

**JACOB CASPAR FREDERICK RODOLF**

Diary,

1850

Transcribed

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Left Gratiot, Wolf creek, for California the 6 of April 1850, for Mineralpoint.--

the 17. [April]  
left Mineralpoint whit[sic] H Plowman to Philipps[?].

[April] 18.  
to Dubuque stead[sic] all afternoon.

[April] 19 Friday  
left Dubuque for Cascade encamp and slept in the wagon for the first time, met teams  
from Iowa and Lafayette Co. good road

[April] 20 Saturday,  
good road came over the Wapsipinika

[April] 21 Sunday.  
Past Fran[?] River and many Sloogs[sloughs], brocke[sic] a Wufeltree[whiffletree]. hade[sic]  
to on load. and encamp 1 M from Cederriver

[April] 22.  
Past Cederriver, and came to Iowa City, stopt the

[April] 23  
and

[April] 24  
hear[sic].

[April] 25 T[h]ursday.  
left Iowa City whit Frank and encamp by a creek.

[page 2]  
April 26 1850  
Past Whashington[sic] Court house and Frank brocke a axeltree. traveled about 6-8 Meiles[sic].  
bad road

April 27. 1850  
bad road Frank brocke a[n] other axeltree, encamp by a creek.

April 28 1850 Sunday  
made a axeltree, rain all day.

April 29 1850  
Starded[sic] erly bad road, past Fairfield, brocke a axeltree not far from Birmin[g]ham

April 30 1850 Thrustay[sic],  
bad road, past one little town and encampt at lowaville on the Desmoinriver.

May 1 Wendesday[sic] 1850.  
Crostr the Des moin and encampt on a smal[l] creek, traveling 12 M.

May 2 1850 Turstday,  
bad road encampt on a branch of soap creek

May 3 1850 Freiday,  
bad road, brocke a  
[page 3]  
axeltree in crossing a creek, encampt in a schoolhouse, past the town of Centreville.

[May] 4. Saturday,  
staid all day macking[sic] a axeltree

[May] 5. Sunday.  
left the Schoolhouse and encampt on a smal creek.

[May] 6. Monday,  
bad road, past Princetown ferreid[sic] the Grandriver and encampt.

[May] 7 Tu[e]sday,  
bad road all day payd \$1<sup>00</sup> for corn, ferreid the 2 Grand river an encampt erly.

[May] 8 Wendesday.  
Bad road, past the town of Betany an encampt by a little creek,

[May] 9 Tuesday,  
Past the west branch of Grandriver at Jentryville and encampt on a Prairiie[sic],

[page 4]  
May 10 1850 Freiday  
Bad road forded Plat river at Rochester and encampt on 102. 7 M. from St Joseph

May 11 1850 Saturday.  
came to St Joseph an heierd[sic] a pasture for our horses, and stead the

[May 12

no entry]

[May 13  
no entry]

[May 14  
no entry]

May 15 1850 Wendestday.

Crost the Missouri at St Joseph, and came to the blufs 6 M. form[sic] town all timber

May 16. 1850 Turstday.

Good road all day past over the Sac and Fox toll bri[d]ge, and the station /: fore[?] Indian farm:/ and encampt on Wolfcreek about 31 M. f[rom]. St. J. splendit[sic] camping ground, past many teams.

May 17 1850 Freiday.

Good road all Prairie good water scarce traveled 21 M

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and encampt on a smal creek,

[May] 18. Saturday.

Good road all day crost a creek 4 M. from camp. traveled 30 M. and encampt on the Ninivad[Nemaha] a very nice stream, past many teams and many encampt close by us.

[May] 19. Sunday,

Starded late, good road and beutyfull country, past many teams and encampt on a smal creek about 2½ clock after traveling 20 M. rain all neight[sic].

[May] 20. Monday.

Starded late, good road, crost the [Big] blue river and encampt, traveled about 20 M. There beiong encampt about 50\_ 60 teams whitin a mile

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May 21 1850 Tusday.

Starder[sic] erly good road Water and wood scarce past w[h]ere the Independence road comes in [to] the St. Joseph road, turnd of[f] the road to find Water and encampt, traveled about 28-30 Miles.

May 22. 1850

Rain all morning, and t[h]under starded late, crost a creek uneven road, bad crossings encampt on a heigh ridge off[f] the road, traveled about 18 M.

May 23 1850 Turstday.

Rain, tunder and h[e]avy wind before day, very brocken country, starded late crost severel Sandy creeks no water on the crossings encampt on a sandy creek

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May 24. Freiday.

Starded at 7 A.M. came on the little Blue river and Keeping up the river bottem, good road, encampt on the Blue, traveled 30<sup>M</sup>

May 25. Saturday.

Keeping up the river till noon, then crosst a prairie, bad water and scarce. traveled about 30 M and encampt on a ravine whit a little Water in it, rain in [May] 26 the beginning of the neight

May 26. Sunday.

Starded late and crosst a Prairie to the Platt river of 25 M. whitout water good road but dusty, bad on men and teams, encampt on the Platt river bottem. We saw some Antelopes.

