No Place To Call Home
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Chapter Seven

Overland Journey to San Francisco, California

Journal, 7 May to 16 August 1850

[Leaving Great Salt Lake City, May 7, 1850]

Left Great Salt lake City and pursued our journey towards San Francisco, in co with brs [Joseph] Busby, [Simeon A.] Dunn & [Julian] Moses; called on several of the sisters to say farewell, found it hard to take the parting hand of those I long had loved, and more especialy when I considered the great extent of the journey, and the long lapse of time which we were doubtless to would necessarily be separated. Found sister Pratt at br [William] Hendricks, called and bathed the warm spring. Called on Mother Gibbs, she took hold of me with both her hands prayed for and blessed me with a great deal of zeal and affection. Called at the settlement about a mile north of Sessions, took supper with sister Tiler. Ann rode a ways with us, I made her a present of some pictures, came on to br [Thomas] Tompkins, found them packing and preparing to set out on the following day.

8th day, left br Tompkins about noon, travelled ten or a dozen miles, camped near a small stream. Br Hatey called on us in the evening.

9th day arrived at Ogden City near noon, dined at Br [James] Browns, the female part of us with sister [Abigail] Abbot who was very pleased to see us, and treated us with a great deal of warmth and politeness. We found the waters of Weber and Ogden very high the banks overflowed for some distance, a part of the bridge over weber left that night. ^my husband got his legs badly poisoned in waters of Ogden.^ As soon as our wagon was over Ogden I set out in search of brother David More, called on a br Chase’s for information, was kindly assisted over a creek by sister Chase and son, and directed on my way to br Mores. Arrived there
about sunset having near a mile, found myself somewhat fatigued but
pleased to meet my old Bentonsport neighbors and friends who received
and entertained us very cordially. My husband got ^his legs^ badly poi-
soned in crossing Ogden.

10th We were delayed by rain untill noon consequently made but a
few miles, found the roads bad, and streams very high.

11th cold and windy bad roads was much fatigued had a shower soon
after camping which made it difficult for us to cook supper.

[Bear River Ferry]

12th day we reached bear river, near 4 oclock, found the ferrymen had
been waiting for us several days and were on the point of leaving, as their
provisions were nearly exhausted. We were soon to be over the river in
safety, but it was rather a difficult task to make the cattle swim the river and
their boat was not sufficient to ferry them over, they however succeeded
in getting them all safely across. ^and we there joined Capt [William D.]
Hunttings Co consisting of a dozen waggons.^\textsuperscript{3} We found the United
States surveyors camped on the south side of the river. My husband received
an invitation from Mr Gunnerson [John W. Gunnison] the Lieutenant to come over with his family and take supper with him. Accordingly we very pleasurably accepted the invitation accompanied by Br H[iram] Clark. We were treated with much kindness and politeness by the Lieutenant, he is a native of New Hampshire and very much of a gentleman, he dined once with us in the fort and seemed anxious to continue our acquaintance, he complimented us on the great importance of our mission and the vast amount of good we should undoubtedly accomplish, wished much success thought possibly he might see us there as he was a great traveler.

13th Left Bear River crossed Malad, very muddy stream, took six yoke of cattle to haul the wagons out the teams being very tired we traveled only a few miles and camped for night. Find the roads much better west of Bear River.

14th Came 16 miles camped near a warm spring or rather in warm spring valley, the water quite brackish, nothing but sage brush for fuel. There are 18 wagons in co. 15th Travelled 12 miles and camped near the spring of the mountain had quite a time singing hymns, br Tompkins was mouth in prayer.

16th Came 12 miles camped in a pleasant valley about 36 miles from Bear River, about half a mile to water, plenty of sage brush for fuel. Mr [John B.] Bader the socialist set forth some of his principals to us, we sung two hymns, prayer by Busby. Camped on deep creek.

17th Travelled 20 miles arrived at the mountain spring our camping place at 3 o’clock found good roads, fine day for travelling, had quite a pleasant time in singing round a large fire, prayer by Br [Sherman A.] Gilbert. Our camp ground was very pleasantly situated, there were a number of acres surrounded by cedar trees, plenty of wood and very good water.

18th Found rather rough roads, travelled 8 hours, came 20 miles, camped on Casier [Cassia] creek, between two mountains; good feed and water; all joined in washing.

Sunday evening 19th finished our washing this morning and prepared for meeting, at 2 o’clock the trumpet sounded. Meeting opened by President Clark, prayer by Crosby who was followed by remarks from a number of the other brethren. We find the ford so bad that we are obliged to go around a mountain some out of our way to find a better passage.

[City of Rocks]

20th day We went some seven or 8 miles out of our way in getting to the ford, found a very stony piece of road, arrived at the steeple rocks at half past 4 o’clock, find them to be a great curiosity. We all walked nearly a mile and a half to see them, a number of boys ascended the highest point
of one of them, it almost frighened me to see them. Alma was one of the first who ascended them. The men and boys joined in rolling down one very large one, which made a tremendous crashing and burst into a great many pieces. There are a number of names inscribed on them. This a very good place to camp, good water and dry cedar for firewood. I understand the emigrants to the goldmines, had a battle with the indians at this place last season.

[Goose Creek]

21st day we came 15 miles over some very high hills which afforded us a very grand prospect of the surrounding country, they appeared at first sight to be almost impassable for wagons yet we all descended them in perfect safety, and arrived at goose creek about 4 oclock, found good water and wood. Had lecturing again from Mr Bader on socialism.

22nd Travelled near 20 miles to get 12, in consequence of high water we were obliged to go over and around mountains to shun mud holes; arrived in camp at half past 4 having travelled 8 hours, stoped again on goose creek. The co all in tolerable heath and good spirits. My health is not good I am affected just as I was when I came the valley, with something similar to seasickness.

23rd Arrived in camp about 4 oclock again on goose creek, had a snowstorm which prevented us from travelling untill afternoon, came only 7 or 8 miles. I find myself sick with headache.

