a good many nights
I do not think it the best yay (way) some of them is washing to day but I
do not think right I think we do enough that we cannot very well help with
out doing what we can possibly get along with in any way I would rather
wash at night when we stop than do it on the sabeth day it is windy again
I believe it is always so when we stop a day another week is gone another
one begun

mon 11

had a good deal of trouble hunting and getting all the cattle this morn-
ing come over some rough roads we leave the river bottom and ascend a long
hill there is a storm a good showr of hail it rather cool up here we are
ascending upward now we camp good grass and water

teues 12

we are sill climbing the mountain we pass two exilent cold springs of
water the road was dreadful hard on the poor cattle and on the wagons we
took a road that turns to the rite from the first long hill which was not
quite so bad as the one that I suppose might be called the high road for it
looks more traviled then this one

there was a lot of packer from california passed us they started from
sacramento city the seventh day of June they looked very wether beaten one
of them I do not believe he had his beard shaved from he started from home

we have come down to a sweet vally to camp a beautiful creek with large
bunches of willows growin on its banks some of our oxen is very sore footed

there is one I believe is giveing out or else there is something the matter
with him he is lieing down without eating a bite they are all very tired
for it has been up hill all day almost we pass snow and see plenty of it
it feels like it to

wed 13

it was very cold last night there was ice this morning on the water
in the basin the wind is blowing very hard the dust is so thick we can not
see through it oh it is horrible we are at the south pass little bit on
this side eating dinner it is just two hills exactly alike and the road goes
through between them I can see nothing for I have the curtain tied tite
down to keep the wind and the dust out we are in Oragon now oh if we were
only all the yay how glad I would be

thirs 14

we had a good day and a fine road all that days drive seen nothing
particular today pass the salt lake road and set up a ticket for annie
calilie to get when they come up if no person nockes it down I hope they
will not crossed another small river and camped on the top of hill plenty
of wood but no grass

friday 15

come about 8 miles and stopt to rest the cattle before crossing the
desert we wait here until saterday

sater 16

at half past two we start again we had corn chop so we wet it so we can
give the cattle we have traviled all night I could not sleep though for I
was not very shure of my life

we come on till two in the morning stopt and rested gave the chop some
of them would not eat it it is the light of the moon but it so very cloudy

we can not see her face

sabeth 17

we traveled all last night as I said we started this morning early
traveled all over tremendous rough and hilly road the hills were dreadful
steep to go down locking both wheels and coming down slow got down safe
oh dear me the desert is very hard on the poor animals doing without grass
or water for one night and day

we got to green river this evening and ferrried over the wagons paid
six dollars for each horses three bits ahead and seventy five cents ahead
for cattle we tried to swim ours over but it beats them to get them to
come to night

mon 18

we lie here all the cattle was very much lamed in the water so that
they cannot travel to day there is middling good grass though very much
alkylie

tues 19

we come through one or two very bad chuck holes but there is a little
peace of good but oh dreadful it does not last long it is just up one hill
and down and some of them is very rough and stony very hard on the tender
footed cattle

we then come down to little bear river or fontenell fork on the lost
river where we get splended grass and indeed the poor beasts dose enjoy them-
selves some of them is so full that I do not think they can be comfortabe

we caught some fish in this stream which was excelent

wed 20

come over most dreadful rough and hilly road very hard on wagons and
worse on the tire

thurs 21

no better road but worse if worse can be traveled half the day and had to stop and Christie bomgardner had a daughter added to his familie

David Loves wagon was broke to day the hounds of it it was a very bad place

friday 22

we left the two ducth familie they could not travil without a great risk came to hams fork campt looks very stormy but it has all past over there is a great many dead cattle linging along side of the road we have not lost any of ours yet

sat 23

we are within eighteen miles of bear river vally where they say there are going to stop and rers the cattle but I hope they will not wait long for we have lost so much time of late

sabeth 24

we have got to the river and indeed there is splended grass we can fish to our satisfaction but I neather like to put the grass hopper on nor take the fish poor things I like the imployment very well but I do not fish today

mon 25

we have traveled a short distance today to better grass we was neer an Indian village and there were paying us almost a continual visit but I would have much rather they had stayed way for they are the durtyist creatures I ever saw they will pick the lice out there head and eat them and then the filth of there clothes these are much different from some we have past

tues 26

we have stayd here all day and washing traviling all forenoon we come to a bridge one not a vere large wich they charge 50 cents per wagon and some thing for the cattle we did not cross here but turned and went out of our way a little though we stopt the remainder of day not very good grass

there is one of freds oxin give out he dreadful sore feet and cannot travil he was offered 18 dollars for him but he did not take it there is one of the men very sick they hardly expect him to live

for a good while I have made some mistakes in the time I have

wed 27

past Dianah Stephenson grave had good road and camped on bear river yet

thirs 28

we have left bear river for awhile to pass over the bluffs had to cross over some dreadful hills and down to the bottom again where we a beautiful level road cross several streams we crossed the last one this eavening very bad crossing and camp in splended grass plenty of water but very bad wretched sage. I _ _ _ a little better tonight

fri 29

there has nothing happened nor nothing of any consequence seen

sat 30

I do not remember one thing about this days travil I believe I have all most put in the day in sleeping I am geting oh extremely tired of the journey I know we have had very good road all this day

Sabeth 31

and now another week is gone another one begun we have come to the soda

spring we went to see them and they were quite a strange site to me we did not see the great spring that we read of in the guid book but we crost the creek that come from it it was a large rapid stream we past a treading post and come to the famous steam boat springs but I do not see what they gave it that name for it is more like a great caldron boiling at it ris a peace from the _ _ _ and is warm I went to see it three times we campt near it I went once after night night and it was warmer then through the day

we have the most love night the are so pleasant I thought before we started that we would be almost melted with heat but quite differend there was awhile it was very warm though

mon August the 1

the coulerd people will will hold this day _ _ _ as one worthy of remembrance we come through a valley some of the boys gave it the name of clinker valley from there being so many big round stones for the wagons to bumpt to bumpt over this road will keep people from becomeing liver grown if ther are subject to the like

tues 3

I do not remember one thing about the road from the thurd on

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