May 27. 1850 Monday.

A hevvy Storm whit tunder rain, hail about 3 A.M. We and every ting got wet troay[through] our tent got nerly bloun over, by day leight it cleard up, and we starded about 9<sup>el</sup>[o'clock]. past Fort Karney, a nice situation,, 237 M from St Jo, we traveled 20 M. and encampt on the river bottem, no wood.

May 28 1850 Tuesday.

Still keeping up the Platt river, cold morning but fine day, traveled about 20 M. and stopt to mend a wagon w[h]eel,

May 29. 1850 Wendesday.

Got ready, sard[started] at about 9 A.M. bouty[beautiful?] country good road, crosst Plum creek

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but no water at the Crossing traveled about 22 M. and encampt on a level place.

[May] 30. Thursday.

Starded erly Wood, and water scarce, traveled 30 M. and encampt close to the river not far from Bradly I[s]land, 87 M. from Fort Karney.

[May] 31. Freiday.

Starded in good time, good road Keeping now up the South fork. found no water for 20 M. and no wood at al[l], we encamp not far from the river, hade to coock whit Buffalow scheeps[chips]. traveled about 28 M.

June 1 1850 Saturday.

Rain in the morning starded at 9. A.M. still Keeping up the south fork and encampd erly on account of a tunner sturm. traveled about 20 M.

June 2 1850 Sunday.

Starded at 9 AM. having had no wood for 3 day using Buffalow chips, ead[eat] the first Buffalow mead[meat], and saw the first, still up the river, rain whit tunner and hail again this

evening, traveled about 18-20 M.

June 3 1850 Monday.

Starded erly and soon crost the south fork of Platt river, about ¾ mile withe quicksand bottem, then crost a prairie to the north fork

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24 Mile long whitout water or wood, some very pickturesque cou[n]try, had wood for fire again, after carieng[carrying it] some miles, rain and hail whit tunner again [t]his evening and all neight, traveled about 30 Miles, encamp by Ash hollow

June 4. Teusday.

Starded late and in about 5 Miles we came to the stoping place of ~~Gottlieb's~~ Hollenbeck's companey and stopt and intend to travel whit them, at noon we starded again and traveled up the river about 15 Miles and encampt, rain again all neight.

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June 5. 1850 Wendesday.

Rain this morning Starded at noon, roads and country low and sandy, traveled about 18 M. and encampt on the river, saw plenty of Indians /: formed a company of 9 Wagon an 1 Cariage, 33 Men and 1 Women for protection.

June. 6 1850 Thursday.

Made a Axeltree for Frank, and stardet late the company having gone on, traveled about 20 M. and encampt in seight of Chimny rock and Courthouse rock.

June 7. 1850 Freiday.

Stardet at 7 A.M. past not far from the Chimny rock, traveled about 24 M. and encampt by the Castle

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Rock and in sight of Chimny rock, country beginning to be pickturesque but s[t]ill low and sandy, and no wood and little water, hade no wood for several days.

June 8. Saturday.

Starded at 7 A.M. past through some very pickturesque country (: ) but found no water for 20 Miles, hier we found some very good springs, and some wood, a treading post. began to climb some hills and came in sight of some mountains (2.) traveled about 15 Miles more whit out water and en campt on a creek after dark, the companie, some having gone ahead and some keeping behind

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June 9 1850 Sunday.

Starded at 7 A.M. and forded a creek, all sandy dusty road, plenty company, at noon found a good spring, in the afternoon We came to the river again and to a Treading Post traveled about 22 M. and encampt on the river bottem, wood and water but not muth[much] grass.

June 10. 1850 Monday.

Starded a[t] 7 oclock good road till noon, stopt at noon not far from the river gras not good, wreeting letter home and sent it by some Mormons in the afternoon road hilly and sandy, crosst the Laramie

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fork of Platt river, water dip[deep] 1½ [miles] from Fort Laramie, and encampst on the Platt, gras bad. had rain.

June 11. Teusday.

Starded erly and went to the Fort. Fort Laramie is well situated some good houses a horse sawmill, is on the Laramie fork, hier we bought a wagon for \$30<sup>00</sup> and got \$10. for ours, we had one w[h]eel muth[much] hurt, ther past hier by the 9. insand[instant or June 9] inclusique[inclusive], Men 16,915 women 235, childern 242. wagon 4,672. horses 14,974. Mules 4,640 Oxen 7,475, Cows 1053. as far as they could asertain. At 11 oclock we left, and hade some very

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hilly road and sandy traveled about 11 Miles and incampst on the river bottem, tacking the river road, we are in sight [of] the black hills, Laramie pick[Peak] is the heighest, ther is snow and it jett[yet] had good gras and some rain.

June 12 1850 Wendesday.

Starded at 6 oclock the road hard but very hilly. at noon stopt on a smal creek in the afternoon traveled till we came to the river again traveled about 26 miles and encampst 1 Mile from the river. Saw to day a good ill[deal] property destroyed, wagon cut up and burnd, or trou[thrown] a side, and

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any qu[a]ntity of chains and other t[h]ings is to by[be] found. \_

June 13 Thursday.