24th Cold morning, I had a very restless night, felt very miserable, got the elders to lay hands on me, felt better afterwards. Arrived in camp at halfpast 3 oclock, having travelled 20 miles, stoped in warm spring vally good water and wood.

25th day very cold and stormy, left camp at half past 7 oclock, found roads very muddy, saw two indians on the way. We stoped in hot spring vally at half past 2 we expect to stop here over sunday.

Sunday 26th Cold windy day all busy in preparing for travelling tomorrow. In consequence of the wind we were not called together for meeting untill near night, when the wind ceased, and we had a short one. The good spirit was with us and we all felt to rejoice. There were many appropriate remarks made by the brethren, and we all felt glad that we came together even at that late hour.

Monday morn 27th we proceeded on our journey Came 20 miles, stoped at half past 6 oclock in a very pleasant place. We were hindered considerably in crossing a creek, the men had to make a bridge with their wagon tongues, and fill in willows and then take the wagons all over by hand. We camped again in a warm spring vally, beautiful water, and plenty of sage brush.
[Mary’s (Humboldt) River, May 28, 1850]

Tuesday 28th 3 weeks to day since we left the city of the great Salt Lake, we have been blest and prospered exceedingly thus far. We have passed some lofty mountains covered with perpetual snow, and some pleasant little valleys, interspersed with a variety of flowers and watered by pleasant streams, the feed is generally very good. Camped tonight at the head waters of Mary’s river. Traveled nearly 25 miles, stoped at half passed 6 oclock.

29th Left camp at nearly 8 oclock, travelled some 10 or 12 miles camped at 2 oclock on Mary’s river, good roads with the exception of a miry stream, where they had to double teams. We have had quite a warm day. My health seems to be improving. I think the camp appears almost universally in good health, and spirit.

30th We travelled some 7 or 8 miles, arrived about 11 oclock at a branch of Mary’s river, where we were detained a half day in getting across. The capt made a ferryboat of father Clarks wagon bed and took the goods over, at least all that would be injured by getting wet. Two of the brethren swam across the steam with a rope, which they attached to the waggon; then hauled them across with teams, it rained some, and the wind was quite high, we however all got safely across by half past 6 oclock. The wind rain ceased and the evening became quite pleasant. The brethren had quite a sort of a shooting match. I had quite an intercourse sister [Elizabeth] Gilbert, lately from England. She appears to be a person of great faith, has seen some trials for the short time she has been in the church. She was on the boat where 59 persons died with cholera. She represents it as being the greatest scene of distress she ever witnessed, they were nearly all of them saints from the old countries. She was attacked with it herself, but was instantly healed.

31st Left camp between 8 and 9 oclock, it took us half the day to get across two miry creeks, we traveled about 10 miles, camped again on the head waters of Mary’s river, good feed and water, wind and rain this afternoon.

[An Exploding Stove]

June 1st Left camp at 8 in the morning travelled 20 miles crossed the river, it was so deep that we were obliged to raise our goods to the tops of the wagon beds to prevent them from getting wet. We arrived camp at nearly 7 oclock. One young man killed an antelope which was divided among the co. There was quite an excitement raised in camp this evening in consequence of a canister of powder being accidentally discharged. Some of the boys had carelessly set it in sis Pratts stove and it was not discovered
when the fire was built. The teakettle and coffeepot were both on the stove at the time of the explosion the teakettle was severly bruised, they were both however found standing near the stove right side up ^the top of the stove was taken entirely off^ no one happened to be near at the time, so that no material injury was done. Sis Pratt left the stove not more than two minutes previous, upon the whole we considered it a very providential escape.8

Sunday the 2nd we had a pleasant camping place all hands were employed in the forepart of the day in washing and baking, the afternoon we had meeting, opened by singing and prayer by br Dunn. Remarks by Mr Crosby, who was followed by several others. A number of hymns were sung, and a good degree of the spirit of God seemed to be present with us. In the evening a br Mills made quite a display of his phrenological talents, upon a number of the co—.

[Following Mary’s River]

Monday 3rd we left camp at a few minutes past 8 oclock were detained about a half hour in consequence br Tomkins’s horses getting a little frightened and refusing to be caught. We traveled on, the weather very pleasant and warm, stope to eat dinner a few minutes before 12 excellent feed and water. Arrived in camp about 6 oclock having trav-eled 20 miles.

Tuesday eve June 4th. 4 weeks today since we left the vally. Left camp this morning at 20 minutes past 7. We crossed quite a high mountain, passed through a very pleasant canyon, variegated with flowers of almost every description. The sunflower sundial, hollyhock, marygold, foxglove, sweet william and a number of others which I cannot name we have seen through almost all our journey thus far. We have been blest and prosperd exceedingly, no accident of any account ^has occured to detain^ We truly have reason to rejoice and be glad.

Wednesday 5th This morning br Clawson got his wagon axle tree bro-ken by our oxen starting forward and locking wheels with his, we were consequently detained an hour or more as he was obliged to unload his wagon and store his goods in other wagons, We started on at half past 8, had a remarkably dusty time, and rough roads, arrived in camp a few minutes before 7 in the evening, excellent feed for cattle and good water. Some of our cattle drank so freely after going all day without any that it made them sick.

6th Left camp at 7 oclock this morning found the roads very dusty. The middle of the day was very warm, and the dust was almost suffocating, we travelled untill after 5 oclock, ^came 20 miles^ when we camped again on Mary’s river, it seemed to me that I could not have endured another
hour’s travel, I was so much fatigued and my head ached all day.

7th Left this morning a few minutes before 7, found the roads very dusty & the forenoon I prayed earnestly for rain, in the afternoon we had a small shower. I believe was never more revived or more thankful for anything, I was as much refreshed as a drooping plant would have been. We traveled 20 miles camped at 6 oclock.

8th day Left camp at 7 oclock we had a good day to travel cool and cloudy came 20 miles camped at about 6 oclock in a pleasant place a little distance from the river expect to stop here over Sunday, the musketoes seem determined to wage a war of extermination against us. They act as though they considered themselves the original owners of the country, and looked on us as great intruders.

