

George K. Cherrie's Diary of the
Theodore Roosevelt Expedition to
Explore the River of Doubt in
Brazil, October 1913 to May, 1914

Transcript prepared by

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A Physical Description of the Diary and its Contents

The Diary consists of one "composition" type note-book, paper-bound, of lined paper, approximately $7\frac{1}{2}$ " by 9". The covers were originally varnished and of a mottled red-tan-blue color. The covers are now showing evidence of much handling and wear, the surface flaking off. In the upper right hand corner of the front cover the pencilled numeral 8 in a circle has been made. This may be the number of the diary in the series of such journals kept by Cherrie during his active career.

The note-book starts on October 11, 1913 (a week after the sailing date of October 4, 1913; and continues until December 31, 1913. Written in black ink. The period January 1, 1914 to January 3rd is contained in pencilled notes on three (3) sheets of manila note-paper, about 8" by 10" in size, and folded in half. Then there are 2 blank pages in the note-book, and the Diary resumes with a continuation--in black ink -- of the January 3, 1914 events. From this point on, the Diary is written in pencil, each day generally taking up $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a page. These daily entries continue through March 18, 1914, which ends on the bottom of the inside cover of the notebook, no more pages being available.

From March 19, 1914 to May 5, 1914, the Diary is in the form of manila note-paper, about 8" by 10", folded to make a form of "book", containing a number of sheets. These remaining entries are made in pencil and then in ink. The final entry for the diary on these loose sheets is May 5, 1914, but here only the date is recorded.

Additionally, within the Note-book was found a collection of 52 negatives of photographs of the River of Doubt expedition and apparently also of other trips made by George Cherrie to South America.

Also, found in the notebook are 2 sheets of very yellowed -- almost brown note-paper, one sheet being headed "Notes", and the two sheets contain the pencilled recollections by Cherrie of the day Sergeant Paishon was murdered by Julio.

To these two pieces of note-paper was pinned a typed address prepared by Cherrie and dated May 26, 1927. The typed address is on the two halves of a sheet of Explorer Club writing paper. The title of the address is : "Roosevelt in the Field". Cherrie signed and dated the address on the bottom of the second sheet.

Also found was a half-sheet of very thin white paper, in pencil. One side contains a part of a letter apparently written to his family. The other side is the entry for February 26, 1914.

Some Notes on Editorial Marks and Notations

1. The spelling of many words in the diary was incorrect. To indicate the error I have placed the mark (sic) immediately after the incorrectly spelled word, in square brackets.
2. In the case of a mis-spelled proper noun I have entered in square brackets the correct spelling of the name of an individual, river, town, etc. Also where Cherrie left the balance of letters missing from the name of an individual I have inserted the full name in square brackets immediately following the name as written in the diary.
3. Many words were crossed out or scratched out, either later or at the time the entries were being made in the diary. Where it was possible to read the crossed out word, I have entered it and crossed it also, exactly where it was found. An example: ~~and then~~

Where the scratched out word was indecipherable, or doubtful, I inserted in its place the mark: ...
4. The very frequent appearance of paragraphs accurately reflects Cherrie's almost constant indication of a paragraph sign to separate incidents or comments within a single date entry.
5. Some words were extremely difficult to read, particularly the back cover, which is nearly unreadable along the edge. I have tried my best within the context of the sentence to determine the correct word; the magnifying glass came in handy also!
6. Also in square brackets I have added explanatory notes or identifications to aid the reader unfamiliar with certain words or references.
7. The punctuation in the diary was also erratic; I have re-produced it as faithfully as possible.
8. It is evident that Cherrie reviewed the diary on several occasions afterward and made corrections to spelling, scratched out words, and added formal names to various birds and mammals. It is also interesting to note that during the month of April -- when the expedition was in its worst stretch, almost every day's entry shows the month as March, and then has been crossed out and April inserted above. I am guessing that the strain of the ordeal caused Cherrie to forget the correct month and that later, after the trip, he corrected the notations for the month.

Oct 11 1913

On board S.S. Vandyck

We sailed from New York (pier 8 Brooklyn) Saturday Oct 4th. Stella and I tried to do a little shopping at the last moment with the result that I was the last man on board, the gong warning all who were not passengers to go ashore having already sounded when [2 words erased here] I reached the dock. Colonel Roosevelt was uneasy fearing I was going to miss the boat. At 1 P.M. the steamer pulled away from the dock.

Our first day out was rough. Fortunately for us the wind came from due astern and we ran before the storm. It would have been most uncomfortable had we been going the other way.

Early the second morning [October 5] my stomach felt a little "upset" but after I had had my breakfast I felt O.K. and have enjoyed the journey ever since.

Our party consisting of Col. Roosevelt, Dr. Zahm, Mr. Harper, Mr. Fiala and myself have had one or two conferences, on the journey ahead of us, every day. These conferences serve to make us better acquainted with one another and to bring our individual plans into unison.

For the 2nd and 3rd days out several land birds several land birds (sic) were seen on or about the ship. There was a yellow-rumped Warbler, Carolina dove, a Kinglet and two species I was unable to identify.

Since the third day out Fiala has been busy taking observations and working out our latitude and longitude, a work he hopes to continue throughout our journey so as to locate with accuracy all important points at which the expedition may stop.

Thursday (the 9th) we had a delightful day sailing down through the islands, some one or more of the Lesser Antilles being in sight throughout the entire day. ^[sic]

When we awakened yesterday (the 10th) morning the shores of Barbados were in sight and at 9 A.M. we came to anchor off Bridgetown. Col. Roosevelt and Mrs. Roosevelt were entertained by the governor.

Harper, Fiala and I went ashore to attend to the purchase of a lot of supplies, including a complete outfit, for Harper, for our expedition. After we had finished our business we hired (at this expedition's expense) a motor car and had a trip about the island.

When we got back to the ship I found Mr. Leo Miller awaiting me. He having joined us, our party is now complete.

At 4 P.M. yesterday we sailed from Barbados. Our next port will be Bahia, Brazil.

We had a long conference today at which Mr. Miller confirmed all all that I have been telling my companions about the upper Orinoco. Miller also tells me, and the party, that people on the upper Orinoco still remember me! But strange to say they did not meet with anyone who remembered Casper Whitney who is supposed to have been there much later.

↑ FORMER ROCKH RIVER, WROTE "THE FLOWING ROAD" IN 1912, ON HIS SOUTH AMERICAN TRAVELS.

Our latitude today at noon was $10^{\circ} 51' N.L.$

Several small flocks of birds probably Boobys were reported as seen.

Sunday Oct 12 1913 -- On board S.S. Vandyck

Our latitude at noon was $8^{\circ} 27' N.$ just off the coast of French Guiana. The sea every day is growing calmer.

Oct 13 1913 $5^{\circ} 47' 0'' N.$ lat. at noon

The entire day was given up by the passengers to sports and games. Subscriptions (voluntary) had been taken up and about \$250.00 collected for prizes

Oct 14 1913 On board S.S. Vandyck

$2^{\circ} 37' 0'' N.$ lat. at noon

The passengers for the past two days have been greatly diverted with the sports and games that are being played on board. And at 9 P.M. we were entertained with amateur theatricals. Some farces being presented by the ships stewards. A part of the entertainment was very amusing.

A school of porpois[es] was reported as seen near the ship about noon. We are off the coast opposite the mouths of the Amazon, but so far away that there is nothing to indicate the proximity of a great river.

Oct 15 1913 On board S.S. Vandyck.

At 9 A.M. we crossed the Equator

During the afternoon, those of the passengers who had not previously crossed the line (Equator) were taken in hand by Neptune and his hosts, and unceremoniously ^(OR CEREMONIOUSLY) ducked in a large tank on the after deck. By some good fortune I was overlooked by those who made up the list of those to be initiated.

Oct 16 1913 On board S.S. Vandyck.

[Oct 16 1913 cont'd]

5 31 0 S. lat. at noon just off the most eastern point of South America. Land has been in sight since about 10 A.M.-- my first glimpse of Brazil, a land I have longed to visit for (lo!) these many years. I believe that from now onward land will be constantly in sight. This will serve to help brake [sic] the monotony of the remainder of the voyage.

Oct 17 1913

11 11 0 S. lat. at noon

Oct 18 1913

We arrived off the port of Bahia (Brazil) early this morning. At 9 o'clock a special steam yacht was sent by the governor to convey the Roosevelt party ashore, where they were met by automobiles and taken about the city.

Miller, "Sig" [Jacob Sigg] and I got away and went by street car about the town. Bahia from the harbor is a picturesque place, but is said to be a very unhealthfull [sic] place. There are on board the "Vandyck" three men from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture who are coming to Brazil to study the citrus fruits. Through one of them (Mr. Shamel) I have learned that the original stock from which the navel orange industry of the U.S. has sprung originated in, or was brought from, Bahia.

Kermit Roosevelt joined our party here. He has been employed by the Sao Paulo R.R. as an engineer for almost two years. I think it probable that he will continue with us during the trip.
← [IN 1913, HE HAD LEFT RAILROAD AND WORKED AS BRIDGE-BUILDER FOR THE ANGLO-BRAZILIAN IRON COMPANY.]

The more I see of Mrs. Roosevelt the more I admire her. I feel she is a wonderful woman. But exceedingly modest.

(At this point of the diary, found a folded clipping of Ding Darling's famous cartoon of T.R. : "The Long, Long Trail", clipping from New York Tribune, no day or month, but year of 1922 shown. Also folded in half was sheet of yellow, lined paper, which appears to be a page from another diary of Mr. Cherrie's. It is dated Saturday, July 10, 1920, written at Puerto Bello, Provincia del Oro, Ecuador. Has no bearing on Roosevelt expedition.

Additionally, on the page of the diary containing the next entry (Oct 23 1913) are two address labels pasted at top of

the page, as follows:

Mrs. A. Schoelkopf
Niagara Falls, New York

Mrs. B. Gluck
Niagara Falls, New York

Oct 23 1913 On board S.S. Vandyck in Port Santos, Brazil.

My diary has been neglected for some days. Partly because our time has been very fully occupied and partly because the rough weather we experienced between Bahia and "Rio" made me feel too uncomfortable to write.

We sailed last evening at 6 o'clock from "Rio" and are here at 8 A.M. We had a very pleasant night.

Our plans (the plans of the Roosevelt Expedition) were greatly modified at Rio. We will now probably not go down the Tapajos, will not go to Cuyaba.

The party divided at Rio. Miller, Fiala and I are going on to Buenos Aires where we will arrange to get up the Parana and Paraguay Rivers as far as Corumba. There we will establish a base for our work and await Col. Roosevelt, who is due to arrive early in December.

We spend most of our day on shore. Took a long car ride and finally wound up with a fine lunch at the Sportsman Hotel. ~~66-~~ A fine lunch that cost us \$10.00 !

The docking facilities are the finest I have ever seen. Coffee is of course the principal export and several of the coffee warehouses along the docks have automatic loaders that carry the bags direct from the storehouses to the ships hatch.

While at the palace, at Rio, Wednesday morning (the 22nd) the Minister of the Interior (for Brazil) gave me a letter directed to all military and civil authorities requesting that they assist the members of our expedition in every way possible to facilitate our work. Just how much it may mean to us of course remains to be seen.

We are also assured that the Brazilian Government is placing at our service a tug boat or small river steamer that is to convey our party from Buenos Aires to Corumba on the Paraguay River. We hope so and we shall see.

While at Santos I made pictures of peones [laborers?] loading coffee onto a steamer

Oct 24 1913 -- S.S. Vandyck

At noon today we were at S. lat 28 10 0^{0 / "}
Ever since the day before we reached Rio the weather has been unusually cool. So cool that my Fall suit is all but too light. At Rio it was reported that they had not had such cool weather in thirty years!

We were in sight of land for much of time today

There is on board a small sparrow (Sycalis?) that came onto the ship at Santos.

Oct 25 1913 -- S.S. Vandyck.

At 33 8 0 S. lat. at noon; 267 miles from Montevideo. We are 24 hours ahead of our schedule time.

Sunday 26- Oct 1913 -- on board S.S. Vandyck, off Montevideo, Uruguay.

At last we are nearing the end of our long voyage. A fact that is most gratifying for it is getting tedious.

We went ashore and spent most of the day in the city of Montevideo. As we wished to see the sights we asked a policeman to direct us to the Museum of Natural History. He told us which car to take, and when we boarded the car we repeated our question to the conductor. But where do you suppose they took us? To our surprise and consternation it was the National Cemetery [sic]! While we had had no wish to visit the cemetery we never the less found it a wonderful [sic] place. I have never been able to picture a cemetery as a beautiful place but could not withhold my admiration for the artistic beauty of that at Montevideo. As a whole artistically beautiful [sic], while some of the individual monuments were wonderful [sic].

I made two or three pictures while there.

We took lunch at the "Sportsman" [this line crossed out] hotel and had a very delightful one. The lunch for four of us was about \$10.00

Monday Oct 27 1913 -- Phoenix Hotel, Buenos Aires, I [blank page after this]

Asuncion, Paraguay

Wednesday Nov 5 1913

We left Buenos Aires, Sunday afternoon (Nov 2) and arrived here at 5 o'clock last evening. The railroad journey was one of mixed sensations. Much of the scenery was novel, almost all picturesque and the people interesting. The birds seen were of a new fauna and claimed considerable of our attention. Between Ibicuy and Alvear (Argentina) [sic] we saw many Rhea - sometimes single and sometimes in flocks of from three or four to a dozen. We also saw many "oven birds" and several nests of the same. The nests were usually placed on the top of a fence post or similar location. After birds noted were several species of Duck, screamers, several kinds of herons, Cayenne Lapwings, Cara-cara, Tinamow, one or two rails and a multitude of others that I could not identify. Also Ani birds.. Black vultures, aura sp., Tordos, Leistes

None of the Rhea were seen after we got into Paraguayan territory [sic].

The American Consul (Mr. Ferris) met us at the station last evening, and brought us here, to the "Gran Hotel del Paraguay". One of the largest hotels in the place but almost deserted at this season. ~~It~~ It is well out towards the suburbs and will probably prove convenient for our purpose.

Our rest was so much broken up for the two nights that we were on the train that we were very tired and consequently slept splendidly last night.

Thursday Nov 6 1913

{ Gran Hotel del Paraguay
Asuncion, Paraguay

From the plaza [sic] railing just outside our room a little white throated sparrow(zonotrichia pileata) is pouring forth his often repeated little song. It is a delightful bright cool morning following a cool pleasant, and clear, night. Temperature 70° yesterday we did not accomplish [sic] much -- however through the good offices of Mr Ferris we have our baggage and the same was received without having been examined. Miller put out a few traps in the evening. And we have applied for permission [sic] to carry and use our guns.

We found a lot of the famous Paraguayan lace in several establishments and find the price about one half of that asked for similar articles in Buenos Aires.

Paraguay is a great orange country. But as far as I have been able to learn orange growing has not been carried on in a scientific way and little if any effort has been made to get improved varieties; or to improve what they already have.

Friday 7 Nov 1913

{ Gran Hotel del Paraguay
Asuncion, Paraguay

Today, this morning, I tried to begin our collecting and succeeded in getting seven birds representing five species. I took my gun and went out above the hotel where there are a couple of vacant lots. Birds were not abundant and what there were, were wary. I might however have added a few more specimens to what I had if the police had not interfered^A and asked me not to shoot any more within the city limits. [sic]

(In the middle of this page, to the left hand side, are pasted two stubs of tramway tickets used by Cherrie. Also another complete tramway ticket of the Asuncion Tramway Light & Power Co. To the right hand side, Cherrie writes:

Two samples of the street car tickets one is expected to hold as long as they continue on board a car.

Miller and I went out to Trinidad (a suburb of Asuncion) today at 11 A.M. as guests of Prof. Febrig of the Colegio Nacional. He had invited us to lunch. Their home (Prof. Febrig has a wife) is at what was formerly an Agricultural Experiment Station. It is a fine large estate, the house on a slight elevation that overlooks the surrounding country, including the city of Asuncion. Tomorrow Miller and I will go as Prof Febrigs guests to remain for three or four days collecting.

Nov 8 1913 Trinidad, Paraguay

At last real collecting has begun! Miller and I left Asuncion at 8.30 A.M. arriving here shortly after nine oclock [sic] Mr Febrig met us and gave us a cordial welcome. A few minutes after we arrived I had taken off my coat and was hustling out after birds. I was rewarded with 18 specimens.

Nov 10 1913 (Monday) Trinidad, Paraguay.

Yesterday and today have been busy days. I have just finished cataloguing todays lot of birds (28). It is 9.30 P.M. and I am very tired.

Nov 17 1913 (Monday) Asuncion, Paraguay, S.A.

Miller and I have just finished packing our first box of specimens

consisting of the birds and mammals collected during our stays at Trinidad (suburb of Asuncion) and in the Chaco at Rio Negro one of the tributaries of the Rio Pilcomayo. I had over 150 birds and Miller about 50 mammals. Considering the time we had at our disposal and the conditions under which we worked I feel that the results were satisfactory.

Wrote to Stella. Wrote to F. M. Chapman

-----Tuesday Nov 18 1913

On board S.S. Asuncion on the
Rio Paraguay bound for Corumba, Brazil

We left the hotel San Piere (in Asuncion) where we had gone, on our return from the trip up the Rio Pilcomayo, in order to be with Fiala and Sig. At about Seven A.M. Miller and I went up by the market in order to buy a little fruit, and to have a last look at the place. While there we bought oranges, a dozen limes, and a dozen tomatoes. Also we got a young owl (probably the burrowing owl) alive.

On our way from the market to the docks we passed the Post Office and mailed letters home. Our next mail will probably be forwarded from Corumba, Brazil.

We were on board the "Asuncion" at about 7.45 A.M. and the steamer sailed at 8.30.

Just before sailing Mr. Ferris, the Am. Consul came off to the boat bringing mail for us. It had arrived last evening from Buenos Aires. There was a letter from Frank Senter (representative of the Colts Arms Co.) from B.A. to me. The others received mail from the States that had been dispatched from New York Oct. 18th Consul Ferris has been as kind and helpfullu[sic] as possible.

The rate of exchange while we were in Asuncion varied slightly but was about at the rate of \$80.00 national currency for an english pound (gold). In the market we paid \$1.00 (national currency) for 12 oranges -- 1.00 for 12 limes, the same for a dozen small tomatoes. for the little owl we paid 5.00 for the bottle of whisky 28.00; for 6 palm leaf fans 5.00; a glass of lemonade cost 2.00 Postage on a letter to other countries .75; getting my hair-cut 3.00 boat hire from wharf to the ship 5.00; Coach hire about 30.00 per hour. Tramway fares .67½ cts

Miller has not been feeling well and retired early.

Mr Fiala's expensive Graflex camera was dropped by the cartman who was carrying our baggage from the hotel to the steamer and crushed under the wheels. It is a serious loss to him.

Just before dusk we ...several large flocks of Roseate Spoonbills, but bird life along the river has not been as common as I expected to find it. Other species noted were Skimmers, two species of terns, wood ibis snake birds and cormorants; while Kingfishers were fairly common. In addition we observed a couple of screamers one or two toucans, bank swallows, Great Blue Herons; Green Herons and one Gt White Heron.

Here and there we passed rookeries where the trees and bushes were white from the excrement of snake birds and cormorants.

On board S.S. Asuncion
Wednesday -- Nov. 19. 1913. -- bound for Corumba, Brazil.

The character of the country through which we have passed today has been exactly similar to that of yesterday: --- Vast nearly level plain stretch as far as the eye can reach....in all directions, and are marked by belts of mixed timber wherever there is a watercourse or pond. Occasionally one sees wide grassy plains, dotted with moriche palms, that form natural pasturage for great herds [sic] of cattle. It is said that many enormous estates are owned and controlled [sic] by Americans and American capital. In addition to the cattle ranches there are several great plants where the "Quebracha" is being worked for the tanin. At such points one is surprised to see houses lighted with electricity and in the houses of, at least, the officials many of the comforts and conveniences we have in our own northern homes.

