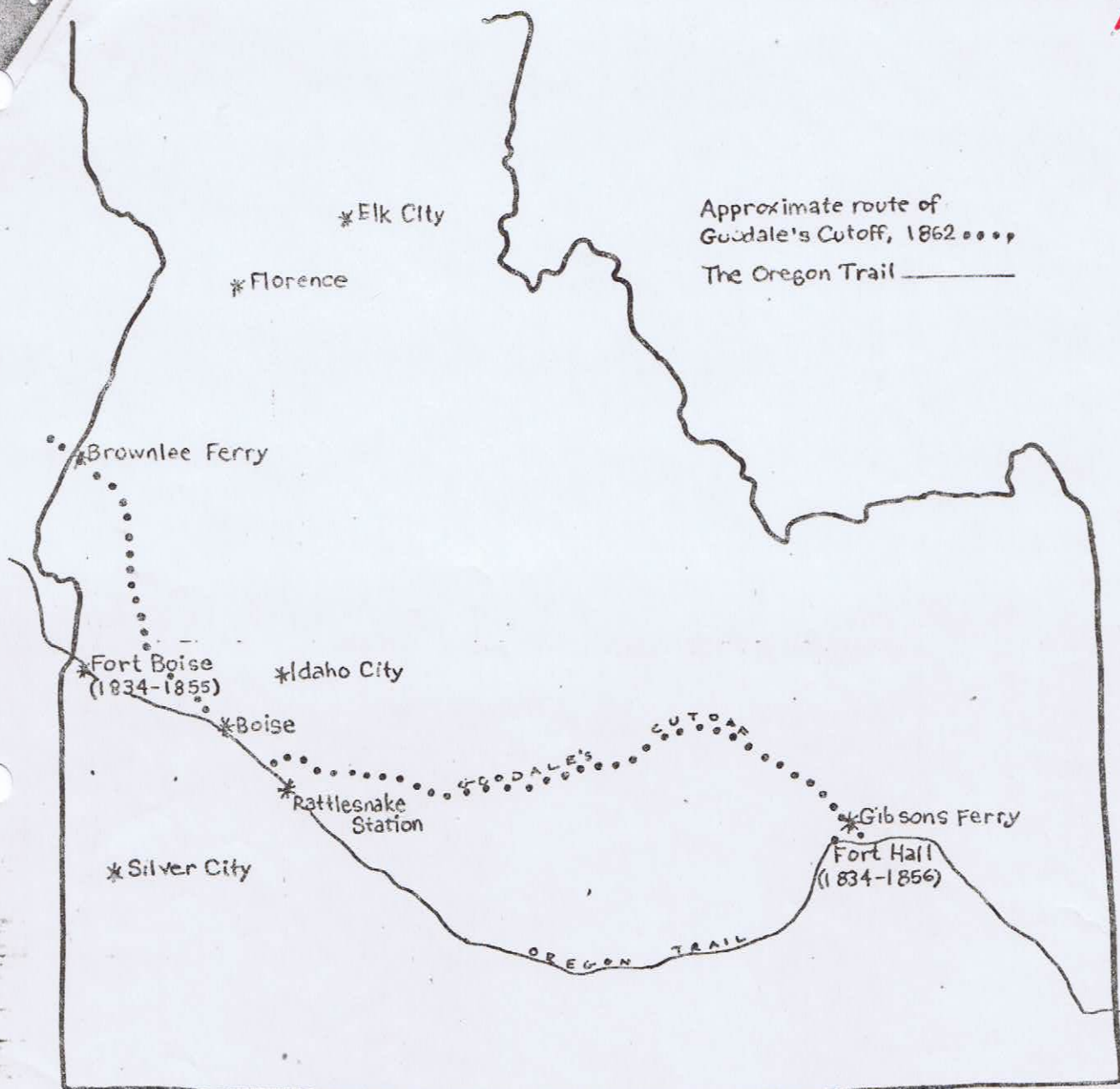




GOODALE'S CUTOFF

September 13th, Tuesday

We started this morning to make a twenty mile drive with out water. Hasn't been as cool as yesterday. We have come to Butte River. (60) Beautiful looking water; especially after traveling with out seeing any thing except sage brush, dusty roads, and hills for two days. The sheep have killed all the grass out. There is quite a good many ranches on this creek, but the land don't look very good It is white looking and gravelly. We had to pay twenty five cents for hay what a man could carry in his arms.

(60) BUTTE RIVER — Probably Lost River. (D)

Annie Jane Biggers Elliott Foster Diary - 1894 33

September 14th

Pretty cool last night it froze ice. We had gone five or six miles when we seen a woman carrying a winchester she said she thought she had seen a wolf; but it turned out to be an antelope. She wouldn't shoot it. Clark got on Dutch taken his winchester thought he would get the antelope; but didn't find it. We waited an hour on him. This been another desert. We have driven eighteen miles without water. We come to a ranch. There was no grass. The man wanted fifty cents a team for hay. Davy stopped with his two teams. The rest of us went on three miles to a place called Martain. (61)

September 14th

Martin, Idaho

We found plenty grass here. They told us if we went any further there wouldn't be grass as the sheep had grazed it off. What we have come over this afternoon looks like a valcano had been here. There is big black rocks all over the ground they are real lavy rocks for about three miles. We have come over thousands of acres of land nice and level; but no water. They say it's two hundred and twenty five miles to Boise. The road is the crookedest road any one ever traveled. Where I am writing they have about twenty acres fenced in and a stack of wild hay. The grass looks green. Lots of fat cattle and horses in this twenty acres. Mr. Cox and Marion went hunting. Mant and Clark went to the postoffice. Mrs. Cox is cooking beans.

