



February, 2015

Mountain Man Monthly

The Authorized Publication of the
Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders Inc.

The Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders, Inc. was chartered in 1969 by a group of men and women interested in their heritage and dedicated to preserving and promoting the sport of muzzle loading and buckskinning. CSML is a family oriented club that holds a broad range of functions such as camp outs, potluck dinners, and black powder shoots. CSML is affiliated with the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association and the National Rifle Association.

Views and opinions contained within articles submitted to the Mountain Man Monthly are not necessarily those of the editor or CSML. The editor reserves the right not to publish any article submitted but encourages articles on any subject regarding shooting sports and subjects related to the fur trade era.

**Regular Monthly Meeting
March 5**

Primitive Shoot - March 15

Dues are now past due!!

Loss of our friend.....

**Daylight Savings Time starts
again March 8**

Marlin & Barb on the move.....

President

Joy Hicks

Vice President

Roy Crouse

Treasurer

Gwen Blanchard

Secretary

Lois Schainost

Membership Chairman

Ted Beaupre

Range Officer

Todd Schainost

Assistant Range Officer

Ted Beaupre & Marlin Johnson

Primitive Exec.

Doug Davis

Assistant Primitive Exec.

Tony Hecker

Womens' Primitive Exec.

Dee Beaupre

Cannon Master

Richard Stites

Mountain Man Monthly Editor

Doreen Webb

UPCOMING EVENTS: CSML & Statewide

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	INFORMATION
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	March 1	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	March 5	regular club stuff & maybe demo
Daylight Savings Time	begins on Sunday,	March 8, 2015	clocks ahead one hour!!!!
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	March 15	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Jim Harmon Memorial Black Powder/Blanket Shoot	Meeker Sportsman's Club 4.5 miles south of Meeker, CO	March 28	iron sights, in-line & traditional rifles & pistols; \$10 shoot fee; Dan DeWitt 970-220-2202
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	April 2	club business & fun
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	April 5	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	April 19	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
NO CLUB SHOOTS IN	MAY -- - PREPARE	FOR THE ANNUAL	SHOOT!!!!
Colorado Squirrel Rifle Championships	Buckhorn Skinners Range/Loveland	April 25-26 (snow May 16-17)	.40 caliber or smaller; flint & percussion; hunters' aggregate
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	May 7	last plans for the annual shoot
40 th Annual Memorial Day Shoot	Florence Mountain Park	May 23-25	lots of shooting, sharing, and fun for the weekend!
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	June 4	review of the big event!!!
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	June 7	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Santa Fe Trails Rendez	Raton, NM	June 14-20	lots of shooting, fun, and frolic
NMLRA Territorial Matches	SPVHS Range Fort Lupton	June 19-21	lots of events; some camping at the range; fire in barrels only
Liberty Encampment	Rd 74-22 near Elbert	June 21-28	info: Jerry Collins 719-347-3142
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	July 2	club business; who knows what!
High Country Hideaway	near Kremmling	July 15-19	state Shotgun Shoot; lots of fun!
Grainger Primitive Camp Out	near Victor, CO	July 18-19	annual club camp out & chili contest; lots of shooting
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	August 2	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	August 6	who knows what?????

For CSML scheduled shoots; CALL SHOOT HOT LINE (719) 632-7690 after 9:00 a.m. on shoot day to be sure shoot is on!!!
Schedule is subject to change at any time and is based on information available at time of publication. On-line check csmlinc.org

Motion then made for adjournment. Seconded and so done.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Schainost, Secretary



Primitive Pistol Match February 15, 2015

by: Ken West

The weather was a bit cool, but four of us braved it to shoot pistol. The scores were:

John Udovich	11 gongs + tie
Ken West	11 gongs + tie
Al Bartok	11 gongs + tie
Tom Gabor	8 gongs

Tom seems to be in the middle of a disagreement with his pistol. The winnings being too small to make his house payment, John donated them to the range fund. I would encourage more people to donate to the upkeep of the range that we all enjoy.



Loss of our friend.....