Late in the afternoon we passed through a region that teems with bird life. Enormous flocks of Cormorants were on every side.

Shortly after nightfall it was necessary to extinguish the lights in our cabins to prevent being driven out by clouds of some small soft bodied insects that got in our eyes, our ears and even in the nostrils.

Mr. Johnston of the Carnegie Institute Magnetic Survey service came aboard at one of the little towns where we stopped just at dark.

There are two women and two children aboard that are bound for Corumba --- the children going to meet their parents, that have made a long roundabout journey coming all the way from La Paz Bolivia. First they went by rail and cart southward clear down to Rosario, Argentina where they boarded this boat bound northward for Corumba.

The heat today was not so intense...much of the time the sun was hidden behind clouds and we had considerable rain late in the afternoon

On board S.S. Asuncion on Rio Paraguay
Thursday -- Nov 20 1913-- bound for Corumba, Brazil.

The character of the country through which we passed today was much the same as heretofore, but relieved by a couple of short ranges of hills that rose abruptly from the level plain about them. The highest of the hills must have been in the neighborhood of 800 ft high. The river runs close to the base of several so close that we could see the exceedingly rough and rocky surface. The hills all were covered with a somewhat stunted forest growth.

Several times during the day we saw great flocks of the snowy heron as they arose from the marshes. Cormorants were seen everywhere in countless numbers.

On board S.S. Asuncion, Rio Paraguay
Friday 21 Nov 1913 -- bound for Corumba, Brazil.

We had a very hot close night and the mosquitos active. I could not stand the heat of the cabin after midnight, so took my blanket and pillow and went forward where I found a nice breeze blowing and very few mosquitos. I slept on one of the benches until 4 A.M.

This morning we have seen egrets in countless thousands, great numbers of other herons and the cormorants in their usual great numbers.

9 A.M. We have just passed a lagoon fringed with low trees, along the shores of which and in the trees were many hundreds of Jabiru! What a wonderful sight it was when they took wing. Fiala got out his motion picture-machine and exposed some feet of film at the flocks of herons, wood ibises and cormorants.

9-15 We have just passed the monument marking the boundry [sic] between Bolivia and Brazil. We are now wholly within Brazilian territory

↖ [sic]

At about 11 P.M. we anchor off the Port of Corumba. Another stage of our journey is finished but always we have ahead of us the most difficult task.

Hotel Galileo Corumba, Matto-Grosso,
Saturday -- 22 Nov 1913 -- Brazil

At shortly after 6 A.M. the doctor and the representative of the Mihanovitch S.S. Co. together with an officer from the Custom house came aboard the S.S. Asuncion. Mr Müller agent for the S.S. Co., was very kind in helping us get our personal baggage off and to the hotel. The Custom officer was extremely courteous and passed our baggage without examining the same.

After stopping for a little while in the hotel we all took a walk for

about a mile and a half along the range of hills south of the city. I hope we may find some where out of the town where a little work can be done.

After returning from our walk I did a little writing.

Wrote to Stella

Wrote to John N. Drake

Hotel Galileo

Sunday -- 23. Nov. 1913 -- Corumba, Matto-Grosso, Brazil.

The first view one has of Corumba is rather pleasing, but the place does not bear acquaintance. There are said to be 10000 inhabitants [sic], but from the scant number of people to be seen in the streets it would seem doubtful however the town is spread over a very considerable area. It is the only town in South America that I have visited where one does not find a marketplace! There are no streetcars. There is not a single carriage for hire! Strange to say there is a brewery, an ice plant and an electric light plant!

There are several barracks and soldiers are much in evidence, also a mile or two below the city there is a naval station.

The main part of the city is located on a bluff that rises some 200 feet above the river. The bluff on which the city rests is one end of a range of low hills extending for a good many miles back from the river. The rocky foundation of the hills seems to be largely limestone, vegetation on the hills is only fairly rank and there is little of what might be called heavy timber.

Although Corumba has been settled for over 200 years very little (practically nothing) has been done to develop agriculture or horticulture in the district.

While there seems to be little done in a business way, there must in reality be considerable done, for there are several river steamers arriving and departing every week.

I hope by tomorrow or Tuesday at latest to get somewhere that I may do some work.

Since arriving we have been makeing [sic] a few pictures.

The average temperature seems to be between 96° and 100° every day. The heat of the sun is almost unbearable.

This is doubtless the best hotel in the city -- but the waterclosets consist of a hole in the floor that one must straddle -- and incidentally

furnish your own paper.

The hotel is situated just on the edge of the bluff overlooking the river, affording an extended view over the low flat country which is so characteristic of the Paraguay river country. Much of the country in sight is even now under water and we are told much more is under water during the season of heavy rains. This is supposed to be a wet month but thus far only one rain has occurred-- some two weeks ago!

Tuesday -- 25 Nov 1913 --

Yesterday we spent most of the day trying to get out of the town -- Corumba and finally through the good offices of Mr. Muller (of the Mihanovitch Line S.S.) we got a letter of introduction to some people (Cezar y Jose Carcano) at Urucum -- a village about 20 miles out.

A cart was to call for us and our baggage at 4 A.M. but the rain at that hour was coming down in torrents. It is now near 8 A.M. and although the rain has ceased for some time we have not seen the cart!

Owing to last night's rain the temperature was more agreeable and lower than 78° at 7 A.M.

I have been troubled with diarrhea for a day or two. This morning I commenced taking [sic] Cholera Mixture.

It is the intention of Miller and me, if we find a good Collecting at Urucum to remain there until Colonel Roosevelt comes.

I have not written anything about the organization of our expedition, but now I'm going to record my opinion that a greater lack of organization seems hardly possible! There is no head no chief of the expedition.

Fiala in a way is the temporary head but utterly incompetent [sic] for the work he has to do without previous experience in the tropics without any knowledge of the character of the people with whom he must treat and the almost insurmountable handicap of not having any knowledge of the language.

At about 9.30 our cartman with his big "outfit" came and at 10 A.M. we got our baggage and ourselves aboard and started.

The cart, dignified by the title "coache" is a primitive antedeluvian affair, drawn by three nondescript mules. It is the only "coache" in Corumba! Both Miller and I made pictures of the affair that will show its beauty (?) more than any description of mine. The road between Corumba and Urucum is awful more than half the way beset with enormous stones, logs and stumps (it might be compared to our home road up to the Eddy Place) the other half was soft and sticky from last night's rain. The journey required seven hours and cost 80,000 reis (about \$27.50 gold)

Sr. Cezar Carcano was at home and was good enough to give us quarters in a small house near his factory. He manufactures aguardiente, also Panela (the black sugar of these countries). We are also assured of table board.

The journey out here was a very painful one for me I felt so sick I could hardly sit up.

Wednesday --- 26. Nov. 1913 --- Urucum, Matto Grosso , Brazil.

I was so sick last evening that I threw myself on my cot without undressing and lay in that condition all night.

This morning I went out collecting but felt so sick I could scarcely drag one foot after the other. However I got about 20 birds. Miller also brought in a few. In spite of feeling unwell I managed to get them skinned and catalogued.

My bowels are still very loose, and it is painful to go to stool
[this sentence was crossed out later by Cherrie]

Nov 27 1913 ----- Urucum, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Last night I went to bed very early, Did not sleep well and had to get up and go to the toilet several times during the night. However I felt slightly better this morning.

It rained nearly all night and there were frequent showers this morning. Everything was dripping and I was wet to the skin soon after going out. Birds were not active so I had difficulty in getting a dozen. I however got five marmosetts (Callethivi argentatus melaneux [?]....)(black-tailed Silvery Marmoset)... 3 old ones and 2 little ones. The old male that was shot was carrying, on his back, one of the young ones.

With what Miller brought I skinned 20 specimens. But the way I feel twenty birds makes a big day's work

We seem to have gotten here at the wrong season. Almost every specimen collected is in much worn plumage or moulting.

This was Thanksgiving at home. How I would like to have been there.

I feel better this evening but my stomach is still sore, and slightly uneasy.

My wrist gives me much trouble -- sometimes painful.

Sr. Cezar Carcano was at home and was good enough to give us quarters in a small house near his factory. He manufactures aguardiente, also Panela (the black sugar of these countries). We are also assured of table board.

The journey out here was a very painful one for me I felt so sick I could hardly sit up.

Wednesday --- 26. Nov. 1913 --- Urucum, Matto Grosso , Brazil.

I was so sick last evening that I threw myself on my cot without undressing and lay in that condition all night.

This morning I went out collecting but felt so sick I could scarcely drag one foot after the other. However I got about 20 birds. Miller also brought in a few. In spite of feeling unwell I managed to get them skinned and catalogued.

My bowels are still very loose, and it is painful to go to stool
[this sentence was crossed out later by Cherrie]

Nov 27 1913 ----- Urucum, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Last night I went to bed very early, Did not sleep well and had to get up and go to the toilet several times during the night. However I felt slightly better this morning.

It rained nearly all night and there were frequent showers this morning. Everything was dripping and I was wet to the skin soon after going out. Birds were not active so I had difficulty in getting a dozen. I however got five marmosetts (Callethivi argentatus melaneux [?]....)(black-tailed Silvery Marmoset)... 3 old ones and 2 little ones. The old male that was shot was carrying, on his back, one of the young ones.

With what Miller brought I skinned 20 specimens. But the way I feel twenty birds makes a big day's work

We seem to have gotten here at the wrong season. Almost every specimen collected is in much worn plumage or moulting.

This was Thanksgiving at home. How I would like to have been there.

I feel better this evening but my stomach is still sore, and slightly uneasy.

My wrist gives me much trouble -- sometimes painful.

Nov 28 1913 Urucum, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

I have felt very much better today in fact almost normal. Last night we had a terrific rain and electrical storm that lasted for a very long time. Today however has been delightful, warmer than yesterday but with less humidity and a good breeze

Collecting I got twenty two specimens.

When I come in I am wet to the skin from the wet bushes grass etc.

We seem to have found a very comfortable place here -- the rooms we have are certainly comfortable to work in, and the meals that are served substantial. My main regret is that such a large percentage of the birds seem to be moulting -- so very few in nuptial dress -- most in post nuptial.

29. Nov. 1913 Urucum, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

When one is working hard as a collector there is comparatively little to write in ones journal that does not deal directly with the collecting or the specimens collected. And when one worked from 4 A.M. to 8 P.M. the imagination is not apt to be lively!

Today I made up 33 skins, adding 10 species not before taken.

I saw a small deer this morning and shot at it as it ran but failed to land my game.

We have had another beautiful day without a sign of rain. We have a new moon tonight.

Up to date I have taken....between 40 and 50 species here.

[Note: Lower edge of this page of Cherriediary torn off]
The next page begins with no date. At the top of the page are 3 sets of tick marks and a computation:

111	11111111	11	1913
			1894
			<u>17</u>

This may refer to the number of expeditions Cherrie had made up to the Roosevelt Expedition -- or including it

[Note: This entry probably is for Nov 30 1913]

busy day. I did not make up nearly so many skins (only 18) as I did yesterday but there was never-the-less ten species not taken before including two hawks and a trogon. I also got a splendid big wild hog "Cai ta t6" (or pe~~ca~~ky) ...Pecari tajabu (L)... It was a fully adult male and weighed about 75 #. I think I would have had a second but the powder in the second rifle shell had deteriorated and had not any force.

We had quite a good many visitors today from Corumbá. More indeed than we cared about as they crowded about us much to our discomfort.

As I worked today my thoughts have wandered very often far away to the northward -- to Rocky-dell Farm. What are they doing tonight?

Miller got a fine tiger-cat this morning.

Dec. 1. 1913 ---- Urucum, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Today I made up 28 skins but only six of that number were species not previously taken here.

We have had another beautifull [sic] day with the prospects all good for a nice day tomorrow

I saw an agoute this morning but did not get a shot at it. This evening one of the natives brought in a fine Black Howler Monkey.

Dec 2 1913 ----- Urucum, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Another beautiful day without a cloud in the sky but it is to be observed that every day since the rain a week ago tonight it has steadily been growing warmer.....today the temperature reached 94°

.....I skinned 27 birds and this evening began the packing of some of the first lots collected. Specimens accumulate so fast that I begin to need room.

Dec 5 1913 --- Urucum, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

We have had three days of intense heat. The temperature has gone to 100° here in our room every day. And yet the place is open on all sides so that we get every breath of air that is stirring. There has not been a cloud in the sky. Last night it was so hot that we could not sleep. I lay and fanned myself allnight long!

yesterday I shot, in addition to 25 birds, two very handsome squirrels that I turned over to Miller. Among the birds gotten were Oropendulas, Cayenne Rails and two fine large species of woodpeckers.

....I only succeeded in adding one species that I have not taken before.

I perspire profusely -- every pore seems wide open.

6 Dec 1913 ----- Urucum, Matto Grosso, Brazil

...the temperature went to 102°. Sitting still is very hot work. As I sit working at the table perspiration drips from my nose and chin! And I have constantly to dry my hands with meal in order not to wet the plumage of the birds I am handling.

....I was fortunate in adding five species to the list of those collected.

A good sized (about 36") Rattle-Snake was brought to us this evening. It is the first snake I have seen here.

For some weeks it has been reported that a couple of deserters from the Brazilian Army were in hideing [sic] about here. One at least was a murderer. He was seen this morning and a couple of the convalescent "Beriberi" patients were sent to apprehend him. After three or four hours they returned one with a bullet hole through his leg the other with his clothes covered with blood. While they would not say it is believed the deserter was worsted in the hand to hand fight that succeeded the shooting of the firstman. Probably the deserter was killed, possibly only desperately wounded and left to die in the woods; a prey to the mosquitos and ants.

This is our second Saturday here. And we will probably be here next Saturday evening. The bird collection (of the expedition) now numbers over 400 skins.

8. Dec. 1913 ----- Urucum, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

I expected to have added some to this diary yesterday, but after finishing my days work I was too tired.

In the morning I took a long walk to a little pond where I expected to get some water birds, like rails, etc. The place was a disappointment, very small and only a few birds representing three species. I succeeded in getting 6 little Grebes one Gollinule and a small rail . The indian that I had taken with me as a guide to the place was either too lazy or afraid to go in the water after the birds I shot so I had to wade after them myself. The Gollinule and the rail were the only species gotten yesterday that were new to my collection.

I have so many skins that I now find difficulty in getting storage for the specimens as they accumulate. For several days I have been hoping to get through skinning in time to do a little packing. Today just when I had finished my own bag of birds some "coon" came in with a boatbilled Heron -- of course it had to be skinned.

The intense heat continues, 103° today. Late this afternoon we had quite a wind and electrical storm but only a few drops of water fell. I fear there was not enough to cause any noticeable change in temperature.

... I added some seven species to the list -- including a swift, a parroquet, a synallaxis and the boat billed Heron.

9 Dec 1913 ---- Urucum de Corumbá, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Last night we had heavy rain. Today has been cloudy with sprinkles of rain this morning. We have had very little sunshine and the temperature has not gone above 85°!

I made up about the usual number of skins but it was only with difficulty that I got three species new to my collection.

Miller found an armadillo in one of the sunken barrels that Don Cesar ordered placed as traps for the armadillos. Today he (Don Cesar) has brought out another sort of a trap to be employed in trapping for tiger cats etc, the trap is made in two sections so that a live rooster can be confined as a lure and bait for the animals. We will see tomorrow what we get.

We were very generously presented (by Don Cesar) with with [sic] the great yellow wolf skin (and skull) that we have admired here. The animal was shot by Don Cesar himself.

This morning while waiting for the rain to cease I packed a box of bird skins. Specimens accumulate so fast that I don't know what to do with them.

10. Dec. 1913 ---Urucum (Corumbá) Matto Grosso, Brazil.

With the skins made up today I now have a few over 500 skins.

It was cool last night but the mosquitos were very bad as they were before after the rain.

... the temperature did not go above 90° and we had quite a heavy shower

just before noon.

I asked the boy who takes care of our room for a hammock so tonight I will try sleeping out on the verandah---I hope I'll be able to sleep without the net -- but the mosquitos are bad right now (8 P.M.)

I packed two more of the pasteboard boxes with bird skins and have sufficient to fill two more (I believe)

.. only added two species to my list today.

11 Dec. 1913--- Urucum (Corumbá) Matto Grosso, Brazil.

.. only succeeded in adding one new bird to my list -- a fine hawk-- and made up 17 specimens.

Late this afternoon Miller went with Don José Carcano to another rancheria to see what the prospects were like there for a few days collecting. It is about two leagues distant from here.

I carried my camera with me this morning and made one or two exposures showing the general character of the landscape

This evening we tried to get in telephone communication with Fiala at Corumbá but could not get a reply from central!

12. Dec. 1913 --- Urucum (Corumbá) Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Our ammunition is getting low so I wrote to Fiala asking him to send us some loaded shells NO's 4, 8, & 10's also some cotton, naphthalene [sic] and some magazines or other paper for bird cylinders. Also at noon I called Fiala on the phone. He advised me that Colonel Roosevelt is expected in Corumbá some day early next week (possibly Sunday)

I added three species to my list, but only made up seventeen skins

This afternoon I filled the last of the pasteboard boxes (4) that I have but there are still a lot of large birds about enough for two more boxes.

While talking to Fiala today he told me that he understood that a "Jaguar hunt" had been arranged for Colonel Roosevelt and that he (Roosevelt) would probably come here to Urucum.

13. Dec. 1913 ---

Today I believe is the first day when I have not added to my list of species! I made up 20 skins.

This afternoon we received from Corumbá, from Fiala, the supplies that I sent for yesterday.

What a lot of disappointed people there are going to be in Corumba and its vicinity! [sic] Many people are looking forward to the coming of Mr. Roosevelt hoping that he is ^{carcano} rich and that in some way they may profit by his coming. Don Cesar expressed his regrets today that Roosevelt was not rich, he would like to sell him this place (Urucum) so that a syndicate might be formed to build a tramway to Corumba. Then Urucum would become the fashionable residencial [sic] district for Corumba etc. etc..

Miller called Fiala on the "phone" this evening. Fiala and Sig are coming ^f [sic] out here tomorrow morning.

After we had gone to bed the "baker" and a friend came bringing a fine large deer that they had shot by moonlight. It is I think of a different species from the one we got before.

Sunday -- 14. Dec. 1913 --- Urucum (Corumbá) Matto Grosso, Brazil.

We have done less work today than on any previous day since coming here. Only made up 8 skins and nothing new to my list. I was only able to hunt for a short time as it began raining at 7.30 (A.M.) and I barely got in ahead of the first downpour. This has been the first really rainy day.

Shortly after 8 (A.M.) Sig and Fiala, and Dr Davis of Corumbá put in an appearance -- all soaked to the skin! Fiala brought word that Mr. Roosevelt is expected in Corumba tomorrow morning.

Our visitors started back for Corumbá at 3 P.M. I sent a roll of photo film with Fiala to have the same developed. This afternoon after the rain ceased I took several pictures about this place.

15. Dec. 1913 --- Urucum (Corumbá) Matto Grosso, Brazil.

...I made up 28 skins these species new to our list.

Fiala called on the phone this afternoon to say that Mr. Roosevelt had arrived. And that he (Roosevelt) wished one of us (Miller or me) to come to Corumbá tomorrow morning to join the "tiger" hunt that leaves Corumbá tomorrow afternoon. As Miller is in charge of the Mammals of course he will go.

Fiala also advised me that probably our party would stay in the neighborhood of Corumba for about 20 (twenty) days!

