

Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

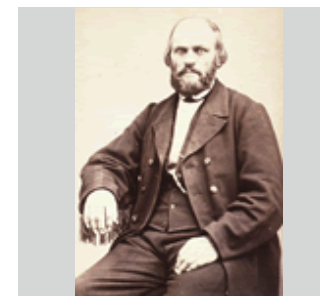
Aaron Johnson Company (1850)

Departure: about 8 June 1850

Arrival: 12 September 1850

Company Information:

100 wagons were in the company when it began its journey from the outfitting post at Kanesville, Iowa (present day Council Bluffs).



Aaron Johnson

(The number shown in parentheses next to each name is the age of the pioneer at the time of the journey.)

Aaron Johnson Company (1850)

Allman, Jane Walker (35)	Harris, Thomas Eagles (9)	Redfield, Chloe Antoinette (7)
Allman, Thomas (31)	Harris, William (10)	Redfield, Clarissa Mina (21)
Averett, Cherizade Grimes (37)	Hicks, James M. (16)	Redfield, Harlow Maroni (16)
Averett, Elijah (39)	Hill, Eliza Wright (44)	Redfield, Levi Harlow (48)
Averett, Elijah, Jr. (4)	Hill, Elizabeth (20)	Redfield, Mary Caroline (18)
Averett, Helen Marion (19)	Hill, Isaac (43)	Redfield, Rachel (12)
Averett, Rebecca Nelson (infant)	Hill, Isaac (5)	Redfield, Susan (11)
Bird, Emeline Crandall (25)	Hill, Lucinda (17)	Ritchie, [Sister] (Unknown)
Bird, Martin William (infant)	Hill, William M. (10)	Ross, James Andrew (13)
Bird, Richard (29)	Hunt, Benoni (14)	Ross, James Jackson (14)
Bird, Richard Leroy (1)	Hunt, Daniel (10)	Ross, Leah Lucinda (8)
Browitt, [Sister] (Unknown)	Hunt, Daniel D. (54)	Ross, Margaret Ann (12)
Bunker, Edward (28)	Hunt, James W. (18)	Ross, Mary Elizabeth (5)
Bunker, Edward (3)	Hunt, John A. (20)	Ross, Nancy Jane (1)
Bunker, Emily (1)	Hunt, Levi B. (15)	Ross, Rachel Smith (36)
Bunker, Emily Abbott (22)	Hunt, Martha (21)	Ross, Thomas (35)
Burgess, George Martin (11)	Hunt, Nancy (8)	Russell, Alonzo (Unknown)
Burgess, Harrison (32)	Hunt, Susan (49)	Russell, Frances Maria Stillman (20)
Caldwell, Andrew (Unknown)	Johnson, Aaron (43)	Russell, Lester (24)
Caldwell, Barzilla Guymon (26)	Johnson, Aaron, Jr. (infant)	Russell, Valoran (4)
Caldwell, Curtis Washington (1)	Johnson, Don Carlos (2)	Sargent, Abel Morgan (49)
Caldwell, Matthew (28)	Johnson, Emma Marie (13)	Sargent, Thomas (12)

