

are not certainly known to this affiant; and he further states the fact to be that it is his opinion and he verily believes that it is the object of this body of armed men, to take vengeance for some injuries or imaginary injuries done to some of their friends, and to intimidate and drive from the County all the old citizens and possess themselves of their lands, or to force such as do not leave to come into their measures and submit to their dictation.

WILLIAM P. PENISTON.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the undersigned Judge as aforesaid this 10th day of August 1838.

AUSTIN A. KING."

The above was also sworn to by William Bowman, Wilson McKinney and John Nether-ton.

So it is that when men's hearts become so hard and corrupt as to glory in devising, robbing, plundering, mobbing and murdering innocent men women and children by wholesale, they will more readily swear to lies than speak the truth. At this time some of the brethren had removed with their families from the vicinity of Gallatin, to Diahman, and Far West, for safety.

Saturday 11th, this morning I left Far West, with my Council and Elder Anson W. Babbitt, to visit the brethren on the Forks of Grand River, who had come from Canada with Elder Babbitt, and settled at that place contrary to counsel. In the afternoon after my departure a Committee from Ray County arrived at Far West to inquire into the proceedings of our society in going armed into Davies County. Complaint having been entered in Ray County by Adam Black, William P. Peniston and others. The Committee from Ray requested an interview with a Committee of Caldwell, and a general meeting was called at the City Hall at six in the evening, when it was stated that they were assembled to take into consideration the doings of the citizens of Ray County, wherein they have accused the Mormons of this place of breaking the peace, in defending their rights and that of their brethren in the County of Davies; and the meeting organized by appointing Bishop E. Partridge, Chairman; and Geo. W. Robinson, Clerk.

Resolved first, that a Committee of seven be appointed to confer with the Committee, from Ray. Resolved second, that this Committee, with their Secretary, be authorized to answer such questions as may be offered by the Committee from Ray, and as are named in the document presented this meeting purporting to be the preamble and resolutions of the citizens of Ray. Resolved third, that whereas the document referred to has no date or signature, that our Committee judge of the fact and act accordingly. Resolved fourth, that our Committee report their proceedings to this meeting as soon as possible.

EDWARD PARTRIDGE, Chairman,

Geo. W. ROBINSON, Clerk.

Elder Dominicus Carter's little daughter, Sarah, died in the Camp.

Sunday 12th, I continued with the brethren at the Forks of Grand River offering such counsel as their situation required.

The Camp held a public meeting, as was common with them on the Sabbath. Another Camp consisting of Saints from Canada was in the vicinity, led by Elder John E. Page, who preached to the Kirtland Camp in the afternoon.

Monday 13th, I returned with my Council to Far West; we were chased by some evil, designing men, ten or twelve miles, but we eluded their grasp. When within about eight miles of home, we met some brethren who had come to inform us that a writ had been issued, by Judge King, for my arrest, and that of Lyman Wight, for attempting to defend our rights against the mob.

The Camp as a body were not united, and did not improve their time and labor as they ought. Some were faithful; in the evening they were instructed in all meekness, forbearance and love, but in great faithfulness, by Elders Zera Pulsipher and Elias Smith.

14th and 15th, I spent principally at home, engaged in domestic affairs.

Thursday 16th, I spent principally at home. The Sheriff of Davies accompanied by Judge Morin, called and notified me that he had a writ for to take me to Davies County, on trial, for visiting that County on the seventh instant. It had been currently reported that I would not be apprehended by legal process, and that I would not submit to the laws of the land; but I told the Sheriff that I calculated always to submit to the laws of our country, but I wished to be tried in my own County as the citizens of Davies County were highly exasperated at me, and that the laws of the country gave me this privilege. Upon hearing this, the Sheriff declined serving the writ and said he would go to Richmond and see Judge King on the subject. I told him I would remain at home until his return. The Sheriff returned from Richmond, and found me at home (where I had remained during his absence) and informed me very gravely that I was out of his jurisdiction and that he could not act in Caldwell; and retired. Some of the brethren passed on from the Camp, to work on another job near Dayton.

Sunday 19th, Elder Joel Johnson preached to the Camp in the morning, and the Sacrament was administered in the afternoon by Elders Johnson and Hale.

Monday 20th, Elder Nathan K. Knight and George Brooks having previously been cut off, left the Camp with their families. In the evening, one of the children of the Camp was seized by an evil spirit, which drew the child's face quite out of shape, and produced great suffering. The Elders rebuked the spirit and it departed. This evening, Elder Willey was taken sick; he had laid his hands on his child, and rebuked an evil spirit, which left the child and entered into him. The Elders gathered round him as he lay in his wagon, and all his conversation was in rhyme. Elder Hale stepped into the wagon to lift him up, when he jumped forward at Elders Snow and Carter, crying yow, yow, yow, gnashing his teeth and obumping most horribly. They laid hands on him and rebuked the foul spirit in the name of Jesus, when he called for drink and laid quietly down, but soon recommenced his poetry. Elder Duncan McArthur, laid hands upon him and began to rebuke the spirit, at the same instant he groaned, yelled, and screamed out as it were all in a whistling sound, and he began again to talk like a man. As soon as Elder McArthur was done he lay down, went to sleep, and remained well.

