

Statement of John Lynch who accompanied Dr Forney part of the way to Mountain Meadows and returned with him to Salt Lake City.

About three months since I started to go to Arizona. When I arrived at Hopkin I was overtaken by Dr Forney, the Indian Superintendent, who was going to the Mountain Meadows, for the 13 surviving children of the Mountain Meadows massacre. He told me he was doubtful about the Mormons he had with him, and asked me if I would assist him in case they deserted him. My party consisted of 35 men. I told him I would do so, and would return with him to Camp Floyd myself, if he could get no other assistance. When the Dr arrived at Beaver City, as was anticipated the Mormons deserted without apprizing him of their intention - supposing that he would be unable to go further in his unassisted condition - I found him about 11 O'clock at night guarding his mules, told him to go to bed, and I would relieve him. I persuaded two of my party to assist me - and with their aid drove his teams down to the Mountain Meadows - and gave up my intention of going further south. We pursued our course to Carrowan - in this place, which is inhabited almost entirely by English and Danes - as are most of the southern settlements - the greatest hostility was evinced towards us - They

would hold no communication with our party and spoke in the most insulting terms of the "Americans".

We continued our journey to the Meadows passing through Painter Creek and Cedar City. The scene of the massacre is a broad, level meadow, encompassed by a chain of hills. The Emigrants had been harassed by bands of men, whom they supposed to be Indians, during their journey from Cedar City to the Meadows, and here made a corral of their wagons for defence. The corral was near a spring, which is the source of a small stream, running through the plain. Words cannot describe the horrible picture which was here presented to us. Skeletons, bones, skulls, and the hair of women, were scattered in frightful profusion over a distance of two miles; three mounds partially exposing the remains of some of the murdered, indicated the careless attempt that had been made to bury them, we remained two or three hours at the Meadows and occupied ourselves in burying the uncovered remains of the massacred. We then went on to the man Hamblin, a Mormon, in whose possession the children were, we found them in a most wretched condition, half starved, half naked, filthy, infested with vermin, and their eyes diseased from the cruel neglect to which they had been exposed. After a three days <sup>stay</sup> at Santa Clara, where clothing was made for the children, we returned with Hamblin and 10 of the children to Cedar City, there got two more, and



another at Painter Creek. When we passed through Beaver City some of the Mormon men looked at the children and called them the survivors of Sebastopol and Waterloo. Among the children are three who retain a very vivid impression of much connected with the massacre. A very intelligent little girl, named Becky Dunlop, pointed out to me at Santa Clara, an Englishman, named Teller, whom she says she saw murder her father, and that Hamblins Indian boy killed her two sisters. Both she and a boy named Miriam recognized dresses and a part of the jewelry belonging to their mothers, worn by the wives of John D. Lee, the Bishop of Harmony. The boy Miriam also identified his fathers oven, which are now owned by Lee. The two oldest boys told me that after they had been fighting for eight days - four of which, they were in the corral, and had been cut off from water, Bishop Wright of Cedar City came into the corral, and told the emigrants that the Indians did not want anything but their cattle, and if they would lay down their arms their lives would be spared. They did so - and started to go to Santa Clara, when they were attacked by a mixed party of whites and Indians - and all killed save the children. The boy Miriam stated, that after the Massacre was over, he saw the Bishop of Coal Creek washing the paint from his face which he had used to disguise himself as an Indian.