Caldwell, Rachel Almira (3)	Johnson, Jane Scott (27)	Savage, Mary Abigail White (27)
Caldwell, Thomas Jefferson (6)	Johnson, Laura (22)	Scott, Abigail (Unknown)
Carter, Daniel (46)	Johnson, Mary Ann Johnson (18)	Scott, George (Unknown)
Carter, Ruth Clarissa (13)	Johnson, Polly Zerviah Kelsey (41)	Shiple, John (38)
Crandall, Hyrum or Hiram (6)	Johnson, Sarah Mariah Johnson (26)	Shiple, John (2)
Crandall, Julia Ann (8)	Johnson, William Lorenzo (infant)	Shiple, Mary (25)
Crandall, Martin (20)	Johnson, Willis Kelsey (21)	Shiple, Moroni (3)
Crandall, Myron Edgar (2)	Jones, Elisha (37)	Shiple, Nancy Elizabeth (9)
Crandall, Myron Nathan (32)	Jones, Elisha Warren (1)	Shiple, Orson (5)
Crandall, Tryphena Bisbee (31)	Jones, Elizabeth (6)	Smith, Hyrum James (2)
Davis, Henry Lewis (5)	Jones, Jane (5)	Smith, Mary Ann Line (39)
Davis, Joshua (29)	Jones, John (12)	Smith, Samuel (32)
Davis, Joshua Martin (2)	Jones, Margaret Talbott (35)	Smith, Samuel Lorenzo (6)
Davis, Susan Ann Cole (23)	Jones, Mary (10)	Thomas, Daniel Claiborne (34)
Deal, Daniel Edgar (6)	Jones, Richard (14)	Thomas, Daniel Claiborne, Jr. (infant)
Deal, Eliza Crandall (34)	Jones, Sarah (8)	Thomas, James Moroni (Unknown)
Deal, John Wesley (2)	Kearns, Austin (9)	Thomas, Jane Gaither (27)
Deal, John Wesley (27)	Kearns, Charlotte Elizabeth (infant)	Thornton, Horace (28)
Deal, Laura Frances (infant)	Kearns, Charlotte White (27)	Warren, Amos Sweet (18)
Deal, Mary Ellen (4)	Kearns, Hamilton Henry (33)	Warren, Charles Wesley (24)
Ford, [child] (infant)	Kearns, William (9)	Warren, Mary Dorcas (17)
Guymon, Elizabeth Ann Jones (20)	Kington, Eleanor Caroline (2)	Warren, William James (21)
Guymon, Emma Melissa (7)	Kington, Margaret Pisel (37)	Watts, Baldwin Harvey (15)
Guymon, Lucinda Harris (9)	Kington, Ruth Ann (5)	Watts, Elizabeth (10)
Guymon, Margaret (30)	Kington, Thomas (56)	Watts, Elizabeth Heath (35)
Guymon, Margaret Elizabeth (4)	Kirk, Elizabeth (35)	Watts, Hyrum Smith (8)
Guymon, Martin Lewis (1)	Kirk, Hiram S. (2)	Watts, John R. (2)
Guymon, Mary Jane (12)	Kirk, Thomas (35)	Watts, Lucy Ann (4)
Guymon, Melissa Jane (17)	Lines, Hannah Abley (Unknown)	Watts, Robert Harrison (48)
Guymon, Noah Thomas (30)	Lines, Michael (Unknown)	Watts, Robert Nelson (infant)
Guymon, Sarah (59)	Littlefield, Adeline Amarilla Hamblin (27)	Wells, Bethia Fordham (19)
Guymon, Thomas (63)	McDougal, Margaret (Unknown)	Wells, Erastus Nelson (15)
Guymon, William Albert (1)	McGaw, [Sister] (Unknown)	Wells, Hulda Moriah (13)
Hamblin, Duane (9)	Mecham, Erastus Darwin (23)	Wells, Jonathan Sawyer (45)
Hamblin, Edwin (15)	Mecham, Martha Jones (17)	Wells, Judah Smith (4)
Hamblin, Francis Marion (10)	Mecham, Sylvia Ameretta (infant)	Wells, Lyman Briggs (20)
Hamblin, Fredrick (9)	Patten, David Wyman (3)	Wells, Lyman Martimer (infant)
Hamblin, Isaiah (59)	Patten, Deborah (20)	Wells, Margaret Gardner (39)
Hamblin, Jacob (31)	Patten, Edith (18)	Wells, Otis Nathaniel (17)
Hamblin, Lydia Emery (50)	Patten, Hannah Ingersoll (62)	Wells, Sarah Matilda (7)

Hamblin, Lyman Stoddard (2)	Patten, John (24)	White, Frances Ann Thomas (17)
Hamblin, Marriette Magdaline (5)	Patten, Thomas Jefferson (22)	White, Joel William (18)
Hamblin, Martha Adaline (6)	Pectol, Eunice (15)	White, John Griggs (74)
Hamblin, Oscar (17)	Pectol, George (44)	White, Lucy Hannah (8)
Hamblin, Rachael Judd (28)	Pectol, George Peter (8)	White, Lucy Maranda Bailey (60)
Hamblin, William Haynes (18)	Pectol, James (3)	White, Mary Elizabeth (3)
Harris, Daniel Browett (1)	Pectol, Jemima Bell (11)	White, Mary Hannah Burton (32)
Harris, Elizabeth (12)	Pectol, Mary Jane (14)	White, Samuel Dennis (32)
Harris, Enoch (7)	Pectol, Sarah Reasor (40)	White, Samuel Orson (5)
Harris, Hannah Maria Eagles (32)	Pectol, William (infant)	White, William Henry (1)
Harris, Joseph Robert (14)	Pond, [son] (Unknown)	Wood, Daniel (62)
Harris, Robert (42)	Redfield, Adelaide Sophia (6)	Wood, Sarah Grace Sweet Warren (51)
Harris, Sarah Ann (4)	Redfield, Alpha Luranda Foster (34)	Wood, Wellington (8)