I will go to Corumbá tomorrow morning (with Miller) to get some definite [sic] notion about the future plans of the party.

We paid our bill here this evening and found it was very reasonable--- (compared with hotel prices in Corumbá) only 8000 reis per day.

16 Dec 1913 --- Urucum, (Corumbá) Matto Grosso, Brazil.

It is 9 P.M. I have just returned from Corumbá. Col. Roosevelt and the other members of the party are there.

I was greatly disappointed as I hoped to receive mail from home. All other members of the party have received mail two or three times since we left New York. -- ??

Miller and I reached Corumbá at 8³⁰. When we found Col. Roosevelt and the other members of our party, he was in company with Col. Rondon and other Brazilian officials to whom [sic] we were presented.

At noon a splendid dinner was served at the hotel Galileo, to the North American Party, the Brazilian Commission and officers of the Paraguayan Steamer that brought the party to Corumba. It was ended by toasts from Col. Rondon, the ^{Commander} of the Paraguayan Steamer and Col. Roosevelt.

Col. Rondon, Col. Roosevelt and a numerous party leave early tomorrow morning for a large ranch Palmiras up the Taquare which enters the Paraguay below Corumba "where a tiger" hunt will be inaugurated. They will be ~~about~~ ^{ABSENT} four or five days. Miller will accompany that party.

I will go to Belvedere de Urucum tomorrow morning and plan to get back to Corumbá next Monday morning.

Belvedere de.... Urucum de
17. Dec. 1913 Corumbá, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Tonight I am in a deserted "ranchito" away up near the top of the Urucum range of hills about 1200 ft above Urucum, and about three "leguas" from that place. I came up here hoping to find some species of birds or mammals that we had not found about Urucum. I fear however I am going to be disappointed for I did quite a lot of tramping and only found one bird that may be new to those taken below. I made up ten birds and three bats.

The temperature went to 98° this afternoon.

The ranch house where I am together with many others, that have now fallen into ruins, was built about a dozen years ago during the construction of the Matto Grosso telegraph line by the Brazilian Government, and employed as a hospital. It was built chiefly for Beri-beri patients. That seems to be a very prevalent disease in Matto Grosso.

If I do not find more birds worth while in the morning I will move camp down the mountain tomorrow afternoon.

18. Dec. 1913

We put in a pretty bad night between mosquitos and heat both of which were very bad. The number of mosquitos and heat also reminded me [sic] of the awful days and nights we put in on the Rio Negro of the Rio Pilcomayo.

I speak of "we" in the beginning because Atanacio Vilagra the Paraguayan who is acting as a general factotum to me, and whose "Mujer" [mother?] is cooking my meals and sending them up the mountain to me, came up in the evening just before night to accompany me.

Atanacio and I left camp at about half-past five and started up the mountain. I collected a few birds along the way but only a few for birds, other than duplicates of what we already have, were scarce. However after we got above the timber line I picked up seven specimens (of various ages) of a species of Elornea and in a little patch of timber on the other side of the divide I got a pair of Synalaxis ? not seen before. On the return trip down the mountain we visited the mine or the tunnel into the mountain showing the uniform character of the manganese iron ore forming the mountain. At "the mine" I picked up several bats but of a species that Miller had already taken. A little farther down the trail I shot a fine big deer a doe with foetal-young that would have been born within a day or two. I saved the skins of both! ... made up 21 bird skins.

I expect to move camp down the mountain in the morning.

19. Dec. 1913 Belvadera de Urucum

As I planned I moved down the mountain --- I can't write more the mosquitos are coming in clouds!

20 Dec 1913 --- It was near 7 P.M. when I tried to write last evening but had to give it up! After night sets in even the Pilcomayo region hasn't got it much over the "Belvedera" country.

It is just a trifle doubtful if moving here from Urucum was profitable. However I certainly am glad to have gotten the Synallaxis up on top of the mountain and the Sayornis (?) at the old hospital site this morning. It is not at all improbable that I would have gotten as many (5) new to my list at Urucum ---that I would have gotten the same species is problematic.

In spite of the mosquitos I slept fairly well last night.

My shoes (with Van's soles) are giving out. That is they are ripping at the heel. The soles don't seem to show any wear; They are as smooth and slippery as glass.

This morning it was cool, cloudy (threatening rain) and very windy. The temperature only reached 90° today.

Sunday -- 21 Dec 1913 -- Urucum, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

I walked down from Belvedera this morning, collecting fifteen birds enroute. Since skinning the birds I have been busy packing birds and mammals trying to get the collection and outfit into shape for moving into Corumbá tomorrow morning.

It has been a strenuous day and I am tired!

I found two members of the Brazilian Scientific Commission here; -- the Botanist, a German Brazilian, [Hoehne] and the Geologist, [Oliveira] who seemd [sic] a genuine Brazilian. They returned to Corumbá this afternoon; and expect to start for San Louis de Casares tomorrow.

The temperature went to 96° this afternoon. It is threatening rain this evening.

This is the last Sunday evening before Christmas. I wonder what they are doing at home tonight?

22- Dec - 1913 ----- Corumbá, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

I was up early and at work packing. At 8 A.M. I had everything ready and at shortly before 9 oclock [sic] I bid adieu to the scene of my labors for almost a month. It is not probable that I will ever again visit Urucum. (uvice sumtel!) [?] At twelve o'clock, noon, I arrived here; just

in time to find Fiala Sig and Dr. Zahm at Breakfast at the hotel where I joined them.

The afternoon I spent seperating [sic] out the material for the two trunks that I expect to take northward from here and beyond Caceres.

In each of the trunks I take 2 of the pasteboard boxes 4 rolls (1/2# each) Dennison's cotton 2 Rolls common cotton.

I expected the collection and other baggage from Urucum this evening but it did not arrive.

23. Dec. 1913 ----- {Sucursal del Hotel Galileo
Corumba, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

The collection and baggage from Urucum arrived early this morning. All in good condition.

Finished the packing of the two trunks to go forward with the expedition. Also pack and ship my personal trunk, with best of my clothes, for Manaos, where we will hope to find it sometime next March. For the clothes I am taking with me and my suit case I have a duffle bag. The personal clothing I am taking consists of, -----

This P.M., Sig left on the "Eutraria" with the main part of the expeditions outfit, for San Louis de Caceres.

It is reported that Col. Roosevelt and the hunting party will be here early tomorrow morning.

24 Dec 1913 On board S.S. Nyoac Paraguay River above Corumbá. After waiting, [sic] killing time for the entire day, the "Nyoac" with Col. Roosevelt and party arrived at Corumbá about 5 P.M. Col. Roosevelt was very anxious not to loose [sic] any time so asked Fiala and I if we could get the baggage and supplies of the party on board at once. We got a "hustle on" and the entire outfit, both that at the hotel Galileo and that at the warehouse of the Mihanovitch Line (S.S. Co.) including the part of the collection ready packed for shipment to New York, by seven P.M., everything was on board and we were ready to go. However, we were unable to get away at once as Kermit Roosevelt with the Corumba photographer was trying to develop some pictures of the hunt at the Palmiras Ranch from which the party just came. The pictures

being wanted to accompany Col. Roosevelt's Mss. being sent to Scribners.

Finally at 10 P.M. (Christmas Eve!) we whistled a good-bye salute to Corumbá and steamed up the river.

The expedition is united once more.

Miller tells me he has a fine lot of birds. And in the line of Mammals examples of the swamp deer Capybara Giant ant-eater and two fine Jaguars.

What an Xmas Eve! Could anything be less Christmas like. How I wish I might be at home tonight.

Dec 25 1913 On board S.S. Nyoac

I was up and about this Xmas morning almost as early as, I imagine, the boys at home were!

Last night was very pleasant. I slept in a hammock on deck. As there were not any mosquitoes I did not need a net.

The lunch and dinner served on board were very good. They were the only things during the day that in any way could remind one of, or that savored in any way of Xmas cheer. An effort was made by our Brazilian entertainers to cater to our American ideas of Xmas. The real spirit of the thing was however lacking. We must however give credit for the tasteful way in which the dining saloon was decorated. The steamer stopped for an hour or two while stewards and sailors went ashore for the palm leaves and other greenery necessary for the decorations.

The day passed without other incident worthy of note

The heat during the day was very oppressive.

just before sunset we passed a bit of open savana [sic] where three fine buck deer were quietly grazing! They were hardly disturbed by the passing of the steamer.

My thoughts have been with loved ones at home very often today.

Dec 26 1913 On board S.S. Nyoac. Rio San Lorenzo

Nothing of note during the morning and early afternoon except intense

heat. (110° in the staterooms!) and an over abundance of the fierce biting flies "tobanos" of two or three species.

About 4 P.M. (on the Rio San Lorenzo) we tied up to give the boats firemen a chance to clean the boiler flues. Everybody went overboard with a gun! The harvest of specimens was not however great, I got four birds, Miller four or five; and, the best of all for the day Fiala and Kermit Roosevelt brought a fine Crested Screamer. I must not forget to add that Harper brought in a nice male Chicolaca. Among the birds that I got was a wren (Campylorhynchus ?) that we had not before taken.

I made up the four birds I got and the Screamer.

Just before dark a little bunch of Capybara were seen on shore. They were greeted with a fusillade of shots but only one about 2/3 grown was secured.

Col. Roosevelt told me today that he wished me to stay with his part of the party in the remainder of the journey down to the Amazon and Manaos.

Dr. Zahm still thinks he will make the Rio Negro and Orinoco trips!
Quien sabe?

We left the Rio Paraguay some time early this morning. and have been in the San Lorenzo River all day. Some time tomorrow we reach the mouth of the Rio Cuyabá

Quite a number of the great nests of Jabiru have been seen today. Some with the parent birds perched [sic] on the edge.

I almost forgot to mention seeing several Hyacinth Macaws! They are wonders

Dec 27 1913 On board S S Nyoac (Cuyaba River)

At 11 A.M. we entered the Cuyabá river. The waters of the Cuyaba are yellow, those of the San Lorenzo dark.

It is the wish of Col. Rondon not to arrive at the San Juan Fazenda before tomorrow morning so we tie up (or rather anchor) at about 10 P.M.
----- Strange to say we were not troubled with mosquitos!

San Juan Fazenda
Dec. 28. 1913 Sunday ---- Rio .. Cuyaba, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

We left our anchorage before 8 A.M. and at about 10 o'clock we anchored in front of the house at San Juan Fazenda. The estate of João Epiphânio da Costa Marques uncle of the governor (or President) of the state of Matto Grosso. Just before we reached the fazenda two steam launches gaily decorated with flags, came down the river to meet and escort us to thefazenda where Col. Roosevelt was received... by the governor. The reception was quite impressive. The Brazilian flag was flying from one pole and as Col Roosevelt walked across the gang plank the American flag was run up on another staff while the band played "Hail Colombia" [sic]

As soon as possible after landing Miller Harper and the "Thermos" and I were out with our guns. The collecting was a trifle disappointing but I succeeded in getting several new birds to our collection. I made up about twenty skins. [Here in pencil, later, Cherrie noted: 'look up birds']

THIS
MAY BE
FIALA
OR SIEG'S
TEMPORARY
NICKNAME

I came in from hunting rather late. when I arrived at the "Nyocac" the other members of the party were all at breakfast at the Fazenda house. I took breakfast with the Captain (Alexandre Terassovich) of the boat. Had a good breakfast and good company.

In the afternoon Fiala and Kermit went off together hunting (while I remained to skin birds). They (or Kermit) got a couple of Capybara.

Col. Roosevelt and Col. Rondon with other members of the expedition went on horseback hunting. The party got two fine Buck Deer of the Black-tailed Swamp form.

This evening "Thermos", Harper, Miller and I all took our dinner here on the boat with the captain. The other_s all go to the house.

We have had some rain this afternoon and evening.

Late this evening Miller brought in a Tiger Bittern and an Amazon parrot not before taken.

Fazenda San Juan
29. Dec. 1913 ---- Rio Cuyabá, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Everyone was up early for the hunting or other activity that might offer itself. I got twenty odd birds, several of which were new to the collection, among the birds I got was a fine Tree Duck with handsome barred, black and white, sides.

Rain set in about 9 A.M. and continued for the remainder of the day.

Miller reports that every one of the traps he put out had something. There was, however, only one species or possibly two, represented.

Col. Roosevelt, Kermit and others that went off hunting, on horseback,

came back about the middle of the afternoon soaked with rain and bringing only one specimen, a Peccary that when brought to bay by the dogs was speared by Col. Roosevelt.

Miller found a nest of Jabiru with two half grown young. Harper and Fiala got several pictures of the nest and the young. [In pencil here, later, Cherrie wrote the word 'pictures']

30 Dec 1913 --

At 8 o'clock (A.M.) we bid farewell to the San Juan Fazenda and started down the river. We were accompanied for a short time by a steam launch having on board our hosts.

The rain of yesterday continued throughout the night and up to about 10 A.M.

Late in the afternoon we turned from the Cuyabá into the San Lorenzo river, but instead of turning down that river, toward the Paraguay (and San Louis de Caceres) we turned up the river. We went for a long distance and finally anchored for the night near a long sand bar, where fresh Jaguar tracks were to be seen.

31 Dec 1913

All last night the rain came down steadily and continued with intermittent showers until noon today.

Col. Roosevelt, Col. Rondon, Kermit and others took the dogs and crossed the river to have a hunt for Jaguar, or any other "hicho de pelo" that might be found.

Miller and I tried hunting, between the showers, on the side where the "Nyoac" lay. Collecting we did not find good. I finally made up some fifteen skins -- several new to the collection.

The hunters finally returned at about 2 P.M. bringing a pecary, a capavara a couple of Coati and a monkey.

Shortly after the return of the hunters the anchor was hoisted and we steamed down stream for several miles where we dropped anchor for the night.

[Note: at this point, Cherrie left his diary and wrote up the accounts of January 1, 2, and 3, 1914 on 3 separate sheets of folded paper, as follows:]

First sheet
[Note: written in pencil]

Jan 1 1914

We had rain last night but it clears early in the morning and we had a splendid day.

Col. Roosevelt, Col Rondon & Kermit, with helpers, took the dogs and crossed the river to look for fresh tiger (Jaguar) tracks. Miller, I, Fiala and Harper went out on the near side.

Shortly after going out I got a couple of fine Night Monkeys, and a small wood mouse.

The locality proved fine for collecting and several names were added to our list of species including a mun bird and a fine thamnophaline like chap with a light yellow brown head.

Col's. Roosevelt & Rondon did not get back until late in the afternoon while Kermit did not get in until just before dark. They had a very hard day and were not successful in getting any game.

We anchor for the night at the same place as the night before.

Second sheet
[written in pencil]

Jan 2

At shortly after 4 A.M. we were under way going down the river. At about 7 o'clock we stopped at the ranch, where a steer was butchered for us and other provisions such as milk, eggs and chickens we taken on board.

During the time while the beef was butchered several of our party were busy collecting & got over 20 birds and Miller a like number. Harper also brought in some good specimens. Between us, Miller & I, made up nearly fifty skins -- eight or ten new to our list.

We left about 10 oclock and steamed steadily down stream for the remainder of the day.

We stopped once, before reaching the ranch, at a long sand bar hoping [sic] to get some Skimmers. The skimmers however did not wait and we only got a couple of species of plover.

[Third sheet, in pencil.

At top of page is the word in parentheses:

(Cy Parana)

Jan 3

Just at dusk last evening we reached the mouth of the S Lor.....[Lorenzo ?]
.....up the Paraguay towards San Louis de Caceres. A short time
after entering the Paraguay we make a stop at a ranch house where we
take on another member of the Brazilian Commission -- the astronomer.
[Cherrie probably refers to Lt. Lyra] We remained moored for two or three
hours then steamed ^{out} into the river and continued up stream for the
remainder of the night.

Early this morning we got into a region where in many of the thin fringe
of trees bordering the river were to be seen great dome shaped masses of
sticks that formed the communal[sic] nests of a species of Parakeet -----

A finfoot was seen swimming in and out between the grass stems near the
rivers edge.

Not many screamers were observed on the Cuyabá nor on the San Lorenzo but
they are here in abundance again.

[Cherrie left 4 blank pages in diary,
presumably he was going to put the
contents of the 3 separate sheets
onto these pages at some later time.

The next entry is also for January 3, 1914
and it in the notebook]

3 - Jan - 1914 Rio Paraguay, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

I slept without a net.

All day long we steamed steadily back and fourth [sic] following
the innumerable twists and bends of the Paraguay. Along this part of
the river there is only a very thin fringe of trees bordering the
stream. The whole country is one vast marsh. [In pencil, Cherrie
noted later: 'Islands of trees & high stretches of land']

We saw many many monkeys chiefly howlers and a species of Cebus [?]
during the day. But of much greater interest to me were the great

communal [sic] nests, irregularly dome shaped masses of dead twigs and grasses of the Paroquets

Several of the nests must have been fully 10 ft in diameter. There are three or four (or more) rounded tube like entrances from below. The diameter or size of the entrance holes seemed to vary greatly. Some apparently barely large enough for a single bird to enter, others seemingly from four to six inches in diameter.

Only three or four jabiru seen. Crested screamers abundant. The marsh wrens --Danacobius -- [?] (with yellow throat patches of bare skin) abundant. Yellow-billed terns common. A few skimmers seen.

S.S. Nyoac

Sunday -- Jan 4. 1914----- Rio Paraguay Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Had a splendid night, I slept without a net toward morning I had to get my blanket. The temperature of early morning was delightful, the shower bath a real joy and the cup of black coffee that followed it superb.

Two fine buck deer of the black tailed swamp form were seen in an open marsh during the early morning hours.

[In pencil the rest of the page:]

The character of the country traversed today is much the same as it was yesterday. One vast marsh through which the river winds and twists...

Toward evening we stop at the headquarters of the Brazil Land, Cattle & Packing Co., An American concern that is said to have 300 leagues square of land and in the neighborhood of 100000 head of cattle, [here Cherrie noted later: ' in 1916 a ranch the size of 11 J & 170000. '] We were profusely welcomed by the resident manager Mr McClain and his foreman [Ramsey] of Texas.

San Louis de Caceres
5 Jan 1914 S.S. Nyoac, Rio Paraguay

[Note: this entry written in
both pencil & ink]

We were all considerably startled last night by the boat running at full speed onto a sand bar! She came to such a sudden stop that baggage piled about the deck was thrown down with a crash that added to the momentary excitement. Fortunately no harm was done the boat and we weresoon free and moveing [sic] up the river again.

Later we stopped for some time takeing [sic] on wood for fuel.

Toward morning we got on another bar (but without a shock) from which we did not get free until nearly 8 o'clock.

This morning we are getting into a hill country that is much more interesting than the continuous flat marsh lands. This country also has some inhabitants. A canuco here and there.

At a little before 6 o'clock P.M. we reach San Louis de Caceres. Another stage of our journey is (about) ended. I hope we may get away from here soon.

A public reception was tendered T.R. He was received with the exploding of many bombs and a brassband. One of the principal citizens put his house at T.R.'s disposition

6 Jan 1914 -- S.S. Nyoac Rio

[Pencil]

The morning was spent in makeing [sic] a few last purchases and arrangements for the trip to the Amazons. Some hitch has occurred in the arrangements for transportation of the party. The launches that were expected to meet us are not in evidence!

Father Zahm "celebrated" mass in the church at Caceres!

Arrangements are finally made to take the "Nyoac" up the river for another stage and we leave Caceres at about 4 P.M.

On board S.S.

7 Jan 1914

At about 3 A.M. after an all night run we arrived at a point called "Puerto do Campo" (as a matter of fact I think it was christened after our arrival!) The soldiers and camp helpers were at once set to work makeing [sic] camp. All day long they worked clearing the ground cutting tent poles etc etc. But not a single tent was up until after 4 P.M.!

