

Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

Source of Trail Excerpt: Savage, Levi, Journal, 1855 Mar.-1858 Oct.

Camp of the Saints, Thurs. 10th July 1856[.] This morning, at about 11:00 I arrive in good health & Spirits. in Iowa [Iowa] City, & Soon after found myself in the camp of about 1500 Saints situated 2½ miles west of the above mentioned city. Here I met w/ Pres. Daniel [Daniel]. Spencer... & others. The Saints, tho Some exposed to the weather, are generally well. & in good Spirits. A considerable number are preparing to go with h&carts. Tis a perfect curiosity.

Camp of the Saints Iowa City Friday 11 July. 1856. Today agreeable to council, I reported myself to Bro. Daniel Spencer the agent for forwarding the Saints. He requires my assistance & I commenced for the first time for 3 years. it goes rather hard

Camp of the Saints Iowa City Saturday 12 July 1856[.] This fore noon I went in search for timber to make wagon bows. I found none. This after noon, by council, of Pres Spencer—Brother [Millen] Atwood, myself, & Several others went to a gentile raiing. This evening the Saints were called to gether in the capacity of a Business meeting, & organized into Companies for traveling. I was appointed Capt over the Second hundred in Elder Williees [James G. Willie's] company.

Camp of the Saints near Iowa City Sunday 13th July 1856[.] The Saints assembled at 10 o'clock A.M. & was addressed by Bro James [James] Ferguson [Ferguson], on the first principles of the gospel. The meeting was interesting: many Strangers were present. At 3 o'clock P.M. we assembled again & partook of the Sacrament, & then had an able discourse from Elder Tiler. Many Strangers present, a good Spirit prevail[.] only one drunken man made a little disturbance.

Camp of the Saints near Iowa City Monday 14th July 1856[.] To day we spent in preparing to start. Agreeable to Council we sold & hired[.] carried all luggage over 17 lbs per person[.] this makes us rather destitute for wearing apparel. & Bedding.

Camp of the Saints near Iowa City Tuesday 15 July 1856[.] To day, Sister [Eliza] Hurren was delivered of a fine daughter. She is very feeble. It was thought the child would die soon after it was born, but I administered to it & it soon revived, A few in camp suffering in inability & diarrhea. We spent the day in preparing for our journey

Camp of the Saints Wednesday 16 July 1856[.] About 4 o'clock P.M. our oxen being yoked, our h&carts were started, drawn by old & young, male & female: all in good spirits, & receiving a hearty cheer by our friends that we left behind. our oxen were rather wild, & trouble some, consequently we were late to camp; but the Saints generally manifested a good spirit.

Camp of the Saints Thursday 17th July 1856. To day we remained in camp. Evening we held meeting. Brother Willey gave good instructions, also rehearsed the Council that Brother Spencer left for the Saints; which was ~~to~~ not to move off this ground, until the Spirit of murmuring, if there was any, ceased among the Saints of this camp[.] a good Spirit prevailed.

Camp of the Saints Friday 18th July 1856. To day we traveled about 8 miles. Some few of the Saints are sick, but generally, are enjoying good health & spirits. Our teams were very awkward & the teamsters more awkward than the oxen.

Camp of the Saints Iowa [Iowa] Saturday 19th July 1856. To day we traveled about 12 miles[.] The weather was very warm, & the roads very dusty. Some of the Saints both old & young, were nearly overcome yet they endured much better than could be expected [be expected]. Surely the blessings of the Lord were with us.

Camp of the Saints Iowa Sun. 20th July 1856[.] To day we remained in camp. Many of the inhabitants... here, visited us. ... Some of them manifested a very envious spirit. last evening. Just before we camped, a man by the road side, said to Bro Willy [Willie], that he would come & tear our tents down, if it should take 50 men to accomplish it &, ... our visitors manifested a spirit that was willing to carry his threats into execution. They endeavored to get into an argument, & raise a contention. At half past two o'clock we held a meeting; & told the people some of our faith & belief. also our determination, to carry out, or obey the commands of God regardless of consequences. & that it was our privilege, according to the laws of the L&, to worship God as we pleased. & no man had any business to interfere with us. &c[.] After meeting they were perfectly docile & soon returned home. The night past quietly.

Camp of the Saints Iowa Monday 21st July 1856[.] At 7 o'clock A.M. we started, & traveled seven miles, then camped for the remainder of the day & night, & done our washing. Our sick are improved & the Saints that remain, generally manifest a good spirit. Yesterday some turned back, six in number, Viz Mrs. Baker; & 2 children; Miss Smith, & two Miss Birds. This evening there came [e], several [l] young fellows to our camp who were determined to disturb us; but when they saw they were likely to meet with a warm reception. they, after hollering, & using some booby language, dispersed

Camp of the Saints Iowa Tuesday 22nd July 1856[.] To day we traveled about 10 miles. The weather was very warm. & the roads dusty. but the Saints endured it well. Bro Willey broke a yoke, which caused some hindrance.

Camp of the Saints Iowa Wednesday 23rd of July 1856. This morning the Saints arose in good spirits, & pursued their journey. The weak are getting strong. the lame, & aged, get along exceedingly well. About 12 o'clock A.M. Sister Mary Williams, aged 50 years was taken up from the side of the way insensible; at first she was supposed to be overcome with the heat. after this, it was ascertained, that she had been eating a quantity of green plums, & crab-apples. She died about 5 o'clock P.M. At dark, having laid by, in consequence of the excessive heat. Several hours in the middle of the day. We pitched our tents, & all arrived safe in camp. Something fatigued by the journey,

& the heat, tho in good Spirits.

Camp of the Saints Iowa Thursday 24 July 1856[.] This morning <we> moved about one mile a head, made a coffin for the Corpse of Sister mary williams, put it in, & buried it in a gentile buring ground[.] I got some Blacksmithing done[.] Sixty five cts worth. Several, in camp, are Severely ill. Our rations are very Short, viz 10 oz flour ~~per~~ per one day. 10 oz pork per 28 days. Short rations of tea coffee Sugar. rice & aples. It is not enough. <there> Some complaining. The inhabitants are generally very Kinde, but others manifest more of the mobing Spirit.