Source of Trail Excerpt: "Arrival of the Mail from the Valley," *Frontier Guardian*, 10 July 1850, 2.
Arrival of the Mail from the Valley.

On Friday the 5th inst., the mail arrived at this point from the Valley of the Great Salt Lake, in charge of Elder Robert Campbell who is on his way as a missionary to his native land, Scotland, accompanied by Elder John O. Angus.

The following named brethren, have also arrived and destined for England on missions: Isaac C. Haight, Captain of the Company, Wm. Burton, Appleton M. Harmon, Jesse[e] W. Crosby, James Works, Claudius V. Spencer, and Moses Clawson. Br. Clawson left the company at the Upper Platte Ferry, and came in two days ahead of the mail. He states that on the 16th ult., 10 miles below the Lower Ford of the South Fork of Platte, Captain Daniel C. Davis, was seized with the cholera at 2 o'clock, A.M., and died at 1 o'clock, P.M., same day, after suffering considerable agony; although the greatest care and attention was paid him during his sickness.

From letters which we have received from our emigrating companies, who left this spring for the Valley, and from the news brought by the mail the tidings from the plains assume rather a dreary aspect. Sixty-two is reported to have died out of out emigrating camps. The following is a list of all those we were able to learn the names of:

Aaron Johnson's wife and son, (Willis K.;) David Evan's daughter, Amanda Herrick, John Smith, Perry Kyes [Keyes], John Carns, Elizabeth Malery [Mallory], Mary Dana, (wife C. R. Dana,) Zenos [Zenas] Keyes, J. Leaney, Dilley's [Dille's] wife, Luther Warner, five of the Spafford family, R. Griffith's wife, David Lameraux's [Lamoreaux] daughter, Howell Rust, son of Dr. Rust, Kemp's child, John Campbell, Wm. Fox, Joseph King, Elmeda Catlin, two of Mr. Brown's children, John Swett [Sweat], Dr. J. [Jesse]C. Braley,

Widow Norris and her daughter Mary, Mary Campbell, Rosannah Bragg, Thomas Green's wife and two children, Able M. Sargeant, Margaret McDugall, wife of Charles Jameson, John Shipley, Thos Kirk, Charlotte Thornton, one of Harlow Redfield's children.

About 500 of those destined for the gold regions, prior to the 28th ult., had died of the cholera. They met the first sickness at Scott's Bluffs, about sixty miles this side of Fort Laramie, and they say that the graves along the road were too near to serve for mile-posts, besides many who were buried at Camping places a little off from the road. Most of those who died, belonging to this section are said to be children. Notwithstanding the fatality of this dreadful disease this season on the Plains, we have received very cheering accounts from some of the companies of Saints as to health, unity and good spirits.

The news from the California emigrants going the North side of the Platte, is good; there has scarcely any sickness or deaths occurred that we can learn. Those who started from this place had nearly passed those going on the South side of the Platte. The teams were in good condition. The first teams have fared the best. When the mail passed the junction of the two roads, the trains from the North and South side were mixing.

The first emigrants were met on the 15th day of May about twenty miles beyond the South Pass and were somewhat short of provisions. It cannot be expected that our friends in Salt Lake can supply them with a great amount of provisions; but they will do the best they can. Nevertheless many of the emigrants must suffer for want of breadstuffs.

Source of Trail Excerpt: "Emigration (From the *Frontier Guardian*, June 12th, 1850)," *Latter-day Saints' Millennial Star* 15 Aug. 1850, 252-53.

