Citing a Diary Entry from a Database in NoodleTools

Diary of an Oregon Pioneer of 1853

Women in America, 1999

Commentary on Diary of an Oregon Pioneer of 1853

In 1853 Joel and Amelia Knight decided to emigrate from Iowa to Oregon. The mother of seven children, Amelia Knight was four months pregnant when they left on their trip. It took them five months to reach their destination, which forced her to give birth outside Troutdale, Oregon. Neither pregnancy, nor old age, nor illness was an obstruction to the overland journey. Unlike male diarists, women wrote, however briefly, about the births and deaths that occurred along the way. Describing the details of such personal matters was, perhaps, considered taboo.

Diary of an Oregon Pioneer of 1853, by Amelia Stewart Knight

[1853]

Tuesday, July 19th—Came 15 miles. Crossed Rock Creek about noon in the midst of all the dust; we had a nice little shower, which laid the dust and made the traveling much better. Camped about three o’clock close to a canyon on Rock Creek.

Wednesday, July 20th—Dry traveling today. No grass; water is very scarce. Stopped at noon to water at a very bad place on Snake River, one and a half miles or more down a steep bank or precipice. The cattle looked like little dogs down there, and after all the trouble of getting the poor things down there, they were so tired they could not drink, and were obliged to travel back and take the dusty road again. We are still traveling on in search of water, water.
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