Sunday the 9th They were quite annoying this forenoon, but we were favored with a strong cool wind this afternoon which drove them all away. We had a good meeting at 4 the spirit God was with us, and we all felt comforted. There was one of the sisters, viz Sister Gilbert delivered propesy in the name of Jesus that if the camp did not seek peace and union and strive to keep the commands of God, we should be afflicted with sickness or some other trial. But if we maintained union and the love of God in our midst we should be abundantly blest, It was confirmed by Captain Huntington who said it was true in the name of Jesus.

Mon 10th we came 20 miles camped near the river had a very comfortable day quite cool this evening.

Tuesday the 11th we left camp at 7 oclock, the weather quite comfortable and cool arrived at 2 oclock a branch of the river found it very bad crossing, took us nearly 3 hours to get all over as we were obliged to double teams. Sister Gilbert rode with us yesterday and today, in consequence of some little difficulty between the company who belongs to the waggon she travels in. In the evening the brethren had quite conversation with regard to our manner of traveling and also standing guard, some fault was found with a man by the name of Wanaska a Norwegian by birth, for not doing his duty while on his watch tour. He was very much offended and refused to stand on guard any more for the future but he however repented and went on guard stood again the same night. ^he has been a catholic priest, but has lately joined the saints^ We camped as soon as we got over the river, in consequence of it being near night, but there was no feed of any account, Accordingly they concluded to yoke up this morning Wed the 12th as soon daylight and travel about a mile and half to where was good feed. Arrived at 6 oclock, stoped and got breakfast, set off again at 9, traveled 2 hours when it commenced raining, which we were all glad to receive, and we camped not far from the river where was pretty good feed. I believe we pretty much all of us slept untill the rain was over, we then arose and went to cooking and washing. I made some pies for brother Moses who
was unwell. He is one of the elders who are appointed to the Island mission has been quite unwell for some time past; brother Busby has attended principally upon him and thereby received the title of Dr.

[Feeding the Gold Diggers]

*Thursday 13th* We left camp near 8 oclock, rested awhile at noon, arrived in camp again at 4, had a cold rainy day and a little lecturing from the Capt on early rising and retiring to rest in the evening. About eleven oclock *14th* we were overtaken by a number of gentlemen from Ohio who were on their way to the mines, they camped a number of miles behind us, and seeing our lights, they resolved to come on at least 4 of them and over haul us.

They arrived at 11 in the evening, tarried overnight, breakfasted this morning the *14th*, They are from Waine Co Ohi fine gentlemanlike appearing men. The one who eat with us was a sandy, complexioned young man by the name of Flack; appeared very grateful for our kindness, and desirous to reward us. I gave him a piece of cheese to carry to a sick man whom he said they had with them for which I understood he afterwards remarked he would willingly give me a piece of gold shoud it ever lay in his power so to do. In the evening the remainder of their co came up, and as they were quite destitute of provision the capt got them places to eat among us. Capt David Peffer ^from Worcester Ohio^ took supper with us, appeared to be a very fine man, also breakfasted with us next morning. I let him have 2 loaves of bread and a little salaratus, and he gave me a half pound of tea. *15th* We travelled from 8 in the morning untill 4 in the evening, the morning was very cold and wet we went out of our way travelled 18 miles to get 10.

*Sunday 16th* very cold and windy, we were surrounded by gold diggers who were almost entirely destitute of provision. They offered us almost anything they had for flour or meat. Several of the brethren bought boots and shoes of them in exchange for flour. In the afternoon brother Clark preached to them on the first principles of the gospel, and was followed by br Busby. They appeared very attentive and friendly.

*Monday 17th* Cold wind my health not good, in the evening had the sick head ache, went to bed with out my supper, we camped late.

*Tuesday 18th* Quite pleasant day We set off at half past 7 and travelled untill after 3 camped near another company from the Valley also a large co of packers from the states. A number of our women were engaged in baking for them. We also have to bake enough to serve us across the desert. One young man came up to us who said he had nothing to eat all day, and all he had had for two weeks, he got from our companies from the Valley.
Wed 19th We set off at 8 oclock, the morning quite warm and dusty, we came onto the desert. In the afternoon we (passed the sink of Mary’s river) were favored with a cool wind. We travelled late untill 7 oclock, camped on a high bluff, near the sink of Mary’s river, the water is quite brackish.

[The 40-Mile Desert]

Thursday the 20th We set off across the desert, brought wood water and feed for our cattle. The weather was quite favorable for us, it being somewhat cloudy; and a cool wind. Our astonishment was quite excited to see the vast number of wagons and frames of cattle that were mouldering on the desert. We stoped awhile at noon, near a well which some travelers had dug, the water was cool but so salt we could not drink it, and there were but few of the cattle that would drink, altho they were very thirsty. In the course of the day we passed through a singular looking place, at a distance it resembled a mighty river, but as we approached it still kept ahead of us. We found it to be what the philosophers describe it the Aosis [mirage rather than oasis], Caused by the reflection of the sun on the heated air which arose undoubtedly from the alcali with which the surface of the earth is partialy covered. At 6 in the evening we rested our teams and got our suppers, just before sunset we set off again and traveled by the light of the moon untill 12 oclock when we came to a fire where some wagons were burning we rested again a few minutes, in the meantime the boys made a great fire of an old wagon which illumined the desert for miles around. started on again and traveled untill half past one when they providentially found a spot of feed, they then turned out their teams untill daylight.

[Salmon Trout (Carson) River]

We arrived at Salmontrout10 river a little after sunrise where they stoped and watered their teams, but the feed being poor they concluded to go 5 miles further to camp. Arrived Friday 21st at 10 oclock at a little valley on said river, happy and thankful for having been preserved, and brought in safety through so dismal and dreary a place which from every appearance must have been the cause of great suffering to many of our fellow beings who had previously passed through.

