

Missouri State Archives: Finding Aid 5.1

Mormon War Papers, 1837-1841

[*Full-text transcription of:* Letter from General John G. Clark, Headquarters of Missouri Militia at Far West, MO to General H. G. Parks, 2nd Brigade, 3rd Division of Missouri Militia]

Nov. 4, 1838

Head Quarters of all the forces
against the Mormons

Far West Nov 4th 1838

Brig Genl Parks

Sir I received
your communication of this
day per express and can only
say you are right in obeying the
orders of Genl Lucas although
they were [~~“not”~~ erased] without authority
so far as he was concerned you have
I suppose taken the whole of the men of the
Mormons prisoners if not you will
do so and place such a guard around
them and the town as well [~~“to”~~ crossed out]
protect the prisoners and [~~“as to”~~ crossed out] secure
them until they can be [~~“detected”~~ crossed out]
dealt with properly also the property
must be protected From plunder
and waste as far as practicable
[~~“In retaliation”~~ crossed out] in relation to the property of
the citizens you will give notice
that as soon as I get things settled
here I will repair to that place
with a sufficient force to place
the citizens back on their homes
and that then all their property
that can be found will be delivered
up to them and also the best
means adopted to have them
paid for the damage they have
sustained till which time (to wit
my arrival all their property
as well as the Mormons must be held
in Custody this is done in order
that justice may be done in its

distribution all the citizens

who have been moved can
now move back with perfect
safety as my forces will not be
discharged until they who chose
to have moved

If you think 60 men or one
Company enough without doubt
to leave at that place to secure
the prisoners and afford protection
&c you are at libeity to do as you
have suggisted but you must select
a company in whom you can
confide to execute your order
and charge them to be strict that
no outrages are committed prisoners
must be protected if you move
your forces ["have" erased] here all but one
company you had better do so
immediatly I will wait here
until you have time to come
before I make any further order
about Adam

I am sir yr Obt Svt
John B Clark
Majr Genl [O erased] Comg