February 7, 2015 we lost one of our friends and long-time supporters, Cliff "Turtle" Gibbs. He had attended our shoot for many, many years and shot not only in the Senior events, but the Super Senior events as well. Tall and lean, Cliff was always

present to shoot, even when he had to take off his oxygen to do so. Cliff always had a story to tell and loved to tell them to anyone who would listen.

Cliff was born on August 21, 1924 in Bronx, New York. After graduation he joined the Army's 10th Mountain Division in Colorado. He later joined the 11th Airborne as a paratrooper and served in the Philippines until 1945.

March 19, 1949 Cliff married the love of his life Hannah Untermayer in New York City. Cliff's love of Colorado brought them back to Pueblo in 1950. Cliff worked for the US Army as a photographer at the Pueblo Army Depot and also ran the Babey Elite Photo Studio for about five years. He was a member of the Professional Ski Instructors of America for over 20 years, managed and owned several ski schools in Colorado, and owned the Trail Tex Sales. Cliff was a pro shop manager at the City Park Golf Course.

Cliff had a deep love for riding horses, team roping, hunting, raising and training hunting dogs, fishing, golfing, and cowboy action shooting. He and Hannah supported the Pueblo area 4-H clubs for many years by supplying hay and feed for the animals.

Cliff and Hannah were married for 65 years and raised three children: George, Andrea, and Jeri. They have numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren who will all miss Turtle.



CSMLA WINTER CONVENTION

Well, Mother Nature tried her best to thwart the plans for the Winter Convention, but a few of us brave and hearty souls managed to find our way to the Ft. Collins Elks club and attend this fine event. For a one day event, there were plenty of tables with things for sale and lots of visiting going on. There were lots of local folks who stopped by to see what we were doing and why we did it. We even had a few new members join and lots of old ones renew their memberships. All-in-all, I would have to say it was a good time.

During the annual meeting that was held, it was determined that we would reduce the number of Regional Directors to just 5 instead of 10. This will

still provide plenty of contact points for the CSMLA but will reduce the number of double occupants and help with finding new volunteers to fill them.

The annual election was held and there are few members taking office, including our own Vivian Crouse who is the new Secretary for the CSMLA. Congratulations to Vivian and we look forward to her participation in the association.

The banquet held after the trade floor closed was really good. There was plenty of food and even the opportunity for several of the attendees to go back for seconds and some thirds. We even left food behind. The carrot cake for dessert was scrumptious. There were no complaints heard by anyone.

Estill Ator was named as the 2015 Muzzle Loader of the Year. Jack "Mato" Cardinal was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award. While neither was there to accept, we gave them both rousing rounds of applause for their efforts and assistance to the State Association.

While the drive back south was a little slow, the snow plows and their crews kept I-25 clear for us and we all made it home safe and sound. None of us were in a hurry and just drove according to the conditions (which changed frequently) that the road presented to us. I firmly believe that all of us who went had a great time and would do it again.

We will be looking for input on what to do for the next year's event and where to do it. If you have ideas, please let us know.



MARGINAL MEN

Lesser lights of the Fur Trade in the American West, 1800-1865

I don't know if you ever wonder about the unsung heroes and participants in the American Fur Trade, but I do. We hear and read lots about Jim Bridger, Pierre Chateau, Lewis & Clark, The Bent Brothers, St. Vrain & Company, James Ohio Pattie, and others, but what about the ones whose names are lost to history?

James A. Hanson, Charles, Hanson, and Samanta Eickleberry have published a book that provides some names and information on others who

were part of this huge event that took place and changed forever the way we looked at hats and beavers. Following are excerpts from that marvelous book.

There is an old joke that goes like this: an avid bibliophile moved to a small Midwestern town and soon became the public library's number one patron. In less than a year he had read every book in every category in the place. Out of new material, the librarian pulled out from the broom closet a three-volume set that was in fact the New York City residential telephone directory. The patron gave it only a cursory glance as the librarian checked it out to him. Three days later the man returned and set the books on the circulation desk. Bemused and dumbfounded, the librarian asked him how he had liked it. The patron shrugged and said "Lousy plot, but what a cast of characters!"

