

Independence July 29th 1833

Dear Brethren

With respect I address a few lines to you in this time of confusion amongst us, although the enemy has accomplished his design of demolishing the Printing establishment they cannot demolish the design of our God, for his decrees will stand & his purposes must be accomplished notwithstanding the great rage of Satan, which we can behold in his followers, for it is visible to the natural eye, dull enough on this subject, for you will be able to tell more than I can write.

Marvellous to tell in the midst of all the rage of all the rage of persecution God is pouring out his Spirit upon his people so that most all on last Thursday at the school received the gift of tongues & speaks & prophesies; The next day David called his branch together and most of them received the gift of ~~the~~ many old things are coming to light that had it not been for this gift would have remained in the dark & brought the wrath of God upon the inhabitants of Zion;

There are but very few that have decried the part in consequence of this transaction, but my daily prayer is that the Lord will cleanse Zion of all the remaining wickedness that is on this Holy Land, for is their cup not already full.

I greatly fear for some of them who call themselves disciples; but they are in the hands of a merciful God & he will do them no injustice.

The Mail brings intelligence from Lexington which says that there have been two deaths of the Asiatic Cholera & are in a feverish state.

We suppose that there was one or two cases last week in this neighborhood but none in town. Our daily cry to God is deliver thy people from the hand of our enemies send thy destroying angels, O God in the behalf of thy people that Zion may be built up according to the plans of our Lord through his servants to us, receive this mail.

According to your request we give you the copy of our enemies and also the bond or Covenant which we have signed.

"We the undersigned citizens of Jackson County believing that an important crisis is at hand as regards our civil society, in consequence of a pretended religious sect of people that have settled, and are still settling in our County, styling themselves Mormons and intending as we do to rid our society "peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must," and believing as we do that the arm of the civil law does not afford us a guarantee or at least a sufficient one against the evils which are now inflicted upon us, and seem to be increasing by the said religious sect, deem it expedient & of the highest importance to form ourselves into a company for the better and easier accomplishment of our purpose, a purpose which we

is almost superfluous to say is justified as well by the laws of nature as by the Law of self preservation.

It is more than two years since the first of these four lies or pretences; for one or the other they without tally are, made their first appearance amongst us and pretending as they do and would - to hold persons of communion and converse, face to face with the most High God, to receive communications and revelations direct from heaven, to heal the sick by the laying on of hands, & in short to perform all the wonderworking miracles wrought by the inspired apostles & prophets of old. We believe them to be deluded fanatics or weak and designing knaves and that they & their pretensions would soon pass away, but in this we were deceived.

The acts of a few designing leaders amongst them have thus far succeeded in holding them together as a society and since the arrival of the first of them they have been daily increasing in numbers & if they had been respectable citizens in society & thus deluded, they would have been entitled to our pity rather than to our contempt & hatred, but from their appearance, from their manners and their conduct since their coming among us, we have every reason to believe that with very few exceptions, they were of the very dregs of society, from which they came, lazy, idle & vicious.

This we conceive is not idle speculation, but a fact susceptible of proof, for with these few exceptions above named, they brought into our country, little or no property with them, & left up behind them, and we infer that their only stock themselves to the Moman Car who had nothing earthly or heavenly to load by the change, and we fear that if some of the leading amongst them had paid the forfeit due to crime, instead of being chosen embassadors of the most High, they would have been inmates of solitary cells. But their conduct here stamps their character in their true colours. More than a year since, it was ascertained that they had been tampering with our slaves and endeavoring to draw dissensions & animosities among them. If this the Moman Leaders were informed & they said they would deal with any of their members who should again in like case offend, but how efficacious are appearances? In a late Star published at Independence, by the leaders of the sect, there is an article inviting free Negroes & Mill slaves from other States to become Moman and remove and settle among us.

This exhibits them in still more odious colors. It manifests a desire on the part of their society to inflict on our society an injury that they know well would be to us entirely insupportable and one of the direct means of driving us from the country for it would require some of the supernatural gifts that they pretend to, to see that the introduction of such a cast amongst us would ensue our blacks & whites ate them to bloodshed.

They openly blaspheme the Most High God, and cast contempt on his holy religion by pretending to receive revelations direct from heaven, by pretending to speak unknown languages; by direct imputation, and by direct pretences derogatory of God and religion, and to the utter subversion

of human reason: They declare solemnly that ^{their} God has given them this County of land, and that sooner or later they must and will have the possession of our lands for an inheritance, and in fine they have conducted themselves on many other occasions in such a manner, that we believe it a duty we owe ourselves to our wives and children, to the cause of public morals, to remove them from among us, as we are not prepared to give up pleasant places, and goodly possessions to them, or to receive into the bosoms of our families, as fit companions for our wives and daughters the degraded free negroes and Mulattos that are now invited to settle among us.

Under such a state of things even our beautiful Country would cease to be a desirable residence, and our situation intolerable! We therefore agree that after timely warning, and after receiving an adequate compensation for what little property they can not take with them, they refuse to leave us in peace as they found us; we agree to use such means as may be sufficient to remove them, and to that end we each pledge ~~our~~ to each other our bodily powers, our lives, fortunes, and sacred honor.

We will meet at the Court house of the Town of Independence on Saturday next 20th Inst to consult of ulterior movements."

