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Title: **GH Notes-The Plains Across -John D Unruth_0003.jpg**
Provenance:

Category: **Document**
Person:
Date:

Elisha Stevens

Martin Murphy Sr.

Dr. John Townsend

The Plains Across / John D. Unruh Jr. U. Ill. Press Urbana Chicago London

p110 - The famous 1843 emigration, by far the largest to that date,

contracted with experienced fur trader John Gantt to

guide them to Fort Hall for $1 per person. Since Gantt's knowledge

of the country ended there, Dr. Marcus Whitman was also given at

least $80 to guide the group beyond Fort Hall. Moses "Black" Harris"

was hired as guide by Nathaniel Ford's Oregon-bound party in

1844, one of the largest of the year; Andrew Sublette was

apparently similarly employed by the Cornelius Gilliam

party; and Caleb Greenwood was employed to pilot the

Stevens-Murphy party of that year as far toward

California

as he knew the trail, at least to South Pass but

presumably to Fort Hall.

By 1845 the felt need for pilots was beginning to diminish.

P156 - It was quite natural, for example, for overlanders to shift

route into motion from Indians, especially during the

early 1840s and in the initial gold rush period. When the Stevens-

Murphy party blazed a trail beyond the Humboldt Sink with

their wagons in 1844, they were following the exact directions

of a Paiute Indian chief who told them of the route and went

ahead with the leaders to show the way. Named in the Indian's honor,

The Truckee River became one of the most frequently traveled overland trails into

California and still serves as a modern transportation route.