Beyond Penn's Treaty

Some Account of my Journey Among the Seneca

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Some Account of my Journey among the Seneca Nation of Indians in company with Joshua Hathelep, John Peirs, Henry Simmons, and Joel Eayne. 1793.

I left my native home and near connections on the first day after noon the 29th of the same, 1793. which was a close trial both to them and myself, but I was enabled to bear it with a degree of fortitude beyond my expectation. Calling to bid several of my relations farewell I got but a few miles that evening, next morning proceeded on my way.
Some Account of my Journey among the Seneca Nation of Indians in company with Joshua Sharpless, John Peirce, Henry Simmons, and Joel Swayne. 1798.

I left my native home and near connections on First day after noon the 29th of the 4th mo. 1798, which was a close trial both to them and myself, but I was enabled to bear it with a degree of fortitude beyond my expectation. Calling bid several of my relations farewell I got but a few miles that evening, next morning proceeded on my way.
met with Joel Swayne, dined at John Moore's in Saddbury and paid on to Abdon Gibbons's where by appointment we were to meet the rest of our company. Lodged here this night and was much entertained in conversation by our kind friends which had some tendency to free my mind from that melancholy depression the parting with my dear relations had in some measure produced.

At ten o'clock the rest of our company came forward and dined here and paid on th' Lancaster to Wright's Ferry and put out Horses to a Tavern.
Transcription

met with Joel Swayne, din’d at ytf
John Moores in Sadsbury and pas'dytf
on to Abram Gibbons's where by ytf
appointment we were to meet theytf
rest of our company. Lodg’d hereytf
this night and was much entertain’dytf
in conversation by our kind friendytf
which had some tendency to freeytf
my mind from that ytf
depression the parting with myytf
Dear relations had in some measureytf
produced. ytf ytf 1st of the 5th mo.ytf A fine pleasant ytf
morning and vegetation makeingytf
a rapid progress. About ten ytf
O'clock the rest of our companyytf
came forward dind here and pas'd ytf
on thro’ Lancaster to Wrights ferry, ytf
and put our Horses to a Tavern ytf
where we propos'd lodging but
was kindly invited by our friend Wm.
Wright to his house where we remained
that night. 50 miles from my home.
2nd of the mo. The morning very wet
but out business not admitting of much
delay we took breakfast and was ferried
over the Saugeannah River in two
flatts about 8 O'Clock for 6 pence a
man and horse. The ferriage being so
low was occasioned by a new ferries being
opened and the two further striving
which would gain the most custom.
Proceed on to Little York through
a beautiful Fertile Country yet the
Wheatfield as well as this. Lancaster
County afforded but a very discour-
gaging prospect being much injured
by the Hessian Fly. The Town of
where we propos'd Lodging but we
was kindly invited by our friend Wmyt
Wright to his house where we remainedy
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rageing prospect, being much injur’d ytf
by the Hessian Fly. The Town of ytf

ytf 2nd of the mo.ytf The morning very wetytf

ytf Proceeded on to little York throughytf
Yorks consists of about 500 houses, is beautifully situated and a large stream of water called Ladora running through it. The same, over which a commodious bridge is built, is being surrounded with Fertile fields and Blooming orchards, expanding the beauties of Spring, render the landscape more delightful. We dined here and returned with Wm. Kirk (a young man with whom I was acquainted) he kindly offered to pilot us to Huntington that afternoon, where company was very acceptable and I had some apprehensions that he would some day have to go on the same business that I was going upon. We passed thru a little village of about 20 houses 6 miles from the Cold Spring Town, over several Branches of the Conewago, and arrived at Tho. Garrison's in the evening where myself, J. S. &
York consists of about 500 houses, is beautifully situated and a large stream of water call’d Cadorous running thro’ it over which a commodious bridge is built; & being surrounded with Fertile Fields and Blooming Orchards, expanding the beauties of Spring, render’d the Landscape still more delightful. We din’d here and I meeting with Wm Kirk (a young man with whom I was acquainted) he kindly offer’d to pilot up to Huntington that afternoon, where company was very acceptable and I had some apprehensions that he wanted some day have to go on the same business that I was going upon.

