

Camp near De Witt, Oct. 7, 1838.

To the citizens of Howard county.

GENTLEMEN.—This county is the theatre of a civil war, and will soon be one of desolation, unless the citizens of the adjoining counties lend immediate assistance. The infuriated Mormons have assembled in large numbers in De Witt, prepared for war, and are continually pouring in from all quarters where these detestable fanatics reside.

The war is commenced! blood has been shed—they shed it; they waylaid and fired upon a body of the citizens of Carroll county and wounded some. They are the aggressors—they have been guilty of high treason; they have violated the laws and shed the blood of our citizens; and we think this one of the cases of emergency in which the people ought to take the execution of justice in their own hands. Speedy action is necessary; the progress of their imposition, insult and oppression ought to be checked in the beginning. The people must act together—they must act energetically.

It is now 12 o'clock at night—the Mormons are lurking around our camp, and making preparations to attack us before day. Our numbers are much less than theirs, and we will have to act on the defensive until we procure more assistance. About two hours ago the Mormons were re-inforced by sixty-two mounted men, well armed, from Far West; they are arriving every night; two nights ago it is thought one hundred came to De Witt for the purpose of making war upon the people of this county.

Under such circumstances, you cannot fail to come forward immediately. Can you not be here by Sunday or Monday at farthest? Come by fives and tens, if you cannot come by companies; bring all you can. This is no false excitement or idle rumor—it is the cold reality too real. We will anticipate you immediately, and shall expect your co-operation and assistance in expelling the fanatics, who are mostly aliens by birth, and aliens in principle from the county. We must be enemies to the common enemies of our laws, religion and country.

Your friends and fellow citizens,

Congrave Jackson,	James Jackson, Jr.	Geo. Crigler,
Larkin K. Woods,	Johnson Jackson.	Wm. L. Banks,
Thomas Jackson,	John L. Tomlin,	Whitfield Dicken.
Rolla M. Daviess,	Sidney S. Woods,	

P. S. Our guard was just now fired upon by the Mormons. They have become emboldened by their recent re-inforcements, and we will have to act on the defensive until assistance arrives.

Statement of Adam C. Woods.

I, the undersigned, Adam C. Woods, a citizen of Howard county, do certify, that on the 6th day of October, 1838, in company with Capt.

Congrave Jackson and others of Howard county, hearing of the Mormon difficulty at De Witt, concluded to go up there, and did go to interpose our good offices, and make peace between them and the citizens. When we reached there, on last evening, we found under arms, in a mile or thereabout of De Witt, about two hundred citizens encamped and sentinels out. I did not go into De Witt; I was advised not to go in, fearing that I would be injured. I was informed, and believe the information to be true, that the Mormons at De Witt are between five and six hundred, well armed. I remained on last night in the camp of the citizens, intending on this morning to go into town, and endeavor to make peace, but about midnight the Mormons commenced firing on the sentinels placed out by the citizens, which was returned; there was occasional firing at a distance until day. From the above occurrences we were deterred from making any attempt with the Mormons for peace, and I left on this day about 10 o'clock in the morning.

Oct. 7, 1838.

A. C. WOODS.

Captain Bogart to the Governor.

ELK HORN, Ray county, Mo., Oct. 13, 1838.

To His Excellency, L. W. BOGGS.

DEAR SIR:—I avail myself of this opportunity, to inform you of the present deplorable condition of our country. I arrived home last night from the second tour of duty to suppress insurrections. When the first campaign closed on Grand River, and the public was informed that peace was restored, the citizens who lived in Daviess and the adjoining counties knew, and expressed themselves, that the Mormons were determined to drive the citizens from Daviess county, which the Mormons have since expressed. The lives of the people of Daviess have been threatened; many of them have fled for safety to the adjoining counties. Whenever we meet a Mormon he is armed in the best manner, and continually throwing out his threats.

