

① L California Crossings  
?

> Robt 51-55 On south bank of the Platte 2 P.M. - 420 mi  
f. old Fort K. where we crossed. The m.

Crossing  
X

> Parker 48-17 Platte is so deep & broad it could not be  
forded - wagons calked water tight & raised & lashed  
to the tops of the standards, & cattle were swum over,  
men swimming alongside - screams - moveless -  
fat. no mishap - men remove all clothes but drawers

> Delano 49-21 South Bend Co. Cross 10 mi above falls -  
we continued higher up

Upper Cr.  
X

22 1/2 mi. wide, brick current, uneven bottom of  
granite - double team, kept in constant motion,  
a wagon wheel in time disappeared - side horse to  
mark - north 8 miles to NP - a broken CT,  
w. a tree or stump, so far as the eye could reach

> Clarke, Dec 49:15 - we found it very shallow & cr. up difficulty  
[Crossing easy when below LCC]

> Luce 51:55 - west mountain men at crossing -  
Carts for abandoned wagons - Major Fitzpatrick,  
Tim Goodall, John Smith - [Lesson in navigation]

Crossing  
X

XX

57:248 - C. 4 mi. below Beauvais' crossing, of SF Jun 13  
is 1/2 mi, June rise - large no. emigrants -  
X line of willows - Low supervision - boxes of med. stores  
in cart a 6 mi - save boy

C

252 whiskey kegs  
X 274 - Captain & Cheyenne - set up camp  
Major's train - Col. Mosier & party of Calif,  
w/ Tim Goodall on guard - Lt Bryan party  
58:316 met Col. Bee at crossing w/ vol. Battalion of Utah -  
Crossed - camped & greased every wagon - men, after

C

> Bidwell 41:6 - shallow enough to ford - 2/3 mile -  
X waters muddy like no. [Crossing below LCC]

> Wilson 41-10 Buffalo & sheep mingle happily -  
packs of wolves - 0 stand guard every 4th mi

> Fremont 42:21 Bed of river quicksand, sink -  
SF 450 NF 2250 NP 5350 - camp at point  
XX of low - low rich prairie 18 mi to hills, 5 1/2 mi wide  
Supplies of B. ribs & boulders, the chef of dinner of a  
prairie cook - here make a cache  
of barrel of pork, show Cheyennes  
up South Fork, mosquitoes & flies - plains  
Opp. cor of buffalo - fire of bois de vacca -  
wolves in gr. no. - wolves chase a buffalo  
Camp thru our camp

Forks of Platte

Lower Cr

> Cross SF at junction - follow SF

Fremont 42:23 40 mi from summit, a feast - split party - F. down SF - Clement Lambert up NF

Cr

Allen 42:15 - chain wagons together - 3/4 mile - loading elev, women & children huddled - Top

Burnett 43:112 Jun 29 grove of timber, SF - only trees except on the islands, white oak cottonwoods & willows 173 mi from 1st camp - Platte

Cr

July 1 3 boats by carrying women - boxes of green B hides, summed - to July 5 in the river

Carleton 45:221 + 384 mi from FLS - Crossing of Army sheep cars ~~to~~ perished

Cr

Thornton 46:85 + wagon beds raised 10" by putting blocks under them - 1 1/2" wide - nec. to proceed successfully as actual distance 2 miles - can walk side, sand, gravel, little grass, many rattlesnakes & lizards w/o number - quicksand bottom, wagons imm. com. sinking

Uppers  
across

Shively 46:8 if it is just fording, of w/ some of your best wagon beds, in then the 2 x beams you will see a good ferry boat - across the river. fill your bags with water, if there is none fit to drink till NF, 20 mi

Josselyn 49:7 to a ford; got over at 11 1/2 o'clock

Burnell 49:23 6 ft ford not deep, but bed of r. being quicksand made it hard hauling thru - while resting on trans across, up came 26 in river, made them run faster

x

Cr

Johnton 49:100 race w/ squaws - the barrel - wheel? Indian villages at the ford - Rossally Colonel Russell - danger of leaving part of his co. at mercy of Indians - empty wagons to pack on mules - force of good example - mules - up & down - Indian negotiation - instruction in music - sacrifice of moccasins the red sea of our exped.

Clark, SF 49:14 Cr + + ev. / mile - 1/2 mi 2 1/2' deep, sandy bottom

Cr

Boned 49 Cr lower ford - 3/4 mi quicksand, 1 to 3' deep - take half load off to free mules - SF, w/ very few of the Division w/o among it - back into of luggage

- Sedgley 49:28 [Cr. "lowland"? acc 64 m. to Ash Hollow]

Grass of J. Eamons... 1 mt camp (an NW) border of ser.  
Is a gr in gr c/usion... Panna... say are at war  
Vote to divide co into 5 masses... wolver usual music  
Grass of Geo. Storer, known a deal... 27 wagons opp...  
up a down bluffs to river... finally Ash H

Lower Cr

Cr abby 50:21 made a mark of pool river was falling

Cr Bennett 50:17 lower cr, a few miles above the farm... include  
to cross at upland 45 mi of water... pool impenetrable...  
a better place 3 mi below... boiling & eddying, a  
current outrun the m... m... driven part leg of pantaloons  
cut to pieces by sand.

Upper Cr

Cr Blood 50:12 not over 2' (May 10) - NE 22 m

Cr Ferguson 50:37 Paucers show a better crossing - dragged  
repaired w/ sugar - lowland? - 4 x 6 horses  
& a man to each wheel - keep breaking  
thin the crust of sand... with wheels off & float  
boxes... every man 10 miles in water - 3 days

Cr

Cr Frink 50:41 To cross short dist above J... gr crowd,  
undecided... all kinds of reports as to route, for every  
one was ignorant... fearful to behold, rushing  
boiling, yellow w/ mud... no way to do but ford, so  
down & into the raging water - dragged down & up  
45° - grs excitement of my life - grs confusion  
deafening noise & halloing - use little if stop

Lower Cr

XX

Cr Pigeon 50:10 Cross SF 80 & above mouth... abundance of  
IS, let them shoot at & drive up their arrows

Cr Can 50:41 one wide myring river of sand... mules bump backs

Cr  
Lower Cr

Cr Wedowatt 50:79 3 fms, all but if the river be high, &  
all good, if low... prefer fast or lower ford act  
road beyond for NE, where good camp always found

Cr

Cr Thompson, Wm 52:4 mile wide, not a waist deep...  
30 x 40 open hitched to 1 wagon... shot stops would  
engulf team & wagon alike - man wade other side

Below

Cr Potter 52:38 15 mi above FK found many Es fording the  
Platte R, 1 m wide & 1' deep... road opp had little  
trouble, off mt better pasture... danger of gunshot  
settled so rapidly you could see nothing but the  
white caps above the surface... then rapid

B // favorite young place of the B  
44 violent storm & CC - scatter flock to  
W - less than Cr... ser men drownd by cr. too soon

Below  
cr

Fryzeel 52:19 + Cross just above FK, below Elm Creek...  
about 15 mi above... surveying the job... board says it  
is safe... color of porpoise... awful noise... man strip  
of action... pass around bravely... up 4 m to Elm Creek

Below  
cr

✓ Sexton, LF 52:125 Passed FK 8 m + Camped a short  
dash of the ferry 1 1/2 m wide... I not dreamed of anything  
like this river... It is niper to sea of an inch into it... quicks  
a wagon runs as tho it were the roughest steers, one constant gear  
with the man at the top... 2 bush cross w/ 1 w/ by raised a foot.  
one hole, water into box, wheel make & down drowed

