

20 Mar 1853

A party of young men started from a place known as Pottersfield about 6 miles west and north of Kalamazoo to drive through to California. The party consisted of Solomon Forbes to whom we are indebted to for this record Orrin Snow Aloneus Snow Parzilla Snow William Thayer John Greenwood Gage Pierce and William Mansfield

And there might of been others whose names have been forgotten unfortunately the first part of this record has been lost from the time they started until May 10th when they were near Grand Island Neb. But we have no doubt of there being such a record as it is complete from May 10th until they got to Placerville California some time in August

Where aslo indebted to J C Forbes of Oshtemo ( who is mentioned as Little John by his father when writing home ) for this record

10 May 1853

Tuesday A fine clear but cold morning Orrin sick all night went over to Loup Fork with a letter I wrote last night started early over a level plain nearly 100 wagons in sight warm in the afternoon Orrin very sick in the afternoon at night his face completely red with measles Mun sat up with him all night gave him safron tea and hot brandy slings

11 May 1853

A fine morning cleared out our wagon and took Orrin in drove 6 or 7 miles but it was to much for him so we turned off to Loup Fork where we could get wood and water. Here we stayed all day and night taking care of him. He is very sick Mun stood by him like a Brother as good a nurse as Mr Mun here a fine spring brook. Camped on the Loup Fork from which we get plenty of water and found plenty of fish in it. On its banks saw some bear tracks. Just at night five of our horses became frightened broke loose and ran back about six miles

Thursday 12 May 1853

Cloudy cooler and windy Drove 25 miles About noon came to sandy bluffs saw buffalo heads in the road Camped at night in a valley good grass here For the first time cooked supper with buffalo chips Orrin better stood traveling first rate

Friday 13 May 1853

Another cold cloudy and windy day on guard last night a long lonesome time of it Orrin better this morning drove 15 miles and turned off the road to a slough where the grass was 8 inches high drove on in the afternoon and crossed Wood River so called from the timber on its banks camped at night at the foot of a bluff abouts 20 rods from the Platte River found the remains of an Indian Village Soon after dark a thunder storm set in and continued till midnight rained very hard but we kept Orrin dry and our things too another hard shower about daylight

Saturday 14 May 1853

Warm with a hard wind from the south west cleared off about nine o' clock drove a short distance had to take down our wagon cover drove on till noon camped by a grove of timber opposite Grand Island staid all night

Sunday 15 May 1853

Clear and pleasant morning Orrin got out of the wagon for the first time Is quite smart I found a skull bone in the road today and so did Wm Thayer Are traveling in company with Captain Buoy of Kentucky passed a village of prairie dogs and camped in a lone bend of the Platte River

Monday 16 May 1853

Cloudy and cool passed plenty of buffalo carcasses for three days past Passed buffalo and Elm Creeks today camped in a low wet place no feed but buffalo grass A hard shower just after we camped turned the wagons three times in an hour to keep the rain off Orrin

Tuesday 17 May 1853

A slow drizzling rain all the forenoon traded my rifle for a saddle and bridle camped off the road opposite an Island saw a grizzly bear and many sign of buffalo Parzilla went over to the Island and killed a deer

Wednesday 18 May 1853

A cold night Mun on guard Orrin getting better had venison for breakfast Parzilla and Wm started out early to hunt met us on the road P killed a wild goose and Wm a deer camped on the river bank cooked our goose for supper poor grass

Thursday 19 May 1853

Another fair day started early drove nearly a mile ahead of the train met a grizzly bear Captain Buoy and Wm Thayer gave chase Wm wounded him stopped at noon on a marsh a good spring passed another beautiful spring about four o' clock Wm killed a wolf in the afternoon camped on Carrion Creek B chased buffalo

Friday 20 May 1853

Warm and pleasant the warm day since we crossed the Missouri River could ride comfortable without my overcoat passed many bad sloughs today turned south of the road and camped at 4 o' clock passed the last timber on northside of the Platte no more for 200 miles

Saturday 21 May 1853

A warm pleasant morning Dr Frastus Salisbury came to our camp last night Orrin nearly well slept in his own wagon last night for the first time This morning said to me if I did not begin to think that a woman was the finest thing in the world Quite a case that Capt Buoy Quite warm in the afternoon heat quite oppressive passed several sandy bluffs hard on the teams lots of lizzards camped by a beautiful spring brook went to the head of it a hard shower about sundown but warm

Sunday 22 May 1853

Cool this morning on guard last night a hard time of it tired and sleepy staid here all day but did not seem much like Sunday swearing shooting at a mark and the like all day five graves a short distance all died last \_\_\_\_ of cholera I suppose A shower in the afternoon passed a lonesome day in thinking of home and family and friends Yesterday Wm killed an antelope and the Frenchman killed one today Had a good talk with Capt Buoy just at night retired to the wagon early which Mun had washed out had a pleasant dream of home wife children and friends

Monday 23 May 1853

My birthday A fine warm morning started early drove 14 miles to Rattle Snake Creek a fine stream 20 feet wide one and one half feet deep sandy bottom cedar bluffs on the opposite side drove in the afternoon six and one half miles camped on the bank of a small stream Fiddling and dancing in the evening a company of Missourians on the opposite side went over and made friends with the women and got half a pail of milk "good woman" that

Tuesday 24 May 1853

A cold east wind this morning had rice for breakfast buffalo carcasses all along for a number of days think of home a great deal can't help it camped at night on Castle Creek a dark and rainy night O' Harmon on guard One thing vexes me the boys will play cards every night in the tent till late High and rocky bluffs on the south side of the Platte all day saw many teams on that side road right on the bank

Wednesday 25 May 1853

Cold wet and disagreeable morning got a late start had bean soup and tea for breakfast overtook Vantyle just before noon drove with my overcoat and mittens on and could hardly keep warm at that a hard east wind camped on the bank of Crab Creek a cold stormy and windy night could not keep warm in the wagon the guard had a hard time of it

Thursday 26 May 1853

Cold wet and windy morning started early and drove on to Cabble Hill After crossing the hills turned up a gully three fourths of a mile on Jim and I found plenty of red cedar brought a piece six feet long 6 inches through thankful for so much wood Wood worth more than iron here about ten o' clock came to what is called Ancient Bluff Ruins rode up to them on Jim saw two rattle snakes camped at night by the side of the road very poor grass on guard a cold night could only keep warm by walking about Thought of home wife children and friends Mun on guard in the latter part of the night did not get much sleep teeth ached hard

Friday 27 May 1853

Another cold wet morning teeth ached hard all the forenoon felt low spirited all day warm at night camped opposite Chimney Rock on a wide flat good grass Another dance this evening with three fiddles a little rain just at night

