



**City of San Bernardino
Historical and Pioneer Society
P.O. Box 875, San Bernardino, CA 92402**

LIBRARY NEWS JULY 2009

By Richard D. Thompson, Librarian

**CHARLES JOSEPH MOGO:
THE ADVENTUROUS ARTIST**

By Richard D. Thompson

Charles Mogo was in Salt Lake City at least by early 1856, as shown by this advertisement that appeared in the Feb. 6, 1856, edition of the Salt Lake City *Deseret News*:¹

CHARLES MOGO, ORNAMENTAL PAINTER, respectfully informs the inhabitants of this Territory that he has located himself at the residence of Mr. A. Knowlton, 19th ward; and is prepared to execute, in all varieties painted Window Curtains, and decorations of various descriptions, for halls, dwellings, &c.

GENTLEMEN ATTENTION!—Drawing, according to the most elegant and approved styles, taught by Professor Mogo, on Mondays, Wednesday, and Friday. LADIES taught in Flower-drawing, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. TERMS—15 lessons \$10—each lesson to occupy two hours.

As an introduction to Charles Mogo, this advertisement is incongruous with what is known about the man: it describes a painter of curtains, halls, etc.—an interior decorator—with a specialty in flower drawing. Add in the fact that he was born in France, and you are left with the impression that even if he is not necessarily a prissy *artiste*, he certainly is not a rugged outdoorsman. However, contrary to the image the ad conjures up, Mogo contracts out to the U.S. government as a surveyor. This is a job that requires physical stamina, and in pioneer territory, with angry Indians and even angrier Mormons, it is downright dangerous. Just three years earlier a survey team in Utah, one protected by soldiers, was attacked, and Captain John W. Gunnison, together with seven others, was killed.

Mogo began service as a deputy surveyor no later than September 6, 1856, as that is the date he entered into a contract under the U.S. Surveyor General in Utah, David H. Burr. He was to survey and monument section and township corners in San Pete (Sanpete) Valley and that portion of Youab (Juab) Valley not already surveyed. He soon found out that U.S. government surveyors were not welcome in Utah.

¹ Quote taken from Palmquist, Peter E. and Thomas R. Kailbourn, *Pioneer Photographers of the Far West: A Biographical Dictionary, 1840-1865*, Stanford University Press, 2000, pp 404-06.

All through the 1850s non-Mormon federal appointees in Utah had been harassed and threatened to the point that nearly all had fled the territory. The Surveyor General's Office was especially despised by Brigham Young and his associates, and came under ever-increasing attack until, in the summer of 1857, Burr and Mogo barely escaped with their lives. On one occasion their office was broken into, on another the clerks were beaten or intimidated into leaving, and eventually the place was plundered of its survey equipment, office furniture, or anything else of value, and left stripped bare.

One reason why the Surveyor General's Office was singled out was the tenuousness of Mormon land titles. The Mormons feared that their entire economic base was threatened. They came to Utah in 1847 and established themselves without any authority from the U.S. government and without any treaties with the Indians. The territory had not been surveyed, and the locations of farms and settlements were approved by the Utah legislature. The Mormon officials must have been greatly apprehensive when federally-appointed officers arrived.

In July of 1855, a little over a year before Mogo contracted to serve, Surveyor General David Burr settled in Salt Lake City and began immediately to establish the Salt Lake Base Line and Meridian.² His initial point was "at the corner of Temple block, in Salt Lake City." Soon afterwards, he did just what Brigham Young must have feared: he wrote to his superiors about practices that, in his professional opinion, were illegal or unethical. Several of Burr's letters were later collected into a House of Representatives document, and included in a section that related to the "Utah Expedition."³ This was a reference to the military expedition sent into Utah during the Utah War (or Mormon War) of 1857-58, in which the Surveyor General's Office played no small part. Burr's letters and reports provided further evidence of Mormon tactics of intimidation, and since there were several other departments that suffered the same treatment, President Buchanan sent an army under the command of Albert Sidney Johnston to insure that federal laws were enforced and that federal officers would be protected.

The following September, Burr wrote that the Mormon Church had called upon its members to sign a form conveying their land to the church.⁴ He provided a blank copy of the form as an example. He also said the city had embraced three full sections of land, triple the amount provided for in an 1844 Act of Congress.