✓ Smith 52:25 Cross at just above Fore (see)

cr ✓ Dropp 52:19 ? Crossing of Platte... man cross  
all but 1500 of 5000 sheep

cr ✓ Judson 53:31 Cape dec best to cross at the Fork (may  
| wait further up)... double team, 8 yoke... blocks  
diagonal course... 3/4 hr... not dare to stop... own  
goods delayed... 3 fording took whole day...

cr ✓ Chambers 55:366 Ford a horseback, staking the plate  
found more firm & shallow... 1 mi... navigable only  
by canoes, but heavy current... rest - LCC?

cr ✓ Carpenter 56:23 6/21, double team... all drivers & ox 3 x...  
we came near standing on end, team cut off a few seconds...  
shaking, trembling sensation... footing washed away from each wagon  
John F + mule turn a somersault... ev. out to dry  
26 another cr. 2 miles up... 2 men drowed...  
20 mi across to NP

cr ✓ Horton 56 — Same deal... queen to drive into  
that vast expanse of water... thin boards for shelf... man  
| sode ahead on pilots to disc safe passage, 2 men w/  
Every team... or of 1 away w/ tide... a few times swimming

See

✓ Wickham 59... I vill + TP here... temp. platform across top of  
wagon boxes... shifting bed of quicksand 4 to 5' deep, 1/4 m wide...  
6 yoke w/ 2 men w/ long rope ahead of leaders, 4 men each  
side of wagon w/ poles to keep it from upsetting in holes...  
traders & flat boat they operate w/ it... some horses were  
swimming & rt choked & pulled over w/ ropes... It make  
something acty on quills... chyl our clothes, took a turn at the jug  
just 1 spiritual consolation

cr

• Wagoner 66 — to stop fording is to go down... thus men to give teams all  
the water they cd drink before driving into it... Wagoner has a habit of,  
Behavior of mules in water... habits of lying down!

Below  
cr  
up  
???

Early days many crossed PR & on what FK... most crossing,  
called Lower Ford was 25 m below Judson, & then the Upper crossing,  
m. below mouth of Lodgepole C, & was c. California Crossing

Middle C

Lewis 49 Cr SF 100 m Fk, ... Cr SF 20 m f forks - 3/4 m wide, 12 to 18" deep ... opp. 500 to 600 I - vill

Stus 52

Datta 52 - from lower crossing ... Cr just below middle crossing ... Cr here 2 1/2' 3/4 m ... ve part ... holes ... 14 m to art

Evans 49 - 5/26 Cr. 56 m above Fk 1/2 w - Is

Castles 49 - lowland at CC. cholera, B hunt, hail ... relative those that were stuck in the river ... small boats layg at anchor ... driftwood opp ... 6/14 our sick men no better, so we unload logs to dry provisions ... Bs change mt river, fatal cholera esp. fatal at this place ... Co. of Cherokee Is

Below

Indians

Breyfogle 49 - at ford, crowd of Is painted f war ... we cr. the river when we were stopped by them go chief Red fish who exacted toll or blackmail ... we gave him ab 1/2 bu corn ... 2-300 y then ... bus proceable accit armed display ... old clothes, sugar + coffee will buy anything ... bought mocs ... some follow us ... stay on way to fight Panice ... a fine looking site - [upper part?]

Richardson 52 - Sea PR ... Richardson Cr 52 6/1 - Cr PR lower part, 1 m f creek, 120 m f

The part Cr - middle part require cross the hills ... river ve shallow, not touching the hills, gravelly bottom ... 1/2 m. water dotted w small islands + sand bars ... our doctor called, of no avail. Lv river after th 25 mi f CC

Lower C

Middle C

Upper C

Evans 49 SD at Jc, road forks, ... 48 miles to upper cr of Plate. 6/4 ... inveterately cold ... to sandhill of cedar creek ... Bottom crop mainly potatoes + offsets 6", mules walk w a kind of lumpy gait ... did not create pledge to take a good stiff horn of brandy - as we had mine along

Pettyjohn 47 - Par lower crossing ... Cr SF upper cr

H, Ds 49 ? Cross just above forks ... Is jelfer bridges ... Sue Is. - articles restored ... 1 pm of a gallon whisky ... mules to even wagon to find a ... middle part?

Futtler 49 - F. chets ... 160 m. St ... 45 m ford

Ashley 49 - race of Ford (lower) - Is 2 hrs ... to all first day (upper part?)

Anon 49 - upper part - no sweat - 2' deep + very dirty I north side ... trade of B shows + mocs

Lindsay 49 - W Fk too crowded to find pl to c, ... part of time 3 teams about ... besides go may see either side Road ... mountains the Is could have a good time if they attack us now ... repair axel trees ... terrific thunderstorm, a section of very witnessed in the states, even cross post guards ... g. no. of bulcamps on green plains far + near as the sun shines on them now, so many villages ... truly a cheering sight ... pass down train, man with broken thigh, team frightened by a soldier riding past, no time of concern to exam one + mag. towers - mad clant man strapped mocs of Sings

Upper 200



Middle Ford

river (middle ford) 80 rods - 2-3 1/2' deep of recent rains - all safe in northwestern bank - per B nearly at full speed, hunting bridge, low - 315 m old FK (?)

- Cr. x Harvey 50 - Cholera bad at CC - death of Capt  
Brown after of others cross SP
- Cr. McAlhan 49 - Cross up 10 mules - C. opp side, firm to dry clothing - rations of whiskey to prevent cold
- X Wood 50 - Cholera chas - hundreds prep to cross - 3/4 m wide, 2-5' deep - X X X
- Watts 62 - Dr. K. river rising - debate: cross here - go to Julesburg, the regular ford - proceed to dig away the bank
- teffers Cr. Stuck - shoulders to the wheels - where is the ford?
- Cr. Ware 49 - no fixed cross pl; cross where you can - always incline downstream of the bars

- upper Cr. Holliday 65 - Battle of California Crossing - at old achali Stage station - It succeed - reaching Kansas - blankets alive w/ graybacks - Standby Elk
- 70 Hale 49 - 6/2 Cr 15 mi below the old or Commun Crossing - no double team required - no quack sand at other fords - 4 m across to NP

- Cr. ? Reedy 43 - find better place above - skin boats - birth of baby daughter to Mrs Stewart - parcel of m. Chile, + 48 ladies - Mac Intosh, 1/2 Cherokee wounded of bounty of gun - 7/4 towing boat w/ my teeth, w/ child + fever
- 232 lower Cr. Snyder 45 - 5,000 B at Crossing - m. Justt nearly gored 2 rivers 1 mile apart

- 130 middle Cr. Staples 49 - This cross a new one, 20 m below where Bryant crossed - lighter load, pack - Baker 50 - passed the lower Crossing - 22 m - 12 m to Crossing SP - 1/2 m wide, quack sand, str cement but we had no ta... water 3' deep

- Cr. Casumi 50 - Cross in safety witnessed many ludicrous awe during feat - pass over Jordan
- Cr. Hogabain 50 - 1 1/2 m wide, sandy bottom 2 or 3' where the ford is - stuck 100 steps of shore... Pay \$5. for 3 yoke of oxen - soaked of rains

- middle Cr. Hampton 52 - 6/10, blocks under w/ boxes + doubled team (Crossing at lower end, near Fins)
- Cr. Buffum 49 - Cross 15 mi above fork - B hunt
- Heckman P 52 - Cross below

- Cr. Littleton 50 - see FK to CC
- Lower Cr. Thomason 50 - Cross a quit above forks - today as soon as we cross the river we looked across the river fork ch in at 6 mi to the bluff on the opposite side - B chose

Captain 49 ... 1000+ "The Sons" - demand tribute if pass thru their ct, so much sugar + coffee of ea way. but we numbered at 300 wgs, 2 to 3 men + wgs so we refused. Took precaution on other side of river. to order way under arms to drill, + march + fire platoons. - coral. donald guank - ev evidence Is invited of renegade frenchman

Lewis 50 - Cr. south fork - 12 m above the fork

Murphy 54 - one wgs + the drifted down stream; there was a woman in it; the outfit came by last

Cr.  
middle Cr.  
lower Cr.