Saturday 28 May 1853

A warm morning started early some rain during the day Wm killed an antelope drove in the afternoon passed Scotts Bluff drove till quite late stopped on a slough not very good grass this is the day of our fellowship meeting had a long talk with Capt Buoy today about such things what a pleasure to talk with Christian

Sunday 29 May 1853

Drove 16 miles and halted on a wide flat shaved sat down to write about the middle of the afternoon soon began to rain and continued till dark Felt rather lonesome thought of Michigan of meetings and all the priviledges that I once enjoyed retired early but got out little sleep for cold and wet Met a company of Sioux Indians first I have seen since I left

Monday 30 May 1853

Cloudy but warm our road today mostly sandy hard for the horses came to an Indian Village about noon here I bought a buffalo robe halted at 4 o' clock near the river just before dark a terrible hail storm struck us made up my mind for a hard night not bad after all slept warm and dry had pleasant dreams of home wife and children

Tuesday 31 May 1853

Another warm day got to the Ferry at ten o' clock teams went on 3 miles to grass a lot of us went over to the Fort 25cents for crossing was at the Fort 2 hours came back met the teams the women were washing Vantyles came up and camped with us

Wednesday 1 Jun 1853

Cool day left early and struck off through the Black Hills high steep and rocky beat all that I ever saw in that line At night came out to a more open country plenty of dry pitch pine

Thursday 2 Jun 1853

Cool and cloudy stood on guard last night with Capt Buoy had a good talk with him a good man that halted at 4 o' clock on a high hill another hard rain storm wind shifted four times in an hour terrible thunder and lightening

Friday 3 Jun 1853

Drove along the river plenty of good grass but bad roads just before night passed through a deep gully camped on the open Prairie began to rain just at night

Saturday 4 Jun 1853

A rainy morning and rained all day a long lonesome day stayed here all day

Sunday 5 Jun 1853

A fine clear morning started early and drove through hills and over rocks bad roads halted at ten o' clock Sold the shay mare at auction got her for \$18.00 Parted company with Capt Buoy stopped the middle of the afternoon poor grass plenty of wild flowers washed shaved and thought of home as usual

Monday 6 Jun 1853

A pleasant day but a light shower in the afternoon made a good drive and camped at night in a bend of the river plenty of good grass Held an election and the honor of Captain fell on my shoulders a heap of honor that

Tuesday 7 Jun 1853

Started early road most of the day along the Platte River lined with cotton wood trees with beautiful green leaves a light shower in the afternoon camped at Upper Platte Ferry not good grass here got some milk of a Missouri woman Leave the Platte here and strike for the Sweet Water

Wednesday 8 Jun 1853

Our road today a succession of hills and hollows snow in sight on the mountains for two days past camped at night half a mile NW of the road good grass a nice stream of water The boys went on to Willow Springs

Thursday 9 Jun 1853

Rode on till noon and overtook the boys Our road barren and sandy struck the Sweet Water River just at night and camped by Independance Rock went on to the Rock after supper Nerve I wish you was here

Friday 10 Jun 1853

Stood guard last night with Uncle Jed Here Mansfield left one wagon crossed the Bridge paid \$3.00 drove five and one half miles to Devils Gate halted a few moments and drove on camped south of road had some of Hannah's black raspberries for supper Orrin bought a pony today

Saturday 11 Jun 1853

Started early and made a good drive struck the Sweet Water again just at night and camped on a sand bank south of the road

Sunday 12 Jun 1853

This morning Henry Stowell gave me a book to write in last night cold and windy a cold but calm morning just had time to shave before breakfast Yesterday Mansfield and his men settled and agreed on terms of peace yesterday Kelley got mired a hard gravelly road all day just at night came to a warm spring about warm enough for dish water made coffee for supper very good camped in a little valley poor grass thought of home a great deal could not help it

Monday 13 Jun 1853

Very cold morning all got on overcoats Alpheus on guard last night something got among the horses A fired his revolver off Had some of our antelope for breakfast traveled all the afternoon over a succession of hills and over a hard gravelly road passed through a little snow on each side of the road in places Wind River Mountains on the right covered with snow Halted at noon in a little valley some grass very cold Two Snake Indians came to our camp while we were eating dinner in the afternoon road rough and rocky large snow drifts within a few rods of the road a storm of hail and sleet came down from the mountains hard to face it camped at night by a small marsh six or eight Crow Indians came to our camp Wm Thayer bought a buffalo robe of them for powder and lead all the men wore their overcoats and mittens

Tuesday 14 Jun 1853

A clear but cold morning cannot keep warm with my overcoat on I ache while I am writing Mun on guard in the after part of the night must of had a hard time of it such is the comfort of going to California passed the summit on south pass of the Rocky Mountains about noon Water here runs into the Pacific Ocean by way of the Colorado River But I should not of known that this was the summit but for the guide so gradual has been the ascent I have wore my overcoat and mittens all day high wind and plenty of dust all the men have sore eyes This is

Abigail's birthday now I have thought of her today Camped about the middle of the afternoon a mile south of the road a little rain just after we camped Toads with horns and tails plenty for two or three days past one year ago I had a house and home of my own not so now one year ago I was shearing sheep not so now one year ago I was with my family and friends no so now well never mind I hope for the best

Wednesday 15 Jun 1853

Feel a little unwell this morning for the first time on the road had to put on my overcoat while Mun was getting breakfast drove all day with mittens on high wind plenty of snow on the mountains passed the junction of the California and Oregon roads about 10 o' clock passed Little Sandy Creek and camped on Big Sandy in a bend of the creek nice place to guard the horses On guard with Mansfield a fine clear and star light night how much did I think of home while pacing back and forth

Thursday 16 Jun 1853

A fine beautiful morning and warm started early and drove 17 miles over barren sand to Big Sandy again stopped for dinner day fine but never passed a more gloomy day drove ten miles in the afternoon and struck Green River a deep rapid stream about 16 rods wide a few moments before we got here two men were drowned Captain Holloway of Missouri had 450 head of cattle his family in California and said to be worth \$50,000 the other the Ferryman drunk all the hands ( ditto ) whiskey the leading cause of the accident this Ferry in charge of the Mormons no crossing tonight so turned back three quarters of a mile on to the bluffs and camped a beautiful moon light night but could not enjoy it about ten o' clock crept into my wagon and breathing a short prayer to my heavenly Father and imploring his blessing on my loved ones far away I fell asleep to dream of home and friends once more

Friday 17 Jun 1853

A fine morning I never saw the sun more glorious than on this morning left early and went to the ferry but did not begin to cross till nine o' clock It took till one to get all the wagons and horses over \$3.00 for each wagon and 50cents per head for horses my bill five dollars takes some money to pay Ferrymen to California drove down the river 9 miles to grass then left the river and went on to the bluffs one and one half miles and camped land barren and sandy but some scattering grass **buncg** grass the day has been mild and beautiful not a sign of a cloud on the whole horizon but on the country is a barren desolate waste I am now seated on the blue chest with Uncle Jed writing far very far from home sweet home shall I ever see home again

