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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

JUNE, 1844.

I insert the affidavit of Anson Call, David Evans, and William E. Horner:—
"June 19th, 1844.

State of Illinois,
Hancock County,
City of Nauvoo,

Personally appeared before me, Aaron Johnson, justice of the peace of said county, Anson Call, David Evans, and William E. Horner, of Hancock County, and State aforesaid, and being duly sworn depose and say, that on Monday, the 17th instant, we started for Rocky Run precinct, and arrived yesterday; we then went to Col. Williams of that place, and there soon assembled twenty or thirty men; we were informed that Colonel Williams had gone to Lima to get the Colonel there to bring on his regiment; we then informed them that we were delegated on behalf of the people of Nauvoo to transact business with them; they informed us they had a committee set apart to do their business, and that one of their committee was then present, one was absent, and the other two would shortly be here; that while a person was seeking the two men we observed to the people that General Smith was willing to be tried in any State for any crime or supposed crime that he had ever committed, except in the State of Missouri.

One of the persons objected to General Smith being tried by the Municipal Court in Nauvoo, and declared that nothing else would do, but for him to be taken upon the old writ, and by the same person who took him in custody before, and tried at the place where the writ was issued.

It was then observed that Judge Thomas had advised General Smith to enter into bonds to be tried before the Circuit Court, and this would allay all the excited feelings of the people.

It was then moved by one of their company and sanctioned by the people, that a committee should wait on the judge who gave General Smith that advice, and give him a coat of tar and feathers, when one John Elliott of notoriety agreed to find the tar and feathers for that purpose.

After some further conversation, a man whom they called Lawyer Stevens came in from Warsaw and asked where Colonel Williams was; he was told that he had gone to Lima; they then observed to the lawyer that we were delegates from Nauvoo, when he replied, 'we are expecting delegates too at Warsaw,' and he said the people were talking of introducing them to the Mississippi river, and says he, 'Gentlemen, you can do with your delegates what you think proper.'

A Mr. Crawford, one of the committee, observed that he went against such proceedings, and advised them as a body to keep cool; they then told the lawyer the advice that the Judge of the Circuit Court had given to General Smith, when he said it was unlawful advice, and it was a second time moved and assented to, that a committee should wait on Judge Thomas, and give him a coat of tar and feathers; the remainder of the committee having come in, they stated to us that they had written to the Governor to obtain aid from other counties, and if the Governor did not send them aid, they were too weak to go themselves now, but were summoning all the people that would come into the county until they got force enough to come up and take Joseph Smith with the first warrant, and take him to the place where the writ was first issued, and nothing less than that would satisfy the people.

ANSON CALL,
DAVID EVANS,
WM. E. HORNER.

Sworn and subscribed to this 19th day of June, 1844. AARON JOHNSON, J. P."

From the best information they could learn, there were two hundred armed men at Rocky Run precinct, two hundred at Warsaw, two hundred in Missouri, and the whole receiving constant additions.

At 9 p.m. I was at home; the city all quiet.

Thursday, 20.—At day break I went with my staff and Major Gen. Dunham to the prairie, to view the situation of the ground, and to devise plans for the defence of the city, and select the proper locations to meet the mob, and made arrangements for provisions for the city, instructing my agents to pledge my farms for the purpose.

At 10 a.m., Dr. Southwick from Louisiana arrived and reported that there was not much excitement in St. Louis—that a cannon had arrived at Warsaw from Quincy, and that it had been reported to him that there was great excitement in Upper Missouri.

At 11, I reviewed the Legion facing the Man-

sion, and went to parade on the banks of the river.

I insert the affidavit of Carlos W. Lyon:—
"State of Illinois,
City of Nauvoo,

On the 20th day of June, 1844, came before me, Willard Richards, Recorder of the city aforesaid, Carlos W. Lyon, and after being duly sworn depose and saith, that while at St. Louis, Mo., on Monday, the 17th inst., it was a common topic that they were furnishing arms and ammunition to be sent by steam boat to Warsaw, Illinois, and said if the people of Warsaw need five hundred men to give notice by the steamer 'Boreas,' and the men should be sent from St. Louis to Warsaw, and that your said affiant also saw a cannon landed from the steamer 'Mermaid' at Warsaw, and further he saith not.

