

continued

completed the days march, that I had marched ~~on~~ an average during the day or from 30° to 35° East of North. My instructions were to strike Medicine Lodge Creek at the point where it crosses the State line into the I. T.

The distance travelled after having left Camp Supply to where I struck Medicine Lodge Creek near Kiowa City, Kansas, was eighty-eight (88) miles seven hundred sixty-eight (768) feet by the Odometer. The country passed ~~over~~ during the entire route was quite rough, though quite passable for teams provided the divides were followed. The only passable route for wagons south of Sand Creek to the mouth of Buffalo creek is an old trail leading along the divide between the north fork of the Canadian on the South, and Sand Creek on the North to what is known as the Salt Plains of the Cimarron, which trail it is estimated crosses the Cimarron about five (5) miles below the point where Buffalo Creek empties into the Cimarron. The divide between the Canadian and Sand Creek is exceedingly rough; there is barely room for a fair wagon road while to the right and left, canons abruptly commence ranging in depth from twenty (20) to one hundred (100) feet. The approach to this divide from Camp Supply is gradual, while the descent on the Cimarron side is very abrupt and rough, though ~~not~~ impassable for lightly loaded wagons; a small party with a few ~~hours~~work could make this abrupt descent quite passable for a heavily loaded train.

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The section of country passed over between Camp Supply and Medicine Lodge Creek is very dry, no running streams were found save Mule Creek on the last days march, before reaching Medicine Lodge Creek I found both the grass and water, what little was found of the latter, very poor. After having crossed the Cimarron the Prairie ravines were found to be all unusually heavily wooded, though they were entirely destitute of water as a general thing, as I did not even find it standing in deep gull-outs, as is usual in the beds of most prairie ravines. An abundance of game consisting of Buffalo, Elk, Deer, Antelope, Turkey and Bear was found en route from the Cimarron to Medicine Lodge Creek. The two (2) principal streams crossed during this part of the Scout were the Cimarron and the Nescutauga. The Cimarron was as good as dry at the point where crossed, the water only standing in small,