

A forty-niner speaks; a chronological record of a New Yorker and his adventures in various mining localities in California, his return trip across Nicaragua, including several descriptions of the changes in San Francisco and other mining centers from March 1849 to January 1851. With illustrations by the author Hiram Dwight Pierce

“A rough drawing of the diggins” at Mormon Island—Drawn by H. D. Pierce

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Hiram Dwight Pierce.

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BY

SARAH WISWALL MEYER

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INTRODUCTION

Hiram Dwight Pierce was the son of Daniel, who was the son of Ezekiel, who was the son of Timothy, who was the son of Thomas, who was the son of Thomas, who was the son of Thomas, who was the son of Thomas who was born in 1583.

Hiram was born on May 25, 1810 in the town of Copake, New York. There were other children, several of them, and Hiram was still a boy when his father died. His mother apprenticed him to a farmer who was also a blacksmith, and the lad's life was an arduous one. However he learned a trade, though the farmer was often cruel to him. At the age of eighteen young Hiram decided to start out for himself. Taking his leather apron and his skates he made his way to the Hudson River and skated up to Troy, Entering a blacksmith shop, he found the smith working alone, while several men were waiting to have their horses shod. Without wasting words he put on his leather apron and

went to work. When the rush was over he asked for a job, which was granted him immediately, and at the end of a year he bought the shop. Later on he became a wagonmaker.

Five years after his arrival in Troy via the river route, on an exceedingly hot day in summer he was invited to accompany a friend, a much older man, to his home to partake of the midday meal. Without ceremony, they entered by the kitchen door. It so happened that two attractive daughters of John Palmer Wiswall, Mary Ann and Sarah Jane, had been frying doughnuts, and finding their much beruffled gowns too warm for comfort, had donned their nightgowns. When the outside door suddenly opened and Father entered followed by a young and handsome stranger, there was wild screaming and rush for hiding places. On the twelfth of September of that year (1833), Hiram Dwight Pierce and Sarah Jane Wiswall, the Jenefer of the diary, were married. Hence the reference to “the nightgown” when he made doughnuts years later in a dreary little mining camp away off in California on the banks of the “Mersais” River.

Mr. Pierce was a man highly respected and honored in the church and the community. In 1843 he was City Alderman, serving at the same time with Russell Sage; and at a later date he was president of the Fire Department. For many years he was an elder of the Second Presbyterian Church of Troy. He and his wife were both deeply religious, and leaders in all religious and charitable work. When he was in California his wife wrote him that “It almost undone the church to have you go away, but I think it will do them good in the end. They were leaning on you more than on God.”

The year 1848 found seven children in the Pierce household. The shop eked out a fairly comfortable living. But everywhere people were talking about the marvelous fortunes to be made so easily in the newly discovered gold fields of California. Mr. Pierce had not been in the best of health, and 7 the doctors advised (as doctors often do), a long sea voyage. The lure of gold, and undoubtedly a desire for adventure, compelled him to join a mining company, the R.C.E.C., sailing for San Francisco by way of Panama. For why not seek gold while regaining health?

We are apt to think only of the excitement of those early days, forgetting the many hardships endured, —the long journeys on foot from one location to another over the hot dry foothills; the

discouragement of weary days of digging without result; poor food, often inadequate; sickness and injury without proper care; and the terrible loneliness, far from home and family; all of which are vividly described in this diary. As he was of a very religious nature, we may believe that his account of existing conditions is true and accurate. It was his daily custom to “take notes”, to use his own words, which he copied into a book purchased for the purpose at “Happy Valey, one mile east of the post office in San Francisco”. It may be interesting to note that (according to an article appearing some months ago in the Oakland Tribune) Happy Valley was quite a flourishing settlement in those early days. It was bounded by what are now First, Second, Market and Mission Streets, and the valley extended as far as Howard Street.

Hiram Pierce, though long since gone to the other Golden Shore, still lives in these pages in which he tells of those stirring days when thousands of men, and even women rushed to this land of promise, where many of them expected to “pick the golden nuggets from the hillsides.” During much of his stay in California he suffered from malaria, but at the time he started on his homeward journey he wrote in a letter to his wife, “I am well and hearty as a buck. Some 10 pounds heavier than I have ever been before, but I expect old Neptune will take that off from me.” And so it was. For on the return trip, across Nicaragua, he contracted Chagres fever, from which he suffered so severely the rest of the way that many of his friends failed to recognize him when he reached Troy.

Little opportunity was afforded for an education in the early life of the farmer's apprentice, and his quaint spelling and phraseology are as vital to this book as the experiences narrated. Uncorrected and unabridged, these pages are passed on to you by one of his grandchildren, many of whom are now loyal Californians.

SARAH WISWALL MEYER

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March 6th. 1849.

Left Troy Ny. at 7 in the morning in the cars for Ny. Nothing worthy of note occurred on the way except a rather amusing incident to myself. As we were nearing a stopping place some 12 miles

east of the State line, I looked out of the window & saw my Brother-in-law Mr. Doty, with a female in a waggon driveing along after us the roads running paralel, & about 6 rods behind us. At this time the Cars were still in motion but were stopping. I immediately jumped from the cars & ran up to the waggon & sung out how are you, extending my hand. He had Scarcely stoped the horse as I exclaimed I am off for Calafornia. Had a bolt fallen at his feet he could not have ben more astounded. At this instant the bell rang & I started & jumped on the cars as they were under way. Arived at Ny at 6 1/2 PM. Was engaged for an hour in carrying the freight through mud ancle deep. fare \$4. Put up at the Merchants Hotell.

Wednesday 7th.

Engaged in the forenoon in assorting & packing baggage for the Isthmus. Afternoon prepareing my baggage & went to see the Ship.

Thursday 8th.

Went aboard at 3. Repairs were beeing made on the machinery. So that we did not Start untill 10 1/2 PM. I paid to the Treasurer of the RCEC \$45., it beeing ship passage, but it was adjudged advisable that we go in the Steamer. Expenca at the Hotel \$2.50.

Friday 9th.

Passing on beautifully nothing of note occuring. 120 Passengers. Fare \$150.. Cabin \$100 2d Cabin \$80.. Steerage.

10th Morning

clear & beautifull. Sea delightfull all on board feeling quite well Passed Several Sail making about 10 1/2 not. passed Cape Hatteras in the morning.

Sunday 11th

The Sea was rather rough & a large number Sick. at 10 by request of the Dr & my self we had Religious Service on the Quarter deck. The bell was rung & Passengers generally assembeld. The service conducted entirely by our party. In the morning I was quite unwell. I ate no breakfast a thing unusual for me. At 1 1/2 we were approaching Charleston bar. The lead was hoave every 2 minuits & found from 4 to 7 fathoms water. As we passed near Sulivans Island, I thought of Cudjo. :How much water there: My reflections were on that litle SS. far away. We recieved on board some dozen passengers from a Steamer lying outside the Bar. Got under way at 6 PM. of the Sabbath. Reflections not verry pleasant.

12th

Came to Anchor as was supposed off Savannah bar at 1 & lay untill 7 fireing Signal guns occasionally it beeing foggy. At 7 got underway & at 1/2 past 9 fell in with a Pilot boat & Sent the Mail ashore. Then stood 10 for Havanna, in the Isle of Cuba. Weather delightfull Sea as Calm as a Millpond. In the afternoon an animated discussion was held betwene the Dr & Gen Comstock on Phrenology.

Tuesday, March 13th.

running down the Coast of Florida. Sea calm air bland & mild but foggy. Gentle breeze a head. Fog cleared at 9 Sun Shone with Summer heat. Thermometor at 3 PM. 84 in the shade Running for hour within a few miles of the Coast

March 14th.

Still running down Florida Coast & Reefs, & Indian Keys, running for hours in the Gulf Stream which can be distinguished for a long distance. One word about our Ship. She is a fine strong Sea craft of about 700 tons. Was built last summer. Two 250 horse power Engine. Not verry fast but verry strong, "Falcon". Hur Capt Mr Thompson appears a Gentleman. She has a crew I am told of

about 70 including Officers Seamen Engineers Cooks, Waiters, Clerks, Stewards &c We live like nabobs & do nothing but Read Smoke talk & think. To the latter I incline

Thursday 15th.

Came to anchor in Havanna bay at 8 A.M. The Engine has made 112781 revolutions betwene Ny & this place. A large number went on Shore I amongst the rest. Havanna is a large City Containing, it is said 180000 Inhabitants. Moora Castel at the entrance with Cassa blanca are extensive Fortifications. The latter we are told costing \$38,000,000 The Harbor is a snug land locked Bay The town is alltogether unlike anything American. It appears filled with wealth & gaity. The Houses are built of Stone & gorgeously painted. The Center of the lower story or what we should use as a parlor is appropriated for a Stable & carriage house. The people liveing back in the courts & upper lofts. The riding in the Streets presents a singular appearance. Fancy a two whele carriage (called a gallant) the boddy hung forward of the wheles, with Shafts some 14 feet long & the horse hitched to the end of the Shafts beeing about 10 feet from the boddy, with rider mounted, with Cap, Scarlet Coat, booted & Spurred. with all his trappings See him Scooting through the Street & you may have some idea of the riding, in addition to which there is many Omnibusses. We took a ride of some 3 miles in one of the later. The language of course is Spanish. We visited the Cathedral Containing the Tomb of Columbus. His ashes repose in a Silver urn. The Cathedral appears a magnificent affair. Here I saw for the first the Tropical Fruits & plants, the Cocanut Banana Plantain Orange Lemon &c. We took on Coal, the labour beeing performed by Slaves naked except the pants & at 3 weighed anchor & got under way for N Orleans.

16th.

Morning fine carried sail running up the gulph. 1 or 2 Sail seen.

17th.

Weather fine & so warm that men slept on deck with a single blanket. Rather warm for St Patricks day. Betwene 8 & 9 PM. Reached the Bar at the mouth of the Mississippi, South West pass,

distance from Havanna 700 miles. Took a pilott at 1/2 past 9, but he seemed lost & made no headway. Took another about midnight, & were beating about until 6 A.M. We could distinctly hear the breakers roar.

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Sunday, 18th.

At 6 Commenced assending the river which is now verry high & muddy. And sure a singular looking Country, that is what there is to be seen, for it is mostly covered with water, & the water with Polk-stalks, as they are here called, in English, "Snags". Our noble Steamer seemed to scorn the muddy tide, for she seemed loth to enter it. A large amount of Shipping was laying out & in side the Bar, & several steamers were engaged in towing them up & down the river. The country for the first 50 or 80 miles seemed much inundated. The river filled to its banks. We saw the Orange in bloom, & allso ripe on the same trees. Allso lemon. There are no Villages as along the Hudson, but each plantation presents quite a villagelike appearance. There is the sugar house, generally a large establishment. The house of the Proprietor & of the Overseer, & then the huts or houses of the slaves. Many of them arranged in rows perhaps to the number of 30 or more. with large yards extending back, containing fruit trees &c. Arrived at New Orleans at 8P.M. The river was filled with boats & shipping. It is said to be from 4 to 500 feet deep, & rappid.

Monday, 19th.

Lay to the dock taking on coal all day Monday & Tuesday. Passengers mostly visited the Citty, which is verry large, beeing as much as 6 miles long. It is a place of great business, there beeing as many as 80 steamers lading & unlading. In the morning officers came aboard & took off all that were suspected of possessing dark blood in their veins. Among the rest the Doctor's servant, Sally, was taken & locked up in the Calaboose, which created no small sensation. The object of this is to prevent, as they say, the seeds of discord or dissatisfaction among their slaves. We however rescued her by paying about \$5. Jail fees &c. Visited St. Charles Hotell, an imence building, said by some to be the largest in the Union. Near evening on Tuesday the rush of passengers aboard commenced

& continued most of the night, & next morning untill 8, when the ship seemed filled from stem to stern. New Orleans is a singular (having but little the appearance of an American) City. In walking the streets & attempting to enquire of those we meet, we shall perhaps more than twice out of 3 times address those of a strange language.

Tuesday, 20th.

Still at the dock. Made some small purchases. A thin coat at 18/— an umbrella at 6/— &c.*
stands for shilling.

Wensday, 21st.

Sailed at 1/2 past 8 for Chagres direct. In passing down the river we had a strong head wind. Passed Mr. Benjamin's plantation 18 miles below New Orleans, at 1/2 past 9. Fired a gun & ran up the colors. Entered the gulph at 4 P.M., wind strong on the starboard beam, sea verry rough. Many were seasick before we got out of sight of land, & by dark the largest part of us were delivering up to old Neptune. To see the bullworks on both sides strung with men casting up, with their various throes & lurches & the appearance of their eyes, was somewhat aptly compared to a string of Suckers in a certain stage of their existance.

Thursday, 22nd.

Sea still verry rough. I was quite sick but could get little or nothing up. Ate nothing. Kept my berth most of the day.

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Friday, 23rd.

Morning fine, sea much smoother. Felt much better.

Saturday, 24th.

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A fine day. Passed the west point of Cuba at 4 P.M., not in sight. Running down the Carribean Sea.

Sunday, 25th.

A fine day. I felt quite unwell. At 11 service was held in the after cabin at which I bore a part. It was well attended & apparently of solom interest.

Monday, 26th.

Calm & pleasant. Nothing of interest.

Tuesday, 27th.

Calm & pleasant. Nothing of interest.

Wensday, 28th.

Came to anchor 2 miles off Chagres at 1/2 past 1 in the morning. The shore & coast look well & quite different from my expectations. Boats put off after daylight for the purpose of bargaining for a passage up the river. Went on shore in the afternoon. Chagres & its environs, with the old Spanish fort, is a romantic looking place & in dry weather passable. The village, which contains perhaps 100 huts, lies on the east side of a small bay or cove. The huts are built by setting posts in the ground & lashing poles to them, & weaving in grass or coco leaves or flags, & covering them with the same. The inhabitants are a mixture of Indian & Negro. Spanish of course. At night blew up our beds & slept on the deck of the steamer Orus.

Thursday, 29th.

Started in the morning up the river in the Orus, which landed us 17 miles up the river, or landed us in the "bungas." The growth of Shrubbery & flower bearing trees & plants surpasses all that can be imagined by a person not familliar with South American senery. Trees of gigantic size adorn the banks, covered with a flower resembling the lilac, of all hues & colors, with cocoa & coconut

&c. The river is shallow & narrow & in many places rappid, up which the nakid negroes pole the bungas or canoes, sometimes wading in the stream, & work verry hard & faithful. They recieve about \$6. each for passengers from the Orus, the Captain of the Orus recieving \$10. & hiring the natives for \$6. as stated. The whole distance on the river beeing about 5 1/2 miles. Aligators are freequently seen & Monkeys & Parrots in great abundance, & perhaps of a dozen different kinds. One kind in particular, is the most beautifull bird I ever saw. It is called the Maccaw. It is twice as large as the parrot we have, of a bright red with white head & beak & black wings, & makes a loud noise. Traveld the first day after leaving the Orus about 16 miles, & encamped at dusk at a ranch on a high bank. We slept out. The natives appear verry friendly & honest, & live in the greatest poverty, & such a condition as would cause our dogs to grumble. Their whole household furniture I should judge not worth 25 cts. They are built like those at Chagres. Have no doors or windows, & they go into the upper lofts on a notched stick, to sleep on the poles & palm leaf, the onely way of protecting themselves against the wild beasts & creeping things. I stood sentinel the first of the night & heard the wild animals howl.

Friday, 30th.

Started earley in the morning & with numerous little incidents & a hard day's work on the part of the natives arrived at Gorgona

“The huts are built by setting posts in the ground & lashing poles to them, & weaving in grass or coco leaves or flags, & covering them with the same.” —Drawn by H. D. Pierce

13 at sundown. Our advance boat had reached the spot some 3 hours in advance of us, & selected a spot & pitched the tent. There were 5 boats employed by us. The ground chosen for our encampment was about 1/4 of a mile above the village in the midst of perhaps 100 tents, all pilgrims like ourselves, to the land of promise. I remained at the village to direct the last boat, & here an unpleasant affair occured. The polemen ran the boat ashore, jumped out & tied it up, saying they had got to Gorgona, & refused to go futher, their bargain beeing with the Captain to go to Gorgona. We tried coaxing & threatning in vain. We got an interpreter, but all of no avail. Finally Mr. Cramer who chanced to be with me called for a pistol. I chanced to have my revolver in my

pocket & drew it out & handed it to him. They immediately sprang ashore & started to run, but by presenting the pistol & threatenng them, they stopped & returned. There were some 30 or 40 natives & but 3 of us Americans. It looked rather squally. I felt sorry for the poor fellows, knowing they were verry tierd. We finally succeeded in getting the boat up. We gave them some extra pay. They attempted to run on landing again without unlading, but by showing the pistol & ordering them to unlade they took the stuff off. The pistol was not loaded. The reason of their fear was owing to the fact that a native had been shot just before this ocured. On Arriveing we got supper & prepared for the night.

Saturday, 31st.

Took a bathe in the Chagres. Changed our clothes & went gunning & fishing. It was about as warm as our hottest days in summer. I have not seen a stone, wood, or brick building since leaving New Orleans, except the old fort. Gorgona is situated on a high bank, & contains about 100 huts built as at Chagres. Contains about 700 inhabitants. It appears to be a healthy place, verry few if any sick in the place. We see many going back, some to return home & some for the overland rout. Our party is all well. At night we have prair.

Sunday, April 1st.

Calm, still, & cloudy. A verry slight shower fell in the night. At 10 attended church at the Roman Catholic Church, the only place where meeting is held. Some 50 natives assembeld & the service was gone through in Spanish. Quite a number of Americans assembled to witness the proceeding. The people were assembeld by the beating a piece of a bell with a bone. The fixtures & whole paraphranalia was a rude attempt, with rude material, of a better society or better fixings. In the afternoon we had a verry good meeting in our tent.

Monday, 2nd.

Gorgona is said by the engineeres now engaged in the survey of the Panama R.R. to be but 9 1/2 miles in a direct line from where the Orus left us, & about 40 by water. Gorgona is 24 miles from

Panama. Game seems plenty. Some went out & brought in 2 wild turkeys, 1 monkey, 1 anteater, some pigeons, & 1 aguana. The Senoras & Senioritas are allmost constantly engaged in washing at the river's bank. They work in allmost a state of nudity, & yet do not seem concious of any impropriety or 14 immodesty. The Chagres is a fine clear stream at this place with a strong current, 4 or 5 feet deep, with plenty of fish.

Tuesday, 3rd.

Was engaged through the day in making & closing a contract for conveying freight & 3 females & 1 invalid to Panama. Cost \$250. It took about 30 mules & several natives, 2 of which carried Mrs. Newcom in a hammoc on their shoulders.

Wensday, 4th.

Arose early & prepared to march. Started about 9 for Panama. It was excessive warm, & our path lay through the woods, & on either side the copse or jungle of vines & bushes were so thick that we could not see into it a rod, & consequently the air could not circulate if there had ben any. The first 4 miles was verry rough up & down, winding about in the bushes. 4 of our advance party went through that day. The balance stayed overnight on the way. I in company with 3 others halted at about 8 in the evening 6 miles from Panama. There was a tent by a brook, just started by a man who intended to accomodate travelers with coffey at 1/- for a small cup. I lay down on the ground in his tent with a thin India rubber blanket under me & nothing over me, & beeing verry wet with perspiration & it beeing damp & cool I soon got chilly. Besides, the gravel on which I lay proved harder than my bones, so I got up & sat round the fire nearly all night. At 11 a man came in from Panama & shot at a Tiger near our tent. He had ben seen in the neighbourhood near night. I heard the beasts of the forest but felt no fear. One of our number was taken sick in the night & I left one man with him & with the other started early for Panama. We counted 40 dead horses & mules on the way from Gorgona to Panama. The night is made vocal with all kinds of beasts & birds of a South American woods. I arrived at Panama at 8 in the morning much fatigued. Panama is a strange looking place, beeing an old Spanish walled town & fast going to ruin. The sight of the Pacific, or

the Bay of Panama, was cheering to my eyes. In Panama some 6 or 8 Cathedrals & a large number of houses have the roofs fallen in, or as it is said, broken in by Bolivar in 1824 when he stormed the City from the mountain just back of it. There are yet many Churches, at least for the size of the place, that were once splendid edifices. They appear to stand open day & night with their votaries constantly in attendance, with a strong array of priests. There are perhaps 2000 Americans now on the Isthmus. The prospect of getting away looks verry dubious. Our party all got in by 4 on Thursday. The water used in the City is all brought in on mules & the heads of natives, & sold at un real per jar. Charcoal is about \$1. per bushel. There are many here that have used up their means, some by gambling & some in other ways, so that they cannot get away.

Thursday, 5th.

We have hired a house or 3 rooms for which we pay 20 Dimes per day, & things pass as yet tolerably smoothly. Our only desire so far as we are concerned, is to get to San Francisco. Two or three of our party are quite unwell, probably from over exertion. The Catholics are having a gala day, it beeing Good Friday. Took a bathe in Old Pacific.

Friday, 6th.

Nothing of note occured. 3 or 4 of our party are rather 15 unwell, & feel sore from the recent tramp. I am quite diligent in learning Spanish & make some proficiency.

Saturday, 7th.

In the morning bought some fresh beef at /6. The Catholics last evening had a great turnout. They had in the procession 4 cars, there beeing a frame with bars or poles projecting, by which they were bourne on the shoulders of the Natives, one of them I should think employing as many as 60 men. On these frames were built Pirimids covered with wax candels enclosed in large vases or bell glasses, of various coullors beautifully lashed on with ribbons. Those Pirimids were from 12 to 20 feet high surmounted, one by the Virgin Mary, one by the Risen Saviour, one by Peter, &c. There was a long procession, each one carrying a candel. There were many Ladys, some Spanish, the Elite

of the Town. Many Americans joined the procession, being desirous to see the whole. The van was led by a Monk completely veiled, who with a sort of a bell kept up a clanking, & by dropping on his knees in front of the car every few rods indicated the Stopping & Starting. Following him was some half dozen Negroes with violins, who seemed to vie with some dozen Priests behind them, that were Chanting, to see which could make the most noise. Thus the whole cavalcade moved through the principal Streets untill a late hour, amid the din of some 50 Bells, many of them cracked. There being 4 bells to a tower & sometimes Cathedrals & Churches forming nearly whole streets, long before day the next morning I was awakened by their noise, & looking out I saw them paraded on the Palaza, with their cars & lights still burning. The day was celebrated by the firing of heavy guns & ringing of Bells. Their mode of Burial is Singular. Their ground is enclosed by a heavy wall of some 8 feet thick, enclosing rather less than an acre. All around, the wall is built with holes resembling an oven. The better portion of the citizens are put in ovens without Coffins, & the hole is then Masoned up untill it is needed for another, when the bones are taken out & thrown in the corner of the yard. For the verry poor a shallow grave is dug & they are tumbeld in without ceremony or coffin & as they allways strike on bones they tumble them in again, or throw the large bones, such as the Skulls, in the corners. In looking about town, I see they are fitting up some large Bungas (or large canoes) for the purpose of a passage to California. It looks verry hazardous. I strolled back of the town to the foot of the mountain & turned in to some Ranches & saw a great variety of strange fruit & fruit trees. They gave me some mangoes from a tree on which was from the blossom to the ripe fruit. The natives live chiefly on fruit such as Bananas, Plantains, &c., Yams, Coconuts, Oranges &c.