Six months later, in March of 1856, Burr sent a report in which he noted "certain trespasses on the public lands." "The exclusive right to every considerable canyon," he wrote, "has been granted by the legislature to the favorites of the Mormon church, who compel the settlers to pay high prices for the privilege of getting their wood from them. They have erected saw mills in many of them and the timber is fast disappearing."⁵ He suggested that the surveys be extended into these canyons so as to make them part of the public domain. The accusations that church leaders were misappropriating public lands for personal benefit must have rankled them greatly, even if it was true, but the real problem was the recommendation to extend the surveys into the canyons, which threatened the Mormons' title to the land. Once they discovered what Burr was doing, they sought to stop him in any way possible, including

² Knetsch, Joe, "History Corner: The Surveyor General, the Prophet, and a War that Almost Happened," May 2006 issue of *Professional Surveyor Magazine*.

³ *Executive Documents Printed by order of The House of Representatives during the First Session of the Thirty-Fifth Congress, 1857-'58*. Washington: James B. Steedman, Printer, 1858. There were fourteen volumes altogether, but the portion on Utah was in Volume 10, *Executive Document No. 71*, entitled "The Utah Expedition: Message from the President of the United States, transmitting Reports from the Secretaries of State, of War, of the Interior, and of the Attorney General, relative to the military expedition ordered into the Territory of Utah." This is hereafter referred to as *Executive Document 71*. Unless otherwise noted, these letters were sent to Hon. Thos. A. Hendricks, Commissioner of the General Land Office, Washington, who was under the Secretary of the Interior.

⁴ *Executive Document No. 71*, pp 123-24, September 30, 1855, and addressed to Hon. G. C. Whiting.

⁵ Knetsch, *op cit*.

intimidation, violence and use of Indian allies. They spread false rumors, harassed the surveyors and removed many of the corner posts.

Just prior to Mogo's contract, Deputy Surveyor C. L. Craig finished some survey work in the Youab Valley.⁶ Through interpreters he learned that the Mormons were endeavoring "to create a prejudice in the minds of the Indians...." The Indians said they were told that the surveyors "were measuring out the land in order to take possession of it, and would drive away the Mormons and kill the Indians." Craig went on to say that the *Deseret News* had suggested to the settlers that they should prosecute the surveyors in court for trespass, but as yet nothing had come of it. The mayor of Payson City did submit a writ upon Craig for "damages incurred by running a line across their fields," but he ignored it and thus far had heard no more about it.

About the time Mogo began work for Burr, one of the surveyors was viciously attacked. Burr reported that one of his deputies, a Mr. Troskolawski, "was assaulted and severely beaten a few days ago by three men under the direction of one Hickman, a noted member of the so-called 'Danite Band.'" ⁷ The men knocked him down, kicked him and beat him with the "butt end of a loaded horsewhip," and all the while Hickman was assisting and urging them on to "kill the damned rascal." The victim's injuries were such that for several days his very life was in the balance.

It was into this atmosphere of violence and fear that flower painter Charles Mogo entered when he took over for C. L. Craig. Survey crews at the time consisted of about 20 men, all needing a support system while out working, so the logistics of Mogo's surveys was a major consideration. The Mormons obviously could see the preparations, and just before Mogo was ready to leave Salt Lake City, thieves stole some of his animals, the means of transportation for his surveys. Burr wrote that Mogo "had made all his preparations for leaving the city to commence his work. The night previous to his intended departure ten of his oxen were stolen from the pasture."⁸ There were witnesses, but since the perpetrator was allegedly "a noted character who stands high in the councils of the church," they would not come forward, "knowing full well that their lives would not be safe if they did so." Mogo did a thorough search for the animals, but never found them and was forced to purchase replacements.

As bad as things were in 1856, they got even worse the following year. In March of 1857 Burr reported that "Brigham Young has declared openly that the surveyors shall not be suffered to trespass on *their* lands as they did the last season, and threats are frequently made that any party attempting to survey will be 'cut off.'" ⁹ Mogo received another contract dated March 6, 1857, to survey and mark a thousand miles of section and township lines. However, as Young kept escalating the pressure, Burr started having second thoughts about sending the survey teams out:¹⁰

So strong have been my apprehensions of danger to the surveyors, that I scarcely deemed it prudent to send any out; but Mr. Mogo, anxious to be at work, concluded he would venture to make the attempt. He took twenty-seven men with him, all well armed. Reports are already coming here that the party have been cut off, but I am satisfied that the reports are at least premature. If he is vigilant, with the force he has, I think he may avoid an attack.