Saturday 18 Jun 1853

A warm morning no water for our horses so started at day break and drove 13 miles to Blacks Fork horses glad to get water but not good grass here we got breakfast swarms of mosquitoes all the morning Stowell and Kelley had hard words here after breakfast a lot of us went up the stream to bathe staid here till noon then drove 4 miles to Tham's Fork a toll bridge \$2.00 more to pay drove on 8 or 10 miles and camped on the bank of the stream high wind and

dusty all the afternoon but still at night swarms of mosquitoes again a light shower about sundown Horse nearly eat up by mosquitoes the boys made lots of smoke of sage brush drove them off some Our road today rather uneven land barren as usual Mun and Uncle Jed on guard ten o' clock at night another light shower heavy thunder and sharp lightening

Sunday 19 Jun 1853

I arose at sunrise went to the streams and washed On how my thoughts dwelt on my loved ones at home and the privilage of the Christian sabbath which I once enjoyed but now where am I In distant lands in the midst of savage men and with beasts This is the regular day for meetings in Pottersfield should like to be there Started off on good season and made a good drive The day warm and cloudy lots and lots of mosquitoes never saw them so thick in anyother place about ten o' clock came to a stream and had to raise the things up in the wagon box got over safe came to Fort Bridger at night so called from a man living here by that name The Fort consists of four log houses and a small enclosure for horses Bridger has lived here 31 years has an Indian wife was from St Louis Mo On how could a man who had once tasted the sweets of civilized society be content to spend his days herein the midst of savages Turned north of road and camped on a hill Nearly devoured by mosquitoes untill after dark then did not trouble us Have thought of home all day

Monday 20 Jun 1853

A cool morning started early and drove 12 miles over hills and hollows and came to Muddy Fork usually fordable but now too high Here some Mormans had built a bridge of willows and charged \$1.50 for crossing we were not long in determining not to give that for crossing so rode in found out that the water was up to the middle of a tall horse and a swift current but we took our things out and packed them over on horse back I left one chest in the wagon and drove in but Hance and Jim could not get through had to turn and come back but we lost our chest and stove boiler but made out to save one chest but some of the things got wet but we all got over safely turned out the horses Mun went to getting dinner over I sat down to write we are now 100 miles from Salt Lake Mun got up a first rate dinner of rice Mansfield gave the company a treat of lemonade and we had a great time in the afternoon began to rise out of the Colorado basin went up a hill 7315 feet high plenty of snow on each side of the way cool up here had to put on my coat plenty of wild flowers

Wm Thayer and B Snow went into a valley and brought back some wheat and flax said there was plenty of strawberries in bloom below camped on the north side of a high mountain the top covered with snow all the side covered with a thick growth of popple timber boys called it popplegrove had some sport plenty of cool snow water came dripping down the side soon after dark I crept in to the wagon and once more thanking my heavenly Father for his goodness and imploring his blessing on my dear absent ones I fell asleep once more to dream of home and loved ones far away

Tuesday 21 Jun 1853

A fine morning started early and drove over a succession of hills and hollows eight and one half miles to Bear River had to pack our things over a slough just before we got to the river This took some time and \$2.50 to pay for crossing a miserable poor bridge cheap enough make money in going to California About 4 o' clock passed Yellow Creek a poor bridge over this but nothing to pay had about 12 miles of the best road that one could wish down a valley gently descending good grass all the way plenty of wild flowers went up a hill one and three fourths miles quite steep went down three fourths of a mile and camped by a good boiling spring in a little valley good grass and dry shad berry bushes for wood A clear day high wind and plenty of dust but the country begins to look as though a white man could live in it Nerve this is your birthday I wish you joy and should be happy to see you but will hope on Mun is about cooking beans for supper plenty of snow on all the hill tops about us

Wednesday 22 Jun 1853

A clear cold morning very cold last night the coldest night since we left the bluffs from the break of day to sun half an hour high froze water in a pan half an inch thick by the guide the altitude of this place is about 7,000 feet above the level of the sea no dew went out at sunrise three fourths of a mile for the horses not a mite of dew on my boots no appearance of frost on vegetation reason I suppose nothing to make frost of started early and drove three and three fourths miles to Cache Cave north side of the road about 40 rods Cave about 28 feet wide at the entrance 7 feet high and 80 feet back soft sand stone rock names of hundreds of visitors marked on the rock left mine with the rest a little farther down came to a village of Utah Indians poor miserable looking creatures saw a little boy 4 or 5 years old entirely naked Wm Thayer got him to shoot at a bullet with his bow and arrow after this drove down a revine all the forenoon crossed Echo Creek a number of times banks on each side 200 feet high As we went down the Canyon I noticed wild hops and rose bushes and the wild wheat all headed out looks like Spanish bald spring wheat about 4 o' clock came to the Red Forks of Weber River here was two small houses and a family of Mormans lived here I noticed peas in the garden and chickens about the door a cheering sight just before we got to the house we met a young man and woman on horse back they went up the side of the mountain the boys had some sport about it camped near the house good grass a clear cold night on guard the latter part of the night a hard frost in the morning a man came to the camp with a young grizzly bear changed with him for beans drove down to the ferry 4 miles \$3.20 to pay for crossing a rapid stream some Utah Indians came up gave them some Powder was about 100 here at the ferry till half past twelve drove about 12 miles today and camped on Kenyon Creek our road uneven plenty of snow in sight all day at night two men came to our camp they were trappers one of them had been in the mountains 18 years the other a young man from near Cincinnati Ohio had been here a year inquired what news from the states who was President and so forth had not heard of the death of Daniel Webster Have been rather low spirited today things look gloomy met plenty of returning Californians within a few days some tell good others bad stories of that Country the above written on Thursday June 23rd

Friday 24 Jun 1853

Another clear fine morning but rather cold a frost last night Wm left camp at an early hour and drove up Kenyon Creek so called road rough and crooked forded the creek nine times in 8 miles once took the things over on horseback left this Canyon and turned up a small one and

went up the mountains 4 miles passed a snow drift 10 feet deep turned out of the road to get around it then went down the mountain 3 miles and stopped for dinner nice stream of water came rushing down the mountains turned the horses up the mountain side I left camp this morning with gloomy feelings the thoughts of home will come to my mind we started off at night and drove on 2 miles to good grass and camped being 12 miles from the City here we found a family come out from the City to tend their cattle got some buttermilk of them had quite a talk with them

