

Missouri State Archives: Finding Aid 5.1

Mormon War Papers, 1837-1841

[*Full-text transcription of:* Letter from General John B. Clark, 1st Division of Missouri Militia at Camp near Carrollton, MO to Generals Samuel D. Lucas, 4th division and David R. Atchison, 3rd Division]

Copy of letters to
Genl Atchison & Lucas
Nov 1st 1838
[The above inscription
is crossed out]

Camp Near Carrollton Mdnight
Novr 1st 1838

Genls Atchison & Lucas

Gentlemen

understanding two days Since while
at Chariton on my March that you
were at Richmond and was only
holding the Mormons in Check until
further orders which you sought
from the Commander in Chief
and having before then received orders
from the Commander in Chief with
plenary powers to settle this whole
difficulty and call to my aid such
force as I might deem necessary a
copy of which I sent you by express
per Capt Long but larning at this
place that you have proceeded to Far
West and hearing a report (not
officially) that some of the Mormons
have already surrendered to you Therefore
under My orders and in pursuance
of the [“only and proper” crossed out] power
assigned me I send you respectively
the following orders (viz) you are
to remain at some secure position in
the vicinity of Far West protecting the
Citizens & their property from the
aggressions of the Mormons until I
arrive with my force which will be by
tomorrow night amount [“ing” crossed out] to two
thousand but you are not to make
any attack or opperate offensively
until I arrive when the plan
of adjustment suggisted by the

Commander in Chief and proposed

by Myself will be communicated
you must take steps if you have not
and if it be necessary to provison
your forces by foraging or otherwise
If you have any [~~“provision”~~] prisoners you
will Make no times with them [~~“to”~~] by
which they are to be discharged until
my arrival but preserv [~~“es”~~] them from
injury as prisoners The Govr I have
[~~“learnt”~~] learned [~~“begin to”~~] this evening is on his
way up and will [~~“give”~~] join us
perhaps to-morrow

I will be able
to reach Far West in three more days
If Genl Willock has arrived at the
place he was ordered you will
direct him and also Genl Doniphan
to remain there until my arrival
for further orders observing their
original orders to prevent the retreat
of the Mormons to the north

The express leaves immediately
and I cannot be more specific
you will both report to me im
mediately your Head Quarters
strength and position and such other
matters as tend to further the service
in which we are engaged my express
Messrs Scott Turner & Enyard you will
furnish with such necessaries as
they may need and much oblige me

I have the Honor
To be your Obt Sv
John B Clark Major Genl
1st Di M M