

1884.

Day Book!

Estancia "La California"

March 31. Put cattle from Tamas side on rodio, and parted out what we thought sufficient cattle at corte with few novillos and old cows, and also parted out 20 bulls from Tamberas and 5 milch cows. Locked in the night at Portenas. Take 23 horses along; 11 of black topolla, 2 blancos, 1 blanco, 1 rosillo, 3 alarans, 1 Colorado R, 1 macho and 1 mula, 1 bayo, 1 braundie

April 1.

Marched up to Ventura Suarez and locked in corral. Willie came to us in Portenas camp, and we counted the cattle. 786 in all without 8 open, among them are 219 wechano calves. The peons are Herualdo Gomez (capataz) Jose Herdo, Feloni Sosa, Mercedes, Baulo Barba, Eduardo Rio. They gain \$1.00 per day, and \$1.00 for each half night rondaria. The cart man (Dionisio) gets six reales per day. Hugo and Miguel go as far as Suarez and then go back. Suarez gave us a capon. Met Mr. Watt and Wallace at Suarez.

April 2.

Marched to Moyas puesto, and locked in; a very dark and drizzling night. It rained most all day. Butchered a quacho calf. We have 5 young grey hounds along; 3 big ones, 2 small pointers and 4 large ones. Mr. Walker has one fox terrier along. Mr. Fredricks and Mr. Walker go along on a paseo (work!)

April 3^d.

Marched from Moyas puesto to the edge of San Martin colony 4 leagues as it was too late to pass through. Rondared tonight; Fredricks ill.

April 4.

Rondared last night in a corner of a fence; cattle dispersed once, but got them together all right. Hired a vaquero (Manuel Mansilla) at \$2.00 the day up to the Salado. Passed through San Martin and stopped for the night up against Quinones.

Estancia fence. Butchered an old fat cow.
Lost the map of Province.

April 5.

Marched from Quinones fence up to Zarate camp
rounded by some lagunas. Open afflojando.
Dogs caught their first deer.

April 6.

Sunday. Marched up to edge of Pilar colony
colonos want to buy horses.

April 7.

Fredricks got sleepy on the road, peones also
desperado of cattle; found this morning two
leagues off. Marched up to edge of Trini River.
Cattle go splendid. Road goes through spotted
colonists. Butchered broken calf.

April 8.

Marched up to north of Colonia Felicia or
Prehita, arroyo Prussianas. Cold. Full moon
Susan hot. Not asked for guia yet. Cattle went
very badly.

April 9.

Marched up to edge of Colonia Progreso,
through fine open camp. Cattle very maneros
to drive. Dogs killed a gamma. Cold weather.

April 10.

Marched up to between Calulu and Salado
in estancia of Crespo. Had no trouble to
pass Calulu. Bought sugar and Yerba (\$5.62)
in Progreso. Fine camp where we stop
tonight. Butchered novillo. Fine weather.

April 11

Passed Salado today. Had some trouble with
cattle and cart. Pass is in front of Amelias.
Passed cargo of cart over in canoe \$3.00. Hired
7 or 8 men with guia to help pass cattle over.
Spent \$16.75 to get them over. Camped on edge of Salado.

April 12.

Went as far as Las Delicias. Discharged Vaqueano
paid 4 nacionales. Lot of trouble with cattle.

April 13.

Marched as far as San Justo. Stopped near town. Wrote letter home.

April 14.

Marched as far as one of the gates of the Santa Rosa estancia 3^d from entrance. Locked in the gate protero over night. Walker and Alfred had breakfast at Estancia Santa Rosa and saw Crum. Drizzly weather. Commandante Johnson and Virasora passed down today. Butchered a calf.

April 15.

Counted cattle this morning 30 short. Don't know where they got away; must have in the desperado near Pilar colony. Marched as far as Crespos alambrado. Raining weather.

April 16.

Marched as far as Las Ovejitas. Locked cattle in corral. rounded horses. Milk cow died.

April 17.

Marched as far as San Pedro Grande. Rounded on south edge of arroya. Butchered a calf. People glad to see us.

April 18.

Marched as far as Rabona. Put four yoke of oxen on cart; hard to go up the hills. Raining very hard. Gave Don Benito a greyhound choriado. He helped us with his men to drive cattle.

April 19.

Rained a lot last night. Marched up to between Espin river and poblacion. Cart stuck in Jacaracita tonight. Raining hard all day.

April 20.