Saturday 25 Jun 1853

A fine warm morning sun rose clear and unclouded this is the day of our fellowship meeting shall I ever enjoy that privilege again got some milk this morning of that family About nine o' clock started off and drove in to the City of the Great Salt Lake got in about 11 o' clock drove down Emigration Street then up the north side of the City and camped on a nice little stream turned our horses up to a high mountain poor grass and a hard time of it in getting them up there went to a house near by and got my washing done by an English Girl got dinner with the family sat down to a table in a decent christian manner had fresh beef tea and pancakes At dusk went down to Mr Tafts A warm day and plenty of dust

Sunday 26 Jun 1853

A warm morning got up early and began to write a letter left and went to meeting at the Tabernacle large congregation good singing instrumental music communion in the afternoon high wind at night went down to the City and got hay for our horses hay at Pomeroy's had three wives we all slept in the house rained during the night snowed on the mountains

Monday 27 Jun 1853

Cold and windy wore my overcoat all day went to Mr Tafts to breakfast got the horses shod and some flour started out of the City and drove 4 miles to the hot springs a curiosity and camped

Tuesday 28 Jun 1853

Got a late start drove 14 miles turned down a lane and camped by a man's house turned our horses down towards Salt Lake very good grass wild clover and timothy

Wednesday 29 Jun 1853

A fine morning Mun washed and I wrote a letter Alpheus and Orrin went back to the Church pasture and got the pony went down to Salt Lake to bathe in the afternoon Mun got up a good supper pancakes with butter and sugar

Thursday 30 Jun 1853

A fine pleasant and warm morning after breakfast Mun and myself went about a mile and a half and bought each of us a straw hat of which we stood in great need got them of a Pennsylvania woman nice old Lady

Friday 1 Jul 1853

A warm fine day seemed long to me spent it about the camp but I borrowed some newspapers of our host ( dearest news ) and these took up some time Mun got up a good supper baked an apple pie we had some sport about it much I have thought of home today shall I ever see home again

Saturday 2 Jul 1853

Another fine warm morning passed all the forenoon in the house in writing to Nerve Parzilla having for our host Orrin and Alpheus Bought some flour the time seems long would rather travel than stay here passed most of the afternoon in the house in conversation with our Land Lady quite agreeable and inteligent Mr Mansfield and Stowell came to our camp at night glad to see them day warm and clear and beautiful but what would tempt me to spend my days in this valley without you Nerve

Sunday 3 Jul 1853

A fine warm day spent most of the forenoon in sleeping in the wagon afternoon long and lonesome retired early did sleep well

Monday 4 Jul 1853

A fine clear morning one year ago I was in Pottersfield Schooland with my friends and family but not so now went to the Post Office this morning left a paper and letter hope they will reach my friends in safety Started off in good season again on our long journey drove 8 or 10 miles and halted on a flat good grass in about two hours Mansfield came up and we concluded to stay here all night

Tuesday 5 Jul 1853

A hard wind last night cooler this morning started early and drove to Weber River which we forded without much difficulty drove on to near Ogden City and halted for noon hope that Alpheus will overtake us this afternoon Ogden City is not much of a place we drove on in the afternoon through as pleasant a part of the valley as I have seen crossed a little brook but wood rather scarce the Dutchman went to the mountains for some Mun traded rice for potatoes this afternoon at night had quite a time talking with Wm Thayer of home and friends rather think Wm would like to see home tonight The day fine and beautiful but warm soon after dark I went to my wagon once more and raising my thoughts to my heavenly Father I again fell asleep to dream of home and those I love what are far away

Wednesday 6 Jul 1853

I arose at an early hour went down to the clear stream and washed How beautiful the air cool and balmy but on this is not home to me came up to the wagon and shaved while Mun was getting breakfast do not see anything of Alpheus and Orrin yet About ten o' clock came to a hot spring not enough to scald one some sulphur in it camped at noon on Sciota Creek drove in the afternoon to Fox Elder Creek and camped An English family here much dissatisfied with the Mormans a warm night

Thursday 7 Jul 1853

Warm and cloudy here Wm Thayer sold his wagon and harness and bought half of mine passed a salt spring about 11 o'clock halted at noon by a good spring sold the tent and stove Alpheus and Orrin came up after talking a while we went down to the river and bathed Started off and drove 4 miles to the Ferry on Bear River here we had to stay till next morning The boys had quite a time playing ball bathed again in the river plenty of mosquitoes at night

Friday 8 Jul 1853

Crossed the river this morning \$4.00 to pay then drove 3 miles to Molad Creek deep and mirey got our things took over in a Skiff \$1.50 to pay for this paid in sugar at 40cents a pound had to swim the horses and push the wagon over by hand in water and mud waist deep drove 3 miles and camped by a poor spring of water had some potatoes and a small short cake for supper the boys then went to playing ball and I sat down to write and think of home as usual Mosquitoes thick as hops just before sunset four dutchman came up with a hand cart on their way to California camped with us Talk of traveling with us A wagon and four men from Lenawee County Mich also came up and camped with us they will travel with us

Saturday 9 Jul 1853

A very warm morning started off early and drove 14 miles to a spring of water which was rather brackish but no alternative we "must drink or die" so we drank a little by putting ginger and sugar in it made some coffee with salt in it a burning sun and plenty of dust started off at two o' clock and drove 11 miles to where a nice little stream of water came rushing down from the mountains both horses and men glad to see it plenty of good grass and wild sage for wood a good camping place Mun went to getting supper now making a good short cake on the blue chest while I am writing Our road today a succession of hills and hollows hard and gravelly and good grass all the way

Sunday 10 Jul 1853

A fine warm morning started early and drove 6 miles to a creek then drove down the creek 7 miles to the sink of the same and halted for noon stayed till two o' clock then started on and drove 10 miles to a spring of water glad to get to it halted a few moments and then drove 7 miles to another spring at the foot of a mountain plenty Indians here Shushons or Snakes just like other Indians begging for biscuit shirts bread meat and so forth quite a company of

Emigrants here with Ox teams all with families This has not seemed much like Sunday to me as the Indians are so plenty had the men load up all the fire arms and keep a strict watch throught the night

Monday 11 Jul 1853

A fine clear morning started early drove till 12 o' clock must have drove about 14 miles passed a number of streams but no grass very poor grass where we stopped at noon Wm Thayer says remember me to Frank Clark Drove in the afternoon 15 miles over a barren country and halted at night on a small creek poor grass

Tuesday 12 Jul 1853

A cool windy night all the men complained of the cold the guard came up and said that the horses had strayed Wm Thayer and myself went after them found them 4 miles off got rather a late start about 9 o' clock came to the juncture of the Fort Hall and Salt Lake roads drove on till noon and camped by mountain springs concluded to stay here till morning good grass have been coming up an ascent all the forenoon now at the mouth of a Canyon of Goose Creek mountains day clear and beautiful but cool have not thought as much of home for a few days past as I did at first now about 200 miles from Salt Lake

