

Neosho, S.T. Augt - 3rd 1843

His Excellency, Gov Reynolds

Dear Sir, Herewith I send you a copy of an affidavit that is now in my office although there is nothing definite in it, yet you may rely upon it that if those Indians do not give you trouble as your Western & Northern lines this Fall, it will be because they cannot get enough of Indians to fall in with their diabolical schemes, they have numbers of emissaries among the Indians at this time who represent to the Indians that they are Englishmen, they are also scattering English Medals among the Indians, & represent to them that Smith holds a commission under the British Government, this may all look like a hoax to you, but the time will come when it will not be felt as a hoax. Hitchcock the Agent has long been acquainted with the Potawatamie, speaks their language as fluently as he does the English language, he is well known here and has been known always as a man of undoubted veracity. I myself know that those chiefs as they call themselves were there at the time he mentions in his affidavit & I also know that they returned at the time that says they told him they were, & that they brought their own interpreters with them this last time. The following is a true copy of the Affidavit, many of the expressions are unknown but he says it is a literal translation of their conversation so far as it goes.

Frontier of Iowa

Law County, Iowa. Personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for Law County, Iowa Territory, E. Hitchcock who being duly sworn according to Law, deposes & says

That about the first of April last, three Potawatamie Chiefs, the eldest was Waugh-be-he-shu, the next oldest A-pa-gue-ha-bu & the youngest Na-am-wat came to Montrose and inquired of the deponent for the British Captain that talks with the Great Spirit. A Mormon took them across the River to Navarre about 10 o'clock A.M. & about 2 o'clock P.M. Joe Smith (the Prophet so called) sent a request

request for the deponent to come to Navaho, which the deponent
complied with, when the deponent arrived at Smith's, said
Chiefs were before Smith's house surrounded by about one hundred
mormons, After the lapse of some minutes, Smith ordered the
deponent & Chiefs to appear before him in his room, this was before
the deponent began the interpellation, The house of Smith was
then closed and no one allowed to enter the room but Hiram Smith.
Next the three other mormons, The Chiefs signified the deponent
to tell the British Capt (Joe Smith) that many of his men were
among them on Kanjas River and had told them that that great
white star seen in the West two & a half moons past, signified
the great white prophet (British Capt Joe Smith) that talked with
the Great Spirit and that he ^{Smith} would tell them how to settle
all of the abuses of the whites and how to get revenge
for their wrongs. The Chiefs then said that ten tribes
had already struck the pipe of peace & were then ready
to receive & obey his (Smith's) orders, The Chiefs also re-
quested Smith to send some of his big men home with
them, They then showed Smith two British medals to prove
to him that they were true friends as they said, all the
reply that Smith made to them, through the deponent was my being
interested, by holding a Commission under the United States but he
said to them that he wished the ten tribes to stick closely together.

Hiram Smith told the deponent to say to them that they should
not send any one with them but if brother Cunham was willing
to go with them he might go. The next morning about sunrise
the Chiefs came back to Minrose, when this deponent asked
them when they would return to Navaho, they replied when
ice comes knee high. The Chiefs earnestly requested the
deponent to keep their talk a secret & further the deponent
said not.

Signed Emanuel Whitcomb

Sworn to & subscribed before me on this 27th day of July, 1854
Signed J. A. Clark J.P.

The above is a true copy of the affidavit & with my knowledge of

those fanatics together with the fact of the return of those Chaps.
at the times specified and other circumstances, I do
fully believe that there will be an attempt made on the frontier
of Missouri this very Fall, I have had a letter from Capt
Allen of Fort Harkness, some 250 miles up the Missouri River
He states that there had been one or two hundred Potawatomi
men in that vicinity & that the Sac & Fox Indians
had furnished them with some 80 or 100 horses, he says in
his letter that he does not apprehend any difficulty, but at the
same time he will be on the alert, always in camp
and keep his eye closely on any whites that may
be passing. It is not my wish to create any undue
alarm, but I do think that the inhabitants on the border of the
State should know what facts there are in the case, that the
Mormons have a fierce hatred against Missourians
well aware, One of the principal articles of their creed
is the destruction of Missouri, No Mormon was forgiven
yet I expect without calling for the vengeance of
Heaven on Missouri, will believe that a Missourian

glory in the name & I hope the Mormons will make their
intended invasion, then the extermination of theirs would take
place beyond a doubt, I said I was a Missourian, I am not
by birth but by adoption, I have resided in the State for several years
& intend being there shortly again, as soon at least as I finish closing
my business which will be in two or three months

I now am offering to pay the reward for Smith that you
offer provided he is delivred to me in Clark Co Mo
five miles from this place, There is nothing on earth would
induce me more pleasure than to make my appearance at
Jefferson City with Doc in tow. However I have no hopes
of success as he keeps a body guard near him all the while
I send you a paper to day containing Thomas Smith's testimony
as given before the Municipal Court of Annapolis at Smiths last
ex parte examination

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
J. H. Mack

Fleak

1843. Aug 27

Norman

Stentado St.
Aug 24 3/4
Wm. H. P. Co. P.M.

His Excellency Gov. Reynolds
Buffalo City
Ind

Per Mail