CARLOS W. LYON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of June, 1844.

WILLARD RICHARDS,
Recorder of the City of Nauvoo."

Wrote to John Tyler, President of the United States as follows:—

"City of Nauvoo, Ill.,
June 20th, 1844."

Sir:—I have just enclosed to the Governor of the State of Illinois copies of the enclosed affidavits and extra. I am sorry to say that the State of Missouri, not contented with robbing, driving, and murdering many of the Latter Day Saints, are now joining the mob of this State for the purpose of the 'utter extermination' of the Mormons, as they have resolved. And now, sir, as President of the United States, will you render that protection which the Constitution guarantees in case of 'insurrection and rebellion,' and save the innocent and oppressed from such horrid persecution?

With great respect I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH SMITH, Mayor.

John Tyler, President of the U. S.,
Washington, D. C."

I here insert affidavits of Hiram B. Mount and John Cunningham:—

"June 20th, 1844.

State of Illinois,
Hancock County,
City of Nauvoo,

Personally appeared before me, Aaron Johnson, an acting justice of the peace in and for the county of Hancock, Hiram B. Mount and John Cunningham, who being duly sworn, depose and say, that George Baker, John Banks, Joseph Barber, and two others, came to your deponents on Saturday, the 15th inst., at Morley Settlement in said county, and demanded our arms; we replied that we had none, when they required of us to go with them to Nauvoo, to take Joseph Smith and others prisoners, and they promised to supply us with arms; second, if we would not do so, that we were required to leave our homes and go to Nauvoo; we must either go against Smith, or take part with him.

They then told us they intended to go to Nauvoo to take Smith, and if they could not take him they would take some of the head men of Smith's clan, and hold them under bonds of death until Smith was delivered up to them; and your deponents further say, that Banks told them if they could not get volunteers enough, they would get a force that would take him.

HIRAM B. MOUNT,
His
JOHN C. CUNNINGHAM,
mark.

{ L. S. } Subscribed and sworn to this 20th day of June, 1844, before me.

AARON JOHNSON, J. P."

Also the affidavit of Allen T. Wait:—
"June 20th, 1844.

"State of Illinois,
Hancock County,
City of Nauvoo,

Personally appeared before me, Aaron Johnson, an acting justice of the peace in and for said county, Allen T. Wait, of Morley Settlement in said county, and being first duly sworn depose and saith that on Saturday morning he was at the house of Colonel Levi Williams, when he told me that I must take up arms, and go and fight against Joseph Smith, or I must leave the place immediately, or else I must give up my arms, and stay at home.

He also said they would take Smith by law if they could, or if the Governor would not grant a writ to take him, they would take him any how; he also said that if the people would not give Smith up, they would lay the whole city of Nauvoo in ashes.

I enquired what they would do with those people of Nauvoo who would not fight; he said they must make some signal, or else they must share the same fate, they must all perish, men, women and children.

I then left in order to go home, when Captain Harrison P. Crawford overtook me, and told me if the Governor would not help them they did not care for the Governor any how. He said Governor Ford was an unconstitutional man, he had issued two illegal writs, and they were done so on purpose; and any such man ought not to hold any office whatever, and they intended to proceed against the Mormons, whether they got any authority from the Governor or not.

ALLEN T. WAIT.

{ L. S. } Subscribed and sworn to this 20th day of June, 1844, before me,

AARON JOHNSON, J. P."

Likewise the affidavit of Isaac Morley, Gardner Snow, John Edmiston and Edm. Durfee:—

"June 20th, 1844.