Next we were ordered to De Witt, in Carroll county, under Gen. H. G. Parks. When we arrived at Carrollton, we were informed that the people of Carroll and the Mormons, who were mostly Canadians, were assembled within a mile of each other, ready for battle. We were also told the Mormons of Caldwell were on their way to De Witt—one hundred more expected to pass down that night; I went to Gen. Parks and requested him to permit me to move my company on that road and prevent their passing, but he refused, and we lay there that day and until midnight, at which time W. C. Williams came to the camp and told us the Mormons were passing from Caldwell. I paraded my company and marched to the Mormon roads, leaving Parks in Carrollton,

(d***k) incapable of knowing what was going on. The Mormons passed before I reached the road. The next day, Parks overtook us with the balance of the troops—we moved down near De Witt, and encamped two days, without making one effort to disperse either party. I visited De Witt, in company with Parks, Dr. Ellis, McGee and several others, and on the public highway, some half mile from the town, we were met by a Mormon from Far West, who cocked his gun and presented at me, and commanded us to stop; this is a common thing with them in this country—the public highways are guarded. Gen. Parks returned home with his command, leaving over two hundred Mormons, well armed, in Carroll county, who came from Caldwell, after being expressly ordered by Maj. Gen. Atchison to disperse them at all hazards. The people of Carroll and the Mormons have made a compromise. The Mormons are moving west—it is supposed they intend pushing the citizens out of Daviess; that county is in a state of great agitation—great excitement prevails there. The Daviess and Livingston county people, and many others, are on their way to Daviess county with one field piece, with the determination to prevent their settling in that county at all hazards. If there is not some effective means taken to settle this difficulty, much blood will be spilt soon; it will require a strong force. Too many of our officers are seeking popularity with the Mormons, supposing their votes in time would be of some service to them.

You may rest assured times grow worse and worse here. The Mormons embody themselves, keep out guards, and refuse to let any person see their forces. Had you proceeded on to Daviess county, you could easily have convinced yourself of the state of things, which are desperate in the extreme; you will no doubt be called on. I hope you will take steps to make a final settlement of this matter—if it is not soon done, our country is ruined.

Your obedient servant,
SAMUEL BOGART,
Captain in the late Volunteers.

The Sheriff of Daviess county to the Governor, (affidavit.)

October 21, 1838.

I, William Morgan, sheriff of Daviess county, do certify, that on the 18th day of this instant, as I was going to Gallatin, I saw five men ride off from the store of Jacob Stollings, and on walking fifty or sixty yards further I perceived the house was on fire; I ran to the house where the clerk of the store boarded, say one hundred and fifty yards from the store, and found no one there. Whilst standing there, I saw two other men ride by the store and make no stop, I then expected it was Mormons. On going home, one mile from town, I then learnt that the Mormons had driven off the clerk and had fired the store. Since that they

(the Mormons) have ordered almost all the citizens of the county to leave, and they, myself for one, have moved our families to Livingston county. Our county is in a desperate situation; they are burning and driving as they go. It is reported by a prisoner that they turned loose last night, that they were to burn Mill Port, and I have no doubt of that being the fact.

I remain, yours with respect,
WILLIAM MORGAN.

To L. W. Boggs.

Affidavit of Philip Covington.

State of Missouri, }
County of Daviess. } ss.

I, Philip Covington, an acting Justice of the Peace within and for said county, do certify, that on the 18th inst., one hundred or more Mormons marched to Gallatin and drove the citizens from said place, then robbed the store and post office, and burned said store and office. On the 20th of this instant, twenty-five armed Mormons came to my house, and gave me orders to leave the county against next morning, or they would be upon me and my family. Myself with many other citizens have left the county. They are now robbing and burning the dwellings of the defenceless citizens. Given under my hand, this 22d day of September, 1838.

PHILIP COVINGTON, J. P.

Col. Peniston to the Governor.

DAVISS COUNTY, Mo., Oct. 21, 1838.

To His Excellency, the Governor of Missouri.

SIR:—I deem it my duty, made so not only from the law as an officer, but also as an individual, to report and make known to your Excellency, the unheard of and unprecedented conduct and high handed proceedings of the Mormons of this and Caldwell counties, towards the other citizens of this county, being myself one of the sufferers.