Horses disappeared last night. 37 in all. nearly all of our and some of peones. Eduardo went after them and found them along fence of the Rabon. Reached home at last. Got cart out all right, after unloading and breaking harness and manaderos. Locked cattle in horses corral and ^{the} wired in gardens. Jimmie

Fredricks, Walker and Alfred taking turns to round out side of corral. Men stop on until corral is made and mark the calves. Have to get posts from old colonists corral east of poblacion.
 May 15. Butchard novillos

While the men were here we made the corral which took us four days. Heraldo and Jose saweared and put the posts while Dionisio carted posts from first colonists house toward east and in the pile around the house. One of the men pastoreared cattle with their own horses, for six days at \$1.50 per day. The day we finished the corral the troperos of Santa Rosa locked a tropa of novillos in our harness corral on their way to Reconquista. On the 27th of April we marked our calves as Don Benito came the day before with some soldiers, also their cart from Reconquista with a couple of soldiers more. Marked one point in big corral, and when they were marked, put other point in small corral. Heraldo and Jose on horse back and the rest on foot. Marked 205 calves. Don Benito and the men went back to San Pedro in the afternoon as it was too hot to run with the dogs. Next day counted cattle in corral 751 with out the eight oxen. We had butchered 9 on the road up and here so we are just 28 short. All the men left today (Apr. 29) Heraldo looks for lost cattle towards Trevis camp near Zarate where we had the desperada. Walker, Fredricks, Johnnie and Alfred were quite alone for 7 days, until Perico Pereira and Anastasio Rose came from Reconquista to work for us. Perico to take care of cattle @ \$15 a month (at the rate of 80^o sac to the Bolivian dollar) and Anastasio to help build etc at \$18.00 the month. Perico began work May 4, and Anastro May 5. On May 5 we began hauling timbers from a colonists tapera in the Rinconada of the Espin. The tapera is in a good state of preservation

and the timbers will reach for our house. Made our trip a day until today. Johnnie and Alfred taking turns to go with the man over there. Had made a contract with a man from San Martin (Pedro Gozido) to cut pacha for us at the Espin river near the pass at \$3.00 the 100 bundles. He cut 600 bundles and we received them yesterday. Hauled the first load of pacha today (200 bundles.) We have on hand now the orbones for the house, tyiras, cumbreras, canas, and about 1/2 enough posts for sides. We have not butchered since we marked the calves (Apr 27). Live on guma meat the dogs catch, or Walker, Johnnie or Fredricks shoot. Have already over 40 guma skins, 2 aquara, 2 pig, and a guaruncio. We had put the tent that was over Castilla cast up, and have our goods under shelter. We had a good deal of wet weather later part of last night, and the corral is just about getting dry now. Fredricks or Walker generally cook. Puchuro, Gisado, asado, head cheese, rice, etc. All are enjoying good health, and Wishing house was done so we could get under shelter. Cattle are doing first rate and seem to be getting fat already. The black ox died soon after we arrived also 2 very fat vaquillones. Guess the black ox was sick before we left home. We approached the fat from ^{the} two vaquillones. The two charquis from Reconquista to San Pedro passed today. Indications are that we will have more rain soon, as it is cloudy and very hot.

May 16.

Alfred, Johnnie and peon went to pass and got 200 bundles of pacha. Grey hounds caught a deer and an ostrich. Johnnie killed two foxes. Fredricks killed a deer. South wind nice and cool.

May 18

Sunday — Johnnie and Peon's our camp peon went out shooting and killed an awful fat boqual, and caught a live one, and left him tied up to a tree until tomorrow (wounded).

Brought all the fat and the best meat home.
 Alfred took the dogs out for a run and caught
 two ostrich and 3 guanas.

May 17. (the skipped day)

Alfred and the cart went to the pass and brought
 last load of pajá. Walker shot a guana.

May 19

Alfred, Fredricks, Walker and Perico took our
 tripilla of horses and went to where we left
 the boquet tied up yesterday, but found him
 dead from his wound. Brought the fat home.
 Looked for some more, but could find none.
 Let some fat of the first one out; filled one
 demijohn, and had nothing more to put it into.
 Nice cool weather, cattle looking better every day.
 They scatter out better in the day time and come
 up to the corral better in the night time.
 Horses also in good condition and the open wild.

May 20

Two charquis from San Pedro and some colonists
 (Setú) from the Comandante passed and had
 breakfast here on the way to Reconquista. Alfred
 went with Anastasio and got another load of pots
 for house. Let out the rest of potro fat.

