



Diary of Reverend Jason Lee—III

Author(s): Jason Lee

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DIARY OF REVEREND JASON LEE—III.

Friday Sep. 19, 1834. Daniel and Myself are now on the bank of the Willamette River a little distance from Mr. McKay's* place.

Wednesday expected that the Brig would come up to Vancouver and we should receive our goods there but the want of wind prevented her coming up. Went on board just at night and ascertained that we could not get them until the cargo was taken out. Slept on board and walked to the Fort 3 mi. in the morning and commenced preparations for a trip up the Willamette. Dr. Mc made all the necessary preparations of men boat food &c. and we were off about 4. O'clock. Camped upon the sand. Started early this morning and came to the mouth of the W. and found the Brig there. Took breakfast on board. Waited while Capts Lambert, Wyeth & Thing explored the vicinity in search of a place to suit their business, but the[y] could find none to please them. Left them with the expectation that they will unload some of their goods and ours at or near the place where they now are. Arrived $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1—O'Clock.

Sat. Sep. 20, 1834. Yesterday rode over Mr. McKay's place. The soil is sandy, light, and poor. The corn killed by frost potatoes light crop, wheat and peas tolerably good. Do not think such land will answer our purpose. This morning examined piece of ground on the opposite side of the creek [Scappoose] good soil timber in the vicinity and would make a tolerable farm but it is but a few feet above high water mark & in the spring is surrounded by water and I fear subject to frost, and Fever & ague. There is plenty of grass for cattle in all directions and the horses and horned cattle on the farm look exceedingly well. The superintendent a Canadian showed us the utmost attention and kindness. Started 9 h. 30 m. to

* In the vicinity of Scappoose, Columbia county, of the present day.

proceed up the River. Nearly all the land for some mi. is overflowed in high water. Passed over a ridge covered mostly with a large species of fir, some white maple hemlock ash black cherry & cedar.

Sunday, Sep. 21. Daniel being unwell I was anxious to reach the settlement and we reached the river and camped. Some of the settlers came over to see us.

Mon. Sep. 22, 1834. Came along the river or a little distance from it about 12 mi. to Mr. Irannie's,* called at the houses of the inhabitants who were very glad to see us. Most of the men are Canadians with native wives. The land seems good but the season has been too dry; the crops in this plain have been better than those lower down the river. Here we found Mr. Smith (Solomon Howard) teaching half breeds. He is an American who came from Boston with Capt. Wyeth. At supper we were treated to a fine dish of Canadian soup, exc[e]llent pork and beaver and bread made of flour without bolting and as fine mus[k]mellons as I ever tasted. Our tent was pitched in the mellon bed and we slept there and found it very convenient in the morning.

Tues. Sep. 23, 1834.—Started early this morning and rode some 3 or 4 mi. up the river to examine the land; found an excellent place for a farm above all the settlers. Returned to the lower farms and went on foot 3 mi. to see a plain where Capt. W. has chosen a farm.

Wednes. Sep. 24, 1834. Prairie Du Sable on the bank of the Willamette. Fog dense; cannot see a man two rods. Good health, plenty food &c., but my mind is greatly exercised with regard to the place of location. Could I but know the identicle place that the Lord designs for us be it where it may even a thousand mi. in the interior it would be a matter of great rejoicing. Only God direct us to the right spot where we can best glorify Thee and be most useful to these degraded red men. P. M. did not find the horses till nearly noon. Came about 11 or 12 mi. and are on a beautiful prairie but know not the distance to the River W. This plain would I think make

a fine farm but it is probably too far from the river. There are 30 Indians old and young a few rods from us and some of the men even are as naked as they were born, a filthy, miserable looking company and yet they seem quite contented. They subsist mostly on cammas. Probably more than in this vicinity have fallen a sacrifice to the fever and ague within 4 years.

Thurs. Sep. 25, 1834. Started 8 h. and came over bad road very slow to the fall of the Willamette and thence to the Clackamass River, forded it and crossed the prairie which we wished to see but think it will not answer our purpose.

Left the prairie and forced our way a mile to the Willamette through a swamp thickly timbered and covered with underbrush. Saw some Indians a little above us, came up and are camped upon the sand near them. My mind is yet much exercised in respect to our location. I know not what to do.

Friday, 26.—Sent the horses to Mr. McKay's place and hired two Indians to take us to Vancouver in a canoe, expected to reach there tonight but the wind and tide being against us we were forced to camp.

Satur., 27.—Arrived at the Fort 9 h., found our brethren well. After mature deliberation on the subject of our location and earnest prayer for divine direction I have nearly concluded to go to the W.

Sun. 28 Sep., 1834.—A. M. assayed to preach to a mixed congregation—English, French, Scotch, Irish, Indians, Americans, half breeds, Japanese, &c., some of whom did not understand 5 words of English. Found it extremely difficult to collect my thoughts or find language to express them but am thankful that I have been permitted to plead the cause of God on this side of the Rocky Mountains where the banners of Christ were never before unfurled. Great God grant that it may not be in vain but may some fruit appear even from this feeble attempt to labour for Thee.

Evening.—Preached again but with as little liberty as in the morning but still I find it is good to worship God in the

public congregation. My Father in heaven, I give myself to thee; may I ever be thine and wholly thine, always directed by thine unerring council and ever so directed as to be most beneficial in the world and bring most glory to the most high that I may at last be presented without spot and blameless before the Throne.

Mon., Sep. 29, 1834.—This morning began to make preparations in good earnest for our departure to the W. and after dinner embarked in one of the company's boats kindly manned [manned] for us by Dr. McLoughlin who has treated us with the utmost politeness, attention and liberality. The gentlemen of the fort accompanied us to the boat and most heartily wished us great success in our enterprise. Arrived at the lower mouth of the W. where Capt. Wyeth's brig is, late in the evening.

Tues. 30.—Received a load of our goods from Capt. Lambert and left the rest in his charge to be sent to the fort. Breakfasted and dined with Capt's Lambert and Thing. Left late in the day and camped a few mi. up the river on the point of a small island, the only place we could find for some miles where we could get the boat ashore. To the W. we have concluded to go. O, my God go with us for unless thy presence go with us we will not go up, for it will be in vain.

Wednes. Oct. 1, 1834.—This morning put Bros. D. Lee and Edwards on shore to go to Mr. McKay's place to get horses and we pursued our course up the river. Met Capt. Wyeth on his return from his farm and shall not see him again til summer. Camped on a small prairie about 9 mi. from the falls and found here the men which the Dr. had sent with the cattle. He has lent us 8 oxen, 8 cows and 8 calves. Find my mind more calm than when in a state of suspense about our location.