On Monday, the 15th inst., we learned that the Mormons were collecting in Far West, for the purpose of driving what they term the mob from this county, by which we understand the citizens that were not Mormons; and accordingly they have come, and their worst apprehensions have been already fulfilled. They have plundered or robbed and burned every house in Gallatin, our county seat, among the rest our post

office; have driven almost every individual from the county, who are now flying before them with their families, many of whom have been forced out without necessary clothing; their wives and little children wading, in many instances, through the snow without a shoe. When the miserable families are thus forced out, their houses are plundered and burned; they are making this universal throughout the county. They have burned for me two houses; and sir, think this not exaggeration, for all is not told; and for the truth of all and every statement here made, I pledge the honor of an officer and gentleman.

These facts are made known to you, sir, hoping that your authority will be used to stop the course of this banditti of Canadian refugees, and restore us to our lost homes. I neglected to state, that among the rest, our County Treasurer's Office has been also burned. I will only ask, in conclusion, can such proceedings be submitted to in a government of laws? I think not, and must answer my interrogatory—no, notwithstanding the political juggling of such men as David R. Atchison and some others, whose reports and circulations, setting the conduct and character of the Mormons favorably before the community, are believed by the people of this county to be prompted by the hope of interest or emolument.

I am yours, sir,

With due regard,

WM. P. PENISTON,

Col. 60th Reg. 2d Brig. 3d Div. Mo. Mi.

P. S. Since writing the above, I have procured the testimony, on oath, of some six or eight persons, corroborating with my statement, which accompanies this.

W. P. P.

Affidavit of Samuel Venable.

This is to certify, that I was called upon last night to wait upon a lady who was about to increase her family; she had travelled as she told me about eight miles in labour to get from the Mormons, who were engaged in driving off the people from their homes, giving them only about three days notice, plundering and robbing their houses. The lady alluded to above, Mrs. Smith by name, stopped on the camp ground on the east of Daviess county, where she increased her family. There was another lady who stopped on the camp ground, whose baby was but four days old.

I was also at Mr. White's this morning, who lives in Livingston county, who was on yesterday very much injured in property by the Mormons. I saw a good deal of the mischief by them done, and was told by Mrs. White that, in addition to the above, she received from them invectives; that they had plundered the house, taken cloths, and other articles; destroyed all their bee stands; taken off drawing chains, log chains, &c. The quantity of oats, fodder and corn taken

from White's must have been considerable, as they fed about two hundred horses, leaving on the ground where they fed a great deal of oats, &c. Given under my hand, this 22nd. October, 1838.

SAMUEL VENABLE.

I certify that the above is a true copy of the instrument given, sworn to, and subscribed before me on 22nd of this inst. this 22nd October, 1838.

BEVI F. GABEN, J. P.

Affidavit of Jonathan J. Dryden.

Jonathan J. Dryden, after being duly sworn, deposeth and saith: that on the 21st day of October, 1838, he was taken as a prisoner by the persons called Mormons from his own house, sick with the fever, and carried him about one mile, and released him upon the account of his health; and while in custody, he was told by them they had applied to the Governor divers of times for protection, and he had never sent them any assistance, and now they had taken the law in their own hands and they intended to have the thing settled, because they believe the Governor to be as big a mob man as any of them; and the plunder which they were now taking was to pay them back for the property which they had lost in Jackson county, when they were driven from there, and further this affiant saith not.

JONATHAN J. DRYDEN.

The above sworn and subscribed before me, this 22nd day of this instant.

ADAM BLACK, J. P.

Affidavit of James Stone.

James Stone, after being duly sworn, deposeth and saith: that on the 20th day of October, 1838, the people called Mormons came to his house, and told him if he did not leave Daviess county, against next morning, at sunrise, that they would take his head with their sword, and drew their sword and waved it at him, and said they would take his heart's blood if he did not leave the county, and then this affiant took them at their word, and left his house at ten o'clock in the night, he and two other men; and went back next morning and his house was robbed; and this affiant saith, on the 21st day, inst. that he, with several other men, saw the said people called Mormons, herding a number of cattle, the amount not known, he supposed to be about two acres of ground covered, and they looked at them, until they started them towards Caldwell county, and farther this affiant saith not.

