Berenice Mackelmurray Gilchrist

July 28, 1907

Julia Thomas

Reminiscences of plains crossing, 1852

the cattle could be found but found none but got the 2 waggons down the River sold one for 150 dollars which payed for the trip and the getting the 2 down the River we got a home one hundred miles above Id, near the Willamette River where we remained till after husband's death

and fearing this will be of no benefit to you I will close it will find you all well and happy with best wishes for all enquiring friends if there are any such your respectfully

~~Julian A.~~

Julian Thomas

11 we here met with one of the cook
boys of previous acquaintance
and prevailed on him to go after
L L Thomas who he found
at his home near Silverton
who came to Pd and took us to
his home ~~[illegible]~~ arriving
there the 2nd of oct
husband still wandering in
his mind although gaining
in strength
which lasted till about th 15 of
Nov when we were taking of the
hospital in Pd he recalled to mind
hearing the Superintendent of
the hospital offer up a prayer for
a young man that was very sick
and husbands mind cleared at
once and as soon as his strength would
permit (in March) he returned to the
Dalles to try and learn if any of

9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
2.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15
3.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
3.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19
	0.04	0.09	0.15	0.22	0.36	0.51

16 (M)	17	18 (B)	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
49.25	38.62	28.86	16.19	8.29	3.44	31.41	72.46	72.95	29.37	54.91
-0.16	-0.18	0.54	-0.05	-0.81	-0.23	20.98	-24.45	16.83	13.06	-38.91
0.01	-0.04	0.60	0.73	0.19	0.49	-19.43	55.93	68.80	-49.49	30.77
0.75	0.98	1.24	1.67	2.04	2.42					

Golden Thread

Colors b

the boat that was heavy
loaded so much so that they
could not take us on the
boat and husband was not
able to sit up and his mind
wandered continualy
which lasted till near the middle
of May, well we got to the
cascades and I got husband taken
around the falls on what they
called a car in a half sitting
posture the car might have been
six foot long and three or four foot
wide with a mare between the
shafts to guide and a mule to pull
the load, the children and myself
walked the 5 miles around to where
we got on a steamboat and went to
Pd and when we got to the hospital
we had seven dollars and fifty cts
this was about the 28 of october

8	9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
39.92	52.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15
11.81	48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
-46.07	18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19
→		0.04	0.09	0.15	0.22	0.36	0.51

Golden Thread

16 (M)	17	18 (B)	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
49.25	38.62	28.86	16.19	8.29	3.44	31.41	72.46	72.95	29.37
-0.16	-0.18	0.54	-0.05	-0.81	-0.23	20.98	-24.45	16.83	13.06
0.01	-0.04	0.60	0.73	0.19	0.49	-19.43	55.93	68.80	-49.49
0.75	0.98	1.24	1.67	2.04	2.42				

I shar[illegible] almost [illegible]
we had divided keeping just what
we thought we could get through
with and before Mr G could find
the oxen the children were getting
to complain and I almost gave up and
said to myself must I hear my chedren
ask for something to eat and not get
it that is almost to much but what
am I spared for when so many
are called away
Just then some men that had come
out to meet the emigrants and get
worn out cattle for but little
hitched on to our waggons and
hauled us to water, pretty soon
Mr G came up with the oxen and
the 2 cows one of the cows plunged in
the spring and we lost her and
from there to the dalls we came and sold
one yake of oxen for 30 dallor and got my
husband to the cascades in a waggon box
towed by a little

7	8	9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
63.51	39.92	52.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15
34.26	11.81	48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
59.60	-46.07	18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19

16 (M)	17	18 (B)	19	20	21	22	23	24
49.25	38.62	28.86	16.19	8.29	3.44	31.41	72.46	72.95
-0.16	-0.18	0.54	-0.05	-0.81	-0.23	20.98	-24.45	16.83
0.01	-0.04	0.60	0.73	0.19	0.49	-19.43	55.93	68.80

Density → 0.04 0.09 0.15 0.22 0.36 0.51 0.75 0.98 1.24 1.67 2.04 2.42

Golden Thread

So he [illegible] day [illegible] of cows stalled and as we could not pass we just had to wait till they were out of the way and so it was that we were late getting up the hill and failed to get to wher there was water that evening and as we had to make a dry camp the oxen left and one of the cows had been left and in the morning Mr Gould the old strangr went to look after the cow and I to fetch in the oxen I started before sunrise and found the oxen but was my self last and did not get to camp till about 11 a clock and found my husband quite wild as well as the children scared and Mr G came in some time after with the cow and we were so late getting started that we did not get to water and again the oxen left us again by this time we were getting

6	7	8	9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
70.82	63.51	39.92	52.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15
33.43	34.26	11.81	48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
-0.35	59.60	-46.07	18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19

