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THE DIARY OF BASIL N. LONGWORTH,  
OREGON PIONEER

Transcribed

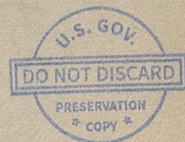
by

The Historical Records Survey  
Division of Women's and Professional Projects  
Works Progress Administration

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The Historical Records Survey  
400 Elks Bldg.  
Portland, Oregon



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November 25, 1938

#### PREFACE

It is most fitting that the first publication, in the field of manuscripts, of the Historical Records Survey of the Works Progress Administration in Oregon should be the transcription of the diary of a pioneer.

Basil N. Longworth, whose diary is presented, was a member of a company, organized by Rev. T. J. Connor and Jeremiah Kenoyer, to make a long journey by boat and wagon train to Oregon in response to a plea by Mr. George Bethers, a pioneer settler of Benton County, Oregon, for preachers to go to that region. The Ohio Conference of the United Brethren Church contributed \$500 to help defray the expenses of the company.

On March 15, 1853, the company, consisting of 98 persons, members of 16 families, and about 30 wagons gathered at Council Bluffs, Iowa, to begin their long and arduous journey into Oregon; on October 6, they camped near Albany, just across the river from Benton County. In 1859 or 1860, T. J. Connor became the first clergyman of the Bethel Chapel of United Brethren Church. He was chiefly responsible for the founding of Philomath College, at Philomath, Oregon, in 1867.

The diary contains little of the personal comment found in many journals; it might almost be called a guide, since it describes faithfully journey, distance covered from day to day, costs of commodities, etc.

Basil N. Longworth accompanied his sister and brother-in-law, Mary and James Edwards, on this journey. The only copy of the diary known to be in the possession of the family, is owned by their granddaughter, Mrs. Caryl Edwards Kyle, of Monroe. Mrs. Kyle has given the Historical Records Survey of Oregon permission to issue a mimeographed edition of the document, thus expressing her interest in the aim of the Survey of gathering historical material which relates to the history of our country and making it available to researchers, teachers, students, and others who enjoy following American history from its beginning.

It has seemed best to transcribe the original without the introduction of editorial comments in footnotes or otherwise. The aim is to present the material as it stands to the user as a basis for research.

When Mr. Mark Phinney, working under the supervision of

T. J. Edmonds, came upon the diary during his investigation of source materials of historic value in Benton County, he perceived the value of the manuscript. The Historical Records Survey, therefore, is pleased to acknowledge a debt of gratitude to Mr. Phinney, and to Mrs. Kyle for her gracious permission to publish the recollections.

Luther H. Evans  
National Director  
Historical Records Survey  
Washington, D. C.

T. J. Edmonds  
State Director  
Historical Records Survey  
Portland, Oregon

"Through the preceding winter James Edwards sold his farm and other property and made arrangements to remove with his family, which consisted of a wife and four children. In the preceding fall I had made up my mind to accompany him, and after making the necessary preparations -- on the eve of the 15th of March I left my native home where I was born and had always lived -- bid adieu to my parents, brothers and sisters, and a number of relations and friends, and with rather solemn thoughts we commenced our long and uncertain journey. We travelled three miles and stayed that night with Mr. Lewis Edwards.

"On the morning of the 16th, after bidding adieu to many relations and friends, we left Mr. Edwards and started for Wheeling where we expected to get on board a boat. We travelled four miles to Antrim where we made some repairs to our wagon -- used a board for a tarbucket and had some amusement. We then passed through Fairview and Henrysburg and stayed at the next tavern where we were comfortably entertained.

"On the 17th we payed our fare and pursued our journey, passed through Morristown and then Floydstown to St. Clairsville, the county seat of Belmont Co., and arrived at Wheeling. James Edwards having gone before us by stage in order to secure passage on a boat bound for the west. While on stage he became acquainted with Mr. Wm. D. Hare of Fairview, who joined

us and we started with the intention of crossing the plains together. We spent the evening awaiting the arrival of the boat, which was hourly expected, to convey us to St. Louis.

"March 18th. While here we examined the chain or wire suspension bridge which is a great curiosity and one of the noblest works of art. It is a single span of near a thousand feet in length and suspended something like a hundred feet above the water. The abutment over which the wires pass are forty or fifty feet above the bridge, there being an arch turned in the abutments through which the road passes onto the bridge, which is a double track, and is suspended to the cables which cross the river by small wires attached to them and pass down perpendicular through the sills of the bridge. The cables come within two or three feet of the bridge in the middle of the river.

"After spending the day in changing our paper money for gold, and viewing the city, in the evening we took cabin passage on the David White, which was one of the largest upper trade boats, and bound for Louisville. This is a fine boat with good accommodations and runs well. We paid \$6.00 apiece for our passage, our baggage being included. Today we bid farewell to Lewis Edwards and Wm. Longworth, our brothers who had brought us to the river, our parting was rather hard as we parted with the last relations which we would in all probability see for years.

"Saturday the 19th. At three in the morn we left Wheeling and passed rapidly down the river, and when we awoke in the morning all was strange. At nine we passed Marietta, which is a large town and the oldest in Ohio. The next town was Parkersburg situated at the mouth of the Kenhawa. At 4:00 P.M. we took on coal at Pomeroy which is a town on the Ohio side and extending along the river for six or eight miles, and its

chief wealth consists in its coal mines and salt works. We left this place half an hour behind the Pittsburg -- one of the fastest sailing boats. The passengers waved their hats in triumph when they left, but our captain said we would pass him before they made Cincinnati. Our boat then gave chase, the boat running at the rate of twenty-three miles an hour, and in spite of the efforts of the Pittsburg we passed her at 2:00 o'clock in the morning.

"Sunday, the 20th, we landed in Cincinnati where we remained until 5:00 in the evening. While in the city we spent an hour or two in walking through the city and feasting our eyes on the taste, order, beauty, and wealth which everywhere displayed itself in the handsomely paved streets and massy buildings. Cincinnati, including its suburbs, extends along the river for some eight miles and is really the Queen City of the west and embodies a great amount of wealth. The eye gazes with interest and delight on its many massy, rich, and fanciful edifices. While here we went to Dr. Wm. Owen's office, we being old acquaintances. He was not at home. We left a line and went to our boat. In a short time he came home and visited us on the boat: we had a short conversation. He gave us some directions on how to preserve good health and a word of encouragement and assurance that he would follow us and then left.

"Leaving Cincinnati at midnight we came to Madison, Ind. Soon after leaving Madison the night became so dark and foggy that they had to lay up until late in the morning of the 21st. At 9:00 we landed at Louisville and paid a drayman \$1.00 for hauling our wagon three miles to Portland, and we got into an omnibus and drove a mile or two through the town. This is a rich business place. The Ohio here falls twenty-seven feet in the distance of two or three miles. There is now a boat canal cut around the fall, the locks admitting boats near two hundred feet long. Among the

curiosities of Louisville was a man seven feet, eight inches tall, and another woman came in the Pittsburgh who weighed above 600 pounds.

"We here took passage on the Pike, a rather rough sailing boat, and paid \$8:00 apiece for our passage to St. Louis, and at 2:00 in the afternoon we cleared the wharf and started for our future destiny. Nothing special occurring, the steep and rocky hills for 100 miles came very near the river, there being scarcely a good farm or house along the river in all this distance. One curiosity was a grist mill which had a very large over-shot wheel and was driven by a spring of sparkling water which gurgled from the hill directly above the mill. These hills furnished no good timber, and were in many places a wall of limestone rocks.

"On the morning of the 22nd we awoke and beheld as lovely a day as heart could wish. We soon landed at Evansville, a city of Indiana which looks like quite a thriving business place. The river along here is very large and crooked and we seem to be sailing in almost every direction, -- a little after sunrise we were sailing directly toward the sun. At 3:00 this morning we met the Vermont and turned our boat and lashed them together and sailed upstream with her while we took a number of Oregon Immigrants on board with four wagons.

"Today we are sailing through a most splendid looking country with not a hill in view. The eye can have full stretch over dense forests without an eminence to obscure the vision. One thing strikes you with surprise, -- namely, the severity of the cold. The motion of the boat raises such a breeze as will chill you in a few minutes, while it is pleasant were it not for the motion of the boat. Another peculiarity is this: although we are sailing down stream we go so much faster than the water that it appears to run in an opposite direction with an extremely rapid current.



"We now have a scene on board which exhibits quite a contrast. There is a corpse on board (Which was killed by the explosion of a boat) while in the cabin there are three card tables in active operations. The bottoms have been low this afternoon and all overflow and, of course, but little improvements near the river. About 3:00 this evening we passed Cave Rock, which is a cave in Illinois with a small entrance in the rock, the extent of the cave has never been found. At sunset we left Smithland, a small town at the junction of the Cumberland and Ohio Rivers. At 7:00 we landed at Paduca, a city at the mouth of the Tennessee. At 12:00 we landed at Cairo, a town at the mouth of the Ohio.

"The morning of the 23rd found us sailing up the mouth of the Father of Waters. This is one of the most beautiful of mornings, but the river is not as beautiful as the Ohio, there being so many sand bars and so much drift-wood and snags. The Illinois side is low and flat as far as the eye can reach, while the Missouri side appears to be hilly and in many places there are rugged limestone bluffs. There is but little improvement along the river in this region. This evening we saw quite a town some miles from the river on the Missouri side. All the way up the Mississippi, except where the river strikes the bluffs, the bank appears to be a bank of sand which, by the action of the water, is constantly tumbling in, and forming sand-bars elsewhere causing the channel constantly to change; which, in connection with the snags, makes the navigation very dangerous.

"Thursday, the 24th. Before day we landed in St. Louis, and as soon as it was day we set out to see the city and secure another boat to pursue our journey. After a little search we found the Banner State Which was bound up the St. Louis river; we secured a cabin passage for which we paid \$12.00 apiece, and took our breakfast on board. After loading our

baggage we commenced taking a view of the city. As we walked through the city I was surprised at the wealth and magnificence which everywhere struck my eye. The splendid Cathedrals, Churches, and Court House, with the many large and splendid mansions which everywhere reared their lofty summits, and are the abodes of the high and opulent, but in the midst of all this we met the objects of extreme poverty. As an instance, I saw an elderly woman gathering up wheat which had been spilled and which was, perhaps, one-third dirt. We also met with thousands of men and children peddling everything which you can think of, for which they want double price.

"Along this wharf is exhibited the most business-like place I ever saw. The shore for a mile and a half is lined with boats while the wharf is piled high with merchandise of every kind and description, and drays and wagons make a continual hum. The draymen and boatmen in their rough dress followed by the commanding harsh voice of the mate ordering the loading and unloading of boats consummates the scene.

"The 25th. We occupied this day in buying our outfit for the plains. Our outfit cost us \$150.00 including provisions and cooking utensils, there being five or six in company. In the evening we exchanged \$150.00 of paper money for gold and then bought two gum coats and pants, in which we were completely bit, paying at least one-third more than their real worth.

"In this town was a real curiosity, there was exhibited an OX raised in Illinois which was 19 hands high, -- 18 feet six inches in length from the nose to the tip of the tail. He measured nine feet eight inches around the kidneys, and although he was quite lean he weighed 3500 pounds. He was the common scrub breed, was perfectly white, and was sold to the butchers for \$75.00. They then failed in fattening him and sold him for \$150.00, and the persons now were offered \$1,500.00 for him but they would

not sell as they were exhibiting him, and intended to take him to the World's Fair at New York.

"The 26th. Early this morning we left St. Louis and started up the river. There is a marked difference in the waters of the Mississippi and Missouri, the former being clear, the latter looks just as though it was full of ashes and is muddy indeed. About 8:00 this morn we passed St. Charles -- a fine looking town of perhaps a thousand inhabitants. This was the only town we saw this day of any importance. The river bottom appears to be five or six miles wide with hills on each side and in many places there are bold and rugged bluffs with rocky fronts of one and two hundred feet in height, On the top of these hills are the commencement of many fine farms. This day we travelled very slow, perhaps four miles per hour, the day being cloudy with heavy winds.

