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J. O. Stevenson
Dep. Coll. Inst. Rev
P. O. Box 471
Galveston
Texas

Thursday Nov 2d 1871

Nov 2d Thurs Left in a hurry for S. Black Cloud, forgot gloves, Miss M. A. E. N. brought them along. 3rd Friday At mouth of Turnbuy flats, grass, fowl, mouths, driftwood like Nereids &c. Wallisville, a few scattered houses, dilapidated.

Served notices in Wallisville

Evening beautiful, sun setting over western woods and river. Molasses glass.

4 Saturday Nov. 71

Morning foggy cool. Woods on the way to Sleuglers. Lost in the timber, up the Bayou. Wilcox collection $42.50. arrived at Bandcommers. beautiful sun set over the western woods.

5th Sunday Nov.

Sunrise showing beautiful floods of light through mists on the prairie grass tops look like vast forests, with valleys between

Eat persimmons. John Stenglers a beautiful rural residence in the skirt of woods. Story telling. Whites shot him mending a fence murder of Barrow. Betrayal of White by a friend for $3000. Murder of Whites guard in Liberty Trial, appeal to Supreme Court Escape between Liberty and Chan from guards, thought bribed. Murder of two Booths by Geffler in self defence. Gefflers two years watchfulness, carrying a gun. Waylaid and shot by the remaining brother Booth in the forest. Booth who murdered the above guard, and the false friend, now lives out west. One negro cut another last week in Liberty, he died,

murderer in custody.
One negro murdered another at Double Bayou last year, now in Penitentiary.

Monday. Nov. 6. 1871.
Misty. Cleared up. Shelton refused with cursing for penalty. J. T. White polite. Middleton & Barrow cursed. Crossing Whites Bayou $120. late at night arrived at Jas Jackson. large fam. ily carpeted parlor, piano, fair daughters. Slept sound in a hall

Tuesday Nov 7. 1871.
Slightly misty mixed with rays from rising sun. T.W.S. Cloak your self well. Returned $10 to B. Barrow Collection $3"74.67
T. W. Shelton cursed again
Pen'd colored C50 cts Spec. in the morning. Had beautiful pictures of light and shade

from the rays of the sun ~~bus~~ shooting from a porthole in a black cloud and running along the forest buttresses bathing them by turns in light. Chasing the dear. Hornets' nest. Horses sagacity. Very tired

Wednesday. Nov. 8.

Day rainy, writing up my papers preparatory to appointment in Wallisville. Raining very heavy toward night

Thursday Nov 9

Weather beautiful but very hot, down the west shore of Fur-the Bay, scenery beautiful high bluff, shell banks, schooner & sloop. Benefit of close observation in traveling, shown by recognizing

the road in small things such as a peculiar tree, or a tiny waterfall, or an broken limb. Arrived at Wallisville at 4:10 P.M. Called on Mrs Clark she refused. Weather still beautiful.

Story telling

Vanpraedells misfortunes Sold his store & stock & lands to a company of young men for $15000 taking notes payable at various dates wit 10%. War commenced they could not pay notes his oldest son died at school in Bastrop, his wife died in consumption, and his other son also died all within one year. He put his daughters in a convent. His eldest has since married and is now parted from the husband. He went crazy for a while his friends assisted him

and now he keeps store.
Gen McGruder's selling passes west of Mississippi for $1000 each.

Friday Nov 10

16th The Black Cloud was snarled and sunk

Cool northier blowing, busy preparing papers for Liberty weather moderates during day. Arrival of Black Cloud I wish I could go with her but away she moves leaving me to a dreary forest journey of over 20 miles. Well we must expect some disadvantages in life.
Collections slow. $146 00/100
The sun begins to sink down the western slope. Slowly the woods across the Trinity in front

of the town assume the appearance of being on fire. Slowly the shadows chase the light up the chapparal, up the mesquit, up the loftiest water oaks, untill their verdant green grows dark. The western sky is filled with luminous colors, the eastern is a dark blue, the zenith pale blue conflicting with golden rays. Cooler grows the evening, and yet the holiness of all nature is violated by a ~~[illegible]~~ foolish man who intoxicated shouts and whoops through the village. Ah! how weak, very weak very sinful we are. How pure, how glorious how exalted is nature when contrasted! Ah me!