Thirs., Oct. 2.—Did not take breakfast til very late, being desirous if possible to ascend a little to the Indian village that I might engage them to assist us in carrying our load and boat which we were unable to carry by the fall. The old chief

came but not with men enough to carry the boat. We carried some of the goods by and part remain at the landing. Find myself very weary.

Fri. 3.—Slept verry well upon the bags of flour. The Indians came to receive payment for their labour and it was indeed a perplexing business to know how to pay them according to their work. Despairing of geting the boat past the falls we engaged two Indians with cannoes to go up with us and by means of an old can[n]oe we were enabled to take all and proceed a few mi. and are camped where it is difficult to find a place to sleep except on small stones.

Sat., 4 Oct.—Arrived at Mr. McKay's landing 1 o'clock, found Br's D. Lee & Edwards there with the horses; put them into the cannoes and came on horseback to Mr. Jerrais [Gervais]. He is not yet returned from the fort but is expected tonight.

Mon., 6 Oct.—Yesterday remained at Mr. Jerrais', did little except read my Bible a little, my mind barren and unfruitful. Early this morn in company with Mr. Jerrais went to examine land farther up than I had before been but concluded to land a short distance above the upper house on the W. Landed safe a little before night.

Sat., 11 Oct., 1834.—We have been engaged preparing tools, fencing a pasture for calves, drying goods, &c., which were wet coming up the river. Some things sustained a little damage but nothing of consequence. Have for the first time been employed in making an ox yoke and succeeded beyond my expectation having no pattern.

Sun., 12 Oct.—Many of the inhabitants came to see us and remained for hours conversing about various things in the Canadian tongue.

I understand some of their conversation but not enough to converse on religious subjects, hence I found their visit long. Have concluded to preach the ensuing Sabbath at Mr. Jerrais', though the congregation will consist mostly of persons who will not understand the discourse.

Sun., 19 Oct.—Made a few remarks from these words: “Turn ye from your evil ways,” to a mixed assembly, few of whom understood what I said but God is able to speak to the heart.

Sunday, Nov. 9, 1834.—Five weeks tomorrow since we landed here and our house not yet completed. Four weeks our goods were sheltered by our tent the last of which it rained most of the time, and ourselves by a borrowed one very small and inconvenient. We have been constantly employed and frequently obliged to retire early in the evening with our clothes wet to prevent being drenched in rain and yet we have enjoyed uninterrupted good health during the whole time, though we were far from being comfortable in many respects.

We have *laboured hard* during the week and walked two miles on Sabbath and laboured hard to instruct the few who understand us, in the things that pertain to their spiritual peace. I thank God for the mercies shown us collectedly and for the blessings I have enjoyed while labouring with my hands for him.

* * * *

August 18, 1837.—It is now nearly three years since I have kept any record of the dealings of God with me, or of the events that have transpired around me. Indeed I have written exceedingly little during my life, except what I have been *impelled* to write by the imperious hand of *duty*. Hence I have kept no journal except while crossing the Rocky Mountains. And, indeed, such is my aversion to writing that when my time is chiefly occupied in worldly business, and in manual labour (as has been the case the three past years) it is even a *burden* to sit down to write a letter on business, or answer one of a friend. But when I have become a little familiarized to it by practice it is comparatively easy. Had I kept a regular memorandum the three years past, I could have recorded little in reference to my *own* conduct, that would have afforded pleasure and satisfaction, to *myself*, in the review; or that I should be willing to exhibit to *others*, for their *imita-*

tion. Yet many things might have been recorded that would most strikingly have illustrated the goodness of God to me. I think I may safely say concerning my own conduct, that the more prominent features, or rather the general outlines of the picture, have been such as be; would be; in the main, approved of by even the judicious.

But, the *filling up*, the FILLING UP, there is the difficulty. I know full well, that the main object I have kept in view has been the glory of God in the salvation of souls, and having judged it expedient under existing circumstances to employ much of my time in manual labour, I pursued it with that diligence and energy for the first twelve months which I have reason to believe superinduced the intermittent fever.

* * * *

North Fork Platte River, July 28, 1838.—The above paragraph was written in the wilderness, between the Willamette and the Pacific, when on a journey to the latter, with Bro. Shepard for the benefit of our health, accompanied by our companions, and a neighbor. I wrote the above with the intention of taking notes for the rest of the journey. Was obliged to break off suddenly to move on, and being rather feeble, I did not resume my pen. I have since kept no journal except for a few days when on a trip to Umpqua. The trip to the Pacific had a beneficial effect upon my debilitated system, which had then been suffering more than a year and a half from the effects of the intermittent fever. I still, however, continued feeble during the fall and winter; unable to take any violent exercise without sensible injury. During the winter I nearly despaired regaining my wonted health if I remained in that climate.

The 16th Feb. I set out for Umpqua and after 23 days of toil and hardship reached home in safety, and after a few days rest found myself rather better for the trip. This was encouraging, considering the difficulties encountered such as being drenched in rain many times, fording creeks high enough

to wet our feet, sleeping in wet clothes and blankets, very bad roads and sometimes hard marching, &c.

The subject of the necessity of some one of the Mission Family visiting the U. S. had been agitated during the winter and it was at length decided by a majority that it was expedient for *me* to go. Previous to leaving for Umpqua, I had written Dr. McLoughlin, requesting a passage in the Company's boats, with himself, by the Hudson Bay route. This I greatly preferred to the route I came, as less fatiguing, less dangerous, better calculated to restore my debilitated system, and much more likely to afford new, interesting and useful information. The answer was near when I left and was to be brought me by a man who was to overtake us the second day, but by mistake he sent it to my house, hence I did not get it till my return. The Dr. could not grant my request, and expressed himself "doubly mortified"; because he could not do me the favour, and should also be deprived of my company. Such was my aversion to this route and so great were my fears that the fatigue would be too much for my strength that I inclined to stay at home, if the Dr. gave a negative answer, and had determined if that was the case, to abandon the trip to Umpqua, for the present, and return and prepare communications, and not go to the U. S. myself. Hence I was greatly disappointed at being kept in suspense so long, but it was no doubt Providential. On my return finding I could not go with the Dr. and feeling very much fatigued from the immediate effects of my journey and rather leaning to the opinion that it was hardly justifiable, for me to leave my post without permission from the Board, unless there was a prospect of benefiting my health (the opinion of most of the Brethren to the contrary notwithstanding). I endeavored to persuade myself that it was not duty to go, under existing circumstances, and tried to compose myself to represent the circumstances and wants of the Mission as well as I could by writing. The time previous to the departure of the express was too limited to do anything like justice to the subject and indeed, there seemed to be several things

which I despaired of ever being able to represent with that clearness, and force, which their importance demanded, except in person. In the meantime Messrs. Ewing & Edwards resolved to try this route, though there was no certainty of a party, going from Fort Hall to the American Rendezvous, and no certainty where it would be. The society of these gents, I saw at once, would obviate a good deal of the anticipated loneliness and make the journey much more pleasant and agreeable, and hence a much greater prospect of benefiting my health, was opened up. These things, together with the firm conviction of many of the brethren, that it was my duty to go; and many other weighty considerations; if they did not remove all my objections, finally counterbalanced them, and I became satisfied that my *Master* called, and that *duty* required me to leave *home* and *wife* and *friends* and retrace my steps to the land of civilization.