We have attended the organization of 350 wagons of Salt Lake Emigrants up to Saturday 8th inst., Capt. Milo Andrews [Andrus] is ahead with fifty wagons. Next follows, Capt. Benjamin Hawkins with one hundred; Thomas S. Johnson, Capt. of 1st Division, and --- Capt. of Second Division. We left them at Council Grove 12 miles from Bethlehem west of the Missouri river, on the morning of the 7th inst. Next in succession is Bishop Aaron Johnson with a train of one hundred wagons; Elisha [Elijah] Everett [Averett], Capt. of 1st Division, and Matthew Caldwell, Capt. of the 2nd Division. Next in order is Capt. James Pace with one hundred. Richard Session, Capt. of 1st Division, and David Bennett, Capt. of 2nd Division. The Emigrants are generally well fitted out with wagons and teams, provisions, &c.

There are some wagons quite too heavy. Those brought from St. Louis are good, but too heavy. A heavy wagon with a stiff tongue is unsuitable for the journey. Let no person hereafter buy a wagon for this trip unless its tongue has a joint in the hounds forward of the axletree. Light wagons that will bear from sixteen to twenty hundred pounds, are the most suitable for this service. These heavy lumber concerns should be left here, and not used by our people, neither by anybody else, unless they choose.

The number of California wagons that have crossed at this point, is about 4,500 averaging 3 men to the wagon, making 13,500 men, and about 22,000 head of horses, mules, oxen, and cows.

Our own emigration to Salt Lake Valley will amount to about 700 wagons as nearly as we, at present, can determine. They take two new carding machines in addition to one sent last year, besides much other valuable machinery. They also take about 4000 sheep and 5000 head of cattle, horses, and mules.

With the facilities for improvement that are already in the Valley, and those that are now going, we may expect to see that hitherto, desolate region, growing rapidly into importance, and consideration. Success to the West, and to Western enterprise, to Western men and measures! "Let the Wilderness and the solitary place be glad for them, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose."

Source of Trail Excerpt: "From the Valley," *Frontier Guardian*, 8 Jan. 1851, 2.
From the Valley.

Mr. Lorenzo Johnson, of this place, received a letter, dated G. S. L. City, Oct. 15th, 1850, from Bishop Aaron Johnson, his brother, who left this section last spring with a company of 135 wagons; and in the letter he solicits his brother to have the names published of those who died in his company on the way, believing that it might afford some satisfaction to their friends at this place, or wherever they may at present reside. The names copied from the letter are as follows:

John Shipley, Willis K. Johnson, Adalad Redfield, Thomas Kirk, Ruth Ann Kington, Abel Sargeant, Thomas Sargeant, Alonzo Russell, Polly Z. Johnson, Susan Hunt, Son of Elijah Pond, Eliza Hill, Lester Russell, Sarah M. Johnson, Margaret McDougal Sister Ritchie, Sister Browitt, and a gold digger.

Source of Trail Excerpt: Averett, Elijah, *Autobiography*, 15, in Averett family, Notebook [ca. 1916-1965].

In the spring of 1851 [1850], br. Hyde and James Allred[,] Sen[i]or organized a company. Br. Aaron Johnson was Captain of the hundred and I was Captain of the first fifty and Mathew Caldwell of the second fifty. After we were organized Captain Blair and his Company of gentiles joined me and my Company, making (84) eighty four wagons in my Company.

We crossed the Mis[s]ouri River and struck out for the mountains. We traveled on until we crossed a little river by the name of Salt River. Here, if I recollect right, the cholery [cholera] struck our Camp. I lost 17 persons in my company. I had a touch of it myself. We traveled on and kept above Fort Carney (Fort Kernay) [Kearney]

We felt that the cholery had ought to stop and brs. Johnson, Hunt, [Isaac] Hill and myself went out in the prarie and prayed that the Lord would stop the Cholery, and we had a testimony that it would stop. (They heard a stamping in the grass near by, but nothing was to be seen.) We never had another case in our Company. We saw a great many gentile graves on the road. The cholera had Slayed them terribly. There was wagons, tires, clothing, guns, bedding, boots and shoes scattered along the road. We got along very well. There was one buffalo run through our camp and the dogs caught him and the boys shot him[.] It rained pretty hard on us, and in crossing the North Platt[e] some of our wagons swam, but we got across all right

After this we had one young man lost one night and part of two days, but he came to camp all right. Nothing else happened that I recollect of worth mentioning of. I only lost two head of cattle in my company

When we arrived at Salt Lake City my Company was disbanded and went where ever they wanted to. I was Councilled by President Brigham Young to go to San Pete County Utah

Source of Trail Excerpt: Bunker, Edward, Autobiography, 1894, 19-20.