⁶ *Executive Document No. 71*, pp 116-17, August 1, 1856.

⁷ *Executive Document No. 71*, pp 115-16, August 30, 1856. "Danites" were a Mormon militia formed in 1838, probably no longer active in the 1850s, although any thuggish activity was attributed to them and the term appears more than once in Burr's dispatches.

⁸ *Executive Document No. 71*, pp 117-18 September 20, 1856.

⁹ *Executive Document No. 71*, p 119, March 28, 1857.

¹⁰ *Executive Document No. 71*, *ibid.*

In June, Burr decided it was no longer safe for him in Utah and determined to leave.¹¹ The office remained opened, with Mogo and some clerks still there, including a Mr. Wilson and a man named C. G. Landon. Burr received information from some Californians who had passed through Salt Lake City that late in July the Mormons had detained Wilson, putting a noose around his neck and holding a pistol to his head. After questioning him, they told him he would be released only if he would agree to bring in Mogo the next day. They went after Landon at the same time, but he escaped by jumping out of a second-story window. Mogo left immediately, accompanying the Californians easterly as far as Fort Laramie, Wyoming.

It was thought that Landon had been caught and killed, but in September 1857 a letter from Placerville, California, was received informing the surveyor general that he had gotten away. Landon wrote that he had walked, barefoot and nearly naked, all the way from Salt Lake City, with Mormons chasing him much of the way.¹² He gave some details of what took place at the end of July, stating that on Saturday, July 27th, he had been beaten with stones and clubs but managed to escape to his home nearby. Two days later the Mormons attempted to stone Mogo, but he got away by retreating into a store. That night, at about midnight, the Mormons broke into Landon's house, dragging Wilson along with them. Landon was lying in bed trying to recuperate from his previous beating when he heard a great commotion, including shrieks from his wife, who was being threatened. That is when he escaped out of the second-story window.

Charles Mogo had married a San Bernardino girl, Margaret Henderson, in 1856, and during the Utah War trouble she stayed at her husband's side up until the time he was forced to leave. She later did an interview with the *New York Times*, in which she states:¹³

Brigham Young preached a sermon in the Bowery, in which he applied libelous and insulting epithets to my husband, and exhorted the Mormons to "go at him." After that sermon people continually hung around our house at night, and my husband was repeatedly assaulted with stones while passing through the streets.

According to the news article, Margaret remained in Utah when Charles fled the state at the end of July. She must have been about 7½ months pregnant at that time, because she told of giving birth on September 16, 1857. Despite being a Mormon, she did not feel safe. She stayed with friends and did not go out of the house until she was ready to leave the city. In October she was approached by George Grant, a church dignitary, who asked her if she wanted to be with her husband, which meant she would have to abandon the church. She said she was willing to abandon everything to be with her husband. Later that day, Grant and a man named Ferry Little seized a variety of things from her house that belonged to Charles, such as food staples and camp equipment, which she said was worth "several thousand dollars," no doubt an exaggeration.

Brigham Young arranged to have a carriage take her to the U.S. lines. Before she left, the friend whose house she had been staying in told her that she was being sent out by the Mormons for the purpose of getting Dr. Hickman released. Hickman, the "Danite" who beat up the surveyor in August 1856, had been captured by the U.S. and was in the custody of Col. Alexander. Apparently Mrs. Mogo, after

¹¹ *Executive Document No. 71*, pp 120-121, letters dated June 11 and October 19, 1857. In a *New York Times* article, dated September 3, 1857, it was reported that in August President Buchanan had reappointed some of the federal officers, including Judge Stiles, Marshal Dotson and District Attorney John M. Hockaday. Because of the animus toward Burr, he was not reappointed. The reporter was careful to say that Surveyor General Burr had the complete confidence of the Administration, but that it was thought he should not return.

¹² *Executive Document No. 71*, pp 122-123, September 18, 1857.

¹³ *New York Times*, January 19, 1858. The *Times* published stories under the heading "The Mormon War," including an extensive story on Margaret Mogo, entitled "A Woman's Testimony."

arriving among the Union forces, was asked about the Mormon fortifications taking place in Echo Canyon. She stated that they passed through the canyon at night, that the carriage was covered, and with “my seat being at the back, and my attention devoted to my child, it was impossible for me to note accurately anything which we passed on the journey. There was a Mormon camp at each end of Echo Canon, where there were many men under arms.” On October 31, 1857, they arrived at Fort Bridger, Wyoming, and it was on that day that her baby died.

