

May 6

## Br AUGUSTINE BOOK

14 July 1856 – 6 May 1895

Born in Reisenbeck, Germany, Augustine Book was only 39 when he died of Black Water Fever. Two billion people have looked this up on *Google*:

*'Blackwater fever is a complication of malaria infection in which red blood cells burst in the bloodstream (hemolysis), releasing hemoglobin directly into the blood vessels and into the urine, frequently leading to kidney failure.'*

Book was a trained blacksmith, wheelwright and mechanical engineer and threw himself into the work at Chishawasha when he arrived in 1892, part of the



group of German Jesuits that came up with Fr Schonberg Kerr. He built the dam and was part of those who built the road up the hill past what was later Silveira House. But he only lived for three years.

He and Br Meyer astonished the party on the way up when a wheel on the wagon broke when it hit the 1890s equivalent of a pothole. 'Seasoned wood was found in spare and broken dissel-booms and the sixteen spokes were shaped accordingly; then came the fitting into the nave and the breaking out of the fitting on the felloes with much exactness ...' (ZMR)