"Sunday, March 27th. This is a beautiful day with a cool wind. The river appears as usual except for a remarkable rise. We passed no towns of note until 5:00 in the evening when we came to Jefferson City, the State Capital, Where they landed and took on board ten heavy wagons. In this town we visited the Capitol. This is a fine building on the outside but is not well finished on the inside. It is built of polished limestone and looks beautiful. There is a circular portico in front, one half of the circle extending into the building. In front are round columns nearly four feet in diameter and nearly 45 feet high which support the roof. I suppose the building is 200 by 120 feet and stands on a bluff near the river. The city has a very poor and uneven location, and is tied to the earth by extreme poverty. The city being unsurpassed in native ugliness.

"This day I spent much of my time in reading my Bible and meditating on the wretched condition of those who follow trafficking along the

river and desecrate the Lord's Day by unloading and running on the Sabbath, when I felt to thank God I was not a sailor and brought up in profaning the Lord's Day.

"Monday, the 28th. A beautiful day with a continued rise in the river. At 8:00 we landed at Booneville on the west side, a business-like place with perhaps two thousand inhabitants, its situation rather rough. The sand bars are spotted with thousands of wild geese -- many fine farms on the west side.

"29th. This morning fair with some towns on the west side. I had a hard raking on free agency and falling from grace, and a hard contest with a Campbellite minister on the essentials of Baptism. This day we passed a fine prairie of some five miles in extent. It was really beautiful to the eye, the ground was apparently as level as a house floor, and covered with dry grass a yard high and as thick as it could stand. At 12:00 this night there was a card table surrounded with five abettors who seemed to handle each others money very freely, how long this was continued I do not know.

"This night I went to bed feeling that I was among a band of thieves and robbers. After commending my soul and body to God in secret devotion accompanied with an ardent desire that he would save me from the sin and infamy of gambling in all its forms, I sunk quietly to rest.

"Wednesday, the 30th. At daylight we landed at Lexington, went into the town and visited Cousin Ezra Boyer, formerly of Maryland. He came on board and talked what time we had to stay. Lexington is situated on a level piece of ground perhaps 150 feet above the river, and has a considerable population. We continued up the river occasionally landing passengers and freight. At 10:00 at night our Campbellite minister, so noted for

debating, gave us the parting hand and left. Again the card table was surrounded by four anxious abbettors striving to rob each other of their money.

"31st. This morn we found our boat at Independence, the day clear and warm. At 10:00 we came to Kansas, a town near the mouth of the Kansas River which separates Missouri from Nebraska Territory. There was a peculiar contrast between the waters of the Kansas and Missouri, the former being very clear and seems to run over the waters of the Missouri, while in many places the muddy waters boil up and make the stream look spotted, which reminds one of the horizon when it is bestudded with numerous clouds. At sunset we landed at Ft. Leavenworth, a military station in Nebraska. There is a splendid stone warehouse at the landing, and upon an elevation of 200 feet is the barracks and town, and back of this is a prairie as smooth as a floor and dotted with timber. This surely is a handsome place, while the soldiers look beautiful.

"Nebraska will soon come into the market and is one of the richest countries in the world and is very inviting to immigrants. At dark we halted at Platte City Landing and landed much freight. At 9:00 we came to Weston. Here James Edwards landed for the purpose of purchasing a team.

"April the 1st. This morning we saw a tent and four wagons belonging to Oregon immigrants. At 4:00 in the afternoon we landed at St. Joseph and put up our provisions and boarded at Mr. Blackstone's, a man who formerly lived in Middle Town and had recently moved to Missouri. We paid three dollars a week for board.

"On Saturday, the 2nd, I remained in the house with my sister as my brother-in-law had not returned and the children were unwell and very cross.

"Sabbath, the 3rd, there was preaching in a number of places, but on account of circumstances I remained at home.

"The 4th. Today Edwards and I went some twenty miles and brought home four yoke of cattle which he had purchased and for which he had paid \$285.00.

"On the 5th we continued making arrangements, the weather continuing warm and dry.

"On the 6th we purchased another yoke of oxen and some other necessaries, the oxen cost \$70.00. This day we also secured an old wagon which needed considerable repairs and cost \$50.00 when ready for use.

"The 7th continued preparations. While here court was in session and a criminal case was investigated. In July last four men formed a plot to whip a man to death because he owed them a few dollars which was ill-gotten gains, and which he refused to pay. For the accomplishment of their plot they secured handcuffs and went into the store and purchased cowhides, and then went to his own home in St. Joseph and compelled him to leave a sick bed and drove him by force out of town, handcuffed him and tied him to a bush, stripped him and commenced whipping him. While the whipping was going on they sent one of their number two or three times into town to buy liquor; thus they continued drinking and whipping him until he was dead. The operation lasted from four to six hours when death relieved the sufferer from further bodily pain. They they threw his clothes up in the bush over him to point out his remains. Mr. Jennings was tried, found guilty, sentenced to be hung, and the 3rd of June was appointed for his execution. The trial of the remaining three will take place soon and they in all probability will share a similar fate. This was surely one of the most shocking, cold-blooded murders ever committed and the perpetrators should not go unpunished.

"On the 8th our wagon was ready and we loaded some of our provisions.

"The 9th we secured another yoke of cattle and at 4:00 in the afternoon we started on our journey and felt glad we were out of the city. The last yoke of oxen cost \$80.00 and our boarding \$24.00.

"When we left St. Joseph a number of reflections crossed my mind. St. Joseph is a hard place. Mechanics charge extravagantly high for their work. It contains 4,000 people and is a stirring place. A few days before we were there four negroes were sold at public sale; an old man, a woman, and two children.

"We went four miles and stopped for the evening. We watered and tied our cattle to the wagons, got our suppers, breakfasts, and a bed for Mary and the children and grain for the cattle and paid \$2.15. We slept this night in the wagon.

"The 10th. Being late on our journey we travelled twelve miles to Savannah, the county seat of Noble County. This day was dry and cold.

"Monday, the 11th. We started early this morning and travelled on until a little after noon when there came a violent storm of rain and thunder. I had my gum coat on and was in all the rain but did not get much wet. This morn we purchased a cow for which we paid \$16.00. We travelled a mile or two after the rain when we took up our lodging in an old deserted cabin where we baked bread for the two days following. This night was very rainy.

"The 12th. This morning we started and travelled over a very muddy road and about 2:00 or 3:00 we came to a large prairie which was eight miles across. We drove pretty fast and reached a lodging on the west side. There were no buildings, nothing but prairie hens, cranes, ravens, and turkeys. This prairie is one of the beauties of nature. It is rolling

or hilly land and certainly would be rich and very productive if cultivated. This night we pitched our tents and for the first time found ourselves enjoying the realities of a trip to Oregon. The wind blew a gale and a threatening storm hurried us in our preparations. We kindled a fire, made our coffee and fried meat and spread a quilt in our tent, placed our supper upon it, seated ourselves on the ground and commenced helping ourselves. I enjoyed the feast very well. Mary, James, and the children slept in the wagon while Hare and I slept in the tent. We were happily disappointed in the rain shower.

"Wednesday, the 13th, we travelled five miles, came to the Nod-away -- paid \$1.00 for ferriage. This day was very cold and windy and in the evening snowed some. We slept in the house this night and in the morn we started and travelled five miles and came to one of the muddiest roads, we doubled teams and consumed three hours in going one mile. This evening, the 14th, we crossed a prairie five miles wide; While in the middle of this prairie two yoke of oxen balked and it was late at night before we found a resting place.

"The 15th. This morning Edwards left in order to buy a yoke or two of oxen. He purchased one yoke for which he paid \$85.00 and returned at 5:00 in the evening.

"On the 16th we yoked our cattle and started. This day we travelled thirteen miles and camped for the night --

"On the Sabbath, the 17th as we were late in meeting our company we thought it advisable to drive a short distance. At 10:00 we came to a river and had to ferry. In going to the ferry we had to drive through backwater as the river was over its banks, and I got in over my boots. When we got to the ferry the oxen would not draw the wagon into the boat



as the mud was deep; so we had to unload. We got over and paid \$1.25 for ferriage. We camped this night and carried our feed and water a quarter of a mile.

"Monday the 18th, we pursued our course -- the day windy and cool. In the afternoon we entered a twelve-mile prairie and had to travel until 9:00 o'clock before we found feed and water.

"On the 19th we came within twelve miles of Caynesville, passing through Coonsville, a dirty little shire town, and camped for the night.

"The 20th. This morning Edwards went to Caynesville to see the arrangements of the company in which he intended to travel across the plains, but to his surprise he left the town without hearing from them. On his way to camp he met a Brethren minister who told him a number of the company would come next day. This night we had quite a rain.

"The 21st. This morning Edwards and Hare went to Coonsville to get the wagon tire and buy corn, and purchased sixteen bushels at 40 cents per bushel.

"They returned Friday the 22nd. This night it commenced raining and we had a very heavy wind and rain from the east, and about 3:00 o'clock in the morning of the 23rd, just as it was raining, our tent blew over -- which raised us rather early in the morning. This day continued very rainy and cold and Mary was quite unwell. We got some breakfast and gave her a good drink of brandy and covered her quite warm and then she felt better. This night it still rained heavy and blew up very cold and late at night snowed considerable.

"Sunday, the 24th, very cold and windy.

"The 25th pleasant and Edwards went with the wagon after corn and bought sixteen bushels for which he paid 65¢ per bushel. This evening three Indians came to our camp and wanted money and something to eat -- after eating some bread and meat they left camp.

"Tuesday, the 26th, I walked to Caynesville to see our Company, but could hear nothing from them as the Rev. Mr. Conner had not arrived. Received a letter from my brother at home and found all things well.

"The 27th was cloudy and after night it commenced raining and rained very hard until 7:00 the next morning.

"The 28th. After it ceased raining we made arrangements and moved to another camp where we could get hay for our cattle.

"The 29th and 30th were dry and cool.

"Sunday, May the 1st. Edwards went to the Brethren Camp, and found a number there, but neither of the missionaries had arrived.

"The 2nd. Nothing of interest happened and in the evening Edwards went out to kill a deer; he saw one and the first shot brought it to the ground. There being another brought into camp all were served with venison.

"The 3rd. I went to Caynesville, put a letter into the office and received one from my brother Peter and found all my relations well at home. I here formed an acquaintance with Brother Conner as he came to the office while I was in, and also made arrangements with the rest of the company to move near the ferry.

"The 4th continued cold.

"Thursday, the 5th, a fine day and we moved to the camp near the ferry and camped with the Colony, who were busy in making preparations to cross the river.

"Our outfit consisted of the following articles:

600 lbs of flour	2 bbls of pilot bread.
100 " of hams-bacon.	160 lbs of sides-bacon.
60 " of dried beef.	13 " of tea.
5 " of pepper.	2 sacks of salt.

5 bu. of dried apples.	1 bu. of beans.
50 lbs. of rice.	3 lbs. of allspice.
3 gals. of vinegar.	5 " of soda.
26 lbs. of cheese.	3 gals. of pickles.
5 lbs. of saleratus.	1 box of matches.
2 bunches of fire kindling.	1 lb. of ginger.
20 lbs. of rosin.	20 lbs. of black lead.
20 " of tallow.	1 10-gal. water keg.
5 " of tartaric acid.	1 3-gal. water keg.
3 gals. of brandy.	100 lbs. of sugar.
5 cans of powder. (gun)	6 " of mustard.
3 gals. of alcohol.	10 " of candles.
130 yds of rope.	12 " of lead.

"On the 6th we intended to cross but by delays and inaction we failed.

"Saturday, the 7th of May. About ten o'clock in the morning we commenced crossing and by 4:00 in the afternoon we were all safely landed on the western shore, and for the first time felt that we had left civilization--turned our backs to happiness while our faces fronted dangers, hunger, and fatigue while we travelled through an uncultivated region of two thousand miles in extent.

