

LINGERING HOPE.

A Tennessee Father Makes Inquiry of The Tribune for His Son.

Supposed Victim of the Mountain Meadows Massacre.

Reward of One Thousand Dollars Offered for His Recovery.

PARIS, TENN., Dec. 14, 1854.
EDS. TRIBUNE:—Having lately seen accounts in your paper of the Mountain Meadows Massacre, I am induced to write you. The main object of which is this: In the year 1837 I lost a son, en route for California, and have long since felt convinced that he was one of the victims of Mountain Meadows, and seeing the LEADERS OF THAT BUTCHERY ARE BEING BROUGHT TO AN ACCOUNT,

thought, perhaps, you might learn something of my son, I enclose one of the circulars I then had published and scattered over Utah and California, without receiving any information positive in return. It is true, I received letters from Governor Cumming and Brigham Young, which induced me to believe he was murdered, but I find there is a discrepancy in dates, which causes me to hope he may yet be living, and possibly held in captivity by the Indians, and recently having seen an account of the re-capture of two young ladies from the Indians, increases my hope. If he is living and held by the Indians, perhaps you might learn through the friendly Indians or Mormons; if so, and he can be rescued, I hold myself ready to pay the \$1,000 reward, and more if necessary. If alive, he might be heard of, for he was a natural genius, particularly at painting pictures, signs, lettering, etc., and a good talent for music, particularly instrumental. My circular was copied in some California and Utah papers about the time mentioned.

Thinking you have correspondence with persons throughout most of the Territories, you might possibly learn something about him, or it might be you could learn from some of the Mormons whether he was murdered at the Mountain Meadows Massacre. Any information you might be able to give, would be most thankfully received by your humble servant and his distressed family, as well as remuneration for your efforts should you learn anything of his whereabouts.

But I suppose I have said enough now. Shall be pleased to hear from you at any time.

Respectfully,

S. B. ADEN.

Below we publish the circular alluded to by the distressed father, and the reward offered at the time:

ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS REWARD!

I have learned through the Postmaster, Lucius N. Scott, of Provo City, Utah Territory, that my son, William A. Aden, left there about the 1st of October, 1837, for California, by the south route, aiming to overtake a party of emigrants, who were then some fifty miles ahead of him. To Wm. D. Roberts, a young gentleman of Provo City, with whom he had formed an acquaintance, my son agreed to write as soon as he got through, but as yet not a word from him. Mr. Scott says, under date of March 25, 1839, "Mr. Roberts has since been to California, and has just got back, and on his return, learned by a man in one of the extreme southern settlements, that a certain Indian is now wearing a peculiar buck skin coat, like one your son wore when he left here," and the great presumption is, that he was either murdered or taken prisoner. Said William A. Aden, if alive, is now about twenty-one years of age, pretty well grown, blue eyes, fair skin, hair curly and rather dark, a pretty good talent for music—both vocal and instrumental—writes poetry tolerably well, a natural genius, particularly at painting. For further particulars, as to dress, etc., will refer to W. D. Roberts of Provo City, Utah.

For the rescue and delivery of my son, if a prisoner, to Governor Cumming of Utah, or Ex-Governor Boggs of Napa Valley, California, or an undoubted assurance of his release, I will give the above-named reward; or I will give a liberal compensation for knowledge of his whereabouts, if alive, so that he may be rescued (if a prisoner, perhaps he might be bought off from the Indians). And any information in reference to him would be gratefully received by his distressed parents, brothers and sisters.

As an assurance of the reward, I refer to the annexed note to Governor Cumming, of Utah, Gov. Harris, of Tennessee, with whom I have been personally acquainted for many years.

Paris, Tennessee, May 27th, 1839.

S. B. ADEN.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

NASHVILLE, TENN., May 8, 1839.

His Excellency, the Gov. of Utah Territory,

SIR: Dr. S. B. Aden, of this State, is under the apprehension that his son William, en route for California, was either murdered or taken prisoner by the Indians. The Dr. is in deep distress, and wishes to offer a reward for the rescue of his son, if living, and at his instance I write this note to say,

that Dr. Aden is a gentleman of high character, and in every way worthy and responsible; and any reward which he may offer for the rescue of his son from the custody of the Indians, will be promptly paid, which fact you will please make known to your people, by the publication of this note, or otherwise, so that full credit may be given to such reward as Dr. Aden may offer.

Very Respectfully,

LEWIS G. HARRIS,

Governor of Tennessee.

N. B.—Any person who shall be entitled to the above reward, will please draw on myself or my son, T. F. Aden, of St. Louis, Mo. S. B. ADEN.