Starded at 7 oclock had very low muddy and hilly road, came to the river severall times, noond on a half drey creek, had rain an tunner draliaed[traveled] 22 Miles and encampst on the river bottem plenty of wood, but not so good gras, and no water but from the river, rain this evening.

June 14. Freiday.

Starded at 7 oclock. Low wet ground for about one Mile, then assended the bluffs road hilly but hard and a long de[s]cent to the la Bonte river, and encampst at 2 oclock

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1 Mile from the crossing, and concluded to stay a day.

June 15 1850 Saturday.

Stopt hier, and done some whasing[washing] and aranged our wagons.

The river is clear, gravely, and narrow, whit[sic] plenty of wild sage, and steep bluffs on both sides, a good place to stay a day but no longer. \_



June 16 1850 Sunday.

To day it is 2 Month since I left home.

Starded a[t] 6 oclock and crosst the la Bonte river and commenced

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assending bluffs, the roads hard but very hilly and stony we crosst several creeks and stopt to gras[graze] on a la Prele river, a nice stream some wood hier but poor grass, ober[over] some parts of the country Crickets are plentier then any thing else in the afternoon the road the same, crosst several more creeks and they spnsett[?] we crosst the Fourche Bois river an went down the river one mile and encampt, traveled about 28 miles.

June 17. Monday.

Still hier giving the horses as muth grass and rest as possible before going in the mountains, as we are

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informd, that grass is not plenty ahead, in the evening we had a chilly wind and in the neight rain and snow. The Fourche Bois river is a nice swift running stream whit[sic] clear water and some wood, the grass hier is good.

June 18 1850 Tuesday.

Yett hier very cold, To day I mett Russel Baldwin and more teams from Lafayette county, all in good healt[h] and spirit, in the afternoon one of Franks man and one of ours kild to[two] blaack[sic] thebl[?] shears[?], very good mead[sic], and fresh mead[?] is good out hier.

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[June] 19. Wendesday.

Starded a 6 oclock came in 4 miles to the river and in 9 miles we past the Dear creek We hade a Buffalow chase not far from the road, ther[e] were not less than 40 or 50 men after the bull and Killd him we stopt when we came to the river again to noon and then went to the Crucker[Crooked] Mudy creek to encamp. traveled 20 Miles.\_

June 20 Thursday.

Starded at 6 oclock crosst mudy creek and several other bad creeks, no grass road hard and hilly, about 2 oclock P.M. we came to the Ferry and crosst, ther are

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five Ferry boats hier, and macke[sic] money, we payd \$5<sup>00</sup> for the wagon, and \$1<sup>00</sup> for a horse, or \$9<sup>00</sup> in all, jisterday[sic] in the afternoon we left old Cha[r]ly behind, he gave out.\_ From the Ferry we went a few Miles up the river and encampt, but have hardly any graas.

June 21 1850. Freiday,

Starded ¼ before 5 o clock over hilly, brocken, hard road, past some Alkali springs, came 25 Miles whitout water or gras and found a spring. then went 3 Miles further and stopt to let our horses feed, and about

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ten oclock we starded on again. and traveled all neight, past several creeks and good hard road for morst[sic] the way, the balance were sandy



June 22. Saturday.

We arrived at our camping ground about 7 o'clock A.M. at the Sweet water river and staid[stayed] all day. Grass not very good, no wood, and we are always obliged to drink river water.

June 23. Sunday.

Starded at a qurater[sic] past 6 o'clock, past Independence rock, and forded the Sweet water./: Saw. S. Beetas[?]./

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came by the Devils gate crost several creeks, and some deep ravines, where one of our company brocke a axeltree, and we trove[drove] to the river and encampt. the grass good, but no wood, the bluffs all Granite

June 24 1850. Monday.

Starded at one half past 5 o'clock, hade very Sandy hilly road;- we could only work 3 horses, traveled about 12-15 Miles when Frank brocke a axel, so we trove to the river an encampt, all the company bieng[sic] ahead we were left alone, only little grass, but plenty sand

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June 25. Tuesday

Rain this morning, but we starded at 8 o'clock\_ and at a little after 11 o'clock, we came to the ford, hier we stopt to feed the horses, and then forded the river 3 times in about 2 miles, two times the crossing was deep and bad: past some alcali lacke[lakes]; and went about 5-6 miles furt[h]er and encampt on the river bottem, little gras, and no wood, roads all day very sandy and some hilly, The hills are mainly all granite and bare, Can see the Rocky mountains this evening.

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June 26 1850. Wendesday.

Starded at ½ past 5 o'clock, crost Sweet water, and went 16 miles whitout water to the river again and stopt, afternoon we came about 8 Miles and encampt on the river bottem, to day the road eit[h]er wery[sic] sandy or very hilly, made the wagon shorter and hade a horse sick.

June 27 1850. Turstay.

