



Herald of Freedom.

BY G. W. BROWN & CO.

LAWRENCE, KANSAS TERRITORY, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1855.

NUMBER 46—VOLUME I.

Original Poetry.

For the Herald of Freedom. The Lone Flower.

BY HENCO.

Reposing on the parent vine,
A modest flower met my view:
Sweet, unassuming, half-divine,
Nor conscious of each brilliant hue.

The fire had shed his flame,
And swept the distant prairie wild;
Yet safe from the destroyer's aim,
That fragrant flower looked up and smiled.

It was a glow whose kindling blaze
Flung brightness o'er the blackened earth,
And in its chaste and gorgeous rays
I knelt to its transcendent worth.

My heart unloosed—as with a kiss
I scanned its glories o'er and o'er—
Unclashed clasped unutilized bliss,
And would have clasped for ever more.

It might not be—time's mighty arm
Between us cleft a chasm then;
But beauty sheds its holy charm,
And love may bless my sight again.

A guiding star may cleave the haze,
And on my darkest pathway shine—
Lead where no shadows meet the gaze,
But never may that flower be mine!

There's many a flower that sweetly springs,
And bright as countless flowers may be;
But none so purely, richly brings
Such calm delight, such joy to me.

There's many gorgeous, gay pretense,
And many a flower adorns the vale;
But naught to me so sweet, so fair,
As that lone flower upon my trail.

Sweet Flower! where'er my footsteps roam,
O'er blackened wicket, or blooming lea,
The weary heart will seek its home,
And point all trembling track to thee.

Perhaps beyond the blight of time,
Where love reigns its vanished store,
Transferred to a congenial clime,
I'll meet thy faithful bloom once more.

The Herald of Freedom.

Lawrence, Saturday, Dec. 22, 1855.

The Other Side.

Now the "war" is over it is laughable to read the exaggerated statements of the border press, and the causes which led to it, as published by them. The Occidental Messenger, published at Independence, Mo., a paper which generally designs to tell the truth, gave its readers the benefit of the following article. The last sentence tells well for our cause, when it says "large bodies of the friends are going in from all parts of the Territory to assist them." The editor could not say as much for the Governor and his party, but says "a large number have gone up [from Missouri] to offer their services to the Governor." That is an unpopular government which has not subjects enough to enforce its own laws. The Messenger says—

"WAR IN KANSAS.—Quite an excitement has existed in our community for some days, in consequence of the report that a portion of the citizens of Kansas Territory had armed themselves and were burning houses and rescuing prisoners from the officers of the law. The difficulty originated, as we learn, at Hickory Point, between some settlers about claims. An attempt was made to drive off a settler by the name of Coleman, he, in defending himself killed his assailant, and then surrendered himself to the Sheriff who took him to Leocompton for safe keeping. After this, several of the settlers (said to be free-soilers) at Hickory Point, commenced burning houses and driving off the friends of the prisoner. The ringleader of this mob was arrested by the Sheriff, who was on Monday last taking him to Leocompton for security, when he was overtaken on the way by some 60 or 70 men and the prisoner rescued and threats made by the party that they intended to go back and hang Coleman, who was at Leocompton.

"The Sheriff at once sent an express to Gov. Shannon for assistance. The Gov. sent orders to the different military officers in the Territory to organize their men and report themselves at Leocompton, subject to further orders, for the protection of the prisoner and maintenance of the laws.

"This news was expressed to this and the adjoining counties, and a large number have gone up to offer their services to the Governor. We have always deprecated mob law, and hope that the Governor will use vigorous measures to arrest and bring to justice the ringleaders of this mob. Such a course will do more than anything else to restore peace and stop further troubles in the Territory and along our borders.

"Since writing the above, we learn that Gov. Shannon has made a requisition on the people of Lawrence for 40 of the men who rescued the prisoner from the Sheriff, but they refused to give him up. The Gov. is determined to have them taken. The Lawrenceites are said to be well armed and drilled. They have 1,000 Sharp's rifles and five pieces of Artillery, and it is said large bodies of the friends are going in from all parts of the Territory to assist them.