Camp of the Saints Iowa Friday 25 July 1856[.] This morning we started early. we had <a> cool breeze of wind all day, traveled; & traveled about 12 or 14 miles. & camped by a Small Creek <(Bear Creek).> that is destitute of wood. This afternoon the Sharif of the county, viz poweshiek, came to Serch our wagons for women. that they Said a man in Brooklin, a country Town were bound. They Serched our wagons, & went of[f] satisfide that it was not so.

Camp of the Saints Iowa Saturday 26 July 1856[.] Last evening Some pers[ons] came in hearing of the Camp, & commenced singing. bawdy Songs, then cawled [called] over Some names, & commenced Singing again, & going away until the Sound died in the distance. We heared no more of them. This morning. 4 oclock, we arose at the Sound of the Bugle as usual, got our brakefast. & commenced preparing to Start. About this time it commenced to rain, this made very heavy traveling; the become mucch fatiegu. Sister [Ann B.] Cooper fainted by the way. We traveled about 11 miles, & camped on Shugar [Sugar] Creek.

Camp of the Saints Skunk Riv[er], Iowa. Sunday 27th July 1856[.] This morning we moved five miles & camped on this Creek for the day. a goodly number of the Citizens came to view our camp & hear preaching. a few ruffens als[o] came, one of whome picked up a hatchet, & put it into his pocket. This caused Some <angry> words. & during the day & evening, they made great threats of disturbing the us. but they did not put their threats into execution. We were prepare[d] to defend ourSelves. After noon I preached to an attent congregation. a good Spirit prevailed

Camp of the Saints two miles of Nuton [Newton,] Ioway Monday 28th July 1856[.] This after noon, we have had a very hilly road. We passed through Nuton [Newton] about 4 oclock P.M. by apperances. one would Suppose. that the Inhabitants of the Town & surrounding country were Road side to See us pass. We had, been informed that the Inhabitants were p[r]epared to mob us as we passed, or were encamped; but we marched throug[h] fearlessly, & no one molested us, but gazed with apperant Supriee [surprise]. We traveled foreteen miles.

Camp of the Saints Skunk Riv[er] Ioway Tuesday 29th July 1856[.] To day we have traveled 12 miles. the Roads were good. Some of the Saints are aling, sore footed; & lame, but generally, manifest a good Spirit.

Camp of the Saints South Skunk, Indian Creek, Indian creek <Skunk> Iowa Wednesday 30 July 1856[.] To day we traveled 12 miles. All in good Spirits. The childe, mentioned below. died last evening. & was buried this morning.

Camp of the Saints Indian creek Iowa Thursday 31st July /56[.] About 11 oclock last evening. Brother [James] Herons [Hurren's] daughter [Selena], aged two weeks, departed this life. Her death was caused by the canker. This morning we buried her. then Stareded & traveled to fort Desmoins [Des Moines] 20 miles. many of the Saints were nearly over dun, by the long march. We did not get into camp untill after dark

Camp of the Saints Walnut creek Iowa ~~Thursday 31st July~~ Friday 1st Aug 1856[.] This morning we moved Ft Demoin [Des Moines] camped a mile out till after noon. the[n] traveled 4 miles. [ae]. Here a large number of ruffins came determined to disturbe our camp. We kept a Strong gard. & none entered our carol [corral]. They dispersed about 12 oclock.

Camp of the Saints Ioway Friday July [August] 1856[.] To day we traveled about 12 miles. We intended to go 20 but the march was to long. Some of the aged & infirm went forward Several miles, & were obliged to come back[.] we Sent the mule team after them.

Camp of the Saints. middle Coon River Iowa Saturday 2^d Aug 1856[.] To day we traveled 16 miles. The people are generly healthy.

Camp of the Saints. South Skunk. Iowa Sunday Aug, 3^d 1856[.] At four oclock this morning the Saints in camp were called up. they got Brakefast. attended prayers. & at Seven oclock were on our way again. We traveled ten miles, & encamped about 12 oclock. Here we remained, & rested the remaining part of the day. We had many visiter. Mail [Male] & female Citazens of the country. They were very civel.

Camp of the Saints Iowa Monday 4th August 1856[.] At 4 oclock A.M. we were called up. got brakefast, had Prayers. & at half past 6 were on our way. We marched 17 miles & encamped by a Small creek, without any timber except a few willows: which Served to make fires for cooking. Just before camping we had a little rain.

Camp of the Saints Iowa Tuesday 5th August 1856. This morning as usual we. arose early. got brakefast. attended prayers. & were on our march before 7 A.M. We traveled 17 miles; then encamped by a butiful Spring of water, naar a farm house, & Stage St&. The country through ~~there~~ here is thinly Setled, the l& is very roling & furtile.

Camp of the Saints Iowa Wednesday 6th August 1856[.] This morning when I awoke, the winde was blowing Strongly, & the rain faling heavily. The peple arose rather late[.] got their brakefast, attended, prayers, & were on their way about ten oclock. We traveled <12 miles> over a road. the moste of the day. which was new & hilly & encampe[d] about 5 oclock p.m. on a creek. a mile distent from ~~water~~ wood. all are very tired.

Camp of the Saints Iowa Thursday 7th August 1856. This morning we all arose early, got brakefast, attended prayers, & Started. traveled 7 miles, to a Small Vilage called Indian Town. We drove through about a mile, & took dinner. Here we met with a Brother from Pennsylvania, by the name of Josepep Seltcer. He gave Bro Willey [Willie]; [Millen] Atwood; [William] Woodard; Chislet Cox & myself dinner. He is strong in the faith, & intends to dispose of his property. & <intends to> gather with the Saints this fall. From this we traveled 6 miles & encamped by a Small creek. Sufficient Brush for cooking. As we passed through Indian town, Several of the Saints Stoped, & purchased Some necessary provision. among these was Brother J. Smi. who in making change, accidenly left his purs. with Six Soverins, one mexican Dollar. one half Dollar, & one ten cent piece in it. endeavors were made by Seresh [search] war& [warrant] to obtain it but failed. This operation detained Elder Wood[w]ard; & others, withe the mewl team, in Town all night.