Story telling.

Sam Houston, his opposition to secession. a party attempted to

So we do not always know what is best

to get up a feeling to hang him
The same men afterward carried
by invited him to speak on the
issues of the day, during the
war, and to call on them. Sam
made one of his last speeches in
Chambers C.H. Capture of the
Harriet Lane, by Neptune and
Bayou City. Nep sunk from collision
Bayou City ran under the wheelhouse
It was in the morning. The at-
tention of the U.S. gunboats had been
drawn by the Lucy Gwinn.
Allen meeting his own son on
the deck of the Harriet Lane dying
The boy who fought so well.
~~Explo~~ Blowing up of the Westfield that had run aground
by Commodore who also

went up and Dis mem. Sinking
of the Brooklyn by the Alabama
Capn Payne (Confed) going on the
U.S. transport to pilot her in after
I was relaten.

The Scotchman who
lived on the Rio Grande, his ex-
perience, as to hangings on the
Mesquit Tree, going north after
war, return to Tex and death
on Galveston Bay. His spiritual
belief. cure by Dr Walker spirit-
of N.Y. and by Dr Williams of
Scotland. Threatenings of
Southerns against all who would
give any freedmen against for-
mer masters will.

Saturday Nov 11
Morning bright and beautiful
Rec Mailed check from Haywood
on Hobby & Post in letter to
L.N. Camp. wrote to L. Reed

wrote yesterday to Mrs. Keen. Invited to dinner by Capn Haywood. "Picture of Life" like pictures I had seen in Ct, in two Houses. Surroundings of home pleasant showing more than taste and energy. Beautiful young wife, with fine eyes, can play the guitar. Got Gale. Weekly News of the 6th and enjoyed it.

I wish I had some news from what is at least home to me. Court House is a frame building dilapidated windows broken books & papers lying around anywhere. I picked up one old roll and a mud daubers nest chopped out of it, no seals, no

accomodations, and I closed in the bar once occupied by Sam Houston.

Sunday 12. Nov

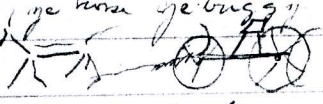
Morning dark and gloomy, with rain, as day wore on frequent flashes of lightning played through the air, accompanied with peals of thunder. A heavy cloud overspread the whole sky which had a white smoky ragged edge around the horizon, when this cloud fairly settled all around the lightnings became more vivid the thunderings more frequent- and the rain poured down in sheets covering the land with lakes, whose surface assumed the appearance of effervescence by the beating of the rain drops.

I read extracts from M. Michel's works on Jesuits, Luther, priest, people

1871

Monday Nov. 13

River rising rapid current. Mailed 21 on Mr Key. all says that he will not pay anything. waiting for buggy. Through the timber in a buggy



ye timber

Pin ~~came~~ broke out and let us down in the mud, tied body to fore wheels and started. Hames gave way. Tied and started shaft broke, gave up and went for a log cabin, left mail in the cabin got horses and started back for Wallisville, arrived to catch a mail boat. Left with a slight breeze from the N.W. and

almost flew down the river past Old River; shell bank the various passes, the old cabin where the old man who tended swine was found dead two weeks ago, the turkey buzzards hovering around told the tale of the old man's decease. Came too off Round Point untill the fury of the gale should cease. Left Round Point at 2 o'clock A.M.

Tuesday Nov 14

Sailed down the bay in Gen Bale came to Red Fish Bar at day break. Wren aground.

We ran aground on Pelican Shoals. Threw cordwood overboard could not move her. I leapt into a small skiff at 11 A.M. Mr Haywood and Blanton followed and we set out in this frail concern for Galveston. Ran swifts

before the wind was in danger in the Channel and at the Wharves landed safely.

Friday Nov 17

Resigned Depy Collector's

Riley has at last gone crazy for Riley.

Griffin reports now falsely and policeman calls at Roberts.

Capt'n Gibbs peculiar character and way of illustrating by anecdote

Rubys villifying speech against Reed Harrison, Rocks at Shiloh