The vindictiveness of the Mormons did not stop with the removal of the offending surveyors. “Calumnious reports” were circulated, especially regarding Burr and Mogo. As it turned out, an employee of the surveyor general had filed serious charges against Burr, charges that were later repudiated.¹⁴ The employee, a man named Charles W. Moeller, later recanted his former declaration, stating it was utterly and basely false. The *New York Times* reported that Moeller signed a counter affidavit, in which he states that the declaration had been “extorted from him by fear of personal danger in case he should not sign it; that he was unduly under the influence of liquor at the time he set his name to it; that alterations were made in the original draft of it by one or more of the following-named persons who were present when he signed it: Brigham Young, Albert Carrington, Hiram Clawson, William H. Hooper, James W. Cummings....” Moeller then went on to attest to Burr’s sterling character and avowed that the declaration he had signed was “groundless, unjust and vile personal malice against General David H. Burr.”

Throughout 1858 the Mormons continued to accuse Burr and Mogo of filing false vouchers and falsifying maps to obtain more money from the government. Subsequent surveyors general investigated the surveys done under Burr’s regime, and especially those of Mogo. Examining parties under the direction of Burr’s successor, Samuel C. Stambaugh, were sent into the field in 1860, and Burr was criticized, not for fraud or any other criminal activity, but for “remissness” in not better supervising his deputies. Historian Joe Knetsch, in an article in the May 2006 issue of *Professional Surveyor Magazine*, lauds David Burr, but observes that inaccuracies could be traced to Burr’s surveying procedures. Dr Knetsch states, “From what Burr described in his early tenure of office this should not be a surprise as the methodology is a bit unorthodox, even for surveying in mountainous terrain.”¹⁵

Mogo’s surveys were even more problematic. In their biography of Charles Mogo, authors Palmquist and Kailbourn write that Mogo’s work was found to be “highly deficient.”¹⁶ They said, “Most of the mounds that Mogo was supposed to have erected to mark sectional boundaries were impossible to locate.” They allowed that many of these may have been leveled by Mormons, but just how many was unknowable. Stambaugh’s report charged that there was “great delinquency in perpetuating the corner boundaries of their surveys in the field, and in the failure to plant corner posts of the requisite dimensions.”¹⁷

However, the main point made by Stambaugh had to do with the scope of the survey. Surveyors were supposed to establish only township lines for desert land, every six miles, and to perform the more detailed sectional surveys, at one-mile intervals, only on cultivatable land. Apparently Mogo did some one-mile surveys on desert land. Of course this introduced the issue of subjective evaluations, since one man might consider land to be farmable and another might not. Mogo’s contract amount was reduced from \$13,285.23 to \$4,173.63. Stambaugh explained his finding:

¹⁴ *New York Times*, August 13, 1858.

¹⁵ Knetsch, *op cit*.

¹⁶ Palmquist, *op cit*, p 405.

¹⁷ *Message of the President of the United States to the Two Houses of Congress at the Commencement of the Second Session of the Thirty-Seventh Congress, Volume 1, Executive Document No. 1*, Washington: Government Printing Office, 1861, pp 473-74.

Under said decision there was disallowed the sum of \$9,111.60, being charges of per mileage under his contract for the subdivisinal survey of desert land, the survey of it being interdicted by law, which declares that "none other than township lines shall be run where the land is deemed unfit for cultivation."

An example of a map made from a Mogo survey is shown below, and it appears to be accurate when compared to more modern maps. However, this is from the 1856 survey, which was not found to be deficient. The problems were associated with the March 1857 survey.