I had but two or three days to make preparations and of course everything was done with the utmost dispatch. I had witnessed some trying scenes before, had passed through some that were considered by myself and others to be *most* trying; but still there remained one to be experienced of which few are calculated to be adequate judges; for few, very few indeed, have ever been called to part with friends under such unusual and almost inconceivably *delicate* circumstances. For me to attempt to portray it upon paper, would be vain, but suffice it to say: that the impression is indelibly fixed upon my mind and will doubtless remain vivid while fond memory retains her seat.

July 30.—On a small creek 35 from Ft. Wm. We do not move camp today, and I purpose to employ a part of the day in noting a few reminiscences of self and days gone by (if rheumatism in my right elbow does not prevent) the perusal of which may be gratifying at some future day if life should be spared.

Like most others in my early youth I looked forward with glowing interest to that hour when ripening manhood should

qualify me to woo a beautiful, wise and lovely daughter of Eve, and ultimately call her my *own*. In early life, I admitted the full force of the assertions of holy writ, that "it is not good for man to be alone," and was fully satisfied that the man who was destitute of a helpmate, to whom he could give, heart and hand, and who would, without reserve, reciprocate his affections, was wanting what was better calculated to smooth the ragged path of life, lessen its ills and increase its pleasures, than anything els[e] of an earthly nature, that this world, with all its pomp and show, can possibly afford; and for which, man with all his diligence and assiduity can never find a substitute. With these truths deeply engraven on my heart, I grew up from youth to manhood; my imagination often adverting to the conjugal felicity that I fondly anticipated would at no very distant period be all my own. I always despised domestic brawling, and felt especially indignant at that man who could tyrannize over an innocent, lovely and defenceless female, and could scarcely avoid looking with detestation upon that woman who was ever grasping after the authority of the husband, and then always seeking to exhibit her prowess, in browbeating him on all occasions. I have generally been disposed to fix the heaviest censure upon the man, for all the domestic broils and disorder that occur in ordinary cases, believing it to be in his power to introduce and maintain a system that will in most cases secure harmony, order and peace in the family circle. But I am now fully convinced that it is a rare thing under the sun to see peace and harmony existing under that roof, where the all-transforming influences of the gospel of peace do not prevail. Such is the ignorance of human kind, that the wisest are liable to err at every turn; hence many will most *honestly* differ in opinion, with their best friends, and each, it may be, with equal sincerity, maintain opposite sides of the same question, utterly astonished that the other does not yield the point, and not being able to comprehend how another can see things so differently from himself; and being actuated by the principle of pride, which is always prompting us to

justify self and attribute dishonest motives to those who differ from us, he is not unfrequently led to the conclusion that it is wilful stubbornness that induces his opponent to maintain so zealously what appears to him so manifestly absurd. Hence hard feelings are engendered, a quarrel frequently ensues, and alienation of affections is the consequence. If in the absence of the religion of Jesus Christ, such things are *unavoidable*, even among those who wish to be honest, what shall we say of those haughty, domineering spirits who are determined to carry their own point, *right* or *wrong*? But where the religion of the Bible is mutually enjoyed, *there* is such a spirit of unbounded charity, and constant forbearance, that no difficulty can arise but what may be amicably adjusted and even difficulties shall tend to unite more closely those hearts which beat in unison and whose interests are one.

But to return from this digression. It was my intention to choose one from the same condition of life with myself, and though I did not intend to yield that authority which the God of nature has given to man to love the woman, yet I was determined to make my wife my *companion*, and to spare no pains to make her comfortable and happy; and never give her reason to regret that she had united her interests with mine, placed her person and her all under my controul, and confided in me for protection and support. I did not therefore think myself justified in marrying until I had a fair prospect of maintaining a wife comfortably at least by industry and economy.

But being thrown upon the world at the age of 13, without money, to provide for all my wants, by my own industry, I found as years rolled on it was not the work of a day to place myself in those circumstances, which I thought desirable, previous to taking what I viewed as the most important step of life. At the age of 23, however, I began seriously to think of settling upon some spot of earth which I could call my own, and of looking about for her who was to be the solace of future years.

But he who seeth, not as man seeth had otherwise determined. Thus far I had lived without hope and without God in the world, but now, the spirit, which I had so often grieved, again spoke to my conscience, and in language not to be mistaken, warned me of my danger. I saw, I believed, I repented, I resolved to break of[f] all my sins by righteousness and my iniquities by turning unto the Lord; and if I perished, I would perish at the feet of Jesus, pleading for mercy. I saw the fullness of the plan of salvation, cast away my unbelieving fears—believed in, and gave myself to Christ—and was ushered into the liberty of the Children of God. I was *now*, by my own *consent*, the property of another, and his glory and not my own gratification, must be the object of my pursuit. Years after years passed away; which I spent successively in business, in study and in preaching, until I reached the age of 30, still retaining the same views in reference to marriage, and still, for *conscience* sake, remaining single, being fully persuaded that it was my *duty* so to do. Previous to this I had consented to cross the R. Mountains, to labour among the Indians of Oregon. This was considered an experiment, and by many, many, an extremely hazardous one, and it was rightly deemed impracticable for females to accompany pioneers on an expedition shrouded in so much darkness and fraught with so many difficulties. I was fully aware, even if we succeeded in our enterprise that years must elapse before we could be reinforced by females, and therefore, resolved to make no engagements with any, previous to leaving the civilized world, which resolution was most sacredly kept. After establishing upon the Willamete, I made the best shift I could without female assistance, and though I felt more sensibly than it is possible for a man to feel, in the enjoyment of civil society, that it is not good for a man to be alone, yet I did not murmur, or perplex myself about it; believing that if God saw that it was for my good, and his glory, he would prepare the way for me to change my condition. In our first reinforcement in the summer of 1837 there were three single ladies, one of which was not en-

