The Mountain Meadows

A Dark Chapter in the Mormons' Epic Struggle to Cling to Their "Promised Land," as Told by One Who Lived Through the Tragedy and Can Look Back On It With Intimate Understanding and Compassion

took him at Furt Gibson, near what was then the boundary be-tween Indian Territory and Ar-But McLean didn't start shoot

Sole Survivor

the Mississipped out a fer supper, though, and he had a pretty to let him on the Arise and the to let him on the Arise and the a pretty fair Lavern, and that a pretty fair Lavern, and that a supper out out to the fair did not the fair the head of navier by the fair Lavern, and that was where wasn't fair Lavern, and that was when the fair the wasn't enough the fair Lavern, and that was when the fair the wasn't enough the fair Lavern, and that was when the kind of man who would rather deal out his own brand of justice, single handed; once the courts had turned him down.

Frat lit out the next morning about his own brand of justice, single handed; once the courts had turned him down.

Frat lit out the next morning about the daylight.

Frat lit out the next morning about his own brand of justice, single handed; once the courts had turned him down.

Frat lit out the next morning about the won them and turned him down.

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the courts had turned him down.

Pratt lit out the next morning about daylight. He didn't even wait to eat any breakfast. A horse was all asddled and waiting for him and he struck out along the old stage routs toward laittle Rock. McLean followed him for miles and finally aught up with him deep in the woods, near a blacksmith shop run by Tealy Wynn. After shout-

beard that Cumming was on his way out, backed

ing to him to defend himself, McLean opened fire.

The head it said that Mormon leaders like Parley Pratt believed that bullets couldn't hier them, but why they should entertain such notions is a mystery to mu. At any ride, Pratt didn't try to get away, or defend himself, and McLean kept on shooting till his pustol was empty without hitting either Pratt or the Mormon's horse.

Pratt could have shot McLean Pratt could have shot McLea after that, or outrun him. It for some reason he dish't seem is want to do either thing. He just sat there till M. Lean gulloped up to him, pulled out a Bowie knii and stabled him to death.

Then McLeun rode back to Van Buren, got his

ons away from Mrs. McLenn and took the next steamboat for New Orleans

Mrs. McLean took charge of the funeral. She Mrs. McLean took charge of the funeral. She got Blacksmith Wynn to order some boards, all planed and dressed, from a sawnull run by the father of John Steward, who was 16 at the time and afterwards became deputy sherif of Crawford County, and the coffin was made out of them. Then young Steward hauled the body in the coffin out to the burial grounds in his daddy's ox-cart. They didn't have any preacher. Mrs. McLean did the only talking that was done and among other things she said Pratt had been crucified.

things she said Pratt had been crueffied.

After that, she went on to Salt Lake City, and nobody in our part of the country ever heard anything more about her. But early in 1857, just before our party set out for California, two Mormons showed up at Wynn's blacksmith shop and asked him a lot of questions. Then they turned back north, #Drag the same route our party followed is few weeks later, and it certainly looks like those two Mormons found out that we were figuring on passing through I thin on our way to California and told the Daniles, or Destroying Angels of the Mormons, to be on the lookeut for us, become we were from the same district where Pratt was murdered.

At any rate, we sure did get a mighty un-

At any rate, we sure did get a mighty un-friendly reception when we finally did reach Utah. By that time, the Mormons didn't have much use for anybody who wasn't a Mormon.

for anybody who wasn't a Mormon.

Off and on, ever since they took over Utah, the Mormona had been bickering with the Federal Government, insisting that they had a right to run everything to suit themselves. It finality, got so bad President Bushanan issued an order removing Brigham Young as governor of the territory and appointing Alfred Cumming to take his place. And Just before we landed in Utah, the Mormons

up by an army of 2500 men.
That made the Mormons mad as hornets, so mad, in fact, that Brigham Young issued a proclamation defying the Efficial Government and pro-claiming martial law but the members of our

claiming martial law but the members of our party dislot know anything about that and walked right into the horners next.

When our caravan reached Saft Lake City in August our supplies just about out everybody tired and hungry, and our horses and eattle lean and badly in need of rest and a choice to graze— we were told to more on and be quak about it. On top of that, the Mornious retrieved to sell us any food that's what I was told when I was growing up and I've always believed it was see.