Chenoweth 49 Cr. over N fork of PR. 2-3 miles across

Hott 49 - reached SF of P at 6 PM (6/12) on half way + a violent storm came up we left a wgs in the river + went ashore wet + cold - 6/13 - doubled teams + pulled a wgs out of river - c. rest of day to air + dry things - up north bank of SF 6 + 30 + 20 left over to AH

Cr. X  
rep north SP

McMans 59 only 4 sheep drowned

tate 49 see before re 3 crossings - sandy bottom - not very deep. we double teams as it is heavy holding sandy deep the sand.

Lampton 50 Cr. SF P at the lower ford 9 am. River here at 1000 yds wide, about belly deep to my horse, gravelly bottom - after finding we took the right hand road thru the sand hills

Lower Cr.  
middle Cr.

McKathum 49 6/2 we ran on an island, by an that much toward Cr. PR. (1 day up SF) -

Peace 49 - by digging a road of rocks down the bank in the river we got across the river we got almost to us, lvs 25-30 wgs off side that was there by us - in try to us we boar downstream cold + then we struck of opp shore ch made the dist near 1 m. bottom quicksand ch made it hard on of the teams. The water the most of the way about knee deep keep. a narrow channel near east shore that was nearly up to the wgs beds

Wilson 50 lower ford - 33 minute crossing

Shaw 49 - reached lower Cr. of P 1/2 past 6 oc the n on both side lined up wgs + mules men tents ... 6/6 water 18" to 2 1/2' deep of a sandy column w/ island all through it - Cr. up m. depth

lost Mr. Beele. Set out to find him, got sidetracked on B. huns, storm all night, walrus gather thick round + should incessantly + could be seen all around us

Lower Cr.

Easton 49 - 1 mile wide, 18" deep - stall - quicksand. broke single tree + fungus, spelled to use a lance to haul out a wgs - Cr. SF 18 m above its of luns

Cr.  
middle F

Lower part

- ← Colwell's 44 / Cr. in driving rain - our wild + eff. leader, an ex-47 m. thatcher, vs per sea, packed + stacked - route for us. Double teams + p. supply, with 16-36" deep - men waded or waded up grey cheeryful. up NS SF
- ← Butterfield 61 / (Upper Fnd). - Hms + 1/2 breed had a rich + sta + made an money sell, articles to Es, to horses. Unloaded 2 wgs + putty of horses on road, hauled to a heap across. This took 2 days of hard work - 9 cr. or 36 x. Camp + dried out. Toward Evansy at ridge 7 mi, "dry camp"
- ← Coalyton 47 / McFalls's Crossing, near the q; Then we passed the SF a few days + cr. over to NF at Cedar Bluffs when we found some Ms
- ← McBrile 50 / roads fork. The lower road goes to the lower (perry?) SF; we kept the upper road + 10 + 10 + 12 + 13 + 8 to Upper Fnd. - Bicy deep to his, flows empty, bottom a m. of floaty quiescent. fatigue hms, wgs sink. - ascent of a mile + 1/2, ch was q. steep. This got us to a dry plain deep of gy with a wood. Dist to NF 22 m
- ← Montgomery 50 / - upper Fnd (10' o/c to 2 pm alt!) - found heavy articles over + fold up wgs, one of ch was upst
- ← Gages 50 / - (lower part)
- ← Chiller 59 / - upper part to alt
- ← Temple's 50 / Crossing 60 or 70 m up SF - 6/15
- ← Wolcott 50 / found P (SF) at 50 m above ford - 8' ford. didn't reach wgs beds. - 15 m to NF
- ← Cole 49 / - led by Is, unknown course to their line.
- ← Kneys 59 / - Crossing - ropes to home - wgs came over
- ← Stuart 49 / - 150 m W FK - VII + I burial ledges, Outlet - pole in open frame, dead in robes + wretchedly effete. - Mr F took a robe.
- ← Valley 49 / ? (near Fnd) - depth (" to 3', one mile wide. - 6/19 - up to valley SF until noon when, Brandy to the right, we crossed over a high undulating ridge + thence NF. - noon halt 12 m SF crossing
- ← Lobinstone 51 / - an opp a pursued a q w/w dervin found them Cedar Bluffs. - 25 m up to SP (NS) (middle Fnd)
- ← Kanderson 58 / x x x
- ← Edwards 50 / lower part
- ← Wright 59 / - about bull-boats. - B. hunt. - NS rule of 56 x x Siore or Ocellata. Harris has buried. barrels of spirits. party. (lower part) (NF 3 m / us) - - up NS SF

Cr.

Upper Cr.

Lower Cr.

Lower F

Upper x

Upper

Cr. x

Middle

Middle

x

Lower

- ← Dean 49 / I vill, 3 white horn (13-14 yr old) - whiskey <sup>wanted</sup>
- ← 25 m to SF no att
- ← Curtis 49 / Cr. Shore 50 m / 1/2 m north
- ← J. W. 5th 32 - we tr 6 days at La Platte, then cross over to north branch
- ← Mc Clendon 42 / ~~Lower part~~ ? SF-NF 15 m
- ← Mc Clendon 50 / The part we see - a steep hill off side + p. over - rocky prairie - 18 m to att
- ← Pleasant 49 / cross 20-30 m ab. g - the more d. cholan. Horseman select route. Then 1 lead 2 horse - Ea side - d. Kram 13
- ← Root 48 / the cfluene 18 m below the crossg - the unimined hi ridge begin 2 m below the crossg, where prob was once their cflu - section about to st g 375 m
- ← Secor 49 / for part at ch Bryant crossg, near ch is of spray of chalybeate water - deal body I deep - tree - reached part - paper iron den + shot a fine part of the body in delusion! Synulite of Sx wains + chips, by test B skins, sup of pale matrix of opx - elev
- ← bed of wicks work - bow, iron, tobacco pipe, etc - mud under the body of a oyster - another elev - a lefty tree -
- ← Green 52 / upper part (16 m att)
- ← Woodard 50 / Fk + 15 5/17-18 - no knob - water - paper mud pool - 5/18-25 - in a deep stream of mud banded on ea side bottom of Reg. Chas. Sand but ch in - the drift - not a single stick of timber 70, 5/19 - in sand hill rising in partake shops to left of us w/ heads of antelope spots around us - 5/20-30 - Only thin water - B. Dury - 5/21-22 (at 17) cross SF at crossing, we must v os 40000 B, then up rd 6 m - There is a road cross up SS SF osv in the strike across the highlands to NF + come - att But there is no part of any pl or chgs prep during the season there for cross when you come - 5/21 - cross hills 1 1/2 m when we about Botto NF
- ← Decker 49 5/23 / x x x upper part Indian
- ← ? 49 6/3 - (lower part) cross over + one mile + beyond, I near vill of Sx - 8 signs, they hungry
- ← Selley 49 /
- ← Pearson 49 / Cr SP near the g by NP - Is x x x
- ← Sage 41 / x x x 10 m above fork
- ← Geigh-Bryant 49 / (lower part)

upper

upper

middle

middle

?

