

JOURNEY OF THE ROUNTREE FAMILY TO MISSOURI

FROM THE

DIARY OF JOSEPH ROUNTREE



Joseph Rountree

1782 - 1874

FIRST SCHOOL TEACHER
Greene County & Springfield

The diary of Joseph Rountree, 1782-1874.

The following pages were copied from the Diary of Joseph Rountree. This old diary is now in the possession of Frances Rountree Fowler, his great granddaughter. Most of the pages are legible and are copied as he wrote them on his journies between 1819 and 1831. The diary begins in North Carolina, Tuesday, October 3, 1819. He and a brother begin a journey on horseback to visit his brother Andrew in Tennessee and also visit another brother. (The two brothers are not named.)

Tuesday, 3d October. ---started for the ---Tenessee a cloudy --- went from Orange County, North Carolina crosses N&S--hico Negroe Creek the most particul--waters Cotherans, Slades, Andersons, & McNeals stores lodged at Mr. Barkers had to pay fourpence half pen-- a piece went thro Person Caswel went -- miles this day got company with a Mr. Joseph Robeson and Thomas Iverson Hi--this even---off with fe -- rain.

Wednesday the 4th started early a clear morning and crossed the line into Rockingham through Rockingham Guilford and into Stokes this day passed McCanes store where we left Joseph Robinson Alexander Robinson swaped--there we crossed --ouble--some and the head---Haw River lodged with Ensley this day travled -- miles our direction was generally S of a westerly --tion we saw the Surry Mountains the evening--right on Dan.

Thirsday the 5 a fine clear morning left M Ensleys early traveled on eight or nine miles and Cates discovered he had lossed his pocket book he rode back we proceeded on to a smiths shop and there waited for Cates. Iverson got his horse shod and we got some chestnuts there and Cates came up about 2 Oclock we proceeded on crossed the waters of Dan River and -- Yodkin--had a view of (pilot) mountain on the left and the blue ridge ahead this evening. Traveled 28 miles and lodged at Mr. Edwards.

Friday 6th this day proceeded on early a fine morning passed the pilot mountain and the Surry mountain came to the blue ridge about the middle of the afternoon proceeded up the mountain after much fatigue we stopped to cool our horses. Alexander Robinson and myself went up to the top of the highest point of the Mountain where the land was better there than any that I had ever seen as so it was on the sides of the ridge after diverting ourselves about an hour and a half we proceeded on to Mr. C--- where we took up the land east of the ridge that we had passed through in our journey was generally poor. We passed through Stokes and into Surry and entered Virginia 7 miles east of the ridge in Grayson County yesterday and today we went a northerly direction. This day we rode 37 miles.

Saturday 7th A hazy morning rode through a nobby country. Saw some white pine and spruce. Crossed the poplar camp stopped at the iron works. Saw the casting some pots. Proceeded on to the lead works. Crossed new river which was 140 yds wide. We had some rain this afternoon and a wet night. Lodged at Mr. Ghosts. Went 35 miles a westerly course. Today we entered With County. The land this side of new river is fertile tho broken. The people healthy and the water the best I ever saw. We crossed new river at Newels ferry.

Sunday, 8th, a cloudy morning. Proceeded on. Left the blue springs on the left and the seven mile ford on Holsten on the right. This day fertile valleys and the best meadows I ever saw. The growth generally white oak. Other growth intersperced. A great many sugar trees and white walnut. We crossed the South fork of Holsten -- a dozen times this day. Also crossed the middle fork. Lodged at Mr. Meeks, a stone house 81-1/2 x 25 feet. Went 38 miles, a south westerly course. It cleared with flying clouds. Entered Washington County today.

Monday, 9th. Some flying clouds this morning. Proceeded on. Came to Abbingtion about ten o clock. A handsome little town. A cloudy day. This evening we entered the Tenessee Sullivan County. Rode 38 miles a course south westerly. Lodged at Mr. Johnsons.

Tuesday, 10th. A fine morning. This day proceeded on early. Crossed the north (came to the--) fork of Holsten at Rosses. A river about 100 yards wide. Came through a little village newly erecting. Susoinesville. Saw excellent crops of corn. This day we came 39 miles generally a westerly course. Lodged at Mr. Russell's. Entered Hawkins County today.

Wednesday, 11th. A little frost this morning. Came to Rogersville early. A pleasant country only nobby. A great many black walnut and beach in the growth of this country. We also came through Bean's Old Station and Rutledge came into Granger County. This day rode 40 miles and lodged at Mr. Clay's.

Thursday, 12th. A fine morning, a little frost. Proceeded on early. Came to Nox County. In the afternoon passed through Nox town (Knoxville) a handsome compact town. Thirteen stores in it. Met three Indians going to town to sell chestnuts. Came 40 miles. Lodged with Mr. Cox. These two days generally a westerly direction entered the grassy valley this evening.

Friday, 13th. A pleasant morning. A little hazy. Proceeded on through the grassy valley. Entered Rone County. Red land and rich. Very little timber. On the most of the land the valley excellent crops of corn. The timber in the valley is generally hickery and black oak. We came through Kingston. Crossed Clinch at south west point. A river better than 200 yards wide. Entered the Old Wilderness. Came 40 miles. Lodged at Mr. Don Lapps.

Saturday 14th. A cloudy morning. Set out early. At the foot of Cumberland Mountain. Ascended it. Came to Spencers Hill. Descended it with much difficulty. On the side of the mountain purchased some bear meat. Came to the turnpike. Got it cooked with some venison and breakfasted on it and found it most excellent food. At the foot of Spencers Hill came through the crab orchards. Traveled on the mountain. This day some rain. Saw a large Prairie on the right. In the afternoon came through Bloodsaw and into Whit Country. Lodged at Mr. Millers. Came 33 miles today.

Sunday, 15th. A rainy morning. Set out early this morning. Descended the Cumberland Mountain. Came to Sparta--a small town. Came into Warren County. Some taleraby land--Little timber. A vast of poor land. Crossed Cainy Fork and Collins River. Each about 100 yards wide. Crossed C fork at the rock island. Came 48 miles. Took up at Mr. Nubys.

Monday, 16th. A misty cloudy morning. Set out early. Came through barren land the forepart of the day. Descended the Tenessee ridge. Came to better land than I ever saw. Some cane growing. The growth on the land was generally beach, ash, buckeye, poplar, and walnut. Crossed Stones river eighteen times today. Left it to the right. Came to cedar land, some trees over three feet. Saw a buckeye tree over 4 feet in diameter. Came through Murphies borough Retherford County. Rode 36 miles. Came safe to Col. Thompsons about sunset. It faired off today.

Tuesday, 17th. A clear morning. After breckfast left Col. Thompsons and went back to Murphiesborough and made a small halt there. Then went to John Reeve's, about six miles, and dined there. Then to Lodewick Moores about six miles. Found the land in the county extremely fertile and generally lying entirely level. No water, hardly, except wells, and a few springs. The rivers in some places will afford enough water to run a mill and in a short distance below entirely dry. Rode about 13 miles today.

Wednesday, 18th. A foggy morning. We took breckfast with Mr. Moore then went to Joshua Gates about nine miles, took dinner there then came back to Mr. Reeve's about 9 miles. Last night was taken unwell. I do not think the people looks as health here as they do in North Carolina. Some talk of sickness in this neighborhood. This day we rode about 18 miles.

Thursday, 19th. We set out from Mr. Reeve's early. With violent fever I traveled with extreme fatigue today. Came to Davidson County. Arrived at Thomas Thompson's this evening. Traveled 34 miles today.

