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MOUNTAIN MEADOW MASSACRE.

COLLEGE-BLOODED SLAUGHTER OF ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY EMIGRANTS ON THE PLAINS - A GRAPHIC SKETCH OF THE CRIME AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.

From the New York Herald, January 24.

In the spring of 1856 Elder Perry P. Pratt, of Mormon settlement, seduced from her home the wife of Mr. H. H. McLean, a merchant, of San Francisco, to make her his seventh wife.

On her flight the deserted husband sent his two children, a very interesting boy and girl, to his father-law in New Orleans. Some time after the mother left Salt Lake, got the children and started back to Utah with them.

On discovering this the doubly injured father started in pursuit. He came to New York, heard of Pratt here and tracked him from this point to St. Louis. There he lost him. Then he left for New Orleans, where he heard his wife and children were then going to Texas to Salt Lake, so he went to Texas. In his search for the missing ones he had learned that his wife had assumed the name of Mrs. P. J. Parker, and while traveling through Texas he contrived to intercept some letters which he found bearing this superscription. On breaking the seal he saw they were written in cipher. He succeeded in finding the key to the cipher, however, and discovered that the letters were from Pratt and contained a request that the caravan with Mrs. McLean and her children were travelling should go to the neighborhood of Fort Gibson, in the Cherokee Nation, Confined and imprisoned. Mr. McLean returned to New Orleans, where he started for Fort Gibson, assuming the name of Johnson. He made known his secret to the officers of the fort only. Here he learned that the fugitives had been captured not only his wife and children, but the scoundrel who in the name of religion had enticed them from their home.

The United States Marshal sent the fugitives to the military camp at Ogden for trial. The case evoked intense excitement at the time, and the populace clamored for vengeance on the wretch who had deliberately plotted and planned the ruin of his prosperous and happy family. The cipher letters were produced in Court, and Mr. McLean told such a pathetic story of his wrongs that Pratt only escaped lynching by being concealed in the jail.

The trial that was pending to punish Pratt. Early the next morning the Mormon elder was dismissed and left the place secretly, but McLean tracked and pursued him, overtook him on his road and killed him in his tracks.

With his children McLean returned to New Orleans, and the wife having meanwhile become a raving maniac was sent to an insane asylum.

It was this event, combined with the unpropitious appointment of her territorial officers by the Government, that led to the horrible massacre of emigrants at Mountain Meadow soon after—eight months for such a terrible crime. Piece by piece came to light the facts concerning this monstrous slaughter, for participation in which John D. Lee was sentenced last October to suffer the extreme penalty of the law.

Enriched by the earlier discovery in the gold mines of California, the Mormons were returning to their homes with light hearts and full pockets to take back to the land of gold their household goods, wives, children and friends. The story of their success was told in all the papers, and their neighbors and very soon a large party got ready and set out, liberally provided for the trip across the Continent. The emigrant train must have numbered about 140 souls in all, and in company with their baggage, furniture and camp equipments were eight beyond all comparison with the emigrant trains then moving westward. The men were well-armed for defence against roving bands of Indians, and they carried a supply of a safe and comfortable journey and a prosperous future in their intended new home in the gold fields. Before they had proceeded very far into the Territory of Utah the Mormons became informed of the reports and rumors of an excellent opportunity for revenge and plunder, called a council, at which it was determined to order out the Mormon militia, "to follow and attack the emigrants, and let the arrows of the Almighty drip their blood." Meanwhile the Mormons assured their unsuspecting victims by pretended friendly advice. They told them it was too late to cross the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and that the emigrant route was in the spring of 1857, and the emigrants were told their better way would be to go through Southern Utah and Nevada to Los Angeles. They proceeded as advised and passed the mountains in a few days through the settlements of the Latter Day Saints. About the fourth day after passing through Cedar City the emigrant band camped in a little valley well grassed and watered and sheltered by hills on either side. It was a beautiful spot for camp, and they admired its natural advantages, looking upon it as an earthly paradise which was soon to be their a field of fruitful slaughter. While in camp at this point their first intimation of danger came in the form of what they believed to be an Indian surprise at the rear. The attack was sudden, but was met with the promptness that characterized the front ranks of the party. With great rapidity they parked their wagons in lines of breastworks, behind which were gathered their women and children. They dug trenches and arranged matters so that some of the men were procured without leaving the shelter this provided. Then, with their old long rifles, they kept at bay the attacking party without loss beyond that sustained in the capture of their animals, which were run off at the first fire.

A PROTRACTED SIEGE. For five days the assault was kept up and the defence sustained without any definite result being arrived at. All this time the appearance indicated that the attacking party were savages. They were dressed and painted like Indians and intimated their ways so well as to completely deceive the emigrants. But while there were professedly a few Indians among the lot, the majority of those who bargained the unfortunate travellers were members of the Utah militia, headed by Major John D. Lee. While the siege lasted some of the emigrants managed to escape by picking their way out and indulging in other pastimes when, temporarily re-

leased from duty. At last, finding the work of no avail, Lee sent word back to the Indians, who were wholly successful in their operations.

On the 26th of January, 1857, the militia, ordered out reinforcements, with instructions to kill going to Lee's assistance that "all but the little children of the party were to be killed." Haight at this time had just returned from "military headquarters" at Parowan, where a military council had been held, and he was ordered to kill all the men of the "Church" devoting the company to instruction. It may be possible that Lee's miserable existence will be prolonged by an appeal of his case to the Supreme Court of the United States, but that is a matter of only a matter of time.—(Ed. Rep.)

RED BANK STATION, A. Y. R. Correspondent of the Warren Ledger.