Camp of the Saints Nishnabotna Iowa Friday 8th August 1856. This morning we waited until a late hour for Brother Wooderd [Woodward]. He overtook us where we nooned. we arived on the Nishnabotna about 4 oclock P.M. & encamped for the night. having traveled 14 miles.

Camp of the Saints Cass creek, Iowa 9th August 1856[.] This morning as usual we arose early. got brakefast, attended prayers, & were on our way at a quarter to Seven oclock A.M. we traveled 10 miles to Silver creek. & dined. Here Bro Garner his Daughter & Son left us. His wife remained, & traveled with us. from this we went to Cass Creek. 6 miles further, & encamed for the night. This after noon we had a Small Shower of rain.

Camp of the Saints Muskets Creek, Iowa Sunday 10th <August 1856[.]> To day we remained in Camp until 4 oclock P.M.; then Started & traveled 10 miles & encamped on this creek at dark. This afternoo[n] Brother Garner with his Son & Daughter desiring to go on with us. He Said that he was Sory, & wood ask forgiveness for the bad Said & don wrong, & would do better for the pres future. upon these considerations I consented to take him a long. He has endeavored with great enducements to persuade his wife to Stop with him. He was unable to do So. This, I believe, to be the greatest cause, of his wishing to continue with us.

Camp of the Saints Florance [Florence] Nebraska Territory Monday 11th August 1856[.] This morning we arose early. Got our Brakefast attended prayers, & started. After traveling about three miles, we came to Bluff City. Here, like all other Towns through which we have passed, the people thronged the Street Sides, & gazed upon us with apperant great Surprize. They were Sivil, except a few low bread fellows, who endeavere to make Sport of us[.] the cripled & lame not excepted. They were [r]eprem&ed by the Better class. Here we met Elder McGaw; the Emegrating agent at Florrance [Florence]. As he returned to Florance, he came to a house, near which, Some of our company had Stoped for refreshments; here Some of the Gentiles, & apostates, commensed to abuse the Saints, & curse the hancart Sistem, & those that instatuted it. Brother McGaw Stood in defense of the Sistem; Saints, & Servents Consequently got into a fist fight with them, Whiped one or two of them, but received no material injury to himself except geting his hair well pulled. We mooved to the Missouri [Missouri] River, f[e]rried over & encamped just dark. The last hancart Comp[any] left this for Salt Lake, about three weeks Since.

Camp of the Saints Florance [Florence] Nebraska <Territory> Tuesday 12th August 1856[.] To day we commenced preparing for our jour[ney] & acertaining who wishes to go on this fall. & who wishes to remain here. Many are a going to Stop, others are faltering, & I myself am not in favor of, but much opposed to taking women & Children through destitute of clothing, when we all know. that we are bound to be caught in the Snow, & Severe colde w[e]ather, long before we reach the valey. I have expresseed my felings, in part, to Brothers McGaw, Willey [Willie]; & Atwood. Brother Atwood Said to me last night. that. Since he had been a member of this Church, with all of his experience. he had never been placed in a position where things appear so dark to him, as it does to undertake to take this Company through at this late Season of the year. ~~This eveni~~

Florrance [Florence] Nebraska <Ter[r]itory> Wednesday 13th Aug 1856[.] To day we continued. preperations for Starting. evening we held meting in Camp. Brother Willey Exorted the Saints to go forward regardless of Suffering even to death; after he had Spoken, he gave me the oppertunity of Speaking. I said to him, that if I Sopke, I must Speak my minde, let it cut where it ~~could~~ would. He Said Certainly do so. I then related to the Saints, the hard Ships that we Should have to endure. I Said that we were liable to have to wade in Snow up to our knees, & Should at night rap ourselvs in a thin blanket. & lye on the frozen ground without abed; that was not like having a wagon, that we could go into, & rap ourselves in as much as we liked & ly down. No Said I.—we are with out waggons, destitute of clothing, & could not cary it if we had it. We must go as we are &c. The h& cart Sistem. I do not condemn. I think it preferble. to unbroke oxen, & unexprianced teamsters. The lateness of the Season was my only objection, of leaving this point for the mountains at this time. I Spoke warmly upon the Subject, but Spoke truth, & the people, judging from appearance & after expressions, felt the force of it. (but yet, the most of them, determond to go forward if the Authorities Say so.) Elder Willey then Spoke again in reply to what I had Said, <evidently dissatisfied> & Said that the God that <he> Served was a God that was able to save to the utrmost. that was the God that He Served; & he wanted no Jobes co[m]forters with him; &c. I then Said that what I had Said, was truth; & if Elder Willey does not want me to act in the place where I am, he is at full liberty to place an other man in my stead, & I would not think hard of him for it; but I did not care what he Said about Jobes comforters. I had Spoken nothing but the truth, & he & others knew it. Elder Atwood then Spoke mildely, & to the purpose[e]. Said that he had ben edified in what had been said, &c. he exhorted the Saints to prey to God & get a revilation, & know for themselves whether Should go or Stay, &C. for it was their privilege to know for themselves. The meeting dismissed, all manifesting a good feeling & Spirit.

Florance [Florence] Nebraska Teri [Territory] Thursday 14th Aug 1856[.] To day continued, preparing for our Journey this morning; I met Brothers George Grant; & Vancott. I was Glad to See them. They have been a few days down the River on business, & returned last evening.

