

citizens of Daviess and Caldwell counties are under arms, so that it is deemed dangerous for peaceable citizens to pass through said counties. Citizens of other counties are flocking in to the citizens of Daviess county, and the Mormons are flocking to the assistance of the Mormons in those counties, so that from the best information I can attain, there cannot be less than two thousand men in arms, without any legal authority or pretext whatever, and it is very much feared, that if a blow is once struck, there will be a general conflict, the termination of which, God only knows. So soon as I arrive at the scene of insurrection or excitement, I will report to you forthwith by express.

I have the honor to be,

Your most obedient servant.

P. S. I have also required the services of Col. Wiley C. Williams, your aid, and much is expected from his influence and efficiency.

The Governor to General Atchison.

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS OF THE MILITIA, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
August 30, 1838. }

Gen. DAVID R. ATCHISON, 3d Div. Mo. Mi.

SIR:—Indications of Indian disturbances on our immediate frontier, and the recent civil disturbances in the counties of Caldwell, Daviess and Carroll, render it necessary, as a precautionary measure, that an effective force of the militia be held in readiness, to meet either contingency. The Commander-in-Chief, therefore orders, that you cause to be raised immediately, within the limits of your Division, to be held in readiness, and subject to further orders, four hundred mounted men, armed and equipped as infantry or riflemen, and formed into companies according to law, under officers already in commission.

The Commander-in-Chief suggests the propriety of your causing the above order to be carried into effect, in a manner calculated to produce as little excitement as possible, and report your proceedings to him through the Adjutant General.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief,

B. M. LISLE, Adjutant General.

[A similar letter was also addressed to Major Generals John B. Clark, Samuel D. Lucas, David Willock, Lewis Bolton, Henry W. Crowther and Thomas D. Grant.]

Statement of William Dryden.

To His Excellency, L. W. BOGGS,
Governor of the State of Missouri.

Your petitioner, William Dryden, an acting justice of the peace, within and for Daviess county, would respectfully represent, that the counties of Daviess, Caldwell and Livingston are settled, in part, by a denomination of people called Mormons. These Mormons, to the number of about fifteen hundred men, have associated themselves together, and have resisted, and do resist with force of arms, legal process against persons belonging to their denomination. Your petitioner further states, that on the 29th day of August last past, Adam Black appeared before me, and made oath, that Andrew Ripley, George Smith and others, had been guilty of a high offence, known to the law, in substance, as follows, to-wit: That on, or about the 8th day of August, 1838, in Daviess county, there came an armed force to his, (Black's house,) in said county, among whom, the said Ripley, Smith and other persons named in said affidavit, were a part, and then and there, with deadly weapons, made an assault upon him, (the said Black,) and then and there, threatened him (Black, who was then an acting justice of the peace, within and for Daviess county aforesaid,) with instant death, if he did not sign a certain instrument of writing, binding himself, as a justice of the peace of said county of Daviess, not to molest the people called Mormons, and threatened the lives of himself, (the said Black) and others, and said they intended to make every citizen of said county sign such obligation, &c.

Your petitioner further states, that he immediately issued a writ pursuant to law, for the arrest of the said Andrew Ripley, George Smith and others, commanding the officer, entrusted with the execution of said writ, after the arrest, to bring the bodies of the persons therein named, forthwith before your petitioner, to answer the complaint and further to be dealt with according to law. There being no constable within the township of which I am justice, he having been driven from the county by, and through fear of the Mormons, and your petitioner believing that said writ would not be executed, unless a special deputy was made for that purpose, your petitioner, then and there, appointed Nathaniel H. Blakely a special deputy, to serve said writ, and said appointment was endorsed on said writ, and signed by myself officially, and then and there delivered to the said Blakely. Your petitioner further states, that the said Blakely, took the said writ, and summoned a guard, consisting of ten men, who went in search of the persons named in said writ, for the purpose of executing said writ, but the said constable returned, that the persons named in said writ, were not found in said county, by reason of himself and guard having been driven, by force, from the town, in said county, in which the offenders were supposed there to be. The said affidavit, writ and return, are herewith respectfully submitted to your Excellency.