Starded a 7 o'clock and began assending hills for several miles, crost several creeks and noond at the Stra[w]berry creek, in the afternoon we past several more creeks and came to the

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Sweetwater and encampt country very brocken muth[much] up and down, but the road very hard, grass purty good, no wood. Saw plenty of snow and had some to eat, traveled 24 Miles, To day we had some troble whit some ox teams.

June 28. Freiday.

Starded at 5 and past the Sweetwater for the least[sic] time, past the South pass and came to the Pasifick springs, and encampt on account of feed, after 14 Miles traveling, We are now 281 Miles from Fort Laramie, and about 1000 and 11000[sic] Miles

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from St. Joseph, and about 1500 miles from home./: Sweet home./\_ To day I saw Adam

Kollins[?] and another men from Wiota. and John Bates. The country so far is a poor, brocken Sandy one, and produses[sic] nothing.

June 29 1850. Saturday.

Starded a 6 oclock and loaded water for our horses, as we will find non[e] for 22 miles, we past the Passifick creek and a drey creek before noon, in the afternoon we came to the junction of the Salt lacke and Oregon roads, we tacking the Oregon, or Seblets[Sublett's]  
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cutof, crosst the little and big Sandy and encampt on the lather[sic]. We are obliged to lead our horses 3-4 Miles to grass up down the river, wild Sage is our only fuel hier

June 30 Sunday.

We are stoping hier to give our horses some rest and feed. as we are on the earhenesment[?] of dessert[desert]; and our horses muth worn down, we Drove then 4 Miles to graas, most all teams stop hier from 1-2 days to recru[it].

July 1. Monday.

We brought our horses up about 3 oclock and at 4. oclock in the afternoon we starded again, traveled till  
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9 oclock and stopt one hour then traveld again till

July 2 1850. Tuesday

8 oClock in the morning. stopt 2½ hours, and starded again and came to Green[]river at 11 oclock. we had nether water or grass, went through the most desolate sandy, barren country possible, hier on Green[]river we find a little grass, We are obliged to stop to ferry across our thing[s], the horses we made swim across, and gard them on the other side. They demand hier only \$7<sup>00</sup> to ferry a wagon and load.

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July 3. Wendesday.

Erly we commenced to ferry after preparing a wagon body, by about 2 o clock in the afternoon, we had it all accros. The river hier is very rapit and bad to cross. the country brocken, sandy and barren. no inducement for settlers. to be contiunied[sic]

July 4. Thursday.

Starded half past 7. oclock, had a bad hilly, Sandy road for about 12 Miles hier we came to a creek, and stopt for dinner, in the afternoon the road was the same and we found nether grass or water till long after sun down, and then we had to  
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tacke the horses several miles. Hier we campt for onst[once?] again by a little grove of quickenasp, and a nice little running stream. What a forth of July from least[sic] year./;\$/:/

July 5 1850 Freiday.

Starded late and commenced assend and dessend the worst kind of hills or mountains, heigh anuf to find snow on the road. by about noon we came to nice running stream, and stopt for dinner.

Afternoon we had to go down a botten somme soaft ground; and then had mountains again till we

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came to a creek the seice[size] of Wolfreeck[sic], probably a branch of Bear river, an encamp on the bottem, whith[sic] have a little better apperance for soil and grass, as we have not muth wild sage, and dreid willows for fuel.

July 6. Saturday.

Starded at 7 oclock and commence to assend a mountain, whith has tacken us about a hour, the assend was long and steap, after traveling about 7 or 8 Miles we came to a nice spring and grove w[h]ere we stopt a few hour, afterwarts[sic] we had not[h]ing but assending and dessending

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of the worst kind, till we came on the Bear river bottem, w[h]ere we encamp on a little stream, a little of[f] the road.

July 7 1850. Sunday.

To day we are resting ourself and horses, we have good grass and water, and dreid willows for fuel, All feel well and in good spirit. We encamp close to a Milwakee trean[train]./: The company that Stead at Dopkings:) towards neight some horses got sick by eathing alcalick grass.

July 8 1850. Monday.

Had rain in the neight, and Starded a 6 oclock

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and in about 4 Miles we came to a larch[large] creek, whith we had to cross 4 times in sacsessen: + very deep and swiift[sic], then for some hunderts jard[yard] had very rocky narrow road then came on the river[bottem] and had good road, we traveled till half past eleven and noond, in the afternoon had good road crost another larch creek an encamp on the bottem, have good graas,, traveled to day about 20 Miles, the country very destedute[sic] of wood, and mountanious, but the botten good soil.

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July 9 1850. Tuesday.

Starded at 6 oclock had to assend and dessend the worst Kind of hills, till we came on the river again where we stopt a few hours. in the afternoon we traveled down the riverbottem, had good road, crosst one large and several smal creeks: and encamp on a smal creek after traveling about 22.- 23 Miles grass and water good, no wood.

July 10 1850 Wendesday.