The Salmontrout is very winding in its course, but rendered pleasant by the large cottonwood trees, which adorn its bank, It is also stored plentifully with fishes, which are easily caught when the water is low, We have not obtained any, as the water is very high. Saturday 22nd set off at 8 oclock found the roads dusty in the forenoon, and very rocky in the
afternoon, camped on the river bottom, where were some beatiful shade
trees. Sister Gilbert rode with us all day, was quite unwell. Some difficulty
between him Gilbert and Bader.

Sunday 23rd very warm day. The camp that was ahead of us camped
near us last night and went on this morning with the exception of one
wagon, the occupants of which intend to travel with us, Grant Teeple.

At 3 o'clock the trumpet sounded for meeting, which was very well
attended, and we had quite a lively time. A good spirit pervailed. In the
evening a number of us took a walk to the grove, made a new discovery,
found where the buffalo gnats breed, that is, in the bud upon the cotton-
wood trees returned to camp had music in the evening. Tomkins horses
stayed all hands went in search returned with them at 11 o'clock Monday
24th left camp at 8 o'clock, the weather remarkably warm and dusty, traveling
hard we were untill 9 o'clock in the evening getting 17 miles. It was 12
before we went to bed Baders team failed some went back to meet him he
did not arrive in camp untill 12 o'clock. Sister Gilbert made herself very
sick by walking untill she was nearly exhausted and drinking too much
water. Tuesday 25th we tarried at our camp to rest our teams; a very pleas-
ant place close to the river where were beautiful shade trees, I washed
baked and Ironed. In the evening the boys made a swing, all hands [illeg-
tible] down and swung by moonlight. But the exercise did not altogether
agree with me, it gave me a sick headache. ^[Pegleg] Smith the mountain
[man] passed us about sunset with his co choosing to travel in the night
and lay by in the light of day, we passed them again today, expect they will
pass us again to night.^

Wed 26th We set off at half past 7 o'clock found the road very dusty
in the forenoon, stoped at half past 10 feed and water. I walked up into
a little canyon for exercise, found a sort of wild plumb although they
resembled peaches in their outside appearance having a thick rough skin.
I think they would be pretty good if they were ripe but at present they are
very bitter. ^They grow on a low bush not higher than a current bush.^ We
rested near an hour and then came on to a very rocky hill the worst I
every saw, it seemed to me that we should all be shaken in pieces. I walked
some distance up the hill, arrived in camp a few minutes past five, a very
pleasant place on the river bank, about 142 miles from the goldmines.

Thursday June 27th left camp at half past seven, found roads sandy
and dusty, I walked near an hour and half in the morning. Saw some indi-
ans direct from California, said there were lots of snow on the mountains;
they had been there to work in the mines and were on their way to visit
their tribe on Mary’s river could speak some english brought consider-
able news from Cal—— We stoped for noon where were good feed and
water. This afternoon we traveled through the richest valley I have seen
since we came to the western country, such tall thrifty, grass and beautiful
streams of cool soft water pouring down from the mountains, which are covered with lofty cedars and pine, and whose tops are white with snow, was enough to make our hearts dance for joy. Our brethren think it will be a splendid place for a stake of Zion. What a blessing to travelers to have settlement here where they could recruit their provisions and teams, about a hundred and 18 miles from the mines.11 The salmontrout river flows through enriching the soil by overflowing its banks in many places in the spring of the year, its banks adorned with beautiful shade trees. Arrived here at 5 oclock having traveled 18 miles. It did our hearts good to see the poor beasts lay hold of the grass as though they meant to pay themselves for the deficiency they had suffered. Sister Pratt Tompkins and myself with the girls took a walk after sunset towards the mountains but we found the distance so much greater it appeared to us from the camp that got discouraged and came back.

Friday 28th we left camp at half past 7 oclock Sis Pratt and myself set off on foot stoped for the teams under the shade of the largest pine trees I ever saw, they were realy a splendid sight. We proceeded on through the most luxurient growth of grass I ever saw. Stopped to feed and water a little before 11 oclock on a beautiful little creek, where we understand the foremost com found gold. We passed a company just before we stoped. We learn that a company of prospecters have been over from the mines into this valley, and have found gold here. Captain [Sidney Alvarus] Hanks co is camped on one side of us, and peg leg Smith (as he is called) is on the other. Capt H has been out prospecting several days. We arrived in camp at 4 very pleasant place about 8 miles from the canyon that leads up the mountains. We understand there is snow on the mountains yet.

Sat 29th laid by Tomkins Hanks and [Joel] Tarley set off with the intention of crossing the mountains to see whether they were passable, they had not proceeded far before they returned having met Barnard who had been over them, he satisfied their curiosity, thinks we can go without any difficulty. Sat afternoon Moses Martin12 and wife visited us from Hanks co, took tea with us, were friendly and sociable, but think they have made a very lucky escape from Salt lake Valley. Martin said he intended to get every person who was any way connected to him, out of the vally. Said he should never come into the church again while Brigham Young presided. He talks of going to Italy, requested my husband to write him from the society Ilands, and let him know what our prospects were there, and thought he might come to settle in that place. Crosby thinks when he encourages him to come to us it will be after this. Sunday June 30th we were surrounded by the packers from the states who were all out of provision, they surrounded our wagons almost with tears in their eyes beging for bread. They all got supplied from the 3 co who were camped near each other. At 2 oclock our meeting commenced, a number of them

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attended and appeared well pleased. Br Julian Moses spoke to them on the first principles of the gospel, he set it forth in a very clear light, was followed by Br Clark. Monday the 1st of July we staid in camp washed baked, the men cut hay to carry along for their cattle, some of the co talk of stoping on this side the mountain to dig gold. Tuesday 2nd the company moved on to the mouth of the canyon with exception of 3 wagons which have gone back 15 miles to join the company who intend to try their luck on this side of the mountains. Arrived about 2 oclock to the mouth of the canyon, and camped by the side of a foaming torrent, which came pouring down the side of the mountain with great velocity, and roaring like distant thunder.