TOWNSHIP N: 23 SOUTH RANGE N: 1 WEST

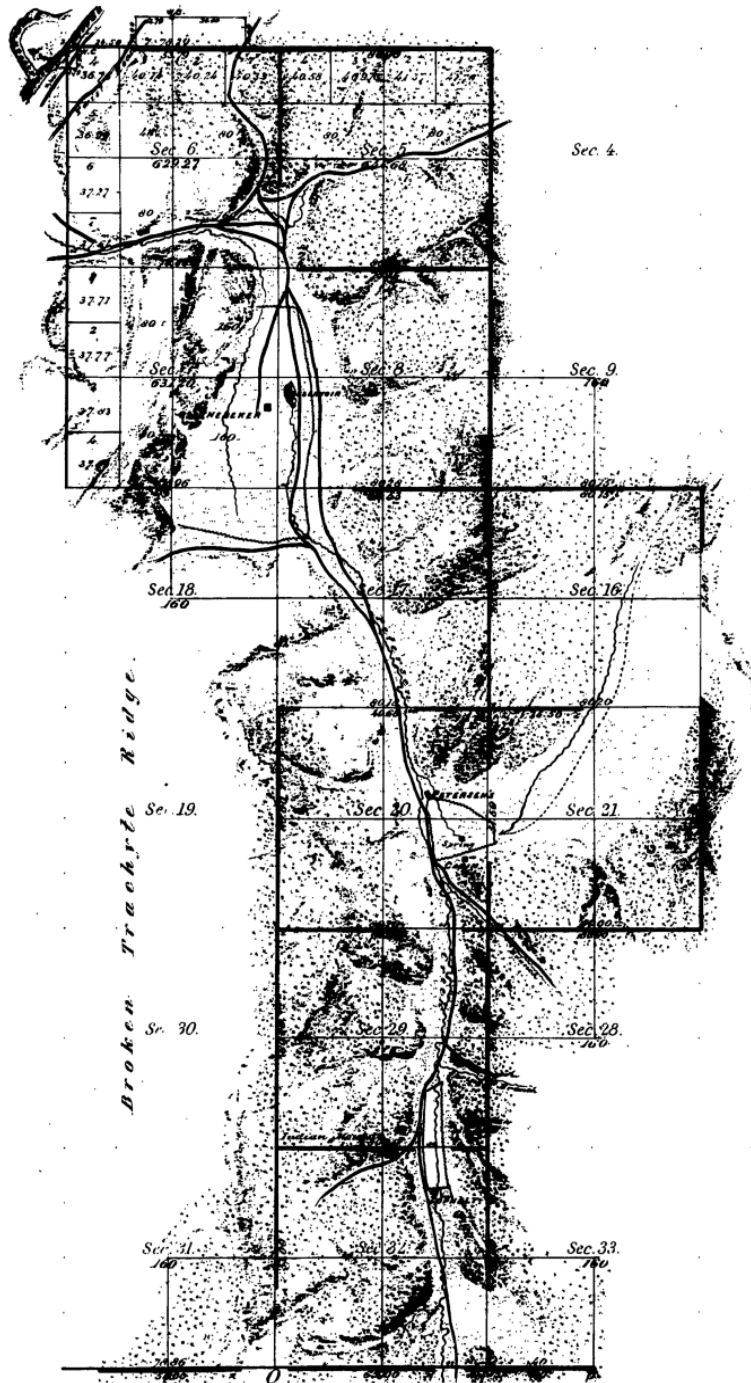


Figure 1 - Portion of Original Plat

Four thousand dollars seems like small recompense for several months of survey performed under conditions of war, and which presumably included the salaries and costs for supporting a crew of 27 men, animals, and incidental expenses.

One would have thought that after two years of almost constant strife with the Mormons, Mogo would have been glad to be rid of them. Instead, as soon as peace had been negotiated between the U.S. and the Mormons, he returned to Salt Lake City. It was probably about midyear in 1858, and he came with David Burr's son, David Auguste Burr.¹⁸ The two partnered in a photography firm called Burr and Mogo. They managed to win a contract with the respected journal, *Harper's Weekly*, which featured wood engravings "from photographs taken expressly for us by Messrs. Burr & Mogo."



Actual photo of Social Hall taken by Burr and Mogo for *Harper's Weekly*.
Below is the engraved reproduction of this photograph.



"Social Hall, Salt Lake City"