Starded at half past 6 oclock and had all day good road, a little up and down, crost a good maky[sic] little creeks, past a treading post and bleacksmit shop

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traveled till about Sundown and made 30 miles, and encamp on Bear[river], the river is larch an Swift graas not very good, and no wood. Some Indians came in camp at noon, they are good lucking[sic] and better drest then many other tribes. at noon we had no water for us or

horses. \_

July 11. Thursday.

Starded at 7 oclock past the soda, beer, and Steam both[sic] [s]prings, and the jun[c]tion of Fort Haal[sic], Saltlacke, and the cutof /: Hespick cut of[f]:/ and we stopt close to the mountain to feed, but we

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had no water, \_ In the afternoon we crosst ober[sic] some mountains and in about 10 Miles we came on a creek, where we encampt, we have, graas water and wood, there is a treading establis[h]ment here. Part of the country we past through shows a gread[sic] many vulcanic remnants. tra[veled] 20 M.

July 12 1850 Comenced hier Freiday.

Starded at half past 6 oclock and commenced cleiming[sic] mountain again in about 4 Miles we found Water and in 5 Miles again we came to a fine stream w[h]ere we noond in the afternoon we came 9 miles further and encampt on a creek, graas and water

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July 13 Saturday.

Starded at 6 oclock and went for 6-7 miles up hill, and in 11 Miles came to a creek, in ½ mile to another and then up hill for 2 miles and stopt, in the afternoon we came in 7 miles to a creek/ very bad crossing, and then through a botten and between hills 7 miles further turnd a mile of[f] the road on a creek and encampt. graas good and water, ta dreid willows and sage for fuel. country mountaineous road good, but no wood Hier a man from Missouri deid and left a boy 13 Yays[sic] old.

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July 14 1850 Sunday.

The vally naimd  
cash vally. Stopt to rest our selfs and horses, to do washing fixing wagons ect[sic], We hade plenty of graas, water and fuel, no differrance in the country, all brocken hilly, We had a little donner[thunder], but only a few trops[sic] of rain.

July 15 1850 Monday.

Starded at 6 oclock and assended mountans for 10-12 Miles, then had the worst dessent possible, and stopt to rest when we came to a vally, we find no water hier but we caried water whit us. In the afternoon hills again find but little water at one place, a mile or so further we

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came to a good spring, loaded water and went about a mile and encampt. trav. about 22.

July 16. Tuesday.

Starded at 7 oclock and after 3-4 miles came between the mountains, and foloing[sic] a mountains gorge up for[four?] miles, and by noon we stopt on the mountains, we found several little springs and have past more timber then we saw for a long time. In the afternoon we went down the gorge for 6-8 Miles, and came in a vally where we encampt on a creek. in the afternoon we found several springs and one creek whith we follow down several miles we



find a little of grass but no wood. trav about 22

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July 17 1850. Wendesday.

Starded at half past 5 oclock, and in about 1½ Mile we crost the creek we where[sic] encampt on, then we had fine[?] level road till we came on Reaf[Raft] river whith we crost. then we crost some sloughs after that we had level again till we came to a other creek where we stopt to noon. In the afternoon we crost it and followed up the vally about 8-9 miles when we encampt on the creek. in comming up we found several little creecks or spring branches, we past to

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where the Fort Hall road intersecht this road. Hier we have good graas but the country. has the same aspeckt, only the dust in the road is getting worst. Plenty of snow on the mountain pecks. trave 25 M.

July 18 Thursday.

Starded at half past 5 oclock and soon after we crost the creek, past some swampy ground then good road for somme[sic] miles then several creecks and sloughs till we came to a creeck, at whith we stopt to noon. We past one warm spring. Fanny fell in a mud pole[sic] this morning, where we had to pull her out we cant not[sic] work her now.

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In the afternoon we crost some mountains again, after a mile or so we came in a gorge and follow it up for Some time, we found some water about half ways up, and the blufs on both sides rock. after dessending some miles we came in a bottem, we went 2 miles off[f] the road where we found water and graas, and encampt, traveled about 20 miles. To days is[sic] was very warm and the hardest day we had, for us and horses.

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July 19 Freiday.

Sarded[Started] at 7 oclock past across a vally and assended a long steep hill, found plenty of water, then we had somme very bad dessending and on the fact[?] came to a creeck, and in 2 miles we came to goose creeck and stopt. to noon. This morning we hade to leave Fanny behind. /: poor Fanny saw hard times :/

In the afternoon we went up Goose creek about 6 miles and encampt, good graas and water and plenty of gooseberry. To day we saw somme wagons from Lafeyette and Green Co. Esq. Boodge, A. Colly, Kruger, Klein ect[sic], and Haywood, ect[sic] from Exeter. traveled about 16[?] m

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July 20 1850 Saturday.

Starded at 6. oclock and ceept[kept] up the river about 14 Miles where we stopt, on acount of not finding any water or graas for some 18-20 miles. The road to day was good exept somme 2-3 bad branches to cross. The Layfayette Co. company is gone ahead to day; their horses are in good order as they went by Salt[lacke] and stopt 10 days on good graas.

