Avery Supply Co., Monroe County, Iowa

By Art Cady, III



Avery Supply Co. scrip worth five cents in merchandise

The Avery Supply Company of Avery, Iowa was the company store of the Smokey Hollow Coal Company. The Smokey Hollow Company had a number of mines in and around Monroe County, Iowa.

In 1893, the Smokey Hollow Company was located on a slope near Avery on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. It employed about 135 men.

P. H. Hynes, the man whose signature is on the pictured note, was superintendent of the Smokey Hollow Coal Company from 1893 to 1914. It is difficult to pin down the exact date on which this note was issued, but I believe that it was sometime around 1913 or 1915, when the company opened a mine in Hiteman, Iowa.

REFERENCES

- 1. Hickenlooper, Frank, History of Monroe County, Iowa, 1896, p. 341
 2. Report of State Mine Inspectors: 1893, p. 23
- State Mine Inspectors Biennial Report: 1914, p. 25 Eighteenth Biennial Report of the State Mine Inspectors: 1915, p. 13, 14, 29

Newly Discovered Utah Territorial Scrip

By Thomas F. Mason

N CLEANING out an old home in Salt Lake City in mid-1972, a woman claimed to have discovered the printing plate for the scrip shown here and eight pieces of the currency. She declared that she threw the plate away but kept the prints.



According to Margaret Lester of the Utah State Historical Society, the vignette on the scrip is of Camp Floyd, Utah, and the scrip itself was used as currency in the camp. From 1857 to 1860, the camp was evidently used by distressed settlers where they could buy and sell army animals and wagons. Probably the five dollar presentation amount was final credit for three dollars invested in merchandise.

Although details are somewhat hazy and assistance is solicited from anyone who has more information, it seems that the "Utah War" which broke out in 1857 between the federal government and the Utah settlers precipitated the conditions that led to issuance of the scrip. When Brigham Young learned that 2,500 federal troops at Fort Leavenworth were ordered to Fort Bridger to bivouac, he declared martial law and forbade the federals to enter

He also ordered his territorial militia to destroy the Russell & Majors wagon trains and supplies. In October Russell & Majors wagon trains and supplies. In October the militia did attack the freighters, so the federals advanced on Salt Lake by way of Soda Springs to protect the trains. Later in November during a typical Wyoming blizzard, Russell & Majors lost more of its animals and supplies to the elements. The federals were ordered to leave Camp Floyd and sell to the Mormons what supplies remained perhaps utilizing this society. remained, perhaps utilizing this scrip.

Russell & Majors billed the government for a half million dollars for the loss of its property that the troops failed to protect. Meanwhile, Camp Floyd was renamed Fort Critenden in February, 1861 and abandoned July 27, 1861. It was replaced by the present Camp Douglas.

Not visible in the photograph is the inscription at the lower left reading "Engr. by D. McKenzie G.S.L. City."

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