Almost at the last moment Harper and I got our outfit together and on board the little gasoline launch _____ [Anjo D'Aventura -- Angel of Adventure] that is towing the two barges with the supplies for the expedition.

We left Puerto do Campo at about five o'clock.

We continued up stream until about 10 P.M. then stopped at a beautifully situated ranch. We were kindly offered a place to swing our hammocks in the ranch house. The night was warm. And there being lots of mosquitos we had to sleep under our nets, which made it warmer.

S.S.

8 Jan 1914 Rio Sipotuba [Sepotuba]

After a fairly good night we got back on board and were under way at 5 A.M. All day long the motors throbbed and trembled taxed to their uttermost to drive the launch and her "tow" up against the current of the "Sipotuba". During the forenoon we dropped one of the barges we were towing as our motor is not strong enough to carry both. Even with only one "tow" our progress is very slow. The first rapids [sic] we have encountered were just a little above our last night's camp.

We have had an extremely hot day.

We arrive at Puerto "Jacare" at about 6 P.M. where we stop for the night. Mosquitoes and sand flies were in evidence! We sleep in one of the ranch houses kindly tendered us. Just before retiring [sic] we had a delightful bath in the river.

The "Remington" Kerosene [?] engine on this boat seems to work very nicely.

We are getting down to hard pan in the matter of food. Rice & beans and salt beef.

Jan 9 1914 Rio Sipotuba

We had a fair night. Heavy rain during the night.

It is 6.30 before we get under way. There is very little of special interest along the river. Very little bird or mammal life is seen. since we left Puerto do Campo we have seen three or four otters and today one squirrel. Birds also are rare. We have seen a very few cormorants and snake birds.

Our late start in the morning and another delay after the midday stop put us so much behind that darkness overtook us before we reached the rancharia where we expected to stop for the night. Instead we tied up just where darkness overtook us. On shore there was no suitable place for hammocks so we were crowded in, like sardines, on the launch.

I have not felt very well. My throat is sore and I have a headache.

S.S.

10 Jan 1914 Rio Sipotuba --Tapirapuan

I had a bad night. Very little sleep, some fever and my throat troubled me greatly.

The kerosene motor is suffering from over attention. There are three engineers (?) on board. It is a case of too many cooks, etc.

At length after a very tiresome day we arrive at Tapirapuan at about 4.30 P.M. Shortly after noon we had to leave the scow we were towing or we should not have reached here today.

Both Harper and I are very tired.

Sunday 11 Jan 1914 --- Tapirapuan, Rio Sipotuba, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

I put in a very bad night with fever and my throat exceedingly painful.

I tried going out with my gun but lacked energy! I only made up five skins.

Spend a good part of the day in my hammock, feeling pretty blue.

Harper also has feaver. [sic]

Sunday -- 18 Jan. 1914 -- Tapirapuan, Rio Sepotuba, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

For a week I have not written here. I have been very busy and not feeling well. However I have not had feaver [sic] since last Sunday night, and my throat and cough is steadily improving.

Col. Roosevelt and other members of the expedition arrived from "Puerto do Campo" Friday morning.

After Harper and I left Puerto do Campo Kermit Roosevelt was quite sick with fever. He still looks sick.

Yesterday Col. Roosevelt suggested to Harper that he, (Harper) return down the river and back to New York. Harper left this afternoon on the launch that brought us up. He was glad to get away in direction of civilization and its comforts and conveniences.

Send a letter by Harper to Stella.

Since ~~reaching~~ Tapirapuan I have made up about 125 skins. I pack everything and send with Harper. to New York. I also send 4 rolls of undeveloped films with Harper.

Yesterday I drove a long palm thorn into my leg. A half inch or more of the point remains buried deep in the muscles. It partially paralyzed the muscles of the foot for some time. Today however there is little pain and

~~and~~ I have perfect free use of the muscles of the foot. I hope the thorn will become encysted. The doctor [Cajazeira] advised against trying to cut it out.

When Harper and I first came here the food was very poor, it gradually improved and since the Colonels arrival it has been very good. But there are no vegetables.

21 Jan- 1914 ---- El Salto, Rio Sepotuba, Matto Grosso, Brazil

At last we are on the long overland journey. We left, after many little delays, Tapirapuan at 12.45 noon.

Our mounts all seem fairly good. And the saddles in spite of their uncouth appearance, are not uncomfortable.

We rode for about four and one half hours at a steady jog trot. There were none of our party that was not ready to quit for the day!

The baggage train was considerably behind us. The result being we did not get any dinner until after 10 P.M.! We were all nearly famished.

Very little animal life was seen along the road, and nothing of special interest

Very comfortable quarters had been provided for us in the shape of newly thatched palm houses.

The Brazilian and American flags were tied together and hoisted before our quarters.

Before leaving Tapirapuan Capt. Amilcar brought a young soldier to act as valet to Miller & me on the trip we have entered on

22-Jan- 1914 ---- "Kilometro 50" --(from Tapirapuan)

(Aldeia Quemada)

[Burnt Village]

We had a rather hard day. It was 9 A.M. before we got started and near 4 P.M. before we reached camp. It was a long hot ride without a stop for lunch or rest.

The entire distance was through the forest. Much of it lofty and very picturesque.

Considerable bird life was evident from the volume of song that issued from the forest depths.

At about 6.30 P.M. a heavy rain came up, but by 9 P.M. the sky was aglitter with stars.

1700 ft altitude

Headwaters of the Juba Rio

23 Jan 1914 -- Aldeia Quemada, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

We got away earlier than usual (7 A.M.) and arrived here just at noon. The river Juba is a tributary of the Sepotuba. This is the last of the streams that we cross that flows into the Paraguay or La Platta. [sic]

The next stream we cross...ultimately emptys [sic] its waters into the Tapajos & the Amazon.

All day long we travel over a high open plateau - a rolling country- at the top of every ridge one has a magnificent view for many miles in every direction. [Here Cherrie wrote later: 'describe view more fully']

Animal life seemed scarce only a few birds were seen along the road. However after we arrived at our camp I took a short tramp up along the Juba (which is here only a little brook) and found birds abundant in the trees and bushes. This is the first place where I have noted the fork-tailed Flycatcher. Mocking-birds like the Tapirapuan form are common.

This is the site of a former indian village that was burned and the inhabitants massacred by a brother of the present governor of Matto Grosso.

We had a shower in the evening.

24 Jan 1914 -- Head of Perdiz Rio, 1850 ft. altitude, one of the small tributaries of the Rio Verdi which ultimately enters the Tapjos [Tapajos]

The temperature this morning was most delightful about 75° and the percentage of moisture in the atmosphere much lower than we have been having.

All day long we rode over a vast nearly level plain that is sparsely dotted with low stunted trees and carpeted with a not luxuriant growth of grass.

Animal life is conspicuous by its absence -- three or four deer were seen.

About the middle of the afternoon we were caught in a heavy downpour of rain. My poncho N G. [no good?] and I got soaked.

The rain detained the pack train. They did not get in until late and we did not get supper until after 10 P.M.

Today we crossed the divide and tonight we are camped within the Amazonia watershed!

Fiala, Miller & I prepare our beds on the ground under my tent fly.

Sunday -- 25-Jan- 1914 source of
Mandioca River another of the small tributaries
of the Rio Verdi

Miller and I left last night's camp at 7⁴⁵ . I reached here at 12.30
Miller's mule gave out so he did not get in until an hour or (sic) later,
after the main party had arrived.

Kermit shot two little Deer (Maquis)[??] this morning.

Quite a good many...Rhea were seen this morning also one "Serione" [??]

[Note: above entry last one in pencil. Entries for Jan 29 through
Feb 6 are in ink. Beyond Feb 7 they are in pencil]

29 Jan 1914-- Utiarity, Rio Papagaio Matto Grosso, Brazil.

We arrived here at about 3.30 P.M. yesterday. sleep in our hammocks

Monday morning (at about 8 A.M.) we left (Dr. Zahn, Sigg, Miller & me)
Mandioca in the autos expecting to come ahead and arrive at this point
that same evening, but instead it took us the best part of three days
instead of only one! The first night we stopped at we
slept on the ground in our tent; the second night at the end of the auto
road in sight of the "Sacre" (?) river, we again sleep on ground in tents.

Yesterday morning we got across the Sacre River at about 9 A.M. There is
a magnificent fall (Salto Bello) in the river here. We made several
exposures for pictures of the falls.

There were several indian families at the "Salto" on the Sacre and we
hope to have gotten some good pictures. [Here Cherrie noted later:
'look upp, incident!']

Here (Utiarity) there are also some beautiful falls (150 ft high) This
is the first telegraph station since we left Caceres.

We had heavy hail [?] all last night and up to 9 A.M. today. Also a heavy
rain for most of the afternoon.

I was greatly disappointed in this morning's collecting.

We had heavy rain both days in the autos.

30 Jan - 1914 -- Utirity, Rio Papagaio, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Col. Roosevelt and the remainder of our party arrived from Rio Sacre this morning. They are all looking well but report a pretty hard trip.

The entire party was shocked by a cablegram to Col. Roosevelt announcing the death of Miss Margaret Roosevelt at New York Jan 14th. She was Mrs. Roosevelt's traveling companion; and had made herself very agreeable to all members of the party.

Dr. Zahm determines to return to San Louise de Caceres and go down the river to Buenos Aires and then around to Manaos -- "in the interest of the expedition" ! Sigg will accompany him at least as far as Caceres.

Sunday -- 1.Feb.1914 Utirity, Rio Papagaio, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

There was a pretty steady down pour or rain during the entire day. Even "Father" Zahm has been compelled to admit that the "rainy season" is a reality!

As Dr Zahm is going to return down the Paraguay River I am taking the opportunity to send a letter home--which I write this afternoon.

Don't do any collecting; but develope [sic] pictures taken since we left Tapirapuan.

2-Feb- 1914 -- Utirity

The prospects now are that we will continue on our journey tomorrow.

Had a fairly successful day collecting getting several species not previously taken.

There was rain all last night and the Papagaio River is much swollen.[sic]

The indians gave a dance this afternoon . But only a part of them were in their natural costumes(naked). As they are becoming self conscious the dance is becoming vulgar. The women did not appear on the scene and before the dance began all the houses were "sealed" It was so late in the afternoon before the dance began that the taking of pictures was rendered practically impossible.

Feb 3 1914 -- Camp "Catinguero" { 18 kilometers from Utirity
head source of one of the small
tributaries of the Rio Papagaio

As usual we did not leave camp (in this case Utirity) until late (1¹⁵P.M.)

[sic]

and of course road through the hottest part of the day. We reached our camping place at a little after four o'clock

Gnats and black-flies are very troublesome.

[sic]

We have had a beautiful day without rain.

Today two more of our original party also left behind Dr Zahm and Sigg. They go back. Dr. Zahm had gotten much on "T.R's" nerves!

Send a letter [the words 'to Stella' scratched out with lead pencil] to be mailed at Caceres or Corumba [later]

with DR. ZAHM

Feb 4 1914 Bority, Bority River, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Had a splendid night without rain, but the mosquitos so bad I had to get into the tent and sleep on the floor instead of continuing in my hammock.

I made up skin of a little flycatcher that I shot last evening.

Had another splendid day without rain, and reach our camp at about 2.30 P.M. The baggage train was much behind us and did not get in until just before dark.

There is a ferry across the Bority the same as at Sacré and at Utiarity

We made about 22 Kilometers today.

The Bority here is not very wide but is very deep and rapid

This evening Col. Roosevelt told Fiala that probably he would not be able to take him down the Rio Duvida! Roosevelt then suggested that Fiala go back to Utiarity and go down the Rio Papagaio to the Juruena and thence into the Tapajós with Lieutenant [Lauriadó]

Fiala left us and started back toward Utiarity at 10 P.M. I think his going had a saddening effect on all of us, and Fiala himself was almost in tears. Of the North Americans only four of our original party are left!

Fiala is supposed to reach Manaos in about three months.

Feb 5 1914 Wats-súe [? almost indecipherable] the swampy source of a little stream falling into...

The rain poured all night long. Fiala must have had a very hard night of it on his way back to Utiarity.

It was after noon before the rain ceased and we got our belongings packed and made our short journey (about 6 kilometers) to this point.

The pack animals of our baggage train are beginning to give out. Our baggage did not arrive

6 Feb 1914 -- Rio do Color

A tributary of the Juruhena-- a rushing turbulent little brook of delightfully clear water

Had a fine night with only a sprinkle of rain.

Miller's and my own baggage did not arrive last night. We understand that ten of the pack mules have given out since leaving Utiarity!

We four americans walk back from Wats-sue to Bority this morning. There I find my two trunks and proceed to condense my outfit into one! The other trunk with the specimens collected since leaving Tapirapuan will at convenience be sent back (by Col. Rondon) to "Rio" and on to New York.

When we reached Bority Miller's trunks had not yet arrived from Catinguero but came in, with the two ox carts, about 10 A.M. Miller condensed his outfit to one trunk just as I had done with mine.

Col. Roosevelt & Kermit, after the Col. had a talk with Col Rondon, on the advisability, or rather necessity, of cutting down our baggage, had returned to the camp at Wats-sue. --

Miller & I left Bority at 11 A.M. and arrived at Wats-sue at 12³⁰ just as camp was being broken and the animals saddled preparatory for our days march.

We came about 22 Kilometers arriving about 4 P.M. On the road and after we reached camp we were caught in heavy showers.

Our baggage train got in just at dark

The character of the country has not changed since we left Utiarity or I might almost say since we left Tapirapuan. Animal life along the trail is not abundant or at least little is seen. Moving [sic] and breaking camp, together with the rains make collecting a practical impossibility. The only birds noted whose numbers seem to have noticeably [sic] increased are Elainae. "Seriama" are still with us and yesterday Kermit reported a Rhea. At last night's camp I got a specimen of the "Aldea Quemada" Heteropalma (?) also another Pipra awocopilla ?together with a woodhewer Dendrocnis?

Four less tents were put up tonight than heretofore! Col. Roosevelt and Kermit are using [sic] the "fly" that Miller and I had.

[Note: Pencil entries from this point]

7 - Feb - 1914 - Rio Maracaná (=Sauê eviná in Parsee)

Before leaving our camp at Rio do Color I got out collecting for a little while and was successful in getting a number of species not previously taken.

We had a fine night without rain.

Today we had a short march of only about 12 kilometers

Our camp is on the former site of a large Nhambiquari (?) village. The land has all grown up to ~~savanna~~ growth scrub
SECOND

Along the road I found a nest of Thamnophilus with one young nearly ready to fly. I collected the whole family and the house nest.

Here near our camp I have seen Callospiza cherrie?

Sunday 8 Feb 1914 -- Juruena, Rio Juruena, Matto Grosso, Brazil

Before leaving camp this morning I did a little collecting and was surprised to get an american "Vereo" thrush.

We made a fairly long march coming over a distance of about 27 Kilometers. There is little change in the character of the country. We find the Juruena a deep rushing stream of a 100 meters-width at the bottom of a rather deep valley.

Yesterday and today a few nests of Synalloxis (?) suspended and built about the tips of long hanging branches were noted. Today a good many mocking birds were seen.

Here at Juruena we were met by a crowd of real savages (Nhambiquaras) absolutely naked, both men and women. We made a number of exposures & hope for some good pictures.

The other part of the expedition that left Tapirapuan a day later than we, and came by a different route, reached here a day ahead of us and are gone on.

We here received word that Fiala, with the party that left Utiarity to go down the Rio Papagaio, almost lost his life in the rapids at a point known as Isl do Diabolo. [Rapids of the Devil] One of the canoes upset. Fiala lost all his baggage including moving picture outfit.

Kermit has fever this evening.

I have a slight touch of indigestion or dysentery.

9 Feb-1974 -- Juruena, Rio Juruena, Matto Grosso, Brazil.

We have remained here for an entire day!

I went out collecting and got several new birds notable among them being a fine crested jay.

We had heavy rain during the greater part of the afternoon.

I wonder how things are going with the people at home.

10 Feb 1974 -- Rio Formigas

Our march today carried us about 20 kilometers beyond Juruena. The greater part of the distance we road [sic] through a driving rain storm.

The character of the country....changing.....from a gently rolling (or almost level [sic] plain) to a distinctly hilly country, while the surrounding "scrub" forest is a little taller and more dense.

Birds seemed more abundant than heretofore.

Capt Amilcar is two days march ahead of us with his train. He himself came back for a march to greet us. It is the first we have seen of him since leaveing [sic] Tapirapuan

We were fortunate in finding a couple of ranch houses here at our camping place, where we have gotten in away from the storm while waiting for our baggage train and tents.

My poncho leaks like a seive --- I was drenched through and through.

"Angel Fall" (my mule) showed unmistakeable [sic] signs of being tired. today I fear she may give out

Our camp is located between telegraph poles 4771 & 2

Every day we see a few turkey Vultures sailing majestically about. But I do not remember having seen a black vulture since we left....Puerto de Campo.

11 - Feb - 1974, camp at Rio Oru too [?] a small tributary of the Rio Juena to the left of the trail along the telegraph line.

We had much rain during the night. All the streams are much swollen [sic]

We reached our camp at about 2.30 and then stood about in the driving rain for a couple of hours. After the rain passed we managed to get a good fire

going and were less uncomfortable. Our tent and baggage did not arrive until late, about 8 P.M.

Immediately after leaving camp this morning we crossed the Rio Formigas then in about an hour we came to the Rio Juina (a wide, shallow but rapid stream, a tributary of the Juruena as is also the Formigas). There is a small balsa "ferry" at the Juina that made passing that river a slow tedious process for our outfit.

From this point on all streams are said to be bridged.

I seem to be getting over the slight diarrhea [sic I have had

Camp at telegraph pole

12-Feb-1914 - Rio Primavera

Slept well last night.

This camp is rather nicely situated on the banks of a clear rushing brook that invites bathing.

There is a grave in the cleared space about the camp. And we were told that about a year ago the Nhamiquara Indians had killed the occupant. Apparently without any provocation had shot him to death with arrows. [Here Cherrie wrote later: 'look up']

Camp is at telegraph pole 5123

13-Feb-1914 Camp at Paca á Tirada

Birds were quite abundant about last night's camp. I shot several and made up half a dozen skins before starting this morning.

This is the worst camp we have made for Pium (blackflies) they are a perfect torment that one cannot get away from

14 Feb 1914 Mutum, Rio Mutum Cavallo Matto Grosso, Brazil.

Last night after the sun had gone down and the Pium retired the mosquitos began Campo paca la tirada is a place to be avoided.

Our march today was a short one a little less than three leagues (about 16½ kilometers --there are 6 kilometers to the Brazilian league)

Just after the sun went down a number of Night Hawks were to be seen flying about the camp. I got out with my gun and "potted" a couple of them.

After dinner Kermit & Miller started and walked to Campos Novos [Captain Amilcar's camp further ahead of the main party]

Today we passed through some really heavy timber-- timber that would justify the name Matto Grosso.

15-Feb-1914 -- Sunday -Campos Novos

We reached this point at about 3 P.M. Campos Novos is situated on a hill top in a very picturesque basin just at the foot of one end of the range of hills known as Cerro do Norte. On all sides are rolling grassy hills, many very steep and some with perpendicular sides of rock of secondary formation. Here and there are flat topped mesas such as one sees in Dakota.

I go out with my gun for a little while and get two species new to our collection -- a Tadirostrum and a Phaethornis.

At dinner I broke one of my molar teeth (lower right) on a small stone in the rice!

16 Feb 1914 Rio Doze Octobre,

It was something of a novelty to again sleep under a good roof.