There are about 300 signatures to this instrument.

We leave the ^{county} result with God

Memorandum of the agreement between the undersigned of the Mormon Society in Jackson County, Missouri, and Committee appointed by a public meeting of the Citizens of said County, made the 20th day of July, 1833.

It is understood that the undersigned ^{members} of the said society do give their solemn pledge, each for himself as follows, to wit that Oliver Cowdrey, W W Phelps, William E Mc Lellan, Edward Partridge, Lyman White, Simon Carter Peter & John Whitmer & Harvey Whitlock shall remove with their families out of this County on or before the 1st day of January next, and that they as well as the two herein after named use all their influence to induce all their brethren now here to move as soon as possible, one half day by the first day of January next and all by the first day of April next & to advise, and to try all means in their power to stop any more of their sect from moving to this County, and to those now on the road & who have no notice of this agreement they will use their influence to prevent their settling ⁱⁿ this County, but that they shall only make arrangement for temporary shelter, till a new location is fixed on by the society. John Covil & Hiram Gilbert are allowed to remain

as general agents to wind up the business of the society so long as necessity shall require, and said Gilbert may sell out his goods now on hand, but is to make no new impositions. The *Star* is not again to be published nor a press set up by any of the society in this County.

Of the said Edward Partridge & W. W. Phelps move their families by the first of January as aforesaid that they themselves will be allowed to go & come in order to transact and wind up their business.

The Committee pledge themselves to use all their influence to prevent any violence being used so long as a compliance with the foregoing terms is observed by the parties concerned.

The resolutions adopted on Saturday the 20th I have not yet received but I think I can by applying to Mr. Allen.

Nothing in particular has transpired has transpired since you left here save the gifts are breaking forth in a marvellous manner. I want you to recommend me to Joseph in a special manner, and enquire of him respecting my clerkship you very well know what I mean & also my great desire of doing all things according to the mind of the Lord. We need the prayers of all the disciples of our Redeemer for it is a time of great anxiety to behold the cleansing of this Church & also the land from wickedness & abominations. We are waiting with inexpressible anxiety to hear the word of the Lord concerning Zion, O that God may spare your journey & bring us intelligence which will be as balm to the wounded bosom, or as a shield to the Redeemer to a soul in distress. My heart is full and I say O my God wilt thou not deliver, yea wilt thou not come down that the mountains may flow down at thy presence & - I am your unworthy brother in the Lord.

Oliver Cowdery

John Whitmer

Joseph Smith Jun^r

In our present situation I have nothing to write, I wait for the word of the Lord: For his will, and not ours will be done, we have many beautiful Hymns sung in tongues: I transcribe a couple sung by Wilber!

High in the Heavens the Throne of God is set
His eye extends abroad o'er all his works
He knows the inmost thoughts of all his hand hath made
Yea Earth, and the foundations which his power hath laid
All things are swallowed up in him
He comprehends all things, encircles all things round about

By his almighty power
 Sustains all things from week to week
 From day to day, from hour to hour
 Praise ye the Lord ye saints in Zion
 Praise his glorious name
 Our God shall triumph over all his foes
 Our enemies shall all be put to shame
 And God be praised for all his mighty power
 Exalt the wastes of Zion sing ye praise
 Let praise your earthly powers employ
 Praise, and with thy strength and sing
 The everlasting praises of your King
 Till earth & heaven in jubilee ring.

The towers of Zion soon shall rise
 (From book page 88)
 A dated Walnut fair from Oliver.
 day Oliver: write the first mail after you arrive at Tintland, whether the
 tidings be favorable or not.
 Every one that is a saint or nearly so, in the
 similar branch speaks in tongues, In David days he can speak in all the
 tongues of earth, we shall probably begin to speak here in tongues tomorrow
 if the Lord wills, that is excepting me - It is a Sabbath day with us
 and I remain.

Joseph Smith Jr
 Tintland Mills
 Geauga Co, Ohio

If the Lord will not speak to
 His children, it may be well to inquire
 Every matter concerning the destruction of
 the printing office, and what is to be
 done in future, and also concerning
 the stars, and what is to be done in
 future: I know from the experience
 I have had that it is a good thing to
 have our faith thoroughly tried.

Your must and will be preserved.
 Health prevails among the disciples.
 N. B. Early on Monday morning
 you received letters from Tintland

Containing all the matters & postage \$1.00
 by air, which in single letters would
 have been but \$1.00 - We also rec'd
 our anxiety will be so great that I
 can speak in all the
 tongues of earth, we shall probably begin to speak here in tongues tomorrow
 if the Lord wills, that is excepting me - It is a Sabbath day with us
 and I remain.

W. W. Phelps

On the banks of the Mississippi, June 14th 1834

My Dear Companions, I now embrace a few moments to dictate a few
 words that you may know how it is with us up to this date.
 We arrived this morning on the banks of the Mississippi, and were detained
 from crossing the river, as there was no boat that we could engage in, but expect
 a new one to be put into the river this evening, so that we are in hopes to be able to
 cross to morrow, and proceed on our journey. A tolerable degree of union has
 prevailed among the brethren on camp up to the present moment, and we are all in
 better circumstances of health apparently than when we started from Tintland
 with the exception of Alden Childs who is sick with the illness attended with