Fryday, 20th. This day some better of my fever. After breckfast we went to Nashville. A toleraby large town. The heart of the town brick buildings. Very elegant situated on a ceder bluff. On the west bank of the Cumberland River. We saw the boating in the river. I stayed until evening. Returned to Mr. Thompson's. The distance from Mr. Thompsons to Nashville is 3-1/2 miles. The land in this county appears more hilly than it is in Retherford. And more springs. Also very fertile. Last night my mare took sick. I got a horse from Mr. Thompson to ride to town. We traveled seven miles today.

Saturday 21st. A fine morning with some broken clouds. After breckfast we set out from Mr. Thompson's through an excellent country. We came to Frankland about the middle of the afternoon. A handsome little town on the bank of Big Harpeth. The land from Nashville to Frankland exceeds, I think, any that I ever saw in quality and the situations are excellent with tolerably good springs on them. We dined at Town. The county of Williamson. I went back about a mile and staid at Mr. Dahill McMahons all night. We rode about 34 miles today. The most of the growth of the forest is beech, poplar, black walnut, and sugar---, some ash

Sunday, 22nd. This morning somewhat cloudy. After breckfast set out for Andrew Rountrees. Came past Franklin. Crossed Little Harpeth and arrived at my brothers about the middle of the afternoon. Found him and family in good health. Came about 11 miles today.

Monday 23. A clear morning. This day we rested at Andrew's. A very nobby country. The valleys fertile, good water. Passed a very pleasant day.

Tuesday, 24th. A fine morning. After breckfast we got our horses and went to Charles Robinsons about a mile. Took dinner there and went over about a mile to David Robinsons. Did not find him at home. Came back to Andys again. Rode about 4 miles today.

Wednesday, 25th. A little frost. Last night the wolves pestered Andy's sheep very much. We began to fix for our journey. A fine day.

Thursday, 26th. A rainy morning. After breckfast we started from Andrews and went over the Duckriver Ridge. Proceeded through an excellent body of land. Some cane, much beech. Crossed Duck River and Sugar Fork. Went up Big Bigby. Lodged at Mr. Hunter's. Rode 35 miles. Cleared off this evening. Came into Maury County. This evening passed through wonderful distruction by a herricane.

Fryday, 27th. A frosty morning. Set out early. Came through excellent land. Came to where the herricane a great many years ago has destroyed the timber. No appearance remains but the hills of clay left by the tree roots. The timber growd up large again. Another of a later date, the logs beginning to rot.

Crossed Big Creek. A dry creek. Came to Giles County. Found the people very sickly. Rode about 25 miles. Was at Thomas M'Kessac's today. Lodged at Richard Lyon's. This day the land exceedingly good. Our course yesterday and today generally southerly direction.

Saturday 28th. A frosty morning. After breckfast proceeded on through rich cainny land. Crossed Richland Creek. A handsome creek. Came to Pulasky a handsome situated little town. Some boating can come to it. People was sickly. After staying about three hours we proceeded on a northerly direction over a nobby and ridgy country up Richland Creek. Came to Captain Nathan Farmer's and lodged there. Rode 17 miles this day.

Sunday 29th. A frosty morning. Left Captain Farmer's after breckfast. Went up Richland creek to a Baptist Preaching. Saw a great many of my acquaintances. Then proceeded on to Mr. Alexander Moore's. Lodged there. Found the people more healthy in this day's travel than two days before. The land excellent and good water. 5 miles today. Lincoln County.

Monday, 30th. A clear morning with little frost. Set out after breckfast. Went up Richland Creek to the head. Crossed Cain Creek. Passed by Uncle John Nichols. Went on a southerly direction. Came through Fayetteville. The handsomest situationed town that I have saw in the state. Went on and crossed Elk River. It runs a southerly direction. Took some whiskey on the other side. Came back. Saw four large fish as we crossed. Came back to Fayetteville and lodged at Mr. McConnell's tavern. At the sign of the bell. Came through a good deal of good land. This day traveled 20 miles. Elk the handsomest stream I ever saw.

Tuesday, 31st. A fine morning. Set out early, a northerly course. Crossed a nobby and ridgy country towards Shelbyville. Came to some rich land before we came to the town. Passed through the town about the middle of the afternoon. A small town. Went on down the Duck River came to cedar rocky land. Came to Nichoel Robinson's and lodged there. Bedford County. Came 45 miles this day.

Wednesday, 1 November. A pleasant morning with a little frost. Started early. Crossed Duck River, went through a cedar rock country. Came to Columbia, a small town. Murry County. Crossed Duck River again. Came through good land. Came to my brother's. Traveled 38 miles this day.

Fryday, 3 November. A rainy morning. After breckfast went to Franklin. Stayed about three hours. Came to Mr. Charles Robinsons and stayed all night. Rode about 20 miles this day.

Saturday, 4th. A rainy morning. After breckfast rode to David Robinsons then back and passed Captain Sharpmans and to Charles Robinsons again. Staid and helped him shuck corn. Came to my brother's. Rode 4 miles this day.

Sunday, 5th. A hazy morning. This day rested at my brother's.

Monday, 6th. A rainy morning. Put shoes on our horses in the morning. It cleared off about 11 O' Clock. Helped my brother drive his beeves to Franklin. Rode 20 miles this day.

Tuesday, 7th. A little frost. We set out early on our return home. Rode until near midnight. Came to Lodewick Moore's in Retherford County. Rode 48 miles this day.

Wednesday, 8th. A light frost this day. Clouded up early. After breckfast we proceeded on our journey. It began to rain in the evening. We came to Mr. Barkley's and lodged. Warren County. Rode 25 miles this day.

Thursday, 9. A rainy morning. Proceeded on early. Came this day through barren land generally. This day crossed Cainy Fork at Fortner's bend. Came to Sparta. Lodged at Mr. Brown's. Came 40 miles this day.

Friday, 10th. A cloudy cold morning. Started early. Came through barren prairie land. Assended Cumberland Mountain. It snowed a little. This afternoon came to the crab orchards. Lodged with Mr. Moons. Came 35 miles this day. Yesterday Mr. John Farmwurlth came in company with us. A coppersmith and tinner in Noxville. Saw two Indians with some fresh venison this evening.

Saturday, 11th. A clear cold morning. Started early. Came over Spencers Hill and crossed Clinch below the forks of the ---. In company with Mr. Woods, Mr. Car, Mr. Farmwurlth. Came to Mr. Morris's and lodged at the sign of the Maremaid. Came 35 miles.

Sunday 12th. A clear cold morning. Parted with Mr. Woods. Came to Nox. Left Mr. Farmwurlth. Came on to Mrs. Armstrong's and lodged. Rode 39 miles.

Monday 13th. A clear cold morning. Set out early. Passed through Rutledge and came through Beans Old Station. Passed three droves of hoggs and one of the droves had 650 head. Lodged at Mr. Cardens. Came 46 miles this day.

Tuesday, 14th. A frosty morning. It hazed up this day. We set out early and came through Rogersville and Suzuinesville. Came to the N. fork of Holsten. Saw a drove of Hoggs cross the river. 530 in number. Passed them and came past the boatyard. Saw three Chikasa Indians. We came to Mr. Newlands and lodged. Rode 40 miles.

Wednesday, 15th. A little frost this morning. Moderate but somewhat cloudy. We proceeded on early. Came through Abbingdon. Passed a drove of Hoggs 1500 in number. Came to Mr. Greenway's. Had the pleasure of seeing Miss Sally Greenway play the pianno forte. Went 36 miles.

Thursday 16th. A rainy morning. Proceeded on early. Passed a drove of Hoggs 776 another drove of Hoggs 230 in number. We crossed the middle fork of Holsten at the 7 mile ford came on and came up the south fork. Came to Mr. Shelly James's and lodged. 31 miles this day.