"Our Company consisted of thirteen families numbering about eighty persons, and 26 wagons and carriages, and near three hundred head of cattle besides a number of horses. The number of teams being too large for the number of men, which made the labors of the camp very laborious. Our ferriage cost \$4.00 per wagon and 25¢ a head for stock. We drove four miles and camped where we remained over Sabbath and let our cattle grass.

"The 9th. This morning we put a tongue in a wagon which had been broken and in the afternoon drove seven miles, crossing Papillion Creek, and camped for the night.

"The 10th. This morning is very cold with much frost and the ground froze a little. This day we drove near fifteen miles and camped

on the bank of a creek where our stock was nearly without grass. The bridge was so very poor that we had to unhitch and run the wagons over by hand. There were two or three logs thrown across the stream -- brush thrown across the logs and dirt on the brush, and this so narrow that there was scarcely room for the wagon wheels.

"The 11th. We crossed the bridge, drove about eight miles and camped. This evening they drove their cattle over a slough to an island which had good grass, when a large number of them mired and we had to wade through the water to our waists to get them out.

"On the 12th we moved to the Elkhorn River, paid three dollars a wagon for ferriage,--swam our cattle and drove some distance, making ten miles this day.

"The 13th day was fine. We travelled near twenty miles and camped in the open prairie without wood and nearly without water -- we made coffee and made bread with weeds for fuel.

"The 14th. This morning is rainy -- we started and about noon came to one of the most miserable sloughs I ever saw. It was three rods wide and the wagons went into the mud up to the wagon beds. When most of our company were over, after breaking many chains, there came an awful wind and rain storm such as I had never seen and I took it all after wading the slough. We drove six or seven miles -- passing an Indian who had been lying shot, and was lying by the side of the road. After camping for the evening I concluded the day rather unpleasant and eventful for a birthday.

"Sabbath the 15th. This morning at 9:00 we had a sermon by Br. Conner from the first six verses of the tenth chapter of Corinthians -- drove twelve miles and camped; had a sermon at night.

"16th. This morning we divided our Company and drove twelve

miles to the Loup Fork. At 4:00 this afternoon there was quite a rain and wind, and about dark there was a tremendous rain storm which continued through the night. This night there was a daughter born in Mr. Mason's family.

"17th. Some fifty wagons which were waiting to be ferried over and our turn should come next morning. This evening it again rained very hard.

"18th. This morning is very cold with a perfect gale of wind which prevented ferrying, and we continued in camp all day.

"19th. I being on guard this morning raised a whoop in camp at 4:00 to wake the people. They were soon up and had breakfast when we moved to the ferry -- drove our cattle a mile upstream to the ford and drove them over. This was a hard task for me as I, with a number of others, had to wade over and drive the cattle. When they got into the river the cattle struck down stream and waded perhaps a mile before we reached the opposite shore. The river was sixty or eighty rods wide with sandy bottom and runs very swift, being from one to two and a half feet deep.. Our wagons were all across by noon and we drove eight miles and camped on the banks of a little lake, the water being as clear as crystal. Here strong dissatisfaction between different members of the company appeared.

"The 20th. The day beautiful and we travelled until noon when we came to a slough where the rear wheels of Edwards wagon sunk in the tough sod to the hubs -- he started his cattle and to his surprise they drew the wagon out. This day we travelled sixteen miles.

"The 21st. This day was very warm, the first warm day we have had this spring. At noon we came to another swamp where a number of wagons stuck and had to double the teams. This night we camped in the Loup Fork after travelling sixteen or eighteen miles.

"22nd. This morning is again wet and we remained in camp all day and in the evening we had a sermon by Mr. Lichtenthaler.

"The 23rd. This morning we started up the Loup Fork bottom as we had been following that stream from the ford. The road was bad and near noon we came to the bluffs-- we passed into them and found a strange looking place. The ground appeared to be piled up with heaps of from one to ten acres in extent -- the sand being some six inches deep in the road. The Loup Fork bottom is a bed of gritty sand, the grass being very scarce. After a hard day's drive we struck the Platte bottom.

"The 24th. This morning we travelled ten miles and came to a swale which was very deep and muddy, we raised our wagon beds a few inches -- doubled teams and drove over without much injury excepting the upsetting of one of Mr. Lichtenthaler's wagons and wetting some of his goods. We camped on the bank and dried our things.

"Next morning, the 25th, we started and travelled through the rain, as it commenced raining just as we started and rained all day; after going seven miles we came to Wood River, where we found a brush bridge and toll gatherers; we paid 40¢ a wagon, crossed over, drove four miles and camped. The paying of the toll was unjust and imposed by a set of rascals.

"26th. The day fine. We drove sixteen or eighteen miles over a muddy hard road most of the way and camped near where four oxen died this day from drinking alkali water. This night a young woman died of the measles in a camp near us.

"27th. Fine cool day. We traveled eighteen miles; in the evening we crossed two deep ravines and camped on the bank of a small stream, had fine grass. This evening there was a grave near us, the body being

dug up by wild beasts, there being some of the bones and hair remaining. This is not an uncommon sight on the plains.

"28th. We traveled ten miles and came to a creek -- crossed over a bridge -- ate a bite of dinner, when our Company divided, a part camped while Edwards and Connor drove until evening and camped. This evening it rained some and at night it rained very hard.

"29th. It ceased raining with a light wind and we continued in camp over the Sabbath -- held prayer-meeting at night. I think I am as tired today from exposure and hard labor as I ever was in my life. I could scarcely get up when sitting or lying down.

"Monday, the 30th, we traveled ten miles up Buffalo Creek -- crossed over and made twenty miles this day and found nearly an entire absence of grass. It rained again very hard at night.

"31st. Morning wet and our cattle mixed with a drove. We parted them and yoked up and started about 11:00 o'clock. We let our cattle graze a little and then drove until evening, making fifteen miles, having heavy mud roads. This evening we had a heavy rain which continued most of the night.

"June the 1st. Road continued bad, at noon we came to the river -- passed over some sand banks and continued up the river, drove perhaps sixteen miles and camped at 6:00 in the evening; this evening we had another heavy rain and cold wind. The ground was nearly covered with water.

"2nd. Cloudy. We passed two beautiful springs to the left of the road and two streams of water, making twenty miles, when we came to the last timber for two hundred miles. Camped and Edwards swam a branch of the Platte -- cut some willows and we drove them (the oxen) across

the stream with a rope.

"The 3rd we remained in camp washing and baking. This evening Edwards killed an antelope. The day was cloudy.

"4th. We again drove ahead and passed over very muddy roads, crossed Black Mud Creek, and in a mile or two came to the bluffs and at 2:00 in the evening we found a fine spring south of the road. We camped this evening on the banks of the North Bluff Creek, making nineteen miles; the day being cloudy.

"Sunday the 5th. Cloudy with little rain; we crossed Bluff Creek -- six rods wide, good fording. We then struck into the bluffs, had a hilly, sandy road to Buffalo Creek eleven miles, good roads to Sheperd's Creek, we here camped with good grass.

"The 6th. Fine day, we traveled twenty miles, crossed some streams and at noon struck the bluffs and crossed over the levellest ground between Duck Creek and Rattlesnake River I ever saw. For miles the water appeared to be about four inches deep. There was more good grass passed over this day than I have seen anywhere else. Truly the God in Heaven has spread in rich profusion around us everything which could happify man, and reveal the Wisdom and Benevolence of God to man. We camped a little below Cedar Bluffs south of the river.

"7th. Day fine. We traveled fifteen miles; about two in the evening we crossed Horns Creek, a fine stream, and passed up a steep sandy hill which was very heavy draft, the road for a mile runs through the bluffs with strange looking scenery. The road in many places passes through narrow channels between sand banks twenty or thirty feet high. We camped on the banks of a little stream with fine grass.

"8th. We traveled nineteen miles. Passed the lone tree, which



is now cut down; at noon we crossed Castle River, a fine stream six or eight rods wide. Its banks are low, bottom sandy and was perhaps eighteen inches deep, fording good. We camped in the neighborhood of Calm Creek, as marked on the map, but the creek we never found.

"Thursday, the 9th. The day clear and warm -- very warm without even a gentle zephyr to fan our heated blood. The road good. This day we passed two large dog-towns, they covered perhaps three or four hundred acres each. Mr. Edwards shot four of them, they are nearly the color of the red fox, and are about as large as the gray squirrel of Ohio and resemble it much in shape, except the tail which is five or six inches in length and not bushy, and they bark like a little fiste. We cooked two of them and they ate delicately. We made sixteen miles and camped near the Indian Mound. The guide is very obscure along here and we could hardly determine where we were.

"The 10th. This morning from the bluffs we saw Chimney Rock thirty miles ahead, passed Ancient Bluff Ruins north of the road, which much resembles decayed towns and settlements of the old world. Made fifteen miles, the day hot, and we camped opposite Solitary Tower south of the river. This is an immense pile of sand and clay and looks strange at a distance of ten or twelve miles.

"The 11th. Made twelve or fifteen miles. The day clear and warm. Yesterday Mr. Connoyer's boy, attempting to get into the wagon, fell and the wheel passed over his leg without material injury. Today Mr. Chandler fell and the wheel passed over his leg likewise without much injury. We camped nearly opposite Chimney Rock. This rock is eight or ten miles from camp and looks strange. From the present view I think it must cover an area of thirty rods in diameter at its base, the sides

sloping up at an angle of 45 degrees until it arrives at a height of two hundred feet, where it appears to be about three rods in diameter. Its sides are then perpendicular for a height of 150 or 200 feet more, the top being nearly flat. I am now perhaps eight miles from the Rock and my observations are perhaps very incorrect, but they are the best I can form under existing circumstances. In the last eight days we have made 140 miles. For 300 miles west of the Missouri the bluffs were sandbank, but for the last week's travel much of the bluffs have a rocky front, showing massy piles of limestone rocks. Through this weeks travel there has been scarcely a vestige of timber along the river. The Platte bottom is surely a strange and interesting place; It is from six to fifteen miles wide with sandy soil, which in many parts is covered with flowers of numerous variety and rich delicate hues while in other parts a rich robe of grass of luxuriant growth shaded the soil, again in other parts the ground is nearly bare which makes a strange contrast.

"Sunday, the 12th, clear day. We remained in camp and had a sermon by a Baptist minister by the name of Davis, who was camped near us, from the text, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life". He gave us a good sermon. In the evening we had an appointment for Mr. Connor to preach at the camp but there came such a storm of wind as blew down our tents, and raised such a cloud of dust as entirely hid the sun from our view and prevented us from hearing a good sermon.

"The 13th. A pretty day and we traveled twenty-six miles by the guide over a beautiful road and camped near Scotts Bluffs, and by the time our tents were pitched there came a heavy rain with considerable hail.

"14th. Drove five miles up Spring Creek, a stream of clear and good water. This day we made twenty miles and camped two miles out of Blue Rock, the day being clear and pleasant.

"15th. Fair day. We made twentysix miles by the guide. We crossed Rawhide Creek, which is clear and good water but dries up in the dry season of the year, and camped four miles from it.

"16th. Day warm. This morning we were startled with the report that the Indians had killed a large number of cattle, some emigrants, and nine of the soldiers of the Fort, and that four hundred warriors were camped near the river and were determined to murder every emigrant on the road. This called a halt and we waited an hour or two until a number of small trains joined us. We then numbered forty or fifty wagons and perhaps one hundred men, when we mustered all our arms and resolved to clear the road of every obstruction, and marched forward over a deep sand road to the ferry. On arriving there we found everything quiet, and as near as we could ascertain matters stood thus: The evening previous a large number of Indians desiring to cross the river in a skiff belonging to a white man -- he being engaged in ferrying immigrants, refused -- when they took the skiff by force, when he swam the river and applied at the Fort for protection. The commander sent the sergeant and three men to take possession of the skiff. They swam the river, took the skiff and crossed the river. While in the river one of the Indians fired at the officer, the ball passing near his ear; he returned to the Fort and the commander ordered twenty men to cross the river and take the eight Indians prisoners, who were offenders, and if the Indians would not give them up to take their chiefs which were present and bring

them to the Fort. The soldiers went to their wigwams and demanded the Indians, when the Indians took their arms and commenced hiding behind their huts in menacing attitudes. The officer then told them that if another Indian left thus he would order the soldiers to fire on them. The Indians continued to leave when the soldiers fired and killed four Indians and wounded two more. Then they took the two chiefs prisoners and carried them to the fort when the Indians left, and, as far as we could ascertain, resolved to have revenge by destroying the Fort.