Sunday, 8th.

At 1/2 past 10 attended meeting at the dining room of the American Hotell. A good discourse by a man on his way to California. It is supposed by some that there are 4000 Imigrants on their way, & many are turning back. Some few Sail are comeing in. This City seemes going to ruins, & as poor as poverty. There is no trade, manufactory, or comerce. Their liveing is mostly raised on an Island 9

miles distant, 16 Toboga. The Country is compleetley dried up. The Cactus, or prickly pair, seems to flourish well. I have seen it some 15 feet high & a foot in diametor.

Monday, 9th.

During the day the Doctor purchased a small Schooner of some 30 Tons for the purpose of taking the party up. Price \$2400. It will require some repairs. While I write & continually there is a hamering kept up on a cracked bell which sounds much like work on a boiler. This, with the sound of Crispan's hammer across the way, are the onely Mechanical sounds in the place.

Tuesday, 10th.

Took a bathe. The sun rises over the Bay & shines with intense heat untill 11 when the wind breezes gently. The prospect is that our schooner will be unladed & refitted & we off inside of 2 weeks. It looks hazzaradous to think of such a journey, but we must trust in providence. I feel quite well, but think of Home, Sweet, Sweet, Home. In the afternoon attended the Funeral of an Am. The service was performed by an Episcopal Clergyman. The remains were followed to the grave by a verry long procession of Americans in a solom & orderly maner.. In the afternoon a meeting of the Co. was held, at which time I tendered my Resignation as a Member of the Exec. Committee, which was not accepted.

Wensday, 11th.

The Doctor's Wife verry unwell. In the afternoon a buisness meeting was held at which time A. Haskins' resignation as a committyman was offerd & accepted, & A. M. Comstock elected in his place. The Schooner lately purchased was judged not competent to carry our party & was turned back on the hands of the gentleman who was engaged with the Doctor in the purchase.

Thursday, 12th.

A Brig coming in. In the afternoon went on the Mountain just west of the City, from which an extensive view is had, & from the top of which Bolivar bombarded the City in /24.

Friday, 13th.

I commenced my turn in cooking, with Taylor as assistant. Our party is composed of 17 men, 2 Women, 1 Girl, & 1 Boy. Our first meal was Beefsteak, bread, & coffee. For dinner, beef stew, with a crust of sweetened short cake. For Tea, Chocolate with sweet short cake. We put up the following notice. "Meals, punctually as follows:

Breckfast at 7.

Dinner at 1/2 past 12.

Tea at 5 3/4.

Gentlemen are requested to wait until they are served, & if not on hand at the hour must be satisfied with what they get.

By order Don Hiram, Cook.

Don Santeago, Private Sec.

Panamay. April 13th, 1849.

The day is very warm yet a fine breeze from the North, which blows the same every day from 11 until night. Our prospects for getting away looks very dubious. With 2 or 3000 on the Isthmus & not Sails arriving to take them off as fast as they arrive. Yet we hope for the best. I think of that Shop in Troy, & that Wife: whose likeness I look upon & those dear Children, & my feelings by some might not be called manly.

Saturday, 14th.

Rose early & commenced breckfast, consisting of Beef stew, Chockolate, Bread & Molasses. It was on the table & the men called precisely at the moment. (Could I but feel & know that my family are well & happy it would life a heavy cloud.) Whatever may be the result of this enterprise, I am sattisfide there is more folley in this world than I supposed before leaving home. There are several cases of sickness among those who have been longest on the Isthmus. One or two in the House in which we live. I have a headache this morning & feel some apprehension of sickness my self.

Sunday..Domingo..15th.

I had a severe headache & quite unwell. Serious fear of sickness. Taylor & I got breckfast & washed & cleaned up & at 10 1/2 I went to meeting. A Congregational Minister preached from the words: The wages of sin is death: Went home & commenced getting dinner but before it was readdy went to bed quite unwell. Thoughts on Home & Friends, At night all sorts of noises were kept up untill 3 in the morning. The India rubber dogs, that is dogs without hair, Men, Women, & Boys kept up a perfect gargon with their Fandangoes, Cockfights & such-like Sabbath fixings. Their Padries or Priests patronizeing them largely, & was told that one of the Fathers lost \$500. at a Sunday Cockfight, but this all helps to make up life in Panama.

Monday.. Luno.. 16th.

Gave some clothes to a Senora to Larubber, at a mario a piece, —10 cts. Felt much better than the day before. Took a swim in old Ocean, mended my clothes a pachó (a little), went out & blacksmithed a little, mended our pan, sat down & took notes, & spent the remainder of the day in sitting thinking & running about.

Tuesday.. Martes.. 17th.

Went fishing in the morning (Esta Manyanna) about 3 miles, to a small river. I hired a boat of a native without his beeing able to speak or understand a word of English. I paid him Tres reals (3 dimes) to go out with his canoe and let me fish as long as I wished. I stayed out 2 hours & caught 2 good fish & 3 ground hogs or bladder fish. Went ashore & bought a coconut. Spent the afternoon in

examining bills. Tried to get work. Blacksmiths are getting \$4.80 per day, with verry little work to be done.

Wensday.. Miercoles.. 18th.

The morning was cloudy. Passengers were taking their baggage aboard of the ships that are about to sail. The shipping lies some 3 1/2 miles out on account of the rocks that make out & are bare for a mile at low tide. The tide falls & rises some 24 feet. Bought 1/2 Bbl of pork at \$25., a Box Tea 6 lbs at \$9. Everything is extreordinary high in Panama & it seems as though we should raise a famine. In the afternoon a young man was brought into another part of our house verry badly wounded in the head. He had been attacked in the night while asleep in a tent some 18 6 miles out & his head cut open in a shocking manner. He was found the next day about 10 in an insensable State covered with blood. His head was shaved & wounds dressed & he finaly recoverd. Nothing was taken except a small trunk. In the same room with him is a man sick with the fever. In a Room adjoining us is a man verry sick. I feel that the first & 2d & 3d Consideration is our Health. In the midst of my loneliness I dream of Home & see my dear wife & children & my bliss seems perfect & when I awake I feast on the reflection allthough the thoughts are painfull that thousands of Miles intervene. This State of Suspense is painfull. There is much wickedness in this place. Many of the Americans practice gambling to an enormous extent. Some have gambled away all their means & there are many desperadoes undoubtedly.

Thursday.. Juives.. 19th.

Allmost one sixth our time is past & we are not 1/2 way yet. We are talking of purchasing a Life boat to take a part of the Co. The morning is clowdy, a rare thing. I think there are signs of the approach of the rainy Season & I fear sickness if we are compelled to Stay. Bought a pair of white shoes at \$1.20.

Friday.. Viernes.. 20th.

Visited old Panama in co. with the Dr. & 4 others. We found it a pretty hard day's work. Arrived near the place we found Mr. Bell & party of Ny who have a small tent here for a few days' hunt. One of his party Showed us over the Ruins. We saw the ruins of many houses & several large Cathedrals & Churches, some parts of the walls standing entire. It seems to have ben the same stile of work of the present Panama. The walls are of coarse lime stone & their Morter or Sement so strong that where walls have fallen 20 feet the masses of stone & mortar still firmly adhere together, allthough it is said to have ben in ruins 300 years. One Cathedral of large dimensions has 3 of its side walls quite entire & some of the petition walls. One in particular is cracked & seperated a few inches over an arched window, & what is Curious a tree at this point grows up against the wall on one side untill it comes to the top of the window. It then shoots square through forming a square shoulder on which the wall rests at the crack & then continues Strait up on the opposite side. The wall of this Cathedral next the street is all gone & in the line of it is a tree of the Baywood Mahogany species that girts over 18 feet. On some walls I saw trees of 3 feet diametor, standing 12 feet from the ground with roots running down on either side. I saw a dungeon near the Cathedral with its arches & doors entire, probably an inquisition. Many Streets could be traced by the paralell lines of walls still standing. The Palaza is overgrown by verry large trees. The whole place is so overgrown with Brush, briars &c &c that it is allmost impossible to get about except to follow some rude pathes made as I suppose by wild animels. There is a Tower standing entire some 100 feet high with walls of 7 feet thickness. It appears to have had a stone stairs of a spiral form going to its top, as marks of the stairs are visible. It appears to have ben a Military point & was probably a place of lookout. As I sat in the Cathedral & reflected 19 on the egar devotees that once thronged its broad Isles, with all their Pride & Passions, that have now passed away like the waves of the Ocean that laves their base, with the Powers & tortures of the Inquisition, I was led to think that Man truly is of Small account. The evedence still exists that it once contained a large population, some say from 150 to 200,000 Inhabitants. But of their History we know nothing. they say it was the first town built on the Pacific side of the continent, & was destroyed by the Pirates under McDonald near 300 years since. Many of the wells are to be seen & it is said some of them contain Treasures. Wild Animals abound. Here we saw a fine deer & the day before we visited it they saw 2 Tigers. Mr. Bell was treed by a wild boar. He shot one & a day after shot another & we had some of him

for Dinner. He shot 2 Green Snakes 9 feet long in the ruins. he allso saw a Panther. He had a tustle with an Aligator within a rod of his tent & shot one just above some 12 feet long. Such in brief is Old Panama, & here is food for Reflection.

We carried with us some provision & after partaking retraced our weary steps & arived home at dusk weary & worn but feeling well paid for our toil. There are 3 or 4 in different parts of our house verry sick. 2 it is thought, cannot long survive. Our Company are all well.

Saturday..Sabaddo..21st.

Rose & bathed in Old Pacific. Sat down & took notes. Buised myself in the forenoon in wrihting a Letter & cleaning up & shaveing. In the afternoon bought a Pine Aple & some sugar & invited Comstock, & went into an old Cathedral & had a feast, while we reflected on the senes around us. We then took a stroll through the garden of a Frenchman. He explained to us in broken English his different kinds of fruit trees. Among which is the Bread fruit. One in particular requires the Male & Female in order to produce fruit. It is a beautifull tree with a thick dark foliage & a verry smooth leaf. Many other trees which I could not learn the name, one bearing a fruit as large as my hat. It is filled with seeds as large as large Chesnuts & much resembling them & when roasted has much the taste of Roast Chesnuts. We stopped some time to chat with a Senoria & witness the pranks of a Monkey. We passed 2 or 3 hours pleasantly & profitably in contemplating the senes around us. The Females have a singular way of wearing their shoes. they appear to be just large enough for them to slip the forepart of the foot into, leaveing the back part out, & shuffle along with a wagging slipshod shuffling gate. this is the uniform practice. When you see the female you see hur slipshod with a long shawl round hur neck or over hur Shoulder, & the Panama hat. Night drew on & I thought of a small spot in Troy & longed for an interview with those dear ones, but longed in vain.

Sunday..Domingo..22nd.

Rose early, read a chapt & tried to spend the day in a religious manner. Attended meeting at 10 at the Am Hotell. Heard a man from York State relate his experiance, then went to the Episcopal meeting, but it was so full I could not get a seat. Yesterday the funeral of an American was

attended, the circumstances of which was calculated to lead 20 the mind to sadness. He was from Johnstown, Ny. It is said he was in good circumstances with an iron constitution. He left a young Wife & 2 children. his wife was opposed to his comeing. He was the leader of a party of 7. He got a vesel at Panama & went down the coast to look for vesels. And it appears during his absance he had his water casks filled by the natives, who decieved him & put in salt water. He got back in sight of Panama & was becalmed & lay 5 days without water untill he & his party allmost perished. He finally got into Panama in a feeble state & died the 2d day, & the day following one of his companions, who is to be buried at 4 1/2 this PM. Sad indeed must be the tale that reaches the ears of that Stricken Wife. This afternoon I followed his companion to the grave, beeing 2 out of 7. One man in an adjoining room is fast failing. in another is one near his end. Some half dozen are sick in different parts of our house. In the night a severe fight occured betwene the Natives & some Americans in which some were badly hurt.

Monday, 23d.

This morning a ship is comeing in said to be the Sylph. The Dr has gone to see about getting passage. Fuller seems threatend with sickness. there is much sickness among the Americans. As many as 8 are sick in our house, & 2 of our party are unwell. One man died in an adjoining room at sundown, & another a man from Green County Ny. at 11 PM. So there were 2 dead men in our house one night, both leaveing families, the one of 6 children & the other of 4. While the corps lies in the midle of the room as many as 4 or 5 lie round it sick. It should be remarked that neither of these men were well when they came on the Isthmus. One was a man of disipated habits. I have since learned that the Green County Company lost 2 more of their number shortly after. This was rather a gloomey sight in a strange & foreigen & sickley land. Last night at a Fandango the Natives & Americans had a severe fight, in which some on both sides were stabled & it is said that one of each has died of their wounds. The Americans I learn were the agressors. At night our names were given in for passage on the Sylph which is said to be provisioned & waterd & will sail in a few days.

Tuesday, 24th.

Took a fine swim & sat down to take notes feeling quite well. Wrote a Letter to B. Brown & one to my family. During the day many of our party were engaged in writeing home. Others in making preperation for passage.

Wensday, 25th.

Finished my letters & strolled about. The bargain was concluded & receipt obtained for I think \$2925.. I found a young man sick lying alone in a chamber, with no one to stay with him or attend to Him in any way. I made it my business to carry him something that he could eat & attend to him untill he got well, which was but a few days. I afterwards saw him at the diggins & he was a gratefull Man.

Thursday, 26th.

took a swim & strolled away the fore part of the day & in the after noon wrote a letter to Benson Simpson. Reflection is lively & on objects far a way. The Heart pants for some Object to love & seems to consume it self. Never was I aware while in the enjoyment of the society 21 of Friends that such an attachment to them existed. But I console myself with the thought that their society will be doubly dear if I am ever again permitted to enjoy it.

Friday, 27th.

Took a swim & sat down & counted the funds of the Company & looked over bills & acts. on hand—in cash \$1497. In the evening some Spanish friends sent in to Mrs. N, A choice present, Consisting of Aples, Figs, Raisins, Nuts & Chocolate & a Botle of Wine, with a Rose & an exceding polite note done up in genteel stile. She shared round the aples & nuts. Went to see my patient, found him better. Made a dish of gruel, got him some Tamarinds & Sugar & made him a fine drink.

Saturday, 28th.

Mr. Mack, my Patient, much better. Ran round considerable to find something that He could eat. In the afternoon heard of the arrival of the Crescent City at Chagris & that several cases of Colera have occurred there. The Col. Stanton from N Orleans is said to have had 7 deaths aboard from Colera. 2 Ships arrived in the offing making 4 Brigs & 5 Schooners & 3 ships & some Barges that are being fitted up. One Company is fitting up a life boat to make a passage in to Cal. The history of the Life boat I have since learned. that after being out some 2 months & being wet all the time they had got some 500 miles above Acapulco & were obliged to put back. They there abandoned their boat & took passage on a French vessel & she was wrecked while lying at Anchor before leaving port. She dragged her anchor & was driven on the rocks, & some 20 lives lost, among the number 2 of the boats co. I saw one of the men just before I left S. Francisco. He had just got in. He looked like a used up specimen of Humanity. Report says 6 Americans died in Town last night.

Sunday, 29th.

Mr. Mack my patient is getting a long finely. I got a cup of Tea & small biscuit & 1 egg & paid 43 cts. for it. He having no appetite. I was informed of a tough case. A Woman lost her Husband at Chagris, her traveling companion, a lady at Gorgona, & was then robbed of her money on the road over. I was wakened before 3 this morning by a procession in the Streets with lights & music. The Sabbath is not regarded except as a Holiday, only that the Bells are ginged more incessantly if possible & the Churches are thronged by times. The Shops & Stores are all open & the day is closed by Fandangoes & cockfights. The Padres, holy Fathers, being the heaviest betters. At 1/2 past 10 attended service at the American Hotel. Text O grave where is thy victory. A fine shower fell during the meeting. I spent some time with Mr. Mack. Near night took a walk out on the Gorgona road & saw many coming in. Some 400 having arrived at Chagris.

Monday, 30th.

In the morning a dark cloud under the sun & the appearance of a Storm. I understand that 1 of the priests lost \$500. on a cockfight yesterday. Attended the Funeral of George Hall, a man from Main

& a passenger with us on the Falcon & 1 of the most robust & healthy looking on the ship, but rather intemperate.

Tuesday, May 1st.

I feel weak & rather unwell. This Climate is verry enervating to those that are not sick. Mr. Mack walked out & began to shirk 22 for himself. I was noticeing some cactus or prickley pear of which the fences are composed & think I have seen it from 10 to 15 feet high & 12 inches in diametor. This we would call pretty good size at the North. There are several species of it composing the fences. A company from Ny. mooved into an adjoining room & in the evening had good Singing.

Wensday, 2d.

Sun rose behind a cloud. I went early & took a wash. During the day there was much thunder. Several of us pitched quoits & in the evening took supper of gingerbread & Techa. General Comstock took a prisoner from the guard at the Barrocks & at night had a mock trial, the Dr siting as Judge. Mr. Taylor is sick. Some cases of Colera are reported in the Citty.

Thursday, 3d.

Morning dark & lowery Some thunder & Showers. The day passed off as usual in talking lounging & reading. The Falcon is reported in at Chagris.

Friday, 4th.

The Sky is overcast & looks rainy. Great anxiety is felt to leave this place. We were visited by 2 Gentlemen from Washington County who left Troy about the midle of April, who informed us of the Fire in the bend. I paid Mr. Eddy \$3. for cooking for me 3 days, I not beeing verry well. The Churches in this place have a low tower & generally 2 of them in the 4 sides of which a Bell is hung on which the Natives at short & regular intervals keep up a tremendeous clatering. The Bells beeing stationary they either pull the tong or strike on it with a Stone or bone & sometimes all 3 at once. During the day we formed a debating society. Today a vesel arived from San Francisco, &

brought verry encourageing accounts concerning the gold diggings. Frank Lemon Came in hur as mail agent. The Sylph droped down to Teboga for water.

Saturday, 5th.

Cloudy & Showers during the day. At 1/2 past 8 in the evening the Steamer Oregon came to Anchor. There was a great rush & tremendous excitement. In the morning we recieved most flattering reports.

Sunday, 6th.

Morning cloudy. Last evening felt quite unwell but feel well this morning. at 9 began to write a Leter to my Wife, & at 10 recieved one from hur. It was like cold water to the thirsty Soul. At 2 PM. the Steamer Panama came to Anchor. It rained a part of the day & was clowdy all day.

Monday, 7th.

Morning bright. all well. Began to rain about 1/2 past one. We now expect to go on Shipboard tomorrow. In the afternoon a Monthly Meeting of the Company was held.

Tuesday, 8th.

All well. Made preperations for a moove. During the day got our baggage on board in the midst of a violant rain storm. The natives had to wade in the water up to their sholders frequently as the boats were tossed about by the surf. At night we borrowed some beds & a tent & slept on the floor.

Wensday, 9th.

Went on the Ship, & at 5 PM. Waid Anchor, fair wind & Tide. We steered South S.W. The Sophia made sail at the same time.

Thursday, 10th.

A fair wind all night & by 12 today we had made 160 23 miles. In the afternoon a calm. I was Sea Sick. Our face was wretched, & I cast up all that I had eaten. The Ship was wretched dirty & we were crowded in a sad plight. I confess that I wished myself in Troy.

Friday, 11th.

I felt some better. eat for breckfast a small piece of Sea bread & 1 cup of coffey. Continued sick through the day. Have not yet kept anything on my stomach that I have taken on the Ship. At noon it rained hard. So that those who went on deck for dinner got drenched unless protected by oil cloth.

Saturday, 12th.

3d D.O. I felt some better in the morning. Cast up some bile & felt better through the day. It was quite calm. Not making over 2 or 3 knots. A meeting was held & means taken to better the condition of the passengers. The passengers were divided into 3 messes called 1st, 2d & 3d mess, to take their turns in beeing served. At evening a shower & good breeze for an hour or two & then lulled all knight.

Sunday, 13th.

4th D.O. Morning pleasant, verry light breeze. Troy & its Priviledges. We had service at 10. During the day some Whales were seen. Sharks Porpoises Dolphins &c.

Monday, 14th.

5th D.O. Rained all night & blowed verry hard on our starboard beam. The Ship beeing light in ballast careened verry much. Wind continued N.W. all night & day. Ship leaned so that it was difficult to stand or walk.

Tuesday, 15th.

6th D.O. Wind still fresh on our starboard beam. Not very well. The long voyage before us makes my Spirits sink. Since starting on Pacific I can begin to realise that I have fairly started for Cal. But while on the Isthmus I felt that I could go back & had I received word from home that called for it I should have done so. O the loneliness. Saw a large School of Sperm Whale. Some rain & a fresh breeze on our Starboard beam..

Wensday, 15th.

7th D.O. Some rain. Saw land on the Starboard about 3 deg. North the Equator. Last night the Sea presented a beautiful Sparkling appearance. The Sparks appearing many feet under water as well as at the Surface. They frequently have the appearance of large kernels of powder burned & sometimes remain for some seconds.

Thursday, 16th.

8th D.O. Rained last night. Still beating to the South. Wind W.S.W. This morning a sail in sight far a way the first we had seen. Our fare for breakfast Coffey & hard bread & molasses. For Dinner Pork Corned beef, & beans or rice some times. Supper Bread and Sugar. Butter is served but the sight is sufficient without the smell. Meals taken in hand, standing when we can & when we cannot we go down.

Friday, 18th.

9th D.O. Strong S.W. wind. I feel quite well. Still running along the coast of Equador 15 miles from land.

Saturday, 19th.

10th D.O. Morning rather stormey. Wind seems to have haweld a litle to S., light. Washed & shaved. In the afternoon blew fresh from W. Still working South.

Sunday, 20th.

