



Tarlton Lewis (1805-1890)
m. 27 March 1828
Malinda Gimlin (1811-1894)



their children:

- Samuel 1829-1911 ▶
- Mary 1831-1837
- Beason 1836-1902
- Edward Partridge 1840-1846
- Malinda 1844-1858
- Tarlton Jr. 1846-1926
- Martha 1849-1885
- Ephriam 1852-1868



Samuel Lewis
married



Sarah Jane Huntsman

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- Stories, etc.
 - Haun's Mill
 - Malinda's Story
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HAUGHN'S MILL MASSACRE

An order had been issued by the Church authorities commanding all of the members of the Mormon church to leave their farms, and to take such property as they could remove, and go to one of the two fortified camps, that is, Far West or Adam-ondi-Ahman. A large majority of the settlers obeyed and the two camps were soon full of people who had deserted home again for the sake of the gospel.

There was a settlement on Log Creek, between three and five miles east from Far West. It was quite a rich settlement. A man named Haughn had just completed a good flouring mill on the creek. The morning after the battle of Crooked river, Haughn came to Far West to consult with the Prophet concerning the policy of the removal of the settlers on Log Creek to the fortified camps. Col. White and myself were standing by when the Prophet said to him: "Move in, by all means, if you wish to save your lives." Haughn replied that if the settlers left their homes all of their property would be lost, and the Gentiles would burn their houses and other buildings. The Prophet then said: "You had much better lose your property than your lives, one can be replaced, the other cannot be restored; but there is no need of your losing either if you will only do as you are commanded."

Haughn said that he considered the best plan was for all the settlers to move into and around the mill, and use the blacksmith's shop and other buildings as a fort in case of attack; in this way he thought they would be perfectly safe. "You are at liberty to do so if you think best," said the Prophet. Haughn then departed, well satisfied that he had carried his point.

The Prophet turned to Col. White and said: "That man did not come for counsel, but to induce me to tell him to do as he pleased, which I did. Had I commanded them to move in here and leave their property, they would have called me a tyrant. I wish they were here for their safety. I am confident that we will soon learn that they have been butchered in a fearful manner." ...The massacre at Haughn's Mill was the result of the brethren's refusal to obey the wishes of the Prophet. All the brethren so considered it.

(from "Mormonism Unveiled" by John D. Lee, pg. 78-81)

A graphic description of this murderous attack is given in a lesson booklet written by Archibald F. Bennett.

"On October 30, 1838 at a place called Haun's Mill on Shoal Creek in Missouri, a group of Mormon families gathered. Among them were three brothers, Benjamin, Tarlton and David Lewis, born respectively in the years 1803, 1805 and 1814. Angry mobs were threatening them from all the other settlements and the brethren met in council, deliberating the best course to pursue to defend themselves against the mob, threatening them with house burning and killing. "About 28 of the men armed themselves and were in constant readiness for an attack of any small body of men that might come down on them. The children were sporting and playing on either side of Shoal Creek; the mothers were engaged in domestic activities and the fathers stood guard in the Mills and other properties. The sun shone clear and all was tranquil.

"About four o'clock a large company of armed men approached on horses and began firing about one hundred rifles upon Haun's Mills.

"Joseph Young, one of the President of Seventies, was among those who escaped. He hid in the thicket until nightfall and relates his experiences as follows: 'I went to the house of Benjamin Lewis where I found my family who had fled there in safety and two of my friends mortally wounded, one of whom died before morning.'

"Returning to the blacksmith shop, they found eight others already dead and some expiring. In jeopardy of their own lives, expecting to be fired upon by the mob any moment, they gathered up the bullet pierced and maimed bodies of their friends and threw them into an abandoned well nearby. In this wanton slaughter 18 or 19 were killed.

"Tarlton and Benjamin were wounded and managed to get home. Here their wounds were dressed and

Benjamin coughed up the pellet which had lodged in his stomach but he died before morning.