This morning I added three more and Miller one more species to our list of birds

We expected to have remained at Campos Novos for another night but at 5.30 P.M. (!) we started out and rode for about 6 miles to this camp. Of course it was dark before we reached camp and we were fortunate in finding an old ranch house where we could all swing our hammocks. Before leaving Campos Novos we had dinner so the cook only gave us a cup of coffee before retiring

17 Feb 1914 Morinho do Lyra

Since leaving Campos Novos we have been coming through a very rough country -- the foot hills of the Cerro do Norte

The camp was just at the edge of a belt of heavy timber, where I picked up some purely forest forms of bird life like Lathina uninefa [?]

832 meters altitude
a telegraph station

18 Feb 1914 -- Vilhena, just at the source of one of the heads (cabaceras)
of the Rio Gy Parana

We left our last nights camp unusually early (about 8 A.M.)

The road, up to the last mile or two, was exceedingly precipitous as we came through and across the Cerro do Norte onto the high central plateau (or) that forms a divide between the streams flowing toward the Tapajoz and those that flow toward the Madeira

Our road from here on to the Rio Duvida is over this nearly level treeless plateau. I say treeless, but here and there it is dotted with clumps of heavy timber and tangled undergrowth that mark the source of some stream whose source may be traced by a band of forest. On the plain itself is a very sparse scattering of stunted trees that are even less prominent in the landscape than the great termite nests that look like rough-hewn monoliths

Col Rondon shot a couple of tinamow here for our bird collection. And Miller, along the road, got a Seriana [?] that one of the dogs had caught.

For the greater part of our march today we rode through a perfect deluge of rain. It was much the heaviest rain storm we have been caught in.

19 Feb 1914 -- Cabacera [?] do Rio Ike

We made a short march today only about two leagues. As there is said to be no water between this point and our next camp, four leagues beyond. We arrived in good time before the rain but the pack trains were all late and our tents were put up in the rain.

Before leaving....Vilhena I went out a little while with my gun and got... a Tanager (Tachyphonus) new to the collection.

As so often before, Col. Roosevelt entertained us at dinner with by relating some of his African experiences.

20 Feb 1914 -- Rio Amarante

We made a four league march today -- a long distance for animals as poor and weak as ours have grown to be. Six of the mules in the pack train gave out but relief is in sight for Capt Amilcar has sent ten pack oxen, to meet us, from Tres Burity.

We came through a pretty heavy shower while on the road.

The last half of the days march was through very rough country.

Animal and bird life was not much in evidence.

Camp between telegraph poles 6423-4

21-Feb-1914 Rio Nicola Buena

Today we had a three league march and the first march without rain for some days. Also our camp is the first for several days where the mules are finding any feed to speak of. From this point on we will have good feed for our animals. But at worst there are only three more marches between here and the Duvida.

Animal life along the trail was scarce as usual.

In a short time collecting I was fortunate in picking up a lark (or pipit) new to me and a fine falcon of a species often seen perched on the telegraph poles.

In the evening we were visited by several Nambiquara Indians. All men. To me they were of a less attractive type than those we saw at Jurua.

Sunday - 22 Feb 1914 -- Tres Burity, Matto Grosso, Brazil

Before leaving our last night's camp, bright and early, we were visited by a dozen or more of the Nambiquaras, men, women and children. They are a dirty lot, a bath would certainly improve every one of them.

Our march today was a short one only between two and three leagues. It was through an open grassy country with more or less scrub timber. It is picturesque but the steep hillsides are being rapidly eroded.

Tres Burity is the centre [sic] of a large cattle ranch maintained [sic] by the Comissao Telegraphica. It is a very pleasant place free from Pium or black flies --shortly after our arrival we were treated to a delightful surprise in the form of a pail of fresh milk! And later by several watermelons!

I got out collecting for a short time, before the rain came up and got a new parrot Ara

An Uncle of Col Rondon is in charge of the cattle here.

Tonight we have a commodious new ranch house in which to swing our hammocks

23 Feb 1914 -- José Bonifacio

At last we have arrived at the end, or rather the virtual end, of our long overland journey. Thirty three days in the saddle since leaving Tapirapuan. We now have only two more short marches of about 7 or 8 miles each to the banks of the Duvida, where we begin the canoe journey down its unknown length. The character of the country traversed today was much the same as that covered yesterday.

We passed one very interesting Nhambiquari village but as it was raining while we were there we were unable to make any pictures. Two of the houses in this village were of the conical type so often seen in illustrations of African villages with the straw sides or walls coming right down to the ground and with only a low small entrance way. Quite a number of the men, women and children of the place came out to see us. All were very friendly. The men and most of the children were decorated with strings of beads about the neck...across the shoulders and around the body and about the loins. The men and boys wore short pieces of straw through the septum of the nose and a much longer piece (about 6") sticking straight forward from the hole in the upper lip. Several of the young girls wore tight bands about the upper arms from which dangled clusters of dry seed pods and shells as bangles. The wearing of the very tight bands about the upper arm and about the legs just below the knee is characteristic ...with both sexes of all ages. One young girl in the lot had a very pleasing face and nice form -- if she, in common with the entire lot, had not ...been so dreadfully dirty.

THE Nhambiquari do not have hammocks of sleeping accommodations of any kind. The [sic] simply curl up on the ground where ever they happen to be. In their houses they of course lie about the fire.

In speaking of the ornaments they wear I forgot to mention large sections of...mussel shells that are pierced and... .. tied suspended from the lobes of the ears. both sexes employ these ornaments.

Very little animal life was observed along the march.

Ever since we left Tapirapuan the Mocking bird first observed there, has been with us but no where abundant.

24 Feb 1914 -- Rio Siete Setiembre

We made our march today without rain and indeed the entire day has been without rain.

Here we came up with Capt. Amilcar with our provisions for the Duvida trip. And we have made a provisional separation [sic] of the parts of our outfit that remains and that...goes with us.

Kermit and I developed the pictures we have taken since leaving Jurueña. I had a fair percentage of good ones --as did Kermit

25 Feb 1914 Rio Duvida

We had a night without rain

I had the task this morning of cutting Col. Roosevelt's hair!

We have finished, with today's 6 mile march, our long horseback ride and the Duvida now lies before us winding its way through long stretches of unknown forest.

Our (the American) party divided this morning: Col. Roosevelt, Kermit and I coming [sic] on to this point while Miller remained behind at "7 de Setembro" to go on with Capt. Amílcar's party down the Rio Gy Parana,

Tonight I am hanging my hammock under the tent-fly with the Col. and Kermit as we will probably do during our Duvida trip.

[Inserted here is the half sheet of thin white paper on one side of which is apparently a continuation of the events of Feb 25 and on the other side, what appears to be a letter to his family Cherrie wrote but not apparently sent -- all of which is reproduced herewith:]

yesterday [Feb 25] morning before we left our camp, at 7 de Setembro, Col. Roosevelt asked me to cut his hair! I did the job but the Colonel refused to let me take his picture after I had finished!

A special "express" messenger [Miller] is being sent with mail down the Rio Gyparana to the Rio Madeira and on to Manaus. It is possible we may ourselves reach Manaus almost as soon as the mail; but that is of course only a possibility. If we are as fortunate, as we are now led to hope, we may reach New York by the end of May. I hope we shall for I would like very much to be able to help get in the potatoes and other crops.

This I suppose will be my last letter.

With much love to all

George.

Here follows the other side of this
half sheet:

villages of the Nhambiquaras members of this tribe, men women and children are well formed and the women at least might be rather attractive were they not so horribly dirty.

26 Feb 1914 Rio Duvida

At length the saddle journey is ended! (am I am not sorry). We arrived last evening and will probably start on the canoe trip tomorrow. We will start with seven (7) canoes and will have twenty people in our party. [there were in fact 22 all told] Three Americans, three Brazilian officials and fourteen men [there were 16] to pole and paddle. The canoes are of course smaller than our canoe, or bongo, on the Orinoco. The Duvida is hardly as wide as the West River but is very deep. At this season like most S.A. rivers during the rainy season it is overflowing its banks. While small at this point it is probable that the river will rapidly enlarge. It is believed to receive two good sized tributaries very soon

[Now, returning to Cherrie's diary-notebook,
with another entry for Feb 26 :

26 Feb 1914 Rio Duvida

The day was spent in going over, makeing[sic] last necessary repairs on our canoes. There will be seven canoes in our flotilla, but four of the seven will go as balsas that is ..fastened together in twos.

27 Feb 1914 -- "Camp 1" Rio Duvida

At noon we started on our Canoe journey down the "unknown" or rather "doubtful" river. As we go Col. Rondon, Lieutenant Lera [Lyra] and Kermit Roosevelt... in the two canoes are plotting the course and measuring the length of the river. Kermit with a crew in one canoe goes ahead with the "sight" rod Lieutenant Lera makes the observation for distance while Col Rondon notes the compas [sic] reading.

← [sic]
Lieutenant Lera does the plotting in the evening after the days journey is over

Very little animal life was seen along the shore

A great many trees have fallen into the river and in many places almost

blocks the canoes. The course is extremely tortuous the stream twisting and turning in every direction. The boatmen have some strenuous times in getting the boat around some of the curves.

28 Feb 1914 "Camp 2" Rio Duvida

Before leaving last nights camp I collected half a dozen birds, and make them up as skins.

Our course today, after making innumerable twists and turns, first running away to ^{the} westward and then as much to the eastward, is as a whole due north.

One or two Guans[??] (pacú) were seen -- no other game sighted.

A very pleasant day only one little shower.

All our camps are to be marked with hard wood posts on which will be painted the date distance from starting point, number of the camp and other data

Tapir and other game trails are abundant about the camp site.

Sunday-- 1 Mch 1914 - Camp 3 Rio Duvida

The two surveying boats always start as early as possible. We, the Colonel & I, and the "kitchen" and other cargo boats go later. Today we got off about 11 A.M. Shortly after starting the rain began and continued a steady pour during the greater part of the day.

We pass several old indian clearings and one bridge or rather that "hand rail" of a bridge of lianas.

Quite a number of jacu were seen but all out of range. Just before reaching camp I kill a "Barigudo" monkey.

Kermit is again afflicted with boils!

Before leaving last night's camp I killed and skinned a new woodpecker

Just before makeing [sic] camp I shot a "Barigudo" monkey -- After we camped I took the skin off.

Our general course since starting has been due north.

2 Mch 1914 Camp 4 above "Salto Navaite" Rio Duvida

Our general course today was northwest but the actual course and the number of twists and turns and doublings back and fourth [sic] were almost incredible. We traversed a very low flat region that at no very distant date must have been a great inland lake or marsh. Just when we were beginning to look for a camping site, the current began to flow faster. We went down one small rapids, but instead of quieting down the current ran faster and faster and soon we heard the ominous roar of rapids or a ...cataract. We drifted down until we could see the beginning of the rough water of a long rapids. Then we tied up and set the men at work making camp while we cut our way through the forest down along by the river to investigate the rapids.

We found the rapids to extend for half a mile or more and that in the rapids were two small falls of 4 to 6 ft. But the extraordinary thing is that just at the foot of the rapids proper the stream rushes into a narrow gorge with almost perpendicular walls of rock. In one place it is barely five feet across! It seems incredible that a stream a mile higher up that is a 100 meters wide and deep in proportion could be compressed into such narrow bonds. Its depth through the gorge could only be guessed at.

The day was delightful --- without rain

3 Mch 1914 --Camp 5 below "Salto Navaite", Rio Duvida

We were fortunate in not having any rain today

The day was spent in moving our camp from above the falls to a point below from which we can reembark. We also got all our cargo transferred. How long it will take to haul our boats across remains to be seen.

I only succeeded in getting one bird new to our collection, but I skimmed yesterdays big hawk and three or four small birds. The white breasted swallow Atticora (?) is abundant here.

Also Piums of many kinds are too abundant as are several species of bees. We have suffered more today than any previous day with insects. My hands, and ears especially, itch and burn almost intolerably.

Our last night's camp was pitched along a well trodden indian trail that seemed to parrallel [sic] the river.

At one of the narrowest points of the river's course down through the gorge, the indians have constructed a foot bridge by laying three poles side by side across from brink to brink.

4 March 1914 -- Camp 5 Below Salto Navaite

I did not get up a moment too soon this morning to save my clothing from the termites! My poncho that I had spread below my hammock was literally alive with them as also my duffle bag, etc. I spend the entire morning in getting rid of them from my things and in trying to exterminate them from about the camp.

We left New York five months ago today.

The boats were gotten almost across the carry and much sooner than I expected.

It was a rainy morning and only a very little collecting done

5 Mch 1914 --- Camp 6

We got our canoes all across the carry and into the water early this morning. And were on our way down the river shortly after noon.

Just before making camp I shot a "jacu". A turkey like bird allied to the Guans (Penelope)

6 Mch 1914 (Camp 7 "Accashy") Above the rapids

We are camped again at the head of a series of rapids and small falls. Three separate falls & rapids that will require a long "carry"

Today I noted several Palsaria [??] also little Green Heron & Tiger Bittern

"6th of March rapids" first three of the series

7 Mch 1914 (Camp 8 Praia) Below the Rapids

Today we got our baggage tents & kitchen down below the first three rapids and work well begun on the roads for dragging the canoes across the carry

Got several species of new birds to our list. And saw a Heron (Creamy White)

Sunday 8 Mch 1914 (Camp 8 Praia) Rio Duvida

[March 8 con'td]

Our present camp is at the foot of the third of this series of rapids. It is very picturesque with three stately Burity palms in a group on the sandy beach in front.

The camaradas worked hard all day, under Kermit's direction, drawing the canoes out of the water and hauling some of them over the 600 metres of a carry around the first two of the series of rapids. Also most of the cargo is carried to the foot of the second rapids.

I got several interesting birds new to the collection.

9 Mch 1914 (Camp 8 "Praia") Rio Duvida

Today has been a very satisfactory one from the point of view of the collector. A nice lot of new forms

The...canoes are all gotten across the first...carry. The cargoes are floated down to just above the third of the series of the "6th of March Rapids" and ~~are~~ carried down to camp. Also all but two of the canoes are dragged across the carry to camp.

10 Mch 1914 (Camp 9)

The two last of the canoes are dragged around the last carry at "6th of March Rapids" and our outfit and supplies are loaded by noon.

Our present camp is only about a mile below the last, on the right bank of the river. However it is below another series of three rapids. We get out and walk around all. The cargoes are removed and carried around the first and third but the loaded canoes run the second. Seeing the men run third rapids in the empty canoes was quite exciting. The smaller of the two "balsas" was run but sank and would have been lost but for the boatmen springing into the water and towing it ashore. The two old canoes forming the second balsa were carefully passed near the shore and down below the rapids

11 Mch 1914 "Broken Canoe Rapids"

This morning our first serious misfortune faces us! The two old big canoes forming the larger of the two balsas broke away last night and are smashed on the rocks! There is nothing for us to do but stop and build one or two new canoes. That means time and the eating into our limited supply of provisions!

Evening. A suitable tree was soon found, and felled. Eight meters was measured off from the base, for the canoe and work has gone on satisfactorily. It is too early to predict but it looks as though the work might be finished in four days.

Collecting is not good. I only got one species new to our list. I also shot a new toucan but it was completely ruined as a specimen by falling on a boulder and completely smashing the bill.

Col. Rondon stood all day long directing the work and keeping the men busy on the canoe.

The forenoon was wet & rainy.

The Rapids here were named by Col. Rondon to commemorate (sic) our misfortune.

12 Mch 1914 Camp 9

A beautiful clear day.

Work on the canoe progresses probably as fast as we could expect. Col. Rondon never leaves the ground for a moment.

I worked hard all the morning and up to about 3 P.M. collecting. But was not more successful than yesterday I only succeeded in getting one fine big toucan.

My hands are sore and considerably swollen from the insect bites Black flies, Borrachados etc

Col. Roosevelt shot a "Tutum" [??] today.

There isn't anyone of our party that will not be very thankful (sic) when this trip draws to a close. There are too many uncertainties and possibilities to face to make it a thing to anticipate with gusto

13 Mch 1914 Camp 9

Work on our canoe goes steadily forward and is is (sic) kept up until 11 P.M. tonight. We hope to get away tomorrow!

Today I was a little more fortunate and got several birds new to the collection.

We went over our provisions today. The men have sufficient for thirty five days and we have enough for about fifty days. It is estimated that we have about 600 kilometers to go. During the past 15 days since starting we have averaged about 7 kilometers! (Due north we have only averaged about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles out of a possible 400!) At that rate we will be shy about 35 days food! There may be very serious times ahead of us.

14 Mch 1914 Camp 10 ("Gralhao")

The rain poured steadily from very early in the morning up to about noon

Instead of going out collecting I have sat in my hammock under the net, away from the Borrachados and read Gibbon ("Decline & Fall of Rome")

My "aux" shells are going bad.

At noon the new canoe ("the Arapuan") was launched an accomplishment that made all of us feel some easier. She rode very well on the water.

At about 1.30 we make another start down the river. The current is very swift carrying us rapidly along. We run quite a number of rapids which made things exciting. Two of the rapids were decidedly dangerous for so heavily loaded a canoe. Once we shipped half a boat full of water and came very near swamping! I worked furiously bailing.

The afternoons run of nearly 15 kilometers was very satisfactory

Sunday

15 Mch 1914

17th day

Camp 11 "Simplicio" (in memory of the drowned boy)

Misfortune still pursues us and this morning we lost another canoe and one of the boys was drowned. Today's misfortune is a tragedy! Kermit tried to pass from one side of the river to the other too close above the brink of the rapids; the boat was caught in a whirlpool and carried down through...two series of rapids. She capsized in the second rapids. Kermit and Juan managed to reach shore, but Simplicio was not seen again. In addition to a life we lost a canoe, ten days food and part of the tools for boat building besides Kermit's rifle. The loss of the canoe and provisions is most serious for us all.

18th

16 Mch 1914 Camp 12 "Cachoeira quibra Cabo"

Misfortune still pursues us! From last night's camp we came only a few

kilometers to another series of rapids. It was thought possible to pass the canoes without taking them out of the water. The men succeeded in passing four, but the fifth the large new canoe that we made at Camp 9 (Broken Canoe Rapids) was lost! As she was being let down through the rapids the rope broke and she went to the bottom!

In addition to losing [sic] the canoe we have a very possible danger from the indians! Col. Rondon was making [sic] a reconnaissance down the river and had our dog Lobo with him. The dog was killed by two indian arrows piercing his body! Col. Rondon heard the indian voices and the dogs yelps of pain. He fired a couple of shots from his rifle and probably frightened the indians away. The Col. came back to camp and later he returned in company with Lera, [Lyra] Kermit, Antonio Parsce [Parecis] and the doctor and found the dogs body. The head of one of the arrows was still in the dogs body. From its make the Col. concludes the indians are not Nhambiquaras.

Our position is really a very serious one. Provisions are every day decreasing. It is impossible to go back. The journey ahead is undoubtedly a very long one. The difficulties to overcome can only be judged by what we have passed through!

Late this evening, after a long discussion of ways and means, we have determined to try for a day or two fastening our four canoes together as two balsas. Loading our baggage and supplies into them, manning each with three paddlers and with Col. Roosevelt and the Doctor in charge. The remaining thirteen of us will walk along the shore.

It is very doubtful if all our party ever reaches Manaos

19th day

17 Mch 1914 -- Camp 13 "Rio Kermit"

We got an early start away from yesterdays camp of ill omen. thirteen of us walking. After a five kilometer walk we came to another series of rapids ("Cachoeira de boa passage") where we had to make a carry of about 200 meters, but the boats, empty, made the trip down through the rapids easily.

At a distance of another hours travel we came to a second series of rapids which were christened Cachoeira de Seite Islas. [Rapids of the Seven Islands] These rapids required a long carry. At the foot of these rapids a narrow but deep river enters from the left that Col. Rondon christened "Rio Kermit"..... We made our camp just below the mouth of this river.

