

Reed Peck a witness, produced, sworn, and ex-  
 -amined on behalf of the State, deposed and said  
 A short time after Cowdery & the Whitmers left Far  
 West (sometime in June) Geo. W. Robinson and Philo  
 Dibble invited me to a Danite meeting. I went,  
 the only speaker was Dr. A. A. who explained the  
 object of the meeting, and said that its object was,  
 that ~~they~~ <sup>we</sup> might be perfectly organized, to defend  
~~ourselves~~ <sup>ourselves</sup> against mobs, that we were to  
 all to be governed by the presidency, and do what  
 - ever they required, and uphold them: that we were  
 not to judge for ourselves whether it were right or  
 wrong, that God had raised up a prophet who  
 would judge for us, and that it was proper we  
 should stand by each other in all cases. and he gave  
 us an example: - if we found one of the Danites in  
 a difficulty, in Ray or Clay for instance, we  
 should rescue him, if we had to do with his ad-  
 -versary, as Moses did with the Egyptian - put him  
 in the sand; it made no difference whether the  
 danite was to blame or not, they would pack to  
 Far West, and there be taken care of - The ques-  
 -tion was asked, whether it would extend to a legal  
 process. - A. A. answered not. The Danite oath  
 was administered to about 30. or 40. <sup>persons</sup> at this meet-  
 -ing - Philo Dibble told me who the head  
 officers of the Danite ~~society~~ were: that George  
 W. Robinson was Colonel, that he Dibble was Lieut  
 Colonel, and Seymour Brunson Major, and that  
 I was chosen Adjutant. After that I had a talk  
 with Geo. W. Robinson & Philo Dibble together, in  
 which I was informed who the officers were as  
 above, and further, that Jared Carter was Cap-  
 -tain General of the band, Cornelius P. Latta Maj  
 -genl. and Sampson A. A. Brig General. This is  
 as I now recollect it. Dr. A. A. in speaking  
 to the society, remarked that it would be impossi-  
 -ble for the presidency to explain the object of  
 the society, to every member, but that the pres-  
 -idency would explain their views or wishes, to  
 the head officers, and they to the members of  
 the society - I was present at one meet-  
 -ing when the officers of the society were

presented & introduced to the presidency, each officer receiving a blessing from them - Award stated that he had procured the presidency to come there to show the Society, that what he was doing was according to their direction or will - And while there the presidency approved of Award's course in the society. Dr Award however did not explain to the presidency what his teachings had been in the society -

I heard Award, on one occasion say that the Danites were to consecrate their surplus property, and to come in by tens to do so, and if they lied about it, - he said Peter killed Ananias and Sapphira, and that would be an example for us - When appointed adjutant of the Danite band, as referred to above, I did not think proper to object openly, tho' I determined within myself not to act, & the lists, and other papers brought to me for recording, I threw aside & made no record of -

On the day before the last expedition to Daviess I heard Joseph Smith Jr, in a speech say, in reference to stealing, that in a general way he did not approve of it, but that on one occasion, our Danites and his disciples, stole corn in passing through the corn fields, for the reason that they could not otherwise procure any thing to eat. He told an anecdote of a Dutchman's potatoes, and said in substance that a colonel or captain was quartered near a Dutchman from whom he wished to purchase some potatoes, who refused to sell them, the officers then charged his men not to be caught stealing the Dutchman's potatoes, but next morning he found his potatoes all dug - I think this was in reference to the expedition to Daviess, and that they had been compelled to go out there so often, that the people there ought to bear the expense.

Such men as would oppose things undertaken as being unlawful, & such as they feared was a violation of the law. I have heard Smith & Rigdon in their public addresses denominated "O doubt men," these I understood to be those <sup>who were</sup> denominated also dissenters; and in reference to <sup>men</sup> ~~men~~ who were hanging

hanging back, & did not wish to engage in their  
 expeditions, they were called traitors, and refer-  
 ing to such, as I understood, Mr Rigdon proposed  
 that blood should first begin to flow in the streets  
 of Far West - but his proposition did not carry.  
 The proposition was then made, and carried unan-  
 -imously, that those who thus hung back, should  
 be pitched upon <sup>their</sup> horses ~~with~~ and made to go,  
 and placed in front of the ~~battle~~ army. All the  
 above occurred in Far West. The day before the  
 last expedition to Davies - The following of  
 the Defendants were in the last expedition to  
 Davies City. Job Smith Jr. Moran Smith, P. P.  
 Pratt. Lyman Wight, Amazy Lyman <sup>I am certain</sup> was not  
 there, Geo. W. Robinson, Caleb Baldwin, Alanson  
 Ripley were there, John Beechman was  
 not there, Geo. W. Harris, Geo. Grant & Dar-  
 -win Chase were out, Isaac Norley was  
 not ~~there~~, Alex. McRay was there, Ebenezer  
 Robinson, was there, John S. Higby I think,  
 James M. Henderson was there, Edward Fair-  
 -idge was there, Francis Higby I think was  
 there, Geo. Kimble was there, <sup>his younger</sup>  
 was there, James W. Pawling & Maurice Phelps  
~~were~~ there. When the troops arrived at  
 Diahmon they were divided into companies of 20,  
 40, 50 & just as they might be called for, those  
 companies were sent out in different parts of  
 the County, as I saw them <sup>that</sup> occasionally going  
 out & coming in. I saw a company of  
 about 50 called a fur company come once  
 some had one thing, some another, one I saw  
 with a feather bed, another had some spun  
 yarn - I understood from some of those who  
 were bringing property, that they were to take it,  
 to the Bishops store & deposit it, and if they  
 failed to do so, it would be considered stealing.  
 - As the property was brought in there  
 was a general shout of hurrah, and waving  
 -ing of hats by those in camp - I heard  
 Lemick Huntingdon, one of the troops, tell in  
 camp, that the mob had burned the store  
 -house in Ballatin but that the Mormons had