State of Illinois,
Hancock County,
City of Nauvoo,

Personally appeared before me, Aaron Johnson, an acting justice of the peace in and for said county, Isaac Morley, Gardner Snow, John Edmiston, and Edmund Durfee, all of Hancock County aforesaid, and being first duly sworn, depose and say, that on Saturday, the 15th day of June, 1844, at Morley Settlement in said county, certain persons, to wit; George Baker, farmer; John Banks, Esq.; Luther Perry, constable; Joseph Barber, farmer; and another person whose name we do not know, called upon your deponent, Isaac Morley, when John Banks said they waited on him to make three propositions, viz.: 1st, that we were to take up arms, join with, and go along with them to Nauvoo to arrest one Joseph Smith and others, about 17 in number living in Nauvoo; 2nd, to remove our effects to Nauvoo; or, 3rd, to give up our arms to them and remain neutral, and said Isaac Morley was required to notify all the brethren in the neighborhood, and report to the said committee, which of these propositions we accepted, by 8 o'clock on Monday morning following, and that one of the above resolutions was to be complied with within that time.

On the same day said Joseph Barber and Luther Perry went to where your deponent, Edmund Durfee, was at work in a field in the same neighborhood, and said they had come to notify him that said Durfee must comply with one of the above propositions; if not that said Durfee would smell thunder.

And all your deponents further depose and say, that they have been compelled to leave their homes and flee to Nauvoo for protection; for we were afraid to stay there on account of the mobs threatening to 'utterly exterminate' us according to a 'Warsaw Signal Extra' of June 14th, 1844, if we staid at home; and further your deponents say not.

ISAAC MORLEY,
GARDNER SNOW,
JOHN EDMISTON,
EDMUND DURFEE.

{ L. S. } Subscribed and sworn to this 20th day of June, 1844, before me,

AARON JOHNSON, J. P."

Also the affidavit of Solomon Hancock, Wm. Garner, and John G. Lofton:—

State of Illinois,
Hancock County,
City of Nauvoo,

Personally appeared before me, Aaron Johnson, an acting justice of the peace, Solomon Hancock, William Garner, and John G. Lofton, who being first duly sworn, depose and say, that on Saturday, the 15th day of June, 1844, at Morley Settlement in said county, certain persons, to wit; John Clark, John Crawford, Jeremiah Bentley, and three others, all farmers, came to your deponents, and made three several propositions to them, to wit, 1st, that we were to take up our arms and join with them in going to Nauvoo to take Joseph Smith and others prisoners. 2nd, to remove with our effects to Nauvoo immediately, or, 3rd, to give up our arms to Colonel Levi Williams, and remain neutral.

We were ordered to give in our decision on Monday then next by 8 o'clock in the morning, and if we would not agree to their decision, we must abide the consequences. And in consequence of mobs gathering in the neighborhood, we have been obliged to leave our homes in order to save our lives, and are come to Nauvoo for protection.

Solomon Hancock further depose and saith, that said John Clark did on Tuesday, 18th inst., inform your deponent that one of their party had gone to St. Louis, and had obtained three cannon, and were expecting three companies of volunteers from St. Louis to join them in going to Nauvoo to exterminate the Mormons; and further your deponents say not.

SOLOMON HANCOCK,
WILLIAM GARNER,
JOHN G. LOFTON.

{ L. S. } Subscribed and sworn to this 20th day of June, 1844, before me,

AARON JOHNSON, J. P."

Also the affidavit of James Guymon:—
State of Illinois,
Hancock County,
City of Nauvoo,

Personally appeared before me, Aaron Johnson, an acting justice of the peace in and for said county, James Guymon, of Green Plains precinct in said county, and being first duly sworn, depose and saith, that on Saturday morning, the 15th inst., he was at Rocky Run precinct when one Captain Wyers, captain of an 'Independent Anti-Mormon Minute Men Company,' came to a house where your deponent was staying; he enquired for a drum—he wanted either to borrow it or buy it until this affray with the Mormons was over.

I asked him how he was going to proceed to take Smith; he then said Missouri had offered to send over two thousand men to come over to assist and take him.

I asked whether it was legal for them to come over here; he replied when they came over the constables were going to summons them, and also to summons every man who was in, or would come into the county.

I asked if it was according to law to proceed that way, and he replied it was, and he went in for the law and democracy. He said they had sent two men to the Governor to or-

der the militia out in their favor to help to take those criminals, and if he would not do just right they would execute him by taking his head from his shoulders.