Fryday, 17th. A cold morning. With flying clouds. We proceeded on. Brother's mare got lame a few days ago and this morning I let him have my mare and I walked. We came past the blue Springs. Came down the Cripple Creek road. Came to Mr. Rogers and lodged. 26 miles this day.

Saturday 18th. Some frost this morning. But cloudy. Proceeded on early. Came over Helo River at Newals ferry and passed the lead works the popler camp furnace and came on. It snowed a little this morning. We came to Mr. Cornelius' and lodged. Came 25 miles.

Sunday 19th. Last night it rained a little. This morning it was very foggy. We proceeded on early. Came down the blue ridge. It cleared off. A beautiful day. My brother's mare got so that I rode her. We came on to Mr. Edwards and lodged. Came 37 miles this day.

Monday, 20th. Last night it clouded up. This morning is foggy. We proceeded on early. My brother took his own mare and I my own. We proceeded past the flat rock and came to Colonel Bashears and lodged. Came 42 miles this day.

Tuesday 21st. A cloudy morning. We started before day came over. Troublesome early in the day. In the fore part of the day it cleared off with a few flying clouds. We came safe home and found our family all alive. My children has the hooping cough. Rode 58 miles this day.

Our traveling Expense was \$23, C 19-1/2.

Note: This is the end of the first journey recorded in the Diary. This journey was said to have been taken in 1819. The journey back to Tennessee was also supposed to have been in 1819, when Joseph took his family and settled for a period of years in Tennessee. However there is some discrepancy in the dates, as the above journey ended Nov. 21 whereas the journey to Tennessee commenced on Nov. 15. Or this may be a record of the return.

From the diary of Joseph Rountree, 1782-1874.

Apparently the next fall after having made the trip by horseback they begin the journey to Missouri Territory by wagon in the company of James Hays.

Oct. 7th day 1819. Started to the Missouri Territory. Stayed at Wright Nichols.

Friday 8. Proceeded on. Camped at M'Keer.

Saturday 9th. Continued our journey. It rained. Camped at Mineral Springs.

Sunday, 10th. A clear day. Proceeded on. Camped at troublesome bridge. Frost this night.

Monday 11th. Fine weather. Continued our journey and camped 3 quarters of a mile west of the flat rock.

Tuesday 12th. Fine weather. Proceeded on. Camped at Stones Tavern.

Wednesday 13th. Clear weather. Continued our journey. Camped at Yodkin.

Thursday 14th. Proceeded on. Passed the pilot mountain. Camped in 20 miles of the ridge.

Friday, 15th. Fine weather. Proceeded on through rough road. Camped in 6 miles from the ridge.

Saturday 16th. A fine morning. Started all went well two miles. James Hays' cart axeltree broke down. Had to make a new one. Went only three miles. Some rain tonight.

Sunday 17th. A clear cool morning. Went on to the edge. Got all over safe. Camped at the gap.

Monday 18th. Last night exceeding cold. A little snow after dark. In the morning proceeded on early. Camped about 12 miles from the ridge.

Tuesday 19. A little cloudy this morning. Brother John (Oct 12, 1762) came to our camp. We proceeded on. Crossed New River. Got some fish and encamped about four miles from the ferry.

Wednesday 20. A cool day. We proceeded on. Brother John left us this morning. We went on very well. Went through With Town, a handsome little town. Encamped about a mile from town.

Thursday 21. Desperately cold but dry. We continued our journey.

Friday 22. A cold morning, a little snow. It cleared off early. Broke the tire of a wheel of my wagon. Got it mended. Encamped on the Holsten.

Saturday 23. A cloudy day, some rain. Moderately warm. We made a days good journey. Encamped 13 miles east of Abingdon.

Sunday, 24th. A cold morning. Started early, came to Abbingdon. James Hays stopped to get a new axeltree made. We proceeded on about 12 miles and encamped to wait until he would come up.

Monday 25. Waited at camp until James Hays came up. Then proceeded. Pleasant weather.

Tuesday 26th. Proceeded on early. Encamped in 15 miles of the Boatyard.

Wednesday, 27th. Proceeded on early. Passed over a hilly rocky country. Encamped at the boatyard.

Thrusday, 28th. Pleasant weather. Crossed the North Fork of the Holsten. Continued our journey. Encamped at Suzuinesville.

Friday, 29th. Fine weather. Passed through Rodgersville. Encamped not far from the town.

Saturday, 30th. Proceeded on. Fine weather. Encamped within 2-1/2 miles of Beans Station.

Sunday, 31. Proceeded on early. Came to Beans Station. James Hays left us to go to the Indiana (territory) in company with a Mr. Jesse Tolbert. We continued in company with a Mr. Henry Powel. We went through Rutlege and encamped about 6 miles of that town.

Monday 1st Nov. Started early, parted with Mr. Powel. Proceeded on until evening. Got in company with two wagons from the salt works. One of them was a Mr. Beese formally from North Carolina. Yesterday evening we lost our little dog Sanco. Encamped in twelve miles of Noxville.

Tuesday, 2. Proceeded on. Smoky weather. Passed through Nox. Got in company with a famaly from Lincoln County going to the Cherocee Land. Was encamped together five or six miles from Nox.

Wednesday 3. A very smoky day. Good road today. Encamped at Mr. Mouese (?)

Thursday 4th. A clear somewhat smoky day. We set out early. In the evening crossed Clinch River. Encamped. Had the misfortune to have my Doctor horse to die. Five or six carriages came into camp a moving to the Missouri.

Friday 5th. The most smokey weather I ever saw. We proceeded on. We encamped at Donlaps.

Saturday 6th. We did not leave camp until late in the evening. Went about 1 & 1/2 miles and encamped.

Sunday, 7. Went about 1 mile. Had to carry my plunder over the hill.

Monday 8. Left my waggen and plunder and started a horseback.

Tuesday 9th. Continued our journey.

Wednesday 10th. Proceeded on. Passed through Sparta.

Thursday 11th. Crossed Cainy Fork and Collins river a little rain tonight.

Friday 12th. Proceeded early. Got on Stones River. Encamped at Reedys.

Saturday 13th. Continued our journey. Passed Murphys borough and encamped in 14 miles of Franklin.

Sunday 14. Proceeded on early. Passed through Franklin. Met Mr. M'Night. He traveled with us till we got near brother Andrews. We got safe to Brother Andrews between sunset and dark. Found them all glad to see us.

From the diary of Joseph Rountree, 1782-1874.

Sunday September 19th 1830 started in company with Jackson Fitzgerald, Thomas Rountree, and Joseph Rountree from Maury County for the State of Missouri.

Proceeded on early and passed Franklin town, Williamson City and into Davidson. Stayed with Mr. Bateman near Nashville. The particular waters this day is Carters Creek, Murfrees Fork, West Harpeth, Spencers Creek, and Little Harpeth. Generally good land. Traveled 31-1/2 miles. Expense 2.12-1/2.

Monday, 20th. Started early, passed through Nashville. Last (night?) I. T. Rountree was very sick and continued sick all the forenoon. We had to ly by with him some hours. This day generally cloudy, some rain. This afternoon we forded the Cumberland River about a mile below Nashville. The water not more than belly deep to our horses. Traveled up White Creek. Passed over a great deal of poor land. Crossed Sycamore into Robenson County. Passed a little village called Turnersville. Stayed all night with Mrs. West. Traveled 33 miles. Expense \$2.75.

Tuesday 21st. Started early. Somewhat cloudy this day. We passed through Portroyal and Trenton. Crossed red river and through Montgomery County. Thence into Kentucky. Todd County and into Chrisian County. The land this day generally good red land. The farms of Kentucky and the growth mostly black jack good crops of corn and tobacco. We passed through Hopkinsville and crossed the Little River. Lodged at Mrs. Western. Traveled 35 miles this day. J. T. Rountree's mare was sick all this day. Our expenses 2.31-1/2.

