

From John W. Clem to Robert M. Stewart

[page 1]
Butler MO

His Excl[.] R.M. Stewart
Dear Sir[.]

From reliable information recd. this morning from Paris K.T. it appears that the Jay Hawkers (Montgomery & band) have laid siege to that place, and demand of its citizens the Surrender of a lot of arms that was sent up by our government last winter to put down the Jay Hawking partys. They (the Jayhawkers) want the arms for the avowed purpose of making a decent [descent] on this State, for the purpose of rescuing Wm. Wright (alias Pickles) now confined in one of our jails under indictment for murder & robbery.

There is no telling at what time or place they may cross the line into the State and if they should come over we will make the best defence possible.

I will here further add, that [*text stricken through*] should they cross the line into my county, I will then call out the entire militia force

[page 2]
for defence[.]

If there should any thing of great importance take place on our Border I will at once inform you &c[.]

Your obt Svt
John W[.] Clem
Sheriff of Bates County MO