This little volume has a better plot along with a great cast of characters. It grew out of notes made by the two *Quarterly* editors, Charles Hanson and Jim Hanson, who together accumulated seventy-five years of reading fur trade records, histories, and memoirs. A figure comes out of the usually nameless phalanxes of hunters, boatmen, trappers, carpenters, sawyers, laborers, and interpreters. Almost by accident, often in fact because of one, an individual's name was recorded due to a wound, an illness, a desertion, an overdrawn account, or a death.

There were lots of mostly unidentified people working in the fur trade of the American West. The French Canadians that the American Fur Company (AFC) signed as engages were dismissively referred to as Pork Eaters, while the French habitants recruited in Missouri by the same company were called Gumbos. In an 1830 deposition, Smith, Jackson, & Sublette reported that they had employed up to 120 men during the previous four years. Lamont, one of the founders of the Columbia Fur Company, wrote December 13, 1830, that there were 20 men working in the Navy Yard at Fort Pierre. Cholera killed eight or nine men in 1833 at Cabanne's post for the Otoes. There were fifty men sent on the keelboat to the Blackfeet, 1832. Hardly a name survives for any but a few of them.

A few of the previously marginal men have been, through dogged scholarship, advanced to

Bordeau: Apparently a deserter from the AFC's post, Fort Tecumseh. On behalf of William Laidlaw, Jacob Halsey wrote Kenneth McKenzie October 17, 1831 and sent to him and also to Fort Clark, a copy of this man's accounts in case he turned up at either place so the money he owed might be collected.

Brown, Baptiste: The story of Browns adventures were related by Kit Carson for whom Brown trapped. Pursued by Blackfeet, Brown tried and failed to escape on horseback by leaping a canyon. The horse was killed and Brown's legs were broken. He was found by his companions a day later; they set his bones and dragged him with them on a litter. Later he trapped in the Wind River Mountains, and Brown's Hole, source of the Green River, was named for him. His successful efforts to secure an Arapaho bride are detailed by Inman in *Old Santa Fe Trail*.

Brown, William L.: Trapper with Vandenburg who left his camp and came to Fort Pierre after Vandenburg was killed. Brown was hired at Fort Pierre, Halsey to PCJ, July 9, 1832. An able and active supervisor at Fort Pierre, having charge of the lumber camp and the development of Bloomfield Farm on Roy's Island. He was walking from Fort Pierre to the farm March 10, 1833 when he broke through the ice on the Missouri River and drowned. Mr. Braseau Duchonquette was appointed to fill the vacancy at the farm.

Hawkins, Jim: A black cook; he was supposed to go with Alexander Culbertson as cook at Fort Laramie, but stayed at Fort Union where he cooked for Edwin Denig. He did not like Denig and took a company skiff. He got the boat sunk on a snag and walked to Fort Clark, where he cooked for James Kipp. Previously Hawkins had worked for Peter Sarpy at Bellevue, but had run up so many debts due to "immoral" Indian women that he was forced to leave. Kurz said Hawkins was actually a slave, who had to send part of his earnings to his owner in St. Louis.

Loretta: A New Mexican trapper with Jim Bridger. According to Joseph Meek, he rescued a Blackfeet woman from the Crows and married her. She was acting as interpreter from Jim Bridger when the

Blackfeet party supposedly attacked (some say Bridger initiated the fight) and her horse threw her. Bridger was shot twice in the back with arrows, and the Blackfeet carried off the woman. She was distraught because her baby was in a carrier attached to her horse's saddle. Loretta, the husband, took the baby in his arms and unarmed, carried it to the mother in the Blackfeet camp. The Blackfeet chief so admired his courage that he let him live, but would not release the other. The next year they were united and Loretta was made interpreter at Fort McKenzie.