Wednesday 22nd. Started early. Traveled about 4 miles and crossed sinkin Fork of Little River and there J. T. Rountree's mare died. I had to take him back to Hopkinsville on his return home and left him there and returned to my company and we proceeded on. The afternoon somewhat cloudy. The land today not very good. We traveled 23 miles. Stopped at Mr. Cartwright's. Calwell County. Expense 1.87-1/2.

Thursday 23. Started early. Traveled through Princeton, Old Centerville, and Salem and stayed with Mr. Clap. Expense 1.50. Livingston County. 42 miles.

Friday 24th. Started early. Crossed the Ohio River. It was nearly half the channel dry. The river from bank to bank 1 mile and 10 chain. (Note: The surveyors chain, 66 feet.) Crossed the river into Golcondy, Illinois State, Pope County. The land this day tolerably poor and rowling. The people not very healthy. This forenoon clear and the afternoon somewhat cloudy. Entered Johnson County. The land some better this afternoon. Traveled 37 miles. Expense 3.06-1/2.

Saturday 25th. This morning cloudy. Started early. It soon cleared off. Continued our journey. The land some richer. Passed through Salem Union County. Crossed Clear Creek. Came to richer land than I ever saw. Crossed the Mississippi River about sunset into the State of Missouri. This day traveled 40 miles. Stayed with Mr. Williams Cape. _____ County. Expense 1.62-1/2. The Mississippi River about one mile across.

Sunday, 26th. A clear day. Proceeded on over beautiful country of about third rate land. Passed Jackson. Good water and the people generally looks healthy. Crossed Whit water, a beautiful stream. This evening came to ridgy grofry land. A great many pine. After night a preary and crossed Caster Creek, Madison County. Stayed with Mr. White. Expense 1.62-1/2. 42 miles this day.

Monday, 27th. A clear morning. Made early start. Passed St. Michaels. Tolerable land. When there took a north course. Came past mine LaMate and the lead furnace a quarry. Open country. Passed Farmington, St. Francis County. Good land north of Farmington. Well timbered land and into St. Genevieve County. Open prary land underbrush and weeds and grass in abundance. The land rich in small bodies. Came to Mr. William Donalsons. Found them well and rejoiced to see us. This day 1.50 expences. 35 miles.

Tuesday 28. This day we cruised about Mr. Donalsons. Went and saw a considerable preary. The land here very open and a great deal of grass. Good in small bodies.

Wednesday, 29th. Started from Mr. Donalsons after breakfast. Proceeded on. Crossed the 3 rivers and big river. Entered high ridges of poor sedgy land. This morning considerable frost. Passed piny ridges the evening entered Washington County. Passed Muny Burton and lodged with Mr. Crumpton on Ashanna. Our espense 25 cents this day. 33 miles.

Thursday 30th. A frosty morning a early start beautiful weather. Passed through country the growth this morning nearly all pine, the land poor. The inhabitance few. Left the Cataway works to our left. Crossed Cataway Creek and Hussaw Creek. The beautiful water that I ever saw but the people has the ague here. Crossed Hop Creek. The bottom preary here is full of small mounds. Came through Franklin County into Crawford County. Stayed with Mr. Parmer. Espense 1.56-1/4. Traveled 40 miles.

Friday 1st October. Started early. Crossed the Meremac. Passed Mapes Iron Works. A little hazy this morning. The hills and valleys nearly distitute of timber. Crossed Piny. Stayed all night at Mr. Harrison's. Traveled 39 miles. Expence \$1.25.

Saturday 2nd. A cloudy day. A early start. After traveling a few hours we took a wrong road. Went about 2-1/2 miles. Found we was rong. Had to turn back to the right road. Proceeded on over plenty country. We crossed Big Ping and Garcanode. The land about the river rich. The creeks and rivers in this country overflowed their banks very much. In the evening went wrong again 2 or 3 miles returned back again. Stayed at Mr. Johnsons. Traveled 20 miles. Expence 1.12-1/2.

Sunday 3rd. A very foggy morning. Proceeded on a poor timberly country. Nothing material this day. Stayed with Mr. Tigrity. Traveled 50 miles. Expences \$2.00.

Monday 4th. A beautiful day. Gon James fork. The land poor and gravelly until evening when the land became very good. The timber generally black walnut, black oak, hickory, red bud and a great deal of prairie. We passed through the Kickapoo prairie. About 5 miles across came to Joseph H. Millers and John Campbells. Found them all well except I. P. Campbell and he had the ague. The land there as good as I ever saw and the situation beautiful. 40 miles this day. Our expence 75¢ this day.

Tuesday 5th. Pleasant weather. We this day viewed the country. Found it very fertile. Good water. The country appears very high with moderate rising ground. Saw the grand prairie on the north. Went the extent unexplored. Went to Finis Shannons. Found them all well and well situated.

Wednesday 6. Set out this day to explore the land in the neighborhood. Found delightful situations. Is well pleased with the country.

Thursday 7th. This day set out to find situations to build us cabbins on. Suited ourselves tolerably well.

Friday 8th. This day went to the Delaware town. Found the Indians fixing to move. James Fork a beautiful stream.

Saturday 9th. This day we assisted Mr. John Fulbright to raise a stable and cribb.

Sunday 10th. We went to Muncy Town. Found the Indians a moving.

Monday 11. This day commenced building my cabin. Little David Shannon died this day.

Tuesday, 12th. This day built Thomas Rountree's cabin.

Wednesday 13th. This day built Mr. Fitzgerald's cabin.

Thursday 14th. This day we finished Mr. Fitzgeralds and Thomas Rountree's cabbins and in the evening went to the Delaware towns.

Friday 15th. This day bought 2 cows and 2 calves at \$5.50 each. Two or three heavy fogs this week. Our expences this day \$1.00.

Saturday 16th. This day finished my cabin and prepared to return to our familys.

Sunday 17th. A beautiful clear morning we started home. Traveled 40 miles. Stayed at Mr. Tigerts. .75.

Monday 18th. Started early this day. Come down the Osage fork of the Gascanade. Stayed with Mr. Shirks. 40 miles. Expenche .75.

Tuesday 19th. A cold morning. The forepart of this day flying clouds. The afternoon cloudy and very cool wind. Yesterday it rained some and last night some thunder and rain this day. We crossed ----creek. Stayed at Mr. Harrisons. Expenche 1.87-1/2. 40 miles this day.

Thomas Rountree (apparently wrote 12-20)

Wednesday 20. A beautiful day. Traveled on well this day. Passed Mosses Works and stayed at Mr. Pullams. Traveled 44 miles. Expenche 1.50.

Thursday 21st. A cloudy windy day. Started early. A little rain today with distant thunder this evening. This day passed Minaburton. Stayed with Major Hawkins. Traveled 40 miles. Expenche 1.12-1/2.

Friday 22. A beautiful day. Started early. Came to Mr. Donalsons about the middle of the afternoon. Yesterday we passed the old diggings at Burton. Traveled this day 21 miles.

Saturday 23. Started after breakfast. A beautiful day. Passed Farmington. The land this day lies well but not of a very good quality. Stayed at Mr. Ballinger. Traveled 32 miles. Expense 1.12-1/2.

Sunday, 24th. A beautiful day, clear and warm. An early start. Passed Jackson. Came to Cape ----. Stayed with Mr. Ellis. Traveled 37 miles. Expenche 2.50.

Monday 25. Clear and warm. Crossed the Mississippi into Illinois. Union County. Traveled through hilly heavy timbered country. Crossed a toll bridge over Cash Creek. A considerable swamp. Stayed with Mr. Eacles. Traveled 48 miles.