11th D.O. Wind fresh. Troy & its priviledges. I strive 24 to keep my mind from it. Comstock & 3 others have fitted up our Whale boat & coverd it with Canvass & sleep in it a long side. Comstock rose in the morning came from under the canvass & with a gracefull bow said, Good morning Pacific. What agitates thy Bousom this morning. I have not seen the sun rise or set clear since I have ben on the Pacific. It has rained I think every night since we started. Day after day I look out on the blue expanse of waters. Occasionally we see some of the Monsters of the deep. Our mode of liveing is truly brutish. Our Company is now divided into 2 messes, Starboard & Larboard. One mess first one day & the other the next. We form ourselves in two lines when we can, on that small part of the deck that is left clear. And a man passes through with the Coffey. Another with the Sugar. Another with a basket of bread. Another with a pan of Boiled meat. Another with a botle of vinegar & molases. & then the grabbing commences. we ketch a piece of meat in the fingers & crowd like a lot of Swine. The ship perhaps so careened that you will need to hold on or stagger & pitch like a Drunken man. Many behave so swineish that I prefer to stay a way unless driven to it by hunger. Often we get a lurch & go Scating across deck on back or belley, Coffey Sugar & Bread scatterd in wild profusion.

Monday, 21st.

12th D.O. Wind fresh West by S. Running down the coast. Saw some Turtle 5 or 6 feet across. Engaged during the day in tacking & beating trying to get round a point of land that makes out some 20 or 30 miles. At evening the Sea was verry rugged.

Tuesday, 22d.

13th D.O. Morning rather calm. Land a head. Wind still S.W. Continued beating up & down during the day. Sea rough, no standing on deck.

Wensday, 23d.

14th D.O. Wind fresh W.S. quite cool so that I needed an overcoat. Making preparations to Anchor & land. At 4 PM. Came to Anchor 3 miles from the Village of Tecamos 40 miles North of the Equator. 12 of our Company went ashore in our boat. One other boat landed a few. That was all that landed the first day. They brought off a quantity of Fruit. There is a small River comes in 2 miles from the Village & whalers frequent it for water. It is situated about 4 miles I think North of the Equator on the North Side of Cape San Francisco, & something 70 miles from the Famous City of Quito & near the same distance from the famous burning mountains of Cotopaxi & Chimborazo, which may be seen & heard from the Sea in clear weather. But it being thick, we saw nor heard nothing of them.

Thursday, 24th.

15th D.O. I went on shore after breakfast at Tecamos, 3 miles from the Ship. It is a small village of about 300 Inhabitants nine tenths of which I judge are pure Indians. They live in Bamboo or Reed Houses, about 10 feet from the ground. The houses being built on posts. They are built of split reeds or bamboo poles & thatched with flag or coco leaves, with floors beds & tables where they have these luxuries, of split reeds. Their Ladder, by which they go up, they take up nights, the object being protection against Wild beasts, Sand flies & creeping things, & I think perhaps the water, as the surf rolls on the beach tremendously & I think in a gale with the wind in the right direction it must be horrible. In many cases they ascend to their rooms by means of a notched Stick. Scarce a board is seen in the village. The inhabitants appear quite nice & compared with the inhabitants of the Isthmus tidy. They seem a much better race. do not seem to be so mixed up with the Negro & Spanish. They seem to have no trade with any body. I judge there is not a Mechanic in the place, except it be Segar makers. I saw some of them. I could not buy a pound of sugar or pint of molasses in the place, & yet there are groceries where Liquor & some few articles are sold. There seemed a great Scarcity of what we would call provisions After great effort & 3 hours delay I got some Dinner such as it was. It Consisted of Stewed Monkey Boiled plantain, hard bread & plantain, & peppers. I supposed the meat to be wild hog until after I had eaten. It was not the most savory dish & I ate but little. Their meat consist entirely I learned of Wild Hogs, Monkeys Peacocks, &

perhaps some fish. all game. But the great Sight & attraction & on which they live is Fruit. Such as Coconuts Bananas Plantains Yucas, or Yams. Oranges, Lemons, Limes, Mellons, Coffey &c &c. All these things seem to grow spontaneously. I saw allso Sugar cane of an extreordinary size. Cloves Peppers Coffey Ginger & many other things grow wild. But the Oranges took the lead. I stood in groves where they seemed to form allmost a perfect sheet over my head & they were of an extreordinary size. We had them picked at 50 cts the hundred & picked them ourselves at 20 cts. I helped bring a bundel of Bananas to the Boat that cost 2 rials, as much as 2 could carry handily on a pole. It was like the cluster of Escol. Game is said to be plenty a little back. There is said to be a small species of Elephant. Lions Tigers &c. W snakes of all descriptions. Such as Boaconstrictors Bush masters, &c, the latter of which grow to a great size. & are said to be the worst snake there is. After spending most of the day we started for the Ship with our fruit & several hundred Oranges. The Tide was rolling in & the Surf was tremendeous. We had a good man at the steering oar or I think we should have got swamped. as it was we got safe on board.

Friday, 25th.

16th D.O. My birthday. I had an oppertunity to go on shore again, but as there was a ship here about to sail for some port on the Coast, I chose to spend my birthday in Wrighting to my Wife & family & did so verry hapily. But I suppose they have never got the letter which was put into the hands of the Captain about to sail. Some of our boys fried some cakes such as they were. On the whole I enjoyed my birthday quite well.

Saturday, 26th.

17th D.O. The Dr. & party went a Shore on a pleasure excursion. They invited me but I chose to stay on board. They had quite a flurry in landing & broke 2 oars & got wet.

Sunday, 27th.

18th D.O. Got under way at daylight. Wind W.S.W. Beautiful morning. During the day & night a stiff breeze. Ship lay over so that it was dificult to stand. Had no service.

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Monday, 28th.

19th D.O. Running S.W. Wind strong, sea in great Commotion. All feeling rather down. In the afternoon the Captain of the New Bedford, that had taken my letter & that started with us came aboard & then stood for Mazatlan, intending to get a load of Passengers for Cala. Wind fresh & we made good time.

Tuesday, 29th.

20th D.O. Wind the same, running N.W. Nothing of note.

Wednesday, 30th.

21st D. O. Stiff breeze, running W. Paralel to the Equator 2 or 3 degrees north.

Thursday, 31st.

22d D.O. Stiff breeze. In the afternoon wind lulled. passed the day as usual in reading talking & looking out on the vast Pacific & the blue arch. The New Bedford keeps along side at a distance of 5 miles.

Friday, June 1st.

23d D.O. I am reminded how rapidly my time is passing while I long for the termination of my journey & my safe return. A Beautifull day but nearly a dead calm all day. Long. 87 deg. 1 min. Lat. 3 N.

Saturday, 2d.

24th D.O. Fine morning. We are running along with a gentle breeze. I feel quite well. I think my Stomach has gained strength verry much. All on board quite well. In the evening there was quite

a spree on deck. The assistant Dr of the Ship got beastly drunk, & got down betwene decks, & the passengers there were determined to rout him from there. So they got a rope round him & with great hevving hoisted him on deck, & took him to his hammoc & lashed him in. His hammoc was slung verry high & in the night he got out & was found suspended by his feet. The same worthy took a dose of medecine to a patient & haveing a bone in his hand knawing, he took the medecine & gave the bone to the patient.

Sunday, 3d.

25th D.O. Stiff breeze S.W. Running in the same Direction. Religious Service was held at 1/2 past ten.

Monday, 4th.

26th. D.O. Breeze same. A flurry occured betwene the old Spanish Steward & a passenger in which the former was knocked down. A Booby was caught & the ships name, number of passengers, destination &c fastend to its neck & it was let go. I was not verry well. Lat. 4 deg. 5 min. Long. 90 deg. 30 min. W.

Tuesday, 5th.

27th D.O. Wind same. Sea rough. Vesel much careend. Lat. 4 deg. 32 min. Long. 91 deg. 47 min. At 6 tacked & ran back in order to make Southings. Sea rough & difficult lying in berth. Looks rather discouraging for Cala.

Wensday, 6th.

28th D.O. Sea verry rough. I feel rather unwell. At 8 tacked & ran west. I feel an unusual degree of Homesick loneliness having spent 28 days & made no progress apparantly, & looking ahead .

Thursday, 7th.

29th D.O. Sea rough, deck at an angle of about 45. Anyone passing to the regions of the Equator cannot fail to notice how short the twilight is. Lat. 3 deg. 28 min. Long. 43 deg. 36 min. West. Swell about 10 feet. One man said the waves were 20 shortly after leaving Panama, but I did not notice it, being seasick.

Friday, 8th.

30th D.O. Stiff breeze all night same direction. Making a 27 good run some 7 or 8 nots. No appetite—boiled meat & wormey bread goes hard. Lat. 3—13 L. 96—64.

Saturday, 9th.

31st D.O. Wind strong. Making about 8 1/2 knott. The sea sparkeld last evening beautifully. Lat 3. 45 Long 99. 41..

Sunday, 10th

32d D.O. Wind Strong Same direction Lulled in the afternoon. A Sermon was preached in the afternoon from the Subject of Naman the Assyrian. Discussions on Scripture were frequent. Any One not acquainted with the habits of Southerners would be astonished at their profanity, even of their Doctors Judges and Lawers. It is mingled with all their conversation. Lat. 4 deg. 5 min. Long. 102 deg. 12 1/2 min.

Monday, 11th.

33d D.O. Wind verry Strong through the night. The Sea the roughest we had seen. Ship pitched badly. Tacking, our course. Breckfast would remind one of a stall of Swine. Sliping & Jostling about Spilling Coffey on each other. Sometimes going across the deck before they could bring up, some on the belley & Some otherwise. It seems as if all restraint is taken off and the Supreme Selfishness of the human heart shows its darkest collors. It is a good oppertunity to read carractor. The Sea rolled heavy all day. Lat. 3. 57..Long 104. 18.

Tuesday, 12th.

34 D.O. It is much cooler since we have ben running near the line varying from 70 to 80. Wind strong. Lat. 3 deg. 40 min. Long. 107 deg. 31 min.

Wensday, 13th.

35th D.O. Running 1 point North of W. at 10 knott. All on board quite well. Our fare is rough. Lat. 4 deg. 46 min. Long. 110 deg. 17 min. Making 232 miles in 24 hours. I reckon there Spilling of coffey &c &c. I felt not verry well & confess I thought of the garlics & Onions of Home.

Thursday, 14th.

36th D.O. The night was squalley, & in the forenoon. In the afternoon a calm & squall when the sails were handled nimbly. Two Porpoises & a Cowfish were caught & taken on board. they were harpooned. the cowfish would weigh about 500 [lb]. I think the porpois has the nicest shaped head & jaws & finest set of teeth that I ever saw. The head is shaped like the Pikes only it comes narrower forward, & is armed with 80 beautiful round teeth & Shut so close as to nearly form a water joint. Roasted a little on the coals & it tasted well, but at home it would have ben rather dark. Lat. 8 deg. 21 min. Long. 110 deg. 21 min.

Friday, 15th.

37th D.O. It was Squalley & some gusts of wind. There was quite an excitement about dinner. Capt. Butler, a passenger, made a cowfish chowder, putting in pork & crust. About two Barrels were made. As it was a fresh dish each one watched the pots with eagle eye untill about 2 P.M. when it was brought forth, their stomachs refusing to be comforted or fed on expectation any longer. Capt. B. meantime had crowded the fires out of pure compassion & nearly smoked his eyes out, & there beeing such a mass in the kettle, it was badly burned. Each in the exercise of his selfishness, loaded his plate, when on taisting, spitting & spewing & dumping of plates overboard commenced, & for a

time it was a wrothy 28 sene. Capt. B shrunk from view, & was no whither. He never got over that chowder during the voyage.

Saturday, 16th.

38th D.O. Freequent squalls occured attended with heavy rain. It kept the sea verry rough & kept the sailors stirring. Squalls would sometimes turn the ship on hur beam ends. The night was uncomfortable in the extreme, the rain drove the passengers betwene decks, & the air became fowl in the extreme. We are now passing through the variables.

Sunday, 17th.

39th D.O. Freequent squalls, allmost impossible to get about decks. I felt verry unwell, but after snuffing the seabreeze I felt much better. I thought of Troy &c. About 11 a squall struck us with great violance.

Monday, 18th.

40th D.O. The morning still squalley. At 10 cleared & sail was again put on.

Tuesday, 19th.

41st D.O. Nearly a calm through the day.

Wensday, 20th.

D.O. Wind changed to N. & finally to N.W. which drove S. of W. our course beeing N.W. Lat. 16. 1. L. 115.

Thursday, 21st.

43d D.O. I feel poorly mornings with loss of appetite. Some murmuring. Lat. 13 55 Long. 116 14. At night the wind increased. All Sail was taken in except a double reefed topsail & spencer, the

latter a strong small sail to the mainmast. At 12 it blew a perfect gale & in the morning the sene was truly awful.

Friday, 22d.

44th D.O. The gale seemed to increase & at 7 the gibboom & foretegaliant were carried away. the gibboom which usually rides some 20 or 30 feet high plunged into a swell & broke them away. It was a thing that the officers never saw before. The foretegaliant with the yard attached, & sail furled with all the rigging hung dangling. There was a rope strung along deck for the sailors & the few that were compelled to go on deck to pass by, as but few had the courage to go on deck, as a man could not keep his feet. The wind was sufficient to sweep most anything off not made fast, & as she rolled & pitched hur decks would be as steep as the roof of a house. Hur rail & bullworks would go under. I got out & looked around & the sene was such as no picture or Language can begin to describe. To see the fury of the Ocean, hissing & boiling & heaveing like a boiling Cauldren, the roar of its waters & of the tempest & the storm, the roar of the wind through the rigging & pitching of the ship combined to make a Sene truly appauling. The Spray was such that we could see but a short distance. The swells seemed thrown up in heaps, the wind having veard round to all points of the compass. The Ship lay for 30 hours at the mercy of the waves, only they kept hur laid to, broad side to the wind, otherwise hur decks would have ben swept. But as a Swell approached lifting hur whole length at a time she rode them like a duck. At 2 P.M. the Hatches were fastend down, & I tell you there were many thoughts on home & far away. The expectation of seeing Home at this time was small. Had the Ship foundred, probably not a Soul would have lived to tell the tale, as a boat could not have lived a moment. One boat was Stove hanging high 29 above water at the stern, & a man could not have staid on any other object. The night was the most tedious that I had experianced. My bedfellow, Comstock was unwell & I gave him the berth untill after midnight & I hung on to the side of the berth to keep from beeing thrown across the deck as it was impossible to stand sit or lay without bracing or holding with a firm grasp. It was said by the Captain who had followed the sea 24 years that he had never seen but one Storm so severe & that of but few hours duration. And it was generally said that a vesel never lived through a harder one to tell the story. Eating was given up. All sat or lay in mute astonishment, & some at least who

at other times would curse their Maker were willing afterwards to thank Him, & say that nothing but the tender Mercies of Almighty God had spared them, & to confess that they Praid, but they soon forgat their vows. For my part in the fore part of the storm I felt to look up to my Heavenly Father & commit to Him my Family & my Soul & bid adieu to the Senes of Earth, but when I saw the ability of the Ship to ride it I thought we should be Saved. Lat. 16. 30. Long. 116.

Saturday, 23d.

45th D.O. The hatches were remooved & the wind had verry much subcided & we began to make sail, though the Sea was verry rough & continued so for 2 days. Lat. 16. 25. Long. 116. 28.

Sunday, 24th.

46th D.O. A fine day & wind light but fair. I feel quite unwell, getting worn out & loss of appetite. At 10 Service was held.

Monday, 25th.

47th D.O. Crew buised in putting in gibboom & new sails. Lat. 18. 44. Long. 119. 40.

Tuesday, 26th.

48th D.O. At night it was the coolest that I ever Saw at this season, we beeing about 2 degrees South of the Sun. My berth was opposite the main hatch, & wind sail & the Ship careened so that I had the full draught. And indeed I sufferd most of the time from this to the end of the voyage with cold.

Wensday, 27th.

49th D.O. Morning cool looked like a storm. Running E.N.E. then tacked & ran W.S.W. In the evening I gave my Berth to Mr. Bristol who was sick & took his place in the Boat & in spite of all the covering I could muster I Sufferd much with the cold, & took cold.

Thursday, 28th.

50th D.O. Morning cool.

Friday, 29th.

51st D.O. Wind still N.W. It pulls a little to the E. in the night, but gets back during the day. But little progress.

Saturday, 30th.

52d D.O. Thermometor 70 in the daytime, we beeing directly under the Sun. I find great difficulty in keeping warm nights. Wind N. & we are sailing close on the wind, making W. 1/2 N.W. Running within 6 points of the wind. We have about 12 days of water & are 1000 Miles from San Francisco, & with the present wind it is judged it will take 15 days at least to reach there. Home!! Lat. 21. 8. Long. 126. 21.

Sunday, July 1st.

53 D.O. Great coat & flannel & mitens quite nessessary Service at 1/2 past 10.

Monday, 2d.

54th D.O. Wind light N.E. My bowels are very much out of order in consequence of Cold I had taken. I was reelected a commityman.

30

Tuesday, 3d.

55th D.O. Cool. Running N.W. by N. I am quite unwell. My cold seems to have seteld in my whole System. Today a dozen or more were engaged in making & frying donuts. At 5 I went to bed & sufferd severly all night with pain in my head & bowels. I was cold all night.

Wensday, 4th.

56th D.O. Independence. I reckon I thought of Home. The morning verry cool & unpleasant, & I was quite sick. I ate no supper or breckfast. At 10 the Passengers asembeld & comenced the Celebration of the day. Prair was offerd by Mr. Fairchild & a National Song was sung. After which the decleration was read by Judge Buoy, followed by a Most Eloquent Oration from Mr. Parbert of Geneva, Ny. It was recieved with enthuseasm followed by another Song & closed by the Benediction. After which Rice Donuts Honey & Panama Molases were served out, & we all enjoyed the day as well as we could under the circumstances. No liquor or gunpowder were used during the day!

Thursday, 5th.

57th D.O. This day was a tedious day for me. I have Severe Cholic pain & a Diarea discharging a bloody Slime & a Severe headache with other Symptoms of Foul Stomach. Occasioned I think by having eaten two freely of raw pork & a want of exercise, but more particularly by taking cold in the night which seteld on my Bowels. I suffer severely with the cold wearing flanel & a great coat. Lat. 26. 30. Long. 132 35.

Friday, 6th.

58th D.O. This day was Still more tedious to me. I kept my berth all day & time hung heavy. I have commenced taking some pill that Dr. N. gave me, composed of Opeum Camphor & Calomel.

Saturday, 7th.

59th D.O. My bowels are getting some better. I have ate nothing for 4 days. No appetite. Still cold. During the past few days Mr. Bristol has ben failing verry much.

Sunday, 8th.

60th D.O. At 10 Service was held, after which we were put on allowance of one quart of water per day, or 1 pint of water & 1 pint of coffee.

Monday, 9th.

61st D.O. Wind still N.E. We running 2 points N of E variation 1 point, leaving 1 makes our course E. I am much better. Mr. Bristol had a tedious night of it, but today is more comfortable.

Tuesday, 10th.

62d D.O. A cold unpleasant day & rough Sea.

Wednesday, 11th.

63d D.O. The night was very boisterous, nearly all Sail was furled. Morning cold & unpleasant. There is some talk about going to the Sandwich Islands, as it seems impossible to get to San Francisco.

Thursday, 12th.

64th D.O. Cold & looks gloomy. Our bread is miserable & the meat seems likely to make us Sick, & there appears at least 3 weeks between us & San Francisco, & 1 quart of water per day. I am considered on the Sick List. Lat. 34. 34. Long. 136. 43.

Friday, 13th.

65th D.O. Cold & cloudy, 2 great coats not uncomfortable. We are now about 60 degrees west of Ny. consequently about four hours difference in time.

Saturday, 14th.

66th D.O. Cold & tedious, running on the east tack. It now appears as though a long voyage was still before us.

31

Sunday, 15th.

67th D.O. Service was held at the usual hour. A Sail in Sight. Mr. Bristol is verry feeble. Our course is rather more favourable. The butt opend to us again this afternoon & another pint delt to each man, which seemed to spread joy through all our ranks as if we had found treasures.

Monday, 16th.

68th D.O. This Morning at 6 Mr. Bristol Expired after a few weeks of most intense Suffering, brought on I think by scalding his fingers at the galley & taking cold in his hand. And not withstanding it is the blasting of all his worldly hopes & prospects, yet in view of his sufferings it seemed a sweet relief. His request was that his boddy might be sent home, & we comenced to make preperations accordingly. We asertained that spirits could be obtained at about \$2. per gallon. We got a cask of the Captain. It would take about 40 gallons. A meeting of the passengers was called & it appointed a committy composed of the Phisicians on board, to concider & report the best mode of preservation. They reported it could best be done in spirits & then it was decided by the Surgon of the Ship & other Phisicians that his heart & vitals must be taken out, otherwise it would burst the cask. To this his friends objected & a majority of our company voted against opening him, & that rather than have him cut to pieces we would bury him in the deep. So a commity was appointed to make the nessesary preparations, & at 6 P.M., he was brought to the waist of the Ship sewed up in canvass with his face exposed while the English Service was gone through in a Solom manner, after which all was sewed up & he was committed to the deep. The Ship passed on & in one moment he was hid from mortal eyes untill the morning of the Resurection. The Sene was a Solom one & many eyes were sufused with tears. Thus perished one of our most active & usefull members before we had reached the field of operation. It took place in Lat. 33. 33. Long. 130. 28.

Tuesday, 17th.

69th D.O. Rather more mild & pleasant, wind strong N.E. I feel much better today. Lat. 33 deg. 51 min. Long. 127 deg. 18 min.

Wednesday, 18th.

70th D.O. The day was cloudy & cold. No observation. Running N.N.E. at an average of 4 knot. I done up some washing.

Thursday, 19th.

71st D.O. Another batch of donuts was made. It is interesting to see the galley rangers. Some dozen or 20 are constantly buisy roasting bread or baking pancakes, & frying fritters & roasting pork. The day was cool. It averaged 63 degrees.

Friday, 20th.

72d D.O. Cool & cloudy. Still heading N.N.E. Rose early & General Comstock & I got a good breckfast of roast crackers. Thermometer at 58 degrees. No observation, light breeze.

Saturday, 21st.

73d D.O. Stiff breeze, running N.N.E. Cool damp & cloudy. Saw a sail in the morning to Leeward. Comstock & Mr. Root baked a fine lot of cakes in the morning.

Sunday, 22d.

74th D.O. Land was seen last evening. Wind strong all knight. This morning verry cool. Thermometer 55 degrees. At 1/4 before 10 the coast of California was in Sight before us. We stood on our course 32 running sharp on the wind untill within 2 miles & then tacked & ran 2 hours & tacked again & ran into the coast having made but 5 miles, & at 4 tacked & ran 9 hours, & then

tacked in untill 12 having made 13 miles. Tacked West again the wind blowing quite a gale the whole time. Lat. 37 deg. 9 min.