[Ascending the Sierra Nevadas]

Wed 3rd We set off at 6 oclock passed through the canyon and ascended the mountain, over the rockiest road that ever was or could be traveled by human being with wagons. We crossed the stream three times on bridges, at the first crossing br Dunns cow fell accidently in and was carried down near half a mile by the foaming torrent over the rugged rocks. We all watched her with longing eyes and fearful apprehensions for her life, but through the ingenuity and perseverance of some 4 or 5 brethren she was rescued without any material injury to the great joy and surprise of all of us. Camped at half past 2 in a little valley at the head of the canyon, having traveled about 7 miles. We were all so weary, that could scarcely stand on our feet, but thankful that no wagons were broken nor any loss of any account sustained by any one. Thursday 4th July. Set off about 7 found the roads very good for awhile, we had not however proceeded far untill we came to a stream which was rather difficult to cross, and our forward axle-tree broke, we were obliged to stop where we were, just out of the mud untill my husband went on and got the brethren to come to our assistance. Br Tompkins came back with Padro a yoke of cattle and two forward wheells to bring us up to the camp which we found waiting for us a mile ahead in a very pleasant place, they all concluded that it broke in the right place as there was plenty of good feed and water Capt Huntington and George Clawson went back in search of an axeltree returned about 5 oclock with a very good one, having traveled some ten miles, we have snow in spots all around us which renders the air cool and pleasant. I think we have attained the highest point of our journey, although they say we have another mountain to ascend. We met men from the mines, or rather they passed us about noon today, by whom we sent letters back to the vally.

Friday the 5th We moved on at 7 oclock roads tolerably good untill we came to the foot of a mountain where was a large snow bank and
mudhole, our wagons all went safely over, but br [Samuel] Hall had a pair of worn out horses that he bought of the emigrants to the gold mines which were very weak and getting a little scared they fell into the mire, from whence they were unable to extricate without assistance he however got them out and washed off the mud and I believe he got them up the mountain.

I walked up the first notch which was very steep and think I was never so nearly exhausted in my life they stoped a few minutes for the teams to rest, and I got into the wagon with a determination to ride at all events, but I found it nearly as hard work to ride as walk, and soon relinquished my determination and got to my feet again. I climbed over snow bank higher than any mans head, and scrambled up the sids of huge rocks which I think must have bothered a goat. I found I was much mistaken in thinking we had got to the utmost height, and perceived that the top of one hill was only the bottom of another, as was the case with the hill of science. Our wagon got considerably racked which hindered us some, one side of the projection was badly broken, they tied it up and got along very well untill we stoped for night in a little vally. My husband then took hold and with the assistance of br Hanks fixed it pretty solid. We passed one pretty lake today which was quite a curiosity to see so high up in the mountains, we camped on a sidehill in the woods where was a little feed. Sat 6th we came down a very steep hill into a vally where was a stream and miry ground; br Hanks’ horse was missing, he and Busby were some time in searching for it, they found it hitched by his lariette in the brush, we traveled over a very rocky mountain in the morning, br [John] G[h]een’s wagon got broken which hindered the company a couple of hours. In the afternoon we ascended a snowy mountain. I presume the snow was 3 or 4 feet deep on a level, and the wind was very cold and piercing we camped on the highest point of our travels, where the wind was so severe that the snow was all blown away, there were no trees and nothing but rugged rocks, we had a tedious night of it indeed, they chained up their cattle and fed them with hay which they brought from Salmon trout valley.

[Descending the Mountain]

Sunday 7th morn. ^2^ months since we left^ the cold was very intense, and we concluded that we should be perfectly justified in travelling to a warmer climate before we stoped to rest, accordingly we set off at a very early hour and descended the mountain on snow, such a rough cold time as we had baffles description we traveled untill 7 oclock, then stoped to bait our teams and get breakfast on the snow. We found naked spots round the roots of trees to make our fires, my appetite was entirely gone, being wearied and sick with the headache. We traveled on untill noon,
stoped an hour and then descended the worst road I ever saw or any body else, it was so bad that I could not stay in the wagon and so muddy that it was impossible to walk, I got out several times and got my feet wet, and then tried the wagon again, and thus we worried along untill we got to quite a warm comfortable place in plain sight of our camping place the night previous. There was a lake between the two places which caused us to go around some 20 miles to get 8 or ten. We camped on the top of mountain, and drove the cattle and horses down to a valley for feed and notwithstanding they had a strong guard the indians stole br Tomkins horse. Monday morn were detained untill 9 oclock in consequence of Tomkins horse being gone he and Hanks went on ahead in order to overtake some emigrants that passed us, thining they might have taken it.

[Tragedy Springs]

We passed Traggedy springs about noon or a little before where 3 of our brethren were killed by indians 2 years ago I got out of the wagon and went to the tree, read the inscription which was carved I understand by br Pratt. It was a melancholy sight. A large pile of stones covered their grave as they were all laid in one, we rested at noon in pleasant little opening where was a little feed, then came on to leak valley where we camped for night. Tomkins returned soon after without success. Hanks went on still in pursuit. The way the emigrants crowded upon us was not slow, all out of provision offering almost any price or any thing they had for it. Some were entirely out of money and were obliged to beg. Tuesday 9th 10 men were dispatched to an indian camp in search of the stolen horse. They found a number of squaws gathering pine buds, took them prisners, but sent one of them down into a deep valley where the indians were to ask them to bring the horse in exchange. In the meantime Tom and Padro (Tomkins 2 indian boys) went down into the valley without premeditation, the brethren above hearing guns fired concluded they were certainly killed. In the meantime an indian from the camp came up and showed them fight, he aimed his arrows at them which Tomkins wrested from him, he then tried to get br [Josiah] Arnolds gun and he wounded him in the hip, tried to decoy them into the valley by telling them the horse was there but the bushes being very thick and not knowing their number there thought it not wisdom to go down they called to the boys several times but received no answer, the squaws all the time kept such a screeching that nothing else could be heard. They finally returned to camp about 4 oclock with fearful apprehensions for their safety. Some of them believed we should never see them again, others thought they would return, we were all lamenting their fate, when suddenly the sound of guns off in the woods attracted our attention they were answered from
another camp and instantly to our almost irrepressible joy Padro and Tom made their appearance among us the men women and children all gathered around them to learn their history. They stated that they saw but 5 indians the remainder of them were off hunting, that 2 of them wanted to kill them, but feared their rifles. They spoke spanish and probably reasoned with them. This night we met some of our young brethren from the mines going on a trading expedition, back to salmontrout valley with provision and groceries, Among whom was Albert Tyler, Judson Stodard, Ervin Stodard, Wm Bears, and others that I didnot know, also father [Solomon] Chamberlain who left the valley only a few days before us, he only staid 2 weeks in the mines and finding the times not as good as he expected got homesick was on his return to the Salt lake city.