"We drove four miles above the Fort and near fifty wagons camped together. We posted a strong guard and then returned to rest after commending our souls to God.

"17th. Day very hot. We traveled twelve miles over a rough road and camped early. Everything remained quiet and the excitement somewhat died away.

"18th. Day very warm. We drove some sixteen miles, the roads continuing very rough and rocky and the draft heavy. We camped in good grass and had good spring water.

"19th. Sabbath we remained in camp and at 11:00 A.M. we had a sermon by Mr. Connor, the text being the first verse of the fifth chapter of Galatians. We had a good sermon and we felt as if we were again at home. The day was warm and in the evening we had a heavy rain and hail ran nearly axle-tree deep around their wagons; the storm was truly terrific and killed ten or twelve of their chickens.

"The 20th we traveled near twenty miles over a pleasant country and camped on Land Creek, a stream of water with a sandy bottom and the sandiest water I ever saw. We had fine grass and a pleasant day.

"21st. This day is very cold and we had some rain, snow, and

hail. In the morning we ascended a steep hill which I named Iron Hill because the stones resembled iron in color; the descent from the hill was very steep. We ascended another hill and found a large plain which was barren -- covered with rocks and washed into awful gullies and chasms. This plain is a strange place and the road good considering the roughness of the ground. The day was cold enough to wear the heavy coats and then be cold. This evening we descended a long hill to the river where we found what I called Solitary Valley -- a strange place. There were a great many mounds or cones of rock and earth from fifteen to forty yards in height; the ground around them apparently having been washed away by heavy rains of ages immemorial. We have fine grass by driving our cattle a mile to get it.

"22nd. Day fine. We made nearly twenty miles, the bottom barren or nearly so all the way. We camped near the river with but little grass.

"23d. Pleasant day and we traveled on and at 10:00 we found good grass and let our cattle graze until 1:00, then drove them late in the evening and camped near the river and drove our cattle to the bluffs and had good grass.

"24th. This morning Dr. Price yoked his cattle, and, on account of a strong dissatisfaction toward the rest of the company, abruptly drove off and left us with the five wagons. This day we drove fifteen miles with many rough places in the road and camped three miles below the bridge across the Platte River. Found grass on the bluffs.

"25th. We passed the bridge and moved up the river seven miles over a heavy sandy road. We here left the Platte River and struck up a long steep hill over a solid road and late in the evening we came

to a long hill which raised us to quite an elevation. The descent from this was steep and crooked. While descending there came a wind storm which raised such clouds of dust as obscured our vision and compelled us to stop our teams. In a few moments all was over and we started, the road looking as if it had been swept clean. We camped at the foot of the hill with some water and good grass. The day was pleasant.

"26th. This day is warm and pleasant and we remained in camp and let our cattle rest and recruit their exhausted energies. We had no religious services this Sabbath, but secret devotion was sweet to my soul.

"27th. We yoked our cattle and started early. Soon after starting the wind raised to a perfect gale which raised such clouds of dust that met us square in the face that we could scarcely see any at times. The little stones as large as Marilla cherries went whistling along the road before the wind to an extent beyond credence to any but an eye witness. The wind continued to blow and by degrees became very cold. We passed the Mineral Springs, Alkali Swamp, and camped at the Willow Springs, having traveled twenty miles in the most disagreeable day I was ever on the roads. After camping it rained, snowed, and hailed, and was wintry indeed.

"28th. Started late and drove twenty miles and camped on the banks of Sweetwater near dark without a morsel of grass for our cattle. This morning it was very cold, there being ice frozen in runs to quite an extent. We passed several small streams and an alkali swamp, which is a strange place.

"29th. This morning we found some grass and started late -- passed Independence Rock, crossed Sweet Water, a beautiful stream six

or eight rods wide and thirty inches deep at the ford. Five miles from the ford we passed Devils Gate, a place where Sweet Water passes between stupendous bluffs. The river falls near twenty in its passage through this canyon, foaming and dashing among the rocks in its passage. The left wall as you pass up stream is perpendicular to the height of three or four hundred feet of solid rock. It truly looks like an eternal map of masonry built by the Great Architect of Heaven and Earth, and is the most imposing and grand natural scenery I ever saw. Four of us scrambled to the top of this massy pile of rocks where we had an extensive view of the plains below.

"30th. We traveled sixteen miles and camped on the river, forded our cattle over the stream and had good grass. The day cool but pleasant. This evening we passed Mason's company who were camped -- George Mason's wife being very sick.

"July the 1st. We traveled sixteen miles and camped on the river and pastured our cattle on the other side.

"2nd. The day warm, windy and dusty. We passed Ice Springs where ice can be had by digging from one to two feet deep at any time but none of our company saw any. We camped on the river with water, fire, and grass plenty. But for the past two weeks there has been plenty of snow on the bluffs to our left and yesterday and today the snow-capped Wind River Mountains, which rear their lofty summits apparently to Heaven, have been in full view, and look truly sublime and imposing.-- appearing like massy white clouds in the western horizon.

" 3d. Sabbath. This day we remained in camp; the day was fine and pleasant.

"4th. We started early and had a very pleasant day. We made

twenty miles. We left Sweet Water at noon and crossed over some very stony ground. Passed three considerable lakes to the left of the road -- the water much resembling soapsuds, and camped on Strawberry Creek; had good camping, the Mason Company camping near us.

"5th. Drove eighteen or twenty miles over a good road, the day pleasant and in the evening it rained a little. This day at noon we forded Sweet Water for the last time. From the River the ground raised gradually to the pass. We camped within three miles of the South Pass, and near a snow drift with moderately good grass. Out of the mountain ran a stream of water clear as crystal and cold as ice itself.

"6th. We passed the South Pass and then to Pacific Springs -- here is very good water and the greatest quagmire I ever saw; here our cow got mired. We watered our cattle, ate some dinner and traveled ten miles and camped without water, the day being fine and we traveled eighteen miles.

"7th. Day fine and we traveled eighteen miles. At noon we came to Little Sandy Creek, twenty-five feet wide and sandy water. At night we camped on Big Sandy, a fine stream eight rods wide and thirty inches deep at the ford, good fording. We camped four miles up the river on the west side. Grass was very good here.

"8th. We rested our cattle here until three o'clock in the afternoon. At 3:00 we yoked our cattle and started across the forty-nine mile desert. We traveled until eight in the evening. We then halted, made some coffee and ate some supper; we then started and traveled until 2:00 in the morning of the 9th.

It was starlight and we could see to drive pretty well.



Sometimes it was very dusty, and the cattle walked very fast, perhaps three miles an hour. We ate breakfast and started at 5:00 and drove until 4:00 in the afternoon, when we came to Green River, having driven forty-nine miles without grass or water in twenty-five hours. There is a sulphur spring fifteen miles in this desert but it was dark and we did not stop. For thirty miles the road was very good, it then became hilly and stony. Some of the road before we came to Green River was very steep. We ferried our wagons over the river for which we paid \$8.00 per wagon. We swam the cattle over and camped on the west side of the river. We drove our cattle two miles to pasture and Chandler and I stood guard. I did not sleep any the night previous -- walked forty miles in the last twenty-four hours -- drove a team besides other duties, and at midnight after our cattle lay down I really thought I was tired, when Mr. Chandler laid his blankets on a rock and we lay down with a rock for a pillow and I spread mine over us. On this bed we slept sweetly until morning.

"10th, Sabbath we remained in camp; this morning about 10:00 o'clock a man by the name of Pore, I think from Alabama, while assisting in swimming a drove over the river was drowned. There had a large number of cattle swum to an island in the middle of the river when Pore endeavored to cross over to them on a mule, when in the middle of the stream the mule threw him into the river. He was a good swimmer and swam half a mile down stream and came within a rod of the shore when it was thought he was seized with a cramp and sank to rise no more. He was a single man and a good physician -- but as far as I could ascertain, was entirely unprepared to be thus hurried into the presence of a just God. A few days before his death he said he never wanted his death to go to his mother as he expected she would die first and

thus be saved the painful news of his death. He then little imagined a watery grave was just before him while his feet were crumbling on the very verge. What solemn truth "that in the midst of life we are in death."

"11th. Day fine. We traveled fourteen miles and camped on Lost River, a beautiful stream fifty feet wide and two or three feet deep -- crossing good. In this bottom there was a good soil, the first I have seen since I left the platte River,--good grass and good camping.

"12th. We made eighteen miles passing over two high ranges of mountains; at noon we ate dinner at Pine Grove with snowdrifts near us, we then passed a rough hill two or three miles long when we found ourselves on the top, when I thought I was sufficiently elevated to see my native home if my vision had been strong enough. The prospect from here was truly extensive. The top of this mountain was perfectly sharp, there was a ridge of thin stones set on their edges and a foot high and the ground fell right off on both sides of this backbone; the descent from here was long and steep, perhaps a thousand feet in perpendicular height. We camped on Crow Creek, a pretty stream. This night about 1:00 o'clock an Indian attempted to steal Mr. Connor's mare. He throw the lariat over her head and then looked at her feet to see if she were hobbled, when Mr. Conyer (the guide) hailed him; he sprang upon her back. By this time Conyer was within five yards of him, cocked his gun and aimed at his breast with a deadly rifle; he pulled the lock but the gun did not go off as he had neglected to set the trigger, which accident saved his life. The Indian then dismounted in haste; the guard then fired at him at a distance but without effect.

"13th. This morning was very cold, ice being one-fourth of an inch thick. We traveled ten or twelve miles and camped on Hams Fork, a stream of good water four rods wide and two feet deep at the ford.

"14th. We made thirteen miles. We passed a long steep hill after leaving the river and found a large plain. From this the river (road?) was good to a pine and fir grove where we camped with good grass, water, and wood. There is a very rich soil around here and if the climate would suit it would produce well, the soil being a black limestone sandy loam.

"15th. We remained in camp and let our stock graze. The day was pleasant and warm.

"16th. We traveled seventeen miles, nine miles of the road being very mountainous; we passed up a long hill then down one three miles long and parts of it very steep; the next hill we descended brought us to Bear River Valley. One place on this hill we had to lock three wheels of our wagon and then the descent was difficult and dangerous. The remainder of the road was very good and we camped on Hams Fork.

"17th. Sabbath we remained in camp and had a sermon by Mr. Crow, the day pleasant and we enjoyed ourselves well.

"18th. We started early and forded three branches of Hams Fork, a rapid stream five rods wide and four or five feet deep. One branch of this river was bad fording, we had to cross in a circular direction with very deep water on each side. For half a mile the road was very rocky, and on the right was a high bluff with ranges of rocks running up and down the bluff instead of horizontal and extending some distance above the ground. There is a toll bridge across the river. We had a fine rain and further down the stream it rained very

hard. The clouds struck the mountain and piled up, and looked most beautiful. To see the clouds changing around the mountains not more than half way to their summits and perhaps four or five hundred feet high is beautiful indeed to behold. This evening we crossed a bridge over Thomases Fork of the Bear River. Abutments were made of timber and sills laid across and poles across the sills for a bridge. These poles were straight as a line and laid side by side and were so close you couldn't put your finger between them. We camped by a fine spring and had good grass.

"19th. We passed up a hill two miles long and down to a valley and beautiful stream of water, then up a very steep and long hill to the summit of a mountain. Our drive was very slow up this mountain and the descent was very steep and three miles long by the guide. I think I drove my team for more than a mile (with both wheels of my wagon locked), through sand from three to six inches deep. We must have descended from twelve to fifteen hundred feet in perpendicular height, and at 1:00 we struck Bear River. We traveled five miles in the evening and camped on Deep Creek, a stream twelve feet wide and eighteen inches deep and very rapid current. We traveled sixteen miles and had the best grass I have seen since I crossed the Missouri.