Monday, 23d.

75th D.O. Cold & cloudy. We found that we had made land in the gulf of Monteray. At 12 came near land 43 miles South of San Francisco by observation. Then tacked W.S.W. 10 hours, then tacked N.E. & stood on the course.

Tuesday, 24th.

76th D.O. Still cold, during yesterday & last night it blew allmost a gale. At 12 came in sight of land again running nearly paralell with the Coast. Breakers were seen along the coast at the distance of 10 miles. At Sundown in 10 miles of the coast off & on during the night. The hills at a distance look red like burnt clay. At 3 A.M. I heard as I supposed sticks or kelp scrape the sides or bottom of the Ship & feeling a little uneasy got up & went on deck. The mate was throwing the lead. It had Shoaled to 7 fathom. The sails were immediately clued up & all hands called. The Captain came on deck in his shirt flaps & orderd the Anchor dropped in 6 1/2 fathom. During the afternoon we saw a Whale close along Side. One throwed himself out of the water finely. His flukes presented a formidable appearance.

Wensday, 25th.

77th D.O. Laying at anchor Somewhere in the neighbourhood of the entrance to San Francisco but none can tell where, as the whether is thick & foggy. We knew we were near Shore but could see but a few rods. There was a current running some 4 or 5 knot. The Captain thought our situation unsafe as it blew fresh & at 6 got up the Anchor & stood out & ran up the coast. At 10 saw a sail, boarded it & learned that we had lain anchord at the entrance. We were now some 12 miles above. Bout ship & the wind lulled & at sundown came to anchor 4 miles abrest the entrance.

Thursday, 26th.

78th. D.O. Morning thick & foggy. Not able to see a mile. At 1/2 past 12 raised Anchor & got underway for the harbour. Wind & tide in favour. The Senery was most wild & desolate. Large naked rocks some of them covered with guana projecting out & towering up, the entrance being about one mile wide & tide running through 6 miles. A great abundance of fowls covered the water. At 2 P.M. dropped anchor 3 miles from the landing, the wind blowing a gale. The bay stretches in one direction 60 miles & the other 10, & in clear weather we can easily see across it. It is interspersed with islands. At 4 miles from town we passed Guana Island,* perhaps of 2 acres. It towers up some 50 feet & looks like a great Snow bank, beeing perfectly white with guana. There is said to be 175 Sail in the Harbour. All is life & bustle.

Now called Alcatraz Island.

Friday, 27th.

Went ashore & found such a wild state of things as allmost to intoxicate a person without giving 50 cts a glass. Money seemed 33 of no account. Houses that would not cost over \$100 in Troys for \$300 per month. Others of the commonest class & cheapest construction rent for \$800. per month. One house that might be rented in Troy for \$200. rents as I am informed for \$180,000.* Lumber is worth \$450. per M. Brick \$100 per M. Wages from \$12 to \$16 per day, & yet provisions & clothing in particular is comparatively cheap. Yet some articles is high enough to make up. Flour 6 to \$12 per bbl. Choice Cheese 6/ per lb. Salaratus \$12. per lb. Eggs \$12. per dozen. I paid \$1.50 for breckfast. Reports from the mines are verry encourageing. Men are coming in, some of them loaded with the dust. In the forenoon there is a thick cold fog, & about noon the Seabreeze begins to blow a gale untill in the evening. San Francisco is a miserable dusty dirty town of some 5000, out of every kindred tongue & people under Heaven.

This evidently means per year.

Saturday, 28th.

Morning bright & clear. The anchor was raised to run in nearer shore. I feel quite well. Rose & took notes, went ashore at 9, looked around, bought a chest of Tea at 40 cts, one cheese of 43 lb. @ 55

A forty-niner speaks; a chronological record of a New Yorker and his adventures in various mining localities in California, his return trip across Nicaragua, including several descriptions of the changes in San Francisco and other mining centers from March 1849 to January 1851. With illustrations by the author Hiram Dwight Pierce <http://www.loc.gov/resource/calbk.180>

cts, bread 25 cts per loaf, mince pies 4/. Returned to the Ship after a hard struggle. Wood is from 40 to \$60. per cord.

Sunday, 29th.

Staid a board & wrote home. A pleasant day but windy & cold. 2 Ships Came in, one that Started the midle of January.

Monday, 30th.

Still at anchor. Today wrote three letters. One to my Wife, one to Mr. Boutwell & one to J. H. Austin. Mr. Bills came a board & took dinner with us today, & spent the afternoon.

August 1st.

This morning we are verry buisy in packing up & getting readdy for a start up the rivers. We have decided to form 2 parties. One to go up the Sanjoaquin & one up the Sacramento. I go up the Sacramento with the Dr. We got our things aboard a Schooner Comanded by Capt. Macy one of our passengers. The fare was \$16. each & \$3. per cwt for freight. Started at 2 P.M. & ran up to Benecia 40 Miles in 4 hours, wind & tide in favour. We dashed through the Bays at a great rate. The vesel was to recieve some freight & lay over the night. There beeing no accomodations for sleeping on board, I went aboard a ship from Boston & had a good nights lodging in a hammoc. Others passed the night some on the vesel & some in houses on floors. In the morning the tide was out & I stripped my feet & waded to a boat, the mud mid leg deep. Benecia has a fine location at the head of SuSun Bay, but perfect desolation round it except the wild oats with which the ground & hills are everywhere coverd in this region. There is not a fence stump stone or scarcely a bush to be seen, & the hills at a distance look as if coverd with yellow sand, the oats beeing from 4 to 6 inches high & marked with wild cattle paths & Horses & other animals. The face of the country is verry uneven but not mountainous. Sugar loaf & conical hills shoot up all about. At a distance of 25 miles back of Benecia is a valley called Napper Valey said to be verry fruitfull, from whence they

get some vegetables. At Benecia the Dr left his family to board at \$6 per week each & Sally to wash & Iron at \$6 per dozen. At Sutter Fort board is \$21 per week.

34

Wensday, 2d.

We started in the morning for Sacramento City & reached it at 3 the next morning after having ben most horribly handeld by the Musketoos. The Dr & My self walked out to the fort, 2 miles. We took a cup of coffey & 3 small cakes each & paid one dollar, in the fort, of an old Negro. The country for many miles round is perfectly level & interspersed with here & there a large evergreen oak. It appears like a prarie, at this season verry little feed of any kind. Prices seems enormous. For freight 40 miles 16 & \$20 per cwt are asked. We commenced making preperations for a start by getting out & weighing our stuff, some 2100 lb. The Sun Shines with tremendous power.

Thursday, 3d.

Got our stuff off, mooved it & pitched our tent. Mooved & asorted our baggage & got verry tired.

Friday, 3d.

Rose early, got breckfast & started for Mormon Island. Walked 16 miles the first day over a verry Sandy road. It was verry warm & dusty & we sufferd much for water, there beeing 10 miles that we could get none. Our legs of course were verry weak, having just come off the Ship. At one time I lay down quite exhausted. It appeard I could go no futher but after resting 15 minutes I was refreshed & mooved on. The country most the way looks like an orchard. Large evergreens with no underbrush. It is an oak oapning of Live oaks. It is now a pergect barren, all dried up. There was 15 in our Company. We paid \$25. for a cradle in Sacramento City, worth a bout \$3. The country a side from the drought & its Sterile appearance is a beautifull country. At night we encamped under a tree & slept well.

Saturday, 4th.

Rose early & walked to the diggins. Arrived at 9. The Senery at the river is wild in the extreme. The water appears to have brought down or forced its way through a perfect mountain of Granite boulders as they are piled to the height of 100 feet along the banks in some places, & are of imence Size, 20 or 50 tons. There is I Judge not more than 100 men at work in the diggins in this place, averageing perhaps \$10 per day. A company of Dr Brinsmade's Brother is one & Mr. Ikenbrock's brother's is another, have a dam nearly completed for turning the water in to another chanel. Prices are high. Molases \$1. per botle 1 1/2 pints. Vinegar the same. Mellons are brought up & sold at from 2 to \$5. a piece & small at that. Pork 5/. Flour .40 cts lb. Lumber \$1.50 per square foot. Smith & myself made a tent the day we arived. We had a good night's rest. The gold at this place seems difused through all the Earth, but is verry fine.

Sunday, 5th.

Rose & got breckfast. At 11 attended preaching under a live oak by Rev. George Denhem. A Congregational Minister from New Bedford & allso at 4 & one mile above there at the Setelment at 1/2 past 7 in the evening. At this Setelment there is some half dozen tents where men have families.

Monday, 6th.

Got breckfast early & went to work. Made a small show. It looks rather Shady. All of us got much less than an ounce. It is verry much like work. In the afternoon made a sheet iron cradle.

35

Tuesday, 7th.

All hands went to work. We gatherd less than an ounce. Potatoes are \$1. a piece, onions the same. Axes \$8. Boots, coarse \$16.

Wensday, 8th.

At night the Wolves & Kiotas give us plenty of music.

Thursday, 9th.

Went out prospecting & find that every Stone & foot of Ground has ben turned over. It is a most wild and romantic Sene. The river has torn its way through mountains of Granite boulders & left them piled on each other in a wild State. We bake pancakes, fry pork, drink Tea or coffey & sleep on the Ground. It is verry warm during the day. Said to be as high as 130 deg. in the Shade. The nights are pleasant & fine. No dew. The wolves Stole some meat from a neighbor's tent, taking it from within a foot or two of his head. We got 2 small loaves of bread baked at a Mormon family that arived overland. They charged \$1. per loaf for baking & verry heavy hard bread at that. Barley for feeding horses is \$1. per quart, cheese \$2.50 per lb. The diggins looks rather poor, very few get over one ounce per day.

Friday, 10th.

Continued work with the cradels & gatherd 2 1/2 ounces, this being our best day.

Saturday 11th.

The forepart of the day was cloudy & comparatively cool. We all continued digging getting about an oz. All feeling verry tierd. New comers are ariveing constantly. Men are comeing and going. They try the diferent diggins & hear great reports, & run from place to place. I feel somelike the Rich Man, as though I would gladly warn my brethren & friends against comeing to this place of torment. Today we bought some fresh beef at 4/—.

Sunday, 12th.

Morning cool. Several of us rather unwell. It is a fine pleasant air & verry dry. It is a singular & rather pleasant looking Senery around. Live oak & a species of white oak such as bears the Acorns used as food, Stand about as thick as an ordinary Orchard, with no underbrush. Makes the hills look verry inviting, & there is some few pines. There is verry few weeds on the ground & verry little grass. There is a small bush growing a few inches high haveing a leaf that looks like the oakleaf,

that is verry poison. A great many get poisond with it. The soap plant allso grows verry abundant, which is said to be a cure for this poison, by washing with it. I killed a Scorpion among the stones where I was digging yesterday & Occasionally a Ratle snake is killed. Preaching again at 4 under the live oaks to a respectable & attentive congregation. In the evening we went up the river & held a meeting. Our path was rather dubious over rocks & through bushes. We found a guide useful.

Monday, 13th.

Today the Dr left with Mr. Eddy for Leedsdorpha Ranch 16 miles distant. Mr. Eddy beeing quite Sick, the Dr's object professedly beeing to explore & examin a bar back of the ranch with referance to operatting uppon it with the Dredge but more probably to get away from work, as he did not raise his finger to examin it. We worked hard & got but little gold. We bought some Sugar at .30 ct & some Beans at .20 lb.

Tuesday, 14th.

Weather still bright & fine. Last Evening we went up 36 the River with a Boat & light & spear but got no fish. The bottom of the river is a mass of imence granite boulders. The night was made vocal by the yelping of wolves round us. Three of us wrought hard in the forenoon with verry indiferent success. Say \$5. The hot Sun & Shining Sands at noon are allmost intolerable. We work from 6 untill betwene 11 & 12 & lay by untill 3 P.M.

Wensday, 15th.

Four of us gatherd about 4 ounces. The day was verry warm.

Thursday, 16th.

A slight sprinkle of rain in the morning, the first that I have seen in the Country. Imagrants continue to arrive both overland & by water. Prospects not verry flattering. We sleep on our blankets on the

ground quite happy, after having taken our supper of pancakes & fried meat sitting flat in the dust 2 inches deep by firelight. We think we are in California.

Friday, 17th.

Got say 2 ounces.

Saturday, 18th.

The day was verry warm. I was verry much fatigued. A Grisley Bear made his appearance in the neighbourhood.

Sunday, 19th.

The morning verry warm. Attended preaching three times. Exelant meetings. Wrote home. Sent a rough drawing of the diggins & one dollars worth of gold dust. (See frontispiece).

Monday, 20th.

Pursued our work getting rather less than 1 1/2 oz.

Tuesday, 21st.

Nothing of note. Continued work.

Wensday, 22d.

I felt verry tierd. My back getting lame in consequence as I think, of getting my feet wet days & sleeping on the ground nights. I was provided with a pair of boots that would have kept my feet dry but had them stolen at Sacramento City & am compelled to wear thin Shoes. We recieved word from Mr. Eddy that he was verry sick, & the Dr having returned started to see him this morning.

Thursday, 23d.

A sprinkle of rain in the morning. This morning I feel weary & worn. It seems like uphill buisness, working at the halves. A member of a company just arived, sais they started with 31 in the party overland & lost 8 by Colera & 2 otherways. There was much sufering on the road. We gathered 5 ounces.

Friday, 24th.

There is a daily & nightly wind I notice, that blows in opposite directions. At 9 A.M. it blows for 1/2 hour verry moderate from the west & then ceases, & at 8 or 9 in the evening from the East for a like period. A land & sea breeze. Got 5 oz & 9 Pnywts.

Saturday, 25th.

Worked in the forenoon & got 4 oz. In the afternoon washed shaved & recrited. Reflections on Home.

Sunday, 26th.

Morning warm. The rest & quiet of the Sabbath was verry agreeable. All in this place sofar observe the Sabbath as to cease work at gold digging though many go ahunting & attend to other things. Attended meeting 3 times. It would not be entirely uninteresting to see a company of grisley long bearded Men sitting flat on the ground under an Evergreen, listning to the Word & many of them Joining in the Singing.

37

Monday, 27th.

I felt verry sore. Got about \$20. each in the forenoon. Many newcomers are ariveing. Enquire who will show us any good.

Tuesday, 28th.

Things went on as usual. We gathered 9 1/2 oz Amalgum, say \$125. I am well but sore.

Wensday, 29th.

As usual. I found George Vail of Troy in a small tent a few rods from us sick with fever. He has had the Delerium Tremans & appears to be in a bad state. He came out with Mr. Groat with Goods.

Thursday, 29th.

Still digging. Though my back is lame, I appear to be the nearest convalesent of anyone here of our party. Daniel Newcom has a verry sore hand caused by poison. Smith has a sort of felon on his hand caused by rubbing on the cradle, & Haskins hands & feet are sore from the Scurvey & Sunburnt. My back is lame but I carry dirt & Haskins rocks the cradle A great many are laid by about us, some with sore hands & feet caused by poison & some by disintary. As yet I have ben well.

Friday, 30th.

Today we did not work. Sore hands & tierd backs prevented us. Smith & Myself went over to the North fork, one mile across. The country presents a strange appearance, beeing cut up at every fed rods by Ravenes, which bears strong evidance of having ben the chanel of large bodies of water, the sides beeing piled with imence granite boulders. Some of these ravines are not more than 1/4 of a mile in length. They all appear to contain gold. The North fork presents a more wild & Confused appearance than the South. There allso they have built dams & turned the Stream.

Saturday, 21st.

Morning cool 2 of our party are still criples with sore hands. My back is lame. I worked alone in the forenoon, & got about \$35. & bought it of the Company (or bought the half day for \$5.) At night slept in the Ministers bed & he slept in a hamoc under a tree. He has eaten several meals with us. We seem to enjoy each other's society well.

Sunday, Sept. 1st.

I feel lame & sore & the stillness of the Sabbath is verry agreeable. Attended 3 meetings & had a verry good time. The nights begin to be pretty cool.

Monday, 2d.

Resumed my work & with Mr. Haskins gatherd 2 oz amalgam.

Tuesday, 4th.

Mr. Root arived today bringing word that the Memnon had arived & a letter from the Dr. who was at Benecia that we should go down imediately, to San Francisco. We gatherd (that is 2 of us) about 3 oz. I continued to Lodge with the Domieny & he eats with us. It Continues to grow cooler nights.

Wensday, 5th.

Dug today with indiferent success, Mr. Root helping us. Our Setelment seems healthy yet quite a number of cases of Disentary, & some of Ague & fever.

Thursday, 6th.

Packed up this morning, sold our provisions & tools hired a team & started for Barcadero, Sacramento Citty, where we arived about one hour after dark. The dust over the parched and desolate plains beeing verry deep & consequently verry hard travel. We paid \$10. each & 38 baggage over 15 lb each 10 cts extra. We took supper at \$1.25 & got the priviledge to sleep on the ground inside the tent gratis. Sacramento Citty is extending itsself rapidly. It now covers a large territory, with its tents & frail houses, & is a place of a vast amount of buisness. We met on the road yesterday I juddge as many as 50, 6 ox, 6 & 8 mule, teams, nearly all loaded with provisions for the Mines. I should think the place had doubled itself in extent during the five weeks that we had ben absent to the mines. We had a good nights rest except that my back is inclined to ache when I lay on it. The river here is about 40 rods wide & 10 or 12 feet deep with but little current. It is said to

overflow its banks at this place so that the Town next spring must be 10 feet under water. Its banks are covered with a thick groth of bushes. It is said to be verry Sickley here. Many have a fever & others disentary & others Ague & fever. Many are making great fortunes in a little time but they do not make it by digging. It is by trading & Speculating.

Friday, 7th.

Rose early, took a walk to the river & found a vesel that was to sail at 10. Engaged passage. There is 2 small steamers on the river but they proove to be small affairs. We sailed at 11. Tide in favour but wind contrary. Made slow progress beating down the narrow river. The banks are thickly covered with tangled bushes So that the country cannot be seen from the river except here & there a spot. Scarce an Inhabitant along its banks. The country seems a barren waste or a tules Swamp. During the night I was attacked with Colera morbus, which I charge to our Supper & Breckfast, we not having spaired a good meal. I had a hard night of it but came out right in the morning. I felt rather poorley, lame back & soreness in all my bones. Sleeping on the ground does not appear to have agreed with me. I took a cup of coffey but it did not stay long with me.

Saturday, 8th.

Still on our way down the river. At 10 enterd the Slues, where the river is divided into several chanel. This is emphatcally the Musketoos batle ground & the man that comes off with a whole hide may be counted luckey. We were verry fortunate in passing through sustaining but little loss. In the afternoon the wind blew with great violance, & in beating down we got a ground several times & finally were compelled to come to anchor, & lay untill next morning.

Sunday, 9th.

Got under way with a strong head wind. Our board on the vesel at \$2. per day was miserable. The table which accomodates or rather discommodes 11 had to be set 5 times & then we had to hold it on our knees, to keep the things from comeing off. The broken Set of dishes were washed & replaced. It caused a great Scramble to know who should be no. 1. At 2 P.M. we reached Benecia,

where 3 of us stoped. I got some dinner & went & found Tinker Stone & Gregory who are engaged for Government at \$11 per day, & 1 1/2 ration. Government are barracks at this place. They have allready quite a quantity of property on the ground. The wind blows constantly a stiff breeze & is verry cool and unpleasant. The fleas hold undisputed Sway. I got Supper & engaged lodging at Col. Coopers 39 hoping once more to sleep on a bed, & truely I had a bedstead & cords under me, but there was not enough in the tick to tell what it was filled with. The fleas literally cover a person, however I managed to pass the night. The country round this place looks like desolation itsself. The Drs. family are at this house & seem to try to make themselves content. Sally works out \$100 per month & turns in one half hur wages. They have built a small church & say they have a verry good Minister.

Monday, 10th.

Took breckfast at the inn where I had Staid & went aboard the Lenora where I Staid over knight when I went up. Found they were about to break up. They owned a small Steamboat but their engine was found insufficient to Stem the tyde. Some 60 or 70 of their men have ben to the Mines, but they have not made out much. They have had much sickness, hardly well ones enough to take care of the sick. We took a miserable craft at 2 P.M. One that had ben 12 days from Stockton. Not a verry good recommend. It is worthy of notice, that as we desend the River from Sacramento Citty or Stockton & approach the Coast we experiance a marked change in the tempriture & climate. The first day of our voyage down the sun shone hot but long before we reached San Francisco, we found over coats & mittings verry comfortable. We had not got out of sight of Benecia before we saw from the vesel men on the side hills Lassooing wild horses. We allso saw bears or wolves from the vesel. After knocking about against a strong head wind untill 11 we came to anchor in SuSun bay & lay untill 9 the next morning. Here I passed the most uncomfortable knight of my life up to this time. The little cabin if so it might be called was crowded to Sufication by those who had paid for a cabin passage \$25. every square inch beeing occupide. I spent much of the night on deck, & the cold piercing wind was tedious in the extreme. I sometimes got into the hole called the cabin & at one time Slept one half hour, sitting on a trunk.

Tuesday, 11th.

Got to S. Francisco at 3 P.M. We hastend on Shore & got a good dinner at 12/- I got a Letter from the office from home. Soon after found our Company encamped in happy valley one mile east of the Post Office. The Dr handed me 2 letters, one from my family & one from Mr. Anthony & 4 papers.

Wensday, 12th.

Our party were fixing the boat. I cleaned my gun &c, got my chest from the ship, found things all right & in order except the moldings knocked off from my chest, & many little marks of attention to my anticipated wants from my Wife & family.

Thursday, 13th.

Company held a meeting relative to our present condition. Reports were made from the diferent parties sent out, which were in effect that there was no prospect of Dredging for gold with any chances of success. They had gathered, the one party about 2 the other 3 lb of Gold.

Friday, 14th.

I Continued my work of repacking & putting in order my things. A meeting was held at which time a Resolution was passed that we believe the project of dredgeing for gold utterly impractable. In the 40 afternoon went to the Post Office & distributed 4 Letters & made some small purchases.

Saturday, 15th.

Washed in the forenoon, some 8 shirts &c. Had a severe headache. My back still weak & lame. Our Company affairs unseteld. Mr. Eddy is quite sick, having some chills & fever with a cough, & is quite weak. In the afternoon went into the Citty to try to hire a room for Mr. Eddy. The atmosphere is verry damp & trying to the health, especially in a tent morning & evening.

Sunday, 16th.