gaged. I had seen her before in N. Y. City, but was not at all favourably impressed with her personal appearance, and least of all, did I think she would ever become my wife; even when I was informed by letter that she was coming to Oregon, and on my first interview with her there, my prejudices remained the same. I was told that she was sent out on purpose for me, and that she had come with the expectation that I would marry her (this however was a gratuitous assertion), and was asked if I intended to do it. I stated my principles in reference [to] marriage and then replied, that though a lady should travel the world over in order to become my wife, yet I could never consent to marry her, unless, upon *acquaintance* I should become satisfied, that, that step would be conducive to our mutual happiness and the glory of God. Upon reflection, I was convinced that she was not a lady that I should have fancied for a wife (there is no accounting for people's *fancies*) though I esteemed her as a lady of deep piety and good sense; but thought I, perhaps, he who looketh not upon the outward appearance but upon the heart, has chosen her as far better calculated to increase the joys and lessen the sorrows of life, than one that my *fancy* would have prompted me to choose; and indeed I was convinced that fancy should have little to do with the matter but that judgment, alone, under the influence of an enlightened conscience should examine and decide the question; and here I rested the subject, until personal acquaintance should enable me to make a judicious decision, whether it was proper to make proposals to her or not. After having formed a pleasing acquaintance and mutually exchanged feeling on the subject, I at length became convinced that she was eminently qualified to do all the duties and kind offices of an affectionate companion, and was worthy of my highest regards, esteem and love, and that it was the will and design of our Father in heaven that we twain should become one flesh, as a step, conducive to our mutual happiness and his glory. With these views I made proposals of marriage and received for answer the following:

“Yes, where thou goest I will go,
 With thine my earthly lot be cast ;
 In pain or pleasure, joy or woe,
Will I attend thee to the last.

That hour shall find me by thy side,
 And where thy grave is, mine shall be ;
 Death can but for a time divide,
My firm and faithful heart from thee.

Thy people and thy charge be mine,
 Thy God, my God shall ever be ;
 All that I have receive as thine,
My heart and hand I give to thee.

And as through life we glide along,
 Through tribulation's troubled sea ;
 Still let our faith in God be strong,
 And confidence unshaken be.

(Signed) ANNA MARIA.

Ruth 1, 16, 17.

The following Sabbath which was the 16th of July, had been previously appointed for our first public communion in Oregon, and Brother Shepard had determined to be married on the morning of that day in the public congregation, believing it would have a beneficial influence upon those who were living with native women, without the ceremony of marriage.

Miss Pitman and I concluded that we would lead the way ; but this we kept a profound secret from all except my nephew, who was to do the business.

We were fully aware that this was a step that every member of the Mission Family was very anxious we should take, yet they had no idea that it would be so soon, and no *evidence* that it would ever be.

Miss P. aided in preparing the supper, and all went to Mr. Shepard's credit. The morning of the 16th came, it was a

lovely morn; and at the hour appointed for public worship the whole Mission Family consisting of seven males and five females, Missionaries, and assistants, and between 20 & 30 children, Indians and half breeds, repaired to a beautiful grove of firs 40 rods in front of the Mission House where were assembled nearly every white man in the settlement with their native wives and children all neatly clad in European manufacture besides a goodly number of Indians. There sheltered from the scorching rays of the sun, under the umbrage of these firs and fanned by the gentle zephyrs that seemed at once to calm and sooth and exhilarate the spirit; and dispose it to a devotional frame; we commenced the solemn exercises of the day by reading and singing a hymn of praise, and fervently addressing the throne of grace, while every knee bent in the attitude of supplication, and we trust many prayers came up as memorials before God.

I then arose and addressed them in substance as follows: My beloved Friends and Neighbors, More than two years have rolled into eternity and bourne their report of the manner in which we have spent them; since God in his providence cast my lot among you. During this period I have addressed you many times and on various subjects, and I trust that you bear me witness this day, that I never have, in any one instance, advised you to [do] that which is *wrong*; but, that I have, on all occasions, urged you to cease to do evil, and learn to do well. And I have frequently addressed you in no measured terms upon the subject of the holy institution of marriage and endeavored to impress you, with the importance of that duty. It is an old saying, and a true one, that example speaks louder than precept and I have long been convinced that if we would have others practice what we recommend, circumstances being equal, we must set them the example. And now, my friends, I intend to give you unequivocal proof that I am willing, in this respect, at least, to practice what I have so often recommended to you.

I then stepped forward and led Miss P. to the altar. Surprise,

seemed to be depicted upon almost every countenance. The ceremony over, I seated the bride and then united Mr. & Mrs. Shepard, also a white man to a native woman. After which I preached a long discourse from, "Come with us and we will do you good, for the Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel," with more than usual liberty. The subject *thrilled* and many tears, bore ample testimony that the hearers were not past *feeling*; and even the furrowed cheeks of some who did not understand the language spoken were not destitute of moisture on that occasion. The sermon ended, I read and explained the rules of our society, and then Baptised the young man just married and received him into the church.

Rev. D. Lee then read the lessons appointed for the administration of the Lord's supper, said the consecrating prayer and invited all who truly loved our Lord Jesus Christ to come forward and partake of the consecrated elements to their comfort; and I have seldom known the presence of the Lord more sensibly and powerfully manifested than on that occasion.

A young man* from New York who was brought up a Quaker, and who had for some months given good evidence that he was converted and had been for some time earnestly praying that his duty, in reference to Baptism, might be made plain to him, came forward and begged to be Baptised, and received into the Church, that he might have the privilege of partaking of the Lord's Supper. This done, a love feast, or rather a feast of love followed. Every member of the Church brought in, testimony for the Lord, and bore witness to the truth, excellency and importance of the religion of Jesus Christ.

Several of the neighbours, mostly Roman Catholics, spoke of their past wickedness and of their desire to lead better lives and save their souls. The exercises closed by singing and prayer. My health being extremely delicate, as was to be expected, I found myself greatly fatigued, by the excessive labours of the day, but felt thankful and happy that my strength had been exhausted in the service of God.

* Webley Hauxhurst.

Thus commenced a new era in my life and I began an experimental acquaintance with that state, of the happiness of which I had long been favourably impressed. Eight months elapsed previous to my leaving for this trip, and our affections for each other had been increasing, and our souls always beat in unison; insomuch, that there was seldom the slightest difference, even in opinion, in reference to any subject that we had occasion to discuss. Not a cross look ever ruffled our countenances, not an unkind word ever escaped our lips, and not a hard feeling ever disturbed the tranquility of our souls, during that period. The most perfect harmony and unanimity subsisted between us, and we were always happy in the enjoyment of each other's society. At length, however, imperative duty seemed to demand a separation. Painful in the extreme, was the thought of leaving *such* a companion, and especially, of leaving her in the most delicate circumstances possible; she having already six months of her pregnancy.

