

July 2nd.—Early in the morning, Jesse B. Nichols went into the village of Gallsburg, waked up a blacksmith, and employed him to set a couple of horse shoes. The blacksmith objected, saying it was Sunday morning, and being a professor of religion, he would not do it, unless for double price, which Nichols consented to give him. He went to the shop, and whilst setting the shoes, the company passed through, exciting considerable curiosity among the villagers; two of the brethren remained to accompany Nichols: as he was about paying the blacksmith for the work, a Presbyterian Minister came up and said to him, 'You ought to charge a dollar a shoe; these are Mormons, and you who are a church member have been shoeing this Mormon's horse on Sunday, and you ought to be brought before the church for doing it.' Upon which the blacksmith demanded two dollars for his work, instead of one, as agreed before; Nichols handed him one dollar, the Priest telling the Blacksmith he ought not to take it, that Jo. Smith was an imposter and ought to be hung.' The son of Vulcan, however, took the dollar, but demanded more, upon which Nichols kicked the priest on his seat of honor, mounted his horse, and left amid the loud cheers of a number of spectators.

'We continued our journey to La Harpe, where we learned the full particulars of brother Joseph's safe arrival, and trial before the Municipal court, when we made merry, composed a song, and danced, and proceeded to Nauvoo.

'During the entire journey the heat was extremely oppressive, and as the necessity of the case was very urgent, we had not time to sleep. It may be safely said to be one of the most rapid fatiguing marches that is on record, having travelled with the same horses, about five hundred miles in seven days.'

Another copy of the remonstrance of the Governor against this sending an armed force, was made out, and taken to the porch of the Temple where it was signed in the course of the day by about nine hundred persons.

Tuesday, 4.—About 1 a. m. Messrs. Walker, Patrick, Southwick, Markham and Lucien Woodworth started for Springfield, carrying with them the affidavits, petition, and the doings of the Municipal court.

At a very early hour people began to assemble at the Grove, and at 11 o'clock near 13,000 persons had congregated, and were addressed in a very able and appropriate manner by Elder O. Hyde, who has recently been appointed on a mission to St. Petersburg, Russia.

A constant accession of numbers swelled the congregation to 15,000 as near as could be estimated.

At 2 p. m. they were again addressed by Elder P. P. Pratt, on redemption, in a masterly discourse, when I made some remarks, of which the following was reported by Elder W. Woodruff:

'If the people will give ear a moment, I will address them, with a few words in my own defence, in relation to my arrest. In the first place I will state to those that can hear me, that I never spent more than six months in Missouri, except while in prison. While I was there I was at work for the support of my family. I never was a prisoner of war during my stay, for I had nothing to do with war, I never took a pistol, gun or sword, and the most that has been said on this subject by the Missourians is false. I have been willing to go before any Governor, Judge, or tribunal where justice would be done, and have the subject investigated. I could not have committed treason in that State while I resided there, for treason against Missouri, consists in levying war against the State, or adhering to her enemies.—Missouri was at peace and had no enemy that I could adhere to, had I been disposed; and I did not make war as I had no command or authority either civil or military, but only in spiritual matters as a Minister of the gospel.

This people was driven from that State by force of arms under the exterminating order of Governor Boggs. I have never committed treason. The people know very well I have been a peaceable citizen, but there has been a great hue and cry about Governor Boggs being shot. No crime can be done, but it is laid to me. There I was again dragged to the United States Court, and acquitted on the merits of the case, and now it comes again. But as often as God sees fit for me to suffer I am ready, but I am as innocent of the crimes alleged against me as the angels in heaven, I am not an enemy to mankind, I am a friend to mankind, I am not an enemy to Missouri, nor any Governors or people.

'As to the military station I hold, and the cause of my holding it is as follows: When we came here, the State required us to bear arms, and do military duty according to law, and as the Church had just been driven from the State of Missouri, and robbed of all their property and arms, they were poor and destitute of arms, they were liable to be fined for not doing duty, when they had not arms to do it with; they came to me for advice, and I advised them to organize themselves into independent companies and demand arms of the State; this they did. Again there were many Elders having license to preach, which by law exonerated them from military duty, but the officers would not release them on this ground. I then told the Saints that though I was clear from military duty by law, in consequence of lameness in one of my legs; yet I would set them the example, and would do duty myself, they then said they were willing to do it, if they could be formed into an independent company and I could be at their head: this is the origin of the Nauvoo Legion and of my holding the office of Lieutenant General.

'All the power that I desire or have sought to obtain has been the enjoyment of the Constitutional privilege, for which my fathers shed their blood of living in peace in the society of my wife and children and enjoy the society of my friends, and that religious liberty, which is the right of every American citizen, of worshipping accord-

ing to the dictates of his conscience and the revelations of God.