September 15th

Martin

A beautiful morning to travel. The folks we left behind were here by seven this morning. We have come twelve miles this morning come to Cotton Wood Creek. (62) We have come over the crookedest road this morning any one ever traveled since the Flood. We have come along a mountain all day. One the other side was a big lavy bed. All the valley was lavy rock so black looked like where a strawstack had been burned. The rocks were black and full of holes but heavy as lead the rocks looked like honey comb so many holes. Surely wonderful. They call this place the Craters of the Moon. (63) The mountain had grass on not many rocks the soil was sort of red and sandy. It just looked like there had been a place left for a road. We have only droven eight miles since dinner and camped by a spring for the night. We can see a few pine trees from here. Quite a good many quaken asps. Not very pretty place. Mountains on one side and lavy rock on the other. (R-26) (SEE APPENDIX)

September 16th, Friday

Blane Co. Idaho

We traveled all day around the mountain. We come to a place where the lavy rock liked quite a bit coming to the mountain. In this place there was a bunch of fringe causing quite a creek. There was about four hundred acres of farming land and five or six families living there. There they had plenty of hay put up. They wanted to sell out eighteen and twenty dollars an acre. This was eighteen miles from Cary about six miles from any other ranch. And five hundred miles from no where. After traveling quite a way from there we left those lavy rock. After that we come to water every few miles also ranches. We camped on a creek for dinner; which was by a ranch of more than one hundred acres. Leaving here we come to a

(61) MARTIN — A mining ghost town today. Off Federal Highways 93 and 27 north of the Craters of the Moon. (D)

(62) COTTON WOOD CREEK — A tributary of Wood River. (D)

(63) CRATERS OF THE MOON — Established as a national monument in 1924.

Lake called Lava Lake.⁽⁶⁴⁾ We camped for night on Little Wood River. We paid one seventy five a hundred for oats. Only two men had thrashed. Not much grass here to many sheep. We are still by the side of the mountains. We have seen lots of wheat, oats, and alfalfa hay. We haven't seen any orchards since we left Blackfoot. Well I forgot to mention about the bear they told us there was some staid in these lavy rocks there by that big ranch. They lived on the sheep around there.

September 17th

This morning was warm and nice but the wind blew pretty cool. We have made a good drive today. We had splendid roads. We seen lots of ranches. But, the prettiest sight we seen was at the Silver River;⁽⁶⁵⁾ there we crossed a bridge the water was ten or twelve feet deep and clear as a cristle. Under the bridge the fish lay on the bottom of the river side by side looked like they do when packed for sardines. They didn't seem to be traveling. When we would make a noise some would swim away a short distance then swim right back to its place. The water was swift. We all laid down on the bridge and watched them. There was a large body of them. They wouldn't bite a hook or pay any attention. The boys made some grab hooks and caught a few. There was large ones and small ones. The largest looked about two pounds. We camped for noon by a irrigating ditch in a lane about two miles from Ricabo.⁽⁶⁶⁾ The only town we passed through today. I happened to an accident while I was getting dinner. I had some coffee heating in a syrup bucket with a tight lid. I taken a knife to pry the lid when I did it popped like a gun; the coffee flew all over my face. Burned it bad and burned my eyes. I had to lay down all afternoon. So didn't get to see much of the beautiful West. Camped for night in Bell View Valley⁽⁶⁷⁾ we left the town on the right. We crossed Big Wood River on a bridge. This is a pretty Valley the wind has a fair sweep and its pretty cool nights. Don't think they have had frost very heavy we can see snow but the grass is green and we saw a beautiful orchard today the first since we left Blackfoot. I can see two houses from where I sit. It seems good to be where some one lives again. We surely have spent a summer in the mountains plenty fresh air, cenery, and cold water and most all cool weather. Tongue can not express the sights we have seen. Nature is beyond expression.

September 18th

A nice morning quite warm. But blew up cool in the evening. We have had good roads today. Passed one country store and lots of ranch houses all along the way. Lots of perrie land thousands of acres of pretty land vacant. We passed two vacant houses I guess they couldn't get water. We are camped for the night by an irrigating ditch. Marion had a sick horse at noon detained us a couple of hours. The boys have been wanting to see a badger fight. They got to see one today. Rover the dog got it by the back and shook it. They made him turn it loose. The dog come after it again. It grabbed Rover by the neck and hung on until Clark got it by the tail put his foot on his neck and pulled him loose. Marion shot it twice with a twenty two. It got up and run. Will shot it and killed it.

(64) LAVA LAKE — East of Carey.

(65) SILVER RIVER — Silver Creek.

(66) PICABO — (Spelling)

(67) BELLEVUE — At the entrance to the Sun Valley area.