by, to which I shall briefly refer on
the present occasion. There are few
men whose names have been identified
with the history of our Church, with
more pleasant feelings to its members,
than General Doniphan. During a long
career of persecution, abuse and op-
pression characters occasionally present
themselves like stars of the first magni-
tude in defense of right, who are willing,
notwithstanding the unpopularity that
may attach to it, to stand up and protest
against mob violence, murder, abuse, or
the destruction of property and constitu-
tional rights, even if the parties who
are being thus abused, robbed, murdered
or trampled under foot have the unpopu-
lar name of "Mormons." The incident of
General Doniphan exercising his influ-
ence by which means he prevented the
murder of Joseph and Hyrum Smith and
some other Elders, who had had a mock
trial by court-martial, in the State of
Missouri, some thirty-six years ago, is
familiar to the minds of all the Latter-
day Saints who are acquainted with the
history of that period, and there is one
man in the Territory who was present on
the occasion, that is Timothy B. Foote, of
Nephi, who witnessed the court-martial.
It was represented to Joseph Smith, by a
man known among our people as Colonel
Hinkle, that Major General Lucas and
certain other parties wished to have an
interview with him. In the vicinity of
the town of Far West there was at that
time a large body of armed men, under
the orders of the Governor of Missouri,
but temporarily under the command of
General Lucas, of Jackson County, Mo.,
who was the ranking officer. It is un-
derstood by us that Hinkle had deceived
Joseph Smith and the brethren with
the idea that the interview was to be of a peaceful and consultory character;
but when they came, as they supposed,
to hold the interview, they were taken
prisoners, tried by a court-martial and
sentenced to be shot; the execution, how-
ever, was prevented by the protest of
General Doniphan, who, at that time,
was commander of a brigade, composed,
I believe, of the militia of the County
of Clay, and who declared that the ex-
ecution of that sentence would be cold
blooded murder.

It was not long after this that Gen-
eral Clark, who had been appointed by
the Governor to this command, arrived
and took command of this militia. Gen-
eral Atchison was the ranking officer, be-
ing the general of a division on the north
side of the river, commanding a division
containing, I think, six counties, but he
was superseded by the appointment of
Clark. If I remember right there were
as many as thirteen thousand men or-
dered out, and there were probably five
or six thousand collected together on the
ground, their object being to expel the
Latter-day Saints from the State of Mis-
souri.

The number of Latter-day Saints at
that period is not accurately known, but
there were, I suppose, in the neighbor-
hood of ten or twelve thousand. The
settlements had been rapidly formed.
They had occupied the County of Cald-
well when there were only seven fam-
ilies in it. A party of Elders vis-
ited Caldwell County to look for a lo-
cation. On their arrival they fell in
with these seven families, who were liv-
ing in log cabins and had made very
little improvements. They said the
country was a worthless, naked prairie,
there was very little timber in it, and,
their business being bee hunting, they
had hunted all the bees out of the
woods, and they wanted to go somewhere
else, as they learned there was better
bee hunting and more honey to be ob-