'With regard to elections, some say all the Latter Day Saints vote together and vote as I say; but I never tell any man how to vote, or who to vote for, but I will show you how we have been situated by bringing a comparison, should there be a Methodist society here, and two candidates running for office, one says, 'If you will vote for me, and put me in Governor, I will exterminate the Methodists, take away their charters, &c.'—The other candidate says, 'If I am Governor, I will give all an equal privilege; which would the Methodists vote for? Of course they would vote en masse for the candidate that would give them their rights.

'Thus it has been with us. Joseph Duncan said if the people would elect him he would exterminate the Mormons and take away their charters. As to Mr. Ford, he made no such threats, but manifested a spirit in his speeches to give every man his rights; hence the Church universally voted for Mr. Ford, and he was elected Governor. But he has issued writs against me the first time the Missourians made a demand for me, and this is the second one he has issued for me, which has caused me much trouble and expense.

'President Smith also rehearsed the account of his being taken by Reynolds and Wilson, and the unlawful treatment he received at their hands.

'The multitude gave good attention and much prejudice seemed to be removed.'

Three Steamers arrived in the afternoon, one from St. Louis, one from Quincy, and one from Burlington, bringing from 800 to 1000 ladies and gentlemen. On the arrival of each boat, the people were escorted by the Nauvoo band to convenient seats provided for them and were welcomed by the firing of cannon, which brought to our minds the last words of the Patriot Jefferson, 'Let this day be celebrated by the firing of cannon,' &c. The visitors and Saints appeared to be highly gratified.

A collection was taken in the morning to assist Elder Hyde to build his house, and in the afternoon Elder Hyde on his own responsibility, proposed a collection to assist me in bearing the expenses of my persecution.

The meeting closed about 7 p. m. The day was pleasant, sky clear, and nothing tended to disturb the peace.

I extract from the Quincy Whig:

'I left Quincy on the glorious fourth on board the splendid steamer Annawan, Captain Whitney, in company with a large number of ladies and gentlemen of this city, on a pleasure excursion to the famed city of Nauvoo. The kindness of the officers of the boat, and the hearty welcome received from the citizens of Nauvoo on our arrival there, induced me to return to each and all of them my own, the thank of every passenger on board the Annawan—as I am sure all alike feel grateful for the pleasure there experienced. We left Quincy at half past eight, and reached Nauvoo at about two o'clock, p. m. where we received an invitation from the prophet to attend the delivering of an oration, which was accepted, and two companies of the Legion were sent to escort us to the Grove, (on the hill near the Temple,) where the oration was to be delivered. When we reached the brow of the hill we received a salute from the artillery there stationed, and proceeded on to the grove, where we were welcomed in a cordial and happy manner by the prophet and his people.

'The large concourse of people assembled to celebrate the day which gave birth to American Independence, convinced me that the Mormons have been most grossly slandered, and that they respect, cherish, and love the free institutions of our country, and appreciate the sacrifices and bloodshed of those patriots who established them. I never saw a more orderly, gentlemanly, and hospitable people than the Mormons, nor a more interesting population, as the stirring appearance of their city indicates. Nauvoo is destined to be, under the influence and enterprise of such citizens as it now contains, and her natural advantages, a populous, wealthy and manufacturing city.

'The services of the day were opened by a chaste and appropriate prayer, by an Elder whose name I do not know, which was followed by rich strains of vocal and instrumental music; then followed the oration which was an elegant, eloquent and pathetic one, as much so as I ever heard on a similar occasion.

'We started home about six o'clock, all evidently much pleased with Nauvoo, and gratified by the kind reception of her citizens.

A CITIZEN OF QUINCY.'

Wednesday 5.—I called in the office and heard the testimony of my brother Hyrum before the Municipal court read.

Judge Adams and Esq. Southwick returned from Warsaw,—found but little excitement there. Esq. Southwick wrote a piece for the Warsaw paper in my defence, and the justice of the decision of the Municipal Court.

The remainder of the day I was at home.

Thursday 6.—I remained at home all day.

Governor Ford wrote the following letter:

'EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }  
Springfield, July 6th 1843. }

'Joseph H. Reynolds, Esq., Sir: I have received your petition for a detachment of Illinois Militia to assist you in retaking Joseph Smith, Jr., representing him to have escaped from your custody after having been arrested on a warrant granted for his apprehension. I have also received a remonstrance and some affidavits adverse to the prayer of your petition. I have also to inform you that I had heard, before your arrival in this city of the escape of Smith, and rumors that he had been rescued by a military force. Deeming these remarks of sufficient importance to justify me in so doing, I did, on the 4th day of this present month, despatch a trusty and competent person as my agent to collect information of the various matters contained in your petition; and you will I hope at once see the propriety of all action being suspended on my

part, until I can receive the most authentic and unquestionable information, as to the movements complained of.

