

# Missouri State Archives: Finding Aid 5.1

## Mormon War Papers, 1837-1841

[ *Full-text transcription of:* Letter from E. M. Ryland of Lexington, MO to Messengers Amos Rees and Wiley C. Williams ]

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E. M. Ryland  
to  
Rees & Williams  
Oct 25 1838  
copied

Lexington 6. O.Clock P.M.  
October 25<sup>th</sup>. 1838

Gentlemen,

This letter is Sent after you on expresz, by Mr. William Bryant of Ray County , Since you left uz this morning Mr. C. R. Morehead came here on expresz for men to assist in Repelling a threatened attack upon Richmond to night, He brought news that the mormon armed force had attacked Capt. Bogart this morning at day light, and had Cut Off his whole company of 50 men. Since Mr. Morehead left Richmond one of the company (Bogart's had come in, and reported that there were ten of his comradez killed, and the remainder were taken prisonerz after many of them had been severly wounded) he stated further that Richmond would be Sacked and burned by the Mormon Banditti to night nothing can exceed the consternation which this news gave rise to.—The women and children are flying from Richmond in every direction. A number of them have repaired to Lexington amongst whom is Mrs. Rees, we will have Sent from this county since 1.Oclock this evening about 100. well armed and dairing men, perhaps the most effective that our county can boast

of. They will certainly give them (the mormons) a warm reception at Richmond to night. You will See the necessity of hurrying on to the City of Jefferson . And also of imparting correct information to the public as you go a long.

My impression is that you had better Send one of your number to Howard, Cooper, and Boone Counties, in order that Volunteerz may be getting ready and flocking to the scene

of trouble as fast as possible. They must  
make haste and put a Stop to the devastation  
which is menaced by these infuriated fanaticz.  
And they must go prepared, and with the full  
determination to exterminate or expel them  
from the State en masze, Nothing but thiz  
can give tranquillity to the Public mind.  
and reestablish the Supremacy of the law.  
There must be no farther delaying with this  
question anywhere. The mormons must leave  
the State, or we will one and all, And to this  
complexion it must come at last, We have  
great reliance on your ability, discretion,  
and fitnessz for the task You have  
Undertaken, and have only time to Say God  
Speed you!

Messrs

Amos Rees &  
Wiley Williams

Yours truly  
E. M. Ryland.