

Sept. 4th 74

Followed road from Fort Dodge to Dodge through the valley of Arkansas River between river and railroad. Crossed toll bridge over Arkansas river at town and across river valley into low hills $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from bridge. Roads forks took right fork. prairie burnt Followed road until dim wagon trail leading S.W. Crossed it break running towards Arkansas river to left of road prairie Burned. Followed wagon trail towards crooked creek $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles out road leading South level prairie cut by shallow ravines running S. and S.E. Followed trail across burned prairie. Grass of trees on Crooked Creek to the left road to Creek crosses trail. level prairie cut by shallow ravines running south country Burned. Following trail through burned country camped on ravine no grass. Water or wood to dark to follow trail camped 8:15 P.M. Heavy dew fell during night only little starlight.

Sept. 5, 74

Followed trail to Crooked ck. and unsaddled prairie burned except small spots on bend of creek. Crossing Good. After digging down bank. Water in holes good. Banks of creek well timbered ash, elm, hackberry cottonwood.---sent 10 men back to Ft. Dodge in compliance with orders brought by couriers. Up and along creek following well beaten trail. Shallow raines come off low bluffs along creek. Timber in small groves on banks of creek, valley thickly strewn with Buffalo carcasses prairie burned. Back along bank of creek very crooked main direction of the creek E. by S. water in creek in frequent ponds and holes prairie burned, lone tree in shallow ravine north of creek 3 miles above Camp. Down the River and into Camp of it at spot where the grass was not burned 4. P.M. water holes in bed of creek grass fair wood plenty. Plums.

Sept. 6, 74

Down and along creek road crossed it after 2 miles then turns North. Left road and turned East along creek, passed old wood camp at large grove of timber (Walker timber) 3 miles below the crossing the last grove of timber above the bend is passed. prairie burned. Down the creek after 1 mile the creek makes a sudden bend to the south and continues in the new direction 2 miles below the bend road from Ft. Dodge to Res Creek 4 miles below bend a few small groves of timber last on creek. Prairie burned a