Went to Church in the forenoon. A good discourse from Psalms 117-7. Walked back on the hill & looked over the desolation of the Country. Naught but barren Sand hills with a copse of Scrub Oaks meets the eye on three sides, with the Bay, with 4 or 500 Sail in front. Not a green thing except the bushes. The Island called Guana Island looks like a snow hill, with Goat Island in front, & in the distance across the Bay the hills & a wooded Country appears on a clear day.* I got a place for Mr. Eddy at the Freemont Farm house, kept by a Mrs Rodgers, at \$15 per week for a small room, & \$16 for board - \$31. per week. I had him mooved there. In the evening it rained a little & was very damp & chilley.

The present site of Oakland and Berkeley.

Monday, 17th.

This morning I was compelled to take the responsibility of selling the property of the Company, the Dr being still determined to hold on to it, professing not to be satisfied with the examinations that had been made, & utterly refusing to have any more cost made to make further examinations. He wished us to go to work & put the boats & machinery together, & we knew well that it would detain us a couple of Months, & would benefit none but himself. And besides it was depreciating every day in value, in consequence of the arrival of the like Machinery. And besides our By Laws & Constitution made it obligatory on us to dispose of it at once, as we should have been a bill of expence to the Stockholders in eating up their Provisions. We had just elected 2 Commitymen, Mr. Haskins & Mr. Jenkins. Mr. Haskins did not feel at liberty to act & Mr. Jenkins had not been to the Mines & was the Drs favorite. We went on to the Ship & made a contract for the landing of the property & set men to work in trying to make sales, but with no success. We were to aid Mr. Fletcher, the 2d mate of the Memnon & pay him \$3. per ton which was thought cheap as the prices paid was from 5 to \$8. Mr. Fletcher in coming aboard with his lighters, was driven off by the wind & tide some 4 miles & brought up on the point of Goat Island. We sent a boat to his relief & they

A forty-niner speaks; a chronological record of a New Yorker and his adventures in various mining localities in California, his return trip across Nicaragua, including several descriptions of the changes in San Francisco and other mining centers from March 1849 to January 1851. With illustrations by the author Hiram Dwight Pierce <http://www.loc.gov/resource/calbk.180>

got back to the Ship betwene 8 & 9 in the evening quite exausted. We accomplished nothing the first day.

Tuesday, 18th.

Rose at 5 & endeavoured to go aboard the Ship but the tide beeing out could not start untill 8, & then out of our Company of 12 but 4 thought themselves well enough to go out & assist in loading a lighter, We went out however, those that were so disposed, & got a load ashore in the afternoon. We made a dividend of our earnings at the mines taking 41 one half for the Stockholders & the ballance into 14 Shares. It amounted to \$39.49 each—2 oz 9 penyweights.

Wensday, 19th.

The night was verry cool & damp. Went aboard but got nothing off. San Francisco I judge has fulley doubled since I left here 6 weeks since. There is now said to be 350 vesels in port & some 100 ariveing weekly. I think there is 500 carpenters at work. I think the place contains 15,000 inhabitants.

Thursday, 20th.

Today had another meeting of the RCEC, at which it was agreed by the Constitutional vote to dissolve. The Dr refused to act or take any responsibility. So the disposal of the property falls on the Committy.

Friday, 21st.

Wrote a letter to Tinker at the Barrocks requesting him to forward all property in his possession belonging to the Company. Recieved a load from the Ship. Wrote a letter to G P Wiswall & one to S S Stone. Recieved proposals from the Dr to bugit the property at \$12,000. Did not consider the Security good. Rejected the offer. The nights are cold & Cheereless. Long to be deliverd from this wretched place.

Saturday, 22d.

Morning damp cold & cheereless. No Sales made. The pedestrains & Labourers in town present a Singular & unike appearance The Chinese with his turban, Short tunic, Black petticoat & wooden shoes. The Peruvian with his Small Steeple crowned broad brimmed Sombrero, Sitting on the top of his head & dressed to suit. The Chillanean, the Cannacker, the Greaser, the Senoranians, the representatives of the diferent Tribes & races of Indians & in fact as much of a mixed Congregation as ever Peter preached to, with their peculiar costumes & fixings present a strange & varied Sene but the Gambling houses are dooing a driving business. Here Men stake & loose their Thousands in an hour.

Sunday, 23d.

Went to the Baptist meeting. Mr. Eddy is getting much better, & all of our party getting along.

Monday, 24th.

Recieved & conciderd a proposal from the Dr. Went out to Capt Macys vesel for freight from Sacramento Citty. The night was verry tedious.

Tuesday, 25th.

Felt chills comeing on verry uncomfortable. Engaged lodgings in the Citty at \$5. per week. As night drew on I was verry Chilley & after getting warm in bed had a burning fever. My back pained me so that I could not sleep.

Wensday, 26th.

I feel quite feeble. Ate nothing for 2 days. Passed a more comfortable night, but rather a sleepless one. I sometimes think of Home.

Thursday, 27th.

Made sale this morning of our Drugs and Medecines, Mr. Jenkins endorsing with him. I feel some better but feeble & no appetite. My Stomach rejects food. I lodge at Mr. Robins in Town but eat nothing to name. I am verry fevery nights & have sufferd extremly for water, not beeing able to get it & when got it is most miserable as is all the water about San Francisco.

Friday, 28th.

I am verry weak. No appetite. Called Dr Harris. He left 42 me some Powders. Had a mustard bath for my feet, & draughts. Passed an uncomfortable night. A burning fever. Probly did not sleep 2 hours.

Saturday, 29th.

I feel about the same. At 4 P.M had one of the most severe chills of which I have any knowledge. It seemed as if every joint was seperating. Lasted an hour. After this a burning fever all night & verry restless. I guess I thought of Jenefer.

Sunday, 30th.

Feel as usual, weak, fevery, headache. Stomach heavy. No appetite. No regular chill today. Nights full 48 hours long.

Monday, Oct. 1st.

Feel as usual. The Dr was in 2 or 3 times. He continues to give powders & I to throw them up. In the afternoon at 5 had a severe chill. Passed a wretched night.

Tuesday, 2d.

This morning felt somewhat smart, but my powders turned my Stomach upsidedown. The Dr came & promised to change his medecine. My thoughts it may well be imagined, were on senes, where I

could have some care & better treatment. Passed the day without a chill. Laid in my berth & for 18 hours rolled & tumbled, pained in every joint, Sleep beeing a Stranger.

Wensday, 3d.

I found myself more miserable, Feverish & faint no appetite & ate nothing untill 10, then put a mustard paste on my Stomach & ate a little arrow root without Seasoning, a miserable tastles thing as they prepare it here. Mr. Eddy bought me some pears at 3/- for 5. I ate them on an empty stomach & they did me more good than anything else. I had not ate a meal in a week & kept little down. I ate a little Stewed Squash, & slept well during the night after taking some pills.

Thursday, 4th.

Felt better, got up earley, took a wash & light breckfast. My head feeling verry cloudy, & thick, took a light dinner & went to bed. No chill.

Friday, 5th.

Got up & shaved. After breckfast, found Rev. Mr. Hunt, the Congregational Minister of the place. Deliverd to him Some leters from the Rev Mr Denham, one of them beeing a letter of introduction. Strolled about untill noon, recovering, but verry weak.

Saturday, 6th.

Still gaining. Went to the tent & fixed my things. Sold 4 oz & 6 peneywts of gold at \$15.25 the oz.

Sunday, 7th.

Felt tolerable well but weak. Remained at the tent during the day & at night went to the Methodist Church.

Monday, 8th.

Still improoveing. Buisied myself in making a bed tick & pillows &c. In the evening my bill from my landlady. A little less than 2 weeks lodging & 5 meals & 4 or 5 dishes of gruel, without attention, for Mr Eddy attended on me, \$39.50. Rather Strong but they said they came here to make money & they ment to make it some way. Saw a man that was a Falcon passenger, with us, that left Panama on the first of May in a lifeboat. He had ben 5 months on the way. Had got some 500 miles this side Mazatlan & put back in distress. There took a French vessel & was wrecked while lying at anchor, the Ship dragging hur anchors & was driven 43 on the rocks & 20 lives were lost, 2 of his company of 13. He had endured incredible hardships.

Tuesday, 9th.

Still gaining Strength. This morning a heavy Rain, which gives a verry gloomey aspect. Thousands of dollars worth of property is destroyed in the Streets. Flour in bags, Sugar, Drygoods &c. It looks like the commencement of the rainy season.

Wensday, 10th.

The steamer California came in this morning at 8. She is said to have brought 350 Steerage passengers & 50 Cabin but no mail. It rained nearly all day. It was indeed a gloomey day, cold & cheereless, without a ray of comfort. I went to the Parker House & sat by the fire & had a chill during the day. I ate nothing, & felt miserable.

Thursday, 11th.

Felt verry weak this morning. I paid one dollar for the priviledge of sleeping on a Buffalow Skin last night, not feeling able to walk to the tent.

Friday, 12th.

Today had a severe chill, followed as usual by a weakning fever, which Seems peculiar to these chills, unlike anything with which I am acquainted in its effects. Dan Newcom, Smith, Eddy & Torance, started today for Mormon Island.

Saturday, 13th.

Feel quite weak. With the assistance of Mr. Haskins punched 2 plates for washers. Had a chill again today. I bought two pairs of blankets, one at \$5. & the other at \$1.25.

Sunday, 14th.

Today had a severe chill in the forepart of the day followed by a fever & kept my bed all day. I felt verry much discouraged. My back continues weak & lame. I thought of Home & Home Senes with much interest.

Monday, 15th.

Morning fair & pleasant. Felt tolerably well in the morning, but weak, & about noon had a slight chill followed as usual by a fever which destroyes my appetite & leaves me weak as a child. Passed most of the day in bed. Had a tedious night. My back has become so weak & lying in bed so much I could find no position in which I could lay without pain.

Tuesday, 16th.

The morning pleasant & beautifull. My head ached some but my greatest difficulty seems my extreme weakness. We have had now 4 or 5 days fine weather. I feel it a great favour for if the days & nights had ben as cold & damp as usual I know not what I should have done.

Wensday, 17th.

I feel much better. Appear to have gained strength. I ate considerable yesterday. I did not go to bed today. I have a disagreeable cough. The day was very fine & pleasant. I buisied My Self in Sewing & trying to get readdy for the diggins.

Thursday, 18th.

Felt quite smart. Did not have a chill. Made a comforter. Did not have a chill. At night began a letter to my Wife.

Friday, 19th.

No chill today. I am buisy in writeing &c&c.

Saturday, 20th.

Went to town & bought some articles for the mines.

Sunday, 21st.

Tolerable smart today. Did not go to Church. Not able to get readdy & walk up. Staid at the tent & read & wrote.

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Monday, 22d.

I feel that I am improoveing. No chill yet. Put a spring in my pistol today.

Tuesday, 23d.

Went to town early to see some men in relation to going with them to the mines to the Meriposes where Col. Fremont has ben grinding the rock. Went out on the water near the vessel of War-Warren, & saw 2 men hung. They had ben guilty of throwing a Mid Shipman overboard & trying to drown him. They then escaped in the boat but were taken & 2 of the 4 sentenced to be hung from

the yard arm. There was a heavy weight to one end of the rope & the Man noosed by the other & the rope so fixed that the discharge of a cannon parted it & he was twitched up like a fish, flying some ways above the yard arm.

Wednesday, 24th.

Mornings damp & foggy untill noon. I feel too weak to do much yet.

Thursday, 25th.

Waiting the closing of the Companys concerns. Trying to gain Strength sufficient to go to the diggins.

Friday, 26th.

Today went to the city to see some men. I got completely tierd out & had a slight chill, & fever all afternoon. I felt as weak as a child. I think I have a touch of the Rheumatism in the left shoulder.

Saturday, 27th.

The Senator arived from Panama with some 250 Pasengers. Feel some better. My stomach verry much out of order. A pleasant day. Went & saw Messrs Heart & Johnson. I had a chill coming on when I started. It was followed by a fever that weakend me so that it was with difficulty I could get back.

Sunday, 28th.

Last evening & this morning comenced in earnest to break up my chills, by taking Pills. I had succeeded in taking but 4 when the chills came on me 2 1/2 hours earlier than usual. That stoped me. I had a verry hard shake. It was a fine warm day. My pills operated as an emetic & cathartic.

Monday, 29th.

Comenced early with my pills & succeeded in swallowing 8 & was again overtaken with a chill. Messrs Heart & Johnson called on me & I made arrangements to go to Meriposa with them. Had a verry uncomfortable day of it. I washed some clothes & then took to bed.

Tuesday, 30th.

Today felt much better. Had no chill. I closed all my letters. 2 to my family, one to J G Buswell & 1 to Mr. Boutwell & put them in the hands of Mr Haskins, who takes the Steamer to morrow, & got my things in readiness to leave.

Wensday, 31st.

Got breckfast earley & Mr. Jenkins got my things taken to the vesel in a boat for Stockton. Took leave of Friends & went aboard feeling tolerable well but verry weak. At 1/2 past 11 we started. While waiting the Steamer Unicorn came in, but had no mail. Reported the Panama outside with the mails 3 in no. Our vessel was a small schooner of 30 or 40 tons & the most miserable craft imaginable. Every nook & corner was crowded. Messrs. H & J were on board. We got about 10 miles & were obliged to come to Anchor, wind & tide against us. Then began the tug of war. 45 We were sorely tossed about by the waves. Night came on. Some lay down on deck. I with a dozen others got into the hole of a cabin as they called it. I dared not try the outside, it being very raw & cold. There was 4 small berths. I had engaged one on account of my health. I tride to get into it but was well nigh stuck fast. I gave it up & sat up all night, much of the time so crowded that I had to keep one foot on the other. In this way we passed the first night. At 2 got under way & run up to Benecia, & there Anchord for the tide to turn. H. J. & Myself went ashore & got breckfast at \$1. each & at 1/2 past 8 got under way. A very fine day, rather cool.

Thursday, Nov. 1st.

Continued our way with varied Success, making about 40 miles, it being 170 to Stockton. It was a fine day, wind light. At 7 came to anchor & lay until 2 A.M. I Sat up again during the night but got a verry little Sleep. It was verry cold cheereless & comfortless.

Friday, 2d.

Got under way at 2, wind ahead. The River is verry crooked & narrow. Several Slues making out, &c. On either bank growes the Tulies some 10 feet high. A perfect swamp. The ground coverd with water in high tide. We worked along until 1/2 past 8 & tied up until 2 to wait the turn of the tide. At which time it began to rain. It was verry cold & unpleasant. For the last 50 miles the river has ben narrow & crooked. This is called the Tules valley. I again sat up through the night. It rained all night. The little hole of the cabin was crowded to suffication. This is the 3d night that I have Sat up. I have had no chill.

Saturday, 3d.

A rainy morning with a strong head wind. Our little craft has ben the most unpleasant that you can well imagine. It rained until noon. After getting into the Slue which is taken 12 miles below Stockton & at the head of which Stockton stands Men were sent on shore to tow the vesel along, the bank beeing hard enough to bear a man so that he would not sink above his Knees. Reached Stockton at 3 & went to a Resturant & got dinner at 12/- each. Then went to an old Ship that is fitted up & called U S Hotell & engaged lodgins. At sundown I went to bed to get 4 nights sleep.

Sunday, 4th.

Verry damp & cold. Took breckfast on the Ship. Lodging & breckfast 20/1. Found my blankets & slept on the floor. The day was pleasant. No chill yet. Mr. Hart went off in the morning after the Waggon & mules 5 miles. He arived at 3, got our stuff aboard & started from Stockton, Sun 1 1/2 hours high. Drove out 5 miles & encamped after dark. We got supper of Fried ham bread & coffey & Spread our blankets on the ground & lay down for the night. A cold north wind was not verry

comfortable for us, yet we Slept well except when kept awake by the Wolves & Kyotas. About midnight I felt the rain pouring down into my face. This added interest to our lodging.

Monday, 5th.

Our Mules had gone no one knew whither. Messrs H. & J took a jack & went out to look after them. They did not get back untill after noon & then came without them. It rained all day. We built a Shelter 46 of tulies from an old neighbouring Ranch & made comfortable quarters. Our water was no. 1 from a mudhole back of our tent & besides beeing quite thick & muddy it had the drainings of dead cattle mules & Kiotas that had mired in it.

Tuesday, 6th.

Still raining. 2 men Started again in search of the mules. Mud ankle deep, roads getting verry bad. We were surrounded by a vast plain with here & there a live oak but verry little vegetation. Flocks of Geese & Sand hill cranes were flying over. Our prospects not verry bright. Our party at present numbers 7. Some ground Squirels & Quail were killed & we had a good supper. It blowed some of the tulies off over me & when I woke it was pouring down on me finely.

Wensday, 7th.

Mules not yet found. Rainey & muddy. The mules had gone to a place where they had ben kept 9 miles distant. He would not let them come short of 1/2 oz each. H & J Started for them in no verry good mood. We spent the night at the camp. It was quite cool.

Thursday, 8th.

H. & J. returned & reported that they had ben to the Alcalda & sent the sherif after them.

Friday, 9th.

H. & J. returned in the afternoon with the mules & we prepared to start in the morning.

Saturday, 10th.

Got breckfast & started on the road at 1/2 past 7. The travling was bad & after making 15 miles encamped for the night. West wind blew hard, a dark rainy night. Made a fire in the bed of a dry creek & slept soundly in the rain.

Sunday, 11th.

Got breckfast earley & got up the mules & started at 8. Traveld untill 4 - roads bad - distance 18 miles. The Country thus far has ben oak openings except the last 10 miles which has ben without tree or Shrub. Since passing the lone tree several gulies has to be passed & the surface of the ground too soft to bear an animel, except in the road. The soil on this plain & indeed all that we have traveld over looks black & good & I think if it had rain in its season it would yield a crop. Our road for the last 6 miles has ben over a more sandy soil & consequently better travling. At night we encamped under a tree, with a cold damp wind & fog so that it driped on us like a constant rain. In the morning the mules were not to be found. Wolves & kiotas were verry plenty & had Scared away the mules.

Monday, 12th.

We are encamped 2 miles from the Stanislow. Mules were brought in & we started. Arived at the river & after an hours trial to the great danger of drowning the mules found they could not ford it. There was a ferry boat but H & J had not money to pay the ferage, \$1.20. So I offerd to pay the ferage & they crossed on a flat. Drove 7 miles & encamped. It comenced raining & rained nearly all night.

Tuesday, 13th.

Rained hard untill 1 P.M. Our camp was wet & unpleasant. We did not moove to day. Comenced raining at 2 & rained all night with a cold strong wind. The Mountains in sight are coverd with

Snow. We passed a verry uncomfortable night Sitting under our Frail shelter, which 47 we made by tying some blankets on some poles. The ground was coverd with water so we sat up all night.

Wensday, 14th.

Got breckfast early & all hands Started to look for the mules, that had strayed. We were joined at this camp by a Brother-inlaw of Johnson, a verry Strong Man by the name of Whitney, who afterwards gave me much trouble as I shall show. We found on the road & at this place an animel resembling a Spider in its appearance. Black & 2 or 3 inches long more poisenous than the Ratle Snake. It is called the Tarantler. A species of lignum vita grows here. The trunk & lims are red. Mules not found during the day.

Thursday, 15th.

All hands except my self started early with their guns to look after the mules. I watched camp & buisied my self in wrighting, prospects rather dark. Roads allmost impassable. River so swollen as not to be fordable. Rainy season fairly set in. No provisions ahead & but few at the Mine & that extravagantly high. No money in the Company & most a fortnight on the way.

Friday, 16th.

The mules were brought in last night & tied up & at 8 this morning we started. After getting 2 miles we got stalled in the mud & the mules could not Start the waggon or scarcely stand. So we took them off & went back to camp & made pack sadles. We lay out in the open field. In the night it comenced raining & rained several hours.

Saturday, 17th.

Got breckfast & I went to the waggon & over hawled my chest & bag, & left my chest on the wag. packed full. The things in it were Soaking wet. The country round as far as the eye can see to the

Tuolomy is rolling gentle hills, now soft to their tops but during the dry season parched & chaped. They are ranged over by Horses catle Elk &c.

Sunday, 18th.

Got packed & started at 1/2 past 10. The dew falls like rain, & our blankets were wet. The road verry bad. We made 20 miles & encamped, after dark under a tree at Scots ranch, near the Mersais. No trees betwene the Tuolomy & Mersais.

Monday, 19th.

Went up the River early to get some Salmon. Saw plenty & Shot Some & got one of 20 lb. I went out while they were finding the Mules & shot 4 or 5 & got one. It began to rain at 9 & rained untill one. I walked 10 miles to the crossing with my wet Stockins & boots & never I think was so near exausted. Crossed the river & went 6 miles & encamped.

Tuesday, 20th.

Started at 9. A fine clear day but cool. We have fairly enterd the Mountainous country. Our road is through miry places & up & down hills. We made 16 miles & encamped.

Wensday, 21st.

It rained all day. It was verry Slipry & cold. At 1 P.M. arived at the tent of H. & J. Wet cold & tierd & hungry. It was the most cheereless sight & time that I had seen. We all 7 in number crowded into the small tent for the night, our bedding wet & cold, & it still raining.

Thursday, 22d.

Overhawled our baggage & dried some of it. Quite cold. Wrote a letter home. Rained a gain in the night.

48

Friday, 23d.

This morning a sharp white frost. I had a chill that crippled me for the day. H. & Warren started for Stockton. We cleared up the tent &c.

Saturday, 24th.

White frost this morning. I commenced taking pills. Had no chill today. All hands commenced cutting logs, & preparing to build a house.

Sunday, 25th.

Cold morning, sharp frost. No chill. Cleaned up & felt quite smart. All hands except my self, worked on the house. A tent near us is a Rumhole in which they are engaged in gambling drinking & swearing.

Monday, 26th.

A pleasant day. Worked hard all day on the house. My legs were very weak & back lame.

Tuesday, 27th.

Sharp frosty morning. It froze ice to the thickness of a window glass. Worked all the week on the house.

Wednesday, 28th.

A fine day. Continued on the house.

Thursday, 29th.

A fine day with frosty nights & mornings.

Friday, 30th.

Rained last night. Comenced building a chimney. Provisions are verry high. Pork flour coffey sugar beans &c are one dollar per [lb]. Candels one dollar a piece. Salaratus \$8. The men are, many of them, not getting more than 2 or \$3 per day.

Saturday, Dec. 1st.

A fine day.

Sunday, 2d.

The men went to work but I chose to clean up & remember the Sabbeth, though they said they should charge me \$8.

Monday, 3d.

Finished my chimney. The wind blowing cold. In the night it snowed.

Tuesday, 4th.