[Passing Through the Gold Camps]

Wednesday 10th left camp a[t] 8 oclock traveled 10 miles passed a trading post where they had a table set under a tree with liquors groceries and provisions of almost all kinds to sell. We passed on a mile or so by them and stopeed for dinner at half past one, close to a pleasant cool stream. We pursued on over a very rough road untill 6, camped in the woods, poor feed and little water; found roads very dusty. Thursday 11th the trumpet sounds for prayers. Set off at 8 oclock roads very rough and dusty camped on a sidehill, 2 greenies close by us. The houses were made of posts set in the earth and covered with cloth, they look very comfortable for summer, traveled 16 miles. Friday 12th some of the oxen gone were detained by hunting for them. Started at 8 very warm dusty traveling. Stoped at noon on a ridge, took the cattle down the hillside to water came down into pleasant valley, met lots of traders going on into the mountains to speculate off of the emigrants. Pleasant Valley is in reality pleasant place, such beautiful groves and splendid shade trees I scarcely ever saw. There are 3 or 4 trading establishments here, Among the rest Mr [Louis C.] Bidamen from Nauvoo in company with a young man from Keokuk [Iowa] by the name Wm Stead have quite an extensive house. In the evening a number of us took a walk to see what they had for sale, bought a little tea at a dollar and half pr pound, and dried pears at 75 cents. Found father [Samuel] Burton and wife [Hannah] there employed in cooking; they came out in Br Hanks co and stoped to recruit their teams, accordingly Mr Bidamen employed them to cook and gives them a share of the profits. We received an invitation from the old gentleman to come up and take tea Saturday evening as we were intending to stop untill Monday. We accepted the invitation in com with Br and sister Tomkins, Br and sister Gilbert, Sister Pratt and her girls. We were entertained in very good style for this wilderness country. A long table set under a bower formed
of pine boughs was well filled with warm biscuits, butter, cheese, sweet cakes, and pies made of the sugar pears, together with dried beef and good tea, and I might add a plenty of good brandy for those who chose to partake of it, but which added nothing to the entertainment in my estimation. Upon the whole we had quite an interesting time and returned home a little after sunset accompanied by Mr Bidamen; he seems very friendly and sociable stoped untill we had prayers and singing; was much delighted with some of our hymns, told us he had received late intelligence from Nauvoo, his wife is living there; himself and br own a large store in Sacramento city.

Sunday the 14th We had singing and prayers after breakfast the brethren concluded best to discontinue our meetings, as br [Charles C.] Rich and [Amasa] Lyman we understand hold none here, however a number of them brethren spoke around as we were collected together, we were dismissed by prayer. Soon after the attention of the camp was called to the correction of children, by one of the brethren [Sherman A. Gilbert] whipping his little son very severly, he was spoken to several times and told to desist, but he paid no attention untill a young man threatened him very hard. The brethren collected together to reason with him upon the subject, they got him to confess that he was too severe. In the meantime the sisters were busily engaged in conversation upon the subject topic, There was considerable warmth of feeling manifested by several of the brethren and sisters, but upon the whole concluded that every one would take their own course.

Monday 15th Left camp at 8 oclock pursued our journey on through Weaverville [Weberville]. Br Gilbert and family stoped there. Also [Henry H.] Harrisons, their cow was taken sick a little way the other side, and soon after we came through the town she laid down. They stoped their team and concluded to stay. The next morning the boy came to the camp and said she was dead, we all felt very sorry as she was all the cow they had, and a large family of little children were depending on her for nearly half their living. Tuesday 16th We left mudspring [El Dorado] at 8 in the morn. Came 10 miles through the mines where the men were digging passed several comfortable looking houses, one was in building, was intended for quite a nice house, Arrived at Brown's settlement at near 3 oclock. Met father Clark and Huntington today. They left us a week ago have been at Lathrops and other places waiting to see Brs Rich and Lyman.

[Brown’s Settlement]

Brownsville Wednesday 17th day of July 1850 We tarried in camp having a very pleasant shady grove with a small stream running through it. Two of
our co set off this morning for Sacramento city Viz Tompkins and Busby in order to try and ascertain where would be the best and most proper place for us to stop untill such time as we could make preparations to pursue our journey the Islands. There are two large co’s camped on this stream near here waiting as it were for the moving of the waters. Some of them seem almost discouraged as gold is not so easily obtained now as it has been; provision and other things are very high. Keepers of public houses ask 1 dollar and half for a meal of viutuals.

Wed evening We have just heard that brs Rich and Lyman have arrived at the city, and are expected to be at [Asahel] Lathrops25 tomorrow. We shall undoubtedly get some counsel from them in regard to our mission.

Thursday 18th Bro Rich and Lyman arrived, their counsel to us is to go directly to the bay. They brought a letter from br [Addison] P[ratt] to his wife^he sailed the 21st of April, writes that he wants us to come on as soon as convenient, he thinks the brethren at Francisco will receive us kindly, and furthermore that the natives of the Islands are anxiously waiting to receive us. Friday 19th Br Rich and Lyman are with us, we expect to leave tomorrow for Henry Jacob’s24 He lives about 9 miles from here, Friday evening we had a very agreeable time in singing hymns. Brs Rich and Lyman were with us and expressed much pleasure to join us in our evening devotions. They told a great deal of their travels in California and warned us of the great wickedness and corruptions of the people. It increases our anxiety to pursue on our journey as soon as possible.