Manuel: A hunter working for Fitzpatrick. He and some companions wounded a bear which then hid in a thicket. One of the men entered the brush and was attacked by the bear. All the men were afraid to fire except one-eyed Manuel who shot the bear dead. The trapper was unable to work for several weeks.

McIntire: One of a trapping party led by Kit Carson, trapping along the Purgatoire. He was nearly killed by a grizzly bear that had taken possession of an elk that McIntire had killed. The bear bit the muzzle of his rifle just as McIntire fired; it killed the bear but the trapper "sat down a few rods away, with his face as white as a sheet, a badly frightened man.....He said he never intended to make a business of bear hunting; he had only wished for one adventure, and this one had satisfied him.

Ogden, Julia: The Indian wife of Peter Skene Ogden. Mountain Man Joe Meek related a story he had heard, that she was present when Gardner Johnson and his American trappers caused the fracas in Ogden's camp at Deserter Point, Utah. The Hudson's Bay Company horses stampeded and several of them galloped into the American's hands. Julia Ogden's horse had, secured to the saddle, an infant child in a papoose carrier. Julia walked into the American camp and secured her horse with the baby; she also took an HBC horse loaded with fur packs belonging to the Honourable Company.

Patterson, Abram: Patterson was a trapper who drowned June 22, 1835, trying to cross Lewis's Fork. He was described as being about 23 years of age, from Pennsylvania, and with "a wild and rash temperament

which got the better of his reason and after a desperate struggle to reach the opposite bank he abandoned his horse, made a few springs, and sank to rise no more."

Speer, John: Hired June 9, 1808 as an oarsman by George Sibley as part of the crew taking a US Office of Indian Trade keel boat from Pittsburgh to St. Louis. He was to be paid 50 cents a day and found, plus \$25 return fare. On July 30 Speer was pulling the cordel when he fell in deep water. Crew members Warden and Brooks went to his aid; Brooks and Speer both drowned. Speer was described as "a Native of Pennsylvania....He was about 23 years of age, tall & well made Hair neither light nor dark."

Stevens, Rube: Known as "Little Rube," he was a child and the sole survivor of a Blackfoot ambush on the Oregon Trail. His tongue was cut out by his captors. He escaped during a fight with the Sioux; at 19 he was trapping with Boyd and Thorpe and living in a cabin in the Rockies. The three were captured by Sioux in 1846. They were rescued the same day by a group of trappers led by "Uncle" John S. Smith.

Teycateyecowige, Lazard: Listed as one of the "Men who did not come out from the Snake Country last fall," accompanying the Spokane House Report 1822-23 prepared by Alexander Kennedy. One of the HBC trappers who deserted to join the Americans, ans was pat of the 1825 confrontation between Ogden and Johnson Gardner.

Thompson, Philip F.: Listed in the Fort Hall 1836 ledger; a partner in Fort Davy Crockett. One of the leaders of the horse thieves who raided the Shoshones and the California ranchos in 1840. With Purett Sinclair, he traded with the Navajos in 1837. Mentioned by Robert "Doc" Newell in his memoranda book from his days as a mountain man.

Tisdale, Amable: A "Canadian Pork Eater" engaged in Montreal Spring 1829. His time did not expire until August 1832 but he had been told at Prairie du Chien that he would be free to leave on the Yellowstone when it returned to St. Louis.

Toupin, Jean: From Maskinonge, Quebec, he was

born about 1799. Working for the HBC in 1823. Interpreter at Fort Nez Perces, then with John Work's 1832-32 and 1832-33 brigades. He was back at Fort Nez Perces as interpreter until 1841. He married Madam Dorion, the widow of Pierre Dorion, and apparently died before 1851, when she is known to have remarried.

Turner, John: A member of Jedediah Smith's brigade to California; he was one of four who escaped the Umpqua Massacre on July 1'4, 1821. He guided MacLeod's HBC party trying to recover Smith's property. He also guided Laframboise's HBC trapping brigade to California in 1832-33, where he joined Ewing Young's brigade of trappers. He was in Oregon for a time, and was in the second Donner relief party. He died in 1847.