We were all cheered this evening by catching two fine fish of a species

known as Pacu. From now on we may reasonably hope to have our food supply supplemented by fish. We were also thankful for the finding of two more of the food boxes lost at the Cachoeira de Simplicio. [the Falls of Simplicio] Altogether there was a rift in the clouds of our misfortune today.

(20th Day)

18 Mch 1914 Camp 14 "Las duas canoas"

This morning before leaving "Camp Rio Kermit" , Col. Rondon issued an order for all members of the party to assemble to listen to the reading of the "order of the day". When assembled about the post set.. to mark the camp site, and that was adorned with a neat oval plack [sic] of polished wood bearing the legend "Rio Kermit", Col Rondon read the "order of the day" officially naming the tributary to the Duvida, found yesterday, Rio Kermit. He then went on with the statement that henceforth the stream that formally had been known as the Rio Duvida will be known as Rio Roosevelt. Three cheers were given in honor[?] of Roosevelt and the U.S.; Rondon and the Commission Telegraphic... After the ceremony we started out in the same order as yesterday. We found a well marked path following along the river which greatly facilitated our march.

Written on
back inside
cover of
diary

Very diffi-
cult to
make out all
words, as
pencilled
words faint

Several times during the morning we came upon indian houses and shelters old or newly constructed. One new house consisting of several non communicating rooms was in the form of three sides of a square. We did not see a soul but two or three times heard voices. And the dogs ranging about, judged by their barking must have come up with indians at least twice. There is no doubt that there are many indians on all sides about us. If they are to prove friendly or hostile remains to be seen. We kept a sentinel for the night.

Our camp is at the bottom of a long series of rapids that required a long carry. The canoes were run down empty. The river makes a sharp turn here at the foot of the rapids where there is found a spacious bay over [?] which our camp looks.

After the supplies are all over the carry, it is too late to go on [?] and camp is made.

A search is made in the woods about camp that holds [?] a number of fine Araputanga trees suitable for canoe building. Two fine trees are selected and we determine to remain here long enough to build two [?] canoes.

A good sized tributary came in from the right a short distance above these rapids , its water rushing over a ledge [?]... 6 ft high into the Roosevelt made a beautiful sight. [this last several lines barely legible; referred to Roosevelt's Through the Brazilian Wilderness P. 287 (1922 edit) for some help. Believe transcription is correct except for punctuation...]

Note: at top left hand corner of back inside cover Cherrie wrote:

" W. A. White
Strategem & Spoils "

This may be a book he was reading at the time. Assume name is for William Allen White, publisher-friend of Col. Roosevelt

[Note: this entry for March 19 also written on back cover]

19 Mch 1914 Camp 14

I was very sick with indigestion for a few hours last night. I don't believe I ever before had such a terrible[?] headache! I thought my head would burst !

I think Col Rondon was uneasy about the indians. He was up from 2 A.M.

The two trees are felled and good progress made on the canoes

[Note: This above entry the last entry in the notebook.
The remainder of the Cherrie diary is written on
a series of sheets of note paper.]

I
Camps 14 - 23

(22nd day)

20 Mch 1914 - Camp 14

Little is to be recorded today. Birds immediately about the camp are rare and I have not made up a single skin!

Work on the canoes goes ahead nicely. One is finished and the other will be by noon tomorrow.... With these two new canoes I hope we will be able to move ahead a little faster.

It was discovered today that someone or ones of the camaradas has been stealing our emergency rations! Fifteen of the boxes have disappeared !

21 Mch 1914 -- Camp 14

We expected to get away today, but work on the canoes was delayed and finally the Col (Rondon) declared it necessary to take some more observations for latitude, etc.

Birds today -- I found quite a bunch of them and added five species new to our list including a tornicarius [?]

Today, we Americans were all pleasingly surprised to learn that the Aripuana River is known up to 8°48' a point marking the boundries [sic]

between the states of Matto Grosso and Amazonas. This means we have a much lesser distance to go than we expected. [Aripuana is name of lower course of which the upper portion is the Rio Roosevelt. The Aripuana has its own source miles to the East of the headwaters of the Roosevelt]

Mch 22 1914 --- Camp 15 Rio Roosevelt.

We finally got away from Camp 14 at about 8.30. After twenty minutes run we all had to get out and walk around a rapids that was successfully run by the loaded canoes. At noon we reached the head of a long series of rapids (named Cachoeira Felicidade) at whose foot we are camped tonight. The men succeeded in bringing down the canoes (empty) through the rapids. The carry for the supplies and outfit was however almost a kilometer, and the portage not completed until near sundown.

In running the first series of rapids this morning a catastrophe was narrowly escaped. One of the balsas filled with water, the men sprang overboard and but for the timely aid of one of the other boats some of our provisions must have been lost.

I got one new bird, probably a close relative of Sayornis. [??]

23 Mch 1914 --- Camp 16

After leaving Camp 15 we had 3/4 of an hour of nice going the river broad and smooth and the tropical forest along the shores forming wonderful landscapes.

At the end of the 3/4 p.m. hour we reached a long series of rapids. It was necessary to portage the cargoes for a distance of about 1200 meters. The empty boats were run down successfully. Making the portage and getting the boats down kept us until late in the afternoon, but at 4 P.M. we again started out and drifted down for some seven kilometers.

We are getting ahead very slowly the frequent bad rapids making so many portages necessary. Our position every day grows more serious; the food supply less.

24 Mch 1914 at foot of Cachoeira de Taunay

Three months ago tonight since we left Corumbá

We had a run of less than thirty minutes before reaching the head of these rapids. A long carry is ~~necessary~~ both for the cargo and for the canoes.

NECESSARY [y]

For some time we have been on a trifle more than half rations. At the present rate of rations we have sufficient for not to exceed 25 days! The men are already eating a great deal of "palmito". [hearts of palm, or palm tops] We may all be reduced to that ration!

I got one fine new Formicivaria.

In cutting tent poles I accidentally cut my left hand quite seriously.

(27th Day)

at head of Tocary Rapids

25 Mch 1914 -- Camp 18

The men worked hard all the morning under the direction of Kermit and Lieutenant Lera [Lyra] and about 1 P.M. had portaged all the boats. At 3.15 P.M. we had the boats loaded and started down stream once more. We had just 15 minutes of good going when we pulled in here at the head of another long series of very difficult rapids. Fortunately the boats can be passed down by side channels for most of the distance. There will only be a portage for them of about 100 ft. The cargo of course will have to be carried...the full length of the rapids, about 1,000 meters.

My mornings hunting about Camp 17 was quite successful. I got at least four species new to the collection including a lovely parrot and a couple of most interesting ant-thrushes.

Lieutenant Lera found a few Brazil-nuts the first good ones we have found. We earnestly hope to find them common lower down. They will add to our menu.

There is a low range of hills ahead of us, which probably means many more rapids [sic] before we will have passed it!

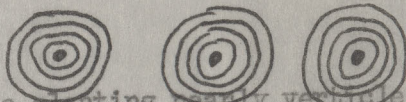
My hand is a little stiff and sore today but I think will be all right shortly.

26 Mch 1914 -- Camp 19 at foot of Inscriptoes Indigenas [?] Rapids

The entire day was spent in portageing [sic] the cargo and boats. However everything is safely here tonight ready for an early start tomorrow.

Near the centre [sic] of the rapids, opposite a fall of about three meters, are some great boulders of the quartzite & granite on which are cut some figures. The work probably of a very different race of indians from those that now inhabit the region. Evidently there were at one time more figures than are now visible, because some are now barely

discernable. Of those most prominent now are three sets of concentric circles, side by side. The outer circle about 1/2 meter in diameter with three inner circles and a centre [sic] dot.



Then on a slanting nearly vertical [sic] face just below the circles are three figures somewhat as follows



Col. Rondon says he has not seen stone carving on the stones of any of the other rivers he has explored in Matto Grosso.

Lieutenant Lera and three boatmen passed the boats down on the opposite side of the river. We are on the right bank. They found a lot of Brazil Nuts "Tocary" and brought over about a bushel. This is a very important find, for we may need them very much if our provisions give out. The nuts were divided equally among the men. They were very much better than the old hard dry nuts that we get at home.

The men also found two nests of wild bees that supplied us all with a nice little treat of honey. Then to complete the good things for the day Souza [one of the camaradas] got two fine big Pyranha fish that gave a good portion for all.

I only got one new bird but that was a fine Aral (?)

The dry season is surely about arrived. Four or five days now have passed with out rain. And the river is certainly falling.

I have taken a great many tiny little ticks from off my body arms and legs. They make dreadfully irritating little sores.

We are surrounded on all sides by low ranges of very rugged hills.

The method of rearing the brood of these wild bees is very different from that of the Italians Bees, [?] Also the formation of the comb for both brood and honey is very different.

One of the men in getting fire wood discovered an enormous centipede

27- Mch 1914- Camp 20 "Arripladinha"

Our advance today was, as usual only a very short one. About five and one half kilometers. We scarcely get out of one series of rapids until we are faced by another. Twice today we had short carries for the cargo, but were able to run the empty boats down. However at the first carry

we narrowly escaped a serious loss. Antonio Correa, Louis Correa and "McCarea" in bringing down the large "balsa" made an error in judgement in trying to get through a too narrow channel with a sharp turn near the rocky shore. In trying to make the turn the inside boat caught on the rocks and also against some bejucas [?] and tree trunks. In the twinkling of an eye the current had wrenched the outer boat loose, driven it under the prow of the inside boat that was thrown on its side, both filled with water and sank. Thanks to the fierce current they were held firmly against the rocks and snags near the shore and not whirled away to be crushed on the rocks in the main rapids below. I heard the screams of the men and hurried from the "poart" [?] where we were awaiting them to find what had happened. On discovering the wreck I immediately called all the men and by combined effort of every man (Col. Roosevelt included) working in the rushing water almost to our waists we were able to raise the canoes one at a time and get the water out of them. There were many anxious, strenuous moments during the process when every one was straining and lifting to their uttermost.

With vanishing provisions the loss of two boats would have been a most serious calamity

We were fortunate again this evening in finding between twenty and thirty Tocary [nuts] under a tree quite near our camp. They help out with the provisions immensely.

We had a terrific downpour of rain between three and five P.M. The cargo got well soaked and our camp was a rather dreary and wet one.

As soon as possible the cook, Franca, cheered us up with a cup of coffee.

The blackflies, piums and borrachados have been decreasing in numbers for several days but little bees of many kinds have taken their places and are almost ~~As~~ annoying.

In coming down through one of the rapids the paddlers in our boat saw a tapir. But neither Col. Roosevelt nor I saw it.

We are unable to dry our clothing and will of course have to put on wet clothing in the morning

28 Mch Camp 21. Mouth Rio Cherrie

We are only about and and [sic] one half kilometers [$1\frac{1}{2}$ KM] from last night's camp! The rapids continue and now we are at the head of a series of rapids and falls (6 of them) caused by the river rushing through a deep gorge between the mountains! It is possible we will have to abandon the canoes. Every one is now obliged to cut down his baggage to practically what he has on his back. We do not know what the morrow will bring fourth. (sic)

The collecting of further specimens of birds is practically now impossible Of course what I now have we will make every effort to carry through

Today I got a pack[?] of fine tanagers.....But with deep red bills.....[indecipherable Latin nomenclature here]
I am abandoning all my "aux" shells

Some excitement was caused a few minutes [sic] ago when Lieutenant Lera saw a large centipede beneath Col Rondons chair! There was a lively scramble before it was killed. It was between ten and twelve inches long.

There is a small river comes in here, at the head of the gorge, from the left that Col. Rondon has named "Rio Cherrie"

The cargo was carried across Rio Cherrie on a bridge that was made by felling a big tree that stood close to the water on the right bank. I took a picture of "Macareo" (who felled the tree) as he stood on the middle of the bridge

I have noticed two or three turkey vultures sailing high above the forest. As they are not forest birds I feel that we may be coming to a more open country, possibly chapadon once we have cut our way through this chain of mountains.

Sunday 29 Mch 1914 -- Camp 21 Mouth Rio Cherrie

Col. Rondon spent the day with a gang of the men cutting a trail around and up over the mountains and down to below the series of six falls. It was necessary to go back a considerable distance from the river as it was found to be impracticable and too dangerous to cut a trail along the precipitous sides of the mountains facing the river.

At the highest point on the trail one comes out on a rocky point looking out over a vast panorama of forest clad mountain tops and valleys with the Roosevelt rushing like an arrow of light straight away toward the distant hills .. there to be enveloped in the sea of forest.

From that point of view it is utterly impossible to say if the river turns to the right, or to the left, to plow her way through the hills to the planicea beyond. That there will be rough going can hardly be doubted

Kermitt and Lieutenant Lera with a gang have been trying, .. by means of ropes, to get some of our canoes down and over the falls. They have succeeded thus far in passing only one canoe below the third fall. The work is slow and dangerous but extremely important if we are not to loose [sic] our boats.

I spent almost the entire day hunting and was only able to add one new form to the bird collection. The one I got is allied to either Siptounis or or Synallaxis about the size of our Junco, with a long wedge shaped tail, and short rounded wings. Above it is

Col. Roosevelt did not leave the camp today.

30-Mch 1914 - Camp 21

The main part of our supplies, the "cargo", was carried up over the trail and down to the camp we will probably occupy tomorrow night. That is to the foot of the series of falls and rapids beginning here.

The work of passing the canoes advanced to the head of the last fall where a considerable carry overland is necessary. One of the smaller canoes was wrecked today. As a result an effort will be made to get our big canoe down.

I got into quite a little bunch of birds this morning and in spite of the bad "aux" shells got a dozen birds. Most of them were duplicated. I however made up seven skins.

Several Swallow-tailed Kites were sailing about over the hill tops.

Col. Rondon came onto a troupe [sic] of monkeys at the top of the divide and got two. They were of the kind known as Bariguidos. [?] Every one had a taste of fresh meat. Even the dogs had a generous helping prepared from the head, tail, feet and viscera.

The altitude of the pass above this camp is 106 meters.

2 April 1914 -- Camp 23

Iwas feeling very unwell from the afternoon of Mch 31, when we moved from Camp 21 across the mountains and down to below the falls and rapids at Camp 22 "Pedra de Cal", until today when the sick feeling (of indigestion?) wore off.

All day Mch 31 and yesterday [April 1] was spent in passing the canoes, including our largest one down to the camp 22. We congratulated ourselves when all were safely down

Col. Roosevelt walked across from Camp 21 to Camp 22. The climb up and down the the [sic] mountain was very tireing [sic] on him. He had heart trouble, and when he arrived " he was all in". He lay flat down on the damp earth for some time before recovering. Lack of sufficient food is also, I believe, beginning to tell on him.

This morning the two new canoes were joined together as a "balsa". The other canoes were all loaded separately. Col. Roosevelt, the pilots and other paddlers were the only ones that went in the canoes. The remainder of us walked along the shore. We only made... 2.7 Kilometers! An hour after leaving camp we came to the head of a long series of rapids that will require the portage of our cargo for a long distance. Instead of getting out of the hills at once, as we hoped to do, we are deeper in among them! The river's course is really a narrow rocky gorge where it runs like a mill race and wherever there is an obstacle of any kind the water becomes rough and dangerous.

The mountains on each side of the river are very precipitous rising straight from the waters edge. Sometimes we had difficulty in finding a path between a perpendicular wall of rock and the rushing river at its base!

The "carry" for the cargo was difficult so our advance was relatively very little. The empty single canoes were run through the rapids to this point. The balsa came down with over half her cargo.

Rondon, Lera and Kermit went on a little further to explore. They report rapids and several small falls ahead.

How much more of this we have none knows.

Kermit found and brought back with ^{him} ~~him~~ a small side-necked turtle. It will furnish soup for our breakfast tomorrow.

Apr

Feb 3 1914

Camp-24 1st Bivouack [sic]

It was found that we had a very long and exceedingly difficult carry before us. For a short distance the canoes could be run down empty then they will have to be carefully let down with ropes and finally carried overland for a short stretch.

Early in the day disaster seemed again to have overtaken us. In bringing the empty canoes around to the point where they must be carried along with ropes the canoe men neglected to put ... a tie-rope in the smallest of the three remaining of our original canoes. They came in towards shore caught at overhanging bows [boughs] and bejucas which broke with them. The canoe was being whirled on, both "Juan" and Antonio Correa leaped out to save themselves and try to save the canoe but without a tie rope it was useless. The canoe was whirled out of their hands to be crushed to splinters in the whirlpools and rapids below! A disaster, for we now have only four canoes!

But the loss of a canoe was not all. The cargo was being carried from last night's camp to the first falls as an intermediate station. Col. Roosevelt, Kermit and I had gone ahead to that point. Col. Rondon, with a gang was ahead trying to clear a way for the cargadores [sic...this is perhaps meant in the sense of 'stevedores'...] over the hills and along the face of the cliffs to the foot of the falls and rapids. Lera was down by the rivers edge with a couple of men clearing a way so the ropes might be used in letting the canoes down. The remainder of the men were engaged in bringing the cargo forward to the first station, where Kermit, the Colonel and I were waiting and had each of us gotten out a book and reading. We had not given much attention to the going and coming of the men until Julio (the lazy shirk of the party) came up groaning and muttering to himself as was his wont. As he put down his load I remarked one would know who that was by the groans. The Col. and Kermit both gave a short laughing assent. I had looked up and as he started

back I noticed he had picked up one of the rifles. that had been deposited by one of the ~~other~~ homen de canfiurga [??...probably means other canoe men carrying cargo....] I made some remark about it and think the Col. and Kermit also looked up and said something irrelevant. [sic].

A very few minutes later we heard a shot. I think I remarked "I wonder what he has shot at", and we exchanged a few remarks. A few minutes later several of the camaradas came up with their loads and reported "Julio ha mato Paishon" Julio has killed Paishon! Col Roosevelt immediately sent a messenger for Rondon and for Lyra. I and I believe the others felt the cowardly murder [murderer] had run amuck we expected at any moment to hear more shots. We feared Pedrinho who was back at the camp and who had incurred Julio's animosity by having caught him stealing food might be the next victim. Col Roosevelt started back for the camp, Kermit and I remained where we were to guard the stores and the canoes. Finally Col. Rondon came back and then with Kermit and Lyra went on back to the camp but left a couple of armed men to guard the station. With some of the men I also started back to the camp. When we came to the place where poor Paishon lay, just as he had fallen, and from where the murderer had turned into the forest after committing his cowardly awful deed. Antonio Correa started to follow his trail but after a few yards gave an exclamation of surprise and turned with the gun that Julio had used and that had probably been torn from the murders [sic] hands by the vines as he fled in his cowardly terror from his victim.

The finding of the gun was an immense relief. For I am sure we all felt that the cowardly assassin had run amuck and might be lurking in the thick forest waiting a chance to get another victim.

A little later Louis Correa trailed the outlaw for a considerable distance. The trail showed he had ran a short distance and then doubled back, probably with the idea of recovering the gun, but had ..been frightened away. The trail then turned and led straight up over the hills.

[At this point, the 2 sheets of note-paper headed "Notes" and found clipped to a typed address prepared by Cherrie in 1927 is reproduced. These 2 pages of notes may have been made later, indeed much later, as the handwriting is much more erratic and larger than the handwriting of the diary-notebook. Since they elaborate on the reactions of the Americans of the party at the moment of Paishon's murder, it is appropriate to include them here.]