Florance [Florence] Nebraska [Nebraska] Ter[r]itory, Friday 15th August 1856. Today we continued preparations for Starting. I wrote a letter to my Brother Alanson; &c. Evening We held meeting, Elders McGaw; Kimble [Kimball]; Grant[.] Vancott addressed the Saints; exhorted them to go forward regardless of consequences.

Little Papean [Pappea] Nebraska [Nebraska] Saturday 16th Aug 1856. This afternoon at 4 o'clock the first & Second Hundreds moved out 5 miles to this creek.

Little Papaw [Pappea] Nebraska [Nebraska] Sunday 17th Aug 1856. This morning I wrote a letter to my Bro Alanson in Illinois, & one to Josep Bouton, Conn. I then went back to town with Six men & got 37 Beeves & Milk Cows. Our wagons are loaded with 35 or 40 Hundred of provisions & we ~~hae~~ yet want 25 Hundred or more & have no wagon, nor cant purchase one to hall it in.

Big Pap[pea] Nebraska [Nebraska] Monday 18th 1856[.] This morning Bro McGaw & Wm. Kimble [Kimball] come & Supled a few of the Saints. 4 o'clock we moved on to this creek <5 miles.> Brs. McGaw & Kimble [Kimball] accompanied us. To this place then returned.

Elkhorn Tuesday 19th August 1856. This morning we moved on here & fer[ri]ed over, drove on about 2 miles & encamp[.] We left a cow behinde this morning; that we might finde her calf, which She had hid, we als[o] left a man to bring her up. He com a wa[y] & left, both Cow & Calf.

Platt Horn platt[e] Wednesday 20th August 1856. This morning I took the mule, & went back 12 miles, & got the above mentioned cow, but I got the calf at 2 o'clock p.m. We moved on 12 miles to the Plat[te], <12 miles as> the weather denotes a Storm[.] It rayned alittle. We met Some Emigrunts from Calafornia [California]. They did not come through S[alt].L[ake] City.

Plat[te] River Thursday 21th August 1856. To day we traveled up to the platt[e] Bottom to an other Bend in the river 12 miles. The grass was high. The roads some s&y, & the weather vary warm. At one o'clock we arived at the river much fatigued. Here we took refreshments, devided the cows to each Hundred, & at 6 o'clock, started, drove 4 or 5 miles & encamped without wood or water.

Plat[te] River Friday 22^d August 1856. This morning we Started at Sunrise:—traveled 4 or 5 miles to Shell creek.—<there> took brakefast—bought a few articles of a man by the name of Isaac Albertson.—then across the bottom to an other <bend> in the plat[te], <distant> 12 or 15 miles, where we arived abot 6 o'clock P.M. & encamped fo[r] the Night

Loup Foork [Fork] Saturday 23^d August 1856[.] To day we faryed the Loup Fork.

Loop [Loup] Fork Sunday 24 Aug 1856[.] To day we traveled 15 mile, camped by this Riv. Caught some ~~five~~ fish

Loop Fork Monday 25th Auguste 1856[.] This morning three cows were missing. Brother [Edward] Griffins [Griffiths] Stoped back for them. He found one only. We traveled 15 miles, encamped just Sunset. Just before this We had a Small Showr of rayne.

Loop [Loup] Fork Tuesday 26th August 1856. This morning all had mooved of the Ground when I observed. That the king bolt of the last wagon was broke. This detained us until 9 o'clock. A[.] M. We then mooved on, & overtook the company, after traveling about 12 miles, w[h]ere it had encamped on this River. This evening I caught a fine mess of catfish.

Loup fork Wednesday 27th August 1856[.] This morning we left the Loop [Loup] Fork, at 12 o'clock[.] We came to some wells, from this over S&y roads, to a pond of poor water having traveled about 15 miles. We encamped. Capt [Edward] Bunkers Company passed the 10 inst.

Wood River Thursday 28th August 1856[.] To day we crossed prayry [Prairie] creek about 12 o'clock[.] From this point Bro [rew Lafayette] Siler, & I went in Serch for Buffalo. Saw four & shot at them but got none. The h& carts & teams moved on to wood River Some 8 or 10 miles. Bro Siler & I, Joined the carts about 2 miles from the River. The teams did not get to camp until after dark; They left olde Bro [William] Haly [Hailey] behind, a mile & a half or two miles distent. They Saught for him but in vane. He lay out all night & encountered a heavy rainstorm

Friday Wood River Friday 29th 1856. This morning, all healthy men in camp were requested by Brother Willey, to go in serch for Bro Haley. Th[e]y found him about a mile & a half from camp; wet & colde but in good Spirits. We Started at 12 o'clock A.m. We traveled 5 or 6 miles, & came to a came [camp] of 800 Pawney [Pawnee] Indians. They are hunting Buffalow, & yesturday kiled 90. We bought some meat of them. They informed us of A[lmon]. Babels [Babbitt] teamster being killed by the Shians [Cheyennes], a woman that was with them was carried captive, & her childe six munse [months] olde kiled. The U.S. Troops folowed & kiled some of them.

Wood River Saturday 30th Aug 1856[.] This morning the Indians came to the camp early to traid more. At 7 <A.m.[.]> o'clock we were under way. At 12 A.M. we stoped to dine[.] Here we saw two oxen in the yoke <at a distance.> Bro Jo[seph]. [Benson] Elder. & myself went on horseback & got them. They were very wilde. We had a harde run for them. From this we traveled until near 6 P.M. & encamped, having traveled about 15 miles. A[lmon] Babit [Babbitt] whose teamsters were killed, & who stoped back on business, has just overtaken us. I have not spoke to him yet.