Virgin, Thomas: Trapper hired by Smith, Jackson, & Sublette. A member of Jedediah Smith's 1827 California party. Wounded by a Mojave Indian club at the Colorado River crossing at Yuma. Left to recover at San Bernardino Mission. Killed at the mouth of the Umpqua River, Oregon, by Indians, 1827.

Warden, Archibald: Hired June 9, 1808 as an oarsman by George Sibley as part of the crew taking a US Office of Indian Trade keel boat from Pittsburgh to St. Louis. He was to be paid 50 cents a day and found, plus \$25 return fare. Tried unsuccessfully to rescue John Speer.

Wilson, Ebenezer: Hired June 9, 1808 as an oarsman by George Sibley as part of the crew taking a US Office of Indian Trade keel boat from Pittsburgh to St. Louis. He was to be paid 50 cents a day and found, plus \$25 return fare.

Yeo, Baptiste: On November 27, 1831, William Laidlaw at Fort Tecumseh wrote David Mitchell that Kenneth McKenzie at Fort Union was in need of a cook. Since no one was available at Fort Tecumseh, Laidlaw inquired if Mitchell would send Yeo to McKenzie since Mitchell already had a cook, named Maxan.

William Craig, Mountain Man and Homesteader

As one travels southeast from Lewiston on Highway 95, a timber-covered mountainous escarpment is seen which stretches from the Snake River in a northeast direction to the Clearwater. This is known as Craig Mountain or, more properly, Craig's Mountain, named after Colonel William Craig, Idaho's most distinguished mountain man, its first homesteader, and by some said to be the person who named the state.

At the foot of this mountain lies the Craig Donation Claim. At Jacques' Spur at the east end of the claim may be found the grave of Colonel William Craig, which until about thirty years ago was unmarked and the actual location known to only one man. The claim lies between Sweetwater and Culesac, through which Highway 95 extends for over two miles. Beside the highway near the west end of the homestead, a marker, made of Boise sandstone in the form of the state of Idaho, was erected and dedicated on October 27, 1946 bearing the following inscription:

Craig Donation Claim, located September 5, 1846, by William Craig, mountain man, and his Indian wife Isabel. First permanent white settler in Idaho 1840; first Nez Perce Indian Agent, 1848; interpreter at Walla Wall, Flathead and Blackfoot councils, 1855; Lieutenant Colonel, Washington Territory Volunteers, Indian Wars, 1856; first Postmaster of Walla Wall, 1858. This was the first homestead in Idaho. Here is the family of the Rev. Henry Harmon Spalding was sheltered following the Whitman Massacre, 1847.

Craig was born in Greenbrier County, Virginia, about 1807. AT the age of eighteen he became involved in a quarrel with a man much older than he and was forced to kill him in self-defense. Being young and alarmed at his act, he fled from his Virginia home. He next appeared in the city of St. Louis, then the emporium for the fur trade, filled with traders, trappers, and frontiersmen of the West and far Northwest. He joined a party of French-speaking traders who were on the point of starting up the Missouri River on a trading expedition, and he traveled with them in their bateaux on a long and tedious journey. They ascended the Missouri River to a point where Fort Benton is now located and there encountered a party of trappers whose destination was the Rocky Mountains. Here Craig severed his connections with the traders and joined the trappers, becoming in due time a full-fledged mountain man. He finally arrived in Idaho with other trappers that he had met at a rendezvous in Pierre's Hole on July 25, 1829. There he met Joseph L. Meek and Robert Newell, who afterward became his close friends and associates.

It is likely that Craig first became acquainted with the Nez Perce Native Americans in the 1830s in this part of Eastern Idaho, southwestern Montana, or that part of Wyoming west of the continental divide. It is said that he formed a life-long friendship here with Chief Lawyer, son of Chief Twisted Hair who aided Lewis and Clark in their expedition in 1805-1806.

