Journal
1841
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Auburn, Cal.
Dec. 23. Caught 2 Sorex around love-tailed Hesperomys. Reset myدهی هیپسرامیس فوجی. Found a Dipodops track in road but could not find where it came from or went to.

Dec. 24. Caught 6 Hesperomys along south side of Middle Fork American River just after the junction but do not think it is the kind wanted. - H. yamei. Shot a centipedal and a Sheenophika. Walked 6 miles + took off my shoes and put back of 9:30. Washed up. Took my trunk and left Auburn at 11:30. Came back to Rocklin, 22 miles from Sacramento and at 2 P.M. was out hunting Jack Rabbit.


The altitude of Rocklin is 260 feet. It is at the edge of the plains of the Sacramento Valley. The country is gently rolling.

A mile to the west the tedious plains stretch away. All around Rocklin 7 to the east is scattered timber, Pinus sabinaeae & Gramineae dogfeet and a few P. scribneri. The soil is mostly clay & hard. Grass covers most of the country. Granite crops out & is extensively quarried at Rocklin.
Oct. 25. Caught only 2 Mus musculus of Rocklin. Took up track and started for Colfax at 1 P.M. Rocklin is 260 ft. and Colfax 2427 ft.

The soil is hard and baked gravelly a red clay all the way to Colfax.

The rocks are broken lava on the surface south of Rocklin. At Rocklin a hard, fine grained, light colored granite that is extensively quarried. In the R.R. cut N.E. of Rocklin the rocks is a soft, coarse, granite. Near Auburn it is of various kinds of rock, schist, granite, coarse granite and continues so to Colfax. Hill all the way but very much cut up near American River.

Plants—Rubusus californicus is among the rocks of Rocklin, Laurel and the small beaved Liana begin west of Pennyroy and an soon to Colfax. Guercus lauricola is the principal tree of Rocklin, there are few Guercus wislicenia. Prinos salicifera begins of Rocklin and continues to Colfax. P. p. lunatinus begins west of Auburn and becomes the principal tree at Colfax.

Guercus species wislicenia is common to Auburn but not at Colfax. Guercus chrysolepis begins near Auburn and is common of Colfax. The big leaved Black Oak, possibly G. Kelloggi, begins at Newcastle and is abundant to Colfax.
Oct. 24. The stage does not leave Colfax for Michigan Bluff till 3 P.M. so I had time to hunt. Tramped over the hills all of forenoon; talked with several men about Chipmunks but they do not seem to be any around here. Killed a Seirius forresti. Spermacetiwalrus brevirostris is common, also Phocin. The country is hilly, brushy, and pine and oak timber scattered over the hills.

Left Colfax at 3:30 P.M. and reached Michigan Bluff at 9 P.M. - 23 miles. The first part of the road for about 8 miles is steadily down hill to the North Fork of American River. Then it is all up hill for about 8 miles to Forest Hill.
Oct. 27. Started out in morning to find Tamias guadiniumulus. The whole col say that Chipmunks are common. Found all over parson Tamias but did not get it. Shot a Seiususフォー and a Pine Squirrel. Skinned them and the P. M. started out on another trail but saw no Chipmunks. Saw more of both kinds of Seiusus. Set some traps. Guess I will get aloes and go up to Sugar Pine Mill tomorrow. Said to be Chipmunks up there and Flying Squirrels.

Pinus Lambertiana and P. portoricensis and Liptodromus Sciurinus are large trees but and not been cut a good deal for lumber. I should think Michigan Bluff is 8 or 10 ft higher than Colfax.

Besides the plants of Colfax there is a liriodendron bordered, prunus, Chondrus and a small, pretty-leaved oak, 4 to 6 ft high. Guemes dongocina and the best of a white oak on an incline. J. staphylophytes is the largest and most common. Red and still Bedacornus. The country is long and is a bare place and a small water in the creek. Middle Fork of Alameda R. gains just South of town but down in a flat location.
Oct. 29  Got a saddle horse and went up
the ridge 7 miles to a ranch called
Main Hill. It is 800 feet above the way
and I should think was 500 feet from Michigan
Bluff. It was windy and cloudy cool
in the morning and thickened up and began
to sprinkle about noon. I found Chamnade
common near Main Hill and called
5 when it began to rain steadily. about
1 P.M. and started for town. It rain
hard all the rest of day and first night
was cold and windy. I got soaked through
and very cold. The red clay because of
slipping my horse could hardly stand and
at the end of the roads it is so cold and so muddy and wet
I could hardly get any word. Chamnades
for 4 hours and to concluded to leave
for the weather. Skinned the things
in evening and got ready for an early
start in morning.