In the spring of 1850, I started for Salt Lake Valley in Capt. Johnson's hundred and Mat[t]hew Caldwell's fifty and I was captain of a ten. We followed up the route of the Calif. emigration on the south side of the Platt[e] river. Nothing of importance happened until we came into the cholera district where the emigrants had died in great numbers and were buried by the roadside. We found one man unburied lying in the brush. He was given a burial by the company. Our camp was attacked and eighteen out of our hundred died from the effects of the cholera. My wife and daughter, Emily who had been born to us the 1st of Mar, [1849] on Mesquite Creek Iowa - was taken very sick but through the power of faith and good nursing they recovered.

At the end of three months we reached Salt Lake Valley, our haven of rest, Sept 1st 1850.

Source of Trail Excerpt: Burgess, Harrison, Autobiography, 1848-1882.

From the time I got to Orleans till the first of June I spent my time between Orleans, and Council Bluffs, fitting me up a team, and preparing for my journey across the Plains. I traveled with the camp in Captain Aaron Johnson's Company. - Acted as Marshall of the hundred. The blessings of the lord seemed to attend <us> from day to day.

We often passed the bones of some of the Wretches, who took a part in the Martyrdom of B[rothers] Joseph & Hiram [Hyrum]. After they had acted in that dreadful Tragedy, the most of them had started to cross the Plains, for California, in search of the gold mines, but they generally had died a most miserable Death on the Plains, as it had been predicted upon their guilty heads, recieved no burial or but a partial one, so that the wolves had dug them up, and there they were to be seen, Some of them could be designated by pencil writing, on their skulls, and some of these skulls had been kicked along by the passersby till they were 2 or 3 miles from where had been buried (as some little stick or board, with their name generally marked the hole into which they had been thrown[.] Thus Vengeance overtook them speedily

There was a few cases of Cholera in the Camp as we journeyed along. I always assisted in nursing, and Administering to the sick. I had along with me a few medicines which I was taking to my family – as soon as they were taken, I used to go and fix a dose of Alcohol, Peppermint, No 6, and Laudanum, which by the blessing of God cured a great many and many were healed by the laying on of hands. One case of miraculous healing, I will mention. A Sister Mc Gaw was taken with Cholera in its most dreadful form. I administered to her in the morning, and she seemed to be healed, but after a while it came on again, worse, if possible, than ever – She said if Br. Burgess could lay hands on her again, she would live, if not she must die, I was a mile back assisting some of the Brethren through some bad places of road; but the woman seemed sure ~~she would~~ that she would live if I could adminster to her again, that they sent a horseman after me, in all haste, who was to take charge of my team, while I was gone. I rode back as fast as possible, found her in extreme agony. cramped so that her head, and heels, nearly touched each other. just as I entered her waggon I felt the power of God resting down upon me in mighty power. I layed my hands upon her head, "In the name of Jesus Christ" and by the Authority of the Holy Priesthood I commanded the Destroyer to leave her instantly, and to leave the waggon and trouble her no more. It did so forthwith, but as it retreated I heard it hiss like an adder. The woman was healed and went on her way rejoicing, – Through the mercy of God I reached the valley in safety and found my family alive and well as Br Kimball when he gave me his parting blessing as we stood on the banks of the Elk horn River the morning I took my leave. I now found myself at home again, after an absence of near 3 years.

Source of Trail Excerpt: Cornia, Ruth Clarissa Carter, Autobiographical sketch, 8-9.

My sister Harriet Amelia was married at the Bluffs to William Henry Lee, December 11, 1849. Harriet's getting married left father and I, of our family, alone to cross the Plains. Our company was sorely afflicted with cholera. Seventeen of our number left us. Everybody looked so worried not knowing who would be next, with the fever.