Craig's first experience with warfare came in the battle

of Pierre's Hole at the foot of the Grand Tetons in eastern Idaho in 1832 or 1833. William Sublette, the leader of the trappers, was severely wounded and several trappers and friendly Nez Perce and Flatheads killed, before Sublette's men aided by the friendly Native Americans were successful in dispersing a war party of Blackfeet and Gros Ventres, who were looking for spoils and loot following the trappers rendezvous at Pierre's Hole.

In 1833, Craig is known to have been among the personnel of Captain B. L. E. Bonneville, a native of France but an officer of the United States Army who, while on leave, organized a trading expedition into the Rocky Mountain region. Bonneville was the first white man to take wagons across the South Pass over the Rockies in western Wyoming, the route which was followed in the 1840s by the Oregon pioneers. Bonneville was also the first white man to operate extensively in the Great Salt Lake area. Washington Irving commented also, "that Bonneville attempted a trip through the Snake River Canyon," now known as Hell's Canyon just south of Lewiston, Idaho.

It was in his employment with Bonneville that Craig became a member of the Joseph R. Walker expedition to California between 1833 and 1834, in which the American trappers spent New Year's Day at Monterey. Walker's men crossed the northern Utah-Nevada deserts, the Sierra-Nevada Mountains, and journeyed through the Redwood Forests. While the expedition may have been for the purpose of trapping beaver, the party returned with five or six hundred head of California horses for sale and trade among the Indians. Aside from the horses, the chief value of the expedition was to demonstrate the possibility of overland travel to California.

When one travels today through Yellowstone Park along the route of the Nez Perce through that area in 1877, one can only marvel at the distances traveled by the Nez Perce at that time. However, when one reads William Craig's affidavit, as a settler, made June 4, 1855, in which he states that "he is intermarried with Isabel Craig, his wife, and the he was legally married to her on the 6th day of July A.D. 1838, in Missouri Territory," one becomes convinced just how far and wide the Nez Perce actually traveled. Isabel was, in fact, a Nez Perce woman, whose name was Pah-tis-sah, and who was the daughter of James, a chief who lived in Lapwai Valley east of Lewiston, Idaho. While the affidavit is silent on the locale of the marriage, it is believed that it was at the rendezvous of the trappers and mountain men, which in the year 1838 was held at the mouth of the Popo Agie on the east slope of the Rocky Mountains, and in what was then the territory of Missouri and now Wyoming.

Following the last rendezvous on Green River in the summer of 1840, all which it was announced that the large trading companies would no longer bring out trade goods, the trappers found themselves without gainful employment and in most cases in a destitute condition. They scattered in all directions. William Craig, Joe Meek (who later became first

marshal of Oregon Territory), and Robert Newell set out for Oregon, bringing the first wagons from Fort Hall across southern Idaho to Fort Boise, then over the Blue Mountains, to Marcus Whitman's Mission, near Fort Walla Walla, thus opening the way for the settlers who were soon to follow.

An interesting incident occurred at Fort Boise, the Hudson's Bay Company post, where the travelers remained a few days to rest their horses and recruit additional stock, that comments upon Craig's character. Mr. Payette, the trader in charge of the fort, according to Meeks' biographer, "offered Newell quarters in the fort, as leader of the party. To Meek and Craig, who were encamped outside, he sent a piece of sturgeon with his compliments, which our incipient Oregonians sent back again with **their** compliments. No Hudson's Bay distinctions of rank for them! No indeed! The moment that nay American commenced to think of himself as a settler on the most remote corner of American soil, that moment, as if by instinct, he began to defend and support his republicanism."

It is said that Craig located at Tualatin Plains in Oregon that year, but he could not have remained there long, since the Rev. Henry Harmon Spalding's diary shows that Craig arrived in the Lapwai Valley on November 20, 1840. Here he lived until his death on October 16, 1869. Since he had seen the West the hard way by bateaux, on foot, and on horseback from the wide Missouri to the Pacific Coast at Monterey and to Astoria on the Columbia, some would say that it speaks highly for the Lapwai Valley country that he should select this spot for his abode after having seen virtually the entire West. However, others might puncture this idea by merely observing the perhaps his wife Isabel wished to live among her people, now that the days in which one might lead the wild life of a trapper were over.