Oct. 29 Took the stage at 5:30 A.M. and
reached Calfax at noon. Packard my
things and went up a few miles with
waiting for train. At 5:30 P.M. left
Calfax. I followed the North American Road,
around 1000 canyons 4 Queensland,
and 1000 up grade to Summit.
It got dark as we reached Blue Canon; from there to Truckee did not see the country. Stopped at Truckee to buy for Tanius chrysobadiums.

Oct. 20, On getting out in crossing found the ground frozen hard, a thick white frost, and snow on the ridge about town. There is but a possibility of finding Tanius in such weather. So I took the 6 A.M. train for Fallon, Nev., to look what roots I could on plants grown for the train.

Pinus ponderosa (100 ft.) is seen at Truckee and down to Verdi. Pinus flexilis (off season) is common about and down to Truckee but not much below. Abies?, some kind of a pine or fir, is common about Truckee but only below in a canyon. Asteriscia tridentata is abundant at Truckee and down to a little above edge of Humboldt Zink.

Poaclus trichocarpa begins along creek just below Truckee and goes down to Pine or lower. Junipers (Juniperus) was only seen on peaks below store. Thuja plicata (D. Huns.) a few scattered along with junipers. Carex is abundant along sides of rocky cleft from above down a little way. Ephedra (Ephedra) begins at Verdi and continues down to about Salyer.
where it gives way to Ephedra nevadensis. Biggyries and Tetradynamis were common from Frye's down but I could not tell the plants. Artemisia nevadensis is common at travel and below but did not notice much. At Wash we left Ring tubers and entered valley hills covered with Activisia. Saw many Pinus monophylla. At river the valley is broader and there is lots of grass and alkali. A little below we like Astragalus corymbosus, Sarcobata vermiculatus, Salt Grass, and Stephidia argentina. Near Wash Astragalus curvifolius, Eriocaulon Leucot, Gynicum pollygeda, Orophiza, Ephedra virgata, and Salix glauca (?) begin. After passing Washaworth this is a big dry valley with scanty vegetation, sandy soil, and lots of alkali and a soda flat in low spots. Low lava sorts all around. A lake shows to be seen up the side of the hills to some 500 ft above bottom of valley. No water in it. Cross a divide and down to right of the Humboldt and lake. At is a great soda valley. Vegetation mostly Sarcobata + Euphorba + Phyllostachis + Dieteria. A lot of our new Sarcobata on dry side of valley just before we strike the pink. It is common along R.R. 7 immemorably.
From Humboldt Sink we follow up the Sagebrush valley of the East Humboldt which is about the same as at Battle Mountain. Got dark as we reached Battle Mountain, but I have seen most of the country from this to Fallon. Reached Fallon at 9:30 P.M. Came on the "Truck" at went out there at two and a half miles per hour including stops. Probably 30 miles per hour while running. It arrived to crawl. The fare at local rates is 50 cents. From Trucker to Fallon - 372 miles - $78.60.

Oct. 31 Set all of my small fogs - 64- for Microdotlofs. Made up the soft arbors that I brought from Michigan Bluffs. Cold morning - 32°, warm enough at noon, looks like rain.

Nov. 1 Caught 2 Angelumps, 3 Janias, pistus, and 20 Hespernum soroecensis. 2 of the Janias and 5 Hespernums were eaten in the tests by Angelumps and Pticerpes. A cold morning, cloudy and threatens rain.

Nov. 2 Caught 4 Angelumps on a lot of Janias & Hespernums. Shot a Peecopotha obrectis. Took up most of my shots & reset them when I found some Microdotlofs clumps. Coyotes & Maggies have taken 5 of my tests.
Nov. 3  Caught 2 Microtus and 5 Angoumous & 1 Hesperopus. Have
got my traps out of the way of Hesperopus
& begun to catch something else. Found
quite a lot of Microtus tracks and set my traps
with much care. Hope to get more tonight.
A warm day.

Nov. 4  Did not catch anything except a
Chipmunk. Will try one more night with
leave. Could do nothing of account, traveled
over a lot of country but found nothing. Packed
a lot of supplies and killed a big Sage Grouse.
They are common.

Warm & sunny like.