Tuesday 26th. Crossed the Ohio early at South's ferry into the Kentucky purchase. M'Cracken County. A level baran country generally. Passed through Wilmington. Stayed with Mr. Tariner all night. Traveled 36 miles. Expenche 2.75.

Wednesday 27. An early start. Passed through corner of Graves County and into Calloway County. Passed M----borough. The country more hilly and good timber. Tolerable land. Stayed with Mr. Millar. Traveled 40 miles. Expense 1.87-1/2.

Thursday 28. A cloudy morning. A little rain. Crossed Tennessee at Penticosts (?) ferry into Gray (or Clay) County. Proceeded on. Entered Tennessee State, Steward County. Stayed with M'Gee. This evening passed Dover. Traveled 40 miles. Expense 1.75.

Friday 29. Started early. Beautiful day. Passed Franklin this night, encamped at Mr. Caltons. 14 miles this day. Expense 2.25. ---our cows stopped at Nashville. G. Howard and Lucius brought up the cows. Proceeded on. Traveled 11 miles. Expense 2.75.

Wednesday 1 December. Started early. A beautiful day. Came up White's Creek. Traveled 17 miles. Expense 1.25.

Thursday 2nd day December. A cloudy morning. Proceeded on early. It turned out a very wet day. This day we crossed the Red River. Passed Turnersvill and Portrayal. Traveled 18 miles. Expense 2.25.

Friday 3. A tolerabel pleasant day, somewhat cloudy. We rolled on well this day. Passed through Trenton. Traveled 20 miles this day. Expense 2.00.

Saturday 4. A beautiful clear morning. We proceeded on early. Passed Hopkinsville. Traveled 17 miles. Christian County. Our expenses this day was 2.75.

Sunday 5th. A cloudy cold morning. We proceeded on early. It rained and snowed some this afternoon. We encamped at Mr. Petits. Traveled 18 miles. This day expense 1.18-1/2.

Monday 6. A clear frosty morning. We made an early start. Passed Princeton and encamped at Old Centerville, Livingston County. Traveled 18 miles. Expense 1.18-3/4.

Tuesday 7. A clear morning. We started early this day. The road very rough. It clouded up and we had some rain. In the afternoon we encamped at the Ohio. Traveled 18 miles. Expense 1.00.

Wednesday 8th. A cloudy windy morning. We rolled down to the river early. The white caps were too plenty in the river to cross. At length the wind ceased and we all got safe across. About eleven o'clock into the State of Illinois. Galetan County. Traveled about 10 miles and encamped near Potts Hill. Expense this day 4.20.

Thursday 9. This morning it began to snow before day and continued to snow nearly all day. We traveled on through very bad roads about 14 miles. Expense this day 1.31-1/2.

Friday 10. This morning somewhat cloudy. We proceeded. Lucius killed a large doe. The fattest I ever saw. 1-1/2 inches of fat on the rump. We passed Equality and the salt works. It sleeted and rained this day. Traveled 14 miles. Expense 1.62-1/2.

Saturday 11. A beautiful day. We proceeded on. We traveled on well this day through a tolerable good country. We traveled 17 miles. Expense 1.25-1/2.

Sunday 12. Last night a wet night. Came to the ----- . Passed Frankfort, Franklin County. Encamped at Mr. Cazways. It continued to rain. The ground very sloppy. We traveled 14 miles. Expense 1.62-1/2.

Monday 13. A rainy day through prary country. Traveled until dark this evening. Lucius killed a large prary doe. We encamped at Mr. McCollums. 15 miles. Expense 1.00.

Tuesday 14. Last night it rained very hard all night. And was cold in the morning. I found the Old Commadore was so lame that we could not go with him and I swapped him for a little mare and gave 25 dollars to boot. Started on and went 5 miles and encamped at little Buckoo and was waterbound until next morning. Our expense was 1.06-1/4.

Wednesday 15. I did not start early in consequence of Buckoo being up. At length we started. It was very cold. We traveled on to Pinkeyville. 5 Miles. Expense 1.43-3/4.

Thursday 16. Clear and very cold. Got my mare shod. We proceeded on 15 miles. Expense 2.93-3/4.

Friday 17. It clouded up this day. We proceeded on early and reached Kaskaskie (?) 18 miles. Expense 92-1/2. Randolph County.

Saturday 18. A cloudy day. We proceeded on early and reached the Mississippi. Crossed the Ocan at Kaskaskie which we ferried. We found that the ice ran too thick in the Mississippi to cross so we encamped at the river. We traveled only 3 miles. Our expense was 2.18-3/4.

Sunday 19th. A very cloudy cool morning. We continued at the river in consequence of the ice being so thick in the river that we could not proceed on. Our expense was .37-1/2.

Monday 20. A cloudy cold day. It cleared off in the evening. The ice continued in the river. Our expense was .75.

Tuesday 21. A clear cold day. Went to Kaskaskie in the evening. This day our expense was 2.37-1/2.

Wednesday 22. Clear and not so cold. The wind changed to the south. We continued at the river. Our expense was .50.

Thursday 23. A cloudy day. The ice ran very thick in the river. We went to Kaskaskie. This night it froze. Our expense was .37-1/4.

Friday 24. A wet cold morning. We prepared for crossing the river after breakfast. We had removed our family to Peter Robert Dcroupe (?) at the lower ferry on Sunday last. A very respectable gentleman, a peaceable family. We found the ice so thick and wide on the other side after working about three hours we could not land and had to go down the river about 1-1/4 miles and got a landing and it took until about one hour in the night before I got my wagon and family over. We had to make five trips. Went about three miles and encamped and had a merry night. Our expense was 5.00.

Saturday 25. We started early proceeded on to St. Genevieve Town. Mr. Beard had to get a skeene mended. My family stayed with a very friendly Frenchman Mr. Bovia by name. We proceeded on in the evening and we traveled 8 miles and encamped at Mr. Bells. Expense was 1.62-1/2.

Sunday 26. A cloudy cold day. We traveled on and about 2 o'clock Mr. Beard's hind axeltree broke at Mr. Moreaus. We proceeded on about 4 miles further. We traveled 14 miles. Encamped at M. Barringtons. Our expense 1.62-1/2.

Monday 27. This morning I went to Mr. Donalsons. Found them all well. Our wagon waited for Mr. Beard's wagon and proceeded on. Crossed Big River and Farblew and the Three rivers. Yesterday we crossed The Establishment several times. We stayed at Mr. Baker's. Traveled 9 miles. Our expense 2.56-1/4.

Tuesday 28. This day clear and cold. This day we traveled on very well. We found the fore bolster of Mr. Beard's wagon was broken. We came through Mina Burton. Encamped at M. Tucker's. It began to snow before day. We got a new bolster. Traveled 18 miles. Expense .62-1/2.

Wednesday 29. This day snowy rainy and freezing. We started on. Broke the tongue out of Mr. Beard's wagon. Traveled 7 miles. Made a new tongue. Encamped at Mr. Comptons. Expense 1.00.

Thursday 30. Started on and it was snowing and freezing. Last night it --- and snowed and we got one mile this day until Mr. Beard's wagon turned over in a branch and got most of my goods wet. We had to take up camp and dry our things. It continued snowing. Our expense was .62-1/2.

Friday 31. This day we packed up our wagon and started about twelve. Traveled on about 9 miles. Expense 1.06-1/4.

Saturday 1st January 1831. A clear cold morning. It moderated a little. We proceeded on. We crossed Cataway Hurra and dry creek. Traveled about 13 miles. Encamped on the ridge between Dry Creek and the Meremac. Our expense 2.75.

Sunday 2. This morning cloudy. We started early. It rained very hard and thundered. We crossed the Merrimac. Traveled 16 miles. Encamped at Mapcy's Iron Works. Our expense .56-1/4.