Wednesday 13 Jul 1853

A clear but cold morning hired Gage Pierce to stand guard in my place last night so cold that I put on two pairs of pantaloons and my overcoat was some cold under the buffalo robe would have been a frost if anything to make frost out of started early and began to ascend Goose Creek mountains took about two hours had some steep hills to go down had to tie both wheels halted at noon on the creek good grass passed many droves of cattle today saw a number dead in the road camped on the creek having come 28 miles The day has been clear and beautiful not a cloud has been seen on the whole horizon have just put our horses over the creek good grass I am writing and Wm Thayer is busy in mixing bread this is the season of harvest in Michigan Orrin Snow is seated on his pack reading a book of a certain description

Thursday 14 Jul 1853

A cold morning hard frost last night about midnight horses took fright and ran away from the guard we thought it useless to follow them in the dark so waited till morning then had to wade the creek in water up to the middle and this before sun rise found the horses with little trouble got an early start and drove 18 miles to Rock Springs no grass this forenoon passed the first grave that I have seen Dated 1853 drove 12 miles in the afternoon and halted with very poor grass but plenty of Indians

Friday 15 Jul 1853

A warm day with a few clouds in sight started early and drove two hours to a fine spring of water and good grass here we stayed till 12 o' clock making a shade of our wagon cover had

rice for dinner drove in the afternoon 15 miles to Hope Springs turned our horses up the mountain side good grass and good water and wild sage for fuel had plenty of dust all day My thoughts have dwelt all day on loved ones far away shall I ever see them again Alpheus and Orrin put in with the Lenawee county boys today think they will get along better now Orrin quite unwell tonight

Saturday 16 Jul 1853

I arose at an early hour this morning and washed in the clear spring water The air clear and balmy but cloudy had a pleasant dream of home and friends got breakfast in good season but when we got our horses up one of Mansfield's horses was gone this caused some delay but our wagons went on till noon and halted in a valley and waited two hours when Mansfield's teams came up Must have drove 12 miles started at two o' clock and drove till six and camped on a lone flat a good spring our road this afternoon uneven cloudy and cool Mansfield and Orrin out yet looking for the stray horse all in good spirits

Sunday 17 Jul 1853

A warm morning I was on guard last night with Alpheus kept a sharp look out about half past ten Mansfield and Orrin returned but have heard nothing of the horse concluded that he is stolen started at day light and drove 8 miles to a stream a fork of the Humbolt here we got breakfast and stayed till half past nine heard many hard stories of the Indians concluded to go down on the south side of the Humbolt started and drove along the foot of the mountain till one o' clock crossed many little streams of water rough and rocky here we camped by a good spring and the best of grass made a shade of our wagon cover and took a nap this does not seem much like Sunday should like to know how the folks in Mich are hope to see them again but can't tell Just at night had quite a time in looking at a Daguerriotype

Monday 18 Jul 1853

Warm and cloudy and plenty of mosquitoes Started at five o' clock and drove till ten road rather rough but plenty of grass and water at dinner two Indians came to our camp the boys had some sport with them One wanted to trade his shirt for some powder with Mrs Stowell Had wild currants for dinner very good of a bright color drove in the afternoon four and one half hours and camped near a stream not the best of grass but mosquitoes in plenty here Mansfield and Alpheus had some hard words about guarding the horses

Tuesday 19 Jul 1853

A fine clear morning started at a quarter to five and drove till 10 o' clock and halted on a nice little running stream with good grass stayed here till two and then rolled out and drove till half past five and halted on the south fork of the Humbolt a deep and rapid stream 30 feet wide some fish in it Quite a large camp here One family from Morgan Co Ills acquainted with the Dunham family Quite good grass on the bottom land

Wednesday 20 Jul 1853

A fine warm morning a pleasant night with a few drops of rain Started at five o' clock and drove 3 miles up the stream and crossed the same without trouble but lost our way in going to the next fork and had to come back bad place to ford drove till 11 o' clock and halted on a slough little grass our road rough crooked and barren here we found two log chains quite a hail and rain storm while we were getting dinner drove in the afternoon till 6 o' clock over very rough roads camped on a flat between two mountains by a good spring the best of grass Should like to see you tonight Nerve wonder now little John is

Thursday 21 Jul 1853

A cool morning on guard last night in the after part of the night pleasant moon shone bright my thoughts would turn to old Mich and to wife and little ones Started in good season and drove a few miles over rough roads then down a steep hill in to a Canyon and down the Canyon in to another Here we had some trouble with the Indians drove in the afternoon over the highest and steepest mountain yet camped at night in a deep ravine in company with ten wagons from Missouri and about 40 men and a large drove of cattle good grass and water in the middle of the day very warm high wind this afternoon and plenty of dust cloudy with some appearance of rain

Friday 22 Jul 1853

Another fair morning a few drops of rain last night just after dark had 7 men on guard one in the camp and 6 on the hills no disturbance during the night at midnight the moon was shining brightly I could see the guards on the mountains Mun on guard in the latter part of the night started at six o' clock and drove till half past ten and halted on the bank of the Humbolt this is the first time we have struck the river since we left it at the head went down to the river and bathed nice place started at half past two and drove till dark road most of the way smooth and dust 4 or 5 inches deep found the best of grass quite late before we got our supper

Saturday 23 Jul 1853

All well got up early morning clear and fine about half past two last night Mansfield's teams came along large as life Am now writing by the light of the stove all hands busy in getting breakfast should like to hear from home this morning started at six o' clock and drove till ten finding no water continued on till twelve when we found poor water drove very fast must have come 25 miles not first rate grass forenoon very hot and plenty of dust passed 27 wagon covers Boys busy in playing cards this rather a lonesome day to me think of home This is the day of our meeting on the Prairie should like to meet with them as I often have but I know not as I shall ever enjoy that privilege again many very many long miles intervine between me and all the social joys of life We started out about half past two and went till six and camped on a branch or slough of the river water very poor contains much alkali could not drink but little of it put our horses over the stream good grass traveled over land this afternoon covered with saleratus one half inch thick for miles together

Sunday 24 Jul 1853

Started at a quarter before five and drove till half past 11 level road and plenty of dust stopped on the river no water till we came here and this is red as lye the poor horses nearly famished for the want of water This makes me think of home and friends I am now writing under the shade of the wagon the only kind of shade I have enjoyed for a long time What is life worth without society this is the most barren and desolate place that I was ever in started at two o' clock and drove 2 miles and discovered a spring of good water 40 rods from the road at the foot of a high bluff filled both our cans this did not come amiss in the afternoon drove till 9 at night and halted on the bank of the river no grass horses nearly famished for water got our supper and layed down at 11 o' clock this the first I have eat since four this morning good appetite