Nov. 5  Caught nothing but a few Hesperopus.
Came up late and at 9 AM started for Kelton.
Found Pmume monophylla or edulus among the cedars
at Cedar—the first station east of Wells.
This is farther north than I had known of it.
Actinian triutata and asteracum are both common east of Wells. Passed a lot
of valleys that reach south between low ranges
of mountains. Limpiers covers most of the hills.
and down along the R.R. in places.
Reached Kelton at 3:30 P.M. Put out 20
traps on the flat valley just north of town.
Cloudy & looked like raining.
Nov. 6. Caught an Ongrounda to 2/1 of
Terrorist. Looked after and went across
the flat & up among Kittredge's to an
old place 8 miles north of Kittredge. Found 3
days. Killed 3 Kittredge's. Made and saw 2
weeks. Let us traps for Janice & Hezrones.
Think I found trail of Hezrones.

Made up at dusk in morning. Got a Poison
island. Saw Jack Rabbit & Cotton Tail.

Took a small, very thick, strong shell in
a clay clay welch. It is hard to cut.

Rain a little in the night. The clay is
packed & atmosphere cleared. A pleasant
day. Traveled from 4 pm to 8 pm, about
20 miles I guess.

Nov. 7. Clear & cold at daylight. 2/20 clouded
up & snowed. It has been cold & disagreeable
all day. Got Janice & 4 Ongrounda to a Northern
Mexican & late. I have horses in my traps.
Could not find a Chipmunk and must close
hunting for them. Salt all of my logs for Hezrones
and will leave tomorrow.

Catching these Northern extends their range north
as far as Pimm's cut off. Dipper goes north with
Jumppers to Long River N.Y.

Our boarding with the motion goes, Mr. A. Nelson
of Clinton, N.Y., nephew of Mr. Peters
Nov. 8. Caught a lot of hares, moles & and abounds for Pergroth with peas. 5 Dr. cats were gone, probably carried off by coyotes. 2 coyotes followed cat along the road & around my tracks kept about 15 or 20 rods away. Did not lose my gun along.

Started for Ogden at 3:30 a.m. Had to wait till morning for train to Salt Lake. Got into Salt Lake after daylight. Went to telegraph office & got a message. The weather is warmer now but cloudy & threatening storm. Probable is coming in the night. Concluded to quit up the work at Provo & Necki & go east.

Got my things to boat, packed 0 sent steinners & packed my things for the trip. Left Salt Lake at 10:15 a.m. on the P. & K. & R. R.

A car got off the track & we landed 6 hours at Bingham Junction.

Nov. 10. Began to get daylight at Milltown. Made a circuit on the road following a creek in a deep gully between high hills. Jumpers begin at Mill Creek and continue up to Clear Creek where they mostly stop. Astrumia tridactyla & Tetradynamia are common over the summit.
Soldiers Summit is 7465 ft high. Some snow on the ground. Big eskewth hills covered with sagebrush and groves of Pinyon pine, <i>Pinus</i> <i>terebinodes</i>, <i>Quercus</i> <i>virginiana</i>, F. <i>Fir</i>, (probably a <i>Picea</i>.

From Soldiers Summit we follow down a curve through a gushy that grows dense to Castle Gate. Below there it opens out at Helper. Pines there is quite a wild valley with jague along bottom. Pines exist high along the Pheasant Valley junction & run down below Castle Gate. Juniper ranges with it but it is not evergreen and covers low hills down to Green River.

Pines ponderosa subsorbus is scattered along the sides of Canion between Pheasant Valley junction & Castle Gate. Picea follows down the Canion to Castle Gate. From Castle Gate to Green River and up the Grand River. At least 500 feet, is a dry sandstone desert with typical Blacklands along the Green River. They ought to be full of fossils.

Atrophy <i>perfectttbsia</i> & conelens, <i>Eucrion</i> <i>latata</i>, <i>Shrutherford</i> and <i>Opuntia vulgaria</i> are characteristic plants.

This part of the country could be worked rather thoroughly by stopping at Green River, Castle Gate & Soldiers Summit. Saw V. Prair. Dogs just east of Pique.
A woman that got on the train at Green River said Prairie Dogs were running all along in the valley. Saw a Wreck Rat swimming in a pool close to R.R. between Grand Junction and Debeque.

