

18 NOV 1847

Thursday November 18. Pres. Young visited the sick and attended a High Priests meeting. ^{at Winter Quarters} The official members of the First emigrating division met at 7 p.m. and decided to fill up the old organization by new members. Doc Hist. 1847: 125

A number of brethren left G. S. L. city for California.
(Patty Sessions.)

This was the party of brethren referred to in the letters written by Pres. John Smith et al under date of Sept. 16, 1847, John Hunt, one of the party (while on a visit to Salt Lake City) in October, 1905 gave the following report of their trip to California in 1847 from memory: "In September (1847) my father ^(Jefferson Hunt) arrived from Los Angeles, ^{Cal.} having taken his discharge from the battalion. He reported that on his way he had stopped at a ranch owned by Col. Williams, an American who had been under command of Col. Fremont in the capture of California, and had obtained prices on cows and seeds. *(The so-called Williams' Ranch was the Santa Ana del Chino Ranch situated about 30 miles southwest of San Bernardino and about 35 miles east of the center of Los Angeles.)*

* "The Church authorities decided to send an expedition back to the ranch to make purchases, and my father and I were among those chosen to go. The party was under the leadership of ^{Asahel A.} ~~Herbert A.~~ Lathrop, with Elijah K. Fuller as his lieutenant. There were 18 ^(orig) in the party and their names were ^{Asahel A.} ~~Herbert A.~~ Lathrop, Elijah K. Fuller, Wm. Peacock, Orrin P. Rockwell, Jos. M. Davis, Eli Harvey Pierce, Thurston Larson, James Hyrons, Jake Workman, Jackson Workman, Jefferson Hunt (who was my father), Gilbert Hunt (my brother), Peter Nease (my adopted brother), James Shaw, John Y. Greene, Elias F. Peterson, Wm. B. Cornogg and myself. *(Also George Garner.)*

We took provisions for 30 days, which we estimated would be ample time to reach our destination in. But we found the directions very hard to follow, and lost the trail so often and spent so much time hunting it again, that we finally ran out of provisions before we had ^{reached} the vicinity of Las Vegas. We then did what I think no other party of "Mormon" emigrants ever had to do — we killed and ate our horses. Three horses in all were consumed. Two of them belonged to John Y. Greene and the other to Wm. ^{B. Cornogg} ~~Herbert A.~~ the first we killed at Mountain Spring, just beyond Las Vegas; the next was dispatched at Amargose springs, and the final one near the Mojave river. Our equipment consisted of 20 pack animals, and a saddle horse each, with plenty of arms with which to defend