I am most respectfully, your obedient servant.

THOMAS FORD.'

And endorsed on the back of it:

'Mr. Backenstos,—The annexed letter to Joseph H. Reynolds, is all the answer which I can at present make to either of the parties touching his application for a detachment of Militia to assist him in retaking Joseph Smith, said to be a fugitive from justice.

'I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

THOMAS FORD.

Friday 7.—Mr. Braman, a messenger from the Governor arrived in Nauvoo, requesting a copy of all the testimony that was given before the Municipal Court, and other affidavits concerning the expulsion of the Mormons from Missouri.

I therefore employed James Sloan, Samuel Gulley, George Walker and Joseph M. Cole, in addition to my other clerks, who sat up all night to copy the testimony.

In addition to the above, I made the following affidavit:

'State of Illinois, } ss  
Hancock county. }

Personally appeared before me, Ebenezer Robinson, a Notary Public within and for said county, Joseph Smith, senior, who being duly sworn, says that in the year 1838, he removed with his family to the State of Missouri—that he purchased land and became a resident of Caldwell county; that he was an Elder and Teacher of the Church of Latter Day Saints; that the religious society of which he was an Elder numbered several thousand people who were remarkably industrious in their habits, quiet in their manners, and conscious observers of the laws, that they had been for some years prior to his removal thither purchasing and improving lands, and were possessed of a vast amount of property, probably to the value of 3,500,000 of real and personal estate; that prejudices had for a long time existed in the minds of the rough and uncultivated people, by whom his people were surrounded, on account of their peculiar religious views, and their different habits of life; that in the summer of 1838 the prejudice of the people against the deponent and his associates became great; that while in the peaceful pursuit of their labors upon their own farms, without any violence or aggression on their part, they were frequently attacked by armed mobs, their houses burned, their cattle stolen, their goods burned and wasted, many inoffensive people murdered, whole families driven out and dispersed over the country at inclement seasons, and every barbarity which the ingenuity and malice of a mob could devise, inflicted upon them.

'These scenes of violence raged unchecked by the civil authorities and many officers of the State of Missouri, were open leaders of the mob, and shared in its crimes. The armed militia of the State were arrayed without authority of law, for the purpose of driving the deponent and his inoffensive people out of the State, or of exterminating them if they should remain within its (For proof of this fact, see the order of Governor Boggs, dated Oct. 27, 1838, sent herewith.) That this deponent and his people received notices, warnings, and orders from the civil and military officers of Missouri, as well as from mobs who co-operated with them, to leave the State, and were threatened with death if they refused; that this deponent, with others, was taken prisoner by an armed mob, and oppressed, imprisoned and carried from place to place, without authority of law. That his whole people, comprising at least fifteen thousand people, were driven out like wild beasts; that hundreds were murdered by shooting, stabbing, beating, and by having their brains beaten out with clubs, great numbers were starved to death, many died from fatigue and hardship in the fields, women were ravished, children murdered, and every cruelty inflicted. This deponent, with his comrades were imprisoned about six months, and until nearly all his people were driven out of the State, that they were then by order of the officers of the State set at liberty and ordered to flee from the State; that after they were released they were pursued by armed men who endeavored to shoot them; that they thus were pursued out of the State and were in peril of their lives as long as they remained within its limits.

And this deponent says that he never committed any crime against the laws of Missouri, that he never commanded or controlled any military or other force, that he never left the State voluntarily, but hoped to be permitted to enjoy his rights, property and liberty, like other peaceable citizens, but that he was driven out by force directed by the officers, and approved by the Legislature of Missouri; and that the lands and homes which his people had purchased and improved, are now in many cases occupied and enjoyed by the very men who composed the mobs, who dispossessed them; and he believes that the desire of plunder was one of the inducements which led to the great wrongs which his people have suffered.

And he further says that the recent requisition made upon the Governor of Illinois, upon which a warrant for his arrest has been issued, has its origin in the proceedings before recited, in which this deponent instead of being a 'fugitive' from the justice of Missouri, was driven at the point of the bayonet beyond its borders; and that since such expulsion, he has not been within the limits of Missouri.

Wherefore, he prays that upon examination of the premises, the Governor of Illinois will cause the writ issued by him to be revoked, and this deponent released from further proceedings in the premises.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7th day of July, A.D. 1843. Given under my hand and notarial seal the day and year last written.

