Recollections of Past Days

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Starting Westward

July 3–July 28, 1856

[W]e left there and arived at Dunkerk[1] the next Morning ^at^ four a
clock : the ^fourth^ of July on enquiring we was told that the boat would
not leave untell some time in the afternoon the next day for Cleaveland
so we had all that time to wait we went to the restrant to get breakfast
then we went back to the Depot one of the guard[8] was very kind he told
My father that there was alarge room up stairs and he could take his fam-
ily into that room and all his bagage and we could occupie that room as
long as we had to stay at the depot he said it will be more private for your
girls than beign in the public waiting room he said you can make your
beds down and rest yourselys and if you want to cook I will show you can
make afire to Make your folks a cup of tea we was treated very kind and
respectfull at that place father and mother remained there all the day but
we Young folks took astroll around the place there was not much to be
seen the place seemed ^vey^ quiet sister Lucy Ward[2] and myself thought
we would go for awalk as we got tiard lying ^around^ and as I had to write
some letters we took awalk out in the feilds to be quiet and came to anice
shady place we sat down under Some beautifull trees and I wrote My
promised letter to My friend Alexander Ott whom I became acquainted
with in New York here I will say and was engaged to be marred to him the
next Year as he expected to return to Utah and I promised to become
his wife when he came home that I would wait for him to return home as
soon as he was releaced from his Mission but he prooved falce to me and
Marred a widow woman . when I received this new[8] from Preasedent John
Taylor I considered Myself free from all promises . .

I will now return to my walk with sister Lucey Ward after I wrote my
letters we though we would estend our walk alittle farther as it was such
alovery day and the fields was looking so green and beautifull and every
thing so calm and quiet we was inJoying ourselvs So much but we had not
gone far before we saw some one lying by the road side at first sight we
did not know what to ^do^ wether to proseed farther or go back we did
^not^ know if the Man was sleeping or not. but we thought he may be sick but to our great suprise we found the man was dead. so we retraced our steps and hureyd back to town and not tell any one that we had seen Man liing by the road side. we came back and sat down to rest on the bank of lake Erie washed our pockethandkerfs and then took agood bathe ourselfs as it was a nice retired place. then we went back to the railroad depot were father and Mother was anxiously waiting our return for thay did not like us to go far way from them we staid here the remaine of the day. After My brother John and father gathersd wood and got Water thay made a fire and we cooked dinner then we enjoyed ourselves all the afternoon reading and singing the songs of Zion we got Supper in the evening. after we Made our beds and restiard for the night. through "the" kindness of the guard at the depot we was very quiet and comfortable and in the Morning arose early got breakfast packed up our bedding and cooking utencels and got ready to start on our Journey again when the boat was ready the time seemed long that day for we did not leave Dunkirk untill three oclock in the afternoon.

When we arived at Cleveland we took the train for Chicago we arived there quite late at night we went to the Hotell for the night had Supper went to bed got up early in the Morning had breakfast then we got ready to start on our Journey again when the boat was ready the time seemed long that day for we did not leave Dunkirk untill three oclock in the afternoon.
that time we did not know what hardships we would have to pass through before we came to the end of our Journey if we had known we may have backed out and Staid in Iowa which I think would have been better for us and would have been the means of Saving my dear fathers life to have staid in Iowa that winter and Started ^on^ our journey the next spring

Well as I said the gentleman at the Depot told my father to return with his family in the evening and he would see that we had a comfortable place and that we should be protected through the night so as the evening came on we got supper after wich we returned to the Depot this gentleman came to father and ask him if we had been molested at all father told him we had not that we had spent a very quiet day and thanked him for his kindness . he said that is allright Mr now come with me he said bring your family and here is a car I have had emptied and cleaned out in realyness for You to sleep in for the night you can make your beds and have a good nights rest and you will be safe here untill Morning then the train leaves for Iowa he said he was going home but there would be a guard at the Depot all night .

After he was gone two big Men came in our car my brother John and father asked them what they wanted or what there business was they said they had come to stay all night with us as they was going on the train to Iowa in the Morning My Brother told them that they could not stay in that car with us there was no room for them and that this car had been allowed us for our own use for the night to sleep in at this they became quite enraged and said they would stay in the car and You cannot help Yourself My brother said once more to them will you leave this car or not they swore and said that they had as much right to the use of the car as we had and they was not going out My brother beign astaut Young Man pushed them both out of the car and closed the doors these fellows was taken by surprise thay went out of the car quicker than they came in for atime they staid around swaring and using vile language but the guard told them they had better leave so after a little time they went away and everything was quiet for the night we Made our beds and we girls and Mother and my brother8 Wife we all went to bed and slept untill Morning for we was all tiard out and needed rest My father and brother John kept guard all night so that we could have a good sleep the next Morning the boss came to see father and ask if we had a good Night8 rest father told him about these Men he said they was some that came from the little town they had no right to come in the car at all said My brother did right to put them out . we got breakfast and then started on our Journey for Iowa city.

When we arived there we was told that the Mormon Company was camped two Miles out of town we girls all walked out My father and brother had to look after our bagage and get some one to take it to camp for us when we arived in camp we was furnished a tent for our family8 the
weather was dreadfully hot. No shade whatever here we stayed for three weeks before the company was ready to start.

In the daytime we went into the woods as we were camped not far from there and the river ran through the woods so we made a fire and did our cooking and washing there as it was most convenient for us after we had been in camp a few days. 

My two sisters Zilpha and Tamar and my sister Zilpha Jaques and little Flora her little girl then two years old this was a happy meeting when we left Liverpool we left my sister Tamar with Br. Jaques to help my sister to get ready to leave by the end of June or as early in June as they could get ready as my brother-in-law was released from his labors in the office where he had been engaged for many years he could not leave to come with us so father and mother concluded to let my sister Tamar stay with them until my brother was released from the office we would have liked to all come from England together but brother Jaques could not leave the office to come with us in December 1855 he had to stay there in Liverpool until the following summer and we parted in Liverpool and did not meet again until July 1856 then we traveled altogether across the plains to Utah. I can assure you this was a very hard journey. I forgot to mention that I said we all traveled together but my eldest brother John remained in Iowa also his wife and young son Harrey Loader by name. My brother did not want to continue the journey that year as his wife was nearing her confinement and he thought the journey would be too hard for her and he said that he did not want to pull a hand cart so he got employment in Iowa and remained there for many years before coming to Utah and when the War broke out in 1861 he joined a volunteer regiment in Iowa and served three years in the war. He was wounded in the arm went to the hospital and then went home after he left the hospital and lived in Iowa for several years.