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THE EARLY INDIAN ATTACKS IN TONTO BASIN.

It is exciting and interesting, as well as amusing, to hear the pioneers of Tonto Basin tell of their thrilling experiences with the Indians in the early days; and they do not wish those times to return.

There were three different excitements which caused great alarm among the people. One was in 1879; one in '81, and another in '82; but the second one was only a "scare," for the

round hill with a flat top that stands in the valley) and stayed there twelve days. They hauled water half a mile from down in the valley, and they existed on what provisions they had taken with them, for there was no place near-by where they could get more. After they had stayed on this hill the already stated time, they received word from San Carlos that the Indians had never left the reservation; so, with lighter hearts, the families all returned to their homes.

The second real attack was the next

Crawford's trail, a man who had been sent from San Carlos to capture the Indians. Col. Crawford followed them on to the mountain and found them in camp. A hard battle was fought, and fourteen Indians were killed, but no soldiers were lost. Col. Morgan was sent out from Prescott with men to help Crawford, but he and Mason arrived too late for the fight. Only one or two Indians escaped to return to the reservation, and since that time they have been content to remain there.

fought with the Mexicans in the south. June 1. Detailed for guard.

2. Finished my riding saddle and went to town.

3. This day is a great day with the Roman Catholics here. Kept in commemoration of ——. The inhabitants of Pueblo have been sweeping the public square for two days past, and this morning they erected four stages, one in each corner of the square, also erecting an altar at each place, making it of green bushes, and decorated with roses, stripes of white cloth and very handsome sarappas, or

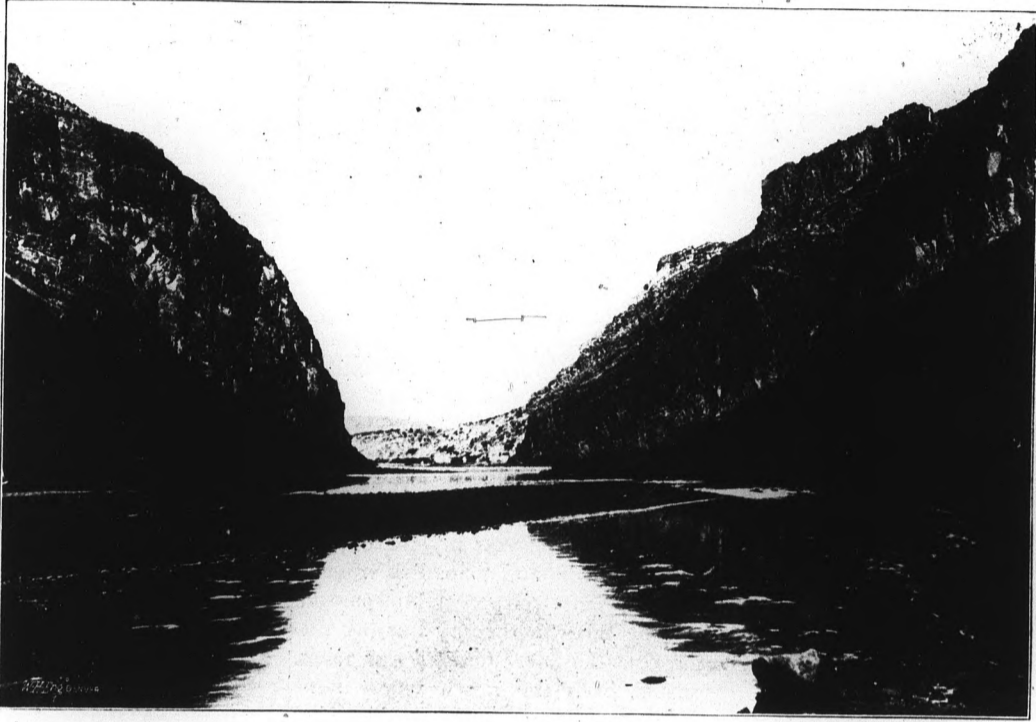
7. Monday. Detailed for a guard. Posted at the calaboose in town. While on post about dusk one of the prisoners, an American, put on a squaw's clothes who had been permitted to bring refreshments to him and passed out at the door. I immediately hailed him (or her), although I thought there was some trick, and soon found it to be Dancing Bill, as he was called. I immediately ordered him back to the jail at the point of the bayonet, and requested the corporal who had charge of the jail to lock him in the other room, which was done, but not without many threats and curses upon the Mormon. Cloudy and cool all day. Many horses purchased today.

