

# Missouri State Archives: Finding Aid 5.1

## Mormon War Papers, 1837-1841

[ *Full-text transcription of:* Letter from General H. B. Parks, 2nd Brigade, 3rd Division of the Missouri Militia, Richmond, MO to General David R. Atchison, 3rd Division of Missouri Militia, Liberty, MO. ]

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Brigade Head Quarters, at Richmond  
2<sup>nd</sup>. Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup>. Division

21<sup>st</sup>. Oct: 1838

Major Genl: D. R. Atchison.

Sir. I received yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. from Boonville, which I will let remains until I see you\_ I have now returned from the Country of Daviesz & assure you this County is agitated by a deeper & more desperate excitement than I have yet witnessed. I left the place on tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. with two companies of mounted men, having directed Col. Dunn to precede me to Daviesz County, where I had good evidence to believe the troopz and intending to act against Adamon Diahman intending to cooperate with Genl. Doniphan. & the remainder of the troops. I had proceeded on to the Head waters of Crooked River, when a severe snowstorm over took us & we were compelled to abandon the undertaking, for the present, the troops, were dismissed until further ordersz, and the troops under Col. Dunn had been ordered home by Genl. Doniphan, who came as far as Far West , from whence he returned home\_ I with a part of my staff proceeded onto Far West . which I reached on Tuesday night, & learning that the Clay Troops had gone home, I determined to proceed to Daviesz, & examine the state of the Country.\_ on thursday I proceeded on to the town of Adair in Daviesz County , & on the way heard the mormonz had burnt a store house in Gallatin belonging

to Jacob Stollingz-I sent two men to see and learn the fact. & on their return confirmed the news I saw at Adam on Diahmon about 500 Mormonz, under armz. all well armed, about 200 of them mounted\_ I asked them their motive in appearing in armz\_ their answer waz “they intended to defend that place-they had been driven from Dewitt & other placez, and here they were determined to stand and die rather than be driven from that place”\_

I next visited Mill port & found on my way down the ridge, that the inhabitants

had left their housez, and all above Pennington's  
have fled- That County is in a worse State than  
at any former period, and I believe that the  
Mormons are now the aggressors, as I have  
seen many depredationz, which they have com:  
mitted- I have certificates of their having taken  
armz from the Citizen of Daviesz forcibly in The  
excitement in this County is more deep and  
full of vengeanes than I have yet seen it- &  
I would not be surprised, if some signal act  
of vengeance would be taken on these fanaticz-  
Wednesday next is fixed for a full and general  
meeting of the citizens of this County to take  
into consideration, the steps necessary to be taken  
in this state of affairz-I do not know what to do.  
I will remain passive until I hear from you

I do not believe calling out the militia  
would avail any thing towards restoring  
peace, unlesz they were called out in such  
force as to fight the Mormonz & drive them  
from the Country- This would satisfy this  
people-but I cannot agree to it. I hold myself  
ready to execute as far as I can go any order  
from you, and wish you to advise the Com:  
mander-in-chief as to the situation of the  
upper Country-perhaps a visit from  
him would have some effect in ally:  
ing the excitement- I remain your

obdt:Servt.

H. G. Parks. Genl.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Brigade. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Div

H. G. Parks

to

D. R. Atchison

Oct. 21 1838