

Missouri State Archives: Finding Aid 5.1

Mormon War Papers, 1837-1841

[Full-text transcription of: Letter from General David R. Atchison, 3rd Division of the Missouri Militia in Booneville, MO to Governor Boggs, Jefferson City, MO]

Genl Atchison
to
Com: in Chief
Oct 7, 1838
copied

Booneville [sic] 16th. Oct. 1838

To His Ex. L. W. Boggs

Sir,

From a communication received from Genl Parks I learn that the Mormons in Carroll County have sold out and left, consequently every thing is quiet there, but Parks reports that a portion of the men from Carroll County , with one piece of artillery, are on their march for Daviess County , where it is thought the same lawless game is to be played over, and the Mormons to be driven from that county, and probably from Caldwell County: nothing in my opinion but the strongest measures within the power of the Executive will put down this spirit of Mobacracy.

The troops ordered into the field from Parks' report partake in a great degree of the mob. spirit; so that no reliance can be placed upon them, however in this I believe Parks to be mistaken; I would respectfully suggest to your Excellency the propriety of a visit to the scene of excitement in person, or at all events a strong proclamation. -----

The state of things which have existed in the counties of Daviess & Carroll for the last two months, has been in a high degree ruinous to the people and disgraceful to the State, I would again respectfully suggest strong measures to put down this spirit of mob, and misrule, or permit them to fight it out, if your Excellency should conclude the latter expedient best calculated to produce quiet and restore order, issue an order to

the Major Genl 3rd. Divis, to discharge the
troops now engaged in that service.

I have the honor &c

David R. Atchison.