Those who captained our company were Aaron Johnston and Mattie Caldwell. The journey was rough, long and uncertain, but we arrived at our destination, "Utah", September 10, 1850.

Source of Trail Excerpt: Flake, Lucy Hannah White, [Autobiography], in Roberta Flake Clayton, comp., *To the Last Frontier: Autobiography of Lucy Hannah White Flake* [1976], 3-5.

The exodus toward the west began in 1846 but Father [Samuel Dennis White] remained behind until the Spring of 1850 assisting other families to leave. The company in which we crossed the plains was not very large. We made good time on the trip. I walked most of the way from the Missouri River to the Great Salt Lake Valley. We all walked who were able, to lighten the load of the poor oxen. I was always glad when it came time to camp. The oxen soon learned without much gee-ing and haw-ing how to place the wagons to form a circle, leaving very little space between the front wheel of one and the near hind wheel of the wagon ahead.

In the corral thus formed the fires were made to cook the meals and the beds were made down near the wagons. If the Indians were troublesome the cattle were put in this corral for the night and guard kept over the camp by the men.

When suppers were over, all gathered around the campfire, or if it were moonlight we needed no other light. Someone would start a song, all would join in, or someone would tell an amusing story. The weary miles trudged that day would be forgotten, soon the lively tune of a fiddle or accordion, a flute or a fife, or maybe all of them, could be heard playing a quadrille or a reel. Hardship, weariness, separation from loved ones were forgotten and these homeless exiles joined in the dance.

I would keep my eyes open as long as I could, picturing myself as a grown young lady, Belle of the Ball, with beautiful flowing skirts that would swish and swirl as I danced. Before I knew it my poor head would rest on Mother's lap.

When the dancers were all tired out, or ten o'clock arrived I would be awakened, to join in the closing hymn and kneel in prayer in a big circle before going to bed. Some of the prayers were so long that I would go to sleep again, then Father would carry me to bed.

Poor Grandfather [John Griggs] White was not strong so we had to be careful of him on the trip giving him the best we had to eat. Father contracted Mountain fever a week or two before we reached our destination, so Mother [Mary Hannah Burton] had to look after them and had a hard time doing that and all her other things. To me the three months journey was not a hardship.

Provisions were not plentiful any of the way. We had a cow along but she didn't give much milk after walking all day. We ate the last of our food for breakfast on the morning of August 31, and about the middle of the afternoon we arrived at the home of Mother's people.

Source of Trail Excerpt: Hamblin, Jacob, Autobiography and journal, 1850 June-1854 Apr; 1870 Apr., 13-15, in Jacob Hamblin, Papers, 1850-1877.

I Started for the vally of the great Salt Lake[.] I had nine in family[.] the Second of June we war [were] organedise [organized] with the Saints that ware the[n] redy to cros the plaines by Elder Orsen Hide [Orson Hyde.] this company cansisted of one hundred wagons with from three to nine pursones [persons] to a wagon

I c[r]osed the Missouri [Missouri] River with my family the 8th of June

10th <Stood gard>[.] we ware visited by the Chiefs of the Oto [Ottawa] tribe of Indians[.] with thare interpeter they demanded ten cents a wagon f[o]r the privilige of pasing through thare teritory

11th travailed ten miles[.] campt and finished organiseing the company

12th went about 13 or 14 miles[.] wood and water plenty

13th travailed 17 miles[.] butiful preitie[prairie] Country

14th 18 miles[.] crosed Salt Creek[.] Campt in the Pawnee teritory[.] ~~15th trav~~ travel some twenty miles[.] wood and water Scars [scarce.] Stood gard

15th travaild ten miles[.] Brothr John Shipley d[i]ed with the colery [colera] and willes [Willis] Johnson and some two or three others[.] this was in trully a mournfull Scene to See women mourning for thare Husbands and Childrin for thare Fathers[.] but we ware obliege [obliged] to leav them on the plaines burying them as desent [decent] as we could

16th travald Some eight or ten mile[.] Campd to rest our teames

17th travild eightten miles[.] no wood[.] level Cuntry[.] poor water

18th fourteen miles[.] Br thomas kerk [Kirk] died of Colery betwen elevn and twelve o and twelve o clock atnight[.] rain

