

application of it by him & further the Aprount Smith
not

Morris Phelps

John Corrie a citizen produced sworn &
examined in behalf the State ^{although} that about last
June I was invited to a private meeting in which an ef-
-fort was made to adopt some plan to get rid of the dis-
-senten, there were some things I did not like and opposed
it with others & it failed. after that I met Pres Rigdon
-he told me I ought not to have any thing to do with it
-that they would do as they pleased, I took his advice, I learned
-afterwards that they had secret meetings, but I was never
-invited none of the 1st Presidency was present at the meet-
-ing above refered to, we have a rule in the Church au-
-thorizing any member to consecrate or give voluntarily
-his surplus property to the Church for charitable purpo-
-ses. Pres. Rigdon last summer preached a sermon
-commonly called the latt sermon, which seemed to have
-for its object to produce a feeling among the people to
-get rid of the dissenten for crimes alleged & because they
-was a greed with them, in a few days there seemed considerable
-excitement among the people, & the dissenten left. as I
-advised them they were in danger. I was afterwards invited
-to one of those meetings where an oath in substance the
-same as testified to by Dr. Auld was administered. the
-Society was ultimately organized into companies and
-captains of tens & 50th were appointed. I took exceptions
-only to the teachings as to the duties of that Society when
-in it was said if one brother got into any kind of a dif-
-ficulty it was the duty of the rest to help him out right or
-wrong, at the second or at least the last meeting I attended
-the presidency to wit Jos. Smith Jr. Hiram Smith & Sidney
-Rigdon & also Geo. W. Robertson was there, there was at this
-meeting a ceremony of introducing the officers of the Society
-to the presidency, who pronounced blessings on each of them
-as introduced exhorting to faithfulness in their calling &
-they should have blessings. after this Pres Smith got up &
-made general remarks about in substance as follows. Rela-
-ting the oppressions the Society had suffered and they wanted to
-be prepared for further events but said he wished to do nothing
-unlawful & if the people would let him alone they would
-preach the gospel & live in peace, towards the close he
-observed to the people that they should obey the presi-

= Denay & If the Presidency led them astray they might destroy them. For the last or in some public meeting Jos. Smith Jr. said if the people would let us alone we would preach the Gospel to them in peace but if they came on us to molest us we would establish our religion by the sword & that he would become to this generation a Second Mahomet.

About April last I heard Joseph Smith Jr. & Pres. Rigdon (who appears to be vexed on account of troubles & lawsuits they had had) say that they would suffer vexatious lawsuits no longer & that they would resist even an officer in the discharge of his duty. Smith said he had been before Courts some 20 odd times they had overruled any thing against him & that made him of age & he would submit to it no longer. I heard S. Rigdon & July speak & I heard him say he would not suffer people to come into their Streets & abuse them, nor would they suffer vexatious lawsuits. In substance he further remarked that "neither will we permit any man or set of men to institute vexatious lawsuits against us to cheat us out of our just rights. If they do we will resist them." This Mormon Church has been represented as being the little Stone spoken of by Daniel which should roll on and crush all opposition to it and ultimately should be established as a temporal as well as a spiritual Kingdom. These things were to be carried on through the instrumentality of the Danite band as far as force was necessary. If necessary they being organized into bands of tens. 50. & ready for war the teachings of that Society led them to prohibit the talkings of any persons against the Presidency so much so that it was dangerous for any man to set up opposition to any thing that might be set on foot & I became afraid to speak my own mind. I objected to the course of ~~Dr. Brown~~ in reference to this Danite band I rather thought Jos. Smith Jr. upheld him & would not allow any objections to him. After the return of the Mormons from Decret I heard Jos. Smith Jr. in presence of Hiram Smith in a conversation say that an application had been made to the Gov. and that they understood that he would give them no assistance & they were determined to withstand the mob. They were greatly incensed against certain persons in Caldwell & Canis & said they intended to rid the counties of them & of the mob in the course of

that week, this was on Sunday morning, and in the course of that day instructions were given to meet the next day (Monday) On Monday Jos Smith Jr made a speech and some resolutions were passed purporting that those persons who would not engage in their undertaking their property should be consecrated to the use of ~~the church~~ ^{those who} did engage in their undertaking On Sunday Jos. Smith Jr in his discourse spoke of persons taking at some times, what at other times it would be wrong to take, and gave as an example the case of David eating the shew bread & also of the ananias & his sporter plucking the ears of corn and eating as they passed through the cornfield he supposed the prejudices of the Jews and Pharisees were so great against the Law that they would give them nothing to eat & they took that method to get it. On the Monday when the resolutions above referred to were introduced President Bigden in a speech said that those who were willing to go into the war ought to be put upon their horses with guns & bayonets and forced into the front of the war having reference to those who heretofore had been backward in defending themselves & families no persons were supposed to leave the County in this extreme time and I met with Phelps to consult as what we ought to do

After the troops got to Siahmon in all about 4 or 500 men I heard Lyman Wright addressing a portion of the men who were there (perhaps 8 or 10) "that the earth was the Lord's and the fullness thereof with the cattle upon a 1000 hills & if I was an heathen I would not tell you" that the Saints of the Lord had the same privilege or rights, after that perhaps the next day I saw a drove of some 4 or 5 cattle pass along & asked what cattle these were & was answered that they were a drove of buffalo. Others observed they were cattle a Methodist priest had consecrated. Jos. Smith Jr Hiram Smith Parley P Pratt Lyman Wright Geo W Roberson Caleb Baldwin Alanson Ripley Geo W Harris Geo Grant Darwin Chase Alex McKay Edw Patridge Jos. W. Younger probably Jos W Rawlin's were in the expedition that went to Cañon Coy. at the time Sattatin was burnt on the same day that the Company went to Sattatin Lyman Wright went with a Company to Millport as I understand he returned & made a report as I understood it to be to Jos. Smith Jr in which he said he found nothing to fight

but fences & empty houses I understood him to say the
 People had not taken away all their property Smith
 the Prophet here asked him if they had taken the negroes
 he said yes some one then Laughingly observed Smith You
 have lost your negroes to which I think he made no reply

As Smith asked Wright if he had done any thing
 with the property remaining in Intertown Wright said not
 this would lie a matter for a private Council.

Sumner Tibbs told me he went down with the expedition
~~with~~ against Bogart and he remained behind $\frac{3}{4}$ of
 a mile from the battle ground to hold horses I feel con-
 fident that Isaac Morley was not in the fight with
 Bogart. I think the original object of the Danite
 band was to operate on the dissenters, but afterwards
 it grew into a system to carry out the designs of the
 Presidency and if necessary to use physical force to
 upbuild the Kingdom of God it was to be done by them
 this is my opinion as to their object and I learned it from
 various sources connected with that band. It was
 my understanding that Dr. A. A. Phelps, Teacher in
 the Danite Society proceeded from the Presidency. I never
 heard that Constitution spoken of by Dr. A. A. Phelps in the so-
 ciety when I was present nor did I ever hear of
 it until lately. Further this deponent saith not
 John Corvill

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[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]