July 21. Sunday.

Starded at 5 oclock and past up a long gorge, crost a creeck tweiste[twice], loaded water

and commenced to cross a long distant whitout

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water, and at noon we stopt to rest our horses, we had but little graas and stopt not long, soon after starding again we came to water, then we followed down a vally for somme time found more water, and then we crosst ober to the 1000 spring vally, where we encampt after traveling 25 miles, bad water little graas, and no wood.

Mr Plowman was sick to day, and was obliged to ride in the wagon.

July 22. Monday.

Starded at 5 o clock and went down the 1000 Spring vally till we came to a little creeck where we stopt to graas[graze]

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our horses, the vally is long and level, both sides roaf[rough?] hills covered whit sage, roads very dusty.

In the afternoon we followed still up till we came to a spring on the foot of a hill where we encampt after traveling 20 Miles, Graas poor no wood, but good water.

July 23 1850. Tuesday.

Starded at 5 oclock and crosst ober the hills to a other vally about 12 Miles where we encampt, good graas and water, we are stoping hier to rest our horses, to fix our wagons, and some of Frank's boy's are macking ready to pack, as one of ours.

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July 24. Wendesday.

At 9 o clock we starded after fixin one of Frank's wagon for us: We went down the [Humboldt] valey for in the forenoon till we came to a fine spring w[h]ere we stopt, in the afternoon we followed down till neight when we encampt close to the creek, we had all day good road, in the aspeikt of the country is no differance. Yesterday we bought a horse for \$50<sup>00</sup> whth[sic] will help us a great ill[deal]. traveled about 19 m.

July 25. Thursday.

Starded at 6 o clock and kept down the valley of the Humbolt river, /: we have to follow it nearly 300 m :/ crost

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a creeck and slough not far apart, and when we came on the main river stopt to noon. The bottems are getting weider, and on the left side we see snow on the mountains After noon we traveled till nearly sun down and encampt up the river, bottems very low and swampy, good graas ect.\_\_\_ traveled about 23 Miles, noticed hier the first Scorpion's.

July 26. Freiday.

~~About~~ Starded at 6½[?] oclock, and in about 3-4 Miles we crost a creeck, after that we had hilly road, came to the river several times, and by noon stopt, where we found good

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graas for our horses.\_\_\_ This morning we lost sheight[sight] of the snow mountains, and the

country loocks more bare and brocken, the bottems wett. In the afternoon we Keapt down till evening when we encampe[d] on the bottem. traveled about 22 Miles.\_

July 27 Saturday.

Leaft early and Keapt down till we came to ford whth[sic] is to[o] heigh for us to crosst, so we stopt to noon. At 4 o clock. P.M. we left, went over very heigh hills and traveled till about 9 o clock, when we Stopt to feed our horses, whit graas we had whit us, and stopt till 1 o clock in

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July 28. Sonday.

morning, when we starded on again, and traveled all morning and day, whitout feinding any graas, we having tacken the wrong road, when we came to the river and encampt, after we where about traveling 45 Miles of worst, stony dusty road immaginable, and our horses nearly giving out, water we found a little but little,\_ The count[r]y the most desolate lucking in creation, Mr Plowman is getting better,

~~July 29. Monday.~~

Frank had bein[sic] out hunting and lost us and did not find us till this evening.

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July 29. Monday.

Stardet at 9 oclock and past over some hills to the bottem again, where we encampd to rest our horses till next day after traveling about 8-9 Miles roads very dusty.

July 30. Tuesday.

Starded at 6 oclock and keeping close the river had in the forenoon purty good road, at noon we stopt close the river. In the afternoon we had good road and traveled till after neight on account of not finding a good camping ground. To day I heierd[hired] some of our clot[h]ing [(3 bags)] to be tacken to California for my gun by Lucke[Luke?] Versaw.

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July 31 1850. Wendesday.

Starded at 9 ocl. and had bad dusty road and was for 8-9 Miles whitout water. then went a few Miles further and turning off[f] the road about 1½ mile we stopt on the bottem. In the afternoon we traveled over a bottem whit a crust of salaratus and towards evening we came to the river again, and encampt, had to mow our graas, traveled to day about 18-20 miles.

August 1 1850. Thursday.

Starded at sunrise, went a few Miles, and stopt for breckfeast, we had all day dusty, sandy, heavy road, at noon we stopt not

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faar from the river, and in the evening we encampt on the river,\_ To day we traveled about 14-16 miles.

August 2. Freiday.

Starded at 6 oclock and past through a sandy country, the roads bad on the horses till noon,



where we turned off to the river bottom and stopped to noon, in the afternoon we traveled till evening when we stopped at the river and encamped, we were obliged to mow grass. travel.

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August 3. Saturday.

Started at 6 o'clock. had heavy, rocky road and a bad crossing, traveled till nearly 2 P.M. when we stopped

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the balance of the day, we had to mow grass. travel. 15 M.

August 4 1850 Sunday.