F/I

33

upper

Fk to Lee

lower

xxx

19

? 73

96

85+ Thornton 41 x x x

Lower Ford

8-10 Service 58 First Cross (Cross road)

left the old road on my + took Bryans  
41: Led by Pale horse 9/10 heavy diff 7 3 months ago;

Below

Bryans 46  
Hickman 52 + x x CROSS 14 m

165 above FK, ... we lab. to cross at the lightest  
of the E was on that side

?

W. Wyatt 34 / Cross SF 8 m above forks

85+ Cross 49 x x x

42 Cove 57 x x

Newby 43 hunted buffalo + killed 2. we wanted these hinds  
to make Bots to cross the river. A nice beaver remnant  
that I worked - across the river 7 x

64+ Brett 66 x x x

193 Dewolf 49 x x x (lower part)

Lyon 49 ... ford 50 m above, at the upper fork  
place - 1 m w, a depth 2 1/2' w/ 2 channels. rain  
very bad 6" + dandy team we w/ no last days

7 X Skipton 50 Ford ... drove to where road led to  
river, 25 m from the Ford. Here we found our team fairly  
but we declined + took the road on back off to left  
hand + on the bluffs. 5 m or again to rd - 5/25 - 20

Middle F

Upper F

5/26 Sunday 5/27 - 25 to ford. 1/2 m w. 2 1/2' deep avg  
c 2 m up NS. 15 m alt

Middle F

Bartholmeu 50 - middle part - (a. no 5 or 6 m)

Upper F

head 63 ... prop of Beavans Run, or all CC

Anderson, H 58 x x x

15+ Allen 42 - chain wagons together. rain voice across  
road of water

Clifton 52 Cr. SB a few m of the 7 - Here we f. the Sp  
tube are in gr. road, 500 wms, they were passable but we had  
to pay tribute - swampy bed - w/ f a patient

D-D  
15

class. BC 49 - [3 wgs cross of quiet below forks yesterday]

Middle F

Cross at middle Ford (?) - up north bank 5-6 m - the  
6 m further, when road left SP + took across hill to a. h.  
(Very formidable in app. but we find it very shallow + w  
w/0 diff/c) - well over of flow to light ford

XXIV  
371  
376

Doughty 49

x + x

Fair 49

x +

Lower F

Fisher 50

(Lower part) (c. 106 m above FK)

Dorr Bend / Hoffm 49

cross 123 - ?  
c/4 2000 Is trace

17

Berkner 58

(Upper part) + x

446

Ramsay 49

x +

upper part

Decker 49

x +

Cosco 49

x

38

cr

McPherson 51

thin r. for ochroidea into river flows

Wierstedt (?)

5 days - Is + +

Wason 50

in the Platte (middle part?) To

cr.

day as well (8-5) would have perfect chiles. draw some brackly + get rather funny

Spencer 50

Lower part (in middle?)

Love 49

(Lower part) Lower part - can't

How the ground is so thick you can't keep them out of your face.

Lower G

1251

Caldwell 49

c/4 an Lower Crossing - ed not

Cross here and quick sand

x x x

1252

(middle part)

Parson 49

Hacking Page 49

Ware

Forn 49

See (mark)

Bird 49

(Lower part)

31

Greenlee 49

(See 51 & 9) x

✓

Howledge 49

Lower part + +

✓

Gray 49

Parson 49

Lower part +

✓

Athea 49

Lower part

- 1900 - 69 Adair 43 (?) - x x x  
 1897 - 97 Arthur 43 (?) x x x
- Lower C Bayland 50 / spruce p. forest / road on SP 120 - 1/4  
 of where we first struck the r. ... 5/27 - 25 5/28 -  
 10 m to upper part on SP. - 165 m of where we  
 struck - the 50 route
- 11-508 Hamitt 45 (?) x x x  
 See Dragons 1 1 1
- 18-94 Hines 53 (?) x x x (middle part)  
 73 ✓ Tucker 49 / (middle part) ... 40 m across  
 p. - 3/4 w 2 1/2' deep - 40 wgs w wh of one ...  
 up SE 12 m to the 100 ledge - 14 m to NW
- Middle → Benson 49 / This crossing is a new part,  
 2 that it is ab. 15 m along of 2 swans
- 301 Middle (?) Benson 49 / - cross middle (?) many  
 sandy & coal, by apprehension of a rise with the river below  
 Jenett dec. to cross where we r up proceed to the  
 second crossing, see x x x
- 7-334 NeSmith 43 / x x at Sleepy Grove  
 Calisto 43 /
- 8-390 Mungen 39 (?) x x x
- 29-83 Stewart 53 / "upper part," 36 m, the Big Plateau  
 87 x x x
- 42-280 Kern 53 /
- 17-126 Lee 34 / lower part (=)  
 2-153 (?) Minto 44 / lower part x x x  
 (then up NS SP)
- 79 Weston 49 /

Mrs. Ferris 52. . . this crossg was the subject of dread for some days; we er told of dangerous sands, which sometimes utterly swamped the traveller; the water, however, was low, d we had no trb

The ct between this ford and NF is an uneven barren. We trav it, howv in one day; and for the last 5 mi fo ndit broken up into prec ridges and hillocks, cposed of spongy limestone

*Mrs. Ketcham* 53. . James has bn sitting on the tongue of the ~~xxx~~ carriage talkg to me and washg his neck and face. The mostuitoos v bittehn bitten him so he looks as though he had the measles. He has bn putting tallo on to cure . . . the river is not so deep anywhere but that it might be forde wo much diffic if it were nt f the quicksands at the bttom. Thre is one boa but it is used excl f the crossg of sheep. It was eng so far ahead that Mr G d v to wait nearly a week bf he cd v it f his. So h ccludd to get us across and try some other way f the sheep. They went over first w th ox teams. Half oth load was taken out and the first one taken over with the utual team, two yokes of oxen. The second one they did not try in that way but put the four yoke on. . 2 in carragie. . horseman topick out the way.

The rv is q quarter o a mi wide, but we took such a course as to make it nearer half a mi f us. The wtr came into the c. so that we had to put 2r feet on the seat to tkeep them dry. . . The current oth P is very swift. Lookg upon the ~~w~~ swiftly rung wtr makesme a l seasick, so i might not be safe for me to ride a horse over;

The wtr oth P is o a yellowish mud colour nd csid quite unhealthy to drink. I be there r salts and saleratus in it. I v drunk a g deal of it but have had no diarrhea yet -- quite the other extreme

At first Mr. G tried gettg his sheep over by takg them in the wgs. The first load he tried upset and spilt out. They tried ligher loads but found it too hard f the catl and too slow. Yest they corked the boxes of the two w~~g~~ ox wgs and usedthem f boats. The horses draw them. So far they v succ ve well, but it will take them so days to get them all over, not aslong, how, as he dv to wait f the ferry boat. . .

R course now along ~~SS NF SF~~ ~~NS~~ ~~SF~~ (?)

