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## A SAD BLOT

EARLY HISTORY OF OREGON REVEALS CRIME OF WHITES



**I**N the Oregonian of March 8, 1914, an article appeared from the pen of Lillian Gertrude Applegate, which is of more than ordinary interest, and which we reprint. Of the many things we have read are none more touching than this, with its simple and heart-rending straightforwardness. Below follows the narrative:

As a child I always found "true" stories more interesting than fiction, and my taste has not changed in that respect with the years.

There are stories we have heard our elders tell of early days that were so impressive as to be indelibly stamped upon our memories and as historical events would be interesting to the coming generation of Oregonians.

One of the thrilling stories which used to make my hair stand on end was of a murder where the victims were Indians and the murderers white men.

This took place in Douglas County in 1859. I will give the story as it has been told to me by my uncle, Captain O. C. Applegate.

While the Applegates yet lived at the first settlement in Polk County a young Klickitat Indian came to my grandfather's, Lindsay Applegate, and asked for a little food for his family. He was a good looking Indian, intelligent and willing to work. His wife was a young woman of the Umpqua tribe, bright, industrious and handsome for her race. Some hard luck had attended them in their effort to get ahead among an alien people and they were very poor.

The result was that Dick Johnson encamped near and became a kind of attache to the family, not as a parasite, however, for Dick was industrious, and his father, a wrinkled old Indian whom they called "Old Mummy," was a worker, too, and despite his age often made a hand in the fields.