Ma. Editor.—To some portion of the many people who travel over the Allegheny Valley Railroad, there are places passed that possess a great degree of interest, and which every traveler would hardly expect to find in a place so remote as Red Bank Station.

It is a place which is a very busy place—a place in which many a man has found his fortune, and many a man has lost his.

Long before the invention of mineral oil—long before any railroad was built up the Allegheny river—the point of land above the mouth of Red Bank Creek, and the mouth of the broken parts of Clarion county—that saw-mill began to be built on the Clarion river and on the Red Bank Creek.

About the same time the Great Western Iron Works began to be built at Bradford, Pa. There was also the broken parts of Clarion county—that saw-mill began to be built on the Clarion river and on the Red Bank Creek.

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THE VALUE OF AN OATH.

By Judge Clark.

It is a popular case to defend the crime charged upon the defendant. The crime charged upon the defendant was one of shocking atrocity, the murder of his own child. The popular verdict had already condemned him, and the solemnity of the doctor's footsteps, and a "little doubt" but that of the jury would go the same way.

Arthur Berkley, the prisoner, had married Edith Granger, a wealthy heiress whose father had died, leaving her considerable and handsome estate. Her father had died, leaving her considerable and handsome estate.

Mrs. Berkley died within a year after her marriage, leaving an infant a few weeks old, a feeble little creature, requiring constant and anxious care. Indeed Dr. Baldwin almost took up his quarters in the house, often passing the night there, that he might be at hand in case of need.

Not a little surprised at these movements, the doctor approached and had found in violent convulsions, which were followed in a few moments, by the stillness of death.

A post mortem examination, and analysis of the contents of the stomach, placed it beyond doubt that prussic acid had been administered. And an examination of the bottle, found where Berkley had left it, proved that the milk in it contained a large quantity of the same deadly poison.

On this evidence Berkley was arrested and indicted for murder; and there was not a dissenting voice as to his guilt. An incentive to the crime was found in the fact that, as heir to his child, he would inherit the fortune which had descended to the latter through the death of his mother. No wonder a deed so monstrous, actuated by motives so mercenary, should excite the deepest indignation.

In my conference with him, he seemed incredulous with grief, but indignantly denied all imputations of guilt, asserting that he had not gone to the nursery after retiring that night, but called by the alarm of the child's death.

Of course, his statements, in the face of proofs so damaging, weighed but little. Still, it was my professional duty to see that a man on trial for his life, who had entrusted me with his case, had every right the law accorded him. This duty performed, my conscience would be clear whatever the result.

It would be tedious to dwell on the steps preceding the trial. I interpreted no obstacles in its coming on speedily. My aim was not to thwart the ends of justice, but to see it fairly meted out.

Dr. Baldwin was the first and chief witness. He told his story clearly and methodically; and it was easy to see he carried conviction to the jury. My rigid cross-examination only served to bring out his evidence with more distinctness of detail. I elicited the fact that he had entered the nursery late in the same room; that she was asleep when the doctor entered; and that it was to her he first announced the child's death. I also examined fully as to the prisoner's acts at the time she was in the nursery, and was shown that he came from the direction of his own chamber, appearing to have just been aroused from sleep. But I made nothing of this, the witness stating that his agitation had distracted his attention on these points.

The doctor had only recently settled among us, but his conduct had been so exemplary that he had made many friends. He had especially won the confidence of the jury, and he had been brought out nothing to his discredit.

The evidence of the chemist who made analysis was next put in, and the State's attorney rested.

"Did you see the nurse here," he said, "but as she was asleep when the prisoner entered, her evidence is unimportant. I thought it my duty to have her here, however, to afford the other side the opportunity to call her if they so desired."

Nothing could render the prisoner's case more hopeless than it was already, while something might come out of his advantage.

"I will call my witness," I said. "She was a middle-aged woman, of no unimpressive appearance. Her agitation was visible; and I noticed that, in taking the oath, she laid her hand beside the book and not upon it, as the law requires."

"The Judge so ordered; and the witness' hand shook violently as she reluctantly obeyed the direction, and the oath was given, endeavoring to show that he came from the direction of his own chamber, appearing to have just been aroused from sleep. But I made nothing of this, the witness stating that his agitation had distracted his attention on these points."

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HINTS FOR PACKING BUTTER.

Having read your valuable paper of late date I notice that the interest taken is not only in one branch of trade, but in all branches of trade.

I have therefore taken the liberty to trouble your readers with the best mode of placing their butter in market to command the highest price. Having experienced in the butter trade for the past twenty-one years, and having been connected with the commission trade for the past twelve years, I offer a few suggestions and words of caution in regard to the packing and making of butter, hoping they may result in some benefit. I wish to impress upon the minds of Western shippers and makers of butter the necessity of paying strict attention to this great interest, which is yearly growing in magnitude, if they wish to compete with other sections.

The packing and packages used are of essential points as making and this fact should be remembered. Of course all packages of butter are not alike, and cannot be sold at the same price, but a little more care and attention would naturally result in times of market to considerable toward bringing about a greater uniformity in prices. Very often commission merchants receive complaints from country shippers stating that their butter was good as good as any other, which sold at a price lower than theirs. This may be so in their own estimation, but other parties may differ. Their neighbors' butter should have been put up in more desirable packages, probably new tubs, than their own butter may have been, and the difference in price and cost of transportation would be a sufficient answer to their complaint.

Makers and shippers should be careful to pack butter uniform in color, and should particularly remember that such color is not to be obtained by the use of color, but by the use of pure cream, and by the use of pure cream, and by the use of pure cream.

The art of using metals and cutting precious stones surpassed anything which had descended to the latter through the death of his mother. No wonder a deed so monstrous, actuated by motives so mercenary, should excite the deepest indignation.

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