I replied, 'you said you was a democracy man and went for the law'; I said, 'do you call that democracy or mobocracy?'

He said if they went that far, and if the Governor ordered the militia against them, instead of in favor of them, he would turn mob, and the militia would join him, and they would take the Governor's head from his shoulders; he repeated it two or three times.

I enquired if it was law to go and drive those innocent Mormons who were living in the neighborhood, or tyrannically compel them to do things not agreeable to their will; he allowed that in this case it was.

I asked what he was going to do with these old settlers who would neither take up arms and fight against Smith, nor in favor of him; when he replied they must fight either for one side or the other, or they must share the same fate as the Mormons.

Your deponent further saith that he is not a Mormon, and does not belong to the Church of Jesus Christ or Latter Day Saints; and further saith not.

JAMES GUYMON.

Subscribed and sworn to this 20th day of June, 1844, before me,

AARON JOHNSON, J. P."

Also the affidavit of Obadiah Bowen:—
"June 20th, 1844.

State of Illinois,
Hancock County,
City of Nauvoo,

Personally appeared before me, Aaron Johnson, an acting justice of the peace in and for said county, Obadiah Bowen, of Morley Settlement in said county, and being first duly sworn, depose and saith, that on Saturday, the 15th instant, John Clark rode up to where I was at work in Morley Settlement, and said he was afraid the Mormons would come and destroy their property, and said he, if I have any destroyed by any person, I shall make my resort upon the nearest Mormons, and take their property in place of that which shall be taken away, wherever he could find it, so long as it was a Mormon's; and that on Tuesday, the 18th inst., as I was coming from my house to the road leading to Lima, a mob was at the forks of the road standing still, and consulting together; I came on the road about twenty rods a head of them; in a few moments Colonel Levi Williams, John Clark, and five others rode along the same road after me.

I heard them talking about shooting the Mormons, when Clark said, 'it is no disgrace to shoot a Mormon any how,' when they all laughed; they overtook me, and Colonel Williams asked me where I lived; I replied in Morley's Settlement; he asked me if I was a Mormon, when Clark said it was no odds, he is on their part.

Colonel Williams then threatened me, and said I must be sure and be at his house by nine o'clock in the morning, if not, I must either get out of Morley Settlement, or be served the same sauce as the Mormons; he gave me to understand they were going to make a total destruction of Morley Settlement to-morrow, and I had better get out of it.

He then talked about Joseph Smith, when I replied I understood Joseph Smith had a fair trial, and was bound over to the Supreme Court; he said if he is or is not, we do not care; it is illegally done; and he should go ahead—he should gather the troops, and there would be 2,000 men landed to-morrow from Missouri; he said they were volunteers, they should meet next day at Carthage, and then go against Joseph Smith and demolish the city of Nauvoo; for have him at any rate they would. He was in a very great passion, and let out a great many oaths and other things that I have not mentioned.

In consequence of their threats, and to save our lives, we were obliged to leave our homes in a very stormy night, and had to cross a dangerous stream that was swollen by the rain, and was unable to protect myself from great sufferings and hardships, and came to the city of Nauvoo for protection.

OBADIAH BOWEN.

Subscribed and sworn to this 20th day of June, 1844, before me.

AARON JOHNSON, Justice of the Peace."

Also the affidavit of Alvah Tippets:—
"June 20th, 1844.

State of Illinois,
Hancock County,
City of Nauvoo,

Personally appeared before me, Aaron Johnson, a justice of the peace in and for the said county, Alvah Tippets, of Warsaw, in Hancock county, and State aforesaid, and being first duly sworn, depose and saith, that on Wednesday, June, the 12th, at Green Plains, one Colonel Levi Williams came to your deponent about sunrise, and ordered me out of the house that very day.

I replied he was very hasty; he again ordered me out of the house, and said if I spoke a word he would put me out of the house immediately.

I then took away part of my goods and left the house accordingly, because I was afraid to stay there another night.

The next day I went back after the remainder of my property, and called at the house of Col. Levi Williams for some things belonging to me.