Monday 25 Jul 1853

Arose at four and went down the river 4 miles to good grass and halted for breakfast went up the mountain and got a can full of snow water "good" after breakfast we learned that it was 30 miles to grass and water therefore we concluded to stay here till night started out at five and drove till daylight

Tuesday 26 Jul 1853

Halted at day break on river bank plenty of alkali grass and water of all the lonesome nights that I have seen since I left home last night was the most lonely I thought of you Nerve while I was walking along the dusty road came nigh falling from the horse by getting asleep roads heavy sand all night stayed here till two in the afternoon rolled out and traveled till dark and camped on a sand bank poor grass

Wednesday 27 Jul 1853

Started at 5 o' clock was on guard last night quite warm On how much I thought of home the day quite warm roads heavy sand what a lonesome day this has been to me we traveled 20 miles without water I never knew before what it was to suffer for water we got to a good spring about 1 o' clock On what a luxury is a drink of cold water this is a miserable barren place I wish I was out of it Nerve I well recollect what I was about one year ago today I wish that I was with you today

Thursday 28 Jul 1853

This morning we agreed with a man to take our provision into his wagon and we board him for the same I sold Haunce yesterday so Mun Gage and myself took each a horse put our clothing and blankets on them and started This is Harriet's birthday we drove till noon and halted on the bank of the river had to cut grass on the bottoms with my pocket knife for the horses a very warm day I left camp this morning with gloomy feelings the sun about half an hour high came to a spring glad to get a drink once more camped at sundown on a bank of the Humbolt river quite good grass and plenty of gnats slept on the ground for the first time

Friday 29 Jul 1853

A clear warm morning had a good cup of coffee for breakfast feel some encouraged this morning hope to get through some time at least all hands busy in putting up things to start must stop writing good by Nerve We started out after breakfast and drove on till 11 o' clock heavy sandy roads come to some grass and camped for noon had some of Hannah's black raspberries very good but bad water I never knew the value of a cup of cold water till now This is the most miserable country that I ever saw or heard of I would almost sell my birthright for one drink of cold water started at half past two and drove on 8 or 10 miles to a place where we could get our horses to the sink and stopped for night had a cup of tea out of strong alkali water

Saturday 30 Jul 1853

A clear fine morning slept on the ground last night but not alone lots of emigrants here I am now seated on my buffalo robe writing on what would I give for one drink of cold water Started on after breakfast and drove to the river 8 miles halted and waded in to the river 10 or 15 rods in water about three and a half feet deep and pulled up grass for our horses after dinner drove on to Humbolt Lake water quite good Bathed drove on to the last sink and camped put our horses over a slough quite good grass and glad of it found an emigrant here from Graften Co NH Fresh Yankees

Sunday 31 Jul 1853

A fine warm morning did not get up till late sun half an hour high concluded to stay here till one o' clock and then start out and cross the desert expect to travel all night I shall be glad once more to get a drink of good water On this is a miserable place indeed Well Nerve I hope you will enjoy yourself well for this will be a lonesome day to me had a pleasant dream last night of home and loved ones About noon we broke camp and started out taking each a bundle of grass for our horses we traveled on 8 miles to a slough here we got tea the afternoon exceedingly hot we then striped off and took our things over the slough wading in water up to our arm pits pushed out on the desert at half past five We traveled on till sunrise next morning when we struck Carson River we halted about one in the night at a trading post paid one dollar and fifty cents for ten pounds of hay and twelve and one half cents for one pint of water all the way completely lined with dead cattle horses and mules and the remains of wagons and log chains I walked the whole night leading my horse by the bridle had plenty of time to think of home while walking along the road

Monday 1 Aug 1853

About sunrise now We are in what is here called "Hang Town" I think the whole town ought to be hung Contains 3 or 4 log huts and a number of cloth tents all well supplied with those indispensable requisites tobacco and whiskey Plenty of Gamblers Flour 50cents per pound beef 30cents butter \$1.50 other things like it Neither law nor order in the place Saw two men that had been shot and wounded Bought a little hard bread and two pounds of beef Took a snooze and then hitched up and drove up the river 4 miles to better grass and took another snooze

Tuesday 2 Aug 1853

A fine clear cool morning started off in good season and drove 4 miles then left the river and drove 12 miles without water or grass road rough and rocky Struck the river at 11 o' clock and halted for noon in a bend Put the horses over the stream good grass came one and one half miles in the afternoon Bought 25 lbs of flour at a trading post 40cents per lb Drove 10 miles over a sandy desert and struck the river again near sundown A beautiful place fine grove of cotton wood trees and abundance of grass some traders here bought two and one lb bacon 40cents lb Potatoes cabbage and onions 38cents Had quite a talk with the trader had been in Cal since 49 was from Vermont

Wednesday 3 Aug 1853

Left camp at an early hour and in good spirits in hopes of getting to our journey's end Drove 25 miles today and camped on the bank of the river with good grass day fine and clear passed plenty of trading posts during the day

Thursday 4 Aug 1853

Left camp again in good spirits and drove till noon and halted on the best of grass plenty of traders to buy stock In the afternoon crossed another barren sandy desert 8 miles and then came in to the valley again About 4 o' clock came to another trading post here we sold our horses put the money in my pocket took my bag of clothing on my back and traveled on till sundown passed a number of farms the best water in the world high mountains covered with timber looks pleasant and as though one could live here Bacon 50cents beef 25 and 30cents butter one dollar milk 25cents per lb potatoes 50cents lb

Friday 5 Aug 1853

Left camp at an early hour after enjoying a good nights rest on the ground a cool night passed through a pleasant part of the valley and camped at the mouth of the Canyon provision very dear costs one dollar per meal bought some bread and ham A saw mill at the mouth of the Canyon

Saturday 6 Aug 1853

Got our breakfast at a cloth house one dollar to pay traveled up the Canyon the worst road that one ever saw then traveled through a valley ten miles and stopped for the night at a trading post kept by a Missourian told a hard story of California

Sunday 7 Aug 1853

Quite a cold night started early and commenced ascending the first summit very steep and rocky beat anything yet descended into another valley and at ten o' clock stopped at a trading post and bought materials for dinner as this was sunday we concluded to stay here till

tomorrow morning this was a long and lonesome time to me plenty of card playing revolver shooting and swearing drinking whiskey and the like so goes the world

