

Missouri State Archives: Missouri Mormon War General Assembly of Missouri

[Full-text transcription of: Petition of Absolum D. Tramsly]

To The Legislature of Missouri

Your
Petitioners, the undersigned citizens of the
Town of Far (West County of Caldwell)
would respectfully represent that in
the year 1841 a portion of the Citizens
of Said County having determined
that the [letter "M" crossed out] remnant of Mormons once
Mormon dessenters Should leave the
County first by invitation, and if not, by
Coercion. A large Majority of the citizens
participateing in a full desire for
their removal, yet at the same time, Know
ing the influence it Must exert upon the
reputation of the County; and desirous
of Supporting the Supremacy of the laws
expressed their decided disapprobation
of a resort to Coercive Means. The time
haveing arrived when the should have
left agreeable to Command, Many of them
unwilling to obey remained. To enforce
their departure the following lawless
Means were resorted to by that portion
of citizens first above mentioned by
the destruction of their property, burning
and pulling down their houses, leaving
their families shelterless, the Most brutal
and Shamless abuse of the female portion

of their Community, nor ceaseing here
they extend their Commands of departure
to honest and respectable Citizens have
ing Neither Connection with Nor Knowledge
of Mormonism, and in Short Many other
Such deeds as were repugnant alike
to law and humanity. Such being the
State of affairs an attempt was Made
at the urgent desire of Many Citizens to
bring these Knowen leaders of a Mob to
justice by the proper authorities of the

land and within the Meaining and intent of the laws. Accordingly the Sheriff through the directions of the presedeing justice of the County Court proceded to execute the laws but was detered from his purpose by a threat that his person was in danger, and that a body of Men Numbering one hundas ed were in readiness to resist his effort [“with” crossed out] to arrest and that they would that Night attack the Town of Far West.

This threat being of general beleif, from the Knowen influence they had with law less bands from other counties, (haveing been assisted in time before) and [“fro” crossed out] through the urgent Solicitation of Numerous Citizens, the Presideing justice of the County Court, with the Sheriff deemed it obvious-

ly and imperiously Necessary to Call out the Meletea of the County to enforce the laws and it was accordingly done and to this day it is of verry General believe that by this Means alone was the Town and its citizens preserved from plunder and abuse I was called upon by the authorities of the County to entertain the Meletia untill Matters Could be adjusted according to law in obedi ence to which I furnished them with provissions &c amounting to Eighty five 70/100 Dolls h [this appears to be the end of a word that did not photocopy] which amount was allowed by the County Court. Your petioner prays for remu neration from your honourable body to the amount of Bill allowed by County Court.

Absolum D. [Tramsly]

December 20th 1842

[The following is all crossed out:

“Sir

Three mails since I wrote you concern ing the within matter and our county seat You make no mention of No recpt please write me and send me some documents from the Lesgilature in haste Yours Respy [illegible]”

Skidmore witness

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[The following is crosswise on the page]:

Liberty paid 18/4
Dec
26
Mo

Mr. P. Edwards
M.D.
Jefferson City
Mo.

Mail}

[The following is crosswise on the page reverse of the above]:

A. D. Walmely

Petition of

(Edwards of Ray)

-
adverse report
18 Jany – agreed To

Com. Claims
Snyder
No. 7