And if the thought of it was so painful to *me*, what must it be to *her*? Who would not have expected to see womanish weakness exhibited to its full extent under such circumstances? And doubtless she felt, and felt most sensibly upon the subject; for I can not conceive it possible for one so circumstanced not to feel; yet she had learned in the school of Christ: that personal inclinations and interests must always give place to duty; hence she confided in the arm of the Almighty for protection and support, and did not so much as attempt to dissuade me from leaving her. And where is the husband, similarly situated but must admire the noble heroism and moral dignity exhibited in the following declaration: "I will not take it upon me to *advise* either way; and I will not put myself in the way of the performance of your duty; but if you think it *duty* to go, go, for I did not marry you to hinder, but rather to aid you in the performance of your duty."

The circumstances of the parting scene I need not mark down with ink and paper in order to assist my memory, for

it is too deeply engraven on the tablet of my heart to be easily erased.

A short time before I left she presented me the following:

Must my dear companion leave me,
Sad and lonely here to dwell?
If 'tis duty thus that calls thee,
Shall I keep thee? No, farewell;
Though my heart aches
While I bid thee thus farewell.

Go thou loved one, God go with thee
To protect and save from harm;
Though thou dost remove far from me
Thou art safe beneath that arm;
Go in peace then,
Let thy soul feel no alarm.

Go, thy Saviour will go with thee,
All thy footsteps to attend;
Though you may feel anxious for me,
Thine and mine he will defend;
Fear not, husband,
God thy Father is, and friend.

Rocks and mountains may divide us,
Streams of water too will flow;
Time to me will seem most tedious,
And the hours will move too slow,
Thus divided,
Oh, what cares my breast will know.

Go and seek for fellow labourers,
Tell them that the field is white:
God will show them many favours,
While they teach the sons of night;
Bid them hasten,
Here to bring the Gospel light.

Though thy journey may seem dreary,
 While removed from her you love;
 Though you often may feel weary,
 Look for comfort from above:
 God will bless you
 And thy—journey prosperous prove.

Farewell, husband, while you leave me,
 Tears of sorrow oft will flow;
 Day and night will I pray for thee,
 While through dangers you may go:
 Oh, remember,
 Her who loves you much: Adieu.

Jason Lee

Anna Maria Lee.

Some might imagine that there is, in the above, a tinge of melancholy and feminine softness, or weakness that ill comports with the firmness of the Christian, but I am inclined to think, that neither the spirit of religion, or true philosophy would exclude feeling, even delicate and intense emotions, on such occasion. Stupidity or stoicism alone would dictate it. There may be much feeling where there is perfect submission, and a firm trust in the promises of God.

On the morning of the 25th of March we parted, to see each other no more, for, at least a year and a half; and the fact, that there was no prospect of my hearing from her during the whole time, and she from me only for three months, added poignancy to our grief, and made the pain of parting much more acute, than it otherwise would have been. If I know myself, nothing but a sense of duty would have induced me to leave under such circumstances; but it becometh the Christian, *ever* to say, not *my* will, but thine O God be done. There is one reflection which gives me exquisite pleasure in the retrospect; that is, that there was not the least thing transpired, during our intercourse with each other, that causes a blush to tinge our cheek, or gives the least pain; or that we would

hardly wish to alter, if we had it in our power to make a new edition. Would to God that I could speak thus, in reference to *all* the actions of life.

Horse Creek, on the Platte, Aug. 7, 1838. I purpose as time may serve, to put down a synopsis of our journey.

March 26, 1838. Left the Mission House on the Willamette, for the U. S. in company with P. L. Edwards, and two Indian boys, Wm. Brooks (a Chinook) and Thomas Adams.

28. Arrived at Vancouver, and found there was a mistake about the time of the party starting for the R. Mountains. We could have left two weeks later and yet have been in time.

April 4. Left Vancouver, Mr. Ewing of Mo. having joined us, in a canoe, but soon found we were too heavily laden; put ashore and hired a larger canoe of the Chinook chief. Called at the Companies Saw Mill, camped 10 mi. above it, with some Indians from the Cascades, who were on their way home.

5th. Reached the Cascades in safety though the canoe came near filling while towing it up a rapid. Rained hard, as is most always the case there. Carried our goods past and slept upon the gravel stones, rather uncomfortably; nearly everything being wet and very little wood.

6th. Arose early and with a good deal of difficulty engaged Indians enough with my help to carry the canoe across the portage. Slept above the Bluff Rocks.

7th. Procured a horse and guide from the Indians and arrived at Wascopum before noon; the canoe about an hour or two after. Found Bros. D. Lee and Perkins, well and hard at work preparing the timber for a house.

Sun. 8th. Preached to more than a hundred Indians in the Chinook jargon which was interpreted into the language of Wascopum, and then into Nez Perce. There was good attention, perhaps some good effected.

9th. After a long parley and a great deal of trouble, we engaged horses of the Is. to take us to Wallawalla, and crossed over to the north side. Was engaged writing till a late hour at night.

10th. Commenced early and finished my letters to wife and others. Broths Lee and Perkins came over and took breakfast with us; we then commended each other to God, in prayer, took the parting hand, while the former returned to take care of their Mission, the latter bent his course to the W. for his wife, and we pursued our way up the Columbia.

13th. Reached Wallawalla, with less fatigue, and better health than I expected.

14th. Went to Dr. Whitman's. The water was high in the streams. Overtook Mrs. Pamburn and daughters, and a very old woman, who crossed the mountains with Mr. Hunt,* and a grown daughter. We were obliged to cross on small trees, which bent and trembled with us so as to make it difficult to keep the center of gravity.

I thought a man who was with us and I should have enough to do to cross all stuff. I took a little girl in my arms and started across, and to my astonishment was followed by the females with larger loads than I should probably have ventured with, consisting of children, saddles, bridles, blankets, saddle bags, dogs &c., and all came safe over. The Dr. came and conducted us to the house.

Mrs. W. met us at the door, and I soon found myself seated and engaged in earnest and familiar conversation, as if we were old acquaintances.

15, Sab.—Had a very interesting time preaching to the In. while the Dr. interpreted.

16th.—Visited the In's [Indians'] Farms and was surprised that they had done so much in the absence of almost every tool necessary to do with. Some had two or three acres, wheat, peas, corn & potatoes.

17.—Started $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 o'clock A. M. on horse back, with two In. for Mr. Spalding's, a distance of a 100 mi. and arrived at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 P. M. on the 18th.

* Wilson Price Hunt in 1811.