Monday 8 Aug 1853

Quite cold last night but made out to keep comfortably warm under my buffalo robe slept as well on my bed of gravel as I ever did on feathers The weather here this morning reminds me of April in Michigan Left our camp in pretty good season and began to ascend the second summit the road for the first five miles through a thick growth of pine timber very rough rocky and crooked the last mile without timber and the snow on places ten or fifteen feet deep we traveled about half a mile over this snow we arrived at the summit about 9 o' clock I am now seated on a rock writing with my overcoat on we are now in California I suppose Here the road forked the left one being the one usually taken by footman and horse man Alpheus and Orrin went round with the wagon and the rest of us took the cut off as the saying is but we paid dear for it getting lost among the hills and rocks and pine trees But we finally made our way out to the road about 5 o' clock at the place appointed for meeting They had been waiting for us two hours Here we got tea and then drove on 4 miles to another trading post kept by a Norwegian quite an intelligent man

Tuesday 9 Aug 1853

Quite a cold morning slept in an open shed last night but rather cold got a breakfast of crackers and cheese and left at an early hour and traveled on to Leek Springs 2 miles halted at noon at Camp Creek a beautiful clear stream plenty of spotted trout This trading post kept by two Michigan boys Traveled on till near sundown and stopped at a trading post kept by Kentucky boys ( colored ) good accomadations We have traveled today through the best pine timber that I ever saw and cedars that will vie with the cedars of Lebanon

Wednesday 10 Aug 1853

Slept soundly last night in the tent of the trader not so cold as the night before Started off early and traveled 8 miles called at a trading post and got breakfast "good first rate" came all the way through the best of pine timber soil resembles the bottom of a log heap plenty of dust traveled on till noon and arrived in Placerville passed through plenty of mining places for 2 miles before we got here Now that I am at this place I have no home no smile of welcome cheers my heart but I am thankful for letters Went in to a Barber's Shop and read them now the thoughts of home came up before my mind got shaved and went to the Union Hotel and engaged my board at nine dollars per week very good took lodging in the barn cannot sleep for thinking of home Just after day break fell in to a sweet sleep had a pleasant dream of home and friends

Thursday 11 Aug 1853

Spent the day in writing and looking about time felt rather lonely sent \$200 home by Adams & Co Express cost \$800

Friday 12 Aug 1853

Spent the forenoon in writing and the afternoon in looking about town chance for getting in to employment rather poor

Tuesday 16 Aug 1853

Have been prospecting about since Saturday morning nothing very encouraging yet now at Rock Canyon all in good health

Wednesday 14 Sep 1853

Rather a cool day out of employment today feel lonesome enough have been at work for the Baker in this place for better than two weeks past have learned nothing very encouraging yet now ever not best to be discouraged yet but hope is the word with me Am anxious to get a letter from home now dear is the word home to me I never knew its importance and deep toned sweetness before may I live to see home once more Suppose my friends in Michigan are now engaged in sowing wheat good employment

Sunday 18 Sep 1853

A fine clear day all is noise and confusion about Georgetown this the principle day of business My thoughts turn towards home this morning I am now suffering from a severe cold and sore throat have recieved sixty eight dollars during the past three weeks for wages

Monday 10 Oct 1853

A fine clear morning Started this morning from the \_\_\_ in Georgetown in company with E Marlath for Long Valley spent part of the forenoon in finding a cabin and then went to digging the ditch on our claim got our dinner of the two old men in the Rams below went up to Georgetown at night was very tired

Tuesday 11 Oct 1853

Left the boarding house early and went over to Rock Canyon for Wm Thayer and B Snow both concluded to go to Long Valley with us Helped them bring over their things to Georgetown here we all got dinner then W and B got a horse and went to Rock Canyon for the balance of their things Elisner and myself then bought provission to the amount of \$2476 and started for the cabin found it rather dirty went to work and cleared it out made a broom of pine boughs and swept it out have just put our things to rights and are now waiting for B and W to come with their things but it looks rather lonesome just after we got our supper B and W came bringing the stove and all the furniture and dishes their blankets two shovels and a pick They were weary enough E and myself soon got supper for them and we all retired early and slept well the first night in our cabin

Wednesday 12 Oct 1853

This has been a fine clear day have been digging a ditch on our claims E was sick in the afternoon the day has passed off quite pleasantly Its now evening we are all seated in the cabin a good fire the moon is shining brightly the night is beautiful indeed but as for me I think of home

Tuesday 18 Oct 1853

All well this morning Yesterday was at work all day in sinking a hole on our claim but did not get to bedrock got a prospect of about a bit to a pan just as we left at night the water came in so fast it was slow getting along E went away yesterday morning to see his Brother has not yet got back we want him to finish prospecting This makes eight days that we have been here and made nothing rather discouraging but can't help it if this fails we'll try another place t'will never do to give it up so "Mr Brown"

Sunday 23 Oct 1853

A fine day went up to Georgetown and put a letter into the office Its now a beautiful starlight night have been reading felt tired of it this is the second sunday in this cabin it's now about eight o' clock at night B is singing Wm is on the couch E is sitting on a pine lounge is thinking of home by his appearance as for me I think of home a great deal can't help it have seen all our boys today all well and in good spirits My health is improving all the time encouraging that

Sunday 30 Oct 1853

As clear pleasant a day as I ever saw have not had to wear a coat or vest comfortable sitting at the door of the cabin as it would be in June in Michigan We have just had supper Wm baked pancakes which he turned in quite a scientific manner by tossing up the frying pan Nelson and E went to Georgetown and have just returned brought a letter from Sam Johnson from Michigan brings news up to the 21st of July thankful to hear once more from home Have been working on our claims all the week we mean to make a decision tomorrow My health continues to improve which is encouraging I try to be contented but I think of home a great deal It's now about 4 o' clock in the afternoon and all well

Sunday 6 Nov 1853

Quite a cold day the coldest this fall Orrin and Alpheus at our cabin wrote two letters and put in the office today went up to Georgetown in the afternoon and stayed till after dark quite cool

Monday 7 Nov 1853

A clear cool day at work ditching a miners meeting in the afternoon at our cabin

Tuesday 8 Nov 1853

Still ditching cloudy this afternoon first cloudy day since the middle of September looks much like rain tonight run the tom a little white this afternoon

Wednesday 9 Nov 1853

Cloudy commenced raining about 4 o' clock in the afternoon and continued to rain all night moderately had the tooth ache so that I did not leave the cabin in the afternoon

Saturday 12 Nov 1853

Was at Smith's cabin all day on the arbitration between Taft and Frost Made our decision at night and sealed it up as per instructions went to Green Wood in the evening with Frost a beautiful moon light evening did not get home till midnight

Sunday 13 Nov 1853

Some cloudy today went to Georgetown and got a letter from home thankful for that have seen all the boys but Alpheus today all well