16 (M)	17	18 (B)	19	20	21	22	23
49.25	38.62	28.86	16.19	8.29	3.44	31.41	72.46
-0.16	-0.18	0.54	-0.05	-0.81	-0.23	20.98	-24.45
0.01	-0.04	0.60	0.73	0.19	0.49	-19.43	55.93

Density → 0.04 0.09 0.15 0.22 0.36 0.51 0.75 0.98 1.24 1.67 2.04 2.42

Golden Thread

Tue we are now at William Creek
here we learn that Mr Thomases
Brother Lauren Thomas had come
that far to meet us and not hearin
anything directly from us had the
day before gat impatient and
returned home
this peice of information had the
effect of completely prastrating
and unbalancing my husband
as he was at the time suffering
with mountan fever
and from that time on I had but
little help besides what my little
Six year old boy could do he did
manage to sit in the waggon
and keep the oxen moving
and there was an old Stranger by
the name of Gould Took pity on
us and volunteered to drive the two
cows and coming up the Hill

7	8	9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
63.51	39.92	52.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15
34.26	11.81	48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
59.60	-46.07	18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19

Density → 0.04 0.09 0.15 0.22 0.36 0.51

Golden Thread

16 (M)	17	18 (B)	19	20	21	22	23	24
49.25	38.62	28.86	16.19	8.29	3.44	31.41	72.46	72.95
-0.16	-0.18	0.54	-0.05	-0.81	-0.23	20.98	-24.45	16.83
0.01	-0.04	0.60	0.73	0.19	0.49	-19.43	55.93	68.80

0.75 0.98 1.24 1.67 2.04 2.42

to in the night and listen to the
howl of the cayotte and remember
the graves that but yesterday we
had passed where the cayotte
had more than once uncanthed
those that had been or at least
should have been laid to rest and
just to think of it who would not
try to fraget Sept 5 babie died
Sep 12 recrossed the Snake River
from that time an the journey
was more like a troublesome
dream or perhaps nightmare
my husbands health began to fail
the hands got impatient and got
them ponies and left us ging
on ahead
cattle gave out provision got
scarce many were almost with
out (we did not that ordeal)
sickness an trouble on every hand

6	7	8	9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
70.82 -33.43 -0.35	63.51 34.26 59.60	39.92 11.81 -46.07	52.24 48.55 18.51	97.06 -0.40 1.13	92.02 -0.60 0.23	87.34 -0.75 0.21	82.14 -1.06 0.43	72.06 -1.19 0.28	62.15 -1.07 0.19

16 (M)	17	18 (B)	19	20	21	22	23
49.25 -0.16 0.01	38.62 -0.18 -0.04	28.86 0.54 0.60	16.19 -0.05 0.73	8.29 -0.81 0.19	3.44 -0.23 0.49	31.41 20.98 -19.43	72.46 -24.45 55.93

0.75 0.98 1.24 1.67 2.04 2.42

Golden Thread

30 [illegible]
from dust and sickness are discover
~~[illegible]~~ed the Small pox is on the
road but not in our company
bid again it serves to keep the
indians from our midst
which is a relief
the boys have killed a buffalow
so we have a taste of fresh meat
we have only had one antelope
previous to this
July 28 my 30 birthday we crossed
the Summit of the Rackies just
55 years ago to day July 28
a very pleazant day and all went
well for a time got over the desert
all night had a severe Storm at green
river
August 1st crossed Snake river
and my babe was very sick
28 29 30 ~~31~~ 1 babe growing worse all
the time as we watch with him

7	8	9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
3.51	39.92	52.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15
4.26	11.81	48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
9.60	-46.07	18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19

16 (M)	17	18 (B)	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
49.25	38.62	28.86	16.19	8.29	3.44	31.41	72.46	72.95	29.3
-0.16	-0.18	0.54	-0.05	-0.81	-0.23	20.98	-24.45	16.83	13.0
0.01	-0.04	0.60	0.73	0.19	0.49	-19.43	55.93	68.80	-49.4

ensity → 0.04 0.09 0.15 0.22 0.36 0.51 0.75 0.98 1.24 1.67 2.04 2.42

Golden Thread

in looking over what I have written
there is so little where there should
be so much, there was the old crater
and the country for miles with
so much to attract the attention
the many evidences of volcanic
disturbance the Bear river Powder
river and many others
at fort Hall we fell in with the
Hales where Michael Hales wife died
we traveled with them till when my
babe died they went on and left us
we overtook them I think on Powder
reven perhaps
where Michael's Daughter 12 years
old was sick we traveld with
them till she died which was
on the Grand Pond and on to the
John day where they met a brother and
hurried on and left us once more

7	8	9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
63.51	39.92	52.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15
34.26	11.81	48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
59.60	-46.07	18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19