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. . All around us each side oth rv er sheep, catl, horses, wagons, men wmn and childrn -- m catl nd sheep than I ever saw before in my life. . then tens of thousands. . it is astonishg to see what a multitude is moving on, and now when it is so late in the season, and the gr rush is supp tb over.

Camilla and I both burnt r arms vebadly while washg. They er red an swollen and painful as tho scalded w boiling water. R hands r blacker than any farmer's, and I do not see that there is any way of preventg it, f evthg has tb done in the wind and sun. R faces are pretty well tanned, but nothg like r hands. . . nothing to prevent from scorching rays. . not the sign of a tree tb seen xcept on an island far up in the river. . .

Yest it was very cold. W our shawls and cloaks on we sufrd ve much f~~pph~~/the with the cold. Yest noon while we er eatg ~~f~~ dinr r tent came near. blow over again. It was torn in sev places. I hope it l n blow all to pieces bf we get there

. .no water now except fm the river. . slight attack of d. . every time I am unwell at all I go wo a meal or two of victuals, and soon get well. Hav not taken a particle of medicine si ce I left Westport. Somehow the others do not get well soon. James is sufferg a g deal fm his sunburnt arms. I nv saw anything oth kind so swelled

~~E~~ We v ketp along the north side oth SF, till tonight, just before sundown, we came to the upper ford. There is the road from the opp site, and we all strike across the pr to the ss NF. The roadnow is very broad and look as tho it had bn much tvd. As we p by the f we cd see cp after cp all waitg f the rv to fall so that they c cross. Among the rest was an I camp. About their lodges was a mult ofhorss. I am glad they r not this side oth rv. As we came up on the bluffs, after turng off, we had quite an esxt view up and down the rv, but there was too much samen today. . Fm the highest point

we could see but three trees and not a bush

... this group was the subject of great fear some days; we or cold of ... which ... the ... The ... in one day; and for the last 5 mi ...

... James has been sitting on the ... The ... Mr. ... The ... The ...

... the ... The ... The ... The ...

... the ... The ... The ... The ...

... the ... The ... The ... The ...

Handwritten note on the right margin, possibly a page number or reference.

- 57 Thursday May 26th.  
Rather cold. Feed is good. Resumed our journey up the South Side of the South Platte. This is on the regular Pikes Peak Road but tomorrow we cross the Platte and will see no more returning Starved Pikes Peakers and I am glad of it. Uncle Dan thinks if he can get to Hangtown, California he can make a raise in the mines yet, and as for Dan and myself we haven't anything to lose by going, and nothing to make by going back to Michigan. Met more Sioux Indians going to fight the Pawnees in Eastern Nebraska Territory. Camped within 12 miles of the crossing. Traveled 25 miles.
- 58 Friday May 27th.  
Find some Alkali water standing in pools that we have to guard against. Arrived at the ford of South Platte at noon. There is an Indian village and Trading Post here. We begin preparations for crossing by making a temporary platform across the top of our wagon boxes to get our provisions above water. The River is a shifting bed of quick sand from 4 to 5 feet deep and over a quarter of a mile wide. We put 6 yoke of cattle on a wagon and with 2 men with a long Rope ahead of the leaders and men on each Side of the wagon with poles to keep it from upsetting when going into holes. Some times the leaders are in Swimming water but the Rope takes them along. The traders have a flat boat that they operate with Indians and do a good business hauling goods over. Some Horses won't swim but lie down and have to be choked and pulled over with ropes. And mules are worse than horses.
- 59 *Middle F*  
*cs*  
We have some fun in spite of cold water and danger of getting in over our heads. The channel is changing all the time and the Indians make something acting as guides. We got over all right - changed our clothes took a turn at the jug just for Spiritual consolation. Went 3 miles towards North Platte and camped. Traveled 15 miles.
- 60 Saturday May 28th.  
Country Rolling Prairie and not very good Soil. Arrived at Ash Hollow at noon and stopped at a fine Spring a mile from the North Platte. This is the place where General Harney killed so many Indians with the Soldiers. We met a lot of Sioux's today with their families moving. The wigwam poles some ~~20~~ 20 feet long are lashed to the sides of the Ponies and Baskets are lashed to the poles behind the Pony where the Papposes are carried. This Hollow is the most dangerous place to be attacked by Indians, that we have seen on the whole Route. Passed a Trading Post this afternoon. Went 6 miles beyond and camped. Traveled 20 miles.
- 61 Sunday May 29th.  
Valley narrow Bluffs high and rocky. Some Alkali and plenty of dry Red Cedar for wood. Weather warm in middle of the day. A black Hail Storm came up after we camped tonight. These storms are frequent and dangerous on account of stampeding our cattle. Roads Sandy. Traveled 20 miles.
- Monday May 30th.  
Some Alkali. Roads Sandy and heavy. Wolves and Coyotes make nights hideous. Saw a Grey wolf larger than a Newfoundland dog. Prairie dogs are barking at us all along the Roads. They live in holes like Badgers in villages. Camped on Rush Creek. Traveled 25 miles.
- 62 Tuesday May 31st.  
Some Scrubby Pine in the Bluffs on our left. Plate River is on our Right. large pools of Alkali water. Stopped on a creek opposite Court House Rock, with Chimney Rock visible in the distance. Some of the boys visited Court House Rock which is a natural curiosity. It was my turn to drive and could not go. Distance is very deceiving here. What you think is one mile distant is five on account of the clearness of the atmosphere. The boys came in late from visiting the Rock tired out and much surprised as to distance. Traveled 30 miles.

For several days, our travelers have journeyed on, meeting with no serious trouble and having the usual incidents of camp life. They have been traversing "The Divide," as it is called, between the Little Blue and the Platte.

On the 1st of June, they reached Fort Kearney, and were hospitably received and entertained by Captain Thompson and his estimable lady. To those who have all their lives been accustomed to the comforts and refinements of life, there is no sight more pleasing, after having been denied them, than a clean, well kept house and a bounteous and well spread table. Our travelers enjoyed the generous hospitality of the Fort, and continued their journey with hearts filled with gratitude to their kind friends.

On the 7th day of June, the party reached the Platte River. They found it swollen from the June freshets and rising rapidly. A consultation was held as to whether they should make a ford, and cross at this point, or go on to Julesburg, the regular ford.

As the river was rising at the rate of six inches in twenty-four hours, they considered it dangerous to delay and they proceeded to dig away the bank to make a road. Mr. Brink had a pair of large mules and he was to lead off, and Mr. Burlingame's four horse team was to follow.

All being ready, the ladies sitting upon the boxes inside the wagon, holding the children, the Burlingame outfit plunged in. The front wheels went down with a crash, the water poured into the wagon bed in torrents and the horses were almost submerged. Mr. Burlingame was riding one of the horses, and as the horse he was riding fell, Mr. B. jumped from his back on to the front leader, and by guiding him carefully, managed to start the whole team. They had proceeded only a few rods, when the wagon was so clogged by the quicksands which the swift current carried against the wheels, that the horses could no longer move it.

Here was a dilemma indeed, a wagon so deeply imbedded in quicksand that four horses could not move it, and the sand rapidly accumulating. The party on shore were anxiously watching with their glasses and, seeing the danger, a number of the gentlemen rode into the river to render assistance. They jumped from their horses in the midst of the roaring current, put their shoulders to the wheels of the wagon and, raising them out of the sand, enabled the horses to move on.