Started at 7 o'clock and traveled till after 12 through very sandy road, This morning early a man died in a camp close by us. when we nooned by a large slough. In the afternoon we had the same kind of road, we went about 6 mi. when we encamped close to the river, grass and water not very good

August 5. 1850 Monday.

Started at 7 o'clock and had the worst kind of sandy hilly road, we traveled till 10 o'clock when we turned to the river and encamped.

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We killed a beef, and dried it, bought a ferry [not mentioned again] for beef and exchanged beef for rice.

We are staying here till next day to fix our meat weight. The hills and country sandy barrens, the river bottom narrow and fully of sloughs, grass bad and hardly any willows. Bad soil for our horses.

August 6. Tuesday.

Started at 8 o'clock and kept down the river between 2-3 miles, where we loaded some water and left the river for some distance, by 1 o'clock we stopped gave the horses a little grass and water, which we had with us, Roads very dusty.

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At 3 o'clock we started again and by 5 o'clock we came to the river and then followed the river about 3 miles down when we encamped, traveled about 20 miles, and road very dusty. Hardly any fuel and grass, and water not good. [following 3 words in another hand] lost a horse

August 7 1850 Wednesday.

Started at 7 o'clock and traveled till 10, when we stopped, to cut grass to take with us, we had to cross the river for it, in the evening about 6 o'clock started again and kept on till 12 o'clock when we stopped to feed and rest a little.

August 8 Thursday.

Started with day light and traveled till 8 o'clock, when we turned off the road to the river to feed and rest our horses after making about 25 Miles, over bad, sandy, dusty roads, without water to drink. In the evening by 6 o'clock we started again and kept on till 12 when we feed a little.

August 9. Freiday.

Ad[sic] 2 oclock starded again and about 6 oclo[ck] came to the river, when we water and feed and made breackfeast, afterwards starded again and keep

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on slow till evening when we came to the first slough, where we stopt, all neight, hade to get in the water 2 feet to get graas for the horses found water only once no graas at all, roads bad, sandy and dusty.

August 10. 1850 Saturday.

After breckfeast keep down the slough for 6-8 Miles where we encampt, to rest a few days. Our horses are beady worn out, and need rest, after traveling through a country where you

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find nether water nor graas for about 70-80 miles, and the road the worst any body wants to have, dust from 6-10 inches teep[sic].

the amount of dead horses and brocken wagons can not be descreibt, \_

To day I cut graas to make hea[hay] for the dessert, I hade to by 8 or 10 inches in water and we have to carieng[carry it] about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile, we are nearly out of provision and flour sels only at \$2, per lb, backen[bacon] 75.¢ ect, How we will gett alone[sic] is a mistery to me.

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August 11 1850. Sunday.

Stoping hier all day, macking hea[hay] ext[etc], all our horses are sick, on account of bad water and graas.

Saw, Mr. Henri Welch of Mineralpoint, and John McNulti of Shulsburgh. All have met whit more or less bad luck.

August 12 1850. Monday.

Stayd hier all day, but instead recruting our horses, they are getting wors. Frank lost one horse and one of ours will not go further, We gave our wagon for hauling our beding and some clot[h]ing to the mines, The men are from Missouri. \_ John Tremmel, Enslly, H. Messersmit

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August 13. Tuesday.

Starded this morning again, whit one horse, a planket[sic] for 3 Men on it, and a little bundle in Franks wagon, we loaded hea, and some water. After traveling about 7 miles we came to a Slough whth we followed for 12-14 Miles, whitout wood or graas, where we encampt.

August 14. Wendesday.

Starded at 7 oclock crost the last slough loaded water, and commenced the dessert, we traveled on till sundown, when we stopt to macke sup[p]er, afterwards we traveled till 12 oclock, when we stopt to rest a few hours

August 15 1850. Thursday.

Starded by 3 o clock and by sunrice we made breckfeast, after wards we kept on the dessert till 12 o clock when we reached the Carson river, hier we stopt a few hours, Hier is a Kind of trading post or swindling place. We left hier as soone as possible about 3 miles up the river where we encampt. The dessert is the most drery place I ever saw, and the destruction of property is astonis[h]ing, more then 800 wagons are left and dead horses and catle, are numberless. Our horses gave nearly out. The dessert is 57 M.

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August 16 Freiday.

Stayed in campt till afternoon when we muft[moved] about 2-3 miles heigher up the river where we found good graas. Met whit the Milwakee train, how[Howe?] done me a great feaver. We saw Dona Beqaquette, he is imploid on the Station. Henri Bequette left us hier, to stay a few weeks, Provision are very heigh, and we out and no money. flouer \$1.50 a hundred backen from 50¢-\$1.00. and other t[h]ings in propotion We have jet[yet] 170 miles, and a prospect of bad roads, and emty Stomacks.

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August 17 Saturday.

Starded ad[sic] Sunrice, and went over a dessert of 15 miles when we came to the river and stopt. The country the same as ever sand and sage, a little timber on the river, graas not where[sic] good, but the water is getting better.

August 18 1850 Sunday.