Notes

On the fateful morning when the creature Julio (lazy, thieving, viscious [sic] revengful [sic] Julio) deliberately killed

Paishon.And the thought in the mind of each of us was that the man had run amuck. Did T R turn to one of his two companions Kermit and I...and say one of you had best go back and warn Rondon and Lyra. Not he. But picking up his gun he sprang to his feet the [then] turned to Kermit and me and said you boys ..guard the canoes and...the food I'll go ... and warn the others. He took upon himself the most dangerous task the going back over a trail flanked by tangled vines and creepers that would effectively conceal a lurking cowardly enemy.

And that was the real T.R. in the field the best of camp companions.

[Now resumes the entries in the
diary note-book:]

The camaradas with axes and their knives dug a shallow grave, scooping the dirt out with their hands. A few feet from where Paishon lay. Rondon, Lyra and the Doctor assisted by Col Roosevelt Kermit, and I lifted the body and placed it in in [sic] the grave. Paishon had died doing his duty and to his honor we fired a salute over the grave.

As we had no idea what other crime might be attempted by Julio the camaradas had an armed guard with them as they carried the cargo along the steep dangerous trail up down along the face of the cliffs to the foot of the last of the falls of this series. Some one stood guard also at each end of the trail while I stood guard and assisted Lyra and Kermit in working the canoes down the rapids.

The work went slowly and two only of the canoes were gotten as far as the carry around the last falls. Also only a part of the cargo was gotten down. For the night it was necessary to divide our party. A part guarding...the two canoes and cargo still at the head of the rapids, the remainder of us managed to find room for our hammocks... stretched between trees above the boulders along a narrow strip at [?] the foot of the cliffs.

Col. Roosevelt's heart troubles him and at the end of his walk over the difficult trail he was completely exhausted.

My stomach is still out of order and I feel much below par

4 Apr 1914 Camp 24

By diligent careful work we got the remaining two canoes down to the carry without accident, and then across the carry and down to last night's bivouac as yesterday afternoon I alternately stood guard, with my gun, and helped with the ropes and in pushing and pulling the boats

across the carry.

The men got all the cargo down

Although late in the afternoon before we were ready we came down the river for about a kilometer to the head of another series of rapids.

Just before leaving the bivouac a heavy shower came up drenching most of us to the skin.

Col. Roosevelt, Rondon and the doctor went down in the largest of our canoes. With the exception of the paddlers the remainder of us walked down as far as the camp.

Col. Roosevelt was unwell with a slight fever during the day. On the short trip down to the camp he became very ill.

I felt for a little while that I might have a chill

Our camp is on the right bank. We felt it a necessary precaution in case the criminal Julio might still be lurking near us bent on mischief.

Apr
Sunday 5 ~~Meh~~ 1914 -- Camp 25

Last night Kermit and the doctor sat up all night with Col. Roosevelt. He put in a bad night his temperature going up to 39.8° [Centigrade equivalent to about 104 degrees F] Today, however he has been much better and this afternoon was able to walk by easy stages down around the rapids to our camp.

Kermit is having fever tonight

Any my stomach is still much out of order.

Antonio and Louis were able to bring the canoes down, empty, without great difficulty.

Late in the afternoon Antonio Parasee [sic...means Parecis] hurried up for his gun called monkeys ...are in sight. Lera, Kermit and I each grabbed our guns and hurried after Antonio. There was a big troupe [sic] of Barigudos. But they were very high up and moved with surprising speed through the tree tops. I however got two and Kermit got one. They will give us a taste of fresh meat that we all crave.

Our prospects look brighter this evening. The mountains, that have so long hemmed us in, seem to be falling away from the river. The river seems to be broadening.

I cannot begin to tell how we americans all long to get to Manaos and home. How I long for Rocky Dell and all it [..words have been erased but faintly can be made out the words....] Stella and the children"....presumably this was erased later....]

6 Apr 1914 Camp 26 Mouth Rio Capitan^N..Cardozo [Rio Cardozo]

We got away from last night's camp at about 9 A.M. the boats going loaded with only the paddlers while the remainder of us walked along the shore. After a distance of between 200 & 300 meters the boats had to be unloaded and the cargo carried around a rapids for another 200 or 300 meters. The empty boats came down easily.

At the foot of these rapids the river widens out into a spacious bay and then takes its course a deep broad quiet stream away to the northward. We all embark at the foot of the carry. Only once during the remainder of the day was it necessary to disembark; and there the paddlers brought the loaded canoes down through a not difficult rapids. At one point for a distance of two or three kilometers we fairly raced along through a series of small rapids, but for the most part our course was over the scarcely rippling surface of a broad quiet stream.

From the point of our last night's camp the mountains fell rapidly away on either hand from the river. Only a few outlying rather low hills at times appeared, in the distance, to offer a barrier to our course, but the river merely wound gracefully around them and before noon the last was left for in our rear. As we left the hills the course of the stream grew less tortuous.

We are now going through a low heavily forested region.

We make camp at the mouth of a good-sized large stream entering from the right. This new stream Col. Rondon has named Rio de Capitan Cardozo. Judging by the roar there is either heavy rapids or falls a little in advance.

A short distance below the carry that we made in the morning the boats were hailed by a voice coming from the left bank of the river. Who should appear but the murderer Julio! He begged to be taken along. Col Rondon's boat was in advance but did not stop. Neither of the other boats stopped. Julio is left to his fate in the great forest.

Two tapirs were seen swimming crossing the river. Other game kept out of sight.

Now that we have gotten out of the cañon the Pausarra [?] and Sayoruis (?) [?] have appeared again. I saw one Paloaria [?] carrying nesting material. Also saw two "green legged Coro-cars" Blue and yellow macaws were seen and heard.

Our run today of ~~twenty-nine~~ thirty six kilometers is the best we have made since starting on the expedition. We all feel more cheerful and that

the greater part of our river troubles are behind us. We are now talking about "how long before it will be possible for us to reach Pyranase [Pyrineus, one of Rondon's assistants in the Commission; he was waiting for the party at the point where the Roosevelt joins with the Aripuana]

Col. Roosevelt has been much better today. In fact he passed the day without fever, but Kermit has had a high fever all day. I had an attack of diarrhea, caused by indigestion, this morning. I seem however to have checked it with the "Sun Colera mixture". Still I feel away below par! Up to date I personally have nothing to thank the Dr. [Doctor Cajazeira] for. I have asked in vain.

A few Brazil-nut trees were seen. One was heavily loaded with fruit.

7 Apr 1914 Camp 26 Mouth Rio (de Capitan) Cardozo.

We Americans all supposed we would be starting early on our way down the river. What was our astonishment to hear Col. Rondon announce that he intended remaining in this camp for the day! And that he intended to send a couple of men back to look for the murderer Julio! To capture him and carry him along with us to where he could deliver him to the military authorities! This resolution on Col. Rondon's part is almost inexplicable in the face of facts regarding our own position. Our food supply is growing alarmingly less and we have even now been on half rations for two or three weeks. Furthermore our four canoes are already loaded to the limit. ~~From our point of view the delay~~ Col. Roosevelt has been very ill with fever, Kermit even now has a high fever. I have for days been very unwell with intestinal disorder [... erasure here of one word in brackets, appears to be (diarrhea)] We do not know what difficulties are ahead of us or how long a time must pass before we reach a point where assistance can be obtained. From our point of view this delay and the trying to carry a prisoner places in jeopardy [sic] the lives of every member of the party. And the carrying of a prisoner passenger with us is a very serious undertaking.

Today Col. Rondon did not even think it necessary to "explore" ahead the rapids whose roar we hear! And only after Kermit and Col Roosevelt had protested was Antonio Correa sent ahead to make an examination of what might be ahead.

Antonio Correa has returned and reports serious rapids and falls!

It may well be that we are "up against it" again and good and hard!

Antonio Correa and Enrique brought in a fine big fish known as Pira rara (Pira meaning fish). It was about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet long in general appearance like a cat fish, but with a sort of armor plate covering the anterior third of the body.

In cleaning the Pira rara the men discovered the head and one arm of some species of monkey! Unfortunately these relics were thrown away without my seeing them, and only by chance conversation did we learn the facts.

The Pira rara is a very good flavored fish.

8 Apr 1914 --Camp 27

As has been the case for so long we are camped where the roar of the rapids is heard both above us and below us! We are not yet through the rapids just below the mouth of the Rio Cardoso. [sic] Our march a short one. Twice the boats were carried forward loaded but with only the paddlers on board. Twice there were portages where the cargo had to be carried overland, 400 and 100 meters respectively. and the boats were run down empty.

The first portage of 400 meters showed how weak Col. Roosevelt is. He was completely tired out at its end, and yet it was over level ground. Kermit is more and more worried about his father. He himself is still sick with fever.

The lack of sufficient food is one potent reason why we are all physically below normal. And a similar lack of strength and energy is extremely evident among the men.

At last I seem to be recovering completely from the disorder that has troubled me. I am of course weak.

After we reached our present camp I heard monkeys back in the forest. Taking my gun I slipped back through the undergrowth to where they were feeding on some sort of fruits. Out of the troupe [sic] of a dozen or more I got three. One of the three however hung suspended by the prehensile tail. We would not have gotten it but for Antonio Parse [Parecis] who by [sic] climbed up...a small tree that ascended to the branches of the big one, where the monkey hung, managed to reach a point from which it was possible to shake the animal down.

The fresh meat is most acceptable to all.

Using bits of monkey meat as bait Lera [Lyra] caught two fine Pacu fish for our supper.

My supper (the second meal)[...here Cherrie scratched out 4 or 5 words enclosed in brackets...it appears to read: ' saved some for next (?) day' or possibly ' for the dog'...but tend to think the former more likely...] consisted of one soda cracker and a small "portion" of fish with a cup of coffee. Not a very hearty meal for a full grown man! The monkeys will

be for breakfast

Col. Rondon reported seeing a black vulture

We are again surrounded by low rocky hills but I think we will probably run out of them by tomorrow night.

As we crossed the river, above the rapids, from last night's camp, Antonio Parsee [Parecia] broke his paddle! Had I not talked and Col. Roosevelt insisted we would not have had an extra paddle! [presumably this refers to a discussion taking place just before embarking on the river] We would have been almost at the mercy of the waters for the canoe is too big and heavy to be managed and propelled by one small paddle in the hands of the steersman. In many ways, in lack of foresight regarding special details Col Rondon has proved himself incompetent as the head of such an expedition!

→ [Could also refer to March 28 when they cut their baggage to the bone (see P.61)]

Dr C [Cajazeira] told us this evening an extraordinary story of a man eating fish found in the lower Madeira Amazonas Rio Negro etc.

Apr
9 Mar 1914 --- Camp 28

We are still surrounded by hills and the roar of rapids is in our ears! We made only a comparatively short march. First thing in the morning there was a carry of 800 meters around rapids where the canoes were run down empty. This carry and getting the canoes loaded required the greater part of the morning. It was almost mid-day when we finally embarked. Only fifteen or twenty minutes elapsed before we were again on shore exploring the country ahead to see the character and extent of another long rapids. Fortunately a side channel [sic] was found through which the loaded canoes rode successfully. Then there was another fifteen minutes to the head of another rapids where a carry of 200 meters was made for the cargo and the empty canoes run successfully. Loading and embarking again we had about fifteen minutes of the liveliest sort of paddling to keep out of dangerous water finally to bring up here [?] on the right bank at the head of another long rapids. We were here early enough to make exploration and find that there is a carry of 700 meters ahead of us for the morning. It will be possible to run the canoes down empty.

This long series of rapids from the mouth of the Rio Cardoso down has knocked a little of the cock-sureness out of Rondon who during the unnecessary delay at Rio Cardoso insisted there were no rapids ahead! He (Rondon) has been discouraged and gloomy. But he is the sort that never really learns.

Kermit has been very sick with fever scarce able to stand. The doctor has been injecting quinine. Late this evening his temperature has gone

down. It was up to 39.8° [Centigrade, equivalent to about 104° F, as high as T.R. had suffered]

On the way over the first carry in the morning I shot a fine big toucan but of the same species I already have. It will go into the pot. Lera caught one good sized Piraanha [sic]

I spoke of low hills surrounding us last evening. Tonight, there is a ridge in front of us, on the opposite side of the river that towers up to an imposing height. This range of hills through which the Roosevelt has cut its way is doubtless the continuation of the range that shaped the course of the Rio Cardoso westward into the Roosevelt.

I have felt pretty well today -- but I am hungry!

Since the reception of the Roosevelt [note: above the word Roosevelt Cherrie wrote, perhaps later, and correctly, 'Cardoso'] we are on a very big river. Our canoes are now entirely too small.

Apr
10 ~~Mar~~ 1914 Camp 29

The hills that came into view yesterday afternoon have caused all the trouble that could be expected of them. We did not get away from the foot of the carry, above which we camped last night until noon. We then had a short run to land on the left bank and walk around a rapids that were run with loaded canoes. Here we waited while Antonio Correa, Lera and Rondon "explored" farther down to investigate another series of rapids the beginnings of which could be seen and whose roar was ominous. There was found to be a very long series (about 1500 meters) of furious rapids through which even the empty canoes could not be passed. From what could be seen from the left bank, the right seemed to promise greater possibilities.

Accordingly we crossed to this side (the right bank) for further exploration. The change was a fortunate one. It now appeared possible to run the empty canoes down part way. Then they must be let down for a short distance by ropes and finally run empty down to smooth water.

A path was cut around, and [here the words 'most of' scratched out] our baggage and cargo carried down here to the camp.

Kermit is still quite sick with fever. The Colonel [Roosevelt] almost O.K. while I am feeling better than I have for the last two weeks.

Kermit's dog "Trigero" [Trigueiro] was inadvertently left behind this morning. He had gone on board the prancha [the lashed pair of canoes, also referred to as 'balsa'] with Kermit but must have gotten off again, a fact Kermit was too sick to notice.

I fired my last cartridge with heavy shot this morning. I shot at a large spider monkey, wounded it but did not get it.

The loosing [sic] of my "heavy" shells by the theft of some one of the

camaradas, who doubtless thought the cans contained meat, was a most serious loss. My gun is thus rendered of little value for obtaining meat for our party.

I said I felt well but I should add that I have an annoying cough and sore throat.

Apr
Mch 11 1914 Camp 29

This morning two of the men were sent back, by land, to return to Camp 28. They were to try and get "Trigero" and bring him on.

Personally I feel this was a great mistake on Col Roosevelt's and Kermit's part, when we are so anxious to get ahead. This morning it was found that the rapids could be run with the empty canoes. The result was we might have gotten away at 9 A.M. but the expedition is held up

A precedence [sic] is established ~~that~~ of which our companions will doubtless avail themselves when again they may wish to stop for a day or part of a day!

The entire day was spent here in this camp. the canoes were loaded ready to go before noon; but Antonio Parasi and Enrique did not return until almost five o'clock. However "Tregero" [sic] was found.

The kitchen things and personal baggage was brought up from the canoes at a little after 4 P.M. and of course preparations made for another night here.

I made up two small bird skins. They are the first for several days. A large Anni [?] bird was seen.

I forgot to mention in my diary for yesterday [April 10] that we had a few anxious moments once when the prancha got beyond controal [sic] of the paddlers. She was carried into the tops of some small trees and shrubs that protruded from the water at a point where there is doubtless a small island when the water is low. The current was running very swiftly so the results were for a few minutes very doubtful. As the prancha carries most of our food we were naturally alarmed.

Antonio & Enrique in addition to bringing the dog "Tregero" back, brought a fine Courasow [Currasow] (Mutum?)

Sunday (Easter) Apr 12 1914 -- Camp 30
MCH

We were all much excited by news that Louise [sic] Correa brought in last evening. He had gone across the river to fish and as he worked his way along the shore in the canoe found a place where a bejuca had been cut

off with a knife or an ax! It was in a place where the work could only have been done from a canoe. The indians are not "canoe indians". Consequently, some adventurous syngero [seringueiro, an itinerant rubber-gatherer] must have been "exploring" along the Roosevelt at this point! We now feel our chances of meeting with rubber gatherers may take place any day.

We made but poor progress today. Only about $2\frac{1}{2}$ kilometers. Our start from last night's camp was early; only a few minutes after 7 A.M. But at the end of a five minute run we were at the head of what proves to be another long series of rapids. The cargo had first to be carried about half a kilometer around a point where the boats could be run empty part way and then let down over a fall of about a meter with ropes. In nearing the little falls, our oldest and poorest canoe, got beyond control of the canoe men; and was hurled in among the rocks. Fortunately where she was thrown the water was not deep although very swift. After about three hours of heart breaking toil directed by Lera and Rondon she was finally rescued. She had sustained some damage requiring [sic] calking. [sic] But a great weight of uncertainty was lifted from us when we knew she was not lost.

Below the falls we embarked for a run of about 500 meters. Then we had a carry of between 200 & 300 meters down to the camp. The canoes coming empty.

Our camp is again on the right bank. and in an almost inextricable tangle of vines bamboo low trees and bushes. It is the worst tangle we have gotten into!

Today a ~~red~~ red headed vulture was seen. Also a great blue heron (the first on the riv.) Col. Rondon also reports that he saw up about the mouth of the Cardoso a black skimmer (?) Paroaria is common and more Kingfishers than usual.

This has been our red letter day for fish! Between 25 & 30 fine large ones being caught! Tonight everyone has all the fish they may wish to eat. But our dinner is of fish only and one biscuit.

Tomorrow we expect to have fish only and not open a box ^{Food} [~~of vitamins~~] before the following day.

I caught three fine fish a "pescado" [?] a pacu and a Piranha.

What lies before us tomorrow no man knoweth. However there are hills in sight ahead --not a good augary. [sic]

13 Apr 1914 -- Camp 31

At last! After for more than a month's fighting rapids we are at a camp where their roar is not heard. When we left our last night's camp we had little prospect of anything except another day in the rapids ahead of us.

We had an early start but after a five minute run we had to stop at the head of a rapid where all except the paddlers had to walk overland. but where it was thought the loaded canoes would go safely. All went well until the prancha started down, when in the midst of the most difficult part both her bow men lost their paddles! And there was not an extra paddle in the boats! It was only by good luck and the most strenuous exertions on the part of her pilot, Louis Correa, that a catastrophe was averted.

It was of course necessary to stop here and cut out paddles. Quite a task when it is remembered that they must be hewn out of the logs. Never the less at the end of three hours we had five new roughly hewn paddles. Shortly after noon we made our second start. Only a few minutes elapsed before we were at the head of another rapids. Here the cargo had to be carried around for a distance of about 400 meters. The empty canoes came down without accident.

We were loaded and on our way again at 2.30 but without much hope of getting far ahead. With what dread we watched each turn in the river to see what it held in store for us and with what relief we found our way unimpeded. Only a slight easily [sic] run rapid at a few points! We had good straight going for two hours! Occasionally a hill or low ridge would appear ahead of us to fill us with apprehension. But all went well.

At last night's camp I got a fine new Heteropelma [here Cherrie wrote later in ink the genus or class: 'Heterorcus Lineatus?']

Col. Roosevelt is almost unable to walk he has erysipelas in one leg and also some fever.

We were fortunate in getting more fish this evening

Apr 14 1914 -- Camp 32

We have had a fairly good day, but was disappointing in that we did not have all clear sailing. We had two stops one the first, where all except the paddlers had to walk around a rapids for a distance of about 500 meters. This took next [?] to an [?] hour Later there was a carry for the cargo of about the same distance that cost us over three hours. Then there were several rapids that we run [sic] that furnished us with no little excitement. And that did not serve to improve our opinions of the skill of our individual boatmen.

The days run was however good as we made 32 kilometers. About 20 north and 5 west.

A new swallow (Attila) [here the bracketed name has been crossed in ink and above it Cherrie wrote in ink: 'is plochelidan melansleeva ??'] made its appearance today. White below with black under tail coverts and

breastband. The other two forms are still with us but the one with black below with white breastband [here Cherrie in ink wrote: 'I. fasciata is'] much less common. At last night's camp and also tonight, we have heard Formicariins [?]