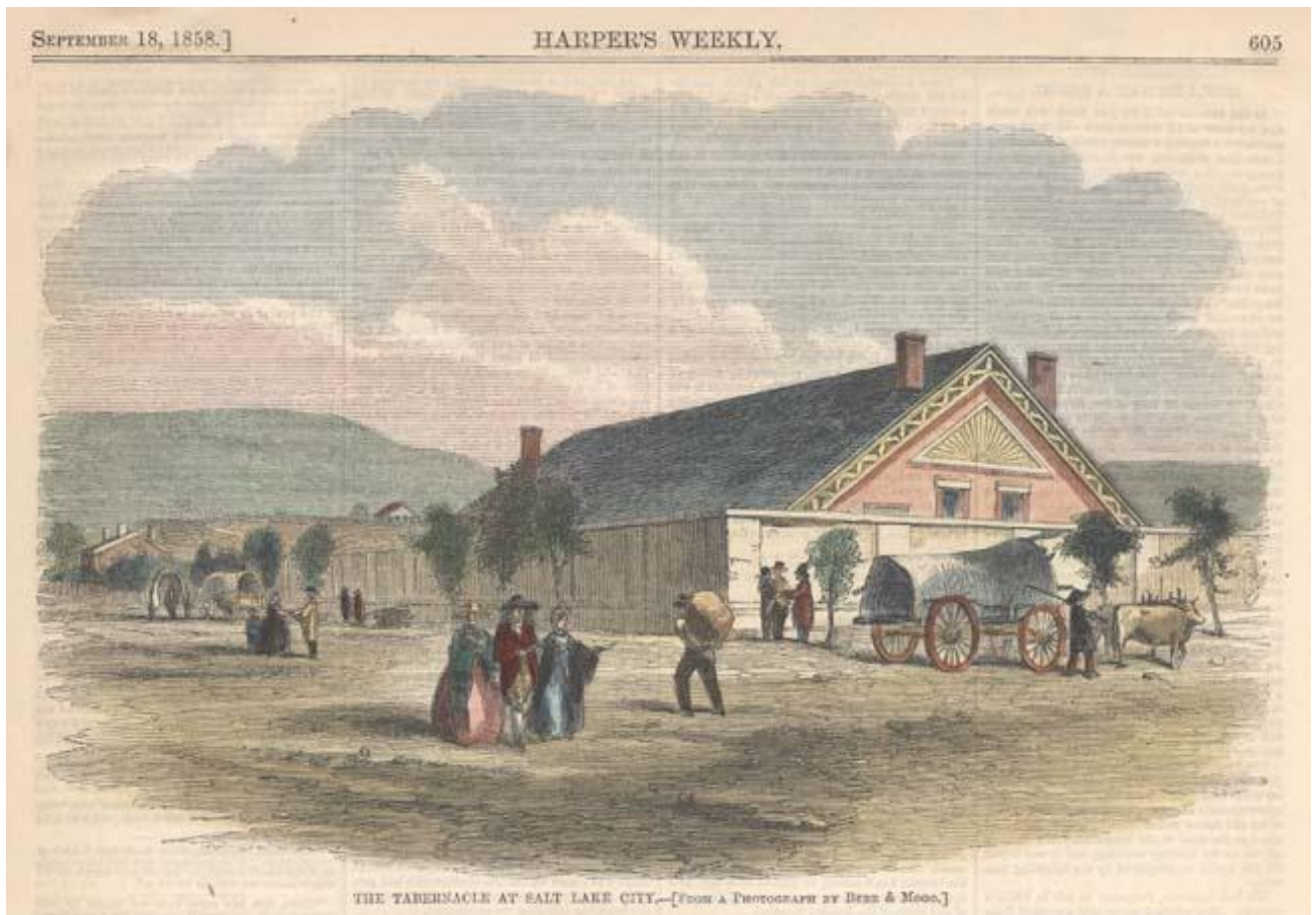
It can be seen in this picture that the engravers adhered closely to the above photograph in regard to the buildings, but became creative when depicting the surroundings, such as adding pedestrians and a horse-drawn wagon.

¹⁸ Palmquist, *op cit*, p 405.



“Salt Lake City—Brigham Young’s Harem and the Deseret Store”

This engraving appeared in the Sept. 4, 1858, issue of *Harper’s Weekly*. It is a bit difficult to see the detail in this digital copy, but a tall figure, in a black suit and hat, is leading about a dozen females across the street. This depiction by the engravers must have given Mogo and Burr no end of amusement.



“The Tabernacle of Salt Lake City”

Engraving, from Burr and Mogo photo, published in the Sept. 18, 1858, issue of *Harper’s Weekly*.



SALT LAKE CITY, FROM THE OBSERVATORY OF THE COUNCIL HOUSE.—[PHOTOGRAPHED BY BURR & MOGO.]

“Salt Lake City from the Observatory of the Council House”

Another example of an engraving from a Burr and Mogo photograph.