The following is from the Jefferson, Mo., Inquirer, and was telegraphed to that place, by Col. Boone, of Westport, Mo. We preserve all the article save the display of the headlines:

"IMPORTANT FROM KANSAS!—LATER FROM THE SHAY OF WAR—Independence, Nov. 30th.—The following is a

copy of a dispatch received here early this morning:

"SHAWNEE MISSION, Nov. 20, 5 A. M.
To Dr. McMurry and Col. Sam'l Woodson.—Your favor was received. I thought I was too well known in the community to be thought capable of practicing a hoax. The Marshal has a requisition from the Governor, to arrest 42 men in Lawrence, and they refuse to give them up, and he calls for volunteers, and if the citizens refuse to aid him, I cannot help it. They also say publicly that they will take Coleman and Jones, and hang them both.

"They are drilling in the open prairie every day, and have five fine pieces of artillery, and openly bid defiance to the laws.

"A large number of them were seen crossing from Delaware and Leavenworth yesterday, going to Lawrence.

"A member of the Legislature was from there yesterday morning for guns. We can only send 20. Jones also sends for a wagon load of ammunition and cannon.

"Now act, or not, as you please; if you will send the cannon here, I will take it there myself. In haste, A. G. BOONE."

Col. Boone did take the cannon near here, but he knew his position too well to point it upon Lawrence. He could not be guilty of "practicing a hoax" upon the people of Missouri, but he could give currency to one of the most infamous falsehoods ever devised, probably through ignorance of the facts.

"Bid defiance to the laws." The people of Lawrence "bid defiance" no "law."

For one year they have lived without law, and have hardly been guilty of any improprieties which sound morality would condemn. They bid defiance to the proceedings of an armed mob whether it comes to take from us our dearest franchises, to impose a Draconian code upon us, or to enforce such a code. To call the acts of the "barons," who convened at the Shawnee Mission in August last, "laws," is a disgrace to human legislation and intelligence. They would have reflected lasting disgrace upon school children who were practicing mock legislation for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of parliamentary rules, and should sink the real authors of such a code into lasting infamy.

The following articles are extracted from the Leavenworth Herald of the 8th inst. They appear in that journal under its Telegraphic head, save the first which is the leading editorial. The letter of Shannon says Jones wants 3,000 men as a posse. A pretty strong posse that in a sparsely settled Territory like Kansas. The poor simpletons could not see that they were furnishing incontrovertible evidence that the people of Kansas had no hand in the legislation of the barons. They could not see that they were making proof which we were desirous of getting before Congress, touching the unpopularity of their pretended laws.

Every man they could get from Missouri was enlisted in their service, and still they were insufficient. The Governor, to make his forces stronger, sent three expresses to Col. SUMNER, commander of the U. S. forces at Fort Leavenworth, for the entire strength of that military post, because he dare not attempt to attack Lawrence, and the people of the Territory with his drunken rabble from Missouri. But we are keeping the reader too long from the following choice articles from the Herald:—

TREASON AND REBELLION IN KANSAS.

It is with pain and sorrow we place such a caption as the above at the head of an editorial this week; but the fact is that open and avowed rebellion and treason exist in our Territory. Little did we anticipate at the commencement of our paper, the first issued in Kansas, that in fifteen months we would, as faithful journalists, be called upon to lay before our readers intelligence so startling, so humiliating and so painful. But it is true. The abolitionists are in arms against the laws and authority of the Territory. Failing in all the schemes and plans by the ballot box to make the Territory a den of thieves, and from this stand point strike at the interests and institutions of Missouri and the South, they now attempt to accomplish that end by a resort to arms. For this they have received arms and ammunition from Massachusetts. For this they had formed months ago a grand secret military organization in the Territory, called the Grand Army of Kansas. And they have commenced their work of rebellion, by rescuing criminals from the hands of the officers of the law, and have burned the houses of pro-slavery men, and driven their families into the wilderness, and have set all law and order at defiance—saying by their press, by their speakers, in public and in private, we will obey no law, we recognize no laws in Kansas, no Governor, no magistrates. Truly, a more infamous, lawless set of men never assembled together than these men are. And yet look at their duplicity, dishonesty, falsehood, and hypocrisy. Still professing

