

LEE, JOHN DOYLE, Born at Kaskaskia, Randolph County, Illinois, September 6, 1812; son of Ralph Lee, a Virginian, and a daughter of John Doyle of Tennessee who first came to Illinois with George Rogers Clark; his mother died when he was a small child and his father went to Texas; cared for by a nurse who spoke French and later by an Aunt who was unkind to him; married Agatha Ann Woolsey in Illinois, July 24, 1833; had 18 other wives, 3 of whom he married on the same day at Council Bluffs, Iowa, in 1847; was the father of 64 children, 54 of whom were living at the time of his death.

Left home when 16 years of age and obtained his first employment as a mail rider in Missouri at \$7 per month; enrolled May 24 and marched via Beardstown to be mustered in, age 19, at Fort Welburn, Randolph County, Illinois, June 21, 1832, to serve 90 days in the Black Hawk War as Private, Captain Brigg's Company, 3d Regiment, 3d Brigade, Illinois Mounted Volunteers; was paid at the rate of \$6.56 per month, 40 Cents a day for the use of his horse, arms, etc., and 25 Cents a day for rations and forage; said to have participated in the Battle of Bad Axe, August 1, 1832; honorably discharged with the Company, August 17, 1832;

Worked as a steamboat fireman on the Mississippi River and later became a hotel bartender at Galena, Illinois; he and his wife joined the Mormon Church at Far West, Missouri, June 4, 1838, and he went on his first mission the following year; settled at Nauvoo, Illinois, where he built a house of 27 rooms at a cost of \$8,000; served as missionary in Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Arkansas, 1841-43; participated in the troubles which culminated in the assassination of Joseph Smith on June 24, 1844; sacrificed his property and left Nauvoo for Missouri with 7 wagons and teams in February, 1846.

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Sent with Howard Eagan from Fort Leavenworth by Brigham Young to overtake the Mermon Battalions which they did on the Arkansas River, September 11, 1846, and proceeded with the troops to Santa Fe; he and Eagan left Santa Fe with Lieutenant Samuel Gully on October 19 with 282 letters written by men of the Battalion to their families and \$4000 in Government checks, the Battalion having been paid for a month and a half service at the then rate of \$7 per month for a Private soldier; returned across the plains to winter quarters, near the present site of Omaha, Nebraska, where they delivered the checks to President Young on December 16, 1846.

Crossed the plains and arrived in Salt Lake Valley With the other Mermon emigrants in July, 1847; went to live at Cottonwood but before long was directed to aid in forming new settlements; first laid out Parowan and later helped to locate other places in Southern Utah; moved to Harmony in 1852 but an Indian outbreak caused him to move his then numerous family to Cedar City for protection.

Served as Private, Lieutenant George Wood's Company of Cavalry, Nauvoo Legion, in an expedition against hostile Utah Indians, July 28 to August 2 and as Captain, Company of Cavalry, Nauvoo Legion, from August 11 to September 3, 1853, in Indian campaigns; after being in command of the Company at Cedar City for about a year he returned to Harmony and built a fort.

Later he established other residences at Parowan, Washington and Panguitch; served as Government Farmer to care for the Pah-Ute Indians, 1857-58, and became familiar with parts of what is now Northern Arizona;

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was a leader in the massacre at Mountain Meadows, Utah, when 120 men, women and children of an emigrant train from Arkansas were killed; September 11, 1857; served as Delegate from Beaver County to a Convention which drafted a constitution for the proposed State of Deseret at Salt Lake City, January 20-23, 1860.

Having become convinced that he was absolutely responsible for the Mountain Meadows Massacre the Twelve Apostles unanimously voted to excommunicate him in 1870 and President Young gave instructions that under no circumstances should he ever again be admitted as a member of the Mormon Church; upon learning that he had been "cut off" from the Church, 11 of his wives left him; he fled into the "Arizona Strip" and was found near the Colorado River by Supai Indians when about to perish from hunger; said to have taught the Indians improved methods of irrigation, fruit culture and vegetable raising during the time that he was hiding in Havasu Canyon, A.T.

Left the Supais early in 1872 and settled with his 17th wife, Emma Bachelder, near the mouth of the Paria River, A.T.; he built a stone house with loop holes on every side, took out a canal to irrigate an alfalfa field, orchard and vineyard, and called the place "Lonely Dell"; Major J.W. Powell, the explorer, gave one of his boats, the "Nell Powell" to Lee who used it to establish a ferry across the Colorado River; his 6th wife, Rachel A. Woolsey, is said to have lived for a time at another home which he established at Jacob's Pools, in House Rock Valley, A.T.

Indicted by a Grand Jury in 2d Judicial District Court at Beaver City, Utah Territory, September 24, 1874, for the murder of John Smith

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and 50 others, men, women and children, whose names were unknown, at Mountain Meadows, in Washington County, U.T., on September 11, 1857; arrested, while hiding in a log corral, at Panguich, Garfield County, U.T. by William Stokes, Deputy United States Marshal, November 7, 1874; brought to trial at Beaver City, July 22, but the jury, being unable to agree, he was discharged on August 7, 1875.

Surrendered to his bondsmen on September 11 and tried a second time by a jury composed entirely of Mormons at the same place, beginning on September 14, 1876; found guilty of murder in the first degree on September 20; on appearing before Federal Judge Jacob S. Boreman on October 10, 1876, he, at his option, asked the Court that he be executed by being shot, whereupon he was sentenced to be publicly shot until dead.

An appeal was argued before the Supreme Court of the Territory of Utah at Salt Lake City at the January term and the judgment and sentence of the lower Court were affirmed, February 10, 1877; he was taken by United States Marshal Nelson to Mountain Meadows, Washington County, U.T., and then executed by a firing squad on March 23, 1877, aged 64.

Just before he was shot he sat on the coffin at the side of his grave to have a photograph taken, rolled and smoked a cigarette, then stood up and urged each of the riflemen to be sure and aim at his heart.

Lee Ferry, the dividing point between the upper and lower basins of the Colorado River, and Lee Canyon, a branch of Havasu Canyon, in the Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona, named for him.

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