JAMES STONE.

The above sworn to and subscribed before me, this 22nd day of this instant.

ADAM BLACK, J. P.

Affidavit of Thomas J. Martin.

I, Thomas J. Martin, after being duly sworn, do testify upon oath: that whereas I was returning from meeting on the 21st day of October, 1838, in Livingston county, I was intercepted and taken prisoner by the body of people called Mormons, who presented their guns and told me that I had one of two things to do, that was to relate to them all that I knew concerning the militia—their munitions &c. or to be laid on the sod and let birds eat me. They also took me about twelve miles, during which time I saw them rummage the house of Mr. White; I also saw them take four others, and they had some others that had been taken before, some of whom they took to Adam-on-diahmon, and I have not heard from them since. During the time I was a prisoner they told me that they did not intend to let any man stay in Daviess county, that was not friendly to them, and that they were doing the same to redress the injury received in Jackson county.

THOMAS J. MARTIN.

The above sworn to and subscribed before me, this 22nd day of October, 1838.

ADAM BLACK, J. P.

General Atchison to the Governor.

LIBERTY, October 22, 1838.

To His Excellency, the Commander-in-Chief.

SIR:—Almost every hour I receive information of outrage and violence—of burning and plundering in the county of Daviess. It seems that the Mormons have become desperate, and act like mad-men; they have burned a store in Gallatin; they have burnt Millport; they have, it is said, plundered several houses; and have taken away the arms from divers citizens of that county; a cannon that was employed in the siege of De Witt, in Carroll county, and taken for a like purpose to Daviess county, has fallen into the hands of the Mormons. It is also reported that the anti-Mormons have, when opportunity offered, disarmed the Mormons, and burnt several of their houses.

The great difficulty in settling this matter, seems to be in not being able to identify the offenders. I am convinced that nothing short of driving the Mormons from Daviess county will satisfy the parties opposed to them; and thus I have not the power to do, as I conceive, legally. There are no troops at this time in Daviess county, nor do I deem it expedient to send any there, for I am well convinced that it would but make matters worse; for, sir, I do not feel disposed to disgrace myself, or permit the troops under my command to disgrace the State and themselves by acting the part of a mob. If the Mormons are to be

driven from their homes, let it be done without any color of law, and in open defiance thereof; let it be done by volunteers acting upon their own responsibilities.

However, I deem it my duty to submit these matters to the Commander-in-Chief, and will conclude by saying it will be my greatest pleasure to execute any order your Excellency shall think proper to give in this matter with promptness, and to the very letter.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's most ob't serv't.

DAVID R. ATCHISON.

Maj. Gen'l. 3d Div. Mo. Mi.

N. B. I herewith inclose to you a report from General Parks; also one from Capt. Bogart.

D. R. A.

Gen. Parks to General Atchison.

BRIGADE HEAD QUARTERS, 2d Brig. 3d Div. }
Richmond, October 21, 1838. }

Maj. Gen. D. R. ATCHISON.

SIR:—I received yours of the 16th inst. from Boonville, which I will let remain until I see you. I have now returned from the county of Daviess, and assure you this county is agitated by a deeper and more desperate excitement than I have yet witnessed. I left the place on Tuesday, the 16th inst, with two companies of mounted men, having directed Col. Dunn to precede me to Daviess county, where I had good evidence to believe the troops (militia) intended to act against Adam-on-diahmon. Intending to co-operate with Gen. Doniphan and the remainder of the troops, I had proceeded on to the head waters of Crooked River, when a severe snow storm overtook us and we were compelled to abandon the undertaking for the present. The troops were dismissed until further orders, and the troops under Col. Dunn had been ordered home by Gen. Doniphan, who came as far as Far West, from whence he returned home. I, with a part of my staff, proceeded on to Far West, which I reached on Tuesday night, and learning the Clay troops had gone home, I determined to proceed to Daviess and examine the state of the county. On Thursday I proceeded on to the town of Adam-on-diahmon, in Daviess county, and on the way heard the Mormons had burned a store house in Gallatin, belonging to Jacob Stollings; I sent two men to see and learn the facts, and on their return they confirmed the news. I saw at Adam-on-diahmon about five hundred Mormons under arms, all well armed, about two hundred of them mounted. I asked them their motive in appearing in arms—their answer was: "they intended to defend that place; they had been driven from De Witt and other places, and here they were determined to stand and die, rather than be driven from that place."