Dri [Dry] Creek, & plat[te] R[iver] Sunday 31st Aug 1856[.] This morning Mr. A Babbitt left us & went to fort Carney [Kearney]. He brough an elderly sister from Flawrence [Florence], intending to take her to the Valey: but the robbery committed up on him by the Indians he is unable to do so. H[e] hires Bro Siler to take her. We traveled 18 miles. Had a good camping

Buffalo Creek Monday 1st Sept 1856[.] To day we traveled about 18 miles. This evening we killed a Buffalo, & a cow, for Beef. The cow was shot 11 times before she fell. I never see a beast so murdered before. Bro Willey had some disagreeable words concerning Bro Silers

driving his teams ~~between~~ after the h& carts & in front of the han cart teams[.] I objected to his driving there, it being to us as a traveling camp with our sick. Bro Willey says he Shall drive these he has driven these from Floranse [Florence] except [roe] days

Buffalo Creek Tuesday 2^d Sept 1856[.] To day we traveled 13 miles, encamped at 4 oclock. A plenty of Buffalo in Sight. Some of the Brethren Shot them but got none.

near Chutah [Ptah] Lakes Wednesday 3^d Sept 1856. This morning just after daylight Sister [Elizabeth Stanford] Ingra aged 75 years. & had been Sick & deranged from Engl&, & be drawn in a h& cart from Iowa City, died. She suffred much. The campe mooved on, while Elder Willey & others remained bon the ground & buried her. At 12 oclock, the Brethren Killed two Buffalo near the road. We took the meat on h& carts. Traveled 16 miles & encamped without wood. Cok [cooked] our fo[o]d with buffalo chips. (dry dung) Bro. J[oseph] Elder & I went on horseback & endeavored to get a buffalo calf or cow. The olde bulls woud not let us have any. They formed themselves in battle aray, ready to receive their enemy. There large hurds to be Seen in all directions. We did not get to camp until after dark.

Near Chutah [Ptah] Lake Thursday 4th Sept 1856. Some time Last night, ~~2830~~ of our best working cattle left us. We had a guard around them, but no one knows when or where they went. I, & a number of the Brethren Spent the day, unsuccessfully in hunting. Then. As I pass down the River I saw Bro [Abraham D.] Smoots Train on the opsit Side South. We had an awful Storm last night

Friday Near Chutah Lake Friday 5th Sept 1856. To da [today] we also Serched <:for the cattle> without Success. Bros Atwood: Siler & Jolts. Visited Brother Smoots Co across the plat[te]. I came to camp at dark, & found Bros Smoot & Roots well who had accompanied Bro Atwood company to camp. I was glad to see them. They Stoped with us all night.

Near Chutah [Ptah] Lake Saturday 6th Sept 1856. This morning Bros Elder: & [William] Smith Started back, towar Florance [Florence], after the our Stray oxen. The remainder of us removed the camp, half at a time about 3 miles. About 3 oclock <P.M.> Brs Smoot & [Porter] Rockwell left us to overtake their <Train which> is supposed to be mooving 15 miles ahead

Near Chutah Lake Sunday 7th Sep 1856. This morning four men from Calafornia [California] was Seen encamped near us. Bro. Willey mysel & others visited them. The names of three of them are as follows. James, H. Hurn [Hurren]; (he Said they had left a horse about 18 miles back, & if I could finde, him I might have him) Franklin Hawkins; John Hawkins. They were Short of provisions. They intended to go to Karney [Kearney]. Then to Masourie [Missouri]. We Spent ~~the~~ a part of the day in a meeting preaching to the people, & the remainder in repairing our h& carts, & yoking unbroken cows.

Platt[e] River Monday 8th Sept 1856. This morning a discharged ~~from Laramie~~ Soldier <from Laramy [Laramie]> came in to camp & reporte two families from Salt Lake, killed by the Indians. One of their names were Thomas Margrets. They were all well known by many of the Saints in this camp. We put from our wagons, on to our h& carts about 40 hundred of flour. Hiched up our teams & got under way about 11 oclock. We went 10 miles & camped by the platt[e]. Just dark. Numbers of the Sick did not get in until sometime after our wilde cows worke extraordinary well[.] Surely the h& of the Lord is with us yet

platt[e] River Tuesday 9th Sept 1856. This morning we Started rather ~~early~~ late. Had heavy S&y roads; traveled about 12 miles & encamped at 4 oclock p.m. on Skunk creek[.] our teams as well as the Saints were very tired

Platt[e] River Wednesday 10th Sept 1856. To day we had S&y roads, traveled 14 miles & encamped at the colde Springs

platt[e] River Thursday 11th Sept 1856. To day we have had good roads, crossed Several creeks. Over which the moste of the women & children were caried by Bros Willey; Atwood & others. All in good Spiri[ts] & but few Sick. The flower [flour] on Some of the carts draws very hard.

North Bluff Fork Frid[ay] 12th Sept 1856. This morning we Started at half past eight & traveled eleven miles; cross this creek about four oclock p.m. Soon after this Brothers F[ranklin]. D[aniel]. Richards; D. Spencer; S. Welock [Wheelock], Wm Kimble [Kimball]; & others came up with us, also Bros Elder: & Smith: who went in serch for our cattle. ~~They~~ It was a joyful meeting. No one has heard of, or Seen our cattle to our knowledge. This evening, by moonlight, we held meeting: Pres Richards & others Spoke; & congratulated the Saints on their arduous Journey, & the Blessings they Should hereafter receive[.] We had a good time.