I had a slight chill today. Continued work on the house. The ground was frozen quite hard, & ice 1/4 of an inch in thickness. Our manner of building the House was to cut the logs, get a pair of cattle & hawl them to gether, lay them up, then chop large trees & split out boards part of Oak & part of Pine, for the roof & door & floors & for want of nails to put on the roof it was fixed by lashing on poles to hold the boards on. The peaks were closed with rawhides. We then put up berths & had quite a comfortable house.

Wensday, 5th.

A slight chill about noon. My legs are verry weak.

Thursday, 6th.

Cool morning, & chill took hold of me in the morning & lasted untill noon, & I was unfit for work during the day. The wild Indians came round our tent & stole two Mules. They were tied at the tent door. They took one off a few rods & shot an arrow through him & cut out some meat. The other they drove off. They were barefoot & go naked, notwithstanding the Snow is knee deep where they come from. The Yankies are verry much enraged, & will shoot them sooner than they would a Deer.

Friday, 7th.

A frosty morning & clear day. Worked on the house. I was taking medecine. I took 13 grains of calomel & followed it with quinene.

Saturday, 8th.

Got our house done & fitted up my berth. Had no chill. After dark H & W arived with 800 [lb]; flour. 400 [lb] Pork & 1 Bbl beans.

Sunday, 9th.

Sharp frosty morning. I went out to watch the Mules untill breackfast. H. W. & Whitney fitted out & started for Stockton.

49

Monday, 10th.

Today we began to rebuild the chimney.

Tuesday, 11th.

Worked on the chimney.

Wednesday, 12th.

It rained all day. I made my cradle. It was cold & cheerless

Thursday, 13th.

Rained all day. Tinkered for myself. Our Log cabin furnishes comfortable quarters. Two men were attacked by 3 Grizzly Bears just below us. One of them got into a tree, the other shot one of the bears. The man pursued him & in backing off he fell down & the bear coming up he stuck the muzzle of his gun in his mouth, when the bear turned & left him.

Friday, 14th.

Today I made the first beginning to wash gold for myself. I could work but a few moments at a time on account of the rain.

Saturday, 15th.

A cold frosty morning & the ground was frozen hard. The Sun does not Shine on our house until 9 & then so far South that his rays are feeble, & it again disappears at 1/4 past 3 behind the Mountain. We made an attempt at washing with very poor success. I had the dumb Ague. Prospects not very bright.

Sunday, 16th.

A bright morning but soon clouded up & was cold. At one I was attacked with severe ague fit. My feet & legs are very much subject to cramps. I fear cramps & Rheumatism & Ague will stay with me.

Monday, 17th.

A dark rainy day. Took a stiff dose of pills last night & also this morning, feel rather down. At 12 had a severe shake.

Tuesday, 18th.

Worked until 12, then had a chill, followed as usual by fever. Got 4/—.

Wednesday, 19th.

Did not try the gold today. Kept from the water & had no chill, washed & mended my clothes.

Thursday, 20th.

Commenced raining again last evening, & rained incessantly all night & day. The creek in front of our house was a perfect torrent. The low country must be inundated. (I have since learned that Sacramento City was 8 feet under water.) Everything is cheerless enough.

We are located in a ravine some 10 rods wide, with lofty mountains on either side. The creek runs to the East. We are surrounded by mountains on all sides. We can be said to be fairly in the mountains. The mountains in front of us is covered with those lofty pines of which Fremont speaks.

Friday, 21st.

It rained again. Very little was done towards getting gold.

Saturday, 22d.

A very fine warm day like summer. Little was done. I have had no chill for several days.

Sunday, 23d.

A fine warm day. Spent the day in reading & writing.

Monday, 24th.

The 2 boys & myself built a small dam & turned the Stream. I washed 2 or 3 hours with a pan & got 5 or \$6. This is Christmas Eve.

Tuesday, 25th.

Christmas. I spent most of the day in diggin, though I got but \$1. I allso mended my pants & took Supper of our everyday fare, fried pork & hoecake. The day was like our May days.

50

Wensday, 26th.

I dug about \$5. I feel like a resident of the mountains living on Salt junk & heavy warm bread.

Thursday, 27th.

A litle rain in the morning, but a fine day. I dug about \$6 & quit.

Friday, 28th.

A fine day. I prospected with verry poor success.

Saturday, 29th.

A fine Sumer day. Dug & prospected with verry poor success.

Sunday, 30th.

A beautiful day. Took a long walk to view the country. Saw alders & other trees in blossom. Grass was starting. The country is rough & ragged in the extreme.

Monday, 31st.

A fine day. I mooved up to a small royer & got \$7.

Tuesday, January 1st, 1850.

This is new years, but I see no pies or turkies. Rather cloudy & looks like a storm. Not verry well this morning. Our New Years fare is the same, Salt junk hoecake & coffe. Comenced raining at 1, & rained this & the following day & night.

Wensday, 2nd.

I went to the Golden hill where they pick it from the top of the Ground & gott 5 small pieces worth 5 or 6 bits. In the afternoon dug a ditch.

Thursday, 3d.

It rained. A severe hail storm occured.

Friday, 4th.

Worked hard with no success. Went home about sick. My hands & feet wet & cold, back & legs lame.

Saturday, 5th.

Rained all day. I staid in the house & wrote some. I was chilly all day, & felt quite down. At night took some pills. Suffered much all night with the backache, beeing scarcely able to turn my self. It has rained now 3 days.

Sunday, 6th.

Ten months since I left home, & have not made a dollar but am in debt for my board, & my health seems insufficient for the task. After the operation of my Phisic I felt some better. Oh the loneliness of this desolate region. No Meeting, No Society, nought but drinking & card playing &

hunting on the Sabbath. At noon I had a slight chill & in the afternoon a severe headache. I felt sore & stiff.

Monday, 7th.

Felt much better. Dug 3 hours & began to feel chilly. Got \$2.50. Today 2 of Savages Indians called at our house, naked except a cotton shirt that served as a breech cloth on one & the other had a blanket, on the 7th of Jan. They had a very curiously wrought blanket made of feathers.

Tuesday, 8th.

Worked until noon & it began to rain. Got about \$2. Rather dull music. Board \$3 per day rain or not. My stomach much out of order. Pork & hoe cake does not seem to fit.

Wednesday, 9th.

Rained all night & most of the day. I went prospecting round the hills & picked up about \$2

Thursday, 10th.

A warm Spring day. I cut a ditch & turned the water out of a small royer that promised well. In the afternoon it rained. I worked hard all day.

Friday, 11th.

Rained all night & still continues. Has rained every day 51 for a long time. I fear the Scurvy. My mouth & gums are sore & teeth loose and legs sore & lame. Still raining. The earth has no sod on it & consequently the hills wash down. The grass looks quite green.

Saturday, 12th.

Went to work & it rained. Got about \$5. Provided wood for the Sabbath.

Sunday, 13th.

As well as usual. Prospects of a fair day. I spent most of the day in writing.

Monday, 14th.

Went out earley & worked hard & got but 4/— Resolved to return to San Francisco, as soon as practicable. We are not making board at \$3 per day.

Tuesday, 15th.

It snowed last night & it looks dreary enough. It rained most of the day. Did not dig any. Sold my long boots for \$24. Sold a flannel shirt \$3. Sold my calf boots \$16. Dr. Johnson got home today, & a friend with him.

Wensday, 16th.

Raind most of the day. Did not dig any.

Thursday, 17th.

Dug in the small royer got some \$6. Had a dum ague.

Friday, 18th.

Snowed & rained. David & Jessey started for S. Francisco Did not dig any.

Saturday, 19th.

Today I remember my Wifes Birth Day & wish I could spend it with hur. A very cold frosty morning. The ground is froze hard enough to bear a horse. I went to digging, but felt unwell sore & lame. I made nothing, came in at 11 & had a severe chill. I kept the bed in the afternoon. My bones ached & I had a head ache.

Sunday, 20th.

Cold frosty morning. Kept the bed part of the day. Whitney & W. arrived.

Monday, 21st.

A cold wintery morning. It snowed during the day to the depth of 3 inches. I wrote Home. No diggin done.

Tuesday, 22d.

A verry wintery morning. Warren & Loomis started for Mersais. Everything looks cheereless. I tried digging 2 hours. The ground was very full of water & I made nothing. Carried a letter to a sort of an express that takes them down to Stockton & S. Francisco once a month at 4/— & brings them up at \$2.

Wensday, 23d.

Morning cold. Snowed a litle. I have the Symptoms of Scurvey. I have commenced eating grass.

Thursday, 24th.

Snowed & turned to rain. Rained all day yesterday & to day.

Friday, 25th.

Raind in the morning. No digging this week.

Saturday, 26th.

Frost in the morning. I went to work after breckfast. Made some \$3. Felt quite smart.

Sunday, 27th.

Quite well. A fine day.

Monday, 28th.

A fine Spring day. Dug about \$7. & washed.

Tuesday, 29th.

A pleasant day. Dug \$6. Last night called for my board bill & was charged \$21. per week, 10 weeks, \$210. for pork & hoeecake, & done part of the cooking myself at that. Resolved, to board my Self.

Wensday, 30th.

Rained last night. A beautiful morning. Dug untill 52 noon, went to the house & had the ague. At night took a stiff dose of calomel.

Thursday, 31st.

A cloudy morning. I felt quite poorly. Had no chill. Did not work. Went to the Setelment 2 1/2 miles & packed home \$21. worth of provisions. Pork 7/— Flour 6/— Sugar 8/— Rice 6/— Coffey 10/— Peach 6/— Salaratus \$3. Dried venison 4/— & 5/— with which commenced a Batchelors hall. My first batch of bread was tough enough for Shoe taps.

Saturday, 2d.

Dug in the forenoon some 8 or \$10. In the afternoon went

Friday, February 1st.

Done up my cooking & worked untill one. Went to the house & had a dum ague. Made \$4.

to the setelment & added to my stock of provisions Potatoes 8/—per lb. Beans 6/— Had no chill. A beautiful day.

Sunday, 3rd.

A fine day. Spent the day round the house.

Monday, 4th.

Prospected in the forenoon, dug 12/— in the afternoon. Bought a pair of boots at \$24. I am pleased with living on my own hooks. Report reached us that S. Francisco was blockaded by the English.

Tuesday, 5th.

Today the Company all left leaving Lewis a poor criple, & myself alone.

Wensday, 6th.

A fine spring day. After breckfast worked hard & got \$2.

Thursday, 7th.

Another fine Sumer day. Worked with verry poor succes.

Friday, 8th.

A beautifull day. Comenced work on my lot in the aroyear, & got verry little.

Saturday, 9th.

A fine day. Dug a hole on my lot, a perfect failure.

Sunday, 10th.

A fine day. Made some cake in the morning. Spent the day in the house.

Monday, 11th.

Dug in company with another man & got nothing, the water preventing.

Tuesday, 12th.

A sharp frost, & fine day. Dug \$3. I felt so lame & sore that I could scarcely get about.

Wednesday, 13th.

A frosty morning. We moved down the creek 1 mile & dug.

Thursday, 13th

A fine day. Commenced a new place & got but little. My back troubles me very much. Had a dumb ague today. It is like our days in May. The frogs have been making music for a fortnight & birds singing & grass growing.

Friday, 15th.

Dug on my claim & made \$14. Had a dumb Ague and am very lame.

Saturday, 16th.

Work in sinking a hole. got \$1. Paid for 1 lb. dried apples \$1. Potatoes \$1. fresh beef 4/—

Sunday, 16th.

Looked like rain but a fine day. Saw a man pick up a piece of gold near our house worth near \$100. Got 8 letters & the family group. Carriage on them. \$11.

Monday, 18th.

Dug \$4. Took a partner.

Tuesday, 19th.

We got \$12. Last night it rained, the first since the first of Feb. I feel that I am gaining strength.

53

Wednesday, 20th.

Got my breakfast before day & commenced soon after light. got one ounce.

Thursday, 21st.

It rained nearly all night & Snowed most of the day. I half soled my boot & worked about the house.

Friday, 22d.

We worked to day but got nothing. Too much auva.

Saturday, 23d.

Dug several holes but were driven out by water.

Sunday, 24th.

A fine frosty morning. Wrote a Letter home & one to Mr. Harlow.

Monday, 25th.

A sharp frosty morning. Worked hard & got nothing. My back & one leg quite lame.

Tuesday, 26,

It rained last night & snowed all day.

Wednesday, 27th.

Snowed last night & all day. No diggin done. Prospects dark enough.

Thursday, 28th.

Snowed through the night & until 9 A.M. The Snow round about us is said to be 3 feet.

Friday, March 1st.

A verry cold night. Froze near an inch in thickness. The ground covered 6 inches in depth with snow gives it a wintery appearance. O there's a power to make each hour As Sweet as heaven designed it; Nor need we roam to bring it home, Though few there be that find it! We seek too high for things close by; And lose what nature found us; For life has here no charmes so dear As Home & friends around us!

I feel uneasy about my back & legs. I rather fear for the future, dug \$8.

Saturday, 2d.

Dug \$6. in the forenoon. In the afternoon it snowed. Heart Johnson & Whitney got home.

Sunday, 3d.

Snowed all night & a rainy morning. Warren went back to Mersais.

Monday, 4th.

We dug \$10. It was verry unpleasant. The water is verry cold. At night bought a stock of provision,.
Flower 4/— Pork 4/ Sugar 7/— Beef 2/—

Tuesday, 5th.

Worked in the forenoon. Got \$8. At noon had a dum ague. Felt weak & headache.

Wensday, 6th.

Did not work. My ill health & water prevent it. Fixed an auger for the co. One year to day since I left my happy home.

Thursday, 7th.

It rained last night & to day. Had a severe chill in the forenoon. Kept my bed most of the day. At night comenced taking the India Cholagogue by Dr. Osgood.

Friday, 8th.

Not verry well. As the water is high & cold, I worked but little.

Saturday, 9th.

Worked & got but little.

Sunday, 10th.

Pleasant day.

54

Monday, 11th.

A damp drisling day. got \$12. Felt quite smart. Rained all night.

Tuesday, 12th.

Still raining.

Wednesday, 13th.

Rainy morning. dug \$10.

Thursday, 14th.

Worked 3/4 of the day. got \$12. It rained & hailed.

Friday, 15th.

It rained all day.

Saturday, 16th.

Dug \$3. in the forenoon. In the after noon washed & chopped wood. These diggins are fast filling up. The Same Little Man that found the piece of gold that I have named found a piece of white rock weighing 134 lb. which he Sold for about \$400. Supposed to contain from 6 to \$8000. Reports soon spread & filled the aroyar with men.

Sunday, 17th.

St Patricks day. A beautifull day but rather lonesome.

Monday, 18th.

A fine day. dug 6/—

Tuesday, 19th.

A fine day we dug \$1.

Wensday, 20th.

A fine day. got 12 bits. Recieved 2 letters, one from home & one from Mr Harlow.

Thursday, 21st.

Prospected & dug & got nothing.

Friday, 22d.

Looked Stormey. Equinox. Dug \$2. Felt quite well.

Saturday, 23d.

Dug in the forenoon 12/—

Sunday, 24th.

Wrote a Leter home but the mail had closed.

Monday, 25th.

Looks like a storm. Turned the stream & worked on top dirt. got nothing. The Equinox passed off without a Storm.

Tuesday, 26th.

Dug \$8.

Wensday, 27th.

Dug \$8.

Thursday, 28th.

A fine day, verry warm. Worked hard & got nothing.

Friday, 29th.

Got but litle. The weather is geting verry warm, like Sumer.

Saturday, 30th.

Backed our tools over the worst Mountain that I had ever tried to clime, 2 1/2 miles & got but a few bits. Resolved to leave for Mersais, & made preparations according.

Sunday, 31st.

A fine day. A caucus was held to day by the miners to nominate candidates for the diferent offices to be voted for tomorow. I have now spent four months & one half in this place & worked hard & ben diligent & yet lack \$125. of paying my board from my earnings, & live some of the time as I would hardly ask a dog to live. I leave this place over \$100. in debt.

Monday, April 1st.

Got ready earley for a start for Mersais but did not get off untill noon. Traveld 12 Miles among the mountains.

Tuesday, 2d.

We stoped & worked part of the day in a brook near the camp. I picked up a piece of gold worth \$5. & dug \$2. We worked untill 2 & then packed off for the Mersais 5 miles. The Senery in some places is grand & Sublime in the extreme. At one place as we were assending the side of the Mountain, on our left lay a vale or bason far below us, shut in on all sides by lofty ranges. This contained pines interspersed through it with a great variety of wild flowers & shrubery all clothed

with the freshness of 55 Spring, while far above us on our right towered the black & ragged Peaks of the Mersais Mountains. That beautiful language of the Poet was forcibly brought to my mind:
Was the rich veil that proudly Shone beneath the morning beam &c

On arriving at the summit, the most grand & wild scenery presented itself. Directly below us & at a distance of from one to 2 miles, the Mersais rolled its silvery current threading its way amid the mountains which shot up their lofty peaks on all sides like aunt hills on a grand scale. On our right to the east the eye was met by a range of Snowy Caped mountains at a distance of 20 or 30 miles. While beyond these & at a distance of probably 100 miles the towering Sierra Nevada Mountains with their tops sheeted with snow many feet in depth were seen glittering amid the fleecy clouds. After taking breath & viewing the scene a few moments we commenced the descent down the steep & rugged path each leading a packed mule, and it would seem that nothing but the mule and wild Indian could climb the steep & ragged paths. The descent was from 2 to 3 miles & occupied one & 1/2 hours, & was a most fatiguing job. Arrived at the river we found it much swollen by the melting snows. It is about 50 yards wide & has a very deep & rapid current. We reached the river some 80 or 90 miles above its mouth as near as I can learn it being quite high up in the mountains. We got supper & spread our blankets for the night. My legs felt as if a load of sheaves had passed over them.

Wednesday, 3rd.

After the mules were found we packed off up the river 3 miles & crossed it in a canoe with our packs swimming our mules. \$1.25 each. We then went down the river one mile & encamped on what is called Washington flat, then containing 5 or 6 tents. My house was ready prepared, it being an oak tree. Got my supper & lay down in the big tent, having the broad canopy over me.

Thursday, 4th.

Went down to the river to work on a bar near by, & had scarce began when it was proposed by some 10 or 12 to build a dam & turn the water from the bar, & at it we went & worked hard that day

& with apparant success. I learn the men can do but little more than make their board at the presant Stage of water. I am so sore & stiff as to be hardly able to get up or down.

Friday, 5th.

Got my breckfast & went to work on the dam, worked untill noon. It then rained & we became dishartend & abandoned the work.

Saturday, 6th.

The water has risen verry much. I dug part of the day & got \$1.20. In the afternoon we had an election of Alcalda & Sherif. I was invited into the tent of Messrs Ward & Thompson, & took up my home with them & had comfortable quarters. My situation is anything but an enviable one. I am here far in the mountains alone as far as any company or friends are concerned, with no Tent or covering, no provisions, no money & health not good. Sore & lame, scarce able to get up or down, & the water So high that it is dificult to make board, & in all probability we 56 shall not be able to do much for 2 months to come. Provisions are high. There is a great quantity of gold in this place but it is as usual dificult to obtain. And notwithstanding my forlorn condition, yet I feel that I can easily see the good Providence of God over me. I have chanced to encamp near Messrs Ward & Thompson, who have a tent & have kindly invited me into it, & as it has now ben raining for 2 or 3 days, I have had verry comfortable quarters & kind friends & the conversation is changed from oaths & curses & obsene talk to better things.

Sunday, 7th.

It rained nearly all day. Stayed at the tent & had some interesting conversation on Religion & Scripture questions.

Monday, 8th.

It rained in the morning. I worked with Mr Ward & got \$4. each.

Tuesday, 9th.

A cool morning. Dug \$4.

Wednesday, 10th.

Cool morning & verry heavy dews. dug \$2.

Thursday, 11th.

All hands went at work to construct a raft & worked untill noon & then abandoned it. The current was two strong for our ropes. We are encamped on what we call Washington flat about 100 feet above the river. On the opposite Side the Mountain rises near 2000 feet. We freequently see Deer on the Side of the mountain. Above its lofty peak we see Condors or Vultures of an enormous size. Sent a letter home by Treeler & cos Express.

Friday, 12th.

Worked alone & got \$6. It is getting to be extreamely warm in the midle of the day yet the nights are verry cool. Ratlesnakes & Adders are getting quite plenty. Neighbors are comeing in freely.

Saturday, 13th.

A verry hot day. Dug \$4. In the afternoon prospected beeing verry sore & lame. Find gold all about but a job to get it. A bear fight occurd just below us a few days since. 3 men were attackted by one, & after he had recieved 3 balls in the hed & one in the shoulder, he retreated & they got into a tree.

Sunday, 14th.

A verry hot day. We had a meeting in the afternoon. Sermon by Mr Day an Englishman, a Methodist.

Monday, 15th.

Captain Ward & Thompson dissolved & I bought 1/2 the Tent \$6. Dug alone and got \$16. Bought flour 45cts pork 4/- cheese 12/-.

Tuesday, 16th.

Dug \$8. Verry sore & lame.

Wensday, 17th.

A Sharp frost. Dug \$19.

Thursday, 18th.

A cool day. dug \$24 1/2

Friday, 19th.

got \$16.

Saturday, 20th.

Dug \$33.12. This week in all \$116.63 the best weeks work that I have done in Calafornia, & yet I have ben verry sore & lame. Parties working all around me did not get as much as I got alone.

Sunday, 21st.

A fine day. A meeting was held in the afternoon.

Monday 22d.

A cool morning. I dug \$23 1/2. Some 12 Men were anxious to Send a delegation down the river some 30 miles, to a hole that I had heard of with reference to turning the river & making a Sumers

work at that place & they insisted on my gowing. I pleaded my lameness & inability in vain. They had such confidence in my judgment that they allmost to a 57 Man said they should back out unless I went. They would give me an ounce per day until I returned & I might take my own time. So after much purswasion, I concluded to go & start the next morning. I chose Mr Dean, XSuperintendant from New Bedford for a travling companion.

Tuesday, 23d.