In this way they worked, until a new difficulty presented itself. They were losing the ford. The horses were beginning to swim. As this course was certain destruction, Mr. Burlingame

jumped from the horse into the water, to hunt for the ford. He would swim first in one direction, then in another, till he could find bottom, and would then order an advance. The good friends would raise the wheels out of the quick-sands, the noble steeds give a spring and on they would go for a few rods, until out of breath. The party on shore watched every movement with breathless anxiety, and expected every moment to see wagon, horses and men carried away by the almost resistless current.

Mrs. B., Miss Julia and the children remained inside, in silent terror. Mrs. B. gave one scream when her husband jumped into the river. Miss Julia displayed great presence of mind and kept the children quiet by a resort, first to punishment and then to the sugar bowl. Mrs. B. was so wholly absorbed by the terrors of the situation, that, as Miss Julia afterward said, "she did not notice me when I chastised the baby, Lucia, though I sat by her side." "By the aid of our heroic and daring friends, and our good, stout steeds," Mrs. B. wrote to a friend, "we were at length rescued from a watery grave, and after being in the river an hour and a half, we landed on the opposite side of the treacherous Platte."

## CHAPTER V.

### AN INDIAN MASSACRE.

The sun rose on the morning of June 8th, on our travelers in camp on the north side of the Platte. The day was bright and beautiful and, as it was the Sabbath, it was spent in resting from the fatigues of the day before. A member of the company decided to return to Chicago, and many letters were entrusted to his care. The Post-Offices in this region are few and far between.

As the train was moving along, next day, June 9th, everything working well and everybody in good spirits, the sky was suddenly overcast. The violet clouds portended a storm of hail and wind.

Nothing is more dreaded on these plains than these wind and hail storms. The train halted and commenced preparing for the storm. The

May 30

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Laid by this day last night was one of the stormiest i ever heard tell of the rain fell in torrents and covered the ground a foot deep in water i have seen it rain as hard at home for half an hour but I never seen it pour down by buckets full f<sup>or</sup> 6 hours incessantly the wind also blew a perf<sup>ect</sup> gale, driving the rain through our tents and wagons covers like as though they had been paper there was not much chance to sleep without you could fancy wet blankets and a torrent of water runing under you when we got up in the morn- in<sup>g</sup> our cattel wear scattered to the four ends of the earth we started after them and it was ten o'clock before we found all of them some of them was ten miles off taking the back track every camp that we saw had lost cattel it com- menced raining again at noon and rained till night to of dorseys men came to our camp hunting oxen they had lost 13 head our hunter came in this morning braute no game they stayed last night at a camp five miles below us

May 31

Went 17 miles roads better than i expected to find them this has been an exciteing day in the first place a man ahead shouted buffolo all of the men run for thear guns and started in pursuit they had not got far when a fine noble elk came rushing up to the road as if he was going to break through the train he turned before he got within gun shot and passed ahead but knapp shot at him but missed him we had not gon far before we heard a great shouting firing and presently a great thundering big buffolo came tearing up the valley about twenty men on horse back wear close on after him as soon as he saw us he turned up towards the bluffs but we cut him off he was now a getting tughtered out and begun to show fight one of our men run up and fired a pistol at him befor he could turn his horse the old fellow was into him he pitched the horse and rider heels over head luckily he did not hurt them much over twenty shots wear fired at him At last Capt Bowers brout him down there was great rejoicing when the old fellow tumbled we all had a fine feast at night off of the old bulls meat and promised ourselves many a one to come the storm last tuesday night has done great damage to the emigrants hardly a train that we can hear from but has lost more or less of thear stock they have got out amonst the bluffs and it is a chance wether they ever get them all again

June 1

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The excitement of yesterday has not worn of yet buffolo in quanties have been seen at a distance but when we would come up with them they would turn out to be rocks or something else we see lots of men out a hunting cattel one train ahead of ous lost two hundred head, what they will do if they cannot find them is more than i can tell they are to be pityed we passed the forks of the river to day and camped at the crossing place after fording a small slue distance 20 miles road good weather pleasant.

They had now come to the famous crossing of the South Platte, where the river was "a mile wide and a foot deep" as the saying of the trail had it. The ford was a few miles above the place where the two forks of the river met, and around the bustling activity of the crossing a small settlement was begin- ning to grow, a settlement later to become the town of North Platte, extending across the neck of land from one river to the other. The emigrant trail crossed this neck of land to the northern fork of the river. There were roads at this time on both sides of the North Platte and the Jerseyville Company chose the route which was later abandoned on the south bank. Although the road was new, the grades were easy and life fell into a steady uneventful routine that left the emigrants free to enjoy the trail.

A few days after the train turned up the river-bank, they found themselves in a new world. It was no gradual transformation, but a sudden waking one morning to the realization that the East they knew was left behind them, and a West, unknown and exciting, was on every hand. The strange shallow river meandering among its islets between treeless banks, the clear, thin air, the queer ungainly jackrabbits with their long black-tipped ears, starting up from the sandy hollows to lope away at astounding speed, the lizards sunning themselves on the rocks, and here and there a cactus plant, all spoke of new conditions and hinted of the desert ahead. Against this unfamiliar background, such men or traces of men as they encountered outside their own organization, took on added significance. The traders and their yarns, strays from other camps with the news they brought, the graves by the road side, even the Mormons whom they formerly hated and feared, were objects of interest.

138. This strange sect had been started in the year 1830 in Western New York by Joseph Smith who professed to have been guided by an angel to the hiding place of an additional Bible, "The Book of Mormon," written in strange characters on plates of gold. He organized a church and a community of believers which emigrated first to Ohio and later to Missouri near Independence. From there they were driven out on the accusation of being abolitionists, and took up land on the Mississippi in Illinois where they built the city of Nauvoo. But their discipline roused the suspicion of their frontier neighbors, as their material success due to that very organization gave rise to some envy. Strange social customs led to charges of immorality, and feeling against them grew so high and so bitter that the military had to be called in. To prevent a civil war, Joseph Smith surrendered and then was killed by a mob from whom his captors could not protect him. His people, practically driven out by the soldiers, abandoned their city in 1845 and set out to found a state of their own beyond the boundaries of the United States. At a spot north of Kane's Landing in Iowa near the Council Bluffs, a site now covered by the shifting river's channel, they established a camp for their women and children and the weaker members of the party, while a select group of men pushed on across the plains and beyond the first range of the mountains to the basin of the Great Salt Lake. Here they were, at that time, outside the jurisdiction of the American Government, and could set up their own state of Deseret. In 1847, the main body of citizens were brought over the trail from the settlement near the Council Bluffs, and only enough were left behind to manage the smithies and wagon shops for converts who might take the trail, and the forwarding warehouses and depots for the regular post and express services maintained for the desert city.