Just before coming to camp we saw a small aligator [sic] or crocodile the first on this river.

Apr 15 1914 -- Baracade

= Roosevelt
Rio Castanha

This has been a day of many agreeable surprises. First we found a sign post on the left side of the river bearing the letters "J.A." The first definite [sic] mark that a civilized man had been on the river. Then within half an hour, we come to the first baraca or ranchito. And what a delightful [sic] sight it was. Uncertainty was at once a thing of the past. We had reached a point below which the river was known. This first baraca was alone guarded by two or three dogs; dogs however that were friendly and very glad to see us. We stopped and looked about the place where we found an abundance of provisions in the shape of ...mandioca, rice, etc. It was thought however that very soon we would find other habitations. So none of the provisions were touched although we were sadly in need of some things for our camaradas.

In from one half to three quarters of an hour we came to another baraca with its owner an old negro named Ramundo José Marques [or Marques]. From this man we got the first real information as to our whereabouts. We are on what has hitherto been known as the Rio Castanha altho [sic] never marked on a map. It is one of the principal affluents forming the Aripuana.

Sr. Raymond [sic] lives absolutely alone and could not supply us with any provisions. However, he gave us assurance that we would find many baracas as we descended [sic]

The next baraca was tenantless that is no one could be seen about the place.

At a little after 3 P.M. we reached the baraca of a Sr. Larata. His wife and child were at home but fled to the forest at our approach! After wading through estuaries and streams she at length arrived at the point where her husband was employed with a couple of neighbors. To these men she gave the report that their home was raided by indians! In the meantime as there seemed to be a fair store of provisions and of yuca growing we determined to stop for the night get some needed provisions and information regarding the river ahead.

Our work as explorers of an unknown river is of course at finished!

Finally Sr. Larata and his two neighbors put in an appearance. Not finding an indian raid in progress we were given a hospitable welcome.

We were able to buy mandioca and yuca. And best of all both ourselves and the camaradas had a full meal. The first in many days. And, although we had not been many days on an exclusive fish diet, it was long enough that I was tired of it!

Kermit and I had been saving [sic] a bottle of "scotch" until we should come to the first rubber signs. We found it necessary to draw the cork this evening!

For nearly an hour before arriving at this point the rain had been pouring. I was drenched as usual.

The drenchings I have been getting do not contribute to the improvement of my sore throat

We found here ~~several~~ ^{SEVERAL} old hens with broods of little chicks! How nice it was to see them! How it made me think of home

Up to this point I have forgotten to tell of another joyfull ^[sic] sight that appeared this evening. The Great Dipper hung above the northern horizon in full view! Upside down to be sure, but how good it looks. Almost as if it had come as an old friend from home.

Baraca de Arraó [?]
16 Apr 1914 --- Rio Castanha (Roosevelt)

We have made a long march. Over eight hours. But the current of the river is now so sluggish that we only advanced 39 kilometers. As we had learned so much of what was ahead of us ~~that~~ there were no surprises and we did not strain to see and dread to learn what might be around each bend of the river

We had a heavy rain that lasted for a couple of hours at mid-day. I was of course drenched. As it remained cloudy and cool with occasional sprinkles for the rest of the day I was cold and wet all afternoon.

We have made our camp at an abandoned Baraca. And as we ran until almost dark it came in very convenient. In addition to finding a dry camp we have found an abundance of yuca.

The Dr. lanced Col. Roosevelt's leg this morning. As a result the Colonel has been much easier today.

17 Apr 1914 -- Rio Roosevelt {Baracra 3 hr's above
mouth Rio Branco

We had only a comparatively short run; 30 kilometers. At shortly after noon the rain began to pour and continued in perfect torrents for about four hours.

At 3 P.M. we camped at a disoccupied baracra, on the left bank.

We were all drenched as was also most of our baggage including ... my blankets and hammock.

From a morabero [?] (settler) on the opposite side of the river from our camp we procured a chicken, some lemons, a few bananas and a pineapple.

As my blanket was wet I did not use it but slept in my trousers and put on my sweater.

I shot and made up skins of the swallow with black breastband and under tail coverts.

The Colonel's leg has been much better today.

18 Apr 1914 -- Rio Roosevelt (near Shuvisco
rapids)

17 Kilometers today! Our best march since the expedition started! At 10.30 we reached the mouth of the Rio Branco a considerable affluent coming [sic] in from the left. At this point on the right bank there is a borocom [?] where we hoped to make some purchases of supplies. But only 9% of rice could be gotten.

Several Cormorant and snake birds were seen today. Also quite a number of turkey vultures, one great white egret.

The entire day was pleasant without rain. But since coming [sic] into camp we have had a heavy rain

A good many Brazil nut trees were seen along shore. They are heavy with fruit that is said to fall in November

Sunday 19 Apr 1914 (Panela Cavneira)
Rio Roosevelt

Our march today was relatively short only about 15 kilometers. But actually we made good progress and are tonight in a comfortable "baracan" at the foot of the "Panela" rapids

We were fortunate here in coming up with people who knew the way and helped pass our canoes.

The cargo's had to be carried for about 200 meters but over a well worn and open trail.

Col. Roosevelt is much better and his leg has greatly improved; but he is still a very sick man. He eats very little. He is so thin that his clothes hang like bags on him.

Kermit & I found at the little store here a bottle of Italian Vermouth. It cost 10,000 Reis. But was worth the price!

This point had been visited by another Brazilian engineer who has determined the latitude to be $8^{\circ}19'4''$ South.

22 Apr 1914 - Just above Inferneinho
Rapids

Another satisfactory days run altho it was only 15 kilometers. First our three boats were passed down the Infernao rapids. We got in our loads and were away. Much to our surprise, but more to our delight, we were able to run the "Glorio" rapids. The remainder of the day was smooth running and without incident.

Half way between Inferninho [sic]
23 Apr 1914 -- and Caraponã Rapids

The entire day smooth running and without incident.
We covered 49 kilometers.

Several additional birds were seen today-- Ani, Night Hawk ?
Our stopping place filth, wet and dark. pigs chickens and dogs contend for a place.

Col. Roosevelt is some better.

24 Apr 1914 Above Caraponã rapids

Another day of seven hours of smooth going. We arrived at 3.30

Our run was 55 kilometers.

We are stopped at the barracaô of José Caripe - who might aptly be styled the "king" of the rubber gatherers of the Roosevelt (formerly the Rio Castanho)

25 Apr 1914 -- at foot of Semouna ?
Rapids.

Our run today was only 11 kilometers but we have come down a long series of rapids including three carries [carries] for the cargo and one (here)

dragging the canoes overland. This we believe will be our last overland drag for the boats.

Kermits dog "Trigero" was left behind at one of our stops today. He had probably gone off into the bush and no one noticed when he did not get into the boats with us. It is now probable that he will be found by some of the seringeros [sic - rubber gatherers -] that are going up the river for the seasons work

Sunday 26 Apr 1914 { at Camp of ...[?]
 at mouth of Aripuano
 (its junction with the
 Rio Roosevelt

At last we have reached the end (at least the virtual end) of our long hard journey, the junction of the Rio Roosevelt and the Aripuana at the camp of Lieutenant Pyra.....[Pyrenius] who was sent with provisions to this point as it was felt that it probably would be one of these two rivers where we would come out.

We arrived at about 12.30 P.M.

One of the most pleasant sights was to see the stars and stripes floating side by side with the Brazilian flag! We were greeted enthusiastically by Lieutenant Pyreneis [sic] and his companions. The occasion was immediately celebrated with a bottle of champagne.

Col. Roosevelt continues very unwell and without appetite.

Pyreneis [sic] has been waiting since Mch 23.

27 Apr 1914 { San João, Rio Roosevelt
 on board S.S. Cidade de Manaus

At last we are in quarters where we care little if it rains or is dry! We are in civilized quarters.

How we enjoyed our breakfast of potatoes (fried) and fresh) beef steak!

Our journey down from last nights camp was of $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours duration. The canoe was heavily laden but we had Sr. Jose Caripe with us as guide and we came tracing [sic] through the Matammatá rapids. The last of the dangerous rapids we shall encounter. In fact the trip is our last by canoe.

The name matammatá is the Brazilian for the Mata mata turtle. Some great flocks of Tapera (?) swallows were seen today. They were not seen higher up.

Sr. Caripé owns the three large islands in the river at this point. He has a nice house -- lighted with acetelene [sic] gas. And that on an enormous river that has never been charted.

Col. Roosevelt has comfortable quarters here on the steamer. He seems really better tonight.

It seems very strange to be writing under a bright electric light and not by with a sputtering candle for light.

Every courtesy is being shown us by the S.S. officers.

28 Apr 1914 On board S.S. Cidade de Manaus

Rondon, Lyra, Pyraneus [sic] and the remainder of the camaradas came down from the mouth of the Rio Aripuana to S. João. They arrived between 12 (noon) and 1 P.M. At 20 minutes [sic] of 2 o'clock the "Cidade de Manaus" was under way. The throbbing of her engines seems good to us. She is a fast boat and is carrying us rapidly toward the Amazon. During the afternoon we passed through a heavy rain and wind squall, but our baggage is still dry as ~~we~~ ^{ARE WE} ourselves! The disagreeable troubles and discomforts of our long trip are about over.

The southern Cross and the Great Dipper are both visible this evening. The north star will soon be visible as the dipper hangs high.

Col. Roosevelt does not improve nor gain strength as rapidly as we hoped.

Water fowl (Ducks, terns, Gulls, etc) are conspicuous by their absence only.

Col Rondon gave me a box of Matte tablets [Maté tea] this evening.

This morning I collected a parrot (Pianius) [...here Cherrie in ink later noted the formal term 'menstruces'] new to the collection.

The Senhora Caripe has sent her living Barigurdo monkey as a contribution to our collections.

on board S.S. "Cidade de Manaus"

29 Apr 1914

We entered the Madeira river about 3 A.M. The landscape varies but little from that of the lower stretches of the Roosevelt. But the waters are yellow and not clear as in the latter river. Also of course it is larger.

The gulls and terns I have looked for are still missing.

At 2.30 in the afternoon we enter the Amazon and turn up stream toward the Rio Negro and Manaos. The Amazon differs only in being yet a little larger.

At about 4.30 P.M. we stopped at the little village of Matiri where there is a telegraph station and where word was sent to Manaus announcing our coming.

30 Apr 1914 -- City of Manaus [above this entry Cherrie later wrote in]
[ink "Palacete"]

At 2.30 this morning the little Cidade de Manaus drew up to the wharf where quite a little crowd of officials and citizens (considering the hour) awaited to greet the arrival of Col. Roosevelt.

An ambulance was in waiting for the Colonel while Kermit and I and the Brazilian officials of the expedition were brought by auto to the Palacete

I found letters from Stella the last dated Dec 13 1913 . All

~~1-May-1914~~ [This date-entry scratched out, and from this point the diary
resumes in ink]

As soon as we could get breakfast Kermit and I started down to the city to make inquiries about steamers home; and for other arrangements looking toward getting out of this country as soon as possible.

We took all our photo films to a photographer for developement. [sic]

Kermit and I had our pictures taken before we had our hair cut and beards removed!

There were a hundred and one little errands to attend to so that the day was a busy one.

In the evening we attended a moveing [sic] picture show. The theatre building was roomy and comfortable ...with the temperature kept...delightfully cool by an abundance of electric fans.

The Booth S.S. Co. have placed at Col. Roosevelt's disposition passage on the S.S. Dunstan that sails tomorrow! Our stay in the city will be short!

The Governor and many other state and municipal officials visited, to pay their respects, the colonel this morning.

He (the Colonel) was completely exhausted after the interview.

1 May 1914 -- "S.S. Dunstan" Rio Amazon.

This morning one of the Manaus daily papers came out with an attack on Col. Roosevelt while Kermit and I came in for a full share of their venom. But in our case the burden of their complaint was ~~against~~ that we had dared to appear on their streets in the clothes in which we had arrived from the expedition and the fact that we had not shaved and had our shoes polished before showing ourselves!

At a little after 12 o'clock we were on board the Dunstan. Shortly thereafter she pointed her head down the river and we were at last on our way homeward.

Just before starting we ~~were~~ the doctor operated on Col. Roosevelt. --- opening the ulcer on the buttock.

The ulcers on my wrist do not seem to be healing as I hoped they would.

Manaos is doubtless a beautiful ^{-L&K} place but we are all glad to be getting on toward home.

Miller was sent for last evening and came in early this morning.

2 May 1914 -- S.S. Dunstan Obidos Rio Amazon

Little of interest today. There was the endless green shores relieved by occasional native bahias. Quite a good many Hoatzin were seen. At about 5 P.M. we reached the town of Obidos. Here we take on about 400 tons of Brazil Nuts.

Just before dark the S.S. Cidade de Manaos steamed in with the Brazilian members of the Roosevelt-Rondon expedition.

Sunday 3 May 1914 S.S. Dunstan Rio Amazon

Last night Kermit, Miller and I all went ashore to sleep in order to get away from the noise of the winches and to have a place to swing our hammocks where the rain would not drive us out. We found a fairly good place kept by an "isralito" [probably Jew]

It was almost 5 P.M. before we had gotten in the 400 odd tons of nuts; and were steaming on down toward Para.

The "Cidade de Manaos" left Obidos. ahead of us, At about 9 A.M. so as to be able to arrive at Para as soon as we do.

Quite a good many Hoatzin were seen at various points today.

4 May 1914 -- S.S. Dunstan Rio Amazon

Last night was not altogether a pleasant one. The Dunstan, not being a regular passenger boat is not fitted with accomidations [sic] for travelers. Col. Roosevelt has the Captains room. Kermit, Miller and I have to find sutiable [sic] places for our hammocks where we can. The night was not a cloudless one and we slept part time in our hammocks and part time on the dining saloon floor. The time in each place was governed by the showers! We held our way straight down stream all day long.

5 May 1914

[There is no entry after the date of 5 May 1914. The party reached Belém (in 1914 called Para) on May 5. On May 7, 1914 the party transferred to the ocean-going steamer S.S. Aidan and departed for the United States. The party arrived in New York on May 19, 1914.]

Copy of a speech written by Cherrie and found in
the Diary of the River of Doubt trip

Roosevelt in the Field

The title of my address has been given as "Roosevelt in the Field", but I think that what I have in mind to say might perhaps better be expressed as "Roosevelt as a Camp Companion".

During the forty odd years in which I have wandered about in far away places, I have had companions - good, bad and indifferent. Only one - Theodore Roosevelt - stands alone in my memory as the ideal camp mate.

And now I am going to speak of some of the camp incidents of the memorable River of Doubt expedition, that proved all but fatal to the best camp companion I have ever had. Field work and camp activities, in his company, began with the expedition's arrival at Corumba in the heart of Brazil 2000 miles up the Paraguay River. As we ascended that river bordered by it's vast alluvial plains, stretching to far away horizons on every side, We marvelled at the great hordes of water fowl - countless thousands of herons, ibises, cormorants, ducks, terns, that find a refuge here in this - one of Nature's great sanctuaries.

Our collections were being made for the New York Museum of Natural History, but, notwithstanding the seemingly inexhaustible number of birds, indiscriminate slaughter was frowned upon by the Colonel. On the one occasion during the entire expedition, when I saw him really angry it was in rebuke of the wanton killing of some three or four cormorants, from the thousands on the river ahead of our advancing boat.

I have never known anyone so avid for a knowledge of Nature's creatures. Day after day the Colonel would ply me with questions regarding the birds and other animals that were being collected and preserved. And he wanted to know all about them; their technical relations to one another, their geographical distribution, their food, their voices, their songs and calls, and their habits - especially the last. In short he wanted to know their life histories from a to z.

But let us get back to camp companionship.[sic] There was no camp duty that the Colonel shirked. He stood ready and willing to do his share. And in the evenings, after all was ship-shape for the night, when we gathered about the camp-fire to discuss the day's happenings, there was sure to come a lull in the talk when each one was busy with his own thoughts. But sooner or later some one would ask for a story from the Colonel's seemingly endless store. I remember an amusing incident that occurred one evening when a story was in progress. I lay in my hammock, listening and watching the Colonel's little group that was gathered about one of the camp tables on which two or three candles sputtered. All were intent on his story, when a huge centipede crawled on the table top! Who saw it first I don't know because, apparently with one accord, all fell backward in their chairs their feet overturning the table. Then what a scramble there was! That particular story of the Colonel's was never

finished.

During the weeks of trying hardship while descending the River of Doubt, ...when the fates seemed all against us the Colonel was stricken ill. But despite fever and dysentery there was never one word of complaint. He never failed, day after day, to make inquiry about his camp companions including the canoe men and camp helpers. And when the darkest hour came, when we reached the point on the river where it cuts its course through a narrow canon that seemed to offer insuperable difficulties for the passing of our canoes, and where our Brazilian companions advised abandoning the canoes that every one might fight for himself through the forest, that night the Colonel too sick, too weak, to walk himself, called his son Kermit and me to his side and said. "Boys I realize that some of us are not going to finish this journey and I know that I am only a burden to the rest of you. Cherrie, I want you and Kermit to go on, I want you to get out - I shall stop here."

And that was the camp companion, the Theodore Roosevelt that I know.

[Signed] George K. Cherrie

May 26, 1927

November 24, 1975

Mr. Hubert B. Cherrie
Kutz Road Box 59 R.D. 1
Fleetwood, Pennsylvania, 19522

Dear Mr. Cherrie:

Thanks very much for your letter answering the two questions. Yes, I'll certainly make it a point to visit you within (I hope) the next several weeks. I'll be sure to telephone you from here in Chicago before setting our East, though, to make sure you'll be at home at the time I should arrive.

I am attaching a complete transcription of your Father's diary of the River of Doubt trip, and I hope you will enjoy reading it. Since I was making a copy of ~~xx~~ it for myself and also for the American Museum, I thought I should also slip in a carbon for you too.

Since your Father was not the Champion Speller of Vermont (!) I have placed in square brackets the word "sic" after each mis-spelling. This is purely for my reference later, when I incorporate much of his diary into my manuscript --so that I can distinguish between his spelling errors and my own! The toughest part of the transcribing was on the Latin names for birds, etc. Here and there I literally had to guess.

The collection of letters are being sent back by insured mail this week. I got a clear copy of the Des Moines register article you had mentioned. The present owner of Rocky Dell has asked me to drop in on them when I visit Newfane.

Now, do you mind a few more questions on things that came up in the diary? There's no rush to get back to me on these.

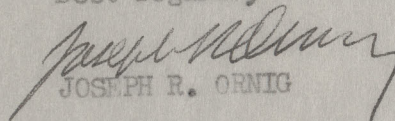
1. There are several references to "Thermos", a nickname for one of his companions on the trip. I think this might be Fiala or Jacob Sigg. Did you ever recall your Father using that nickname?
2. When the reached the headwaters of the River of Doubt, G.K. compared the river's width to that of the West River. Is thata river near Rocky Dell?
3. While collecting specimens in and around Corumba, Brazil, he referred to one road as "as bad at that leading up to the Eddy place". Was that a neighboring farm near Rocky Dell?
4. Then, while on the river, they found some bees-nests and got honey. He referred to the rearing of thebrood (of bees) to be different from that of the "Italians bees". Do you know what he was referring to?

5. Do you remember when you father learned of T.R.'s death (Jan 6, 1919) ?
If you remember, could you describe his reaction to it, etc.

I'll try to get some prints made of several of the 52 photos which G.K. took while on the trip, most of which I don't suppose were ever published. I'll get some copies for you too, if you like.

No rush on the questions, and I'll be in touch with you later.

Best regards,


JOSEPH R. ORNIG