Just how long the photography business lasted is unknown, but as early as August of 1858 the enterprising duo of Burr and Mogo advertised that they were in the market for hops, and by November they had become brewers and innkeepers. Their Hot Spring Brewery, which had an inn on the premises, was located just a few miles south of Salt Lake City on property owned by Orrin Porter Rockwell, the so-called “Destroying Angel” and a reputed Danite, who served as a personal bodyguard to Brigham Young. Rockwell was actually a silent partner in the business. He was a good partner to have if you owned an inn in Utah; he was an accomplished host, good with a gun, and in tight with Brigham Young. However, Rockwell’s connection with Mogo, a U.S. surveyor who had just recently fled Utah in fear of his life, is very strange indeed.

The brewery evidently was not a great monetary success. David Burr left in 1859, and a mountain man by the name of Robert Hereford became Mogo’s partner. By January 1860 Mogo and Hereford had decided to dispose of their holdings at public auction. Rockwell was upset at not being informed of the decision, but ultimately accommodations were made and he took over the business.

By the time June 1, 1860, rolls around, Mogo and his family are back in Salt Lake City, living in the 13th Ward. U.S. Census records for that date show the head of the household as 35-year-old Charles Mogo, born in France. Living there with him is his 21-year-old wife Margaret, born in Scotland, and their one-year-old son David B. Also in the household is 19-year-old seamstress Elizabeth Baxter and 10-year-old Susan Mogo. Under a column on race, Susan is listed as “Ind.,” perhaps an abbreviation for Indian. “David B.” is Charles and Margaret Mogo’s second child, David Burr Mogeau, born in Salt Lake City on September 3, 1858 (their first child, as previously mentioned, died at Fort Bridger in the fall of 1857). David, and all of Mogo’s subsequent children, adopted the spelling “Mogeau” as their family name. On the same census sheet, just three dwellings away from Mogo, is none other than David H.

Burr, who gave his occupation as “merchant,” and his personal estate is listed as \$10,000, a large figure for the time. Mogo’s personal estate was valued at \$1,000.

On November 2, 1860, Mogo placed an announcement in the newspaper informing both his creditors and debtors that he was leaving the area and that he wanted to settle all accounts. On November 15th, he and his family left for San Bernardino.

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Six months earlier, in May of 1860, gold had been discovered in San Bernardino County at Holcomb Valley, above what is now Big Bear. Upon arriving in San Bernardino, Mogo took an interest in mining not only in Holcomb Valley, but also in the Lytle creek area in Cajon Pass and in the desert regions of San Bernardino and Nevada.

He took advantage of his presence in the San Bernardino Mountains by establishing a brewery in Holcomb Valley, thus following the philosophy of early Californians that you could make money off the miners, even if you could not make much off the mines. It would seem to be the ideal business in a community somewhat infamous for its proclivity to excessive drinking. Somebody also must have had a still up there someplace, as there was an alcohol product called “rot” in Holcomb Valley that is referred to in a couple of coroner’s inquests as being an influence in the cause of death; in other words, the miners got drunk on the stuff, became belligerent, and got themselves killed. William Frances Holcomb, for whom the valley was named, wrote in his memoirs of “saloons, gambling dens, and bagnios of the lowest kind.”¹⁹ Mogo’s brewery is listed in the 1862 Assessor’s Office Roll under his name, but at some point it was sold to Robert McCoy for \$211.

In September of 1861, Mogo successfully ran for the Office of County Surveyor. He received 211 votes, and his opponent, William R. Wozencraft, received 137.²⁰ William was a member of the popular Wozencraft family and should have had a hometown advantage, since Mogo was a newcomer. Mogo probably benefited from the influence of his wife’s family, the Hendersons, and other Scots in San Bernardino.

In 1862 rare minerals were discovered in the desert areas of La Paz, Arizona; El Dorado Canyon, Nevada, and eastern San Bernardino County. Mogo was early on the scene. The San Francisco *Daily Alta* had a correspondent in the eastern mines, and a portion of his report, which ran on January 28, 1863, refers directly to Mogo:

LETTER FROM THE NEW COLORADO MINES.
El Dorado Cañon, Colorado District....

The “Osceola” was recorded by Mr. Mogo, Surveyor of Swamp and Overflowed Lands of San Bernardino County, who has gone to Sacramento to resign his position, settle up his business there, and then return and develop his lead. Before leaving the Cañon, he had started men to work running a tunnel, and they have struck some very rich ore, and Mr. Mogo can now very safely consider his fortune made. The leads here bear great resemblance to those of Old Mexico, which have been worked for centuries. The richness of the leads are greatly enhanced from the large quantities of ore which they will yield, all of them increasing in width as you sink on them, and also in richness. Some of the leads which are but a few inches in width on the surface, increase to that number of feet in a short distance down, being what are called “A” lodes. There is no scarcity

¹⁹ Quote taken from LaFuze, Pauliena, *Saga of the San Bernardinos*, Volume I, p 62.

