

From pages 200-204:

SETTLEMENT OF PANGUITCH

(4) On 12 June, 1852, a company under the leadership of John Calvin Lazell Smith, consisting of the following men: John Steele, John D. Lee, John Dart, Solomon Chamberlain, Dr. Priddy Meeks and Francis T. Whitney left Parowan, going up Little Creek Canyon to look for a place to make a settlement on the upper Sevier River. They reported that there was a good chance for a small colony of from 50 to 100 families who might wish to go into the lumber business, as there was plenty of saw timber, house logs and water. But the climate was too cold for agriculture.

(5) So it was not settled until 16 March, 1864, when a company from Parowan and Beaver decided to make a settlement there. Among the first settlers were Jens Nielson, who was appointed Bishop to preside over the colony and the following men, mostly with families: John Hyatt, Wm. Talbot, Albert Hyatt, Wm. W. Hammond, Ingram Paramore, Thomas Gunn, Alex Ray, Thomas Richards, Mr. Butts, Enoch Wardell, Hans Christensen, Mr. Baker, John R. Robinson, John Meddowcroft, Mr. Ramsy, Thomas Adair, Alex G. Ingraham, Riley Moss, John Paul Smith, Wm. Anderson, Joseph Simpkins, Alfred Hadden, John Black, Robert George, George Hadden, Willis Webb, Reese Richards, Albert Nedauld, Joseph H. Joseph, Thomas Butler, John Butler and James Butler- their mother, Caroline F. Butler and a sister. They were from Paragonah. John Joseph, Nelson Hollingshead, Alfred Walcott, Sidney Littlefield, Richard Mills, Jenkin and Sarah Ann Evans, Wm. Talbot, Thomas Evans, Henry Pogson, Daniel Matheson, Andrew Williams, Alexander Matheson Sr., Wm. Morris, Alexander Matheson Jr., Jessie and Zilpha Ann Lowder and John Lowder and wife Emily, Anthony Paxton, James Paxton, Gabriel Dancy, Henry Walcot, Robert, John, and Thomas Munford, Albert Wendell, Timothy Robinson, W m. Boardman, W m. Harmon, Christen Rasmussen, Max Parker, Daniel Clark, James, Thomas and Robert Jenkins, William West and Collins Hakes.

(6) 1865 - Mrs. Alexander Matheson and the Indian

The little colony suffered a great deal; their flour gave out and about all they had was frosted wheat which they ground in an old coffee mill to make bread out of. One day an Indian came into her cabin and said, "Me want flour." She told him she had only a very little that she was saving just for her baby. He opened the flour bin to get the flour, and she banged it down on his hand, hard. He was pretty angry at first, but before he left he told her she was a "heap brave squaw." He knew there were men working close by, so he went away.

They named their settlement Panguitch. "Pa-gu" or "Pang-we" is fish, big fish. They built a Fort with the houses on the south, east and west, facing the Public Square. The north side of the fort was of cedar posts, set close together.

In 1864 President William H. Dame of the Parowan Stake, who had charge of the Iron County Militia, and Colonel George A. Smith, called John Lowder as Captain of about 25 men to act as minute men to help build a Fort and a stockade at Panguitch on the Sevier River for the protection of the Pioneer Colony. They built a stockade about eight miles north of Panguitch on the east side of the Sevier River, just opposite from Lowder's Springs.

Panguitch townsite was surveyed by Edward Dalton, who helped to survey Salt Lake City. It was a fine job with wide streets.

Alfred Hadden surveyed the canal known as the south field ditch and Alexander Matheson Sr. drove four yoke of oxen and did the plowing to make the ditch. This water was taken out of Panguitch Lake outlet, and was the first irrigation water. This ditch is still in use.

Jens Nielson was the first Bishop, with Jessie Lowder, first and Daniel Matheson, second Counselors. Jenkin T. Evans and Alex Matheson were Ward Teachers, and Thomas Gunn was

the chorister. Panguitch Branch was organized by Stake President Wm. H. Dame of the Parowan Stake.

(7) They cleared and fenced a large field, made a number of ditches, built log houses and raised a fair crop. The first winter they had plenty of frost bitten wheat and beef to kill. Their supply of flour ran out, and the only thing they could do was to grind wheat in a little old coffee mill so they could make bread. They lived on boiled wheat, ate it in milk instead of bread. Sometimes they'd parch it to eat.

Early in 1865 they built a large schoolhouse 20 x 30 feet with a large fireplace in the west end. The house was made from hewn logs, the floor the same, and the master workman with the adz was father Jessie Lowder. It served as a schoolhouse, church and recreation center.