We pass’d thro’ a little village of about 20 houses 4 miles from Y. cal’d Wight Town, over several Branches of the 18 Conewaga, and ariv’d at Jno Garrison in the evening where myself J.S.

W... Kirk lodg'd during some
30 miles this day. The others went on
to Isaac Everet's two or three miles
further. Here I was much entertained
with that Mechanical & Philosophi-
cal genius, young Isaac Garrison, who
bod'ly fail to be eminent in the literary
world. He had constructed a Wooden
Clock which he said kept time exceed-
ing well, on the face of which was
a representation of the earth, the
Sun & Solar System turned by
the Clock, and performing their
revolutions in regular order.

3. The morning being pleasant
we set out early 8 met the rest
of our company at Isaac Everet's
thence proceeded on over the Ridge
generally call'd the south Mountain
Mostly covered with pitch Pine, just
by Valley Furnace on a stream
Wm Kirk lodg’d haveing come ytf 30 miles this day: the others went on ytf to Isaac Evereds two or three miles ytf further. Here I was much entertain’d ytf with that Michanical & Philosophi-ytf cal genius, young Isaac Garrison, whoytf bid fair to be iminent in the literary ytf world. He had constructed a Wooden ytf Clock which he said kept time exceedytf ing well, on the face of which wasytf a representation of the earth, the ytf Sun & whole Solar System, turn’d by ytf the Clock, and performing their ytf revolutions in regular order. ytf The morning being pleasant ytf we set out early & met the rest ytf of our company at Isaac Everedsytf thence proceeded on over the Ridge ytf generally call’d the south Mountain ytf Mostly cover’d with pitch Pine. Justytf by Holley Furnace on a Stream ytf
called Mountain Creek which came down on the North side, where they told us there was plenty of good from one Crop'd another stream called Yellow creekes, stopped at the sign of the Black Horse, thence on to Hrippenburgh where we dined. This is a little Village containing about 230 houses scattered along the road for about half a mile there in habitants mostly Dutch. A small stream of Water runs through this Village over which a large Boat Bridge is erected where on this market house stands. In the afternoon we had there another Dutch Village called Hripsburg about 8 mile from the former containing perhaps 60 or 80 houses, and situated in a low Valley near the foot of the H. Mountain over which we passed this evening &
call’d Mountain Creek which came ytf
down on the North Side; where they ytf
told us there was plenty of good Iron ytf
Ore. Cross’d another Stream call’d ytf
Yellow breeches, Stopt at the sign ytf
of the Black Horse, thence on toytf
Shippensburgh where we din’d. This ytf
is a little Village containing about ytf
250 houses scattered along the road ytf
for about half a mile the inhabi-ytf
ants mostly Dutch. A smart stream ytf
of Water runs thro’ this Village ytf
over which a large Boat Bridge is ytf
erected whereon their market house ytf
stands. In the afternoon, we pas’d ytf
thro’ another Dutch Village call’d ytf
Strassburgh about 8 miles from ytf
the former, containing perhaps 60 ytf
or 80 houses, and situated in a low ytf
Valley near the foot of the N. Mountai ytf
over which we pass’d this evening & ytf
and put in for Quarterly at George Skinner's, a Commodious Inn for Travelers—having come in this day a Journey about 210 miles, the land mostly of a thin soil except in the valleys near the streams of water. The Wheat fields were much injured by the Fly, but Rye in most places looked well, a great deal of which was sold and no doubt appropriated to the use of Sixpence from the Multitude of Still houses we passed on the road.