Monday 14 Nov 1853

Has rained all day kept us in the cabin Alpheus here wrote to Adna

Sunday 20 Nov 1853

A clear fine day all the boys at our cabin but Mun Quite a crowd but to me lonesome enough

Monday 21 Nov 1853

Another fine day went over to Manhattan Creek Wm and B bought claim of **Oclcora???** and made the writings out in our cabin

Friday 25 Nov 1853

Began to rain this morning and we had to stop work has rained here all day lonesome enough I have thought a great deal of home today Eight years ago today I was at the funeral of my wife how fast time flies how many scenes have I passed through since that long to be remembered day what hopes and fears joys and sorrows Well such is life a checkered scene

Saturday 26 Nov 1853

Cloudy washed out some gold in the forenoon began to rain soon afternoon and continued to rain until next morning Alpheus come down and stayed all night with us

Sunday 27 Nov 1853

Rainy this morning About ten we all started and went up to Georgetown rained most of the time went over to the fighting place a large crowd and plenty of mule Got a letter from home glad of it got back to our cabin about dark wet and weary got a good supper bright blazing fire read my letters over and over

Monday 28 Nov 1853

Cloudy and warm with some appearance of rain washing gold in the forenoon in the afternoon began to strip another pit

Tuesday 29 Nov 1853

Continues warm and cloudy Alpheus came down today to begin to mine washing in the afternoon no great snow

Wednesday 14 Dec 1853

This has been a gloomy day to me I have become satisfied that my claim is good for nothing for two long months I have labored hard in hopes of making something for the benefit of my dear absent ones but hopes told a flattering tale Disapointment is my lot I have expended nearly all my money and what to do I don't know In a distant land and without money but I must not dispond I have been industrious and prudent The day is fine and mild last Sunday ( the 11th ) I received two letters and a Daguerreotype from home loved memories to me

Sunday 25 Dec 1853

This is Christmas morning clear and pleasant quite a sharp frost last night I finished my letter for home this morning and then went down to Long Valley with Henry a great deal of shooting about Georgetown today not much like Sunday at home felt lonesome enough got some fresh beef for dinner got a letter from home last Tuesday ( 20th ) glad to hear from home again

Sunday 1 Jan 1854

This is a warm and clear day a continued roar of fire arms all day last evening Georgetown sounded like a battlefield saw a funeral this afternoon first I have seen since I came to California

Sunday 8 Jan 1854

Today am at Georgia Slide taking care of Orrin Harmon came last Tuesday at night Orrin rather better today but not able to set up much a hard place for one to be sick Have been to work in the Blue Rock Tunnel for a few days weather fine and clear no appearance of rain yet

17 Jan 1854

Snow fell on the night of the 15th Snow on the ground at about 4 inches deep Orrin Harmon died this morning at half past o' clock burried him at 4 o' clock this afternoon on the hill on the north side of Canyon Creek Peace to his memory all the boys at his burrial

18 Jan 1854

Cold and unpleasant stayed at Burris Cabin all day wrote a letter to Asa

19 Jan 1854

Very cold last night said to be the coldest night since California was settled I have lost my chance of working in the tunnel took all my baggage this morning and started through the snow again a houseless homeless wanderer in a strange land

Sunday 22 Jan 1854

Continues cold

Monday 30 Jan 1854

Warm and pleasant snow gone began working with Henry today

Sunday 12 Feb 1854

Some snow today has been fine since the first

Monday 27 Feb 1854

Powerful rain has rained most of the time since the 15th

Wednesday 1 Mar 1854

Clear but cold have been mining for a month and made little more than board this is rather discouraging

Monday 10 Apr 1854

Bid my friends an affectionate goodby at Georgetown and started for home sweet home took passage in a large wagon drove 12 miles to Centerville very tired

Tuesday 11 Apr 1854

Rained till ten o' clock fair the rest of the day got within 8 miles of Sacramento and put up at a good house

Wednesday 12 Apr 1854

Got into the City at 9:30 left at noon in the Steam Boat Antelope arrived in San Francisco at sundown good boat and pleasant passage put up at the United States Hotel

Saturday 15 Apr 1854

Engaged my passage to New York in the good ship John L Stephens left at 5 o' clock in the afternoon

Sunday 16 Apr 1854

Cloudy and cool saw a number of whales during the day

Monday 17 Apr 1854

Cool and cloudy most of the day about ten o' clock passed the steamer Sierra Nevada found our living much better than I expected have plenty

Tuesday 18 Apr 1854

Warmer this morning but cleared A whale passed under the bow of the boat this morning had a fair veiw of him At ten o' clock engine out of order lay by for two hours Sierra Nevada come up has been warm and cloudy

Wednesday 19 Apr 1854

A warm cloudy morning quite mild all day at noon 24' 48" N

Thursday 20 Apr 1854

Quite warm at noon in 21' 30" N Distance run in last 24 hours 280 miles

Friday 21 Apr 1854

Very warm last night stayed on deck till midnight clear and star light good singing among the passengers a head wind today very warm but the breeze renders it quite comfortable

Saturday 22 Apr 1854

Very warm about 4 o' clock ran into Acapulco whole distance from San Francisco 1777 miles

Sunday 23 Apr 1854

Extremely warm not a cloud to be seen heat very oppressive

Monday 24 Apr 1854

Cloudy and very warm Sea smooth clear and extremely warm all day

Tuesday 25 Apr 1854

Clear and very hot stayed on deck till half past three in the morning

Wednesday 26 Apr 1854

Very warm Slept on deck again last night

Thursday 27 Apr 1854

Very warm this morning and cloudy a light shower

Friday 28 Apr 1854

Very hot wrote a letter during the day

Saturday 29 Apr 1854

Got in to Panama about 9 o' clock last night did not go to bed started about 9 o' clock across the Isthmus got to the Rail Road about sundown very tired this place is called Rio Obispo???

Sunday 30 Apr 1854

Took the cars at 2 o' clock for Aspenwall arrived at five got on board the Steamer George Law and left the wharf at eleven at night

Monday 1 May 1854

Cloudy with a fine breeze sea rough

Tuesday 2 May 1854

Cool and cloudy this morning at noon 366 miles from Aspinwall in Latitude 15' N  
Longitude 23' 43" W

Wednesday 3 May 1854

Clear and cool at noon 614 miles from Aspinwall in Lat 18' N

Thursday 4 May 1854

Clear warm and pleasant passed the Island of Cuba

Friday 5 May 1854

Clear and warm five o' clock in the morning now off the coast of Florida two wrecks in sight

Saturday 6 May 1854

Cloudy this morning A man died last night ran 332 miles in last 24 hours 1503 miles from Aspinwall

Sunday 7 May 1854

Cloudy and cool with a high wind a little sea sick wind abated on the afternoon Another man died last night