Nevertheless, in locating in the Lapwai Valley, Craig immediately came in contact with the Rev. Spalding, who had established a mission there in 1836. However, it was inevitable that these men, each fine characters and admirable in his own way, should have definite differences. Craig understood and adapted himself to the Nez Perce world as it was, and in turn, was both understood and accepted by the Nez Perce with whom he was associated. Spalding, on the other hand was a missionary, zealous in his efforts to alter the manner of living of the Nez Perce and eager to convert them to the "true faith" as he saw it. Spalding's mind focused on the world to come, while Craig's was focused on the world in which he lived. Spalding wrote in his diary for November 20, 1844, "Craig and Larison, two mountain men have arrived, probably to spend the winter. I have seen enough of mountain men!" Later he wrote in his diary, "How is it possible for a man born of Christian parents (Craig's parents were members of the Presbyterian Church) to be guilty of such deeds of darkness!" This is about the time when it was said that Craig had persuaded some of the Nez Perce to destroy Spalding's mill dam.

However, Craig worked for Spalding during the following year, for which Spalding himself attested to Craig's general good character as follows from an 1844 entry in his diary: "and yet this man (Craig) is remarkably friendly; having daily intercourse. Is one of the most faithful, expeditious workman we can employ; very accommodating as a neighbor."

Regardless of the differences which may have existed between Craig and Spalding, Craig's good character is further shown by his action at the time of the Whitman Massacre in 1847. The news reached Lapwai on Saturday, December 4, 1847, reporting that Spalding had perished with the Whitmans. Mrs. Spalding sent a messenger to warn Craig. Craig soon afterward arrived at the mission. Mrs. Spalding and he decided that it would be best to assemble all the settlers, including the three workmen at the mission, in Craig's house which would be easier to defend against an attack; however, Mrs. Spalding refused to move on Sunday, even though it was to avoid danger. Early Monday morning she packed some of her things and her children in a wagon for the trip to Craig's, with Craig and a band of his Native American friends as an escort. When they were about to leave the mission, a band of Nez Perce trouble-makers rode up led by a warrior who had been at Waiilatpu, the site of the Whitman Mission and Massacre, but had taken no part in the killings. The brave proposed that all mission people at Spalding's be killed, but Craig, his father-in-law Chief James, and the friendly Nez Perce formed a guard around the wagons and convoyed the party safely to Craig's home. Although Craig could protect the settlers, he did not have enough men to prevent the trouble-makers from looting the mission. When Spalding, who had been erroneously reported dead, arrived in the Lapwai Valley and found th emission looted, he went on to Craig's house, where he rejoined Mrs. Spalding and the Children.

Throughout his life in the Lapwai Valley, Craig served as a peacemaker and as an ameliorating influence in the friction and difficulties that were bound to arise between the Nez Perce and the settlers. He participated in the great councils and was an interpreter for and witness to the following treaties negotiated by Governor Isaac I. Stevens of the Washington Territory: the treaty with the Nez Perce at the Walla Walla Council of June 11, 1855; the treaty with the Flatheads at Hellgate, Montana, July 16, 1855; and the treaty with the Blackfoot Indians at the Blackfoot Council held October 17, 1855, on the Missouri River below the mouth of the Judith, in what was then the territory of Nebraska and now the state of Montana.

The nerve, courage, and resourcefulness of Craig was demonstrated numerous times, but best in the incident with the Coeur D'Alene tribe occurring at the Cataldo Mission, when Governor Stevens and his party were returning from the Blackfoot Council. Word had reached Governor Stevens that the Coeur D'Alenes were restless and were planning an ambush of his party. On the 23rd of November, 1855, t6he party made a long march and camped twenty-six miles from the mission. The governor was satisfied that no Coeur d'Alene had yet observed his march. He deemed it impracticable to move the entire train to the mission in one day without breaking down his pack stock and saddle horses; yet, he hoped to take the Coeur d'Alenes there by surprise.

To be continued.....