May 21.

Johnnie went with cart and got another load
 of timber took shot gun along and shot some
 martinets and a curvo. Laid out plan of
 house; it is to have two rooms each five yards
 by six and a veranda 3 yds broad in front.

May 22.

Alfred went with cart and got more timber.
 Heavy frost this morning, but day nice and
 warm.

May 23.

Johnnie went with cart. Put up all windows
 for house.

May 24

Alfred went with cart and got last load of
 lumber for house. Set fire to the plowed land
 so as to begin to plow soon. Also set fire to the

cañada on the other side of the Laguna, to see if any
 Secheros would come out. Put up the two ^{big} cumbresas
 on house. Chasquis came from Reconquista to San Pedro.
 May 25.

Alfred and Anastasio went out to run with the
 dogs and caught three gamas. Gipsy the bitch
 over exerted herself and died. A great shame, as
 we would rather have lost two of our best horses.
 The colonists came back from Reconquista and
 brought us two arrobas of corn meal @ 6 r. la ar.
 also brought us some mercurio to cure animals.

Fredricks and Johnnie left at noon to go to the
 Espin arroya; they are going to camp out all night.

May 26.

Fredricks horse got loose last night, and Johnnie
 had to come back and get it. Did not shoot
 any thing. Put up cumbresas on house. Cattle
 looking splendid.

May 27.

Put the tejeras up. One of the cumbresas broke
 and had to make another. A bad job as the
 ay is all broke out and the adze is not worth
 a damn. Clearing up around the place, and
 mended up the traucos and made them lockable.

Put posts with iron bars in the gap in the corral.
 Two Moores and an English boy (Jack Heart) came
 they were much surprised to find the place
 occupied.

May 28.

Alfred and the two Moores went out for a run
 with dogs and caught 2 gamas. Johnnie and
 peon worked all day and tied canes on roof.

The men that cut paucha came back and brought
 us from San Martin 6 arrobas of flour, some
 onions, soft corn and zapallos. Very foggy
 all day, had the man with horses nearly all
 day.

May 29.

Walker, Alfred and Anastasio began thatching
 the house today. The Moores left for Pajaro Blanco
 again today, as the men they expected to meet.

did not turn up. Johnnie went and shot a ganna.
May 30, 1884.

Chasquis passed to Reconquista. Gave our man Anastasio permission to go with them. Gave him \$^m10.00 and \$^m2.00 to buy a new ax with (which he never got for us). Alfred and Walker thatching. Fredericks went out shooting all day and did not get anything. Very nice weather; cool south wind.

May 31.

Alfred, Walker and Perico thatching. Johnnie went out before sunrise and caught 2 ganna with traps. Johnnie went to the Espin pass and received 200 bundles of pacha and ordered 400 bundles more. Paid them \$^m11.30. Mr. Harmon, Ricketts, and two other Englishmen (Cottrell & Stevens) arrived in the evening with a carriage and two horse wagons and three tents and all armed to the teeth. They are going to see the Marrietta camps, and try to find a pass to the Parana to build a rail road to. They are going to stop several days here. Sat up with them until nearly midnight, singing to the banjo and drinking Scotch whisky.

June 1.

Sunday. Gave Perico permission to go hunting, and he killed an aquara. Had supper with the English fellows, sat till midnight had a bully time. Alfred caught 4 ganna with dogs.

June 2.

Alfred, Walker, and Perico thatching. Alfred went to the pass and brought up a lot of canes for house on horse back. Johnnie taking care of cattle and horses. Chasquis came back from Reconquista, but our man did not turn up. Very cloudy and sultry.

June 3.

Alfred went to Pajari Blanco for Mr. Harmon to bring two Brown. He took one of their peons with him. Tigre caught 2 gamas. The English all went out hunting, but did not shoot any thing. Perico finished all the Taji.

June 4.

Cloudy weather, looks rainy. Johnnie and two Englishmen went out skinning deer: Tigre caught four.

June 5.

Sold a novillo to the Englishmen 12^{nac} cueros ovelto. Defect came back from Pajari Blanco bringing Brown, Richard Morgan Joe Moore and Jack Hart along. Luciano Leiva and another gentleman stop all night on their way to Reconquista.

June 6.

All the people left today for Malabrigo. They hired Jose Moore as obaqueano. Brown and Morgan left for ~~Malabrigo~~ Malabrigo.

