

Mountain Meadows Massacre Vocabulary List

Massacre – the act of killing many defenseless human beings

Wagon train – a group of people and their wagons (a wooden vehicle pulled by a horse) traveling together to cross long distances

Emigrant – in the context of these documents, emigrant means people who travel from the eastern United States to the territories in the west.

Pioneers – people in the United States in the 1800s who explored the unknown American continent and created new cities.

Federal – something that is done by the United States central government

Faith – belief in a religion or a god

Grasslands – a farmland filled with edible plants and grasses

Paiute Indians – a Native American tribe located in Utah, Arizona, and Nevada

Militia – citizens who join together to form a military unit

Convicted – to be found guilty of a crime

Sermon – a religious speech usually given by a church leader

Settlement – a small community of pioneers in a new area in the early United States.