21. Set out about Sunrise and rode to Fort Littleton to Breakfast, and two rugged Mountains from whose lofty summits, we could be held a multitude of surrounding Mountains intersect'd with many low valleys, which afforded a gratifying prospect. In between these mountains was a little Village called Harnett.
and put in for Quarters at Georgeytf
Skinners, a commodious Inn for ytf
Travelers. havein come in this days ytf
40 Journey about 40 miles, the landytf
mostly of a thin soil except in the ytf
valley, near the streams of water. ytf
The Wheat fields were much injur’d byytf
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still houses, we pas’d on the road. ytf        ytf 4thytf Set out about Sunrise and ytf
rode 12 miles to Fort littleton to Breakfast, ytf
over two rugged Mountains fromytf
whose lofty Summits, we could beytf
hold a multitude of surrounding ytf
Mountains interspers’d with many ytf
low valleys, which afforded a gratifyytf
ing prospect. In between these moun-ytf
tains was a little Village call’d Fhannets-ytf
burghytf
near Langocheage Creek where appear to be some fertile Bottoms. From Littleton we passed over the Siding Hills which is said to be seven miles across and appears to be a range of broken mountains running in almost every direction. Took some refreshment at Jim Skinner's a mile from last stage thence on 8 miles further where we crossed Penatta in the most hilly romantic place I ever saw before.

This stream runs in a meandering manner among the Hills, we rode along in the bend of it for many miles, and some places could throw a finger stone into the stream on either side of the road. In among these high towering Hills are some narrow fertile valleys abounding with limestone in places. Arrived at Hartley's Tavern in the evening where we put in for lodging and got good accommodations for ourselves and horses. Having come in this day's journey about 39 miles.
near Canegocheage Creek where appear’d ytf
to be some fertile Bottoms. From ytf
littleton we pass’d over the Sideling Hills ytf
which is said to be seven miles across ytf
and appears to be a range of broken ytf
mountains running in almost every ytf
direction, took some refreshment at ytf
Jno Skinners 11 miles from last stage ytf
thence on 8 miles further where ytf
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This Stream runs in a Meanderytf
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these high Towering Hills are some ytf
narrow fertile Valleys abounding ytf
with limestone in places. Ariv’d at ytf
Hartleys Tavern in the evening where ytf
we put in for lodging and got good ytf
accommodations for ourselves and ytf
Horses. Haveing come in this days ytf
39 Journey about 39 miles. ytf
5th—Set forward early and rode to Bedford, to Breakfast 6 miles from our lodging. Bedford is the county town and a pleasant situation in a large valley being surrounded with hills on every side. Proceeded on and reached the top of the great Allegheny Mountain in the afternoon 2½ miles from Bedford. There is a good Tavern, a little fertile land about the house, and what was more remarkable, an excellent spring of water a few rods from the Door. From whence we descended the Mountain and arrived at Berlin in the evening. A pleasant little village of about 40 houses mostly Dutch. We lodged at Doctor Rimble's where our entertainment and lodging was very good, and our landlord very solicitous for news about the politics of the Times.

36th—Our journey 36 miles to day.
5th yt Set forward early and rode yt
to Bedford to Breakfast 6 miles from yt
our Lodgeing. Bedford is the County yt
Town and a pleasant situation yt
in a large Valley being surrounded yt
with hills on every side. proceeded yt
on and reach’d the Top of the yt
great Allegeny Mountain in the yt
afternoon 24 miles from Bedford, yt
Where there is a good Tavern, a little yt
fertile land about the house, and what yt
was more remarkable, an excellent yt
Spring of water a few rods from yt
the Door. From thence we descended yt
the Mountains, and arived at Berlin yt
in the evening, a pleasant little village yt
of about 90 houses mostly Dutch. yt
We lodg’d at Doctor Kimbles, where yt
our entertainment and lodging yt
was very good, and our landlord yt
very solicitous for news about the yt
politics of the Times. yt
36 our journey 36 miles to day. yt
6th of the 10th of the Month.

Set out in the morning and rode 13 miles to breakfast at a Dutch Tavern where the Landlady looked rather Scottish, and was not able to supply us with a Tea-Cup & Saucer & piece of Bread. Died at Baldensgauron 14 miles further and proceeded on over Chestnut Ridge, a lofty mountain from whose Summit we first had a view of the Western Country on the North side of the mountains, which appeared to be an extensive plain, interspersed with small Hills, beautiful Valleys that afforded a gratifying prospect. Arrived at Connelly's Hill in the evening a little Village on the Margin of the Yochigami River, where we were kindly received by our Ancient Friends, Thomas Gibson and his Wife, who moved from Chute County in the early settlement of Bedfords.