Stead hier in camp till between 3-4 o clock P.M. when we commenced a other dessert of 24 miles, We cept traveling till the moon sett. when we lead[laid] by till

August 19 Monday.

Day leight, when after a few hours Dreive we came to the river, we follow

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it up about 4 miles, when we encampt, We had somme good, somme bad roads accross the dessert; and hade to cary water and heu[hay].

[August] 20. Tuesday.

Starded erly past a trading post, went through a dessert of 12-14 Miles, when we stopt to noon, hier is a other trading post, in the afternoon we past a dessert of 7 Miles, when we came to the Carson vally and encamp. This evening Mr. Plowman, Dominick Sommeset and Cha[r]ley Bequette left us to go ahead to get prosision[sic] as whit the horses, we can

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not travel fast, and we out of every ting, and can not get it whitout paying very heigh preises.

[August] 21. Wendesday.

Starded in good time past 3 trading post by noon, and one more in the afternoon, we traveled only about 15 Miles and encampt, we go slow as we want to save our horses for the mountains. To day we bought somme flour for \$1<sup>00</sup> per lb and beef for 25.¢

The grass and water is good so [are] the roads, and the mountains have plenty of

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paine trees, in general the country is more investing[sic] and a farm hier would by good bussines; Frank and I are alone and have a good ill[deal] to do.

[August] 22: Thursday.

Starded about 7 oclock hade good [roads?] traviled about 10-11 miles when we stopt for to day to macke some heu to pass the mountain whit, and this our only chance, Hier the country begins to narow, and the roads more raf[rough]. Ther are 4 more of our company, brok that are praparing to go on packing, St Hollenbeck, Lary Sam Tayler, and Sam. Haas[?]

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[August] 23. Freiday.

Stayd hier all day on account of somme horses of the companie bieng missing, we found them all but one.

[August] 24 Saturday.

Starded at 7 o clock and had for a few miles good road, then we came to a Canyon wher we found the road hilly and stony, so bad that it tuck us all day to travel 10 miles. we en campd in the Canyon vally close by a trading post.

[August] 25. Sunday.

Starded late, had some good and bad road, most all the time up hill, made about 9 miles before noon when we stopt to grass our horses. after examining the road

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to the summit, we found it better to stay all day, we are heigh up in the mountains, wher it is ruff and stony, and cold, have plenty of snow, but we have plenty of good dry pine wood to burn a luxury we had not for a long time.

[August] 26. Monday.

Starded by day leight and commenced assending the mountain, we had good road for about a mile, hier we where obliged to unload and tacke they wagon up empty, for above a mile over steap stony places wher the horses had to jump to get over, whit hard putting we got up, then we packt the ballance up on the horses.

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the dessending to the Lacke vally, was long and ruff, crossing the creek we encampd stopt afternoon we commenced assending the second riche[ridge] of mountains, we had good but steep road for about 3 m. When we dessended in a little vally wher we encampd, but found no grass for our horses,

[August] 27. Tuesday.

Starded by day leig[ht] and assending again, found the road steep and rocky, muddy and snow to the summit once we had to onload and carieng it up a few 100 jards then we had bad dessending for somme time, when we

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stopt to noon, hier we had to tacke our horses down in a ravine a mile of[f] to grass. Afterwards we traveled about 4-5 Miles till we encampd, by a trading post over some very ruff



road.

[August] 28. Wednesday.

Starded late on acccount[sic] of our horses straying of[f], we found the road up and down hills, but not so rocky. we traveled about 16 miles when we turnd of[f] the road in a vally and encampt. To day we sold a dog for 10 lb of flour and a piece of pork.

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[August] 29 Thursday.

This morning we made hau[hay] to tacke whit us and starded at 2 oclock P.M. traveled about 9 miles over dusty stony, hilly road and encamp on a heigh ridge, close to a trading post, we found no grass and the water on the foot of the hills.

[following in other hand] Gottfried came whit provision to us ad[at] Leeck springs

[August] 30. Freiday.

Starded at 6 oclock had dusty, rocky, hilly road all day, and found no grass at noon we stopt by a spring and a trading post and in the evening by a other trading post. the water a good ways of[f].

[August] 31. Saturday.

Starded early and had for 4 miles ruff road, hier we toock the reight hand road to Hang town and found the road very dusty but not stony, we traveled till noon, when we stopt to beat[feed] our horses, but found no grass, and when we came to get our horses one was missing, we hunted for it, but could not find it, all day, so we had to stop all neight,

Sept. 1. Sonday.

Starded early found good road, mostly down hill but dusty, after 6-7 miles traved[sic] we came to Johnsons Ranc[h]o, where we

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stopt to feed our horses whit hey, a[t] 15¢ the pound, heir I meet many from Wisconsin, after 6 miles more we came to Hangtown or Placerville where we struck up our tent to stop and luck[sic] around. to day I saw how they ceep Sunday, whit selling goods and gambling, the lat[t]er you can see to the greatest extend in all publick houses,

**[DIARY CONTINUES WITH MINING, TRANSCRIPT ENDS]**