139. The Mormon community at Salt Lake was then scarcely two years old when the emigration of 1849 began, and was still in need of many things. As Paxton says in his History of the American Frontier: "The Mormons on Great Salt Lake received the forty-niners as a direct interposition of Providence for their benefit. . . . When they brought in the early crops of 1849, they knew that the procession of gold seekers would want supplies and that they could provide them. Many a Mormon farmer did a profitable business in live stock, picking up emaciated animals of emigrants for a song, fattening them for a few months, and selling them again at a fancy price. Few of the forty-niners had much money, but they had goods--furniture, tools, farm implements that they could not carry further with their animals dropping exhausted, but which the Mormons needed. The exchange was unavoidable for the miners and profitable for the Mormons who, by the end of 1849, were well organized, well fed, and well supplied." And while the Mormons must have been surprised that their former enemies could thus be of

Hamilton 49

June 9

Left camp at 6 A.M. After dinner mounted horse and took a turn along the ridge in search of anything wandering to procure powder and ball. Got a shot at an antelope. Some novices, having no witness, would swear they hit him, but by Toby, I did not! Left the ridge and struck to crossing (upper) of south fork of Platte. Those who have never seen the operation of crossing loaded wagons on quicksand would be amused. You have heard of buck-ague, fever and chill and shakes of every description, but the palsey given to our travelling vehicles cannot be described. They roll and rattle as though going over a rocky bed. The idea that they are not so situated is only dispelled in case of a halt, when the load will be found to be settling rapidly in the sand. Made ten miles and camped three quarters of a mile from crossing place.

June 10, Sunday

"But there is a noble rest above" sings a hymn I learned in my Sunday School. I know not how high up this rest is to be found. We are now pretty well elevated, and if anyone thinks it is rest to cross a stream a mile wide, with heavy wagons, on a quicksand bottom, they may have all the share of rest I expect ever to possess in this vale of tears. Made about 3½ miles. Read my Bible. This must be the land isiah speaks of "when the nations shall rush like the rush of many waters." (I mean the land we are going to.) Why did not Fulton or Fitch think of applying steam to California wagons? Where are you, Mr. Loper? Ran out of dishcloths, but McPaul's (our cook) inventive genius furnished a pair of drawers. Talk about a Yankee - give me an Irishman. By the way, the aforementioned article of apparel kept me from getting married. The lady found I wore red flannels!

June 11

"Blow till thou burst thy wind, if room enough!" Experienced a very violent storm at daylight. Left south

fork of Platte at 4 P.M., after nooning, and in the day's travel marched 15 miles to one of the most beautiful grounds we have had. Plenty of water and fine grass. Wiley Jennings killed a buffalo this morning and for supper Doctor and myself cooked that which distinguished his gender. This is esteemed by many, myself one of the number, a great luxury. Get out your eastern gourmards who are luxuriating on lobster: "Stewed, fried, roasted in the shell," and other fancy dishes of which we are deprived. "Every dog his day."

#### June 12

Left camp at 7 A. M. and made but one drive to the north fork of the Platte, about 8 miles. After travelling half our road, struck the entrance to the famous Ash Hollow, the scenery of which was quite romantic, and afforded quite a relief to the monotony of that we have been looking upon for the last month. Camped upon bank of the river on poor grass.

#### June 13

Started late - weather very cool, so that I found my blanket coat comfortable all day. Our route lay through very heavy sand, and we experienced much difficulty in getting many of our teams through. McAdam could confer a benefit here, which would render his name, which in this day of plank and railroad is but seldom heard, immortal. At times the scenery was quite interesting, the road running under ridges half rock and half sand. Made about nine miles.

#### June 14

Everybody going against me in relation to the distance yesterday, I will advance upon it three and three-eighths miles, seventeen yards and twenty inches. Break-

MAY 25th

The road has been close under the bluffs during this day's travel. Towards noon we passed the highest bluffs yet seen along the river bottom, suddenly however, they became very low and moderately rolling. Road excellent but some dusty. Saw some antelope, wolves, &c. Found very good feed this evening.

MAY 26th

Morning fair & warm, roads very dusty. Shortly after sunrise we saw the first buffalo - it passed down the bottom between our camp & the river, under a full run with a pack of large grey wolves in close pursuit. About noon we forded the south fork of the Platte. The ford at this place is at this time good, the water not averaging over 10 inches, water being not over twenty inches deep in the deepest place; a good running current and sand bottom. This ford is a short distance above the junction of the North & South Platte and distant from Ft. Kearny one hundred & twenty-three miles agreeable to Platt & Slater's Guide to California. The land to the left

Andrews

has been considerably rolling. A small stream of clear water makes down through the bottom parallel with the river for some distance. This creek is crossed soon after leaving the road, running along the bluffs bordering the south side of the south fork to the upper ford some forty-five miles above the lower one. Crossing the lower ford we have across the bottom land, the road running near the hills on account of rather low ground near the river. The river at the lower crossing is between a quarter and a half of a mile in width. The hills on the opposite side of the river present a very barren appearance. Abundance of game abounds along the Platte such as elk, antelope, deer, grey & prairie wolves, panthers, buffalo, prairie dogs, cranes, wild geese, ducks, &c. Camped on the bottom; no timber in sight. Alkali quite abundant.

MAY 27th

The weather extremely hot and close. A little after noon we left the bottom and passed over the bluffs on to a gently rolling plain, no timber or water, a scarcity of good feed. Shortly before leaving the river bottom a small stream makes down through

sand bluffs - dry & deep sand - 5 miles from Platte. Crossed bottom to bank of River & camp. No wood on south side. Some on Grand Island opposite. 18 miles now below Fort Karney. From St Joseph 300 miles. Plenty of grass on bottom, and a number of teams traveling in sight & in camp. Water in River vary muddy & rappid. This is only a slough of main river 100 yds wide.

May 31st. Friday. Left camp Early. Traveled 3 miles up River and at old camp got wood and took breakfast. Wrote a letter to my wife. All well. Good water here to drink in wells dug 3 ft deep. Arrived at Fort Karney 12 Ock. Left at 1 Ock. Left letter in Fort. This is a new Fort near where Fort Childs was, on South side of River  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile off & 4 miles from the head of Grand Island, 425 miles from St Joseph. Camped 6 miles w. of Fort on river bank. No timber all day. Fell in with D. Fisher's co. There has bin plenty Antilops and Buffalow for 150 miles back.

June 1st. Sat'y. Left camp 7 Ock. Rode 4 hours and dighned 18 miles above Fort. No timber. 10 miles from Fort timber near road on Island. 8 miles further plenty timber on Island near road eswy come at. Here I see Robt Brown of Lewis Co, Mo. Camped 22 miles above Fort. Jno. Gidin of Shelby Co, Mo,

take with Colera after dark. I went for Dr. Brown at his camp, took him to see him in night erly. He cramped and purged vary much during night. Night rainy and stormy. I lay outside tent all night in rain. Next morning I breckfasted with Dr. Brown and took him to see patient again. Dr. charge \$2.

June 2nd. Sunday. Left Parker & Co. at camp and left alone on route. Jno. Gigin vary bad. I had no hopes of him. Travel alone thinking it not prudent to stay. Travel about 30 miles, and fell in with Wm. Fore, Jarvis, August Easton, Vancy and others from Palmyra, and Griff Brisintine & others from New London - stay with them. Supt and breackfasted next morning. 3 or 4 died on the road in this days travel, said of Colera. One,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from this camp left wife & 9 children helpless. They had not moved when I left.

June 3rd. Monday. Left camp and found water and Timber on main shore in 17 miles. This is the first above Fort Karney and about 76 miles. Passed Sinolair with outtle here. Camp with Gent'n from Platte Co. Mo, at head of sand bluffs. Traveled 34 or 5 miles to day. Near this, road leaves River & cuts bend on high ground. No wood or water to crossing of S. Fork Platte, 20 miles. Take wood from River & 2 Branches that you cross

when you strike the first high ground 90 or 100 miles above Fort Karney. Passed many teams to day. Traveled alone all day. Well.