So we had to more our down to Mount an

up and I've always believed it was sa:

So we had to move an down to Mountain
Meadows, in what is row Wesdengton County,
Dah Mountain Meadows was a narrow valley,
lying between two low larges of hills, with plenty
of fresh water supplied by several little streams,
and lots of grass for our stock to graze. So, it
looked like a good place for our party to rest up
before tarkling the 100-mile desert that lay just
alread.

ahead.

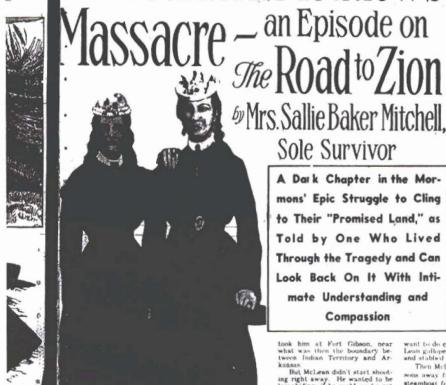
A lot has been written about what was going on among the Micrisions while our party was resting at Mountain Meadines Both sides of the question have been gone into pretty thoroughly, with a lot of arguments and evidence on each side so anybody who wants to form his own opinion can look up the books on the subject and make his choice.

some writers say that officials of the Mor-mon church storred the Indians up and kept egging them on till they attacked us, and then told their own folks to jump in and help the Indians told their own folks to jump in and help the Indians toke up the job, after tricking our men into gaving age their guns. But the Mormon writers insist that me body with any real-authority in the church an ganization knew what was going out till twas to-late for the into stop if, even though they take their tout. They admit, though that there were some Mormons mixed up in it, and veges after it was over, they laid misst of the blame on John O. Le, who was a Mormon and an Indian agent. But I'll tell about that later. On the morning of September 7, our party was.

On the morning of September 7, our party was just satting down to a breakfast of qualland cottons tail rabbits when a shot rang out from a nearby gully, and one of the children toppled over, bit by the builet.

Right away, the men saw they were being at-tacked by an Indian war-party. In the first few minutes of fighting, twenty-two of our men were

(Continued on Page 13)



rered that Brigham Young had sent Pratt to 1 Francisco, to round up some more converts, d that the missionary had taken Mrs. McLean 1 the boys with him. I don't know why he did, it, unless he figured that McLean was on his all and that was the only way to hang on to them. At any rate, McLean took out after him, but in he reached San Francisco, he learned that ith had doubled back across the plains, taking a McLean and the boys along, in a wagon. With hostile Indians luxing all over the plains. With a dangerous business crossing the country those days, even in a big party So I reckom they Pratt wouldn't have set out with just one you unless he had a mighty good reason for thing shead—and that reason seems to have in Mr. McLean, on horseback, McLean kept gaining on him and finally over-

ne, and ad hap-ough to nan, let ow how was the f some-

O'Donohue by passing note, he scored heavily ting Satu, so promptly, stepy," he noded an active of the second heavily ting satu, so promptly at the second heavily ting the second heavily second heavily second heavily second heavily second to this eway, when someone the lighted dragon, added singmanurably see of the revolt."

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## SUN





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shot down, seven of them hilled of oright. Everybody was half scared to death and I reckon the whole crowd would have been clearly and the whole crowd would have been the whole crowd would have been such a cool-hadded man. He had things organized in next to no time. All the women such a cool-hadded man. He had things organized in the had things organized in the had the mere divided intimitive and children were considered in the had the h

"I have evidence of times upproved of our mission."

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and older children were the wearthere were the were the wearthere were the were the wearthere were the wear
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shedding innevent bloom he was put on trial, John 15 feet hinsted his with a first hinsted his was against the whole idea and trief to fall the others and of it, but that Major thybee, things a bidding, some was a Moraine blobay, and some of the control to the hinst hinst work that it for the work that it is the first hinst hins

neer, and your cleanst jew shall be resuppore.

I chart leave whether or not had a been bounded to the State of the State

Well, our num didn't have much choire. It was either abolt in out and fight till the had of its was killed to starved, or che lake in your man projusation, even than the start was represented in the man and the start was considered and the young the work and in the mounded and the young this does not be start and my haby brother were not in an even and father had been wounded during the flighting, on this were in the wagon with us children. It's finney how you will creall subsupportant details, after many years. I remember, for inslance, that the blankets we had with us in that wagon were bright red and had black borders.