Got ready Shoulderd our blankets & grub & started down the river, & returned at the end of 4 days with a report something like what follows, so far as the river is concerned:

2 Miles below the red banks the river canyons, & passes through a narrow deep chanel betwene rocks, for 6 1/2 miles with verry few bars. About midway of this distance is a small island & some chance to work. At the foot of this Canyon is a high bar on the right bank with bold rockey head. One half mile from this begins the Horse Shoe Bend, containing low flat bars the most of the way on both sides for 2 1/2 miles. This bar or continuation of bars is called Harveys bar. A bout midway of this bend Maxwells creek makes in on the right. We here left the river & took a trail over a Gemisal Mountain the path much of the way beeing verry rugged. We Struck the River again at a distance of 3 miles from Harveys & followed it one mile to Savages camp. * Here we encamped for the night, distance 21 miles. Savage invited us to bring our blankets in and spred them in his cabin. He is a white man & has Several tribes under him. He has 27 wives. Only 2 were with him, both little girls. I should say one 11 and the other 13 years. He is verry social, & thinks he is doing much good. If his Indians Steal it is said he puts them to death immediately, & if a number becomes outlaws, & commits depredations on the whites he takes some of his braves & goes & chastises them by putting a knife in their throat. The Indians in their little bush huts around him live most miserable. They pick their meat from each others heads & feed on clover & grass. I saw them eating it, & picking the heads. Most of them are naked except the breach cloth & at night lay their naked bodies on the ground in the open air.

The Oakland Tribune states, "In the spring of 1850 a certain James D. Savage had a trading post and mining camp on the Merced River, 20 miles above the (San Joaquin) valley. They had trouble with the Yosemite Indians,

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and on March 25, 1851, Savage and his associates, in a counter attack against the Indians marched up the south fork of the Merced River, and at last reached Inspiration Point, from which they had their first view of the Yosemite Valley.”

Wednesday, 24th.

Started down the river passing several bars before arriving at the head of a canyon some 3 miles in length, 1 1/2 miles of which the stream is narrow & rapid shut in between the everlasting rocks which in some places rise square to a great height. Here we found our path for 1 1/2 miles difficult & dangerous, a very narrow slippery path, with several hundred feet below us sometimes almost perpendicular, & the black & ragged rocks towering several hundred feet above us. We passed in safety 58 & found the spot that I was looking for at its foot. Made the necessary survey & returned to the ferry & encamped.

Thursday, 25th.

Started again up the river & halted a few hours at Harveys bar & took dinner with a friend. Came to the head of Horse Shoe Bend & stopped at a cabin for the night.

Friday, 26th.

Started up the river and after getting to the center of the canyon struck the fresh track of 3 Grizzlies. I expected an encounter with them but after following their track 1/4 of a mile found they had crossed the river. Reached camp at 2 P.M. sore & weary.

Saturday, 27th.

Dug \$11. It is getting very warm & the river is rising.

Sunday, 28th.

Preaching in the afternoon.

Monday, 29th.

Dug, So lame that I can hardly moove.

Tuesday, 30th.

Got \$5. Felt like having a chill. I fixed me a good bed.

Wensday, May 1st.

The ground is coverd with flowers which with the grass is fast drying up.

Thursday, 2d.

Went up Solomons creek, but my health was such that I soon had to return. I had a dum ague, headache & fever.

Friday, 3d.

Staid in the tent.

Saturday, 4th.

Ditto, being quite ill. Recieved 2 letters from home.

Sunday, 5th.

A fine day, verry warm.

Monday, 6th.

Went up Solomons creek & got 12/.

Tuesday, 7th.

Dug \$6. The grass & all vegetation is getting to be perfectly dried & burnt up.

Wensday, 8th.

Dug \$7.

Thursday, 9th.

Bought a can of Butter at 12/- Flour 30 cts. Dug \$3.

Friday, 1th.

Dug \$5. Short cake & butter.

Saturday, 11th.

Went up the River prospecting & found some gold. Killed one Ratle Snake & had a Skirmish with another Snake. Came home & taped my boots. Another Ratle Snake was brought in.

Sunday, 12th.

A verry warm day.

Monday, 13th.

Went up the River & dug \$3.

Tuesday, 14th.

A verry hot day. The river is still rising. Dug \$5.

Wensday, 15th.

Verry warm. dug \$4.

Thursday, 16th.

Excessive hot.

Friday, 17th.

Went up the creek, with 6 others & turned the stream at a place where one of the Boys picked up a piece worth \$500. Worked 2 days & got but verry little & came back to the river.

Saturday, 18th.

Warm. River still rising.

Sunday, 19th.

A fine morning.

Monday, 20th.

Dug \$6.

Tuesday, 21st.

Dug \$4.

Wensday, 22d.

Got my feet wet. dug \$4.

Thursday, 23d.

Had a tedious night. My back hurt me so that I could not sleep. Head & teeth & bones ached.

Friday, 24th.

Kept the bed most of the day. I was verry sore. Our 59 flat was visited by a grisley in the night & the next night he went into a tent below & helped himself. Some Thunder was heard yesterday. It is reported that the Seniorians have Murderd the collector in that place, & that parties are arming.

Saturday, 25th.

My Birthday. It is rather a sad day to me. In addition to my lameness, I have a verry troublesome Cough & pain in my head & seem threatend with fever. I think that the calomel that I took is in my sistom. Made some doughnuts in remembrance of the nightgown.

Sunday, 26th.

Felt Some better.

Monday, 27th.

Began to eat some.

Tuesday, 28th.

I feel improoving.

Wensday, 29th.

Felt quite smart, & began to work after laying still a week. got \$6. Still have a cough.

Thursday, 30th.

got \$8.

Friday, 31st.

Not verry well. dug \$12.

Saturday, June 1st.

Dug \$6.

Sunday, 2d.

A Cool day. Felt pretty smart.

Monday, 3d.

Dug. \$5.

Tuesday, 4th.

Dug \$4.

Wensday, 5th.

Verry warm. The River verry high. dug \$6.

Thursday, 6th.

Dug \$6. I feel verry Sore & lame.

Friday, 7th.

Dug \$6.

Saturday, 8th.

Dug \$15.

Sunday, 9th.

A verry warm day.

Monday, 10th.

Dug \$6.

Tuesday, 11th.

The River Still up & rising.

Wensday, 12th.

Verry warm.

Thursday, 13th.

A Cool day.

Friday, 14th.

Cool. The River has fallen. We have cool nights & strong winds. All well on the flat except lame backs.

Saturday, 15th.

Cool. Worked hard & made \$20. This week \$52. Heard that San Francisco was burned.

Sunday, 16th.

A fine morning.

Wensday, 19th.

Five of the Long Canyon Mining Company Started down the River.

Saturday, 23d.

Dug this week \$47.40. My health is good. I invited my neighbour the Dr to take supper with me. His health is poor, & He thought my Short cake & Butter done him much good. We went up the creek & dug some wild Parsley roots which is a substitute for Potatoes. gathered some flower Seeds.

Sunday, 24th.

A Warm day.

Monday, 25th.

verry warm. River high.

Saturday, 29th.

The weather is so warm that we are obliged to lay by 4 or 5 hours. Dug this week \$40.40. Sent two letters home. One to W C Badeau.

60

Sunday, 30th.

Verry warm.

Monday, July 1st.

Warm.

Thursday, 4th.

Independance. We had an Oration from the General & a dinner & the day passed off without crackers or Squibs. I learn that balls were held at some places. This week got but little gold. The water has fallen verry much.

Sunday, 7th.

A verry pleasant day.

Sunday, 14th.

The past week dug \$75. Work has ben commenced on the rivers in many places. It has fallen some 5 feet. I feel distressed at the Stomach, but I conclude it is owing to a Strain. 25 1/2 ounces on hand.

Wensday, 17th.

Packed off early in the morning with a train of Mexicans for the Long Canyon. Some of the party went round with the mules & 5 of us followed down the river to Horse Shoe Bend, 14 miles. It was verry warm. We staid at the Bend over night.

Thursday, 18th.

Started earley as we supposed for the canyon & took a road that led us out of our way, & traveld untill 2 P.M. when we found that we were lost in the Mountains. We came out in sight of the Plains & found the river was some 20 miles distant. We were much futher from the end of our journey than when we started. We had no water & sufferd much from thirst & heat. Our feet were getting blisterd & we were verry sore & we did not know where or in what part of the Mountains we were. Some of the Company Seemed nearly exausted. I Started with my pail for water & after traveling one mile, I found water. On returning I found that my Company had gone, I knew not where. I then took my course as I supposed for the river, & felt as if I left them it would be to perish. I again turned back & traveld over a mile & hallowed & fired a pistol but could raise no answer. I again started supposing that I should have to lodge in the Mountain. After travling some time I saw a man at a distance on horseback. He appeared to see me at the same time & imediately headed his horse for me. At a distance he looked verry suspicious. I supposed him to be an Indian or Mexican. He had a Rifle on his shoulder & I supposed him to be one of a garilla party. I got my pistol in sight. He rode up & I found him to be an American. I learned where I was. I was about 10 miles from

the river the course I was on. I gave him some water. He told me that trail near by led to the Ferry which he said I could reach in 5 miles but proved to be 10 miles. He told me he had seen some men off at a distance. I supposed it was some of my party & started for them. After 1 1/2 miles travel I saw 2 of my party, one lying on the ground. I made for them, & found them nearly perished. One of them was verry sick, & was vomiting. They took some water & presently another of the party came in. He had ben in search of water but found none. Another had started for the Ferry. After a time we mooved on a short distance, when the sick man again sank down. I started again for water & found some in one mile & on my return Mr Howard Started for the Ferry. Another man started to meet me with the water but gave out & was vomiting. I gave him some water & returned 61 to the Sick Man, & was left alone with him. Mr. Howard found the Man that had first started, Mr. Linley, some 2 miles on the way, unable to proceed. We left him, & reached the River at night, his feet badly blisterd & burned through his Shoes on top, So that the tops of his feet blisterd & were verry sore. He got a Mexican & some horses & came out & met us. The Sick Men revived near night, & we traveld on, & found Mr Linley lying beside the trail. His eyes were blood shot & he looked verry bad. However we all got in about 9 P.M. We had sufferd verry much but we enjoyed our Selves in talking over our exploits. The water that we found was more than blood warm. It was standing in holes in the Sun, & the thermometer was above 120 in the shade. We took a bed of Small peble Stones & a single blanket & enjoyed it well.

Friday, 19th.

Got breckfast & started up the river for our camp, 8 miles, & got in by night, some being brought part of the way on horses.

Saturday, 20th.

fixed up some & got ready to keep house. Found the advance of our company here. Had not ben doing verry well.

Sunday, 21st.

Verry warm, 112 in a cool place in the shade.

Monday, 22d.

Commenced work on the canal. Mr. Howard was not able to do anything for 10 days. He has a good tent & wished me to Tent with him. So I put up my bed in his tent & we tent & live together. He is a verry fine man. We cook & eat in a fine bower by the waters edge & sleep up stairs. Worked all the week.

Saturday, August 3d.

This week I have hired 6 days at \$6. to make time equal.

Sunday, 4th.

All is well. During the past week I recieved 4 Letters from home. Accounts of Murders & Roberies are becoming quite freequent. A short time since 2 men, a Mr. Foster, Savages partner, & Mr. Smith, with whome I was somewhat acquainted Left Savages on the Sanjoaquin in Company with a Mexican Jentleman with whome Savage was acquainted, having with him his bucaro, a man employed to ketch & herd catle. They Started for Montaray where the Mexican lived, to buy catle, having \$25,000 with them, Foster \$20,000 & Smith \$5,000. After they had ben gone a day or two, a Saddle & holster & pistols & some clothing, belonging to Foster & Smith were found within their first days march. Word was sent to Savage & he started for Montarey & got there before the Mexicans got in and took them & brought them back to Mariposa. It is said that they cannot or will not give any account of Foster & Smith. The boddys have not ben found. I venture the opinion that they sliped away from the Mexicans, & that when found, they will be found in the U.S.* However, I think the Mexicans will be shot as Savage owned part of the Money & he is a man Not to be trifled with, & from his vigilence & search there is no escape, even in the Mountains of Calafornia. Reports from most all parts of the Mining Country are deplorable in the extreme. Sickness at the North & verry small pay, anywhere. The rivers are much higher than usual in consequence of the

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quantity of snow on the mountains. It is said that Companys 62 that have expended from 20 to \$100,000 in digging canals & making dams are abandoning the work. The country is filling up with men & begins to be seriously feared by some that they will not all get enough to get out of the country with, or winter on in it. It is feared that Men will become desperate & that robbery & Murder will become common.

The bodies were afterward found.

Monday, 5th.

Worked hard all the week with 8 hired hands & got the Canal & dam as we supposed mostly done but the river is too high to turn. There is much sickness at the North, & several cases in our neighbourhood.

Sunday, 11th.

We had preaching & quite an interesting meeting. Wrote home by Mr. Linley who starts Tuesday morning. It is excessive hot in the middle of the day & quite cool in the latter part of the night. It is said that in many places men are not getting over from 1 to \$2. per day & it costs one dollar to live in a decent & healthy manner. Our canal has now cost about \$2500 & will probably cost over \$3,000 when done. Howard & my Self buy plenty of Beef & potatoes &c & live verry comfortable. We work from 6 to 11 & from 3 to 6 & find that long enough. The sand is so hot as nearly to blister the feet.

Saturday, 17th.

Today we let the water into the Long Canyon Canal to the depth of from 6 to 12 inches. The canal is 700 feet long, about 16 feet wide, average 5 feet cutting, 2,100 cubic yards, 200 of Rock, & has cost \$3,000. The hole is very deep & there we are. Generally all well. Some are getting rather dishartend at the work. I think we are to push it through and proove it.

Sunday, 18th.

Fine morning. Preaching today.

Wensday, 21st.

went to work at 6. Soon quit & held a meeting of the Company, & voted to suspend operations as a Company until the first Monday in September to let the river fall. I went prospecting.

Thursday, 22d.

Howard & myself went to work on a Bar 1/2 mile below & got 7 or \$8.

Friday, 23d.

Howard & I went up the river some 2 miles & got some \$40. We worked hard. The gold is verry fine.

Saturday, 24th.

Went up the river again & got some \$45. The Canyon through which we pass & at the foot of which we camp is a ragged looking place. It is about one mile long & is a chasm of perhaps 1/4 of a mile at the top & 1000 feet deep & our path lies along its precipitous sides. The naked rocks hangs in many places as if ready to fall on us. It is a wild sene.

Monday, 26th.

Went again up the river. Howard & Myself worked hard all this week. We have to travel 2 miles over the worst kind of a trail.. We used quicksilver & got during the week \$110. Our health is good, & appetite ravenous.

Sunday, Sept. 1st.

A verry warm day. We lay verry quiet in the camp beeing much fatigued. Preaching in the afternoon. Our provisions for one month cost Howard & I \$100. Yellow hornets are verry

numerous, & the 63 most voracious animals for meat that I ever saw. I have seen them take a piece of Meat as large as their own boddy & fly away.

Monday, 2d.

Held a meeting of the Company & Elected officers & voted to suspend work one week longer. Howard & myself went up the river & got \$16.

Tuesday, 3d.

Worked up the river & got 1 oz. The boddy of Major Baldin was found Murdered in his Tent, & allso that of a man that cooked named Bill some few miles below. Mr. Baldins Partner named Small, was suspected but no arrest was made. The boddys were horibly Mangled. He was fly blown when found.

Wensday, 4th.

Worked & got but \$10. We have forded the river several times. The current is verry Strong.

Thursday, 5th.

worked hard & got 1 oz. We are doing much better than the average of miners.

Friday, 6th.

Again worked with indifferent success.

Saturday, 7th.

Got 1 oz.

Sunday, 8th.

Today found 5 Letters in the office. 3 of Nov & 1 Oct last, & one the 12th of July. 4 of them had ben to Sacramento Citty. 2 were not from my family. They were all charged 2.50 cts postage each. I took 3. Mr. Day beeing unwell had no meeting.

Monday, 9th.

Went early to work above the canyon. got \$20.

Tuesday, 10th.

A cool night & some dew, the first since March. The day was cloudy most of the time, a rare thing.

Wensday, 11th.

A cool morning. The nights are too cool to Sleep comfortable without blankets. It appears rainy & looks fall fashion. Fever & Ague begins to prevail around us, & I begin to fear it.

Thursday, 12th.

Went down the river prospecting. Worked one hour & took the avails from my cradle into my pan to wash out, some 2 or \$3. Pan & all Sliped into the river, & I went in after it but the current was so strong & some 10 feet deep that I could not find it. It was an iron pan & verry valuable for using quicksilver. got some \$2. & we went home at 2 P.M. not verry well.

Friday, 13th.

Had a chance, & started 2 letters, one for home & one to Jas Harlow. Howard & myself commenced a hole on the stoney bar on Claim. Washed the dirt & got \$5. I mended My Breeches & washed at Noon. 3 or 4 days has ben cloudy & fall like. I think strongly of home.

Saturday, 14th.

Worked again on the bar & then concluded to abandon it, & give it up as a total loss. Some \$250 each. It is so full of immense Boulders that it is next to impossible with our tools to get down to the ledge & if we could get there it Must be richer than anything that I have yet seen to pay, & as a part of the Company seem to have no disposition or ability to work, Howard & Myself concluded that we had no time nor Money to make any more experiments for them. I think I can say without boasting that Howard & I can do more work than 4 of them & the avails 64 of our digging proves it, & we were unwilling to pit ourselves against such men. We then went up into the canyon & prospected a little.

Sunday, 15th.

A fine morning. The clouds seem to have cleared away.

Monday, 16th.

Went up the river again, & got about \$20. The walk through the canyon is verry fatiguing.

Tuesday, 17th.

Worked with verry poor success.

Wensday, 18th.

Went up the river & got \$7. It was verry warm. We forded the river twice. We heartily wished ourselves at home. Still we think it is best to keep at work a Spell longer.

Thursday, 19th.

Worked in company with Capt Ward & Jones. 4 of us got some \$44.

Friday, 20th.

Packed up our things & got readdy to moove up the river to our work. Mr Jones could not find his mule. So we went to work & with tolerable good success.

Saturday, 21st.

Mooved up the river & put up our tent. It rained a little. Worked in the afternoon & at night divided \$100.

Sunday, 22d.

A cloudy day. It looks rainy but it may be the equinox. We are now encamped on a flat 1 1/2 miles above our other camp on the opposite side of the river & work on a bar or ledge below us & get some \$10 each. A young man by the name of George Bixby from Maine, whose camp is 1/4 of a mile below us accidentally shot himself in the leg, a few Miles from here on Thursday last. 3 balls & the Screw of the ramrod went into & through the calf of his leg. He was brought home yesterday on a litter.

Monday, 23d.

A cloudy day. It rained in the afternoon. 4 of us got \$25. It looks Stockton fashion. Our new home is not home. There is no potatoes & our fare is not as good as we have had it. It rained most of the night. It sounded fine on the tent.

Tuesday, 24th.

A cloudy morning. Went to work & got but little. Became disheartend. Went up a creek prospecting, got nothing, came back & talked of starting for home. Cooked some beans & washed. Howards face as long as a horses head & I with a Sty on my eye. Mr. Bixby the young man that Shot himself, Died at 4 this P.M. in a fit. His leg & foot Mortified. I killed 2 tarantalers close to our tent, as big as a small chicken. Howard & I got \$5. this afternoon.

Wednesday, 25th.

Dug \$8. in the forenoon. In the afternoon attended the funeral of Bixby. I was called upon to act as chaplain. I read the 14 of Job & made some remarks & a prayer. It was a Solomon Sene, & I hope its impression may be lasting. I see a marked change in one very profane man. We bore the ruff coffin along a Mountain path to near our camp where he was decently buried. The Miners in the neighbourhood all attended & paid good attention to all that was said. Poor fellow, he had warm friends at home that lotted on a happy meeting. The dew falls heavily nights. It has for 2 nights past, indicating the approach of fall.

Thursday, 26th.

We had a hired man. The river has risen 3 feet on account of rains.

65

Saturday, 28th.

A Rattle Snake was killed close by. We divided \$140. this week, & paid \$20. for help.

Sunday, 29th.

A very fine day. We are all out of provisions.

Monday, 30th.

Worked 2 hours & got 3 bits. Saw no chance. Talked of Stockton. Tried to make sale of some articles. Sold my Shovel for \$2., Quick Silver \$1. Left a cradle & pan & peck & other articles to sell with Mr Swift & the proceeds to be remitted through Mr. Howard. This should be the best season, but it looks discouraging in these diggings.

Tuesday, October 1st.

Baked some cake & killed 3 Tarantlers, etc.

Wensday, 2d.

Packed up in the morning, & got Mr Gray to pack us 10 Miles to Fords Ferry, by getting a Man to work in his place. We gave him one oz. There were 4 of us. Captain Ward, John Jones, N. S. Howard, & My Self. While we were eating some dinner under a tree a man came along with a 4 Mule team, & I told him to get out & get some dinner. We put our baggage in his waggon & he started in haste as he expected a Man after him for a Stolen Mule that he had got in trade. He drove to the Tuoloma before stoping & got there about 10 P.M. There is no water betwene the Rivers, some 18 Miles. We took a bite of cake that we had with us & spread our blankets for the night.

Thursday, 3d.

Got breckfast & changed our baggage on to another waggon. We paid \$5. for beeing carried through. We traveld 22 Miles & crossed the Stanus Slow, & encamped on its bank at 5 1/2 P.M. Made Some coffey, ate a bite & spread our blankets for the Night. We shot at a wolf from the waggon & at night they gave us a Surinade.

Friday, 4th.

Started at 7. Stopped & got dinner at 1 P.M. At 4 1/2 got into Stockton & put up at the Mount Vernon house. We have traveld for 3 days over Barren plains, for the most of the way, but for the last 18 Miles it has Mostly ben coverd with a heavy crop of grass now dry. For 60 Miles not a green thing is to be seen except along the Margin of the rivers & then it is usuly Oak openings. Stockton has grown verry much since last fall. It Now contains several thousand inhabitants & some fine buildings, & is a place of great business. Gamblers flourish here. Sate on a chair & ate from a cloth, for the first since I can remember. My weight is 165 1/2 lb without coat or vest.

Saturday, 5th.

At 4 1/2 P.M. left Stockton on the Wm Robbinson, fare \$15.

Sunday, 6th.

Arrived at San Francisco at 11 A.M. & put up at the Rochester house. Board \$2.50 per day. The place is so altered, that after being absent a year a person scarce knows it. It is a place of great business & is full of life & bustle. Where a few tents stood last fall is now covered with permanent buildings. Some of them iron. Wharves are extended out for the 1/4 of a mile, & buildings.

Monday, 7th.

Today is Election & all is excitement. I went to Pleasant Valley & saw Mr. Bills & several friends. San Francisco contains about 25,000 inhabitants. The City is making great improvement. They are digging down hills, raising Streets & planking them, & putting a plank Sewer along each side, which makes a very good sidewalk. The gambling halls are on a princely, & magnificent style. They are decorated with paintings & enlivened with a band of music. The Steamer Caroline arrived today with the Mails.

Tuesday, 8th.