8. Released from guard this morning, and spent the day procuring sacerta (or grass) for my mare as we are obliged to tie all our animals up.

9. Worked in the ditch. Lieut. Thompson gave us a very large task, and we told him we would not do it, but rather work the usual time. Sergeant Chase told him it was too much, when he said the sergeant might give us our task; received the task and performed it by noon. Rode my mare out this afternoon and assisted Leonard to break his horse to carry grass.

10. Men detailed to go to San Pedro to guard military stores. Hired an Indian to make a Spanish halter.

11. This morning an express came in from Monterey. Some letters came from those brethren who went as a guard or escort for the general. Horses, mules, saddles, &c., much dearer at Monterey than at Pueblo. Advice given to us to fix all ourselves out at the Pueblo. The general left Monterey for Washington on the 31st of May. Orders read by the sergeant major, some from the general, some from Col. Mason, now Governor of California. One of the orders was relating to the case of John Allen alias ———, who belonged to Company E of the Mormon Battalion, and who had been in the calaboose some



SCENE IN TONTO BASIN.

Indians were not out.

In May, 1879, there were only a few families in Tonto Basin, and those few were so scattered that they were of very little protection to one another in the time of trouble. There was no one in what are now Pine and Strawberry, and only two men in Payson. Two families lived in Round Valley, four miles southeast of Payson, and several men lived at Gisela, a little town on the Tonto River, twelve miles from Payson.

The first signs of Indians that year were some dead horses and cattle, found in Payson, that were supposed to have been killed by the Indians. No one under the rim of the mountain saw any Indians; but the report was circulated that they were near, so the different families began to "fort up" for better protection. Some went to Gisela and some to Payson. Mr. Peach, who lived in Round Valley, hearing of the savages, emptied the contents of his wife's trunk into a barley sack and packed it on a horse, with what other household goods he could put his two children on a deaf mule, his wife on another animal—while he walked—and started for Gisela. On the way the animal they had packed threw her burden off into the rocks. The sewing machine was hidden in some boulders and the feather bed was thrown up in a cedar tree (for safe-keeping). They proceeded on their journey and arrived in Gisela without further trouble. People were afraid that the Indians would burn their homes and property, if they found them unoccupied; so each family took what they could carry with them when they left.

As I said before, no Indians were seen in the Basin that time, and they did no serious damage there; but they went on the mountain and attacked two men who were camping at Baker's Butte. One of them was killed, but the other went to Camp Verde, then an army post, to get soldiers to capture the Indians. Before he obtained assistance, the Indians had returned to the reservation without doing any more injury.

The next scare was in August, 1881. It was reported that the Indians had left San Carlos again, and all the people in the country gathered in Payson, then called Green Valley. There were ten families, and they all climbed to the top of Mt. McDonald, (a little

year, in '82. There was more people in the country by that time—even Pine and Strawberry were inhabited, and families were living just under the rim of the mountain. The Meadows family lived on the Diamond ranch, about twenty miles north of Payson.

No one near Payson knew the Indians were out at that time until one afternoon an old man came riding into Payson with great speed on his mule "Liza Jane," so excited he could scarcely speak, and told the people that the Indians had killed one man and wounded two others that morning on the Diamond ranch. They learned later that they had also killed two men in Pleasant Valley on their way to Tonto Basin. The Meadows had no thought of Indians, but the night before the dogs kept up a constant barking and running from place to place, so the next morning, just after day-break, the old gentleman took his rifle and started out, telling his wife he believed there were bear around, and he was going to kill them. He did not return for a long time, and his wife became alarmed and called her two sons to go in search of him. She had heard a rifle shot, and thought he had wounded the bear, which, in turn, had wounded him.

