

# Missouri State Archives: Finding Aid 5.1

## Mormon War Papers, 1837-1841

[ Full-text transcription of: Report of the messengers C.R. Morehead, William Thornton, and Jacob Gudgel, of Richmond, MO ]

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The undersigned having on Monday morning last learned that the mormons had burned Millport in Daviesz county in addition to the burning of Stollingz Store in Gallatin in Said County ; and of their having threatened to burn the Store in Buncombe Settlement in this County, and feeling an anxiety to know the truth in relation to Said reportz-left this place Richmond , on that (Monday morning) & proceeded to Millport, they however previously called at Judge Morins' who livez about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile from Millport, who informed those that all they had learned was Substantially true, and that much more had been done by the Mormons, than the people of this county had been informed of; he went with us to Millport where we found all the housez in ashes, except a Grocery Store house belonging to a Mr. Slade and a house in which Mr. Wilson McKinney had lived, we also found the house of Robert Peniston near Millport burned: \_\_\_ The horse=mill belonging to him, (Peniston) was taken down, the Stonez, bolting chest &c lying out Some distance from the Shed, and the shed Yet Standing. Mr. Morin informed us that the burning was done on Sunday night last, that on the next day he saw mormons thare and saw them taking Off beds and Other thingz belonging to Wilson McKinney; we also Saw Some furniture which we understood from Mr. Morin belonged to McKinney Standing Out in the commons, and which Seemed to have been riffled of its contents. Mr. Morin expected on the day we were there, that the Mormons would be thare (at Millport) to move Off the remaining property and to burn the balance of the housez. he stated to us that he considered his Situation a precarious one, that he had been permitted to Stay thus long owing to having no wagons to move with, but that he expected to get wagons that day & intended moving in to Richmond immediately; he said that the County was entirely deserted by the inhabitants except himself, and a few Otherz, besides the Mormons,

and expressed it as his belief, that the corn from his house to Diamon would all be gathered, and hawled into Diamon by the Mormons in 48. Hours from that time. He also Stated to us, that he was at Diamon a few days previously, and Saw a company of men (mormons) come into camp with a drove of Cattle, amounting to about 100 head, which he supposed belonged to other Citizens, he also Saw a man in possession

of a Mormon, which he was very certain belonged to Mr. Morgan a citizen of Daviesz County.- Mr. Morin looked upon these Mormons who were then at Diamon (amounting he supposed to about 600 men) as a band of Robbers and desperadoes, he advised us very Strongly to go no farther, not to attempt to go to Diamon, or Far West- That we would gather nothing [ ] by [ ] So, in addition to which we there learned that the County on the North Side of Grand River and west of him was certainly deserted except by the mormons, and had been for several days, that the houses were all burned, or to use his own words, that it was a complete waste.

Mr. Morin also informed us, that the Mormons had Ordered the Other Citizens out of the County, and that he too had been ordered to leave, he appeared very anxious that we should not be seen at his house, by any mormon, that it Should not be known that he had given any information or expressed any thing unfavorable towards them, until he get away. We did not visit Gallatin , but understood from Mr. Morin and others, whom we met moving into this county, that all the houses in that place were burned

except a Shoemakers' Shop belonging to a Mr. Borwell.-

Richmond Mo. Wednesday October 24<sup>th</sup>. 1838.

C. R. Morehead,  
Wm. Thornton  
Jacob Gudgel

Report of  
Morehead & others  
Oct 24, 1838  
copied