

livestock in the territory.

*Spring and Early Summer 1856.* Hunger was widespread because of the previous summer's crop loss; people begged in the streets and dug wild roots.

*Summer 1856.* Drought, grasshoppers, cutworms, and tobacco worms resulted in significant crop loss for a second year.

*Late Fall 1856.* The Martin and Willie Handcart Companies, the last two of the season, arrived. They had started too late from the Missouri River and experienced early winter storms. All suffered and many died.

*Winter 1856–57.* Utah experienced another harsh winter with snow eight feet deep in some places.

*Fall 1856 to Summer 1857.* Although the Mormon Reformation may have had some positive effects in improving morals and increasing unity, Brigham Young and other Church leaders used harsh rhetoric and expounded some extreme doctrines to "purify" the people. Individuals were questioned about their behavior and often made public confessions of wrong-doing. Rebaptism became the norm. Entering or expanding the practice of polygamy was considered a sign of zeal.

*March 1857.* A father and two sons who had become disaffected from Mormonism tried to leave for California, but the father and one son, plus one of their betrayers, were killed in a bloody episode known as the Parrish-Potter murders. (See pp. 172–201.)

*May 1857.* Parley P. Pratt, a popular apostle, was killed by the angry husband of one of Pratt's plural wives.

*July 1857.* The U.S. Army was advancing on Utah to put down the "Mormon rebellion," news that Brigham Young announced with maximum effect on Pioneer Day.

*September 1857.* Some 120 emigrants from Arkansas were murdered at Mountain Meadows in southwest Utah by Mormons with the help of Native Americans. That same month, Brigham Young declared martial law in the territory and called missionaries in foreign countries and members in outlying settlements back to Utah.

*March-June 1858.* Young ordered all those living in Salt Lake City or the northern settlements to vacate the city and move south in anticipation of the army's arrival.

*June 1858.* Some 2,500 soldiers of the U.S. Army marched through Salt Lake City and established Camp Floyd in Cedar Valley,