hauled off the goods. And also that the mob were burning some Mormon houses. I looked at him as though I did not believe it, and he stooped down to me, being on his horse, and whispered to me, that it was Capt Brunson who had gone with 20 men to the Grindstone Fork who was burning these houses. The goods taken in Gallatin was generally understood in Camp, to have been deposited with the bishop as consecrated property - When the Companies would return from their expeditions, they would make their reports to the Presidency who were there - As this company, above referred to as the first company, passed with their plunder, I heard Mahlon Johnson, who lived in the lower part of Caldwell, ask Joseph Smith Jr, if these proceedings would not endanger the families living in that lower part of Caldwell, and Smith asked him, what he was talking about, that this was the first step they had ever taken to quell the mob. I heard Perry Hayes, one who was engaged in the depredations in Daviess, say, that Joseph Smith Jr. remarked in his presence, that it was his intention, after they got through in Daviess, to go down and take the store in Carrollton; this remark Smith made while in Daviess. After the Mormon troops returned to Far West from Daviess. I saw several of the captains of tens, who had been in that expedition, making out a list of their men, for the purpose, as they said, of being handed in that they might receive their portion of the spoils. - I heard Darwin Chase say that he was in the expedition against Bogart.

Several days before the militia came to Far West I learned through Mr Arthur of Clay County, that they were raising the militia. On Monday before the militia arrived I went out towards Crooked River, to see if I could meet them. I met a young man who informed me that Genl Doniphan was on Crooked River, with the militia. I returned to Far West and informed

Mr Bigdow ~~Smith~~ Smith Jr, as well as giving general information of the fact. I proposed to Mr Smith to go next morning and try to find them, to which he assented, I was disappointed in my effort & returned late in the evening to Far West, just as I arrived I saw the militia & I went down to them with a flag. I met with Genl Donphan, who rec<sup>d</sup> me & told me there were about 1300 in number & that they were militia. On my return to town I met with Jos Smith Jr, & informed him, that the troops were militia under Genl Donphan's command, (as I then supposed was the case) Mr Smith asked me their number & when I told him, he replied - Keep up good courage we can whip that number if they make an attack upon us. Some other person came up at the time and enquired of me their number, and Mr Smith answered, that Mr Phelps, who was a judge of numbers having seen troops before, said that there were about 250, as he would suppose. Mr Geo W. Robinson then whispered to me, not to tell the men their number of the militia, that it would frighten them, or damp their courage. ~~and further this deposition saith not.~~

~~Reed Peck~~  
At this stage of the examination of Reed Peck the following named dependants ~~vpp~~ King Follot Samuel Bent & Ebney Brown William Whitman and Jonathan Dunham were brought to the bar of the court and put upon their trial for the offences alledged against the other dependants and time being allowed them to explain Counsel they retired and again returned to the bar appearing by their Counsel Messrs Rees & Doniphant the examination of Reed Peck was then continued Reed Peck deposes and further saith that Jonathan Dunham was in the last expedition to Darings and was captain of a company of 50 which I have spoke of as called the Fur Company, He went under the fictitious name of Capt. Black hawk, when the men were paraded, they were called out as all belonging to Capt Black hawks company my impression is that King Follot was not in that expedition, but he was captain of 12 men

in far West under the name of Militia and was known and called under the fictitious name of Capt Beell and his Company was called the regulars, I saw William Whitman in the expedition to Daries and seemed to be one of the troops engaged with others, some time previous to the defeat in Daries the first time when the Militia went out there for the purpose of keeping the peace, I heard Jo. Smith Jr in a public address say that he had a reverence for the Constitution of the United States and of this State but as for the laws of this State he did not intend to regard them nor care anything about them, as they were made by lawyers and blacklegs the above things were said some time in last July or August. On the eve of the last expedition to Daries I heard Joseph Smith Jr say that they meaning the Church had appealed to the Gov for protection and he had said us back word was we must fight our own battles, he further stated that the law was unequally administered, all against us and none for us and spoke of the prosecutions set on foot in Daries as an instance and he then said we must take our own case in our own hands and defend ourselves - that he did not calculate to regard the laws any longer, I think it was in the last of June or first of July last that I heard Mr. Ward say that he had just returned from a Council with the Presidency in which Council Jared Carter was broken of his Office of Capt Genl of the Danite bands for having spoken against Sydney Rigdon one of the presidents of that Society that no one should speak against them - or hear any one else do it with impunity In that Council Ward said an arrangement was made to dispose of the dissenters viz. that all the head officers of the Danite bands should have a list of the dissenters both here and in Kirtland and said he will tell you how I will do with them when I meet one damning the Presidency I can damn them as well as he, and if he wanted to drink he would get a bowl of brandy & get them half drunk and taking him by the arm he would take him to the woods or brush and said "he would" be into their guts in a minute and put them under the sod" he gave this as an example of the way they should be disposed of. the only motives for getting rid of the dissenters in this way as far as I ever learned was that if they remained among the Mormons they would introduce a clap net that would ultimately endanger their lives & destroy the Church and if they were suffered to go out from among them they would be telling lies on them in the surrounding country, these reasons I gathered from Mr. Rigdon's last sermon and Mr Rigdon said in the same sermon that he would assist to erect a gallows on the square and hang them all, Jos Smith Jr