June 4th. Tuesday. Traveled 20 miles and Forded Platte River by 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  Ock A.M. This River is here all in one channel and  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile wide, about 18 inches deep. Lower banks are very sandy bottom - water vary muddy and not a stick of timber in sight. Grazed my horse on north side. Took up South fork 10 miles. Grass. Crossed ridge to North fork 2 miles & camped on Bottom. Good grass for 5 miles. Stay this night with Col. Lee of Indiana & his train of outfit of 40. He treated me well with tent and Sup'r & Breakfast. Distance said from Fort to Crossing, 123 miles. No wood in days travel of 32 miles.

June 5th. Wednesday. From Col. Lee camp on 5 mile Bottom took ridge between rivers & kept it for 15 miles before come to N. Fork. No grass, timber or water. Decended bluff and struck river. Poor grass for 6 miles, no wood; do to camp. Pass Johnson of Lewis Co. Mo, and conversed with him. No grass to camp for 4 miles; 4 miles good. First 4 miles R(oad) runs near River, heavy & sandy; 2 miles poor grass; 4 miles to point. Sand Hill good (place) to camp. Camp't in here

with Baldwin & Co, Clinton Co, Mo. Traveled this day 35 miles. No wood. Plenty from here to Castle Bluff for Emigrants (for) a few years.

June 6th. Thursday. 2 miles to point hill 1 mile heavy sand; 2 miles bottom at Lower end; Ceder grove in center high on bluff. Good spring on side road & ceder trees. Leave River and take steep bluff 2 miles to deep sandy hollow. Down hollow - Ash Hollow this - to River 2 miles. Timber & springs. Mouth of hollow to Castle Tower 8 miles. Narrow dry bottom and sandy. Quick-sand, alkili bottom 2 miles long & wide. Indians camp'd here as I passed at 12 Ock. Camped on dry sandy creek - some water. Indians plenty. Traveled 35 miles. Some heavy roads & Alkili swamps. Road runs near River. No wood for 80 miles - grass in places ever(y) 4 or 5 miles.

June 7th. Friday. Made Chimney Rock. Distance from Castle Rock 64 miles. Good roads generally this day. Plenty water & generally grass never more than 4 or 5 miles apart. Court House Rock & creek of good running water 30 ft wide, 10 in deep, 13 miles before you reach Chimney Rock. Passed Jacob Righter & R. Meyers, Jo Peter & Co, at 12 Ock this day. Camp'd with Mr. S. Stalcup & Wm Der of Shelby Co, Mo. Vary good camping

for 6 miles. No wood.

June 8th. Saturday. Traveled from 6 miles East of Chimney Rock to 6 miles west Scotts bluffs, 33 miles. From Chimney Rock to Scotts bluffs, 20 miles. 1st 10 miles good grass, road near river. R(oad) leaves river then and poor grass to creek 12 miles west Scotts Bluff. Cold spring west end Scotts Bluff. This Bluff and other surrounding, forming a great basin between them and affording a vary Romantic scenery. You pass through basin and leave the Bluff next river. Much Red Seeder & pine nuts on basin; look as if it was floorwood. None growing only on cliffes. Lay in wood here and at bluff. Indian village and Smith Shop temporarily at spring on bluff refer'd to above.

June 9th. Sunday Mor'g. 6 miles west Scotts Bluff. 6 miles further to fine stream clear water; good to camp for 2 miles. Next 7 miles hilly and much heavy sand until strike R(iver) bottom. Water & grass for 3 miles to gravel point of hills & some timber. 2 miles to Trading post. Road on b(an)k River, 15 miles on bottom; grass, wood & water. Road leave River, take(s) hill 5 m. across to Larame Fork. Grass. 1 1/2 m. to Fort. Not allowed to graze near it. Fort situated on Larame Fork, 1 1/2 m. up. Vary dirty situation on "W. of river. I did

not get within 6 miles of Fort this day. Encamp'd with train from Caliway Co. Mo. Eat the last provisions I had. In good health. Traveled about 38 miles this day. Dr. Richard Jones in my Co.

June 10th Monday. Rode 6 miles to Fort Larame; arrived at 7 A.M. crowded hard, & got our Breakfast at 37 1/2c each. Registered my name and went back on road 3 miles to graze horses. It hailed in the evening smartly. There is a vast quantity of waggons left here. Traders pretend to trade for them, but pay nothing. I can buy of them a new waggon of choice for \$25. Saw a waggon & 4 set harness cost in States \$180, given for 4 pack saddles. They sell here at \$2 a piece. Returned to Fort at night & got supper & lodging in mess room. Bot to day 2 lb coffee, 70c; 2 lb sugar, 60c; 8 lb Bacon 90c & 5 lb hard Bread, 50c. Wm Bradshaw & Co passed to day, also Mo Pike & Straughter. See Dr Bartlett. Buckhomon & Co urv'd in 1. This train was the subject of much advance publicity in the newspapers of the day. It was an "Express Passenger Train", and was expected to make the quickest trip of the season. On May 26th, however, it was struck by a tornado and lost 25 of its best horses and mules in the resulting stampede. See Sawyer's Journal, p. 26.

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eve'g, left next day.

June 11th. Tuesday. Left Fort; could get no breakfast. Went back to ford and cooked some provisions and then went 1½ m east to graze horse. Meeker, Fisher, Hawkins, Young & Others of Lewis & Knox Co. Mo, in camp all day washing up on east side Laramie Fork on bank. Mo Pike & Co 3 m. west laying up. See 1 dirty fight at Ford to day with two men in waggon mess. The 3rd man wanted to make peace, and Smith, one of the 1st, made for his arms. After getting a pistol his antagonist disarmed him and did not use the weapon; but Smith made them run their vary best to get out of his way. The 3rd man he made up with & went on; the other started to the Fort to have the matter settled by Com'd'g officer. I heard no further from them.

June 12th, 13th & 14th. Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday. Remained at crossing of Laramie Ford in camp with Mr. Macalf, a Mountaineer trader waiting for Teem. 13th. Jo Porter, "m. Marshall, R. Myers & Co, passed. 14th. Jerome Hanson & Smith's Passenger train passed, also Miles & Bennetts, the Georgia train on the 13th. See Woolery & Stamp. On the 14th, nothing of any important. I buy me bread and meat of the emigrants, wach the

road, graze me horse & cook and eat; and am in good health to do all. There is a great sacrafice of waggons at this point in exchanging & cutting up<sup>1</sup> and many burn them for fear they will do others good. 12th. Man drown on N. Platte here crossing.

June 15th. Saturday. Dr. Revely pass'd Laramie Fort in morning. Bourne, Givens, Brown & others of Lewis Co. Mo. 12 Ock same day, Longmyer, Jarvis, Van Noy, Gilbert & Brin-entines. "m Fore & others, evening, of Palmyra & New London, Mo. Mr. A. Church with word from J.H. Frush to me this day at noon; St Clair with teem & stock same time. U.S. Train and eskort arrived at Fort this evening.

June 16th. Sunday. Still camp't'd with Mr. Medcalf on bank of Platte. Grazed east of river in forenoon and tied out in the limits of fort bounds at night. Had a fine meus of Fish for supper with Mr. Medcalf. <sup>1</sup>After leaving Fort Laramie the difficulties of the route increased. As a consequence, it was the custom of the emigrants to here shorten their wagons by cutting off the reaches and wagon boxes, or to purchase or trade their heavy wagons for lighter ones.