19th travaild Sixteen miles[.] Sevrel atacted [attacked] with the Colery

1920th 15 miles[.] the Company was devided in to four divisions[.] Capt Evrits [Elisha Averett] and martha Meacham was violant attacted with the colery and ware held [healed] by the blessing of ~~good~~ god

21 19 miles[.] pased throu old Purntown[.] no wood

22 t[raveled] 15 miles[.] Stood gard

23 t[raveled] Eight miles[.] laid by[.] Widow loron mared [married] to my father [Isaiah Hamblin] by Capt [Isaac] Hill

24th Eight miles[.] Abel [Morgan] Aarjent [Sargent] and Son [Thomas Sargent] died of Colery[.] 2 Childrin died also[.] Sevrals taken Sick tain

25th ~~9 miles~~

Capt Johnson cold [called] a meting[.] it was agreed that Bro hunt Should chose two from the Company to offer Prayr to god for the wellfaire of the Saints

25th 9 miles[.] mud and rain

26th 15 miles[.] mud and rain[.] I was sick my Self[.] pain in my side

27th my Wife violantly attcted [attacked] with the Colery about three oclock in the moring[.] I prayd for hur [her] and anointed hur in the name of the Lord[.] Coled [Called] on Brs. [George] Pectal and [Isaac] Hill <to administer[.]> She was relieved immediately[.] met the mail from the Salt Lake vally[.] Capt Johnson Wife died of colery[.] Daniel Hunts ~~W~~ Wife died of Colery[.] travaild fourteen miles through mud and water[.] camped within th[r]ee miles of Ft Chiles

28th travaild 9 miles past Ft Chiles[.] saw Lucinda the Mother of my Chidrin[.] She was the Same old Six pence [pence] as She said[.] Br ~~Fera~~ Fords Child died

29th 7 miles[.] I was attacted with the Colery[.] ~~it~~ it was rebuked under the hands of my Father & Br [George] Pictel [Pectol]

30th 9 miles[.] I found my Self ~~under the~~ attacked with a burning feaver when the Company S[t]opt[.] I was baptised by B[r]other Johnson[.] the feaver was rebuked[.] we (barely) had aneething [anything.] Childrin war Baptisd[.] Duane Hamblin was Baptised into the Church[.] My oldest Son[.] by El[d]er Daniel Hunt and confirmed by Elisha Evrits [Averett]

July 1t Capt Hills Wife [Eliza] died[.] one of Capt Johnsons family died[.] travaild 20 miles

2t 20 mile[.] I was Still Sick with the feaver[.] treavild 21 miles

3^d 17 the miles[.] wagon run over Duane[.] when I looked out and saw him the blood was runing out of his mouth[.] at first I gave him up for lost[.] my Father with two others administerd to ~~him~~ him[.] he was ~~im~~ immediately heeled

4th 18 miles

5th 12 miles[.] helth increasing

~~April 10~~

April 10th 1851

o[w]ing to my Sickness on the journey and many other incon[v]eniencies I hav not writeen any untill now[.] from the 5th of July untill now nothing of importance too[k] plase [place] Save my <Sa>fe arival ~~in~~ too the Citty of the Great Salt Lake and location of my Selfe and family in Toela [Tooele] Settlement[.] we arived in the Citty the 6th of Sept

Source of Trail Excerpt: Hill, Isaac, Diary, in Laura Hanson Stock, *Heap Genealogy* [1964], 143.
May 30, Started for Salt Lake Valley.

June 7 Crossed the Missouri river with family.

June 15 Cholory [Cholera] broke out.

July 1 my wife Eliza died with cholory.

Sept. 5 First entered Salt Lake City.

Source of Trail Excerpt: Kearnes, Emma M. Guymon, *Autobiography*, 1921.

Then I remember the preparation of the family with others to come to the valley, of them breaking cows to lead on a wagon of three yoke of cattle. I remember spending several days in a large camp on the banks of the Missouri River, the crossing of the river on a flat boat and of trailing my hand along in the water, of the cattle being swum across the river and then the trip across the plains.

I remember the camps, the gathering of buffalo chips to make fires, and of the singing around the campfire. I was then eight years of age. We started in the Spring of 1850 and reached Salt Lake City in September. I remember our camp above what was then a little town. Uncle James Guymon came to meet us two or three days before we reached Salt Lake Valley. I remember seeing him ride up horseback, as we were driving the cattle ahead of the wagons. We were so delighted to see him.