South Bank of the platt[e]. Saturday 13th Sept 1856[.] This morning, agreeable to Bro Richards request & Bro Willeys orders, we arose at 4 oclock, got Bakefast [breakfast], & made ready for Starting at 7 oclock A.M. At this time our teams being hiched to our wagons, & our h& carts packed ready for Starting very unexpected to me, I pe[r]ceived a meeting of the Saints was called. Not on the camp ground ~~but~~ as usual, but a Short distance one Side. I supposed it was for prayers. After Singing & prayers Brother Richards commenced to Speak. & I Soon <perceived> that the meeting was called in consequence of the wrong impression made by my expressing myself So freely at Florance [Florence], concerning our crossing the plains so late in the Season. The impression left, was, that I condemned the h& cart Skeem, which is aradiculy [ridiculously] wrong. I neaver conveyed Such an ideah, nor felt to do so, but quite to the conturary. I am infavor of it, & also the meeting was called. More particular in concequence of Some one, unknown to me, informing Brother Richards of the disagreeable words that took place Between Bro Willey & myself concerning Brother Silers teams Traveling Between the h& carts & fund wagons, which I Supposed was Settled when I asked Bro Willeys & the Saints forgiveness, for all that I had Said & done wrong. Brother Richards reprim&ed me Sharply. Bro Willey Said that the Spirit that I had manifested from Iowa City. This <is> something unknown to me & Something he neavour before expressed[.] I had always the best of feelings toward him, & Supposed he had toward me until now, except in the case of Bro Siler above mentioned. After meeting president Richards & Co. left us intending to arive in Salt Lake City in time for October confirance[.] Agreeable to his council we crossed the River on to the South Side <& encamped.> The water was Shallow, but it

reduced [required] a Strong team to draw our wagons through[h] the S&y bed of the River, a mile distant.

Platte River Monday Sunday 14th Sept 1856[.] To day we traveled up the platte botom 12 miles, & camped by the River again.

platte hills: Monday 15th Sept 1856. This fore noon we traveled up the botom on good roads. After noon we commenced to ascend the Bluffs. The ascent was S&; it caused very hard puling. As we arose the Sumit three Indians came to us. They were <appared> friendly & Said that the Shians [Cheyennes] & Sou [Sioux]. Woud kill us all, that they had Some five days ago fell upon a large train. What damage was done we did not ascertain; & we only have the Indian[s] <to> confirm it at best. At Sundown we camped around a Small Buffalo wallow which had ben recently been filed with the reacent rains. We were all much fatigued with our days Journey. We chained ~~the~~ our oxen to the wagon. For there was neither fead nor water, & we have Some fears of the Indians. We Set a Strong guard. About 2 oclock A.M. an alarm was mad[e]. I immediately got out of bed, but Seen nor heard nothing of Indians. Some Said they Saw one, & heard the voices of others.

Platte Bluffs Tuesday 16th Sept 1856. This morning, the Camp was called by the Sound of the bugle, at 3 oclock. & moved before day light. We traveled Some 10 miles, in which distance, we decended through a rough canyon, to the platte where we took brakefast. 10 oclock A. M. Here we remained until 2 P. M; when we mooved up the River 3 or four miles & encamped for the night. Both people & teams are much fatigued by the hea[v]y S&y roads.

Platte River Wednesday 17th Sept 1856. This morning, Just before the camp got under way, a colde, & Strong wind arose from the N.W. This together with the hea[v]y S&, made our progress very Slow, & exstreanly laborious. Several were obliged to leave their carts & they with the infirm, could Scarcely Get into camp. Our teams also, at times, could Scarcely moove. We traveled about 10 miles

Ash hollow Thursday 18th Sept 1856. This morning we got under way as usual, & traveled 4 or 5 miles where ~~there~~ & the Road ascended the Bluffs. There we dined then doubled our teams, & ascenededth the long, S[t]eeple hill; Immediately we reached the Summet, we commenced descending into ash hollow, & encamped at its mouth by the platte. At dinner, Sister [Sarah] Reade [Reed] who Bro [Almon] Babitt left with us was missing[.] it [was] acertaind that She was a head; but She is not in Camp, & no one knows, where. She is. She is bound to Stay out one night.

Mouth of Ash hollow Friday 19th Sept 1856. Today we remained in Camp. To repara our carts. Some are broken, & others, the axe[1]s are badly worne. Bro [John] Chislet[t] wi[t]h a company of Brethren, went in cerch for Sister Reede. About 11 oclock A.M. they returned & reported they had followed her foot steps 7 or 8 miles, mingled with Indian foot Steps, & Suppose that the Indian. Have got her. President Willey was not fuly Satisfied, & determond to go himself: chose me & ten others. We found her Setep as reported, but I was Satisfied that She had not been disturbed by Indians. She had taken the Road up Ash Hollow, going back to South Fork of the Platte. About 5 miles out we found her steps coming back, but it Soon left the Road. Dark came, & we returned to Camp when we found She had Just been brought in by Some of the Brethren. Who had gon to the Kanyon for timber. She was nearly exhosted, having been 36 hours without food & water. The weather is extreamly warm

Platte River Saturday 20th Sept 1856. At 2 oclock P.M. having repaired our carts, we Started, & traveled 6 or 8 miles. The [weather] is co[o], & this evening a mist of rain commenced to fall. No wood

Platte River Saturday Sunday 21st Sept 1856. Last night was very rainy, & disagreeable. also wet & colde to day. Many Sick & Stopping back to get in to the wagons. The roads are very S&y. We could scarcly moove. Sister [Ruvina Mount] Seassons [Leason] little boy [William], 2 years olde, <died 11 oclock> last night. The wather is yet colde & damp. Traveled 12 miles

Platte River Monday 22nd Sept 1856. This fore noon a mist of rayn was stil falling Afternoon. The clouds broke a little, the rain Stoped, & it become a little warmer. We have traveled about 12 miles to day. Brother [Jesse] Emp[e]y departed this life at half past one p.m. One of his h&s & arnes was nearly covered with putrefied sores. I Should Suppose hereditary, He has been having the ague Some time past but whom thought him dangerous

Platte River Tuesday 23rd Sept 1856. This morning was cold & foggy. The Saints dilatory in rising & geting Brake fast early, notwithst&ing Brother Willies repeated order to arise at the Sound of the horn. (daylight) appearently not realizeing the nessissity of our making as much distance as posible, in order to reache the valey before too Severe colde weather. Some comeplaing of hard treatment, because we urge them along. Many hang to the wagons. This after noon, we come in Sight of Chimney Rock, & camped within 10 miles of it. Have traveled 16 miles.