Sat 20th We still concluded to stay where we were untill Mon——, brs R—— and L will preach to us on Sunday. Sat morn Sis P and myself, ^accompanied by a sis [Iris] Chase^ took a walk to Brown’s establishment in order to trade a little and see the place. Sisters Edmunds and Jacobs (two of Henry Jacobs sisters) received us very politely, and we staid and spent the day with them; and as we had no work of our own with us we sewed with for them Sister Edmunds rewarded us very liberally for our assistance, besides giving us a good supper and we returned home much pleased with our visit.

Sunday 21st Tomkins sold his oxen and waggons for 1075 dollars. We had a very good meeting in the afternoon. Brothers Rich and Lyman said a great many good things to us, concerning our mission, and also counseled those who expected to stop in California to abstain from the vices of the country viz gambling drunkenness and every other that can be named. Monday the 22nd, one of our oxen were missing, which hindered us untill noon, We then set out and came 9 miles to ^white rocks^ the place where Henry Jacobs had previously kept public house, but left the same day. Sister Pratt and myself set off in the morning went and bid
the other camps goodbye and walked on to Browns and sewed a while for Sister Edmunds. When my husband came up, he sold his oxen and waggon to Brown for 225 do he received one hundred dollars down and expects the remainder when they take the team. *Tuesday 23rd* We proceeded on our way through a very dry dusty part of the country but rendered rather pleasant by frequent public houses and nice shade trees, came to the American fork, called to water our teams at [J] Lewis and [A. D. and William] Pattersons, the company Mrs Lewis came out and spoke us and invited us into her house, she was a member of the church of saints, had lived in Nauvoo with her first husband by the name of Sexton who being deceased she was married to Lewis who does not belong with us, however she said she intended to go to salt lake city sometime if she lived. She has a very pleasant situation, said they were making money quite fast, We came down to the neighborhood of Roots, about 5 miles from Sacramento, good feed camped near the river, a little tavernhouse close by us in the evening Sis P. and myself went in a few minutes, they are lately married quite young, the Lady came here last fall from Ill is a very good looking genteel woman. *Wednesday 24th* remained in camp, all hands washing and baking, Tomkins went to the city to engage our passage to the bay, We expect to move on tomorrow. Wed—— evening brs Rich and Lyman called on us and took supper. They stop at Roots ^the 6 mile house^ The next morn *Thursday 25th* their mules were missing, they were tied close to our camp through the night, and in 15 minutes after they were loosened the next morning they were missing. They searched for them several days, sent back to Browns, but heard nothing of them only that 2 men were seen riding bare back towards the mines. They were very nice animals and the brethren felt very sorry to loose them.

[Sacramento City, July 25, 1850]

The same day we came down in to Sacramento. We left our oxen and waggon at Roots put our things in with Sister P and Tomkins. There are some very pretty houses on the way from Roots to the city, especially the 5 mile house is quite a splendid building, we halted a little below it to unload our wagon, and while we were stoping a couple of ladies late from Missouri who were boarding there came out to see us thinking we might be from their state. One of a Mrs White had a babe which she said was born on the road to California and lived in a wagon untill she was 4 months old, ^she seemed quite at home in our wagon and rather unwilling to leave^ she was a fine looking child; they called her Kate. The ladies were quite genteel in their appearance. We came on to the city found it to be as it had been previously represented to us an irregularly built dirty place full of dead creatures bones and all manner
of uncleanness. We stoped a few minutes under a shade tree untill the men went to get us a boat. My husband went and borrowed a tent of br [Levi] Dorotty [Dougherty] and set it up close to the side of the river, where were a number of others, and we staid there 2 nights. Immediately after we loaded our things on the bank of the river a number of young gentleman who had just come in from Boston or New York called on us and brought a half dozen bottles of wine and beer with as many mince and apple pies and made us a present of them. They were quite a treat to us as the day was very warm and we were all fatigued. Friday we spent in baking and preparing to go on board the bark Wm O Alden Captain. In the evening Mr Hughes called on us, and introduced himself as the husband of Mary Parker, he had just landed in California and finding the times rather dull was nearly homesick. He had been living in St Louis, had sent his [wife] to Nauvoo to stay with her sister Mrs Kenny while he came here to make his fortune, he informed us of the death of his wife’s mother, who died with Cholera last summer after a sickness of sixteen hours illness. In the eve my husband and self visited br Doroty’s who were our old travelling companions from the states to the Valley, they arrived in Cal a few days before us, were living a new unfurnished house built for a store, and were selling milk for a living, have 5 cows and from them sold from 8 to ten dolls pr day of milk and butter.

[Aboard the Bark]

Sat 27th We went on board the bark, found it very dirty and unprepared to receive passengers, but as the captain was friendly and offered to take us free of expense our men concluded to go with him. We found the muske toes on board before us and standing ready with open jaws to devour us, our cabins were very small and as for sleep the first night we got none at all, such scratching and groaning I ne’er saw before, at first in the births and then on the floor, one man thought in the ladies cabin to find sweet repose but soon found his mistake and without ceremony arose. And thus the night passed between hope and despair, one moment in the cabin then out in the air.

Our Cap found it impossible to work the boat to any advantage (the wind being opposed to us) and sent back to the city to hire a steamer to hitch on to us, he at first offered 300 dolls they refused to go for that, and he sent the third time, offered 4–5 and finally 600, and they refused to go for that. They continued trying to get along but all to no purpose all day sunday, and monday made 10 or 15 miles. Tuesday morning 29th [30th] a steamboat captain sent word to him our cap that he would come the next morning and take us down for 600. So now here we are lying on the Sacramento waiting the arrival of the steamer. The women and
children fighting musketoes, cooking and moving about, the men employed in filling the water casks and preparing to go out to sea. We all forsook the cabin after the first night and took our beds on deck, where the wind kept the musketoes a little at bay, but my blood is so poisoned that whenever I get a little warm they pain me the same as at first.