Your petitioner further believes and represents, that the Mormons are so numerous, and so well armed, within the limits of the counties of Caldwell and Daviess, that the judicial power of the counties is wholly unable to execute any civil or criminal process within the limits of either of said counties, against a Mormon or Mormons, as they, each and every one of them, act in concert, and outnumber the other citizens. They also declare, that they are independent, and your petitioner verily believes, that the Mormons hold in utter contempt, the institutions of the country in which they live.

Your petitioner further represents, some time about the 8th of September last, that three individuals were arrested by the said Mormons, in Caldwell county, and held in custody, and your petitioner represents, that he believes, they are still in confinement, without any warrant of law. Your petitioner further represents that he verily believes, that no civil officer of the State, could cause to be executed any legal process within either of said counties of Caldwell or Daviess.

Your petitioner, therefore, respectfully prays your Excellency to furnish the civil officers, within and for the counties of Daviess and Caldwell, a sufficient number of troops to enable them to execute the laws of the land, and bring the offenders, aforesaid, to justice. To this end, your petitioner will ever pray, &c.

WILLIAM DRYDEN,
Justice of the Peace, Daviess county.

September 15th, 1838.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF JEFFERSON, Sept. 15, 1838.

To the ADJUTANT GENERAL.

SIR:—You will issue an order to Maj. Gen. Atchison, commanding the 3d Division of the Militia of this State, and direct him to cause a sufficient force of the troops under his command, to aid the civil officers within the county of Daviess, in executing such writs of process as may be legally within the province of their respective duties, and especially, to furnish the officers charged with the service of the writ, mentioned in the foregoing petition of William Dryden, justice of the peace of Daviess county, with a force sufficient to enable him to execute said process, and bring the offenders to justice.

L. W. BOGGS, Commander-in-Chief.

The Governor to General Atchison.

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS OF THE MILITIA, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
City of Jefferson, Sept. 15, 1838. }

Gen. DAVID R. ATCHISON, 3d Div. Mo. Mi.

SIR:—Information has recently been received by the Commander-in-Chief, that the officers entrusted with the administration of the law within and for Daviess county, are wholly unable so to do, without the presence and assistance of an armed force.

The Commander-in-Chief, therefore orders, that without delay, you cause to be raised a sufficient force of the troops under your command, and with said troops, aid the civil officers within and for said county, to execute all writs and other process, with the service of which, they may be charged; and you are specially directed, with said sufficient force, to aid and assist the officer charged with the execution of a certain writ, issued by William Dryden, a justice of the peace within and for said county, on the 29th of August last past, for the arrest of Andrew Ripley, George Smith and others, named in said writ, to execute the same, and bring the offenders to justice.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief,
B. M. LISLE, Adj. Gen. Mo. Mi.

The Governor to Captain Childs.

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS OF THE MILITIA, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
City of Jefferson, Sept. 18, 1838. }

To Capt. CHILDS, Commander of the Boonville Guards.

SIR:—You will cause your company to be held in readiness and mounted, each man with ten day's provisions, and the necessary arms and ammunition, to proceed, immediately upon the order of the Governor, with him to the scene of difficulty, in the counties of Daviess and Caldwell. Your action upon the subject is required to be immediate and prompt.

The Commander-in-Chief hopes and calculates upon the Boonville Guards using every exertion in their power, to procure horses, and of their being in readiness to march upon his arrival in Boonville, which will be about the end of this week.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief,
B. M. LISLE, Adj. Gen. Mo. Mi.

The Governor to General Lucas.

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS OF THE MILITIA, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
City of Jefferson, Sept. 18, 1838. }

Maj. Gen. S. D. LUCAS, 4th Div. Mo. Mi. Independence, Mo.

SIR:—On the 30th ultimo, an order was directed to you to cause four hundred mounted men to be raised and held in readiness, subject to further orders from the Commander-in-Chief. Information has just reached the Executive, that an insurrection actually exists in the counties of Daviess and Caldwell. You will, therefore, march immediately with the number of men ordered from your Division, to the scene of difficulties, and co-operate with Gen. Atchison and other officers in restoring quiet to the country, and suppressing the insurrection. Each man will furnish himself with at least ten day's provisions, and the necessary arms and ammunition. Your action on this subject is required to be prompt and immediate. You will, of course, give the preference to volunteer companies already organized, that are subject by law to be ordered out *en masse*.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief,

B. M. LISLE, Adj. Gen. Mo. Mi.

[A similar letter was addressed to Maj. Generals Lewis Bolton, John B. Clark and Thomas D. Grant.]