Nothing peculiar transpired at Far West, from the sixteenth to this day, when the inhabitants of the different parts of the County met to organize themselves into Agricultural Companies. I was present and took part in their deliberation. One Company was formed, called "the Western Agricultural Company,"

who voted to enclose one field for grain containing twelve sections, which contain seven thousand six hundred and eighty acres of land. Another Company also was organized, called "the Eastern Agricultural Company," the extent of the field not decided.

Tuesday 21st, another Company was formed, called, "the Southern Agricultural Company," the field to be as large as the first mentioned.

Tuesday 21st, there were two births in the Camp.

Wednesday 22nd, I spent part of the day in counselling with the brethren upon different subjects. The brethren continued to gather to Zion, daily. Some time this month the Saints were warned by the mob to leave De Witt.

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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH

[August, 1838.]

Wednesday 8th, after spending the night in counsel at Colonel Wight's, I rode out with some of the brethren to view the situation of affairs in that region, and among others, called on Adam Black, Justice of the Peace, and Judge elect for Davies County, who had some time previous sold his farm to Brother Vinson Knight, and received part pay according to agreement, and afterwards united himself with a band of mobbers to drive the Saints from, and prevent their settling in Davies County. On interrogation, he confessed what he had done, and in consequence of this violation of his oath as Magistrate, we asked him to give us some satisfaction so that we might know whether he was our friend or enemy, whether he would administer the law in justice; and politely requested him to sign an agreement of peace; but being jealous, he would not sign it, but said he would write one himself, to our satisfaction, and sign it, which he did as follows:

"I Adam Black a Justice of the Peace of Davies County, do hereby Certify to the people called *Mormin*, that he is bound to support the Constitution of this State, and of the United State, and he is not attached to any mob; nor will not attach himself to any such people, and so long as they will not molest me, I will not molest them. This the 8th day of August 1838. ADAM BLACK, J. P."

Hoping he would abide his own decision and support the law, we left him in peace and returned to Colonel Wight's at Adam-ondi-ahman. In the evening some of the citizens from Mill Port called on us and we agreed to meet some of the principal men of the County in council, at Adam-ondi-ahman the next day at twelve o'clock.

The Camp still continued their labors in Ohio, many were sick and evil spirits were striving to trouble the brethren. Elders Dunham, Carter, Knight, Pettingil, Brown and Perry spent the evening in walking through the tents rebuking diseases and foul spirits, and standing between the Saints and the destroyer. Brother Byington's child died, and many were healed.

The Committee assembled at Adam-ondi-ahman at twelve according to previous appointment, viz, on the part of citizens, Joseph Morin, Senator elect; John Williams, Representative elect; James B. Turner, Clerk of the Circuit Court, and others: on the part of the Saints, Lyman Wight, Vinson Knight, John Smith, Reynolds Cahoon, and others: at this meeting both parties entered into a covenant of peace, to preserve each other's rights, and stand in their defence; that if men should do wrong, neither party should uphold them or endeavour to screen them from justice, but deliver up all offenders to be dealt with according to law and justice. The assembly dispersed on these friendly terms, myself and friends returning to Far West, where we arrived about midnight and found all quiet.

Friday 10th, being somewhat fatigued I spent the day with my family, transacting but little business. Sickness continued in the Camp. Brother Carrieco's child died. Elder Tyler was healed by the prayer of Faith. The spirit of mobocracy continued to stalk abroad, notwithstanding all our treaties of peace, as will be seen by the following affidavit. "State of Missouri, Ray County: Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, Judge of the fifth Judicial Circuit, William P. Peniston, and makes oath that he has good reason to believe, and that he verily does believe, that there is now collected and embodied in the County of Davies, a large body of armed men; whose movements and conduct are of a highly insurrectionary and unlawful character, that they consist of about five hundred men, and that they, or a part of them, to the number of one hundred and twenty, have committed violence against Adam Black, by surrounding his house, and taking him in a violent manner; and subjecting him to great indignities, by forcing him under threats of immediate death to sign a paper writing of a very disgraceful character and by threatening to do the same to all the old settlers and citizens of Davies County, and that they have, as a collected and armed body, threatened to put to instant death this affiant on sight, and that he verily believes they will accomplish that act without they are prevented, and also they have threatened the same to Wm. Bowman, and others, and this affiant states that he verily believes all the above facts to be true, and that the body of men now assembled do intend to commit great violence to many of the citizens of Davies County, and that they have already done so to Adam Black; and this affiant verily believes from information of others that Joseph Smith junior, and Lyman Wight are the leaders of this body of armed men, and the names of others thus combined