

4th Mo 1874

who are not united in this course, they tell him that Cheyennes are ready to join them in the enterprise. This antipathy to the people of Texas arises from the wrong treatment they received from being forcibly driven from their lands in that State & the consequent raiiss upon their stock by Texas outlaws, who find a refuge in that State. There

The soil south of the mountains is very thin for many miles, when it assumes a better aspect, being richer & covered with good grass, some places it was up to the horses knees, affording abundance of pasturage, near the streams, while remote from them the prairie is more undulating, & washes into deep canons. It is very noticeable that where the soil is thin & poor that the prairie dog abounds all through the country, while the better qualities is equally alive with the Pocket Gopher neither of which appear disposed to encroach upon the natural rights of the other.

Game of all kinds appear to be more plentiful south of the Mountains than north, probably from the fact that the Indians seldom if ever encamp on that there on account of their fear of being in close proximity to their Texas neighbors, for the safety of their fony herds. We saw many antelopes & Wolves, & some deer, The Elk is becoming scarce in this country, though formerly plenty, & still occasionally to be met with, in the grassy vales among the mountains.