After the wagon I was in had

with its in that wagon were beight red and had black bereiers. After the wagon I was in had set out the women and the older children followed us on foot. Then the Morenosa made the torm wait until the women and children were a good ways ahead before starting the men out single feel, should ten feet apart. I think my grandfather mist have been in that procession. Bety and in never could find out for sure just when he was killed -all use could learn was that he was killed during the measures had an Armed Mormon waiking right by his aid. They said that was because the Indiana might start, acting up again, but that wamn't he real reason, as you will soon see. The line had been moving along abouty for some little distance, when all of a wideden the tape, when all of a wideden the transport of the second of the way the way the way the way the said of the way the w



Sallie Baker Milchell, New Mendows Massacra, Mar-A Recent Photograph of Mrs. Saille Raker Mitchell, New the Sairtiver of the Munitain Meadown Maneacra, Who Will Sonn Re My Yoste. Old and Who Presents Bires Hee Intimate Recoffections of That Dark Chapter in American Blutcry.

the Mormona, some people even saying that the Indiana didn't have anything to do with it at all,

Anyway, the Indiana opened

said. The third receive their spirits, it is too. Thy Kingdom that I do this?

Then he first at a wounded must who was learning agained another most killing them both?

with the same builet.

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as behaviors. Also they suffered as weight from any of the other source.

John D. Lee confessed to a left of thomps about the Mountain Mendows Massaces before the was finally executed for the part of the following to the with suffered with the part of the pa

and in all indian interested those poor gits shamefully and then slit their throats.

I shirl is know whether or not be humany properly in a starked the Dunday girls and murdered them, or was directly responsible for what hoppened in them. But there doesn't seem to be much doubt that, they holy, before heigh mondered, just as Jacob Hemilin's Indian bay sail they were.

Manblin was on his way back, to he ranch from Sait Lake City at the time of the manacre and when he got home Albert Iold him about the Dunley girls. Then the indian boy led Hamblin to a clump of oak bushes not far from where the masancre took place and showed him the bodies of the two girls, stripped of all their clothing.

At Lake second trial, Hamblin took the stand and restified that what he saw seemed to bear out what he saw seemed to bear out what he saw seemed to bear out he talked to the Indian who was supposed to have been with Lee at the time, and that his account of it was pretty much the same, as Albert's.

and I Sumbrite labels

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## Tragic Story of Mountain Meadows Massacre Now Told by Sole Survivor

and that some of the Mormona disguised their service of the Mormon disguised their service as Indians, just to let yet the blame on them; I can't say as in the feulth of that, but I do knew that my sliter. Bettly, who died only a few months ago, always insusted that had been all over washing paid off their faces, and that she knew that some of them at least, had disguised themselves as Indians. At any Tale while the Indians, of a growth of suspecial order of the control of the cont

phronia Mary Ruff, Ephriam W. Hugg. Charles and Triphenia Fancher. Rebecca, Louise and Sarah Dunlap and us three Baker children, Betty, Seille and William Welch Baker.

children, Betty, Saille and William Welch Baker.

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reacted tight well in the Mormon
home where we lived until see
were respue.

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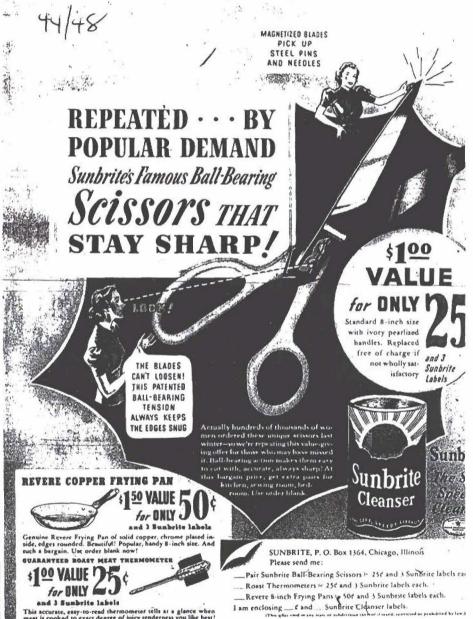
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