41 was the day.
6th of the mo & 1st of the Weekyf Set out in the morning and ytf
rode 13 miles to breakfast at a ytf
Dutch Tavern where the Landladyf
looked rather Sluttish and was not ytf
able to furnish us with a Tea cup &ytf
Sauces apiece. thence over Laurel Hill din’d at Basslersyf
Tavern 14 miles further and proceeded ytf
on over Chesnut Ridge, a lofty moun-ytf
tain from whose Summit we first hadytf
a view of the Western Country on ytf
the North side of the mountains, whichytf
appear’d to be an extensive plain, inter-ytf
spers’d with small Hilles & beautifullyf
Valleys that afforded a gratifying ytf’
prospect. ariv’d at Connels ytf
Vill. in the evening, a little Village ytf
on the Margin of the yochigenyytf
River, where we were kindly receiv’d ytf
by our antient Friend, Thomas Gibsonytf
and his Wife who mov’d from Chester ytf
County in the early settlement ofytf
Redstone. ytf
41 come 41 miles to dayytf ytf
This morning Thomas Gibson took me down the river about half a mile to see what he said was some thing of a curiosity. The mighty Dashing of the waters had worn a Cavity in the side of the banks a considerable ways into the Hill, in which was exhibited abundance of Horn Ore, Stone Coal, and Limestone all intermixed with each other. It appeared as tho the Hill at some periods had been on fire, which had penetrated in a Subterraneous manner so far that go of 60 yards from the Margin of the Water on a high Bank the ground was sunk down to a considerable Depth in the form of a reservoir.

After breakfast we were ferry'd over the River and proceeded going to Bee Radwallers that evening Mr. Swayne & myself took our route by way of Union Town to see some of his Relations Union.
This morning Thomas Gibson took me down the River about half a mile to see what he said was some thing of a curiosity. The mighty Dashing of the Waters had worn a cavity in the side of the bank a considerable ways into the Hill in which was exhibited abundance of Iron Ore, Stoney Cole, and Limestone all interspers’d thro’ each other. It apear’d as tho’ the Hill at some period had been on fire, which had penetrated in a subteraneous manner so far, that 50 or 60 yards from the Margin of the Water on a high Bank the Ground was sunk down or considerable Depth in the form of a reservoir.

After breakfast we were ferry’d over the River and propos’d going to Bees Kadwallader that evening J. Swayne & myself took our rout by way of Union Town to see some of his Relations. Union
Is a prosperous little place, where the county courts are held. There are several stores & taverns which appear to get custom plenty. Rode at Mr. Dixon's miles from U. Town, where I parted with Joel, and went to Reece Caldwell's alone, after calling to see one W. Whitmire, who moved from Newgarden some years ago & who had restrained much property from my Father, got out of military demands in the time of the revolution. He was not at home himself but his family gave me a hearty welcome. I met with the rest of our at our kind friend Reece Caldwell's when we remained several days to settle ourselves, prepare some necessary articles for our journey, visit...
is a prosperous little place, wheryt
the County Courts are held: thereyt
are Several Stores & Tavern whichyt
appear to get Custom plenty, ytf
Din’d at Wm Dixons 5 milesytf
from U. Town where I parted ytf
with Joel, and went to Reece Cad-ytf
ewaller alone, after Calling toytf
see one Wm Whiteside who mov’d ytf
from Newgarden som years agoytf
& who had restrained much pro-ytf
perty from My Father, for ytf
Military demands in the timeytf
of the revolution. He was notytf
at home himself but his Family ytf
I met with the rest of our company at ytf
our kind Friend Reece Cadwallader whereytf
we remained several days to restytf
ourselves, prepare some necessary ytf
articles for our Journey, visit ytf