

1000 Miles Episode 6 Transcript

Robin Monteith: Welcome to 1000 Miles of Desert and Mountains, brought to you by the University Libraries at the University of Nevada, Reno, and the Washoe County Libraries. This project explores the pages of George and Josephine's diaries that document their 1000-mile long prospecting trip across Nevada in 1914. The diaries, which are housed in Special Collections and University Archives at the University Libraries, are a wonderful primary source and give us insights into what life was like at the time while connecting us to George and Josephine. As we join George and Josephine today, the date is Friday, June 19th, 1914. George and Josephine are still in Amargosa, Nevada and are packing up and making arrangements to head out on the next leg of their adventure.

Jeremiah G. Nelson: Friday June 19th. Sunshine and hot, but clouds began coming up from the west. Still looks stormy in Death Valley. Tucson left some of her vine so she must have had a plenty. Sent a letter to the postmaster at Beatty to hold our mail. To the post master in Las Vegas, to forward our mail to Beatty, and sixty cents in stamps. To the Wharton Drug Company, for two rolls of films. While I was at the station to mail the letter to Beatty, the conductor asked me if I had run across a prospector by the name Pierson. He had me go in and talk to the dispatcher Mr. Dodd who said he had a letter from Los Angeles asking him to try to locate a prospector by that name who was supposed to be on their line of road, and who had come in this spring. I told him I kept a daily record and I would look it up and let him know at evening train time. In going over our journal I am reminded that the man who came into our camp the morning we left Las Vegas, said his name was Pierson. He was the man that asked for Jack Wood, about thirty years old, of slight build, five foot seven inches tall, and a cigarette smoker. But Mr. Dodd was not in his office when the train went through so I could not give him the information. Josephine packed all day and I provided all the animals with a good feed of vines. By evening the wheels were pretty well swollen shut, and the wagon was loaded, and the pack saddles and the aparejos packed. Dauberman came over and stayed till nine o'clock. When Morris was talking about his prospect I asked him, "what about water?" and he said there was a dripping spring, three miles away, that made a barrel of water a day and at five miles there was a spring that gave a good supply. When the Beyors broke camp, instead of going back toward Beatty or even down to Fairbanks, as they had told me they were going, they took the road to Ash Meadows and I heard Morris tell them that when they reach Stewart Valley they should have the red rock they would find there tested for cinnabar. Dauberman told us to drive a stake at six o'clock of the morning of the 21st and a second stake in its shadow at six o'clock in the evening the first stake would be in the shadow of the second, and the two stakes would mark exactly east and west.

Robin Monteith: Thank you for listening with us today and please join us next time when George and Josephine are in Goldfield, Nevada. Tensions are growing in Europe and the New York Stock Exchange is closed. Special thanks to Special Collections and University Archives at the University of Nevada, Reno for making the diaries available, and to our reader, Jeremiah G. Nelson for bringing George and Josephine's words to life. Big thanks to the 1000 Miles project team: Kim Anderson, Reed Barrus, Katherine Dirk, Emily Dunster, Nathan Gerth, Chrissy Klenke, Michelle Rebaleati, Landon Renwick, Laura Rocke and Luka Starmer, along with me, your host, Robin Monteith. Episode music provided by Thomas Jones Chase, Tim Torrance and Per-Anders Nilsson, courtesy of Universal Production Music. You can

explore more of the 1000 Miles project at library.unr.edu/1000-miles, or simply find the link in the show notes. Thanks for joining us!