General Doniphan to General Atchison.

HEAD QUARTERS, 1st Brig. 3d Div. Mo. Mi. }
Camp at Grand River, Sept. 15, 1838. }

Maj. Gen. DAVID R. ATCHISON, Commanding 3d Div. Mo. Mi.

SIR:—In pursuance of your orders, dated 11th inst., I issued orders to Col. Wm. A. Dunn, commanding the 28th Regiment, to raise four companies of mounted riflemen, consisting of fifty men each, also to Col. John Boulware, commanding the 70th Regiment, to raise two companies of mounted riflemen, consisting each of like number, to start forthwith for service in the counties of Caldwell and Daviess, on the same day. Col. Dunn obtained the four companies of volunteers required from the 28th Regiment; on the morning of the 12th, I took the command in person, and marched to the line of Caldwell, at which point, I ordered the Colonels to march the regiments to the timber on Crooked River. I then started for Far West, the county seat of Caldwell, accompanied by my aid alone. On arriving at that place, I found

Comer, Miller and McHany, the prisoners mentioned in your order. I demanded of the guard, who had them in confinement, to deliver them over to me, which was promptly done. I also found, that the guns that had been captured by the sheriff and citizens of Caldwell, had been distributed and placed in the hands of the soldiery and scattered over the country; I ordered them to be immediately collected and delivered up to me. I then sent an express to Col. Dunn, to march the regiment by daylight, for that place, where he arrived about 7 o'clock, A. M. making forty miles since 10 o'clock, A. M. on the previous day. When my command arrived, the guns were delivered up, amounting to forty-two stand three stand could not be produced, as they had probably gone to Daviess county. I sent these guns under a guard, to your command in Ray county, together with the prisoner Comer, the other two being citizens of Daviess, I retained and brought with me to this county, and released them on parol of honor, as I conceived their detention illegal. At 8 o'clock, A. M. we took up the line of march, and proceeded through Mill Port, in Daviess county, thirty-seven miles from our former encampment, and arrived at the camp of the citizens of Daviess and other adjoining counties—they amounted to between two and three hundred, as their commander, Dr. Austin of Carroll, informed me. Your order, requiring them to disperse, which had been forwarded in advance of my command, by your aid, James M. Hughes, was read to them, and they were required to disperse; they professed that their object for arming and collecting was solely for defence, but they were marching and counter-marching guards out, and myself and others who approached the camp were taken to task, and required to wait the approach of the sergeant of the guard. I had an interview with Dr. Austin, and his professions were all pacific, but they still continue in arms, marching and counter-marching. I then proceeded with your aid, J. M. Hughes, and my aid, Benj. Holliday, to the Mormon encampment, commanded by Col. Lyman Wight; we held a conference with him, and he professed entire willingness to disband and surrender up to me every one of the Mormons accused of crime, and required in return, that the hostile forces, collected by the other citizens of the county, should also disband. At the camp, commanded by Dr. Austin, I demanded the prisoner, demanded in your order, who had been released on the evening after my arrival in their vicinity. I took up line of march, and encamped in the direct road between the two hostile encampments, where I have remained since, within about two and a half miles of Wight's encampment, and some times the other camp is nearer, and some times further from me. I intend to occupy this position until your arrival, as I deem it best to preserve peace, and prevent an engagement between the parties, and if kept so for a few days, they will doubtless disband without coercion.

I have the honor to be,

Yours with respect,

A. W. DONIPHAN,

Brig. Gen. 1st Brig. 3d Div. Mo. Mi.

General Atchison to the Governor.

HEAD QUARTERS, 3d Div. Mo. Mi. }
Grand River. Sept. 17, 1838. }

To His Excellency, the Commander-in-Chief.