Density → 0.04 0.09 0.15 0.22 0.36 0.51

16 (M)	17	18 (B)	19	20	21	22	23	24
49.25	38.62	28.86	16.19	8.29	3.44	31.41	72.46	72.95
-0.16	-0.18	0.54	-0.05	-0.81	-0.23	20.98	-24.45	16.83
0.01	-0.04	0.60	0.73	0.19	0.49	-19.43	55.93	68.80

0.75 0.98 1.24 1.67 2.04 2.42

Golden Thread

[illegible] indi[illegible]
although [illegible] were often lour
that hostiles were just ahead
of us but the chabery that was
among us proved a friend
in asmuch as it frightened
the indians and we met none
till we got opposite fort
Larimie as we (July 4th) traveled on the
north side of the Platt
this was the 4 fourth of July
but from this time on I can give
no dates although I kept a diary
but the teams were failing and
grass scarce the road throug
the black hills was rough and
hard but we passed indepereden
Rock then along the beautiful
sweetwater River a lovely
stream that we forded often

8	9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
.92	52.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15
.81	48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
.07	18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19
		0.04	0.09	0.15	0.22	0.36	0.51

16 (M)	17	18 (B)	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
49.25	38.62	28.86	16.19	8.29	3.44	31.41	72.46	72.95	29.37
-0.16	-0.18	0.54	-0.05	-0.81	-0.23	20.98	-24.45	16.83	13.06
0.01	-0.04	0.60	0.73	0.19	0.49	-19.43	55.93	68.80	-49.49
0.75	0.98	1.24	1.67	2.04	2.42				

Golden Thread

the [illegible] in [illegible]
nothing more than storms and
bad roads impeded our progress
except that the children and
one of the teamsters had measles
and we were forced to lay by
some 3 weeks, and we were
near loosing our teams
in crossing Desmoines river
and on or about the 6 sixth
of June we crossed the Missouri
River, here we joined a company
fearing indians and in a few
days come to Elm river
where some of the company had
cholery, and we left the train
and with our 2 wagons and
2 three young men by the name
of George and Horatio cook
they having only a cart
traveled along the Platt River
[illegible] company

7	8	9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
63.51	39.92	52.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15
34.26	11.81	48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
59.60	-46.07	18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19

16 (M)	17	18 (B)	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
49.25	38.62	28.86	16.19	8.29	3.44	31.41	72.46	72.95	29.
-0.16	-0.18	0.54	-0.05	-0.81	-0.23	20.98	-24.45	16.83	13.
0.01	-0.04	0.60	0.73	0.19	0.49	-19.43	55.93	68.80	-49.

Density → 0.04 0.09 0.15 0.22 0.36 0.51 0.75 0.98 1.24 1.67 2.04 2.42

Golden Thread

If you asked for something of
my early life I was born in
Canada in the year 1829
and at the age of 17 seventeen with
my Father (Jonas Pattemore)
and family came to Ill
then a new country not
yet without some indians
near to fear
and no schools or churches near
we settled Eeight miles from
Rockford thin a town 4 years old
at the age of 23 I married
Argalus Thomas
and in the year 1852 march 25
Husband and 4 four little ones
started on that perilous journey
across the plains with
two wagons I yoke of oxn
and 4 four cows (I cannot give
any ~~dates~~ dates her correctly)

9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
52.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15
48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19
0.04	0.09	0.15	0.22	0.36	0.51	

16 (M)	17	18 (B)	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
49.25	38.62	28.86	16.19	8.29	3.44	31.41	72.46	72.95	29.37
-0.16	-0.18	0.54	-0.05	-0.81	-0.23	20.98	-24.45	16.83	13.06
0.01	-0.04	0.80	0.73	0.19	0.49	-19.43	55.93	68.80	-49.49
0.75	0.98	1.24	1.67	2.04	2.42				

Golden Thread

Goldendale Wash July

Mr Hackelman Albany ogn

Dear friend

your letter is at hand and perused and we are glad to know that you are all well but as to my writing anything that will be of any benifit to you or any one else I fear that I will be a failure nevertheless I will try but after all the long years of trying to forget to now try to remember I cannot flatter mysalf into thinking that anything I write will be in a book

	7	8	9	10	11 (A)	12	13	14	15
2	63.51	39.92	52.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15
3	34.26	11.81	48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
5	59.60	-46.07	18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19

Density → 0.04 0.09 0.15 0.22 0.36 0.51

Golden Thread

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-0.16	-0.18	0.54	-0.05	-0.81	-0.23	20.98	-24.45	16.83
0.01	-0.04	0.60	0.73	0.19	0.48	-19.43	55.93	68.80

0.75 0.98 1.24 1.67 2.04 2.42