Platte R[iver]. near Chimney Rock Wednesday 24th Sept 1856. To day we traveled 16 miles. Camped near Chimney Rock. I thought we were nearer last night to it than we were. We have fine weather.

Platte R[iver] Thursday 25th Sept 1856. To day we traveled about 16 miles. & at five oclock encamp a short distance above Rubadores [Robideaux] late Trading post. Just before we arived. at The post we found & caught a large dark bay horse. He is very thin in flesh, & has been left, no doubt, by Some Company passing to, or from, great Salt Lake, or Calafornia [California].

Platte River Friday 26th Sept 1856. To day we traveled 14 miles, without water. Some of our oxon nearly give out. We camped at Rubadoes [Robideaux] olde tradingpost. When we Stoped at 12 oclock A.M. Sister Ann, Briant [Bryant] who had been ill Some time, but not though[t] dangerous, was found dead in the wagon, in a Siting posture; appearently asleep. Her age is 70 years next month.

Platte River. Saturday 27th Sept 1856. To day we traveled about 12 miles[.] The olde appear to be failing coniderably.

Platte Riv[er] 20 miles of Laramy [Laramie] Sunday 28th Sept 1856. To day we traveled 16 miles. 12 oclock we met a company, from Salt La going to the States[.] I think mostly apostates. Benjamine Brackenbary was with them[.] they Said, Babbitt was killed by the Indians, just before camping, Some Soldiers that were camped near the Road took the horse, that we had caught by force

5 miles below Ft. Laramy [Laramie] Monday 29th Sept 1856. To day we traveled about 14 miles[.] Bro Woodard & Elder went to the Ft, B[r]other Richards has no cattle provided for us here, & no other provisions made.

Fort Lareme [Laramie] Tuesday 30th Sept 1856. Today we mooved on 6 miles[.] camped 2 miles from the Fort.

Platte R[iver]. Wednesday 1st Oct 1856. Today This morning, Brother David Reader [Reeder] was found dead in his bead. He has ben ill Some time. He had no pertient deseas. But debility[.] He was a good man & a worthy member of the Church. Brother Siler & company Stopes here to recrute, & Streng[t]hen his teams, & Join the first wagon company that arives here. Bound fo the valey. Our camp moved on, & Brothers Willey; Atwood; myself; & others Went to the Fort & perchased provisions. They are exstreamly costly. I Stopped all night with Bro Siler, & company

Early this morning Thursday 2^d Oct 1856. I returned to the Fort, made Sale of my wa[t]ch; which cost me 20 dollars, fore eleven & perchased a pare of \$6[.]00 boots & other articles; Then I poseeded to overtake the Camp. On my way I met a company of Elders from the Valey, bound to the different Nations of the Earth to preach the Gospel. I met Brother P[arley].P. Pratt in camp, He Spoke chearingly to the Saints[.] To day Bro [William M.] Reade [Reed] died of a disease at the hart. He age is 64

Platte River Friday 3rd Oct 1856. To day we left the River, crosed over the hills, Said to be 22 miles to fead & water. We traveled until 8 o clock P.M. & camped within a half of a mile of a spring. But no feard for our cattle, we were all fatiegued[.] Bro [George] Ingra, aged 68 died just after we camped.

Saturday 4th 1856. This morning 10 oclock we Started, & traveled about five miles, to a Small creek, & encamped, took an estimate of our provisions, & reduced our rations to 12 oz per day. The Paciffick [Pacific] Springs is the only place that we are Sure of meeting Suplies[.] Bro Benjamine Cull[e]y, aged 61 years, & David [Daniel] Gadd aged; 2 years, ded. All thre were Buried, als[o] a Dain [Dane] that died last night, Some Stealing is practiced by Some, consequently we put all the provisions into three wagons, & placed a gard over them.

Sunday 5th Oct 1856. Eight oclock this morning we got under way, have had good roads. Traveled about 16 miles[.] camped by the Platte[.] The weather is very fine

Platte River Monday 6th Oct 1856. To day we traveled 16 miles. Our rations are now reduced to an average of 12 oz flower per head. We are not certain of Supplies before ariving at the Pacific Springs.

Platte River Tuesday 7th Oct 1856. To day we traveled 14 miles. The weather is good.

Deer Creek Wednesday 8th Oct 1856. This [morning] when we arose we found the best ox in our train, dead; In the weak State of our teams, the loss impared it much. At 9 oclock A.M. we mooved. Traveled 15 miles, our olde people are nearly all failing fast; A four mewl [mule] team, an express from Laramie is camp[ed] near us; They passed us this after noon

Platte River Thursday 9th [Oct] 1856. To day we mooved 16 miles.

Last Crossing of the platte Friday 10th Oct 1856. At about 12:00, we passed the platte Bridge. Here we got 37 Buffalo robes, which Pres. Richards purchased for us. Mooved on 5 miles, crossed the River & Encamped, our teams are very weak

Mineral Springs Saturday 11th Oct 1856. To day we traveled 12 miles, 3 of our working cows give out & one died, & the remainder of our oxen were nearly overcum.

Small Creek Sunday 12th Oct 1856. To day, we left out of the yoke, Some of our cows that were nearly exhausted. Last nig[ht] our cattle had good fead, & they traveled much better to day than yesturday[.] One of the cows, that was over run with work tho drove less could not be got within a mile of Camp. By Bro Willies order, Several of the Brothren went back to kill her, for the peop[le] to eat, (if they wanted it)[.] They Struck her twice in the head, with an ax. She got up & run into camp, where She was Shot, dressed, & ishued out; The people have Sharp apatites

Grease wood creek, Mon. 13th Oct 1856. To day we have traveled 13 miles. The nights are colde. The days are warm & pleasent.

Independence Rock, Tuesday 14 Oct 1856. To day we traveled 12 miles. Got Some Saleratow [Saleratus], out of the Saleratus Lake, & crost the Sweet water River at the old bridge.