There is a group of high, isolated mountains about 20 miles (32 kilometers) due south of Green River Station. Seem to be in the fork of the Green & Grand Rivers. It is a small group of peaks like San Francisco Mts. Should think they were 10,000 feet high, are covered with timber and this upper part with snow. Some patches of old snow on N.E. sides. The country about this base is low—perhaps 4100 feet—is the highest land that connects them with other mountains, and this is desert. They ought to yield some good game. Would have to be worked with a pack train. Could be got at from Cigro or Green River. Price or Sunny side are the nearest towns where one could outfit. They might be got at by boat down Grand River from Grand Junction. If so it would be the best plan.

We all like Grand River or West Water which is just a station. Follow the river most of the way till dark. Was very hot and the roads were rough along the bottoms, some cottonwoods, and on the hills junipers.
The river is low but would carry a good boat. Did not see any salmon in it. High sandstone cliffs border the river valley part of the way. They are high & the river valley narrows along near them.

It was almost dark when we reached Dubois, but a good moon allowed some of the country as far as Aspen at midnight. Snowed in & moving as we came up out of the Basin and onto Soldier's Summit. Warm in sunshine, though Green River Valley, began getting again in evening to climb up the Colorado Mts. and arrowed most all night. Snow a great deal at Aspen.

Nov. 11 Got daylight while miles near Summit Park on the Colorado Midland R.R. Did not see much of the country between they and Aspen, could see enough to tell that we were among big mountains and in canyons, with thick timbered and lots of arrow. At Summit Park the country is just big, smooth swells, very smooth for mountains. There are groves of Ponderus trees, yellow, Pinus regalisation, brush patches, and grassy slopes. Some fields, small streams, and meadows. Very little snow.

Mammoth is a big gulch full of nice little cottages. Cedar on the hills all around.
Colorado Springs is a good sized town on the edge of plain but foot of mountains, there are outlying ridges covered with Pruss reedbrush east of it. The reedbrush is all very small, does not average much larger than 5 inches, but is not so scruffy. Queen Augustifolia Oak brush & thicket of small Poppies are grown along the R.R. from Colorado Springs to Denver. It is among foot hills on edge of plain. There is plenty of grass, small streams, some farms, Harshfieds, small towns along.

I always supposed Denver was in the Mts. but found it out on the plains. Had to wait till 8 P.M. for train to Council Bluffs. Then struck out across plains on the C.P.R.R. back.

Nov 12: West of Philadelphia not daylight. The plains are characterized along the hills by grass, cornfields, tumbleweeds & sagebrush. Rolling land, small streams. Only trees seen are Pines, Vines & Cottonwoods along streams. When we cross the Republican River between Smith's Center & Kearney I saw the first Hazy brush. After passing Beatrice we struck a small river and followed it quite a way. Here we struck the first Butcher, White Elms, Salt Maple, Butternut, Sumac & other Miss-Vally plants.
Reached Council Bluffs at 4 P.M. Went to hotel and got out my traps. I hurried out to cut some fish traps. Went up a quick N. E. of town & set 12 traps in woods but not in good places. Turned dark & so moved.

Nov. 13 Caught nothing but Heparcus. Went over onto Missouri Creek about 3 miles N. E. of town and set out all my traps. Found some pretty good places old logs & brush in thick woods on creek bottoms & up in quickers. Set most of them about 2 miles up the creek from the Grundale packing house, about the second R. R. crossing of the creek.
A pretty cold day, tried to arrow in evening.

Nov. 14 Caught 3 Blaivars, one Syphontums,
a lot of Heparcus linephorus,
Set a lot more traps around when I got the Syphontums, found some Runaways.
Saw a Muskrat & Cottontail.
Willow, Hawny, (small kind), Brush, Jack Rogers, Box elders, Elm, Cotton,

fawn, Hazl, Leonwood, Basswood, Prickly ash, Sumac, White ash, Willow, Populus tremuloides grandifolia,
all common.
Nov. 15  Sunday  Raised land in the night and raised most of provision. Windy & muddy & nasty, didn't go to traps.

Nov. 16  Went to traps & got 4 Spratfins. 3 Blazivas & found a dead Seafowl. 27 froze land & the river was an frozen down & full of ice. Very cold & crowded gone warming. Continued to leave. Took off Woods & wadingiskin & started for low at 6 P.M. Found about several inches deep at Snow City all the rest of way.

Nov. 17  Reached Minneapolis at 9:30 A.M. and Elk River at 15 P.M. Now consider myself off duty.