

By Col. Dame's order <sup>^direction^</sup> I wrote an order directing that all possible means should be used to keep the peace until the emigrants should leave and proceed upon their journey, and remember perfectly part of that order, which was in these words,—“Do not notice their threats, Words are but wind—they injure no one; but if they (the emigrants) commit acts of violence against citizens inform me by express, and such measures will be adopted as will insure tranquility.”

This order was directed to the authorities at Cedar City, from Col. Dame's head quarters in Parowan, 18 miles distant.<sup>5</sup>

About this time the Emigrant party proceeded onward to the Mountain Meadows, camping there [erased word] a considerable time to recruit their teams for the desert country South. This delay was fatal. Had they not made these long halts, the indians would not have gathered in sufficient strength to have done them much harm, but during the <sup>^two^</sup> weeks of <sup>^their^</sup> stay <sup>^indians^</sup> gathered from a hundred miles around, until, emboldened by <sup>^their^</sup> numbers <sup>^over 1000^</sup> they attacked the party.<sup>6</sup> These things we did not understand or know of until afterwards, but learned <sup>^that^</sup> the emigrants parked their wagons in a circle, one behind another closely joined <sup>^and^</sup> dug a trench inside the wagon line throwing up the earth as a wall beneath the wagons, thus making a strong

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was indicted by a grand jury for his alleged involvement in the massacre and, in 1876, was brought to Beaver to stand trial, but was never tried. See biographical note at entry for March 4, 1853.

5. No such order from Martineau could have been issued between September 3 and September 9, 1857, since he was in a scouting party on the upper Sevier River. See Martineau's journal entries for September 4–8, 1857.

6. Despite many firsthand testimonies to the contrary, Martineau had chosen to hold to the story that he had told in the days following the massacre: that Indians had attacked the party. In September 1857, as part of the official Parowan Stake History, Martineau wrote:

This morning [September 7, 1857] at daylight the indians attacked a company of emigrants on their way to California four miles beyond Mountain Meadows, numbering about 118 men, women and children, and killed them all but 15 small children from 2 to 6 years old, which the brethren ransomed. The company had poisoned the Indians at Corn Creek, killing 6 Pahvantes, without cause, which was the cause of the massacre. As the Company were traveling through the various settlements, they were very abusive in their language, swearing they would help kill the Mormons if the troops were in, saying “old Jo Smith ought to have been killed long before he was etc; and profaning the name of God. At Cedar they were fined for swearing but swore they would not pay it, and the rest of them swore they would protect them. On Friday the 11th Col. Dame and others went to the place of action to try and save them, but met the news that all was over.

From Martineau, “James H. Martineau Record & Negotiations, 1855–1860,” Part B, September 7, 1857, p. 34, SUUSC.