22, Sun.—Preached to the In. Mr. S. interpreted. Mr. and Mrs. S. were very much pleased at receiving a visit from me, and I was very much gratified with the visit, and trust it was a profitable one.

23.—Took leave of these warm friends, came about 10 mi. to the river and were hindered a long time, before we could get a canoe; and it was 2 o'clock before we were across, and ready to move on. Encountered a shower of rain, which was disagreeably cold. Encamped just before dark.

24.—Started after breakfast and had a strong headwind all the forenoon, but pushed on hard and before dark found myself at Wallawalla. Distance this day at least 75 mi. Mr. Pambrun estimated it considerable more. Found myself rather weary, but slept sweetly and arose quite refreshed.

27th.—The boat from Vancouver and one from Colville arrived, and I was greatly disappointed at receiving only one note from the Willamette. Was expecting letters from all the M. Family and was very fearful, that, as they had let this opportunity pass, I should not get them at all. "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick."

29.—Preached in English to nearly all the inmates of the Fort, but half perhaps understood little. I was careful, not to shun to declare the whole counsel of God, and an influence was felt, but I fear it was of short duration, for the gentlemen continued their business after services. I think without paying any attention to its being Sabbath.

May 2.—Having provisions, pack saddles, &c, nearly all in readiness, I went again to see the Dr. and Mrs. W.

Fri. 4.—Thinking my letters had probably arrived I started for W. and met Bro. Edwards coming with them; returned to read them. Was greatly rejoiced, and refreshed, to hear from all my friends and especially from my dear wife. How different this world, from that which is to come: *Here* we are often separated from the dearest objects of our affections, *there*, we shall have no desire unsatisfied if we are with Jesus.

5.—Read and answered letters.

6.—Preached to the Indians.

7.—Rode to Wallawalla, fixed all for the journey.

Tuesday, 8.—Received 25 horses from Mr. P., of which I had 13, Messrs. E. & E. 6 each. Packed and came about 2 mi.

9.—Crossed goods in boat and canoe, over the Wallawalla river. Horses swam.

10.—Came 10 mi. Camped on the Wallawalla R.

11.—Left camp and came to Dr. W. and met Mr. Spalding there. Had a good visit.

12.—Came to camp accompanied by Mrs. S. and Mrs. W.; it was in motion, and we passed on to the front of camp. I there remained with them till all were past, and we kneeled upon the bank of a small stream, and Mr. S. commended us to the throne of grace, we then took the parting hand, and they returned to their arduous labours; and I pensively pursued camp, thankful for the pleasing acquaintance thus formed.

13, Sun.—Should have remained over Sabbath with Dr. W. but was not willing to lose the opportunity of preaching to camp, being informed that it would not move on that day; but was greatly disappointed; the rain falling all day in such torrents, that it was not practicable.

14. Rain continued with unabated force and we did not move. Rather uncomfortable.

15.—Came to river Moreau, fell a tree and carried the baggage.

16.—Reached the Utila. Many Kioos [Indians] came to us.

17.—Remained, water too high to ford.

18. Crossed and camped.

Mr. Edwards' horse reared up in the river, fell back, and he fell under him, and with some difficulty extricated himself without injury. Mr. Ermatinger arrived from Vancouver. Though this is the 11th day since we left, yet a man could easily ride to Wallawalla in one day.

19.—Came a good march to the middle of the Blue Mountains, small plain, grass rather poor.

Mr. E. informed me he intended to march on Sun. His excuse was the grass was poor, and the horses would get lost in the woods.

20, Sunday.—Crossed the remainder of the B. M. and camped on Grand Round River.

21.—Crossed the G. R. plain and slept at the hills.

22.—Wet some things crossing a branch of Powder R. and camped. Short march.

23.—On a branch of the same. The main river is too high to ford and we are forced to go around to cross the different branches, losing at least one day.

24.—In the hills. Arose early to finish some letters to send by a free trapper who came to us two days ago; but he concluded to remain another year.

25.—On the waters of Brule.

26.—On Brule. Some trouble with a wild horse throwing his pack, &c.

27, Sun.—Did not move camp. Very hot sun succeeded by a heavy shower; was fearful it would continue all day; but at length it cleared away, and I collected the people and gave them a sermon.

28.—Camped on the river De Bullo.

29.—On Malheur.

30.—Arrived at Boise.

31.—Was engaged writing letters. Evening, crossed over to the Fort, and wrote till a late hour. Musketoos troublesome. Slept in the Fort.

June 1.—Left Fort Boise, came a few mi. to Owhyhee River; waited till the canoe arrived from the fort, crossed, and camped. Careless men upset one load.

2.—Made a good march. Camped on Snake R.

3, Sun.—Preached 1st in English, and Baptised Mr. McKay's son, Donald M. Lane! 2nd in French, talked a little, rather broken; 3rd in English.

4.—Camped on Snake R. near where we camped after making the long march when we went down. It is extremely hot, dry and dusty; but we find some excellent currents, which are a great luxury and what I little expected to find here.

5.—On a brook. Grass good.

6.—On River Bruno.

7.—On Snake, a little above where we left Mr. McKay when we went down.

8.—The same place where Mr. McK. took wife. One of our horses, which had been bled a fortnight previous, came into camp, bleeding from the wound which had not yet healed. He was poor and had been used but one day after he was bled. He seemed very weak from the loss of blood. Mr. M. K. sewed up the incision, as I thought well, but in morning of the 9th we found that he had been bleeding during the night. He was so weak that he could not go without staggering, still I resolved to try to take him on, thinking it possible for him to recover if the blood could be effectually stanch'd. Our road for 12 mi. lay across a plain without water, and lest he should faint by the way I took a pail of water to refresh him by the way. Carried behind with a boy and walked him gently the whole distance then left him at Snake Falls, and went on 4 mi. to camp. Never did I feel more compassion for any poor brute, or labour so hard to save one.

10, Sun.—Wm. went early and drove in the horse. Was surprised to see the tents coming down, preparations making for a move. The excuse was that provision was short. I soon learned that they intended to only [march] three hours. I was exceedingly grieved, and was at a loss to know whether it was duty to interfere or not; but at length determined to expostulate. I said we had had sufficient proof that we could make as much headway in six days by resting the seventh, as

we could to travel the whole seven; and to make the want of provision an excuse for disturbing the quiet of the holy Sabbath, and wounding the feelings of their friends, and only for three hours march, was out of the question; better say, I go, because I have a mind to go. That it was a paltry excuse and would not satisfy judicious men, much less answer at the bar of God, &c., &c., and then went away without waiting a reply, after saying, I had done what I conceived it my duty to do. I retired to my tent, and while pouring out my complaint before the Lord I heard the order given not to move camp.

