

pally of hard biscuits, potted meats, and tins of fruit. Our cooking arrangements consisted of a camp stove, fitted with a small pot and a frying pan. Thinking this would be useless for cooking a quarter of venison or a plump prairie chicken we had three iron rods made, two of them to stick upright in the ground, one on each side of a good fire; these had crooks at the top, in which the other rod rested over the fire, from which we hung a larger pot for prairie chickens and other game. We also had an extra pot to suspend from the bar, in which to boil water for tea, which last arrangement we found much more serviceable than the camp stove. Tools were not neglected; a large axe, a spade and plenty of strong cord for making rafts, tethering the ponies, helping out of slews, etc., formed part of our outfit, as did also candles, matches, a Winchester repeating rifle, a breachloader and revolvers. We each of us took a mosquito net, a suit of overalls, and a thick, warm blanket; we were then fitted out complete and ready for the start.

On June the 2nd we set out, and as we drove through the small town, many of the inhabitants wished us a pleasant journey and safe return, but at the same time did not hold out very encouraging hopes, ominously telling of broad streams, alkaline slews, steep mountain sand ravines that lay in our way; but feeling equal to battle with all difficulties, away we