"20th. Our road lay down Bear River and was very good and we traveled until four o'clock and then got wood and water and drove over a hill and camped in the river bottom, making eighteen miles. Had good grass.

"21st. We traveled until noon when we came to the soda or beer spring, a great natural curiosity. The first view we had of this interesting spot of ground was two large rocks formed by the soda springs.

These rocks were eight or ten rods wide and fifteen feet high. Just north of this is a beautiful boiling soda water (spring), the spring is circular and two feet in diameter and two feet below the surface of the ground and surrounded by rocks of soda formation. There are numerous pools of soda water which are constantly boiling up but never run away. We crossed a beautiful stream of water fifteen feet wide, and a little farther down the stream is Steamboat Spring; this is a great curiosity. It is located in a rock six feet from the water in the river and four feet above the water. The opening of this spring is eighteen inches in diameter at the surface of the water but smaller below. The water is in a perfect foam and bursts up into the air from one to two feet in height as if it were violently agitated below, and is called Steamboat Spring from the resemblance of the spouting water to the steam rushing from the pipes of the boat. Eight feet from this is a small boiling spring which is connected with the other. From both these springs there is a stream of water running. We left these curiosities and drove five miles and camped. We had to get our water out of the river and carry it up a ledge of rock sixty or eighty feet high and very steep and then a quarter of a mile to our wagons. We camped near the junction of the California and Fort Hall roads and had good grass. We here left Bear River Valley. This is a beautiful valley -- has a good rich soil, and will, evidently, one day be a rich and productive settlement teeming with a dense population. There is an abundance of timber in the mountains south of the river for farming purposes and the water privileges on the stream flowing from the mountains to the river are equal to any that I ever saw.

"22nd. We started up what is called Junction Valley. Traveled four miles and came to Soda Pool. This is a singular place. Just at

the base of a bluff of rocks there is a spring of water boiling up out of the ground and forms a pool. This pool is fifteen yards long and perhaps five yards wide and is thirty inches deep. Around this pool is a wall of rock of soda formation which is of whitish color and near a foot above the water. From this spring runs a small stream of water. Near this pool is a small stream of soda water tumbling out of the rocks. One mile from this is good spring water. This day we made fifteen miles and camped on Poison Creek, a stream twelve feet wide and one foot deep. We had fine grass and used water from this stream. The country traveled over this day exhibited many interesting appearances. At some remote period this valley has been the scene of terrific volcanic eruptions; for miles the ground is covered with massy piles of earth and rock which have been heaved by volcanic power. While in many places there are vast chasms formed in the ground, the sides being formed by vast fragments of mutilated rocks which have been thrown together in wild confusion and in an almost melted condition. In one place I passed along a ledge of rocks which have at one time been thirty feet high and perpendicular, but which have been torn into fragments and thrown into confused massy heaps by the violent agitation of the earth. Who could look at such a scene as this and not admire and adore the God who could thus call up all the destructive powers of the slumbering elements and cause the earth to tremble like a leaf in the breeze while its bowels melt with fervent heat.

"23d. We left Poison Creek, which is said to sink a little way below where we camped, and traveled ten miles up this valley; the road is level and very good but we crossed a number of small streams and some swales which were muddy with chuck holes. At noon we crossed a dead stream of water running down the valley which was twenty to thirty

feet wide and two or three feet deep. There was a kind of bridge built across this stream and we had to pay 20¢ toll on each wagon. After dinner we commenced the ascent of the chain of mountains which separates the waters of Bear and Snake Rivers. We traveled five or six miles when we found ourselves on the summit. The ascent was not difficult. While we were going up it commenced raining and rained for an hour until the rain wet us through our coats. We passed down a gradual descent of a mile when we came to the finest spring I ever saw. It burst out of the mountain clear as crystal and in vast quantities, forming quite a creek, two feet wide and a foot deep with a rapid current. We passed this stream a mile and camped for the night on the bank of a beautiful stream with everything plentiful.

"24th. We remained in camp this day, there being also a number of camps near us. At 11:00 we had a sermon by Mr. Conyer (Kennoyer?) but I had to attend the cattle and did not hear it. In the afternoon Mr. Clark addressed us from a part of the 16th verse and 6th chapter of Daniel.

"25th. This morning was pleasant and we pursued our journey on down the stream on which we were encamped. We traveled a few miles when we crossed to the north side; crossing not good. The road was then rough and crooked for some distance. This evening we crossed the creek again, it was thirty feet wide and three feet deep, and camped on the south side, having made near twenty miles. The creek near us is in many places ten feet deep and in the morning we had some trouble with a few cattle which crossed it.

"26th. We started late and made fifteen miles. At noon we crossed the Portneth, a large stream of water that has its source near

the Soda Springs. It is a crooked, slow stream and near forty yards wide and three feet deep at the ford. We camped on Fannes River.

"27th. This day we traveled some sixteen miles and in the evening we passed the American Falls of Snake River. The river here is near two hundred yards wide and descends near thirty feet. The fall is not perpendicular, but rushes down a ledge of rock which is very rough, the rocks in many places extending above the water which causes it to foam and dash furiously and in some places it falls for a number of feet perpendicularly, and upon the whole it is a beautiful view and the first falls I ever saw which are of any moment. We camped three miles below them and were amused by the roaring of the waters.

"28th. We traveled fifteen miles over a rough road, both crooked and steep, and camped on the bluffs near the bank of the river and had but poor grass as our cattle had to graze on the barren sage plains, there being no bottom on this side of the river here.

"29th. This day we traveled over a very sandy road to Raft River, a distance of seven miles. We followed up this stream a mile and camped with plenty of good grass. This morning was employed in washing and the like.

"30th. This day is very warm. We started at 6:00 o'clock, drove back a mile to the ford and crossed Raft River. Ford three rods wide and three feet deep. Raft River is a very deep and rapid stream and runs north to Snake River. After leaving the river we ascended a hill and found ourselves on a strange plain which, I think, has been the scene of volcanic action. All over this plain there are piles of rock which look as if they were thrown up from the bowels of the earth



and fell in confused masses, and in many places there are chasms in the center of these masses which are now nearly closed by the sand and stones falling in for ages immemorial; the entire plain appearing as if it had once been melted with liquid heat, the rocks also appearing as if they were once in a melted condition and are now nearly as hard as iron and about twice as heavy as common sandstone. We traveled sixteen miles and camped at Marsh Springs and had good grass for our cattle. Here we neglected to watch our cattle and in the evening when we went to drive them in they were missing, having wandered among the wild grass which was above our heads and they could not be found so we gave over our search until the following morning.

"31st. This morning we resumed our search for our cattle and at 7:00 o'clock they were all found and drove to camp. The soil on the creek is the richest I ever saw, and the richest crop of grass and weeds. We remained in camp and some were busy in making arrangements for the week. We had no religious exercises and the day passed away slowly.

"August the 1st. We drove down Marsh Creek seven miles and crossed and four miles from there struck the river--ate dinner and drove ten miles, making twenty miles and camped on Goose Creek with good grass.

"2nd. We traveled to Dry Creek eight miles--ate dinner and then to Rock River nine miles and camped for the night with very good grass.

"3d. We started late this morning and passed down Rock River eight miles and crossed it and drove seven miles and camped again on this creek with some grass and water.

"4th. This day we made ten miles and camped on Snake River,

our camp being on a high bluff with the river lying half a mile distant and six or eight hundred feet below us with very bluff banks. We drove our cattle down a very rough and steep road to the river -- watered them and drove them up the bottom one and one-half miles to grass. This is a remarkably strange place. The ground is level to the very edge of the bluffs, which are two miles apart and perpendicular for two or three hundred feet and then slope at an angle of 45 degrees and are covered with broken rocks which apparently have been torn from the perpendicular rocks above and tumbled down in wild confused masses. This range of rocks covers a height of three or four hundred feet, there is then a slope of land extending to the water which is quite steep and rocky. Through this the river flows with a rapid current and in places considerable falls.

"5th. We drove ten miles when we passed down the river bank and watered our cattle and ate some dinner. We then drove seven miles to Salmon Falls River and camped without any grass.

"6th. We started early and drove one mile and camped and found a little grass. Captain Crow then went to the ferry to engage our ferriage over the river. He returned with a rather hard report of the crossing and we remained in camp through the day. The roads this week have been very stony and rough in places, and very dusty and the weather quite warm, which made traveling unpleasant.

"7th. Sabbath. For the last four or five days we have had but very little grass and our cattle look very bad. Near noon we hitched our cattle and drove four miles to the ferry, the road being very heavy. There were thirty wagons to cross before us, and we drove our cattle to the hills some four miles distant for grass. In the evening three of us took our blankets and went to guard our

cattle; we searched until 11:00 o'clock but could not find anything of them and returned to camp.

"8th. This morning by daylight our wagons were crossing the river. We had to load and unload our wagons, row the skiff and then pay four dollars per wagon and 50¢ a head for swimming cattle by the side of the boat. By 8:00 o'clock our wagons were all safely over and the ferryman demanded his ferriage. The captain being absent we requested him to wait until he came to settle, but he refused and threatened to carry our wagons back. We told him we had not seen men enough to do that and I think he believed us. Our cattle now came to camp, but the wind was high and we did not swim our cattle until the afternoon. We then drove our cattle one mile down the river and a little below the falls and swam to an island. Three men whom we had employed swam to the island and drove our cattle across the remaining part of the river. They also swam three other lots of cattle for which they received \$2.00 per lot. Our cattle all crossed without injury. This day the Mason Company, who had been travelling near us, left and continued down the south side of the river, being afraid to swim their cattle as many of them were weak for want of food. The Salmon Falls here are pretty and descend fifteen or twenty feet forming many beautiful cascades, the greatest fall in any one place being near ten feet and the roaring of the waters can be heard for five or six miles. Along the river for four miles there is a vast quantity of crystal spring water pouring down the rocky cliffs into the river. In many places it falls down from one to three hundred feet and nearly covers the rocks for hundreds of feet together, forming a most pleasing and sublime spectacle. The water falls in such large quantities that for miles along the river the water is perfectly clear for from thirty to

sixty yards from the shore. About 4:00 this evening we hitched our teams and drove two miles and camped for the night. We had good grass a little west of our camp, and a half mile east of us there is a splendid spring affording more water than any spring that I have yet seen. It pours out among the rocks forming a channel fifteen feet wide and near two feet deep. This evening our cattle got their fill of grass for the first time since last Tuesday.

"9th. This morning we drove four miles to Rush Creek and camped. We remained here through the day and had very good grass.

"10th. This morning we started early and drove six miles to Shoot Creek, so called from the swiftness of the current, and crossed in two streams separated by a small island. The first was twenty yards wide and thirty or thirty-six inches deep with a rocky bottom and a very swift current. The second twelve yards wide and twenty inches deep. We then made fourteen miles and came to a creek the name of which I did not learn, and camped, it being dark by this time. We had good grass.

"11th. We traveled down this creek five miles and camped for the day in order to let the cattle rest and recruit ourselves. The grass is good all along the creek.

"12th. We drove eight miles and watered our cattle in a creek to the left of the road. We then drove six miles to a creek and camped. There is good camping all along the creek, everything being plentiful.

"13th. We started early and ascended a hill two miles long and in some places quite steep and rough and stony. At the end of six miles we came to a creek and watered our stock. The banks of this

creek are rocky, the bottom narrow and affords little grass. Six miles farther we came to a creek and bottom which affords grass, and water in the fore part of the season; here we let our cattle rest and ate some dinner, we then drove three miles to Barrel Creek and camped. Here is good grass and soil as heart could wish. Our camp is one hundred yards north of the road, with a fine spring of good water boiling up at the edge of the creek near by. The country between here and Shoot Creek has been the scene of volcanic action, the earth opening in hundreds of places -- the earth heaving up and forming backbones which have a chasm in the middle and the sides slope off like the back of an animal while the stones scattered over the plain are literally burnt to cinders.