Monday 3. Last night it rained sleeted and freezed all night. This morning it began to snow. We continued in a cabin we took up in all day. It also snowed all night. Our expense .62-1/2.

Tuesday 4th. This day a clear cold day. We continued at the cabin. A very cold clear day. The snow very deep. Our expense 1.19.

Wednesday 5. A clear cold day. Mr. Beard took his load about 4 miles to Mr. St. Clairs and we deposited it there and returned to the cabin. Our expense this day was .66-2/3.

Thursday 6. Clear and cold. Mr. Beard took his departure for home. We continued at the cabin. In the evening Sidney and me went to look us out a place for to make us a camp near St. Clairs. We concluded on a place and returned to the country and brought home Lucius and Junius, who had went to another cabin on the Dry Fork of the Merrimac the day before. Our expense this day was .50.

Friday 7. This morning cloudy. We began to prepare for making our camp but in the evening Joseph Phillabare came on and we concluded to go on with him so we left the cabin in the evening. Came to St. Clairs and stayed all night. Our expense this day was .62-1/2.

Saturday 8. We started about 10 o'clock. Proceeded up the bad hill with some difficulty. This day was cloudy and cold. The snow deep on the ground. It snowed some this day. Traveled 18 miles. Our expense .18-3/4.

Sunday 9. A little hazy and cold. We proceeded on. Traveled 17 miles. Our expense 1.43-3/4.

Monday 10th. This morning a little cloudy and cold. We proceeded on. Crossed -----. Traveled 15 miles. Our expense .87-1/2.

Tuesday 11. This morning very snowy. We discovered that Mr. Phillabare had one of the skeenes of his wagons to get mended so we stayed at camp until near 12 o'clock. We then started and traveled about 12 miles. Encamped at Starks. Our expense was .81-1/4.

Wednesday 12. This morning cloudy and cold. We traveled on slowly in consequence of the snow. Crossed Osage Fork of the Gasconade. Traveled 14 miles. Expense .18-3/4.

Thursday 13. A cloudy day. We traveled on pretty well. Passed Eastwoods. We traveled 18 miles. Expense .37-1/2.

Friday 14. Last night it snowed very hard. We encamped last night at the Indian grave branch. The snow increased in depth. We traveled with a good deal of difficulty. We passed Tigerts. Traveled 20 miles. Expense .50.

Saturday 15. It continued to snow this day and yesterday a little. This day most intolerable cold. We proceeded on traveling 6 or 8 miles. We met Joseph H. Miller and Lemuel Blanton coming to meet us. Great joy. We proceeded on to Mr. Robert Pattersons 12 miles. Took up before night. Got lodging in his house. The first nights lodging in a house since we left the cabbins at Mafries. Expense 1.25.

Sunday 16th. This day extremely cold and snowing a little. We proceeded on. Got to Joseph H. Millers between sunset and dark. Found the people about the prairie all well and glad to see us all arrive safe. Traveled 23 miles.

Sunday 6th of March 1831. I hired John P. Campbell to haul my load that was deposited at Sinclairs. We started about eleven o'clock this morning snowing a little. The day was cool and somewhat cloudy. We encamped at Robert Pattersons. Traveled 18 miles.

Monday 7. It cleared off last night. The morning is clear and cool. We proceeded on early. The day was beautiful. We encamped at the Indian grave branch. Traveled 28 miles.

Tuesday 8. We discovered before day that two of our horses had left us. John W. Campbell started immediately in pursuit of them about break of day it dropped a little rain, but the morning faired off beautiful, a few flying clouds. This day passed the most lonesome that I ever did. About dark John W. Campbell came up with the horses but Miller's Old Tom that he rode had the string halt in both hind legs the worst I ever saw so we continued at the same place all night.

Wednesday 9th. Old Tom was better. A beautiful day. We proceeded on early. We made a good day's drive. Encamped at Stark's. 28 miles this day.

Thursday 10. A beautiful morning. We started early. This evening it clouded up and was very windy. We crossed Big Piny and encamped about 2 miles from the crossing. Traveled 30 miles this day.

Friday 11. We started early this day. Sometimes cloudy sometimes clear cool and windy. We encamped at Hendricks at the Little Prairie. Traveled 26 miles. Expense for tar 25 cents.

The diary ends here except for notes that were in the back (on following page). The next entry is the signature of my grandfather.

William J. Rountree
Springfield, Greene County
Missouri, December 20th 1865

He adds next the story (a tradition respecting the origin of the Rountree family).

November 15th. Started for Tennessee. Cloudy wet day. Traveled to Henry King's.

16th. A wet day. Traveled to Beans in company with Messrs. Gray, Duncan, Phillys, Crocket, Daniel and M'Culloch.

17th. A cloudy morning, a snowy day and cold. Traveled to Ted Harrisons.

18th. Extremely cold, nearly clear, traveled to Brinkers.

Saturday, 19th. A clear pleasant day but cold. Traveled to Webster Stone's.

Sunday, 20th. A pleasant day. Traveled to Farmington. Put up at Mitchels.

Monday 21st. A beautiful day. This day Phillys left us. We traveled to Mr. Moore's.

Tuesday, 22nd. Started early. A pleasant day. Traveled to the Mississippi. Found the ice afloat in the river so we could not cross. Put up with Mr. Smith. A steamboat, the Alexander Scott, was run aground below. She was got off this evening. Upwards of three English passengers, mostly Mormons.

Wednesday 23. A cloudy morning, a little snow, the ice running rapid. We went down the river to the boat Louisa which was sunk. In the evening cordited the ferry boat up to the proper landing. Too much ice to cross.

Thursday, 24th. A clear cold morning. After breakfast we started across the river. Run aground on the sand twice. A great deal of ice. We got safe over. Traveled to Mr. Smith's.

Friday 25. A cloudy morning. We started early. It cleared off, a pleasant day. Crossed the Ohio. Put up with Mr. -----.

Saturday 26. A pleasant morning. It clouded up and rained in the afternoon. Passed Salem, Fredonia, and Princeton. Put up at the sign of the White Horse.

Sunday 27. A very cold day. Passed Hopkinsville. Put up at Mr. Stevens.

Monday, 28. A cold day. Passed Trenton, Port Royal and Turner-ville. Put up at Mr. Pilens.

Tuesday, 29. A pleasant morning. Came to Nashville in the afternoon. It rained, the roads muddy. Came to Joseph M'Mahons. Stayed all night.

Wednesday, 30. A cloudy morning. Passed through Franklin. It turned warm in the afternoon it cleared. Came to ----- Rountree's about 2 o'clock. Found all the friends well. (Probably Andrew Rountree's)

Thursday 1st. Dec. Went to Springhill. A pleasant day. Stayed with Joseph Jacobs.

Friday, 2nd. Passed the day pleasantly with my friends. This night stayed at John Collierfords (?).

Saturday 3. A beautiful day. Came to sister Dealreys (?). Stayed there all night.

Sunday, 4th. Passed the day pleasantly. Came to Springhill. Stayed with Thomas Rountree.

Monday, 5. A cloudy day. Went to Stephen Hancocks in company with Calvin Dunnagon. Came to Dunnagons. Stayed all night.

Tuesday 6. Warm and cloudy. Came to John Jamesus. Stayed all night.

Wednesday 7. A cloudy warm day. Came to Jack Rountrees. Stayed all night.

Thursday 8. A wet day. Went to Sister Pallys. Stayed all night.

Friday. A pleasant day, partially clear. Went to John M'Crackens. Stayed all night.

Saturday 10. A cool morning. Went to Springhill. Came to John Sacerfuls (?). Stayed all night.

Sunday 11. A cool day. Was unwell last night and this day. Came to Sister Tealnys. Stayed all night.

