

John Doyle Lee in Tennessee

The following is an excerpt from a book the MORMON MENACE, being the confession of John Doyle Lee, Danite, published in New York by the Home Protection Publishing Company in 1905. Mormons maintain that the book is spurious, but it contains a reference to the Young family and the activities of the missionaries in Tennessee in 1841.

“When I was about to leave, Brother Young exchanged horses with me, he keeping my pony, and giving me a fine blooded black mare. I was then built up, so far as a good outfit for traveling was concerned. Brother Young raveled with me as far as Indian Creek, Putnam County...This was the first of March...A merchant named Marshbanks invited us home with him (after their meeting)...They informed us that a couple of men, brothers, from west Tennessee, named William and Alfred Young, formerly members of the Baptist Church, had joined the Mormons and had been there and preached; that they enjoyed spiritual gifts as the apostles anciently did, and had baptized the people into that faith, and ordained John Young (son of Mark Young)...(I) preached that evening at the house of David Young, a brother of Mark Young, the Methodist class leader, to a large body of inquiring minds.” (Pg. 154-157)

On page 256, he writes, “When I returned from Santa Fe I found David Young, his wife, and two daughters lying sick and helpless-really in want. I took care of them and supplied them with food and such articles as they required until the death of the father, mother, and one son, which took place in a short time-a few months after my return home. I had baptized this family in Putnam County, Tennessee, and felt an interest in them. The two girls were sealed to me while we stayed at winter quarters, and became members of my family....By them I have had three sons and three daughters. They were sealed to me in 1847. I was also sealed to Nancy Armstrong the same evening that I took the Young girls to wife. A few evenings afterwards I was sealed to Emeline Woolsey. She was my thirteenth wife.”