"14th. Sabbath we remained in camp. The day was fine and we enjoyed ourselves remarkably well and we enjoyed some good company among the immigrants camped near us.

"15th. We started early and drove hard. There were eleven graves by our camp this morning. At noon we stopped at a good spring a little north of the road. We had fine grass at noon, and a little before camping we passed eight more graves. All or nearly all of these 24 graves were made last August, the cholera having been very bad here. This evening we camped late and had rushes and swamp grass for our cattle.

"16th. We drove until noon and had spring water to drink and in the evening drove three miles to the Hot Springs. There are a number of these springs near together and run out of the ground in a flattish piece of ground, the heat of the water being near the boiling point, and looks in nowise different from common spring water. This evening the sun set just as we camped; our camp is situated in a

beautiful little valley with splendid grass, but the water did not run in the creek and the standing water was quite scarce.

"17th. We drove up a long hill with many large columns of rock to our right. At noon we came to a fine creek and watered the stock and ate some dinner, and then drove to a number of springs, their names I don't remember, and there camped for the night. Our grass was down the stream half a mile. Just as we got the cattle to their food I was attacked by very severe diarrhea pains. I felt very bad but made the best of my way to camp and drank near a gill of brandy made thick with sugar, which stopped the pains immediately but I felt unwell for several days.

"18th. This morning early we ascended a long hill and, after after driving three or four miles, one of us saw Boise River. One of our oxen was quite sick and would not eat. About 1:00 we struck the river which is a beautiful river forty or fifty yards in width. The water has a rapid current and is as clear as crystal and quite full of fish. The road passed over this week is quite rough and for forty miles was quite rocky. After an hour's noon we traveled seven miles and camped. Grass very good.

"19th. This day we drove fifteen miles; some of the time the road lay in the bottom and some of the time on the bluff. This evening I struck down a hollow from the bluff into the bottom and then drove three miles through a very rich growth of grass upon which an ox had never trod to the track. Three other wagons followed while the remaining four kept to the bluffs and had a very dusty road.

"20th. We left camp and drove until noon over a very dusty and sandy road which was covered with sage, we then crossed over a

point of the bluff which came to the river and struck the river on the west side of the bluff, where we ate some dinner and then drove on until we reached the ford of Boise River late in the evening and camped on this side. There is a very good soil along Boise River, the bottom being from two to four miles wide and mostly covered with a heavy growth of grass. There might be thousands of tons of pretty fine hay made here.

"21st. Sabbath day warm. This morning Crow, Connor, and Kenoyer left camp and drove down the river while Edwards and Kent remained in camp; Mrs. Kent being very sick. This morning by daylight I drove the cattle to grass, one of our oxen went with the rest and by breakfast one of them had come near camp and was dead. This evening another which had been sick since Thursday morning died. They were both in good order and I think evidently died of disease in the brain. Here Edwards left a yoke of cattle lying dead and within a few yards of each other.

22nd. We started late, crossed Boise River, and drove sixteen or eighteen miles to the ferry across the Snake River and Fort Boise, the rest of the company having crossed their wagons previously. It was night when we arrived and James did not cross until morning when we ran both our wagons on the boat and in a few minutes were safely on the other side, for which we paid sixteen dollars. This money was made by the ferryman in half an hour. This is the way to wring hard-earned money from the starving poor.

"23d. After crossing our wagons we drove our cattle over the river. A young man belonging to the ferry, with whom Crow had formed an acquaintance in the states, assisted us and acted as guide. We drove our cattle over just below the fort and at the head of two

islands. Some five or six men undressed and went over with the cattle. The cattle waded most of the way and crossed safely over. About noon we drove two miles up the river and camped. Here was a company whose cattle had stampeded the night before and they could not find twenty head of their work cattle.

"24th. We started early and drove fifteen miles by the guide to Malheur River. The day was hot and we had to drive this distance without water which very much tired our cattle. We crossed the river and drove one mile up the river and camped.

"25th. We remained in camp until sunset. This evening the Mason Company, who came down the south side of the river, camped near us. They lost quite a number of cattle as they came down. At sunset we yoked our cattle and drove twelve miles in the night to Sulphur Springs. Here we unloosed the cattle from the wagons and awaited the approach of day.

Before sunrise on the 26th we were again on the road and by 7:00 o'clock we were on a creek with plenty of water and a little grass, having had neither for twenty miles. We remained here until 5:00 in the evening when we again started, drove four miles to the Snake River and passed up a long hill and down another ravine to Burnt River. This night was extremely dark and the cattle raised such clouds of dust which settled around us that we could scarcely see at any time. This made driving dangerous.

"27th. We remained until noon in camp. This morning we gave an Indian chief and his son their breakfast. They ate with a degree of refinement which was amusing to me. At noon we started and drove some five miles and camped, our road being extremely crooked and



steep, and grass very scarce about camp. The cattle browsed a little on the willows and had a little grass.

"28th. Sabbath as we could not stay in camp we yoked and left. One of Mr. Connor's oxen was missing and could not be found. We drove twelve or fifteen miles over a very rough mountainous country, the road generally keeping near the creek. The mountains on each side rising from one to two thousand feet high and so steep you could scarcely ascend them. This evening we had a fine camp and very good grass on the base of the mountains. This day I drove a team all day and guarded the cattle at night. At the close of the day, while reviewing the labors of the same, I wondered what account a Christian would give to his Judge for such an action. Through the past week Mary Edwards was very unwell, not being able to get out of the wagon for several days. This day about noon we had a little rain, something rather strange.

"29th. We left the river and went up a little creek two miles and then passed over a steep hill and in one mile struck another branch and then descended another hill two miles long, then struck down a ravine and in two miles came to water and two miles further struck the river. We this evening camped near the forks of the river with good grass.

"30th. We remained in camp until noon and then ascended a long hill and struck a small creek three miles from camp and continued up the stream for four miles and camped with fine grass.

"31st. Through the past night there was quite a shower of rain with some hail. This morning we left two dead cattle in camp belonging to the Company. We started early and passed up the creek four

miles and then came to a long hill. (Here we passed a man who was lying at the point of death. He had been opening an ox that had died of mortification and had received a portion of the same in a sore on his hand which mortified and produced sudden death. We were informed that he died a few hours after we left.) From the top of the hill we struck down a canyon to a large valley or plain with heavy forests of timber on the mountains on each side of us. There was quite a shower of rain and hail near noon today, with a cold and chilling wind. We made twenty miles and camped near some ponds of water late in the evening and had good grass.

"September the 1st. We drove three miles and crossed a deep slough and then drove eight miles to the crossing of Powder River. Then two miles to the crossing of the second fork; here we camped for the night. The first two forks of Powder River are beautiful streams thirty feet wide and fifteen inches deep on the riffles.

"2nd. We had fine grass last night and in the morning drove five miles to springs and water. We then passed up a long hill and struck down a canyon or ravine to a small stream of water and then passed up a long hill and then down a long and stony hill of a mile and a half in length, when we found ourselves in a beautiful place called Grande Ronde Valley. Here we were met by a host of Indians who wished to sell us peas, potatoes, etc. They also desired to purchase a number of articles.

"3d. Morning cool. We drove eight miles of level road across the valley and camped on the west side. This day about noon we had a heavy shower of rain and hail, the latter covering the ground quite thick. This valley is, I suppose, about twelve miles wide and twenty

miles long -- has a rich soil, is surrounded by mountains which are covered by timber, and is separated by Grande Ronde River which passes through it.

"Sunday the 4th. This morning we yoked our cattle (many of us not remembering the Lord's Day) and commenced the ascent of the mountain which was two miles to its summit and perhaps at an elevation of eight or ten hundred feet above the valley we had just left. We then had a good road for three miles and then passed down a long steep hill to a dry creek. We then ascended a very steep hill for half a mile, then descended a hill to a ravine and in a little distance camped near Grande Ronde River. We drove our cattle up a hill to the left of a prairie covered with good bunch grass.

"5th. We crossed the river and ascended a long but not difficult hill. We traveled through a heavy forest of pine timber and many beautiful sites for splendid rural dwellings and rich farms. This day we traveled ten miles, much of the road being very rough with many short turns in order to avoid the timber, and camped by the roadside with a little water far down to our left in a deep hollow. This evening seven young men from the Mason Company came to our camp. They had purchased three ponies and were packing through. They left their employers in friendship as many of their cattle had died and they left a number of their wagons.

"6th. We drove ten miles to Lee's Encampment. This day the road was very stony and rough but not mountainous and in many places the ground was poor. For the last seven days travel most of the land near the road has a rich soil and one day will be a densely populated community. I have not seen as much good timber since I

left Ohio as I saw last week. While on Powder River Mr. Conoyer left a wagon. Mr. Edwards left one at Grande Ronde and Mr. Crow left one thirty miles in the Blue Mountains on account of the loss of many of their cattle.

"7th. After considerable difficulty in herding and finding cattle which had wandered among the timber all were secured and we started for the Umatilla Valley. The road for some miles was rough and then good until we came to the hill which leads down to the valley and which is three miles long and perhaps descends two thousand feet in perpendicular height. We made fifteen miles and camped in good time in the valley with good grass on the left of the road.

"8th. This day we traveled eight miles to where the road joins the Umatilla River. The road then ascends the hill to the left and descends to the river again in six miles. Here we crossed the stream which is shallow -- has a rapid current and a gravelly bottom. We drove to where the road left the river and camped. To the right was plenty of good grass. Here Edwards bought some very fat beef for which he paid 20¢ per pound.

"9th. This day we traveled sixteen miles. In the morning we ascended a long hill of gradual ascent. The road then lay over a flat plain with good roads. In the evening we again descended to the Umatilla River where we camped for the night and drove our stock across the stream in one mile in the bluffs came to good grass.

"10th. This morning we drove six miles to the agency. Here is a frame building near thirty feet in length by twenty in breadth, in which resides the Indian agent. This is the first frame building I

have seen since I left the states. We here crossed the Umatilla and struck for Butter Creek, a distance of ten miles. The road lay over a sandy plain but the road was not very heavy. We crossed Butter Creek and drove a short distance up the creek and camped, having traveled near ninety miles during the past week, half of which was in the Blue Mountains and very rough road,

"11th. This morning was again pleasant and we remained in camp until in the afternoon. At 2:00 we started and drove until near 8:00 in the evening with good grass just at the side of the road, we having hauled water for camp use -- our cattle grazing well without water.

"12th. This morning we started as soon as our cattle were done grazing and drove to Cedar Springs, taking the right hand road three miles before reaching them. Here is good water but we had to water our cattle out of buckets. We came to the Springs at 10:00 in the forenoon and by 1:00 in the afternoon our stock had received a sufficiency of water and we were prepared for another eighteen miles without water, having taken sufficient water for the night. This evening we drove until near night and camped with an abundance of the best of grass.

"13th. This morning we drove until noon when we came to Butter Creek but it was dry. We drove near two miles down the stream and found plenty of water and camped. We remained here the remainder of the day.

"14th. We remained in camp until noon -- our cattle being on the bluffs east of the creek with good grass. While here the Mason Company came up. All were well but but Mrs. Mason who was quite

ill. At noon we started and drove until late in the evening. This evening we had quite a shower of rain which wet us some and laid the dust very nicely.

"15th. This morning was quite cool, evidently storming in the mountains. We started early and drove until 2:00 o'clock in the evening when we came to John Day River. This is a beautiful river and forty yards wide but shallow at the ford. We crossed, watered our stock and ascended the hill. The hill is one mile long and not very steep. For eighty rods the road is rocky -- very rocky and full of short turns with huge rocks on each side, with scarcely room for the wagon to pass between. The road then becomes sandy. This evening we camped three miles from the river -- grazing good.

"16th. This morning continued cool and we drove until noon -- rested an hour and then drove until four o'clock, when we turned down a ravine to the right and in a short distance found a spring and camped. We drove our cattle one mile further down the stream to water and found good grass on the east bluff.