SIR:—I arrived at the county seat of this county, Daviess, on the evening of the 15th inst., with the troops raised from the militia of Ray county, when I was joined by the troops from Clay county, under the command of General Doniphan; in the same neighborhood I found from two to three hundred men in arms, principally from the counties of Livingston, Carroll and Saline; these men were embodied under the pretext of defending the citizens of Daviess county, against the Mormons, and were operating under the orders of a Dr. Austin, from Carroll county. The citizens of Daviess, or a large portion of them residing on each side of the Grand River, had left their farms and removed their families either to the adjoining counties or collected them together at a place called the Camp Ground. The whole county on the east side of Grand River appears to be deserted, with the exception of a few who are not so timid as their neighbors.

The Mormons of Daviess county have also left their farms, and have encamped for safety at a place, immediately on the east bank of Grand River, called Adam-on-diahmon. The numbers are supposed to be about two hundred and fifty men, citizens of Daviess county, and from fifty to one hundred men, citizens of Caldwell county; both parties have been scouting through the country, and occasionally taking prisoners, and threatening and insulting each other, but as yet no blood has been shed. I have ordered all armed men from adjoining counties to repair to their homes; the Livingston county men, and others to the amount of one hundred men, have returned, and there remain now about one hundred and fifty who will, I am in hopes, return in a few days. I have been informed by the Mormons, that all of those who have been charged with a violation of the laws, will be in to day for trial; when that is done, the troops under my command will be no longer required in this county, if the citizens of other counties will return to their respective homes. I have proposed to leave two companies, of fifty men each, in this county, and discharge the remainder of the troops; said two companies will remain for the preservation of order, until peace and confidence are restored. I also enclose to your Excellency the report of General Doniphan, and refer you for particulars to Major Rogers.

I have the honor to be, your obd't servant,
D. R. ATCHISON,
Maj. Gen'l 3 Div. Mo. Mi.

General Atchison to the Governor.

HEAD QUARTERS, 3 Div. Mo. Mi. }
Liberty, September 20th 1838. }

To His Excellency, the Commander-in-Chief of the Mo. Mi.

SIR:—The troops ordered out for the purpose of putting down the insurrection, supposed to exist in the counties of Daviess and Caldwell, were discharged on the 20th inst., with the exception of two companies of the Ray militia, now stationed in the county of Daviess, under the command of Brigadier General Parks; it was deemed necessary in the state of excitement in that county, that those companies should remain there for a short period longer, say some twenty days, until confidence and tranquility should be restored.

The reason that an officer of General Parks' rank was left in command, were, 1st. that, if necessary he might call to his assistance upon the shortest notice, the whole force of his Brigade. 2d., the moral influence of an officer of his rank would be greater than an officer of less grade. 3d, I could not find an officer of less grade in my Division to manage affairs of so much delicacy and importance. All the offenders against the law, in that county, against whom process was taken out, were arrested and brought before a court of inquiry, and recognized to appear at the Circuit Court. Mr. Thos. C. Burch attended to the prosecuting on the part of the State. The citizens of other counties who came in armed to the assistance of the citizens of Daviess county, have dispersed, and returned to their respective homes, and the Mormons have also returned to their homes; so that I consider the insurrection for the present, at least, to be at an end, but from the state of feeling in the county of Daviess and the adjoining counties, it is very much to be feared it will break out again, and if so, without the interposition of the Commander-in-Chief, the consequences will be awful. From the best information I can get, there are about two hundred and fifty Mormon families in Daviess county, nearly one half of the population, and the whole of the Mormon forces, in Daviess, Caldwell and the adjoining counties, is estimated at from thirteen to fifteen hundred men, capable of bearing arms.

If an attack is made upon the Mormons in Daviess county, for the purpose of driving them from that county, it is very much to be feared that the Mormons, to a man, will assist the Mormons of that county; this will be the case I have no doubt. I will further inform your Excellency, that the Mormons are well armed, most of them being equiped with a good rifle or musket, a brace of large belt pistols, and a broad sword, so that from their position, and their fanaticism, and their unalterable determination not to be driven, much blood will be spilt, and much suffering endured, if a blow is once struck, without the interposition of your Excellency.