E. ROBINSON,

Notary Public, Hancock co., Ill.

Also Caleb Baldwin and Alanson Ripley, joined with me in the following:—

'State of Illinois, } ss  
Hancock County. }

Personally came before, Ebenezer Robinson, a notary public in and for said county, Caleb Baldwin, who being sworn, says that after the arrest of himself and others as mentioned in the foregoing affidavit, he went to Judge Austin A. King, and asked Judge King to grant him a fair trial at law, saying that with the result of such a trial he would be satisfied; but Judge King answered that 'there was no law for the Mormons', that 'they must be exterminated', that the prisoners, this deponent Smith and others, must die, but that some people as women and children would have the privilege of leaving the State, but there was no hope for them.

He told Judge King that his family composed of helpless females had been plundered and driven out into the prairie, and asked Judge King what he should do; to which Judge King answered, that if he would renounce his religion and forsake Smith, he would be released and protected; that the same offer was made to the other prisoners, all of whom, however, refused to do so, and were in reply told that they would be put to death.

Alanson Ripley, being in like manner sworn, says that the same offer was made to him by Mr. Birch, the prosecuting attorney, that if he would forsake the Mormons, he should be released and restored to his home, and suffered to remain, to which he returned an answer similar to that of Mr. Baldwin.

Joseph Smith, being in like manner sworn, says that he and Mr. Baldwin were chained together at the time of the conversation above recited by Mr. Baldwin; which conversation he heard, and which is correctly stated above, but that no such offer was made to him, it being understood as certain that he was to be shot.

JOSEPH SMITH,  
CALEB BALDWIN,  
ALANSON RIPLEY.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7th day of July, A.D. 1843. Given under my hand and notarial seal the day and year last written.

E. ROBINSON,

Notary Public Hancock co., Ill.'

Afterwards Caleb Baldwin, Lyman Wight, P. P. Pratt, Hyrum Smith, James Sloan, Alexander McRae, and Dimick B. Huntington joined in making the following affidavit:—

'State of Illinois, } ss  
Hancock county. }

Personally appeared before Ebenezer Robinson, a notary public within and for said county, the undersigned citizens of said county, who being first severally duly sworn according to law upon said oath, depose and say that the said affiants were citizens and residents of Caldwell county, and the adjoining counties in the State of Missouri during the years A.D. 1837, 1838, and a part of A.D. 1839; that said affiants were personally conversant with, and sufferers in the scenes and troubles usually denominated the Mormon war in Missouri. That Governor Boggs, the acting executive officer of said State, together with Major General Atchison and Brigadier General Doniphan, and also the authorities of the counties within which the Mormons resided, repeatedly by direct and public orders and threats, commanded every Mormon in the State, Joseph Smith their leader included, to leave the State on peril of being exterminated; that the arrest of said Smith in the month of November, A.D. 1838, was made without authority, color or pretended sanction of law; said arrest having been made by a mob, by which said Smith, among others, was condemned to be shot; but which said sentence was finally revoked, said mob resolving itself into a pretended court of justice without the pretended sanction of law, then and there made out the charges and procured the pretended conviction for the same which are mentioned in the indictment against the said Smith, by virtue of which he, said Smith, on the requisition of the executive of Missouri, has been recently arrested by the order of His Excellency Thomas Ford, Governor of the State of Illinois.

Said affiants further state that they were imprisoned with the said Joseph Smith, when they and the said Smith were delivered into the hands of a guard to be conducted out of the State of Missouri, and by said guard by the order and direction of the authorities of said counties, where said Mormons were arrested and confined, and by order of the Governor of the State of Missouri, were set at large, with directions to leave the State without delay. That said Joseph Smith and said affiants were compelled to leave the State for the reasons above mentioned, and would not, and did not leave said State for any other cause or reason than that they were ordered and driven from the State of Missouri by the Governor and citizens thereof, and further say not.

CALEB BALDWIN,  
LYMAN WIGHT,  
P. P. PRATT,  
HYRUM SMITH,  
JAMES SLOAN,  
ALEXANDER MCRÆ,  
DIMICK B. HUNTINGTON.

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence this 7th day of July, A.D. 1843. In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and affix my notarial seal at my office in Nauvoo, this 7th day of July, A.D. 1843.

E. ROBINSON,  
Notary Public, Hancock co., Ills.'

SETTING HIM RIGHT.—'I stand,' said a Western stump orator, 'on the broad platform of the principles of '98; and palsied be mine arm if I desert 'em!' 'You stand on nothing of the kind!' interrupted a little shoemaker in the crowd; 'you stand in my boots that you never paid me for, and I want the money.'