²⁰ Minutes of the Board of Supervisors, San Bernardino County, Book A, p 158.

of water here for milling purposes, and the Colorado river runs within five miles of us, and is navigable for twenty-five miles above the cañon.

Mogo must have entered into a contract with the state or federal government to survey “swamp and overflowed” lands in San Bernardino County. The article is lengthy, and probably given to hyperbole, as the miners represented their finds in the best light possible in order to induce capitalists to invest. Another posting, this time in the September 12, 1863, *Daily Alta*, promotes the Osceola Mine and others, but it is identified as an advertisement. It is headlined “Colorado Prospecting and Mining Company.” A detailed description of the Osceola is given—assays, minerals found, width of lead, depth of shaft, etc.—plus descriptions of the company’s other mines. Several of the officers are mentioned, including Mogo. The superintendent of the mines is Mogo’s brother-in-law, William Levick, described as “a sober, prudent, industrious man.”

Mogo is mentioned in one more *Daily Alta* story, this one dated November 1, 1863. The article is about the incorporation of the Pocahontas Copper and Silver Mining Company, located in the Iritaba Mining District. This district was in San Bernardino County, extending westerly from Fort Mojave about 25 miles. Charles Mogo is listed as a trustee of the company.

In September of 1863, Mogo again stood for the Office of County Surveyor, but he was crushed. He only received 33 votes, while his opponent, F. P. Bowland, pulled in 334.²¹

Besides Holcomb Valley and the desert mines, Mogo was known to have extended his mining interests to the Lytle Creek area. He joined with brothers-in-law David Henderson and William Levick, together with John Abbott, to form the Abbott Mountain Mining District.²² The first meeting was held May 4, 1864, at which Mogo was elected president, and Levick, secretary. Mogo’s reign as president was short-lived though, because in two weeks another meeting was held, and new officers selected.

Mogo found himself back in the good graces of the electorate in 1865, when, once again, he ran for county surveyor. He ran against Gustaf Linn, who received 254 votes to Mogo’s 358. The election results are broken down by precinct in the Board of Supervisors’ Minutes Book A, and it is shown that Mogo lost by 29 votes in San Bernardino precinct—159 went to Mogo, 188 to Linn.²³ However, Mogo won all of the outlying precincts, which overcame the deficit.

Meanwhile the size of the Mogo family had been increasing at a rapid rate. David Mogeau, born in Salt Lake City in 1858, has already been mentioned. According to the 1880 U.S. Census, the Mogos’ daughter Margaret Mogeau also was born in Utah, most likely in 1860. Their other children, all born in San Bernardino, were Josephine Mogeau, born February 8, 1863, William Graham Mogeau, February 25, 1865, and Isabella Mogeau, April 5, 1867.

In August of 1867 Mogo announced that once again he was running for county surveyor. He placed an announcement to that effect in the August 3, 1867, issue of the San Bernardino *Guardian*. However, he died before the election was held. On September 5th his death was noted in the Supervisors’ Minute Book A:²⁴

It appearing to the Board that a Special meeting of the Board is necessary, for the purpose of appointing a County Surveyor to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Chas. Mogo, the late incumbent of said office.

²¹ Ibid, p 222.

²² Harshman, Virginia R., *The Story of Lytle Creek Canyon*, pp 81-82.

²³ Minutes of the Board of Supervisors, San Bernardino County, Book A, p 278.

²⁴ Ibid, p 355.

There was a notice in the San Bernardino *Guardian* on September 14th, but it did not address the cause of death:

It is expected that the Supervisors, at their meeting to-day, will appoint a county surveyor, in place of Mr. Mogo, recently deceased.

Unfortunately I have been unable to find out what happened. Since Mogo's death was known to the Board of Supervisors by at least September 5th, the most likely issuance of a death notice would be September 7, 1857, but that issue of the *Guardian* is not on the microfilm copy.

Charles Mogo was only 42 years old when he died. And judging from the evidence—that is, his August advertisement declaring his candidacy for office—he appears to have been unaware of his imminent demise.

Saving the past for the future since 1888