The hunters, however, were sent out. Preached with little liberty to a small, sleepy and apparently indifferant congregation. Felt thankful for the privilege of declaring God's word whether men hear or whether they forbid.

11.—Messrs. Ermatinger, Edwards & M. Lane left for Fort Hall. Was convinced that our horse could not live, requested an Indian to shoot him after I should leave. I heard the report and was glad his misery was over. Made a long march and camped in same place where we camped going down, having made two of our encampments, then no running water, now a large stream.

12.—Slept on the same stream that we did the first night we reached the plain, after the sheep excursion.

13.—On Goose Creek. Bad crossing. Antelope for supper.

14.—Found the hunters at the Fountain, killed 8 antelope, a reasonable supply. Several men met us from Ft. Hall. Bad news from Mr. Grey [Gray]*, all his Indians killed and himself wounded. For the first time eat a piece of Mountain sheep, and found it good, it resembles mutton very much.

Camped on Raft River, a few rods from where Mr. Abbot, our former companion in cattle driving and another man were killed by the Indians—Snakes. They were friendly In. and probably they murdered them without their having the least previous suspicions of their intentions.

15.—Forded Rock Creek and halted for breakfast a few mi. above. Generally breakfast about 11 o'clock and take no dinner. Had a violent storm of rain and hail. Put my baggage under a shelving rock for safety and got under another myself. The water run in brooks in a few minutes. When it slacked a little I examined the baggage and found it nearly swimming in water. Our sugar was mostly wet, of course some wasted. Camp did not move, but we came on and slept a little above the American Fall.

16.—Started early, went several mi, up in order to ford Portneuf and came to F. Hall, a little post now.

17, Sun.—The camp arrived and it was a day of business; but I think no grog given. The musketoos were indeed dreadful. It was almost impossible to read at all, or even sit to eat. I expected an invitation to preach in the Fort, but no intimations of the kind being given, I requested one of the men to inform the people that if they would assemble upon the bank of the river I would preach to them; and I believe nearly all about the fort assembled in a few minutes, except, the gentlemen, so called, belonging to the company. Had a good deal of liberty in speaking, but was obliged to fight musketoos the whole time; and they were so thick that I could not see the countenances of the congregation distinctly; and it aston[ished] me to see the attention given while they must have suffered so much torment. Was thankful, for the privilege, of giving *one* faithful warning to these people, many of whom, perhaps, have not heard a sermon for many years, and some doubtless will never hear another. God alone can give the increase. The manner of life is such in these mountains that to hope to do *them* good is to hope against hope; all things are possible with God.

18, 19 & 20th.—The liquor rolled freely and I need say nothing of the scene that followed, for there is no danger of forgetting it. I will however say, that it was no worse, and hardly so bad as I expected. Was able to write a little by

driving the musketoos from the tent, and making it as tight as possible, and then stopping occasionally to kill them off.

21.—Finished my letters and made preparations to start after dinner. One of our horses was missing and I sent the boys to look for it, and told Messrs. E. & E. they had better go on to camp, which was to be only 3 or 4 mi. In the meantime Thomas' horse threw him and trod upon his knee, which swelled a good deal and the pain was extreme. By this time the camp was in motion and our horses became extremely uneasy.

I washed the knee in strong vinegar and commenced packing the horses, one ran away with the saddle on, but we managed to get all the things on, and I told Wm. to drive them to camp but when we let them loose, each took his own course and away they galloped. Thomas was in great pain, and lying outside of the Fort, no invitation having been given to take him in. I asked a Kanaka to take him in, and went in quest of the horses.

After we had collected them and got them well under way, sent Wm. with them and returned. What to do with Thomas, was now a perplexing question. I at length determined to put him upon a horse, and if possible take him to camp.

The slow motion of the horse seemed to alleviate the pain a little, and we reached camp just before dark. The lost horse still behind. This afternoon brought with more perplexity perhaps, than any previous month of the journey, but I got through with it very well, and felt very thankful that it was no worse.

22.—Started at daylight in search of the lost horse, and found him alone, in the prairie 6 mi. below the fort and with a great deal of difficulty caught him. He led badly, and as I was trying to put the cord in his mouth, he struck me, one foot hit on the upper lip and the other on my arm. The blow on the lip produced a contusion, and a good deal of pain, but it soon subsided. Went to the fort and took breakfast. Mr.

Ermatinger was to leave the following Tues. and the company was to await him there. I overtook camp a little after they halted for the night, and thankful to find Thomas' leg better.

23, Sat.—Very little provision in camp, but fortunately, a short distance from where we wished to camp, saw a band of buffaloe, three were killed, two fell in camp. This supply prevented our moving on Sunday.

24, Sun.—Preached twice, but some did not attend.

25.—Did not raise camp. Mr. Walker's "squaw", as he calls her, brought forth a son about 8 o'clock A. M. Was in labour four and twenty hours, I think.

26.—Made a long march to the little lake and Mr. Walker and squaw arrived about an hour after. How different from civilization. Several went out hunting. About 5 o'clock a band of buffaloe was seen 3 or 4 mi. from camp, 10 or 12 men were soon mounted and off. Wm. and I went to see how our horses would perform. When we were a mi. distant at least, I dismounted, to tighten the girth of my saddle. No sooner was I off than they raised the yell and rushed forward as fast as they could. A half breed started first and the others were obliged to follow if they wished to kill. By the time I was mounted, they were a good distance ahead, and my horse, not pleased at being behind, rushed on so fast, that by the time I came up he was rather out of breath; however, seeing the foremost one start off alone and no one following him, I gave him chase. It was a very bad place to run; many ravines and rocks, but I at length succeeded in coming up to him, and brought him down the third shot. Wm. also killed one. We thought we did very well, as there were but seven buffaloe, and so many old hunters, considering this was our first trial.

27.—Mended clothes, made arrangements for the journey &c.

28.—Heard Mr. E. had arrived at Bear River, and packed immediately to go to him, but he came just as we [were] about to start; concluded to remain all night.

This day, I was 35 years of age. I could not but reflect, that I had now arrived at what is called the meridian of life, and that my sun was beginning to decline towards the western horizon. 35 years, and how little have I done to benefit mankind. How long shall I yet be permitted to labour? Can I expect to see as many more years? No. How many have I known, whose sun has suddenly set at noon! Mine too may soon go down. There are many things to induce the belief, that I shall never arrive at old age. My sun is, in all probability, several degrees past the meridian already, and a few more years, perhaps, weeks, or days, may find me numbered with the silent clods of the valley. Well, be it so: but let me have grace to improve my remaining days, more, or less, to the glory of God, and I need have no uneasiness about it. The Judge of all the earth will do rightly.