Bought a State room ticket on the Brig Swift Shure, for Realejo & Panama, to sail the 9th. Price \$85. There is some Colera at Panama. The Steamer Panama lost 37 passengers on her last passage, & the Caroline lost 14. I attribute it mainly to an imprudent use of fruit. Took dinner with J M Taylor on board their Store Ship Golconda. Bought a trunk \$4.50, shoes \$3. drawers \$2.50. Howard gave me half of a cake, sent out by his wife.

Wednesday, 9th.

Went aboard at 3. Not a face that I had seen before on the Ship. Staid aboard & took a bad cold.

Thursday, 10th.

Still at the dock. It is verry cool & blustring this afternoon. Sacramento Citty is said to contain 30,000. As many as a dozen steamers run there.

Thursday, 10th.

Staid aboard. I took the most severe cold that I recollect to have taken. My Berth is an upper one, & a single berth. Each State room has one double & a single berth, & there is a small port window at my berth. This I left open, was the cause of my taking cold. I feel verry sore in my bones. I am anxious to get away from this place, but the Compliment of Passengers is not yet full.

Friday, 11th.

In the forenoon the wind blowed verry tedious.

Saturday, 12th.

A fine Morning. My cold is a little better. Dropped down the harbour but could not get out.

Sunday, 13th.

Early in the morning the anchor was got up & we began to get under way. At 10 the wind began to blow fresh & we beat out of the Harbour. We had a snapping breeze, & as we met the tide & surf it was prodigious rough. Nearly all on board were Sick, & in 24 hours we had made some 250 miles.

Monday, 14th.

Many were still sick. The sea is rough but we are making fine way. Our head Steward an Englishman, that the Capt calls Thomas, appeared to drink verry hard, & on Saturday morning was drunk, & at night had the Delerium tremens. He slept in the Cabbin under the table. He awoke all on board with his Shrieks. He said he was dying. He was dead & gone. The Capt tried in vain to quiet him. He said it was no use to talk to a dead Man. From that time to Monday evening, he was stupid & delerious, & at 10 he died. The Sailors Sowed him up in a Sack & at 1/2 past 7 in the

morning They lunched him from a board into the dark blue waters, to rise no more untill the last day. The Capt read a verry Short & hasty Service over the boddy.

Tuesday, 15th.

3 D.O. A fair wind & strong breeze. Making some 10 knots.

Wensday, 16th.

4 D.O. Wind light. There are 26 Cabbin Sterrage 67 passengers on board. Mostly western & Some Southern Men. I have not an acquaintance on board.

Thursday, 17th.

5 D.O. The wind has died away.

Friday, 18th.

6 D.O. A light breeze. Some are Sick. One appears to have the Consumption.

Saturday, 19th.

7 D.O. Light wind all day. Saw 2 Sharks & a flock of flying fish. It is getting verry warm. Many on board I learn have scarce enough to get them home. Verry heavy dew falls. I took a verry fine bathe at night.

Sunday, 20th.

8 D.O. Allmost a calm. Saw several Whale. No Service. Passed a rock in the night 120 feet high, not in sight.

Monday, 21st.

9 D.O. Light breeze. Saw some Porpoises & Blackfish.

Tuesday, 22d.

10 D.O. Rose at 3 & done my washing. It is getting too warm to sleep nights.

Wensday, 23d.

11 D.O. I am quite unwell & threatend with fever. At night took a heavy dose of Calomel & passed a tedious night.

Friday, 25th.

13 D.O. A calm. Our vessel lay & rolled. Took some oil & threw up a quantity of Bile. Had a Dum Ague & fever. Our water is no better than it should be. I could not eat a meal for several days. The passengers & Officers & Stewards &c are verry kind to me.

Saturday, 26th.

14 D.O. Calm & verry warm. 90 in the coolest place on the ship. My head aches verry bad. At 1 1/2 Oclock, one of the Passengers died. He was a young man from Kentuckey. He was Sewed up in a sheet, & at 7 Bells put over the Side. To me it was a verry tedious day. I am getting thin.

Sunday, 27th.

15 D.O. I passed a tedious night with fever & rolling about. It looks as if our numbers would be thinned before we get any where. Got a dose of Calomel & 5 Pills of Dr Jewet & paid him \$3.

Monday, 28th.

16 D.O. I feel better but still poorly. Took 5 Blue mass & quinine pills. Began to eat some today. A Porpoise was taken & we had some good steak.

Thursday, 29th.

17 D.O. Much better & some appetite. This morning a passenger died while we were at breckfast. He was sewed up & put over the side. He had the Consumption. He was from N.J. & had ben sick since leaving home.

Wensday, 30th.

18 D.O. A light breeze. Died away to a calm.

Thursday, 31st.

19 D.O. Land was seen. Verry hot. I feel quite well.

Friday, November 1st.

20 D.O. Still Calm. Land in Sight.

Saturday, 2d.

21 D.O. A moderate breeze in the night. High Mountains are in sight, One of which is a volcano. I let an old man have a botle of Diarea Medecin a time since. He was verry bad off. It worked wonders with him & several others, & he feels as if it had saved his life. He has much to say about it.

Sunday, 3d.

22 D.O. A calm day. A Sail in sight. At 7 bells a Sailor, a young Man from Maine died, & at 9 he was put over the Side, & at 1 68 P.M. Harry Willson, a prize fighter died, & was soon put over the side. Sharks &c were seen. In the afternoon had a service.

Monday, 4th.

23 D.O. Calm in the forenoon. In the afternoon a breeze.

Tuesday, 5th.

24 D.O. Calm.

Wensday, 6th.

25 D.O. Stiff breeze for a spell. We were put on allowance for water today. The potatoes failed today. Many were sick.

Thursday, 7th.

26 D.O. The Sea was verry rough & beeing a perfect calm we were pitched about badly.

Friday, 8th.

27 D.O. It rained in the morning. Two high peaks of Mountains, Volcanoes, were in sight. Nearly a calm all day. Saw many Dolphin & caught 2. Saw many shark.

Saturday, 9th.

28 D.O. Calm all day, at night a short breeze & rain.

Sunday, 10th.

29 D.O. A sail in Sight. 4 dolphin were caught. High mountains in sight.

Monday, 11th.

30 D.O. Calm. A boat came aboard from the bark that was in sight. They were short of Water & provisions.

Tuesday, 12th.

31 D.O. Calm all day. Met a vessel, 4 1/2 days from Realajo. Boarded hur & got some Squashes & a pig. We are getting short of most every thing. There is much grumblng in the Steerage.

Wensday, 13th.

32 D.O. A little breeze this morning. Several are verry sick. A perfect calm. Our condition is verry unpleasant. Out of Most everything. A Man died in the night & at 3 A.M. was put over the Side. No chance for a sick man.

Thursday, 14th.

33 D.O. A breeze this morning, soon died away.

Friday,, 15th.

34 D.O. Small headway. A good deal of complaining.

Saturday, 16th.

35 D.O. A light breeze last Night & this Morning. Some 6 or 10 miles from land. Four volcanoes are in sight sending out their smoke, & we can hear their rumbling. It is verry mountainous along the coast. Some high peaks has ben in sight a week or 10 days. I stood a watch over the water last night. One of the volcanoes blazed. A young Man by the name of Rochester from Kentucky died at 10 & at 1/2 past 11 was put over the Side making 7.

Sunday, 17th.

36 D.O. A breeze last night & this morning but it was contrary. We are south enough but want to get east.

Monday, 18th.

37 D.O. This morning we were near land & tacked off & then stood in for Realajo, pronounced Realaho. Volcanoes nearly extinct have ben in sight for 2 weeks. Several Sail were in sight beating in. At 2 we reached the Bar & took a pilott, the famous Criss Lilley. The wind was so light & tide so strong that it was 10 o'clock before we got over the bar. Twice we were in Ships length of the rocks & the surf rolled tremendously. The Ship Eliza was reported lost with all on board except 2 sailors. Several other vessels were wrecked & it is said the Steamer Sarah Sands. Fruit came along side & the consequence was a severe attack of the Collera Morbus. (It was clam Soup).

Tuesday, 19th.

Passengers were going ashore all day. I left the Ship 69 at an hours Sun, & was pulled 10 miles up a small river to Realajo for \$1. & reached there 2 hours after dark. Got a bite & put up at the American & slept on the floor. It looks like an ancient place. Some of the ruins appear verry old.

Wensday, 20th.

Fruit is in great abundance, & cheap at all the Villages. I have seen more than a hat full of Oranges bought for a picaune, & cakes of Native Sugar of over 5 lb for a dime. Here I saw a new Species of Cactus, which I found answering the same purpose in all the vilages across the country, viz, fencing their yards & enclosers. It grows up with a fluted shaft or trunk 20 or 25 feet high where it is not cut off, & 5 or 6 inches through, all the way of a Size & is a beautifull green. It has no branches & where it is cut off even it makes a beautifull fence. Saw a vast variety of rare plants & fruit. At an hours Sun left for Chinendago, distant 3 leagues, in an ox cart, beeing carried with my baggage when I chose to ride, for \$6. to Granada, over 100 Miles. The country is beautifull but a perfect wilderness. Arived an hour after darck & slept on the brick floor. Chinendago Contains 12,000 inhabitants & is beautifully situated. The houses are about one half Adoba & one half Reeds. A wonderfull rich Soil & abundance of fruit. The famous Volcano of Chinendago is within 7 miles of the town & we passed along its base. There was about 35 in our company, mostly on horseback.

The Natives drive the oxen with a long pole & sharp pike in the end. The carts are a rude concern, without a particle of iron. The wheles are made from a log.

Thursday, 21st.

Left early for Leon 12 leagues distant. At 2 leagues arrived at Chickigalpa containing 12,000 inhabitants, a beautifull place. Next Poseltaga, 2 leagues. Some 3,000. Next Quinsalnagua, 4 leagues. Verry few ranches are seen betwene the vilages. It is an unbroken wilderness, inhabited by Monkeys Birds & Serpants & beasts of prey. Mahogany, Nigerauger Logwood, Satinwood, Rosewood, Lignum vita &c grow in abundance. The country seems a perfect level. After a hard days drive arived at dusk at Leon.

Friday, 22d.

Leon is a large & ancient town containing 40,000 inhabitants & is the Capitol of Nicaragua. The Cathedral is an imence building beeing 350 long & 170 wide. Its roof is built on Many arches, & the whole structure is brick & stone Morter & Sement. It was 18 years in building & cost \$1,800,000. The view from the roof is verry extensive. There are 13 Churches. There is many ruins in & about the Citty. No commercial or Mecanical operations are carried on, except Shoe Makers & some small traders. The country round is in a wild & unimproved State but beautifull. The Natives are verry friendly & think much of the Americans. I spent the day in resting & running about.

Saturday, 23d.

Got breckfast at 5, packed the carts & started. Traveld 8 leagues & stoped at Puabla Nuava (New Town), 360 inhabitants. Got some wavas (Eggs). Started & after one mile the cart went topsy turvy. Some were scared but none hurt. After taking care of the killed & wounded, 70 righted up & reached Margareta, 4 Leages, & halted at a Natives Casa for the Night. We had a good supper. Chickanines, Wavas, Tortiles & Chocolary. We were called to breckfast soon after midnight &

found our drivers putting a new axel in the cart, which was done & all ready to start long before day.

Sunday, 24th.

Started at break of day. The road was bad. It is a perfect natural road, the whole way. Not an hours work has ben done on it, except at one or 2 places, only to cut the Brush out of the way. It crooks & dodges about to Shun trees & mudholes. No water is found in the dry season except at the vilages, & in one instance it is 18 miles. Passed along Lake Leon at 9, a Beautifull Sheet of water some 20 or 30 miles long, with volcanoes surrounding it & an island in the center thrown up to a beautifull Mountain by volcanoes. The whole Country is a bed of Cinders & Lava. Stoped at Materas, 345 inhabitants, 3 or 4 hours, & reached Man Auga (Swimming Water) 12 Leages, after dark. We came down what they call a mountain after dark. It was an awful place, & it is wonderful how we escaped with our lives. & we had rather close quarters. One small knife is all the fixing they could show for eating. We had a family in our cart, a man, wife & 2 small children. Comfortable company on such a journey. Many of the women showed us their white picaninies, & said, Americano. They feel verry proud of them. Manauga contains 16,000 inhabitants & lies on a Lake of the same name, Seperated from Nicaragua by a volcano.

Monday, 25th.

Started for Masaya. Saw lots of Monkeys, Parrots &c. I killed a snake over 4 feet long not larger than a whiplash, with large head & a large set of teeth. Arived at Masaya before dark & put up with the rest of the company at the house of a wealthy old Spaniard. The town contains 13,940 inhabitants. There was about 40 of our party, & in the evening our host had a fandango for our amusement. It was Supposed that we had a large amount of Gold, & the old man & his family was much alarmed by a report that the Soldiers & Natives were going to attact the house & cut our throats. Our guide allso was alarmed, so after they had barred the doors & windows, at his request we kept a watch all night. All passed off quietly & they were relieved when morning came. We traveld perhaps 20 miles over Cinders & pumice stone. At one place the appearance was grand &

sublime. In passing over something of a ridge the cinders were thrown up on each side of the road for 5 or 6 miles, looking like black muck. It was a clean bed of naked cinder & is said to have ben an eruption 90 years ago, & to have destroyed a citty. Its heat was felt 15 or 20 miles.

Tuesday, 26th.

Started for Granada, 21 miles, & reached there at 2 P.M. Granada is beautifully situated on Lake Nicaragua & Contains 12,000. Many ruins are to be seen. Put up at the house of a Spaniard, & fared well. The ticks have troubled me verry much & some have got Jiggers in their feet.

Wensday, 27th.

Got tickets & laid in supplies, as it is necessary to 71 Carry our provisions, as there is nothing to be obtained on the route. Passage \$15.

Thursday, 28th.

It is excessive warm. At noon took our things to the Bunga, & started at 3 on the lake. Went 8 miles & tied up at a small island. Our chances for sleep was like hanging on a pole & it rained. They sent some hides ashore, & at 10 started.

Friday, 29th.

Took all day to cross the lake. At night some staid on the beach & others on the bunga. A rainy Night. Started at Midnight & pulled untill 9, & went on shore to get breckfast. The passengers had but little cooking to do as we had boild eggs, panola, bread, cheese, dried beef, cheese, sasages, & sugar.

Saturday, 30th.

Started at 1 A.M. Paddled on all day & night. Our bunga carried 40 Passengers, a crew of 11, 2 monkeys & 6 or 8 parrots. Saw Crocodiles & Alligators in schools. In every direction we see volcanic mountains.

Sunday, December 1st.

The Sun is Scorching. Paddled on as usual.

Monday, 2d.

The Shores of the lake are low & Marshy, without an inhabitant except in 2 or 3 places, & but seldom that you find a place to set foot upon.

Tuesday, 3d.

As usual.

Wednesday, 4th.

At 9 A.M. the famous town of San Carlos (St Charles) hove in view, of perhaps 20 huts, at the outlet of the lake. There is an old fort & a Custom house. They are most wretchedly poor. Scarce a thing can be bought. At 12 we started down the river. It is near 1/4 of a mile wide with a deep & rapid current. Floated & rowed all night. Near daylight we passed over the first and worst rapids.

Thursday, 5th.

Several rapids were passed. It is said to take 20 days to get a bunga up the river. Some 50 miles above San Wan, the San Wan (St Johns) comes in nearly as large as the St Charles. At 3 A.M. we anchored off San Wan (St Johns) known in shipping as Grey Town. At daylight went ashore. It is a poverty stricken place containing perhaps 1,000 inhabitants, & is entirely under the control of the English who have a small garrison here of some 20, mostly blacks from Jamaica. With these they keep a strict police day & night.

Friday, 6th.

There is an English War Steamer lying in the harbour. The inhabitants are composed of Germans French English & Musketoos or natives which predominates. The Americans have wellnigh eat them out of house & home, & they seem to be dependant on Granada for their supplies, as they raise nothing about here. 5 sail are here. Went to board with an old German lady at \$1.25 per day. From the Lake to this place there is not a house nor any improvement of any kind except such as is made by the Alligators. Their sliding places are every where to be seen. The water is fresh at this place allthough the breakers are rolling within one Mile & were heard 15 Miles back.

Saturday, 7th.

This Morning about 100 that had tickets on a Brig & 72 Schooner for Chagres started for that place. 2 more bungas came in with passengers. We hope for a steamer but feel in doubt.

Sunday, 8th.

It rained in torrents all day & at night blew a gale. The old lady furnished me a comfortable bed & I felt quite snug. We have 6 boarders. About 200 arived this morning to increase our miseries. They were perfectly soaked. The rainy season lasts 6 months & they say it is most over.

Monday, 9th.

A Bremen Bark came in this morning.

Monday, 10th.

They are chartering the Dutch Brig for New Orleans. Hur tickets were soon sold.

Wensday, 11th.

It rained in torrents last night, & indeed it has rained Most of the time. Passengers arrive each Morning. Passengers come in each Morning Completely Soaked. Our Reed house is shaken by the blast in every limb.

Thursday, 12th.

Rained again most of the day. In the afternoon a man by the name of Fay from Bufalow died with the Disentary.

Friday, 13th.

Rained most of the time. A lot of Roudies got on a spree & drove the Guard all in.

Saturday, 14th.

Rained again most of the time. Two small vessels came in. They were all soon filled, one for New Orleans & some for Ny.

Sunday 15th.

Rained in torrents. There is no stirring about. The English Steamer is due today.

Monday, 16th.

The Steamer has not arrived. Men are verry impatient. It is exceedingly unpleasant laying here.

Tuesday, 17th.

Raining again like shot part of the day.

Wensday, 18th.

Rained in the morning. The English Consul was waited upon last evening by a Committy to see if the Friggate could not be sent to take the American Emigrants to Chagres, & on consultation they had concluded to turn the Manowar into a passenger boat, & early in the Morning the polls were opened at 3 different places to sell tickets, & the rush commenced. The large gunboats were sent ashore & all the passengers that wished to leave with their plunder were aboard by 12 o'clock, & about 3 the Anchor was got up & we got under way. We paid one ounce each for about 30 hours run. Some 500 of us. The Inflexible is a noble substantial war steamer of 1300 tons, 160 men & 10 guns. Her commander Capt Ney seems much of a Man. The officers & men treated us like gentlemen. 38 of their crew is sick. 2 hours out met a steamer bound in. We passed a hard night on the deck. No provisions except such as we brought.

Thursday, 19th.

The Sea was verry rough & it made a squamish time. Land was made before dark & we anchord shortly after dark.

Friday, 20th.

It was ascertained this morning that we had run by Chagres & anchord in Navy bay. So steam was made & the anchor got up & we ran back to Chagres, & anchord at 9. The two large gun boats were cast adrift & soon got off so that they were not recovered untill night. Shore boats came to us but they asked 200 to take us ashore & got but 73 few passengers. So most of us stayed aboard all day & another night. In the afternoon the English Mail Steamer came in.

Saturday, 21st.

Early this morning the Crescent Citty came in. There is perhaps 1,000 in this place & the question is who is to get a chance. Reports says the Colera is making fearful ravages in Calafornia. Card playing & gambling is going on all around me on the Sabbath. A man was laid in a back yard to die

without attendance. Men are left by the side of the street to die when their money is gone in utter neglect. A tremendous rush was going on for tickets so that men actually fainted in the crowd.

Monday, 23d.

Tickets were still being sold. I got one without struggle. \$65. steerage. Last evening we got the sick man into a back yard room, & took up a collection for burying him. We sent the Dr to him but he soon died.

Tuesday, 24th.

Being unwell, I took a cup of coffee for 6 bits, & then got into a boat to go on board. It was exceeding rough & attended with some danger. Some were drowned & others lost their baggage by the upsetting of the boats. Price \$2. Got safely aboard. I was a little seasick before I got on. I soon had a slight chill, followed by a burning fever, for which I began to doctor, supposing it to be the chill & fever. But in the course of a day or two, I found it was the Chagres fever. The Georgia came in this morning. Also the English Mail Steamer. I emptied my stomach by vomiting & purging until I was as empty as a quill. We lay at anchor until Thursday noon waiting the arrival of the specie train, it having been attacked by robbers & robbed, of some \$250,000. It was all recovered but some \$6,000 & on Thursday noon got under way & ran down to Portobello & took on some water & then stood for Kingston, Jamaica. I was quite indifferent to the things around me, having a burning fever & a raging thirst. Whatever I took I immediately threw up except water. Passed a restless & tedious night. The trade wind blew directly in our face with great violence.

Wednesday, 25th.

Christmas & an uncomfortable one for me. One man had \$800. in dust about his body, & he striped himself in the water, throwing away his gold, & swam ashore.

Thursday, 26th.

This day got under way at 12 M. & ran down to Portobello & took in water. It was very uncomfortable. My bones ached so that I had no comfort. I passed a wretched night.

Friday, 27th.

Tremendous strong head wind. My Sickness unceasing. Spent a sick feverish night. Took nothing but cold water. I applied to a Dr, a passenger. he said he could cure Me. He Doctored on the Homopathy System.

Saturday, 28th.

No material change except growing weaker. A violent gale struck us yesterday morning & boxed us severely for 2 days. Water flew over the deck, so that it was difficult—

Sunday, 29th.

I felt wretched. No nourishment in my Stomach. Sick now for 5 days & no change for the better. I feel that my case is getting desperate. So weak as to be Scarcely able to Stand, & no nourishment.

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Monday 30th.

Today at 12 got to Kingston Jamaica. I immediately went ashore & found an old creole Mother that nursed me up & the next morning I felt some like a new Man.

Tuesday, 31st.

Went aboard in the morning & began to eat Oranges on an empty stomach & pretty much lived on them from there to Ny. Jamaica is a pretty place, but I can make no comments on it. There was some 5070 died of the Colera in the City. At noon got under way for Ny. I lay down on the hurricane deck on a blanket. Got a Sleep, but soon wakened by the water dashing over me.

Wednesday, January 1st, 1851.

Feel much better. Was engaged a part of the day in taking care of a sick Man.

Thursday, 2d.

A fine morning. Sea quite smooth.

Friday, 3d.

A squall at Sunrise boxed us about some.

Sunday, 5th.

The wind dead ahead.

Monday, 6th.

At Midnight went on deck to see a burning vessel. Ran down to it but found no one. She was in the Gulf Stream.

Tuesday, 7th.

At 3 A.M. made the lights of Never Sink. Left 3 at the Hospital & got to her berth at 9 A.M. Went up in carriage to Earls Hotell, & felt as if at home.

Wednesday, 8th.

Got into the Cars & at 7 P.M. Joined my family with rejoicing, Still weak & feeble with the Chagres fever.