Sweete [Sweet] Water Wednesday 15 Oct <1856[.]> To day we traveled 15½ mile[.] Last night Caroline Reeder, aged 17 years, died, & was Buried this morning. The people are geting weak, & failing very fast. A greate many Sick. Our teams are als[o] failing fast & it requires great exertion to make any progress. Our rations were reduced last night, one quarter bringing the mens to 10 oz, womans to 9 oz. & the children, some to 6 & others to 3 oz. each.

Sweete Water Thursday 16 Oct 1856. This morning we had three deaths & one birth. We have traveled 11 miles to day. Our oxen are much worne down & our loading increased daly by the weak & Sick.

Sweete Water Friday 17th Oct 1856. At 2 oclock this morning Brother Wm. Philpot died & was beried before we Started. At 10 oclock the camp mooved, traveled 10 miles & encamped at Sun Set.

Forth Crossing of the Sweete Water Saturday 18th Oct 1856. To day we traveled eight miles, camped, killed a beef, & prepared for a 16 miles drive with water. The [weather] is cool but fair.

Fifth Crossing of [the Sweet Water] Sunday 19th Oct 1856. At half past 10 oclock we started. In about one hour after, we encountered a very severely colde, & blustering Snowstorm <for one hour> the porly clad, women & Children Sufered much. 12 oclock we met Bro Wheelock & company. Who have come to our relief. He reported 40 wagons loaded with flower. One day in advance of us. This was Joyful news to us, fore we had eaten the last pound of flower, having only 6 small Beeves, & 400 lbs. <of> buiscit to provision over 400 people. After <a> Short meeting in which Bros Wheelock & [Lo....] I. Young [s]pake chearingly to the Saints, we mooved on: The wind continued strong & cold. The children, aged, & infirm fel back to the wagons till they were so full that all in them were exstreamly uncomfortable. Brother [John] Knuckles [Nockles], aged 66 years died during the day, in a h& cart, hiched behind one of the wagons. Sister [Eliza Williams] Smith, aged & Daniel Osborn, age 8 years, died in the wagons. They had been ill Some time. The carts arived at the River at dark. The wagons, it being dark took an other road & did not get into camp until 11 oclock p.m. nearly exhosted & so were myself & teamsters.

Six Crossing of the Sweet Water Monday 20th Oct 1856. This morning when we arose we found Several inches of Snow on the ground; & is yet Snowing. The cattle, & people, are so much reduced with Short food & hard work. That except we get assistance, we Surely, can not move far in this Snow.

Brothers Willey & Capt, & Elder, Started on horseback, about 10 oclock. To cerch for the wagons. Wagons that Wheelock reported, a Short distance in our advance. This morning we issued the last bread, or breadstuffs in our possession. It continued Snowing Severely during the day. We expected Bro Willey would return this evening, but he has not come.

6 Crossing of the Sweet Water Tues. 21st Oct 1856. This morning, about 11:00, Bro. Willey returned, w/ Bro George Grant, having a good Supply of teams, wagons, & provisions <& Some clothing.> A desireable relief. Here, we buried Several persons.

Wednesday Oct 22^d 1856. We prepared for Starting, & commenced mooving about 12 oclock. Brother Grant took a good portion of the teams, & Continued his Journey, to meet Bro Martins Company, & Bro Wm Kimble [Kimball] took charge of our company. We traveled about 10 miles & camped at the foot of what is called the Rocky Ridge. I had charge of the teams; & because of their reduced Strength, & heavy loads,—a large number of Sick, & Children were in the Wagons—I did not arive in camp until late at night. The wind blew bleek & colde, & fire wood very scarce. The Saints were obliged to Spread their light beding on the Snow, & in this colde State, endeavored to obtain a litle rest. Sister [Eliza Hancock] Philpot died about 10 oclock P.M. leaving two Fatherless girls, also Several others died during the night.

Thursday morning Oct 23^d[.] We beried our dead, got up our teams, & about 9 oclock A. M. commenced ascending the Rocky Ridg[e]. This was a Severe day. The wind blew awful hard, & colde. The ascent was some five miles long, & Some places, Steep & covered with deep Snow. We became we[a]ry, Set down to rest, & Some become chilled, & commenced to frieze, Brothers Atwood; Woodard; & myself; remained with the teams, they being porfer loaded down with the Sick, & children. So thickly Stoed, I was fearful, some would Smuther. About 10 or 11 oclock in the night, we came to a creek that, we did not like to attempt to cross without help, the [creek] being ful of ice & freezing colde. Leaving Bros Atwood; & Wooderd [Woodward] with the teams, I started to the camp for help; I met Bro Willey coming to look for us, he turned for the camp as he could do no good a loan. I passed Several on the road, & arived in camp after about four miles travel. I arived in Camp; but few tents were pitched, & men, women, & Children Sit shivering with colde around their Small fires. Some time alapsed when two teams Started to bring up the rear; Just before daylight they returned, bringing all with them, Some badly frozen; Some dying, & Some dead. It was certainly heartrending to hear Children crying for mothers, & mothers, crying for Childrin. By the time I got them, as Comfortably Situated as circumstances could admit. (which was not very comfortable) day was dawning. I had not Shut my eyes for sleep, nor lain down. I was nearly exhosted with fatigue, & want of rest.

Friday 24th; This morning found us with thirteen corps[es] for berral. These were all put into one grave. Some had actualy frozen to death. We were <obliged> to remain in camp, move the tents, & people behinde the willows to She[l]ter them from the screing wind, which blew enough to pearce us through. Several of our cattle died here.

Saturday 25th. We commenced our march again. From this I have not been able to keep a daily journal, but nothing of much note transpired excepte the people ded daily. Theophilus Cox died on the morning of the 7th Nov. on the Webber [Weber], was carried to Cottonwood grove, East Canion [Canyon] Creek, & there beried. We overtook Bro Smoot's Com[pany] in emigration, in the a.m. that afternoon arrived in G.S.L. City, deposited the people among the Saints w[h]ere they were made comfortable