

From Samuel H. Robertson to Sterling Price

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Bates County State of Missouri

To the Honourable governor of the State

Dear Sir[,]

i have taken the liberty through the particul[ar] request of many of my neighbours to In form you that there is a considerable trespass comited along the line and for Several miles in the State by the Osage Indians Such as Stealing horses[,] hogs[,] and cattle and corn in a great measure[.] It is requested of me to make none [known] to your Honour that Some measures will have to be gone in to for the purpose of preserving hour [our] property and families from Indian outrage and opression[.]

we would respectfully call your attention to a Memorials dated the 6th of February 1837[.] We respectfully call your attention to the scarcity of provison on the account of bad crops[,] as scarce any to spare and on that acount the Indians trespass on the property of the citizens as the Indians wont work but steel and hunt is their only way of living[.] I will inform you that there is some few [*text stricken through*] individuals who are encourageing the indians in the state for the purpose of trafficking with the indians[,] bying their ponies and other traffic with said indians[.] then the indians steels from the laboring man twice as much as he has sold his poney to these merchants for[.]

you will please Take such measures as will keep said indians from croossing the state line unless haveing ritten permission from their agent[.] then citizens could asertain the company of indians who

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has stole their property and make the thief pay for the property stolen or punish him till satisfaction is given[.] I think were their a few companies ordered along the line it will stop the outrage as i earnestly wish as little expence on the part of government as posible[,] not that I wish you to [*text stricken through*] believe or think that i desire to dictate any plan but pursue the course you think will be best[.]

I will give you my views[.] iff it meets yours[,] well[,] and iff not it is also well[.] call a few companies in to service along the line of its own citizens and let them be in readiness at all calls and be compensated for the time they are actualy in the servis of the government[.] when not actually employed return to their respective places of residence till recalld and the number of Days in each month that they may be in actual servis be certified by their officer and [accurate?] account kept of the same[.] notify their agents that no indian is permitted to cross the line with out riten permission and none allowed to cross armed in any way[.] Iff so taken and kept till their agent comes and pays their expences[.] This is my views as the Osages and [MS. illegible] has now commenced war[.] it is believed the osages will comit many Depridations on the citizens from what has been Done[.]

Iff the views i have given meets with yours and you should think me worthy grant the leave to raise a mounted company and report the same to your honour[.] I will say to you that I are over age but are willing

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yet to serve my country[.] I have spent too years in its servis[,] one year as a private soldier[,] one year as an officer. Please answer this as short as posible and oblige yours[.]

NB[.] I have thought and said to my neighbours that it was not worth whill to have a number of names with out they wanted a petition and iff they wished a petishion [petition] that they could rite it as well as I could[.]

Yours with great respect

Samuel H. Robertson

To the Honour governor of the state of Missouri

NB[.] If the views I have given mets yours and the request be granted let the company be known as Missouri Rangers and have their encampment where their servises is most needed and when not actualy needed dismissed till again needed[.] Pleas Answer this as soon as Practical[.]

your most obedient  
S.H. Robertson