

~~On June 5 the following order appointing a provost guard for Dodge City was issued at the fort.~~

" June 9th 3

" County Attorney, Ford

Dodge City, Kansas.

Sir:

" I received on the 4th inst. the following dispatch from Major Dodge Commanding at Fort Dodge, Ks.

" ~~A~~ most foul and Cold blooded murder Committed last night by ruffians in Dodge City. County organized but no election yet had. Nobody with power to act. Please authorize the arrest of murderers" and in answer I dispatched him as follows:

" "Until Ford County is fully organized you are authorized to arrest and hold, subject to the orders of the Civil Authorities of this proper ~~judicial~~ judicial district, all person notoriously guilty of a violation of the ~~Criminal~~ laws of this State. I desire that you should exercise this authority with great ~~ex~~ care and only in extreme cases."

" I have since been advised that Major Dodge acting ~~upon~~ this authority, made several arrests and is still holding the parties so arrested subject to an order from the Civil authorities. I regretted the necessity of conferring this authority on a military officer, but so long as I am Governor of Kansas life and property within the boundaries of the State shall be as fully protected as it is possible for me to make it so. And the emergencies in this case rendered prompt and energetic action necessary.

" I learn, unofficially, that an election of County and Township Officers has been had in Ford County since this revolting murder and I apprehend that no further trouble will ~~be~~ experienced ~~now~~ in maintaining law and order ~~there~~ ^{there} by the civil authorities, for I ~~attest~~ ^{attest} the late sad