In 1865 the Indians became very hostile, and the people had to move into the fort for protection. A heavy guard had to stay with the cattle.

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF THE PANGUITCH MILITIA, 21 MARCH, 1865
Written by John Lowder, Captain of the Militia

An election was held; Colonel George A. Smith was present. My name was proposed for captain, and I was elected, a position which I held until Panguitch was vacated.

We had been given orders to take in all stragglers Indians, and this led to William West getting shot. Some of us rode down to the stockade, and while there we saw two Indians on the west side of the Sevier River shooting ducks. William West took my horses and rode with Collins Hakes across the river to intercept the Indians and bring them into the stockade. The Indians objected and said they were on an express from Chief Black Hawk's band, and they wanted to see Lowder. The men told them that I was over at the stockade.

The Indians tried to pass, and William West rode out in front of them. As he did so, one of the Indians caught his horse by the bit, and held him while the other Indian fired at him, shooting him in the shoulder. Then there was a skirmish between Collins Hakes and one of the Indians, each one trying to shoot the other, but their guns failed to go off, so no damage was done. Hake's gun was a cartridge type, and the Indian's was a cap gun.

I got a horse and rode across the river and got a shot at the other Indian, wounding him in the shoulder. I trailed him about four miles, and left him in some large boulders. The next day my father, Jessie Lowder, and two or three others found that he had been taken away by some other Indians. They found his old gun that wouldn't go off when he and Collins Hakes were shooting at each other. He must have snapped 50 caps at Collins from his old cap gun. One of the men decided to see if it would shoot, and it went off with a bang. The Indian that was killed was Santick, and the other one Shegump. Shegump and William West became good friends.

During the Black Hawk Indian War, we had many skirmishes with the Indians and many hardships to endure in guarding, going on express, taking care of the stock, and moving houses into the fort. They had to answer to Guard roll call every morning, and no man was allowed to go off alone.

The next day I received an order from Major Silas S. Smith for me to take an escort and go up to the Indian Camp above Panguitch and take the Indians in as prisoners and bring them to Panguitch and hold them until further orders. We decided to separate and to come into camp in different groups so as not to excite them. We found them camped pretty close together. Old Doctor Bill was with them. He soon got excited when I asked for their guns. He began to look for his gun, but it was stuck back in his brush shanty out of sight.

By this time I saw another Indian with his gun in his hand. I asked him for it, and he came up like he was going to hand it to me, but he turned the muzzle on me. I caught it in my left hand and hung on. By this time James Butler had been shot by old Doctor Bill in the side with an arrow. Butler returned the fire with his double barrel gun. The men commenced firing at old Doctor Bill, and shot off three of his fingers.

As soon as James Butler saw me and the Red Lake Indian scuffling for the gun, he came to me with the arrow sticking in his side, and he shot the Indian and killed him. I sent John Butler down to town for a wagon to take James, the wounded man, down to town where he could have his wounds dressed. The rest of the men guarded the prisoners and took care of them.

We kept them for a considerable time, until we got an order from Colonel Dame to liberate them. So we set them free. My father, Jessie Lowder, and three of four men buried the two Indians that were killed while being taken prisoners.

Written by Captain John Lowder when he was 79 years old.

In June, 1866, Panguitch was abandoned on account of Indian troubles, the settlers going to Parowan, Beaver, Paragonah and some farther north.

After the Indian War was over, the Church Presidency advised the people to return to their homes, but many of the original company had made permanent homes elsewhere.

(8) The fall of 1871 President 'Brigham Young called George W. Sevy of New Harmony to lead another company of settlers and reestablish a community in the Panguitch valley. He was set apart as Bishop of Panguitch Ward. On March 19, 1871, the town was resettled; they moved into the old Fort, built by the previous settlers.

It had not been molested.

Those who went in 1871:

George W. Sevy	Dickens
James Montague	Edward Bunker
Wm. LeFever	John Taylor Reynolds
Wm. D. Kartchner	Rile Moss
Supt. of Sunday School	George Marshall
Wm. Prince	Timothy Robinson
Mohonri M. Steele	John W. Norton
Housten brothers	Albert Delong
Morgan Richards	John Butler
Wm. Talbot	Thomas Butler
Allen Miller	James Butler
N. R. Ipson	James Imley
Jessie W. Crosby	David Cameron
Samuel Crosby	Wm. Cameron

(4) Deseret News Files.

(5) Lena Miller, Panguitch.

(6) Alice Matheson Halterman, Parowan.

(7) Simon A. Matheson.

(8) Lena W. Miller, Panguitch.