Monday 12. A cool cloudy day. Came to Master Fitzgeralds. Stayed all night.

Tuesday, 13. A cool cloudy day with a little snow. Passed round some of my acquaintances to tell them farewell. This evening came to Jack Rountrees and packed up my things for my departure. Stayed all night.

Wednesday 14th. Started my journey home. A partial clear and cloudy sky. Somewhat cool. Passed Franklin. Stayed at Thomas Perrys.

Thursday 15th. Started early. A pleasant day. Passed Nashville. Came to Mr. Hobbs.

Friday 16. A cloudy morning. Started early. A little snow. It cleared off in the afternoon. A pleasant evening. Passed Turner-ville, Graysville and Trenton. Came to George Stephens.

Saturday, 17th. A clear cool day. Passed Hopkinsville and stayed with Cantrel.

Sunday, 18. Clear and cool. Passed Princeton and Fredonia and Salem. Last night and this day was very unwell. Came to Mr. Thatchill.

Monday, 19th. Continued very unwell. Crossed the Ohio and passed Galconda and Vienna (?). Came to Smiths.

Tuesday, 20th. A cloudy morning. Started early and passed Jonesboro in the evening it rained. Crossed the Mississippi. Stayed at Smiths.

Wednesday, 21st. A cloudy morning. It cleared early. We passed Jackson. A beautiful day. Came to Harry Bullingers.

Thursday 22nd. A cloudy morning. It cleared off early. Very cold. Came to Farmington. Mr. Mitchells.

Friday 23. A very cold clear morning. We passed Galcondia, came to Webster Stones.

Saturday 24. A very cold cloudy morning. Very windy. It cleared off in the evening. Came to Mr. Bracey's.

Sunday, 25. A clear morning. Started early. A cool day. Came to Mr. M'Crays.

Monday 26. Started early. A cloudy morning. It snowed a little in the afternoon it rained. Came to Mr. Babinetts.

Tuesday 27. A cloudy muddy day. Passed through Hartsville. Came to Mr. Chaffins.

Friday^{*} 28. Came home found all well.

^{*}Probably Wednesday. ETR

Joseph Weaver one bottle castor oil one phial calomel \$1.50

On a separate page, the following inventory:

4 trunks, 3 boxes, 2 robes in deer skins, 2 bage of dried peaches, 1 cagg of sugar, 1 bag of flour, 1 small bag of wheat, 1 kettle, 1 oven lid and hooks, 1 large guy, 1 basket and contents, 1 plow share, 2 houses, 1 coulter, leather, 1 churn 2 caggs, 1 pickle---, 1 stand of soap, 5 beads, gees, chains, and ve.

This is followed by what seems to be a list of trees he planted.

So the old diary concludes. It is handmade, sewed together in sections by hand and bound in a piece of leather.

AGES OF PEOPLE--2 PAGES FROM A BIBLE.

Thomas Rountree born November 10th, 1733.

Evy Rountree born February 1st, 1740.

Their children:

William Rountree born October 1st, 1760.

John Rountree born October 12th, 1762.

Rachel Rountree born March 12th, 1765.

Charles Rountree born September 25th, 1767.

Lydia Rountree born January 19th, 1770.

Andrew Rountree born April 23rd, 1772.

Thomas Rountree born May 1st, 1776.

Joseph Rountree born April 14th, 1782.

William Hannah born June 11th, 1789.

Elizabeth Hann (or Hannah) born August 11th, 1791.

Jane Rountree born October 7th, 1807.

Almarinda Caroline Rountree born July 9th, 1828.

Alfred was born January 28th, 1813.

(The last five must be cousins.)

Joseph Rountree was born April 14th, 1782.

Nancy Rountree was born November 6th, 1786.

They were married November 2nd Day Anno Domini 1806. The dates of their children's births and other particulars.

Louisa Rountree was born August 16th, 1808.

Louisa Rountree died June 10th, 1809.

Junius Meredith Rountree was born March 20th, 1810.

Lenas Marion Rountree was born June 8th, 1812.

Lucius Amades Rountree was born February 27th, 1814.

Louisa Amanda Rountree was born August 31st, 1816.

Caroline Fetnah Rountree was born December 13th, 1818.

Caroline Fetnah Rountree died February 6th, 1819.

Marzavon Jerome Rountree was born March 24th, 1820.

Almus Linnaeus Rountree was born October 28th, 1822.

Allen Jones Rountree was born December 25th, 1824.

Note by Edward T. Rountree: For some reason the last child of Joseph and Nancy Rountree was listed up among the cousins. Almarinda (or Almerinda) Caroline was born July 9th, 1828. In William J. Rountree's autobiography he mentioned that Almerinda married William Massey, the uncle of Fannie Massey Rountree.

Following is a letter written December 14, 1947, by Ruth Fowler Sherwood to Claire Reynolds from South Bend, Indiana:

Dear Claire:

My extra with the Christmas cards I am sending home this year is a Family History. I'm really very proud of our record back six on Daddy's side to William Fowler (1733) who served under Washington and back seven generations on Mother's to Andrew Sturgis about 1720, in Ireland.

Each year I like to do or make something for the folks and Sister in addition to presents I buy. And I thought collecting all the family records would be a good thing to do this year.

Perhaps you have some of the things I've enclosed. But if you don't the dates might be nice to hand on to Jean and her girls. I hope you'll be able to read the old diary. The original is about gone and I was anxious to preserve the contents. Joseph was your ancestor, too, I believe. You will see that I am sending you a "bad" copy; that is, I made so many carbons some are not so clear as they should be. I had quite a time figuring out some of the entries in the diary, and I have tried to copy it all exactly as it is written, misspellings, etc. I am not an expert typist, so I hope my great-great grandfather won't be blamed for the mistakes I've made.

I'm hoping to get copies of pictures of Old Beans Station. He mentions staying there. It was carefully photographed by T.V.A. and taken down with all parts saved and recorded and the Government plans to rebuild it just as it was in one of the National Parks. Its site was flooded by the dams T.V.A. built.

Also, I hope to find some day a map of the 1819 period and record his trips. I found one in Boston that is an antique about 1785. So many of the little towns aren't on it. If you find any mistakes or can make any additions I would like very much to have it as complete and accurate as possible. I hope you'll let me know.

The landscape here has been white since before Thanksgiving so the prediction of a snowy winter is accurate this far.

Best wishes to you and your family for a Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,

Ruth Fowler Sherwood.

Note: Ruth was descended from Joseph Rountree in the following line: Almus L. Rountree--William J. Rountree--Frances Rountree Fowler--Ruth Fowler Sherwood.

Denver, Colorado, October 8, 1911.

This diary and family history began on October 3, 1819, and on this day is 92 years and 5 days old. It was given to me as a Christmas present on December 25, 1910. Since it has come into my possession, I have been very near to death's door on account of my heart, so near to the great beyond that I have no dread of the last time when it comes my turn. Tonight I am feeling very well. I was born at Springfield, Missouri, September 2, 1876, and married Lydia Ann Fisher, June 21, 1904, at Pueblo, Colorado. We have two children, Helen Rountree born May 18, 1905, and Florence Rountree born May 24, 1907. To continue this as a diary, I am not going to try to keep a record of daily events but while I live, will enter from time to time thoughts and events of interest to me.

January 1, 1912.

Today, the birth of a new year, is a beautiful clear day, cold and snow on the ground, but the sun is shining brightly. I am at home with my family just recovering from a week's illness with my stomach. My stomach has given me a great deal of trouble of late years and I am satisfied the direct cause of my heart trouble. Both have been greatly interfering with me in my work and plans for future work. If the new year will give me both my heart and strength, I will not ask for more. In reviewing the events of the past year, I find I have accomplished a good deal and am today much nearer to a field goal planned years ago. The definite object of my plans has been to work out improvements in the direction of safety and economy in the present methods of railroading. I have believed for years that electricity was the solution of most of the problems in steam railroading.