to be God-fearing, law-abiding, and order-loving men. Surely none but Yankee Abolitionists could go to such heights and depths of duplicity, falsehood and hypocrisy. But these are the cardinal virtues of an Abolitionist, together with stealing. But they are as blind and reckless as they are wicked; for if they persist in their rebellion they will be crushed and not one of them be left. The Governor has called upon all good citizens to put down this rebellion, and they have promptly responded to it, and hundreds have gone and are hastening to Lawrence, the head quarters of these rebels, rascals and villains, all in sheep's clothing.

"The Governor has, we understand, made a demand on them to deliver up all arms and ammunition sent to them from Massachusetts. This is perfectly right. And if they are not surrendered, they will be taken from them, and on their own heads will the blood be laid that may be shed. And the leaders in this rebellion, with all who have been guilty of acts of aggression, will be demanded and taken if found. Foolish and infatuated men! they will find themselves as far and farther out-numbered in the field of strife as at the ballot box. They will find that there is a Governor here, and laws here, and men here to uphold, enforce and execute the laws; and prisons for out-laws, and ropes for traitors, thieves and rebels."

Just as our paper was going to press, we learn from a couple of gentlemen just from Westport, whose statements we have every confidence in, that an express has just arrived at Westport from Leocompton, bringing intelligence that Jones, the Sheriff of Douglas county, in endeavoring to arrest some one in Lawrence, had six shots fired at him—two hitting his mule, and two entering his coat. Jones escaped unhurt, although his mule was seriously injured.

"POMEROY TAKEN.—On Wednesday night last, Gen. Pomeroy was arrested on the Wakarusa, by one of the piquet guard of the law and order party, and taken into camp. He had documents in his possession containing all the plans, movements, &c., of the revolutionary party of Kansas Territory. Pomeroy was on his way to Kansas City to mail said documents to the Massachusetts Emigrant Aid Society.

"This Pomeroy, it will be recollected, is the agent of the Emigrant Aid Society of Kansas Territory. It was believed an engagement would take place Thursday morning, as the Governor had made a demand for all the Sharp's rifles in Lawrence, and they had refused to give them up."

"HEAD QUARTERS, SHAWNEE MISS.—KANSAS T., Nov. 27, 1855.
"MAJ. GEN. WM. P. RICHARDSON—Sir:—Reliable information has reached me that an armed military force is now in Lawrence and that vicinity, in open rebellion against the laws of this Territory, and that they have determined that no process in the hands of the Sheriff of that county shall be executed. I have received a letter from S. J. Jones, Sheriff of Douglas county, informing me that he had arrested a man under a warrant placed in his hands, and while conveying him to Leocompton he was met by an armed force of some forty men, and that the prisoner was taken out of his custody, and defiance bid to the laws. I am also duly advised that an armed band of men have burnt a number of houses, destroyed personal property, and turned whole families out of doors in Douglas county. Warrants will be issued against those men and placed in the hands of the Sheriff of Douglas county for execution. He has written to me demanding three thousand men to aid him in the execution of the process of the law.

"You are, therefore, hereby ordered to collect together as large a force as you can in your division, and repair without delay to Leocompton, and report yourself to S. J. Jones, Sheriff of Douglas county, together with the number of your forces, and render him all the aid and assistance in your power in the execution of any legal process in his hands. The forces under your command are to be used for the sole purpose of aiding the Sheriff in executing the law, and for no other purpose. I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

"WILSON SHANNON."

"WESTPORT, Mo., Dec. 1.

"HIS EXCELLENCY, FRANKLIN PIERCE, PRESIDENT OF THE U. S., WASHINGTON, D. C.—I desire authority to call on the U. S. forces at Leavenworth, to preserve the peace in this Territory, to protect the Sheriff of Douglas county, and enable him to execute the legal process in his hands. If the laws are not executed, civil war is inevitable. An armed force of one thousand men with all the equipments of war, it is said are at Lawrence. They have rescued a prisoner from the Sheriff, burned houses, and threatened the lives of citizens. An immediate answer is desired. This is the only means to save bloodshed. The particulars by post.