29.—Mr. McKay accompanied us to Bear R., dined with us, and took his leave of us, and his three sons, who are going, under my care, to the U. S. to study for some years. The parting scene was most affecting. We were now, in company with Mr. Ermatinger, three men, and two Indians started, in good earnest, for Rendezvous. Made a long march and camped on a small creek.

30.—Overtook Mr. St. Clair, a trader, who left us the day before we left the little lake. Went out to run buffaloe; just as I was getting near, a man shot one, which did not fall immediately, but as I was taking aim, he fell and frightened my horse. It was upon a side hill, and my horse leaped so suddenly that I discharged my gun into the air, and as he continued [to] leap, in saving myself my gun fell to the ground.

Thankful that I had shot no one (for there were several close by), but not at all discouraged, I picked up my rifle, continued the chase, and killed my animal. Camped on B. River.

July 1, Sun.—Left B. R. on the right, crossed Smith's Fork, came along the hills several miles, and crossed the dividing

ridge, between the waters of B. R. and those of Green River. Camped on a small stream. Our guide, in attempting to take us a near-cut, took us over some dreadful hills, through thick woods, and over some snow banks, where, I *think* man never before past, and seldom beast. This was more than a Jewish Sabbath day's journey, but I did not know how to avoid it. Mr. E. had before told me, if he went to Rendezvous with us, he would travel Sunday, for he would not give the Black-Foot two chances for one.

2.—Camped on New River, had missed our way, and gone a few miles too high up.

3.—Some cows were killed. Camped a few mi. from Horse Creek, where we expected to find Rendezvous, but seeing the plains covered with Buffalo, and seeing no signs of *it*, such as horse tracks, &c., I had given up almost all hope of its being there. And what might be the consequences to us was more than I could divine.

July 4.—Started early, and in a few hours, reached Horse Creek, but instead of finding the noise, tumult, hustle and drunkenness, which one might expect on Independence day, at an *American* Rendezvous; all was gloomy-solitude, and still as the house of Death. We soon learned, from a note left upon an old house that, Ren. was upon Pawpawazha at its confluence with Green River. One of our party had passed that way 9 years ago, and thought it was 150 or 200 mi. Mr. E.'s horses were poor and he did not wish to go farther, and the guide must return with him. Perplexing suspense, seemed to give a gloomy tinge to every countenance; and though we *talked of Independence*, yet, perhaps we seldom *felt* more our dependence upon others. At dinner, however, I told them my mind was made up, whatever others might do to go *ahead*. After dinner I went and examined the notes, and the writing upon the logs of the house, and we were satisfied, that, Mr. Grey had arrived at Ren's and Mr. E. determined to go with us, we finding him and men horses to ride. This settled all became cheerful, and the boys prepared a splendid Independence supper.

5.—Crossed Green River, made a long march, between 40 & 50 mi. camped on a small stream, good grass.

6.—Saw four Indians; being apprehensive that they were Black Feet, three men started immediately to ascertain, and in the meantime the In. found some buffaloe and run them close to us, without showing the least fear. We were then satisfied that they were Snakes. They soon came to us, and a short time after, we came in sight of their village. It was a mile or two from our route, and perhaps 30 came to us on horseback and held a parley.

They confirmed the news about Ren., and told how many waggons there were. We remarked that several of our horses were a good deal swollen, and before noon one of the In.'s horses was dead.

Crossed Big and Little Sandy R. and passed the dividing ridge between the waters of the Pacific and the Atlantic. Several horses very sick when we encamped. Perhaps half of them were more or less affected. They must have eaten some poisonous plant. Now all hands commenced giving medicine, while I made preparations for giving clysters. They were so swollen that some were in agony, but the clyster relieved them and all seemed pretty well in the morning.

7.—Got out of the mountains, and camped on Pawpawazha. Was extremely weary.

8, Sun.—Started early, and in a few hours saw several men upon the opposite side. Hailed them and learned that they left Ren's that morning. Moved on rapidly and came in sight of Ren's about noon. It was upon an island, and the [water] being too high to ford with loads we camped and soon Mr. Grey came to us.

After dinner I cross[ed] over and was introduced to Mrs. Grey and his associates. I received one letter from Dr. Bangs, and that was the only one. Was greatly rejoiced to see five males and four females, going to join, the solitary Missionaries on the Columbia. United with them in prayer meeting. Yes

strange to tell, Christians have met upon the R. Mountains to pray for the poor Indians: May Heaven hear and be propitious to their prayers. Tarried with them all night.

9.—Went to our camp, and by raising the packs high were able to bring them over dry. The Missionaries and their Ladies, all seem cheerful and very anxious to get into their field of labour. May Heaven speed them on.

10.—Writing all day, except when hindered by visitors, or visiting, and nearly all night.

12.—In the morning finished my letters. This being the last opportunity of writing my dear wife, perhaps till my return, it seemed almost like a fresh parting; and the thought that this privilege must be denied me, and that I could do nothing to alleviate her sorrows, or add to her joys, for so long a time, brought tears to my eyes. But how consoling is the doctrine brought to light in the Bible. I wish to add to her comfort; well, if we are both actuated by the love of God, I am taking the most effectual method of of doing it.

“All things work together for good, to those that love God.” And “these light afflictions, which are but for a moment, work for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.”

Took leave of the brethren and sisters, while they started, in company with Mr. Ermatinger. Thank God, they have every prospect of reaching the field of their future labours in safety. How happy would I have been, if my work in the U. S. had been done, and I ready to descend with them, but God's ways are not as our ways, nor his thoughts as our thoughts. A. M. Forded the river and camped with the company which is going to Missouri.

The grove at the Rendezvous, where was the store, lodges, &c., took fire, and they were forced to move all their goods from their store, but with difficulty saved the building.

13.—Mended my trunk, which was shatered very much, by my horse running away and throwing it off. Wished much to be on our way.

14.—Much talk of starting, but finally (as I had anticipated) deferred to Sunday.

15, Sun.—Left and made one march. Like sailors, they prefer starting on Sunday. The better day, the better luck. How undesirable a situation for a Christian, to be obliged to follow a company that has no respect to the Sabbath.

16.—Eat a piece of gray bear, very fat and better than any of the kind that have tasted before.

Camped on a small stream, was obliged to guard for the first time on the journey. Must take my turns or hire some one to do it, for no one is excused in this camp. Intend to stand my own guard, for I will not pay Mission money, and *I* have but little.

17.—Crossed the dividing ridge between the waters of the Yellowstone and the Platte. Dined, and slept, on Sweet Water River.