Frank Rountree.

The diary ends here except for some notes that were written in the back by Joseph Rountree. The notes are not dated and some are too worn to decipher.

Castings for Daniel B. Miller 1 10 or 12 gallon kettle Diam
19. One oven 12 or 14 inches diameter \$5.00

Castings for Sharmons Daniel one middle sized kettle one oven
under 12 inches diameter \$1.50

Finis Shannon two dollars coffee \$2.00

Junius M. Rountree Castings one 10 gallon kettle one oven 12
inches diameter one flat bottom skillett \$4.00

E. Rogers two dollars worth coffee \$2.00

ROUNTREE RANCH (Established 1874)
P. O. Box 408
Beeville, Bee County, Texas.

The Rountree Ranch has 1,537 acres, with about 1,000 acres in cultivation, and grows flax, broomcorn, maize, corn, sorghum cane, and cotton. Due to the process of pasture development, there is no livestock carried on the place at present. Cattle is the principal livestock.

THE ROUNTREE--ROWNTREE--ROUNDTREE--ROUNTREY FAMILY.

It is supposed that most of the people living now, that have any of these names, descended from a male child found under a Rowan tree in Yorkshire, England, in about the year 1550 A.D. The tradition says that the landlord of the estate where the child was found called him Rowantree, and probably Moses, after the Bible name of Moses. The child was reared by the landlord as his own child, and grew up and married and raised a family of his own.

It is supposed that about the year 1690, two Rountree Brothers were discharged from the army of King William III in Ireland after the defeat of the army of King James II. They settled in Ireland, one going to the south of Ireland and the other to the north of Ireland. It is probable they had relatives living in Ireland at the time, as I have a record made in the parish of Killmorex, County of Armagh, Ireland, where Thomas Rountree and the Widow Rountree each paid one hearth in taxes in the year 1664. Then there is a James Roundtree that married Janes McClery, March 22. Year is not given. Then we have a Charles Roundtree and a Thomas Roundtree, both living in the County of Armagh in the year 1737 A.D.

It is supposed that about the year 1694 A.D. the brother that settled in North Ireland emigrated to America with six of his sons, leaving the youngest behind in care of his mother. His name was Charles, and he grew up there and married and reared a family. His son, Thomas Roundtree, at the age of 19 years, came to America and worked as a shipbuilder; then they came to America, I presume about the year 1755 A.D. They reared a family here and they are buried in the Little River Cemetery near Hillsboro, North Carolina.

For historical reasons, and not for personal reasons, I want to get the personal history of all present day Rountrees, of the above names, or similar names.

Suppose you start off by giving your full name, your birth date, and your marriage date, with the full name of your wife before marriage, then the birth date and name of each child; then the places you have resided.

Repeat this for your parents, your grandparents, great-grandparents, and as far back as possible, each separately. Give death dates also.

Repeat this for each of your children.

For \$1.00 each I will mail a copy of the Rountree coat of arms.

J. G. Rountree
Box 408
Beeville, Texas

The above was copied by Edward T. Rountree from a printed sheet sent by Carl Rountree of Lamesa, Texas. Copied Dec. 24, 1956.

OBITUARIES

From San Jose Mercury Herald.

Rountree-In San Jose, California, January 27, 1934, William J. Rountree, beloved husband of Fanny M. Rountree, devoted father of Mrs. P. G. Fowler, San Jose, and David H. Rountree, Berkeley, California; grandfather of Mrs. Helen Whipple, Lingle, Wyoming; Ruth and Lois Fowler, San Jose; brother of Tom Rountree, Watsonville; Mrs. Daisy Hatfield, Felton, Calif., and Mrs. Myrtle Finberg, San Francisco; a native of Springfield, Missouri; aged 87 years.

Member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Friends are invited to attend the funeral today (Tuesday) January 30, 1934, at 2 o'clock p.m. from the Chapel of Roger Darling, 172 West San Carlos St. Interment in Grand Army plot, Oak Hill Memorial Park under the auspices of the local Sheridan Dix Post, G.A.R.

From Lingle paper, Lingle, Wyoming.

"Taps" Sounded for Last G.A.R. Man in County.

Goshes County's last surviving member of the Grand Army of the Republic answered the last call on Saturday night when William J. Rountree, 85 (incorrect, 87) died suddenly at San Jose, California, where he had gone a few weeks ago to visit his daughter, Mrs. Porter Fowler and son David Rountree.

Mr. & Mrs. Rountree had been residents of our community for the past twenty-five years, and were beloved by a host of friends. Mrs. Rountree suffered a serious illness several years ago, and has been an invalid ever since. It was in the hope of improving her health that they decided to spend the colder months in California.

Funeral services were held Tuesday in San Jose, and burial made there. Memorial service to this grand old man will be held Sunday morning at the community church.

Each Decoration Day for several years it has been the privilege of his younger comrades, from more recent wars, to honor him at their services, and listen to an address given by him. He served in a company of Missouri cavalry during the Civil War when he was only a lad of sixteen.

From San Jose Mercury Herald.

Civil War Vet Laid to Rest.

Funeral rites were held here today from the Chapel of Roger Darling for the late William J. Rountree, 87, Civil War Veteran. Mr. Rountree passed away suddenly at the home of his daughter, Mrs. P. G. Fowler of San Jose, less than a month after he had returned here for a visit. He had not been here for 65 years.

Interment at Oak Hill Cemetery followed the funeral service. Graveside rites were in charge of the local G.A.R. unit.

The deceased was the son of Almus Rountree, Sheriff of Santa Cruz County from 1869 to 1871. He was a resident of Los Gatos for a brief period 65 years ago, and recently told members of the Los Gatos Kiwanis Club his impressions of the city as it was in those days. Mr. Rountree is survived by his widow, Mrs. Fanny Rountree, two children, Mrs. P. G. Fowler and David Rountree of Berkeley; a brother Tom Rountree of Watsonville, and two sisters, Mrs. Daisy Hatfield of Felton and Mrs. Myrtle Finberg of San Francisco.

This item is repeated, with a picture and a Los Gatos date line. It also mentioned he was a guest of Raymond J. Fisher at the Kiwanis Club meeting.

From Lingle paper.

Mrs. W. J. Rountree called by death.

Mrs. W. J. Rountree, one of the early residents of the Lingle community died in San Jose, California, Dec. 16, it was learned by friends here this week. She had made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Frances Fowler, since the death of Mr. Rountree about three years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Rountree and family came here in 1905 from Denver and built a house in Rawhide Valley. There they lived until three years ago, when they went to California to visit their children. Mr. Rountree died soon after they got to California, and Mrs. Rountree, an invalid, remained to make her home.

Mrs. Rountree was beloved by a wide circle of friends. Up to the time she suffered a paralytic stroke, in 1930, she was very active, and took part in many community activities, foremost of which was the Rawhide Auxiliary of the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Rountree was a Civil War veteran. And an officer in the regular army for some three years after the close of the war (incorrect). Later he was a railway passenger conductor (clerk, not conductor) and later engaged in mining in Colorado, where the family lived before coming here to farm. He was an expert gardener and fruit grower.

A son, Frank, Spanish War veteran, died at Denver about two years ago. A son, David, lives at Berkeley, Calif., and a daughter, Mrs. P. G. Fowler, at San Jose. A granddaughter, Mrs. Louie Whipple resides at Rock Springs, and a great grandson, Louis Frank Whipple. Other survivors include Ruth and Lois Fowler, of San Jose, granddaughters.

A fine useful life has come to a close with a record of work well done. Her neighbors and friends will miss her.