"17th. This morning we drove six miles and came to the Columbia River. Here we met Brother Bethards (Bethers), from Oregon, who had come to meet us, and who had butchered a beef to have a feast with us. Afternoon we drove four miles to DesChutes River, a rapid stream heading in the mountains and one hundred fifty yards wide. The wind being high we could not ferry. We then concluded to ford it -- the ferryman declared all would be lost, telling enormous lies to alarm us, but we employed an Indian guide who rode before each wagon giving us the course to the island, the ford being very crooked; he then rode in front of one team, the rest following in a string, the course being

nearly straight across the second channel. We paid him two dollars for his services, all being across safe and dry. Our ferriage would have been \$15.00, thus we saved \$13.00 by fording. We then ascended a long steep hill and camped a little over the ridge by a spring affording water sufficient for camp use.

"18th. Sabbath. This morning we drove miles, passing over a long steep hill and camped on a creek, as Mrs. Connor had been very sick for three or four days, having black diarrhea very bad and at the same time a violent vomiting. Mr. Edwards then started to The Dalles to make arrangements for conveying his family by water through the mountains.

"19th. This morning we gathered our cattle and drove down to The Dalles, as Mr. Edwards had made arrangements to take his family down the river and drive his cattle over the pack trail. We expected to go on a flatboat that left about sundown, but the boat was loaded and we chose to await another opportunity.

"20th. This morning Mr. Edwards, Clark, and myself started with the cattle along the pack trail. We drove four miles down the bottom and then struck up a long and steep mountain. Upon the summit we ate dinner and then struck down a canyon on the north bank -- five miles down we crossed the canyon but found no water. Three miles further we came to a creek and camped for the night, having driven fifteen miles.

"21st. This morning by sunrise we were on our way. We soon came to a very stony road and then to a very steep bluff and in one place we passed along a ridge that was very narrow with steep rocks on one side and a perpendicular wall from fifty to one hundred feet

high on the other. This day the road was quite hilly. About 1:00 in the evening we came to a river fifty yards wide with a rapid current but not deep. Here we nooned and then took a left hand trail, which was wrong; we followed this trail six or seven miles when we came to the end of the trail. We then turned square to the right, drove a mile or two and then camped, having traveled twenty miles. Here were two other companies camped. We gave this encampment the name of Fools Encampment, with good grass and water.

"22nd. This morning we struck down the branch that had a good track until we reached the main trail. The trail is then very stony and rough for some miles after which it generally follows the bottom. This evening we camped within half a mile of the ferry, with some grass, having driven eighteen miles.

"23d. This morning we drove to the ferry -- ate our last provision and was on the opposite side of the river by 9:00 o'clock. The ferryman said it was eight or ten miles so we bought none. At noon we came to a bottom with good grass and here crossed a smart stream and struck up a steep mountain. Here one of our men met us and told us we were fourteen miles from the Dalles. We then hurried our cattle as fast as possible through the rain until night. When we were four miles from port we kindled a large fire and contented ourselves without supper. After dark we lay down to sleep; shortly after it commenced raining and we got up and did not lay down any more.

"24th. We drove our cattle in but the wagons and families had not arrived.

"25th. We still awaited their arrival.

"26th. This morning they came. They paid \$8.00 a wagon



and \$3.00 a passenger. This afternoon we drove our wagons to the lower part of the falls, a distance of six miles, and engaged our passage on the schooner Ohio. We paid \$2.50 per wagon and \$1.50 per passenger.

"27th. This morning we loaded our goods on the Ohio and commenced gliding down the river with a fine breeze, but soon the wind changed and the boat had to be rowed.

"28th. We landed a little before day, having had fine weather. This morning I unloaded and set up two wagons for my morning's work and then awaited the cattle to come by pack trail.

"29th. This morning a little before noon our cattle were on hands, but they wished to rest the balance of the day.

"30th. This morning Mr. Hare and Mr. Clark left us and hired for \$2.50 per day to the ferryman, and we yoked our cattle and drove five miles and then drove our cattle two miles back to grass.

October the 1st. This morning we started and traveled through a heavily timbered and rich country. The road was level but but very crooked and uneven and crossed by many large fir roots. This evening we camped and put our cattle in a field with some grass.

"2nd. This morning we paid a bit a head for pasture and drove three miles to the Clackamas and paid fifty cents a wagon and a bit a head for loose cattle. Then drove one mile to Oregon City. Here we left Mr. Crow's wagon which we brought from The Dalles. We then drove seven miles and camped, turning our cattle out among the bushes.

"3d. This day we drove fifteen miles but we only made about ten miles of headway, as we missed our road and had to pass over some very rough road. Thus we camped for the night on French Prairie.

"4th. This day we travelled sixteen miles along a fine road and passed many of the finest farms I ever saw, they were adorned with fine

valuable houses, and camped four miles from Salem. Grass was good.

"5th. This morning we drove into Salem; here I met Br. Bagley. He gave us the road up the valley and we pursued our journey. We drove five miles up Mill Creek -- crossed it and then drove until late. We camped by a house.

"6th. We drove four miles and called to see Br. E. Parish, one of the old settlers. We continued up toward Santiam, crossed the stream one mile above the town, paid 50¢ a wagon and half a dime for cattle and camped near Albany, with fine grass and good water.

"7th. We drove into Albany, bought some flour at \$9.00 per cwt. -- some clothes, and then drove seven miles further and camped. James Edwards then went to look at a claim seven miles farther up the valley, and in the evening he returned and had selected a claim. In the morning he went to his claim and I drove the wagon up. By this time he found his claim was claimed.

"This day, the 8th, we camped near a house.

"9th. This day James went to Bethers and we remained in camp, and at 11:00 o'clock went to preaching and heard a Seceder preach. This evening at ( ) A.M. (?) it commenced raining and rained most of the night.

"10th. Pleasant and we remained in camp. James returned late at night.

"11th. This morning we drove toward Marysville. At noon it commenced raining and rained all evening. We crossed the river at Marysville and late in the evening took our lodging in Mr. Newton's house, where we felt at home as it was raining.

"12th. Day cloudy and James bought a load of wheat while I looked for some work and found none.

"13th. Cloudy -- James went to mill. I still looked for some work in vain.

"14th. This day I tried to raise a school but all in vain.

"Saturday, the 15th, cloudy with a little rain. Late in the evening this day I looked for work and in the evening got two offers.

"Sunday, the 16th. This day I went to church and heard a sermon from Rev. Mr. Dillain, from Matt. the 16th and 24th, a very good practical discourse.

"17th. This morning I walked five miles to Mr. Butterfield's to make rails for him for which I received \$1.50 per hundred. This day was cloudy and rained a little and I cut a little timber. This was the first work in Oregon.

"18th. Dry and pleasant and I cut some more timber, and for the first time in my life made some bread as I had to keep batch.

"19th. Cloudy but no rain this morning. I split two hundred rails and then cut timber until night. I then sat down by my fire and read for two hours and then lay down alone in the woods, having a rail pen with some straw in it for a bed with some blankets for a cover.

"20th. This day dry and pleasant. I again split two hundred rails and then cut timber until night.

"21st. This day fair and I again made two hundred rails and then cut timber until evening and then went to Mr. Butterfield's and received \$7.00, it being the first money made in Oregon.

"22nd. This morning very beautiful and I split two hundred rails by noon, which closed my week's work having made eight hundred rails. This week I was unwell all the time and did not work very

hard, but still I earned \$12.00, which seemed like good wages compared with Ohio wages where I could not have received more than three dollars. This evening I went to Marysville and paid 50¢ for a pound of candles, 50¢ for an ax handle, 25¢ for a comb, 25¢ for matches, 25¢ for a bottle of ink.

"Sabbath, the 23d, clear and warm. At 11:00 o'clock I heard Mr. Connor preach from a part of the 11th verse and 5th chapter of 2nd Corinthians. He spoke of the terror of the Lord -- of his Justice -- we persuaded men -- after the sermon I closed by singing and prayer. This morning there was a sharp frost.

"24th. This morning it was rainy and kept showery all day but not enough to keep from work and I cut timber for rails.

"25th. This day pleasant and I went to my work at 10:00. I split my maul and had to go to town for rings in my maul, for which I paid \$1.50, \$1.00 for a whetstone, 50¢ for soap and indigo, and returned to camp.

"26th. This day was showery and late in the evening it cleared up with a north wind.

"27th. This morning there was considerable frost and a very pleasant day and I continued making rails.

"28th. This day is again clear and warm, being most delightful fall weather.

"29th. This morning I split one hundred ninety rails, which closed my week's work, having made 800 rails -- my health not being very good. In the evening I went to town and bought six and one half yards of \_\_\_\_\_ for shirts for which I paid \$1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$  -- a washboard for \$1.50, and then returned to Mr. Edwards to remain over Sunday.

"30th. Sabbath. This day was showery but did not rain much. At 3:00 in the evening I went to church and heard a sermon from the Methodist circuit preacher from the 5th chapter and 10th verse, -- a very good practical sermon, after which Mr. Conoyer exhorted and closed with prayer.

"31st. This morning was beautiful and I started to Mr. Butterfield's to make rails. I went by town and put three letters in the office and 20¢ postage. I then chopped timber for rails. This is the birthday of Cornelius S. Longworth, my next to youngest brother.

"November the 1st, 1853. This day was very fine and I split my two hundred rails and chopped timber for two hundred more and enjoyed myself well. This evening the air seemed quite cool.

"2nd. This morning was very cold, there being a hard frost, and the ice froze a little in standing water. This morning Clark, the colored man, got up and had breakfast by 4:00 o'clock; after eating we took a short sleep and were at work by the time it was light enough. This day was cloudy and I made my two hundred rails.

"3d. This day was again pleasant with some frost and I again made my two hundred rails.

"4th. This day was warmer and indicated rain, but the day continued pleasant and I received \$10.00 from Mr. Butterfield. This morning I commenced work by 9:30 and by sundown made two hundred rails.

"5th. This morning when I awoke it was cloudy and in a few minutes it commenced raining and continued wet and showery all day and the following night. This day I split one hundred rails and then quit on account of the rain, having made nine hundred rails. At noon I went to town and bought a pair of boots for which I paid \$7.00, get-

ting a pair of socks in the bargain. I then bought a vest pattern for \$1.25 and returned to my brother-in-law and found them all prospering.

"6th. This day was cloudy with a little rain. I walked three miles to hear a Baptist minister preach. Mr. Rexford preached and after the sermon there were to be two baptisms but they were deferred until the following Sabbath.

"7th. This morning I went to town and put a letter in the office and bought twenty four pounds of tallow for a bit a pound, and then went to Mr. Butterfield's and bought a cow and calf, for which I have to pay \$100.00 in making rails for which I receive \$1.50.

"8th. This day continues dry and cloudy and I went to work and chopped timber, and at dark the rain commenced falling and continued through the night.

"9th. This day was cloudy with some little showers but I worked all day and split 368 rails. The day was rather moist to work pleasantly.

"10th. This day continued rainy. In the morning I made 132 rails and in the evening did but little, only cut down a few trees.

"11th. This morning I cut off a few logs to make near 300 rails and in the afternoon I split 150, which closed my day's work. Soon after returning to camp it commenced raining and rained quite hard all night.

"12th. This morning when I awoke it was still raining quite fast and continued until near noon, which closed my week's work, having made 650 rails, when I returned to my brother-in-law and found them all well.

"Sunday, the 13th. This morning very cold, the ground being frozen considerable. This Lord's Day I heard a sermon from a brother whose name I do not know, from the text "And there shall be a high way and a way called the way of holiness."

"14th. This morning was again quite frosty and the ground frozen some. I went two miles and cut three cords of wood while Mr. Edwards hauled two loads of it; the day continuing very pleasant.

"15th. This morning I cut some more wood while he hauled a load. We then drove an ox to Mr. Bethers' for which he received \$75.00. The ox cost them \$37.50 in Missouri. At the same time he bought two ponies from Mr. Bethers for which he paid \$100.00. We then went to town and returned late in the evening, he having purchased a Spanish saddle for twenty dollars.