I next visited Millport, and found on my way down the ridge, that the inhabitants had left their houses, and all above Pennington 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 depredations which they have committed. I have certificates of their having taken arms from the citizens of Daviess forcibly. The excitement in this county is more deep and full of vengeance than I have yet seen it, and I would not be surprised if some signal act of vengeance would be taken on these fanatics. 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 affairs. 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, unless they were called out in such force, as to fright the Mormons and drive them from the country. This would satisfy the 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 Comander-in-Chief as to the situation of the upper country; perhaps a visit from him would have some effect in allaying the excitement.

I remain, your obd't serv't.

H. G. PARKS, Gen. 2d Brig. 3d Div.

Captain Bogart to General Atchison.

Elk Horn, Oct. 23, 1838.

Gen. ATCHISON.

DEAR SIR:—The Mormons have burnt Gallatin and Mill Port, and have ravaged Daviess county, driven out the citizens, burnt the post office, taken all kinds of property from the citizens; have gone into Livingston county, and taken the cannon from the citizens there; they have threatened to burn Buncombe and Elk Horn, and have been seen near, and on the line between Ray and Caldwell. In consequence of which I have ordered out my company to prevent, if possible, any outrage on the county of Ray, and to range the line between Caldwell and Ray, and await your order and further assistance. I will camp at Field's, 12 miles north of this, to night. I learn that the people of Ray are going to take the law into their own hands, and put an end to the Mormon war.

In haste, your obd't serv't,

SAMUEL BOGART.

P. S. Please be explicit in your express to me as to my course.

S. B.

Citizens of Ray county to the Governor.

RICHMOND, Mo., October 23, 1838.

To the Governor of the State of Missouri.

SIR:—The alarming state of Daviess county, and the panic produced by the late movements of the Mormons in that county, have produced a degree of excitement and alarm here, that has not been heretofore witnessed. The latest accounts from Daviess county that have reached us, say that all the inhabitants of Daviess county have left, and sought refuge in Livingston or this county. The store house of Jacob Stollings in Gallatin was robbed and burned by the Mormons; the post office kept there was also destroyed, and we believe that the houses of five or six of the inhabitants of Daviess have been destroyed by fire, the property taken away, and the women and children obliged to flee. The arms of all the citizens in Daviess, they could find, have been taken by them forcibly; they have carried away the cannon from Livingston county, and have it now in their possession.

The Mormons have robbed George Worthrington, P. M. at Gallatin, of his notes and property, to the amount of nearly \$2,000. In short, the news from them reaches us hourly, that they are destroying the property of the citizens they cannot carry away, and all that they can carry away, they take. Blood and plunder appears to be their object, and those who do not join with them in their incendiary conduct, are banished from Caldwell, and all those of other counties who are opposed to them, are threatened. It is the desire of the citizens that his Excellency would visit this section of country and call out a sufficient number of troops to put a stop to the further ravages of these fanatics. If some such measures are not taken shortly, the whole country will be overrun. We now firmly believe they are aggressors, and say they will indemnify themselves for losses in Jackson and Carroll. We are not alarmists, and have had no tears until lately that these fanatics would have dared to behave as they have lately. There seems to be but one opinion here on the subject, and that is, unless a military force is brought to act against them, and that shortly, they will destroy as far as they are able. We think it our duty to advise you of these things.

Very respectfully,

R. S. Mitchell,	G. Lenhart,	George Woodward,
John N. Hughes,	John C. Richardson,	Lewis S. Jacobs,
Thos. McKinney,	M. P. Long,	Berry Huges,
Jesse Comer,	James S. Bell,	Wm. Hudgins, P. M.
T. L. D. W. Shaw,	B. J. Brown, sheriff,	

We are efficient in arms, if there are any to spare, we wish them brought up here.

WM. HUDGINS.