

## Document 2: Conner Letter

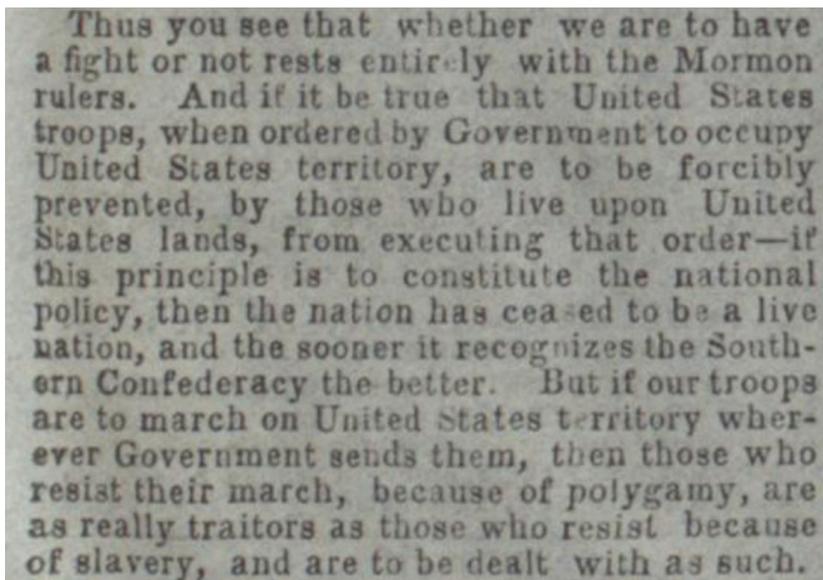
*Source: Part of a letter written by Colonel Conner and published on November 12, 1862 in the Deseret News, a newspaper owned by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The Civil War was being fought in the eastern United States at the time. Colonel Conners was from the Union Army and stationed in Utah. Revised using ChatGPT for easier reading.*

November 12, 1862

So, you can see that whether there's going to be a fight or not depends completely on what the Mormon leaders do. If it's true that people living on U.S. land can stop U.S. soldiers from going where the government tells them to go, then our country isn't really working anymore — and we might as well just accept the Southern Confederacy as its own country. But if our soldiers are allowed to go wherever the U.S. government sends them, then anyone who tries to stop them — even because of polygamy — is just as much a traitor as someone who fights because of slavery, and they should be treated that way.

### *Original*

Thus you see that whether we are to have a fight or not rests entirely with the Mormon rulers. And if it be true that United States troops, when ordered by Government to occupy United States territory, are to be forcibly prevented, by those who live upon United States lands, from executing that order — if this principle is to constitute the national policy, then the nation has ceased to be a live nation, and the sooner it recognizes the Southern Confederacy the better. But if our troops are to march on United States territory wherever Government sends them, then those who resist their march, because of polygamy, are as really traitors as those who resist because of slavery, and are to be dealt with as such.



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*Original found at*

<https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/ark:/87278/s6q24tp4/2593023>