The remaining brother David, who had escaped without injury, wrote the following in his diary: 'Benjamin Lewis, my brother was found about three hundred yards from the shop by some of the women who had bin concealed in the bruch during the fracas, he was alive and in his proper senses. I went to him and with the aid of a horse and slide I got him to my house he lived a few hours and dyed. I dug a hole in the ground rapt him in a sheet and without a coffin burayed him.'

Story of Malinda Gimlin

By: Laura McBride Smith

Malinda was the daughter of Samuel Gimlin and Elizabeth Moore, and was born March 27, 1811. This information was received from Tugie Baxter, who is the daughter of Malinda's brother. Malinda was a small woman, as were all of the Gimlins. She only weighed 100 pounds and when she stood beside Tarlton, if he was sitting down, they were about the same height. She had beautiful dark hair and eyes. What she lacked in size she made up in sweetness and energy; thus her memory will live forever and she will be revered by each generation of her family as they come along.

Malinda's brothers and sisters felt bad when Tarlton married Malinda; her brothers threatened to whip him and all that prevented them from doing it was his size; they were afraid of him. The whole family felt bad about it. The Gimlin family was devoted to God, and her brother David was a great preacher and held a high position in that church. David and Malinda sang together and their voices added to his church position, and they were in demand to sing at many congregations. But to marry a Mormon and plan to go to Utah was almost more than they could take.

Malinda Lewis was the first President of the Relief Society in Minersville, Utah. On April 16, 1859 her husband donated the land where the Relief Society building stood.

Laura Smith gives this information, as it was related to her:

One of my long time friends tells me this story about Tarlton and Malinda Lewis. She said when she was a young girl her family were moving into the town where the Lewis family lived; they were quite poor and had to do a lot of repair work on the house they were moving into. It was cold and they had worked so hard all day and were very tired and still they hadn't had time to fix any supper, and hadn't much to fix. It was night when a knock came at the door, on opening it who should be standing there but Tarlton and Malinda Lewis with a big basket of food all for them and she quoted, "A friend in need is a friend indeed." And what a spread they had that night, a big pot of hot beans, a big roast, hot bread, just out of the oven and a great bowl of fresh butter, and oh how they enjoyed that meal. This friend of mine told me that was the best dinner she ever ate in all of her life. She said from then on she dearly loved this couple, and had never forgotten the kindness these good people had shown her family. She said Brother Lewis had a good home, a big farm and all farm animals needed to care for his property; his place was so free of weeds that he had to get weeds from his neighbors to feed his pigs. Everything was well cared for; he had a nice strawberry patch, orchard, and a wonderful garden, in fact he raised nearly everything they needed to eat, drink, or wear. His home was a model for anyone to pattern after. It is said that Tarlton gave away more than he kept for himself. All the neighbors dearly loved the family.

When Malinda and Tarlton were in Richfield, Utah, and Tarlton was Bishop, this is the last time he was made Bishop. His son, Beason, came and got them and took them to Teasdale where he had a great big home with many rooms in it. He fixed them good quarters and cared for them, until Tarlton passed away. Their daughter, Martha, and her husband, Chris Johnson, also helped to care for them and after Tarlton's death, they took Malinda to Richfield and cared for her until she passed away. Beason's wife also helped to care for her in Richfield.

Malinda and Tarlton were the parents of eight children. Theirs is a great posterity. From a second marriage, there were two sons, William and Benjamin.

It can be said of Malinda that she was one of the kindest persons that ever lived. She was ever on the lookout for ways to help those in need. It seemed she knew just when her neighbors needed her help most and would appear on the scene at the right moment to do the most good. What a wonderful way to be remembered!

Source: Nello Rue Smith & Armintia Echols - Lewis Family Stories & Histories
from their website as of 3-23-2010
http://www.surnames.com/documented_websites/arminta/lewis_family_stories.htm