Major Rogers, I presume, has given your Excellency a history of the

immediate cause of the disturbance in Daviess county, and also Judge King has given a detail of facts as far as he could learn them; I send you copies of Judge King's communication to me, upon the subject of ordering out a military force; also a petition from the citizens of Ray county. I was also urged to take that step by the citizens of the most respectable classes in the county of Clay, and was urged to it by the citizens of Daviess county, also of Caldwell county; from all which representations. I deemed it my duty to order out all the military forces and I have now no doubt of the propriety of the measure; it has prevented blood being shed, for the present, and I am in hopes for the future; it has convinced the Mormons that the law will be enforced, and other citizens that it can be enforced, and is ample to redress all grievances. The Mormons of Daviess county, as I stated in a former report, were encamped in a town called Adam-on-diahmon, and are headed by Lyman Wight, a bold, brave, skillful, and, I may add, a desperate man; they appeared to be acting on the defensive, and I must further add, gave up the offenders with a good deal of promptness, the arms taken by the Mormons, and prisoners were also given up upon demand with seeming cheerfulness. Your order in relation to raising five hundred mounted men, will be attended to with promptness.

I have the honor to be, &c.

DAVID R. ATCHISON,
Maj. Gen'l. 3 Div. Mo. Mi.

Hon. A. A. King to General Atchison.

RICHMOND, Sept. 10, 1838.

DEAR SIR:—Since my letter to you, on yesterday, I have received divers and sundry communications from Grand River, all going to show that the people in that quarter, on both sides, need protection, and nothing but an armed force can do it.

The Mormons, named in the warrant issued by Esquire Dryden, will not be taken, and I send you a letter* from Smith and Rigdon, which may be of service to me hereafter, and I hope you will preserve it. From that, you can learn somewhat the state of affairs. I do not know of any authority I have to direct your movements in the matter, but I will advise you, and hope you deem it your duty to act in the matter, to send a force, say of two hundred men, or more if necessary, and from the circumstances, more may be necessary. Dispel the forces in Daviess, and all the assembled armed forces in Caldwell, and while there, cause those Mormons who refuse to give up, to surrender and be recognized, for it will not do to compromise the law with them. I shall inform the Governor of what I have advised, and I have no doubt but he will approve of it; to take time to send to him before hand, will be

*This letter does not appear in the testimony on file.

useless, for the mischief will be done before he could act. Please advise me of your determination by the bearer; I will cordially co-operate with you, when you may require it.

Respectfully,

AUSTIN A. KING.

Citizens of Ray County to General Atchison.

GEN. DAVID R. ATCHISON.

DEAR SIR:—The undersigned are fully impressed with a belief, that there is an insurrection on foot, in the counties of Caldwell and Daviess, in this State, between the Mormons and other citizens of this State. The citizens of Daviess have a Mormon in custody as a prisoner, who they took as a spy; and the Mormons in Caldwell have three men, to-wit: John Comer, Wm. McHany and Allen Miller, taken and confined as prisoners. They were taken in passing from Ray through Caldwell to Daviess. The undersigned, therefore, earnestly request you to order out the militia, to suppress this insurrection, and to save the effusion of blood, which must speedily take place, unless prevented.

H. W. Lile,	G. B. Thacken,	Jesse Coates,
Anderson Martin,	Wade Hall,	John McGee,
P. R. Wirt,	Geo. Woodward,	W. C. Williams,
Jas. S. Ball,	J. W. Wall,	A. B. Sherwood,
Isaac Manson,	Lewis L. Jacoby,	Joel Jacobs,
A. H. Ringo,	John N. Hughes,	Jacob Riffe,
Allen Ball,	Meril M. White,	James Johnson,
J. R. Hendley,	Houston Long,	W. P. Boyce,
C. R. Morehead,	W. C. Pollard,	Nathan Conner,
Sept. 10, 1838.	S. L. D. W. Shaw.	

A petition from certain Mormons to the Governor.

DE WITT, Carroll county, State of Missouri, Sept. 22, 1838.

To His Excellency, LILBURN W. BOGES,
Governor of the State of Missouri.

Your petitioners, citizens of the county of Carroll, do hereby petition your Excellency, praying for relief: That whereas, your petitioners have, on the 20th inst., been sorely aggrieved, by being beset by a lawless mob, certain inhabitants of this and other counties, to the injury of the good citizens of this and the adjacent places; that on the aforesaid day, came from one hundred to one hundred and fifty armed men, and threatened, with force and violence, to drive certain peaceable citizens from their homes, in defiance of all law, and threatened then