The two boys, John and Henry armed themselves and started down the creek, where their father had gone, but before they were a great distance from the house, the Indians began firing on them. The boys only saw one Indian, but in the fight that followed they were both wounded, and without delay returned to the house and did not go out again. That afternoon two men rode up to their ranch by accident, and, learning what had happened, one of them, (the same Mr. Gray on his mule) went to Payson to spread the news, while the other stayed to help care for the dead and wounded men. The old man was found and buried underneath the floor of the house, while the two boys were taken to Payson to be treated. Henry died of blood poison caused by a wound in his leg, but John recovered.

Col. Mason, with a troop of soldiers, was camping in Payson at that time, and people tried to persuade him to go immediately toward the mountain with his men and "head off" the Indians on their way up; but Mason said he had orders to go back around by Rye Creek and follow up on Col.

Sam Houston, a cowboy from the Basin, went on the mountain and scalped three of the Indians and carried their scalps home in his shirt bosom. He showed them to Mrs. Peach and said he was going to send them east to his relatives.

Since that time Tonto Basin has had no invasion by hostile tribes.

EDITH PEACH.

Pine, Arizona.

MARCH OF THE MORMON BATTALION.

(Continued from Last Week.)

21. Lieut. Stone of First Dragoons came in with his detachment of dragoons (regulars) from the mountains. No news with him.

22. Baked bread.

23. The Battalion held a meeting, did not attend.

24. Today I left the bakehouse and reported myself for duty in my company. Found that while I had been in the bakehouse the brethren had been busily engaged in rigging up their bridles, saddles, purchasing horses, &c., &c.

25. Cap. Davis returned from his trip into the country, having been to look at the ranches or farms, &c.; gave an excellent account of the valleys he had visited.

26, 27 and 28. Worked on the fort.

29. Today being off duty, I cut up a raw hide for larryates or long halters and to rig up my new saddle. Brethren very busy every day buying horses and preparing to start home.

30. Sunday. Remained in camp.

31. This morning I had a tooth pulled. News came of a battle being



General S. W. Kearney.

a kind of outside covering thrown around the men while on horseback were thrown on the ground. Service commenced in the church at 10 a. m. Col. Stevenson ordered one piece of cannon to be brought into the square and one company N. Y. Vols. turned out to act as a guard during the day to convince the Spaniards they should be protected in their rites and ceremonies as Roman Catholics. As soon as mass was performed in the church, the priest, with a long retinue of attendants, came out into the square, the priest performing certain rites at each of the altars, the band belonging to the N. Y. Vols. playing while the procession was passing from corner to corner and the inhabitants showering roses all the time on the capital priest's head and spreading costly garments on the ground for him to walk on, the cannon firing at intervals as the procession moved from place to place.



SAN DIEGO MISSION.

4. Dog shooting throughout town today, men detailed for this business by order of the colonel.

5. Today I purchased a four-year-old mare for \$5.50 well broke.

6. Sunday. The N. Y. Vols. and Mormon Vols. have been killing dogs for the last two days with good success, as the Spaniards keep a superabundance of these pests. By order of the colonel and alcade, horse-racing today by the Spaniards. It is every Sunday. Today I rode out on my mare and took a wash in the river.

several weeks for desertion of his post as a picket guard. He did not belong to the Church. Was cut off by a quorum of 70's at this place for drunkenness, swearing and many other vices. He was baptized on our road to Santa Fe. Joined the Battalion at Fort Leavenworth, and never was a Mormon, manifesting a very ungovernable spirit throughout the whole of the journey. His sentence is to have half of his hair shaved and to be drummed out of town.

(Continued on Page Two.)



VINEYARD.