*Thursday Aug—— 1st* still trying to work the bark, but all seemingly to no purpose as the wind is still against us. The musketoes are making such unmerciful havoc with our hands and faces that we are actually afraid there will be little or nothing left of us many days longer, but we desire to let patience have her perfect work. *Friday the 2nd* nothing transpired worthy of notice, made little or no head way.

3rd Sat. Our Captain determined to make another attempt to raise Steam Sufficient to take us through if possible, Accordingly deputed Tomkins to go back to Sacramento for that purpose, he started off on the first steamer that came along.

[A Fortuitous Steamer]

4th Sunday towards noon the steamer *Hartford* hove in view rang her bell and gave us a call, inquiring of the Capt if he wanted steam, the capt answered in the affirmative, concluding that Tomkins had of course engaged her assistance. We all rejoiced at our apparent good fortune, expecting very soon to be taken beyond the reach of the musketoes. She hitched on to us and for a few minutes took us along finely, but immediately to our surprise her capt came on board and enquired for passengers saying that bro Tomkins had engaged him to take some sixteen or seventeen of us, that he Tomkins was detained at the city on business would be down the next night, he was in a great hurry to get the baggage on board, Accordingly men went to work getting baggage out of the hole without stopping to ask questions, The women folks also flew about in the greatest confusion all except myself. I had just got my hands in dough was going to make up some fried cakes consequently did but little towards picking up my things. My husband in the meantime began to mistrust that all was not right. He could not see the propriety of bro T’s sending a stranger here to take us off and himself stay behind, knowing also that he settled all his business before he left that place. And furthermore if he the capt of the steamer intended as he said he did towing the Bark down, why should he take away the passengers? After a few minutes reflection he told them his things should not be taken off the bark. Bro Dunn, Tomkins family, Sis Pratt and family, the whole consisting of 12 persons, went on board the steamer *Hartford*. No sooner had he got the passengers than he dropped the Bark saying he could take us no further then but would hitch on to us again when we got through the slough or the next time he came down;
and some were left in the worst place for musketoes in the whole route. Our Capt did not seem to discover the trick in getting the passengers until he found himself left in the rear. The brethren had worked their passage on the Bark, and then to leave and go down on a steamer would cost the same as if they had started from the city, 17 dollars a person. In the night Tomkins returned with the Star, a boat that he had engaged to take us down. She was rather a weak sister could do but very little with us especially when the wind was high. In calm weather she took us along finely. Her capt worked faithfully 4 or 5 days was apparently a fine man. I felt sorry that he should labor so long for so little. Our Capt was to give him 600 dollars if he took us through but if he failed in the undertaking he of course did not expect it; he staid by us until 10th Saturday morning when we arrived at [spelling unclear] he then left, our capt paid him only half price. ^[Tomkins] was quite surprised to find his family gone, said he made no such arrangement with that capt, only asked him his price for taking passengers, told him if he could not get the bark towed down he should be under the necessity of taking off the passengers, he staid with us until the week following he got a little lonesome and left for San Francisco. My husband offered to let me go with bro T if I chose but he was determined to stick by the Bark; I concluded I could gain but little in leaving and as the Musketoes had left and I had the cabin all to myself I was quite content to stay.^

[In Sight of San Francisco Bay]

Taking advantage of the tide we floated along until Sunday morn 11th day about 9 oclock we hove in sight of the town of Benecia, the place we had so long been wishing to see. As the capt and crew had told us if they could only get there they could go to San Francisco in one day, We passed the town a mile or so and then stopped to take in Ballast. A few days previous to our arrival here the capt of a schooner saluted our capt as he was passing and informed him of the failure of Barton and Lee, two traders at Sacramento who were owing him 5000 dollars for the lumber he brought from Maine; he also a few days previous heard of the total wreck of a brigg in which he was a large sharer. It served to make him curse a little, but upon the whole I thought he bore it quite patiently, I understand he has heard since that there is a prospect of his getting what is due him from Barton and Lee.

Monday 12th ^and Tuesday 13th^ also we lay in harbor at Ben[i]cia taking in ballast Bro Busby been very unwell for several days, the pilot likewise has had the ague, and my husband is complaining today. My health is tolerably good considering the privation of sleep which I suffered for ten nights almost in constantly fighting musketoes. My blood became so
poisoned by them that I was under the necessity of taking medicine. I bathed my sores in camphor which healed them immediately. Our arrival at Francisco seems to be delayed far beyond our expectation this is now the 18th day since we came on board the bark. *Wed 14th* we expected to reach our destined port, but failed. *Thursday* 20th [day aboard the bark] arrived; they told us the sailors the day before that we should be sure to get there Thursday night, but now they are obliged to defer it one day longer; the wind and tide being against us the greatest part of the time. Our capt is now very sick in consequence of trying to work the first day they spent in getting in ballast, he had just recovered from a fever when we came on board, and was unable to do any hard work, the sailors cautioned him against it, but his ambition exceeded his strength, and he soon found himself overcome with fatigue. The other men who were sick on board are improving quite fast. Bro Busby is still quite unwell and I think a little homesick with all. Charly the 2nd mate complains of being lonesome since the girls left, is in a great hurry to get down to San Francisco. Says he shall leave the bark if we do.

I have enjoyed myself remarkably well since we got away from musketoes. I never knew how to price quiet sleep before. I have read all my eyes and head would allow me to, and slept when ever I chose had not much to do but cook our victuals.

Another proprietor of the Bark came on board, last Sunday, a fine looking man by the name of Crosby. Also another sailor whom they call pilot.

*Thursday* morn we hove in view of the shipping at San fra. Alma came in great haste to inform me of it, and ask me to come and enjoy the sight with him. We expected to anchor among the many hundred vessels in a few hours, but the wind dying away and the tide soon rising against we were compelled again to cast our anchor where we were, some ten or twelve miles from harbour.