"16th. This morning was warm and very foggy, and we packed some flour and other notions on our ponies and started up the valley to Mr. George Mason's -- found them all well. We were here joined by him and his son Jeremiah, when we all started for the Alsea Valley to take claims for our future residences. The fog blew away and the day was fine. We travelled up the valley some twelve miles where dark overtook us and we lodged in Mr. Buckingham's house.

"17th. This morning is again pleasant. Here our paths left the valley and struck into the mountains, passing up and down the mountain sides through dense forests of fir timber. At two o'clock in the evening we found ourselves in the Alsea Valley. We passed down it three miles where we found a house to lodge in, being quite tired from the labors of the day. This evening a misting rain commenced falling and increased through the night.

"18th. This morning is very wet and we commenced hunting claims. James Edwards staked off his claim. His standing stake is near the hill at the southeast corner, the line running one mile or until it reaches Redenour's claim, then north until he takes in his full claim. The rain fell quite fast and we, of course, did nothing more this day.

"19th. Yesterday he took possession of his claim and today we went to work on it (although the rain was still falling), and cut poles and built a little pen ten feet square -- made boards and covered it and moved into it -- baked hot biscuit for supper and did all of this before dark, at which time the rain commenced falling quite fast and continued to do so all night, but the roof turned the water well and we were dry -- warm and merry.

"20th. Sabbath. The rain fell quite fast the entire day and following night which caused the river to rise very fast. We continued in our little house all day, this being the first Sabbath spent in Alsea, and was rather gloomy.

"21st. This morning the rain still fell thick and fast and it continued to do so until late at night, compelling us to keep under roof. The river is now very high and rolls its waters along with a tremendous current, foaming as they pass and are soon lost in the placid Pacific.

"22nd. This morning the rain had abated some and Jeremiah Mason and I started down the valley to select a claim for each of us as a basis for our future homes. I went to the western boundary of Mr. Thomas Ellis's claim and there set a stake as the eastern boundary of my claim. The line runs from this stake north sixty rods,



thence (west) 160, thence south 260 rods, thence east 260 rods, thence to my starting stake. I will then form an ell by running from my southeast corner eastward sufficiently far to include 320 acres and then North to Mr. Ellis's line.

"23d. This morning the rain had ceased falling and Mr. Edwards and I secured 115 pounds of fish -- dressed them, packed them in sacks to take to the valley.

"24th. This morning Edwards started to the Valley, and I started to my claim and commenced cutting logs for a house and by night I had thirty logged off, when the rain commenced falling and was showery through the night.

"25th. This morning I commenced hewing my logs and by night I had eleven of them, the day being rainy and disagreeable.

"26th. Through the past night we had quite a wind storm, the rain continuing falling all day and quite hard at times. This day I hewed three more logs, and cut down a fir tree (near four feet in diameter) for boards to cover my house. I was then dripping wet and returned to the house -- cut and carried wood for Sabbath, which closed my week's work. This night the wind blew hard again.

"27th. Sabbath. This day was quite showery again, and Mr. Mason and I remained in our shanty quite warm and comfortable. This day there was some hail or kind of hard snow fell, it being the first which I saw in the valley.

"28th. Quite rainy and disagreeable, Mason and I worked some on my claim.

"29th. This day also wet with little chance to work.

"30th. This day the clouds rolled away and the weather became very pleasant and I went with Mason to his claim and worked for him.

"Dec. the 1st. The day pleasant and I again worked for Mason; this was truly a fine day for the first day of December.

"2nd. I went again with him to his claim and we succeeded in getting a roof for him to shelter under. This evening Edwards returned from the Valley with a load of provisions.

"3d. This morning I went to work on my claim and succeeded in getting a rail pen covered to shelter in, and at 2:00 in the evening went to try my luck in taking salmon. I speared four salmon which made forty pounds of dressed fish. with one of them I had quite a scuffle to lay him out of the water, in the meantime he bit my finger quite sharply. I carried them a mile and a half to our shanty which closed our labors for the week.

"4th. Sabbath. This day was quite rainy, it continued to fall quite fast until late in the afternoon. I remained under roof all day.

"5th. Day dry and pleasant. Edwards and I went to Mr. Wrycrafts at the head of the Valley to grind our axes and in the afternoon hewed some logs for a house for him.

"6th. Day beautiful, and we went to Mason's and assisted in raising a house for him to serve until he could build a more substantial one.

"7th. Day fair for work and we hewed some logs for his house.

"8th. Day cloudy and moist at times but we dressed a few more logs and late in the evening Mr. Kenoyer came into the valley and stopped with us for the night. He was looking for a claim.

"9th. This morning Kenoyer went up the valley in search of a claim. The day being dry we continued dressing logs.

"10th. This morning we got a canoe from the Indians and went with him across the river in search of a claim and thus spent the day without a definite conclusion from him as to taking a claim.

"11th. Sabbath. This morning Edwards went with Menoyer to the Valley and I went to Ellis's to hold a prayer-meeting, this being the first religious meeting ever held in the valley. Two of us were present and we claimed the promise and had a good time. This day was warm and fair.

"12th. This morning I went to work at my house logs and dressed ten more of them, the day being favorable for working, though cloudy.

"13th. Monday (?) pleasant and I scored logs for Redennour and Ellis and he hewed them.

"14th. This morning was quite cool, there being a heavy frost and the ground froze a little, and I again assisted Redennour in dressing logs for a house and by 1:00 o'clock we had them finished after which I got some wood and made me two ax handles.

"15th. This morning is again cold but dry, Redennour and I went to my claim to work. We chopped and bolted up a fine lot of board timber and then cut some rail timber which closed the day's work. This evening Edwards returned from the Valley with a fine pack of flour, etc.

"16th. This morning cool and Edwards and I hewed some more logs but getting a late start but little was done.

"17th. This morning we went to work early but the air was so cold we could not line so we had to get fire and warm the paint, so we made fair work which closed the labors of another week.

"Sunday, the 18th. Morning cool and pleasant. Today we went to Mr. Ellis's to hold meeting again. Six persons were present, four

of them members of the church. We had a pleasant and profitable season of prayer after which I made a few closing remarks and announced meeting for the following Sabbath. I then returned to my room and wrote a letter to Colwell Titus. About dark the rain commenced falling and continued through the night.

"19th. This day was cloudy but not wet. We finished hewing for the wall of his house. At dark the rain commenced falling slowly and continued to do so until late in the morning of the 20th.

"This morning I split some rungs for a sled and laid them over the fire to dry, and in the afternoon cut some timber for rails--and he made arrangements to return to the valley, as he had a gathering, or something of the kind, which prevented him from work.

"21st. This morning he started for the Valley and I again went to cutting timber; the day was clear and beautiful.

"22nd. This morning is again very fine and I was out to work by times and continued to log off rail cuts. In the evening Asbury Willis came to where I was at work and stayed all night with me and we had a fine chat until late at night, and when we awoke on the morning of the 23d it was raining slowly and continued through the day.

(23) I worked until noon and then washed some clothes (as Batches have to do), which closed the day.

"24th. This morning the rain was still falling and was mixed with snow but there was not a sufficient amount to make the ground look white in the valley, but up a short distance on the sides of the mountain the snow laid for some time. This day I logged off twenty-five more cuts, which finished the little grove and my weeks work, the day being wet in the forenoon and clear in the afternoon.

"25th. Christmas. This day was very rainy and disagreeable. We met again to hold prayer-meeting and had a very good time. After meeting I went with Mr. Mason and his company through the evening. Thus I spent the Christmas of 1853.

"26th. This morn the rain is still falling and continued through the day. I worked on my claim and accepted the day in riving boards.

"27th. Day wet and gloomy and very disagreeable. I continued making boards under my shelter.

"28th. The rain continues to fall incessantly and I continue to make boards, as this is the only work I could do without exposing myself to the rain and get dripping wet.

"29th. This morning again dreary and wet but the rain had much abated. This morning Edwards returned from the Valley and in the evening we split some pieces for a sled.

"30th. This morning pleasant and I cut and split seventy posts to pale in his garden.

"31st. This morning is quite cool there being a very hard frost, but the day is clear and pleasant and I went to split some rails and split one hundred by noon and in the afternoon fixed some notions around our shanty, which closed the labors of another week and year, which have rapidly rolled into eternity, while we are left as free agents and accountable beings to God for the manner in which we have improved or misimproved the privileges of the same.

"Sabbath, January the 1st, 1854. This morning is again very pleasant and Edwards and I went to hold prayer-meeting, he conducted the meeting and we had a pleasant time. After meeting I returned home

and I employed myself in writing a letter and revolving a train of thoughts in my mind. Thus passed the first day of the year 1854.

"2nd. Day very dry but cloudy. I split rails on Edwards' claim and made two or three hundred while he busied himself otherwise.

"3d. This morning Edwards and I commenced cutting a road through the timber to haul his house-logs and rails and thus employed the day, it being favorable for working.

"4th. This morning Edwards started for the Valley and I went to my claim to finish cutting logs, and to open a road to haul them. There was considerable rain through the past night but none today and late in the evening the air became quite cool.

"5th. This morning is quite cold and the ground froze hard. I again went to work on my claim. The sun shone clear and warm, but still the air was very cold and did not thaw any in the shade.

"6th. This morning quite cold but not so windy and more pleasant than yesterday. Mr. Redennour brought a team and we hauled our logs together for a house on my claim, after which I worked an hour or two on the road.

"7th. Day cool but pleasant and I occupied it in making a finish a little before night by removing a few logs. We will now have a good wagon road through our claim, our hard task being accomplished.

"8th. This morning is again wet and the rain continued to fall all the day. This morning when I got up I felt quite tired and unwell. After breakfast I went down to Mr. Ellis's and endeavored to address the little company from these words of Holy Writ:

"Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." I enjoyed considerable liberty and had good religious en-

joyments, this being my first effort to preach a sermon.

"9th. The rain fell quite fast through the entire night and ceased near day this morning. This day I split near two hundred rails, the day being pleasant.

"10th. This day again pleasant and made near two hundred more rails and late in the evening came to my shanty and found Jeremiah, Simeon, and Dillon Mason there, they having crossed the mountain. I baked bread for their supper by which time the rain was falling very fast and they stayed all night. This night was very stormy.

"11th. The rain still falling thick and fast and continued so doing until 3:00 in the afternoon, I being idle the entire day.

"12th. This morning the ground looked white with snow. I went to Ellis's and assisted in raising a house for him.

"13th. The snow is one inch deep. I went to my cabin and laid the corners and placed two sills on them for a house. This concluded the day.

"14th. Last night there was an inch or two of snow fell. I went to cut a large fir log out of the road. I took out two cuts and split them into thick boards for the floor of the house. This being Saturday eve, it closes the labor of another week and I have little done.

"15th. Sabbath. This day is quite cool and pleasant. I attended prayer-meeting after which I returned to my shanty and spent the evening alone.

"16th. This morning I cut some cuts for paling for to pale in a garden and cut some logs out of the road; the day was cold but clear. At dark the snow commenced falling and fell to the depth of three inches.

"17th. This morning is quite cold and I spent the day in cutting rail timber.

"18th. This day is clear and quite cold. I again occupied the day in cutting more timber for rails.

"19th. This morning I ate the last bit of provision I had and started borrowing. I went to Mr. Wholegate's and got some flour and in the afternoon I cut a few cuts for rails. This day there was a very heavy east wind and was chilling indeed. This night was extremely cold, the ice froze in for some distance on each side of Alsea River.

"20th. This morning the slush is floating down the river quite plenty, and I thought it was colder than I like to work in so I went to Mr. Ellis's to tell them I was not frozen yet and thus spent the day with them. This evening the air grew some warmer.

"21st. Through the past night the snow fell some three inches deep and the air is now quite warm. This day I put in the sleepers and put on two or three rounds of logs. The snow melted considerable.

"Sunday, the 22nd. This day we had a cool east wind but the day was clear and pleasant. I spent this day with Mr. Ellis and time passed away very pleasantly together; we in the meantime had good religious enjoyments.