Then the picture of Salt Lake, a little town with a red rag on a stick nailed upon the log room to show that merchandise was for sale there and another log room with tin cups hanging outside to show that tinware and hardware was for sale there.

Source of Trail Excerpt: Tullidge, Edward W., *Tullidge's Histories of Utah*, vol. 2, "Biographies (Supplemental Vol.) of the Founders and Representative Men of Northern, Eastern and Western Utah, and Southern Idaho" [1889], 120.

On my return to Milwaukee, I engaged as clerk in the large book store of Hale & Chapman, and remained there until the spring of 1849, when I determined to go around the world, purposing first to spend a year in the California gold mines, thence to go by way of China, India and Persia to Europe. My uncle whose adopted son I was, endeavored with all his power to dissuade me, offering me every inducement which his great wealth would permit, and quoting the proverb: that "a rolling stone gathers no moss." I wanted my moss rubbed off, and told him so. After a tedious journey of six weeks I found myself at St Joseph Mo., too late to join any overland company of emigrants, and so remained in Missouri until the spring of 1850, teaching school in a small settlement near St Joseph.

Leaving the Missouri river May, 15th, we started into the then unknown western wilds and arrived at Salt Lake City, July 22nd, 1850, and after a journey of a thousand miles without seeing a house, we were all overjoyed. During the journey I had two very narrow escapes from death. Once, while among the rocks near the Sweetwater I was obliged to swing myself around a rocky point by means of a small bush growing in the rock, over an abyss four hundred feet in depth, and then found myself upon a narrow ledge not more than a foot wide, along which I was obliged to crawl for about 100 feet, before I found a place of safety. Another time I was in imminent danger from a furious buffalo bull which I had wounded, and from which I narrowly escaped, being on foot and alone. I knew the danger of attacking him alone and with no place of refuge, but could not resist the opportunity.

During the journey I had been told the Mormons were guilty of every kind of wickedness, but on my arrival at Salt Lake City I found I had been so much deceived by those lying reports that I determined to remain in the valley during the winter, study the people for myself, and go on in the spring to California.

Source of Trail Excerpt: White, Joel William, Autobiographical sketch [1908], 3-5.

In the Spring of 47 started on our journey again and stoped at what was called Keg Creek about ten miles east of Kanessville: went to work with my father farming land putting in crops and building a house[.] remained there about three years[.] during that time I went back to Missouri [Missouri] and worked getting flour and other provisions for the family: By this time our oxen and outfit was getting about worn out[.] we had to get a new outfit to go on with by trading flour and working around. I got a yoke of oxen and got fixed up to start on again[.] Claborn Thomases family was living at Keg Creek and Preston Thomas family at "Coesta holla[.]" there was my first acquaintance with them and also there I first met Frances Thomas (a niece of Claborn Thomas) who after became my wife[.] I was married to Francis Ann Thomas May 8 1850!

And in a few days started on our journey west again not selling any thing leaving all for the Saints that was expected to follow. Going on to the Missouri [Missouri] river where ~~we~~ large companies of saints were gathered and were organized in Companies of one hundred wagons with Aaron Johnston [Johnson] Captain of the hundred and traveling in Companies of fifty wagons with Jishea [Elijah] Everett [Averett] Captain of our fifty. Cap. Johnston traveling in our company

after traveling a short time the Cholary [cholera] broke out in our company[.] the first dying was Bro. Shipley: Cap. Johnston came to Claburn [Daniel Claiborne] Thomas captain of our ten and said you go on and travel till noon and there wait till the rest comes up[.] we did and when they came up bro Shipley was dead and buried and Cap Johnstons son [William Kelsey] was dead. "He was well when we left and helping to yoke the oxen[.] Cap Johnston lost t[w]o wives[,] a son[,] and to teamsters with Cholary. there were about 10 or 15 died out of our company[.] after that was checked we had fa[i]rly good health[.] everything working along nicely[.] the road was well marked with graves clothing and bedding left by the emigrants gon[e] ahead of us.

we having arrived in Salt Lake City the 12 of Sep 1850 . . .