June 7.

The bulls killed a little white milch cow: broke its leg. Only one milch cow left now. San Pedro cart came late in the evening for Reconquista.

June 8.

Johnnie went out hunting this morning early but shot nothing as it began raining, rained hard all afternoon; thought the strong south wind would blow the house down. Very cold in the night. Walker very lame. Madrina jumped on his toe.

June 9.

Alfred and Perico put up some of the walls. Johnnie took care of the cattle. Fredericks went out shooting.

June 10

Alfred went down to pass and received and

paid for four hundred bundles of pacha ^{7.75} ₃₈₇.
 Johnnie and Perico putting up the door frames
 and walls. Benito Ramayon and family called
 at noon on their way to Reconquista. Took the
 ass and along Alfred gave him. Encargared
 some things. Anastasio came back and brought
 his wife along. Cold disagreeable day.

June 11.

Johnnie and Tigre killed and brought home 3 game.
 Perico stopped work today. A male calf marked
 died today; was sick along time. Heirid
 Anastasio's wife, begins today @ 5.00 per a
 month. Does washing cooking and maid of all
 work. Did some work on house and got the
 cart and coyuntas ready for tomorrow.

Fredricks went out shooting and got nothing.
 South wind, nice and agreeable.

June 12.

Alfred and peon took cart and brought up
 300 bundles of pacha and some canes they cut.
 Fredricks and Perico went off for a couple
 of days shoot. Johnnie finished cylinders of
 well. Tigre caught an astrick.

June 13.

Alfred and peon brought up 300 bundles of
 pacha and a lot of more canes. The weather
 cold and south wind. Fredricks and Perico
 came back; they brought one of Morris' horses
 back, which they captured in monte.

June 14.

Perico went out and brought Morris' other
 horse which he could not catch yesterday.
 He also killed a big cervo. Johnnie and
 peon brought a big load of fire wood.
 A small calf died, from being apretared
 the other night when the cattle dispersed.

June 15, 1884.

Walker, Johnnie, Perico and Anastasio went bagual hunting but could not find any. Perico killed a big Aguara and Anastasio an ant bear.

June 16.

Alfred and Anastasio thatched all day until there was no more dry paja. Soldiers came back from Reconquista with cart and brought us a bag of maize.

June 17.

Thatched a little this forenoon and then got the mud ready for tomorrow. Got also the walls ready by tying sticks and canvas across. Walker shot two gamas. Paid off Perico \$14.40

June 18

Fredricks took care of cattle and horses and all hands were repairing house: finished half south wall. Frost in the morning.

June 19.

Finished other half of south wall. The mornings are cold but the days are nice and warm.

June 20.

Johnnie and Walker began building fire place in east room against middle wall. Anastasio busy thatching. Alfred caught and brought home four gamas. Fredricks sick with bad cold. Don Benito came back from Reconquista he brought us 1 ar. corn flour, 3 empty horseman cans, some small cigars, and a lot of letter paper.

June 21.

Don Benito and Johnnie took dogs for a run and caught 3 gamas.

June 22.

Don Benito left at noon. Alfred went with him as far as pass, and killed a gama and brought home a very fat carpintero he killed.

June 23. 1844.

Alfred and Anastasio thatching, Johnnie and Walker building fire place. Don Cornelio Coupiles Samuel Sager, Lorenzo Duran and Lucas Tortello had breakfast on their way to Johnsons.

Alfred caught 3 gamas with dogs. An awful cold black frosty day.

June 24.

The people that came past yesterday passed again today on their way to Malabrigo. Man thatching Walker and Johnnie building fire place.

June 25.

Johnnie took pack mule and shot and killed brought home 8 gamas. Man thatching.

June 26.

Walker and Johnnie finished fire place; we also finished thatching.

June 27.

Frosty this morning and cloudy during after part of day.

June 28.

Walker, Alfred and Anastasio got a big cart load of wood from a tapera on the other side. Dug up pisadero and prepared it for Monday. Johnnie chased and caught a big aquara that came by.

June 29.

Sunday. Alfred and peon went out running with dogs and caught 3 gamas and a quacuched. Johnnie killed a gama and a fox.

June 30.

Chasques came by bringing a letter recalling one of us home immediately as Herman is sick. also some papers. paid Anastasio 2 pats.

July 1.

Found a small calf dead in the carrada been dead a long while. Emburared the east side of house. Reared the mud with the pains mare Jose ^{meta} left here