"WILSON SHANNON."

"FRANKLIN, K. T., Dec. 1.

"MESSRS. BOONE & HERBERT, WESTPORT.—I herewith enclose Sheriff Jones' note to me in reply to my report to him sent by dispatch this morning. You will perceive by the tenor of it that there is something to be done. However, the attack will not be made as soon as Jones anticipated in his note, as the Governor has ordered not to move until he gets a

larger force, which order he had not received when the messenger started with his note to me. You will therefore use your exertions both at your place and Independence to send as many more men as possible, and also send extra provisions as we will run short. You will send a special messenger to Independence enclosing this note to some prominent man there. We number about 125 men all told, and will take about 700 men to take Lawrence with the aid of artillery.—Urge this matter upon the citizens of Independence. I would write there, but have not time. Hoping you will act promptly in this matter, I am respectfully yours.

T. J. S."

"INDEPENDENCE, Dec. 2.

"An Express in at 10 o'clock last night says all the volunteers, ammunition, &c., which can be raised will be needed.—The express was forwarded by Gov. Shannon to Col. Woodson, and by Woodson to this place, to be transmitted to various parts of the country. Call a meeting and do everything you can.—McCrea broke jail at Leavenworth City.

"DRS. McMURRY & HENRY."

"INDEPENDENCE, Dec. 3, 8 P. M.

"Just read a dispatch from Col. Chiles, Capt. Shaw, Henry Chiles, J. C. Irwin, and E. C. Renick, from the seat of war, in substance as follows:—

"Jones will not make a move until there is sufficient force in the field to insure success. We have not more than three hundred men in the Territory. You will therefore urge all who are interested in the matter to start immediately for the seat of war. There is no doubt in regard to having a fight, and we all know that a great many have complained because they were disappointed heretofore in regard to a fight. Say to them now is the time to show game, and if we are defeated this time, the Territory is lost to the South.

"Signed by T. J. Shaw, H. T. Chiles, E. C. Chiles, J. C. Irwin, E. C. Renick."

"KANSAS, Mo., Dec. 3, 8 P. M.

"Mr. Payne, the Mayor of this city, went to Liberty to-day, and succeeded in raising 200 men and \$1000 for the assistance of Jones."

"INDEPENDENCE, Dec. 5.

"It is anticipated that the attempt to take the offending parties in Lawrence comes off to-morrow. Pomeroy has been arrested as one of the aiders and abettors of the treason party, also Judge Johnson."

The Brunswicker, commenting upon our difficulties, and of the people of Lawrence, says—

"We are of the opinion these fellows need a sound thrashing. The disease of nullification has taken strong hold on some of them. It has become thoroughly incorporated in their blood, and ripples through every vein. For this disease, the very best remedy is blood-letting. A very few drops will suffice; a radical cure will be effected; and these nullifiers will be the most loyal citizens in the land.

"We advise all Missourians to keep entirely clear of this difficulty. A little indiscretion, on our part, might bring about consequences of a very serious nature. If Missourians, interfere on the law and order side, the people of Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts would have the same right to assist on the side of the Abolitionists.—Gov. Shannon has no right to call on Gov. Price for aid; neither has any Missouri any right to go to his assistance. This is a crisis that will try the nerve of the President; it will also attest the devotion and loyalty of the several States in the Union. If Missourians behave properly, we have no fears whatever as to the result. We should set the example to our sister States, by remaining passive spectators of the scenes in our neighboring Territory, and not active participants. These disturbances we know will be put down as the law directs."

Our neighbor lays down a correct proposition when he says the people of Missouri have no right to interfere in these difficulties. It would have been well to have taught them a lesson in regard to meddling in other people's business which they would have always remembered.

The Occidental Messenger, of Independence, Mo., of the 8th inst., furnishes additional evidence of the villainous interference of Missourians in our Territorial troubles in the extract given below. It makes the blood of freemen boil with rage to think that Missouri imposes laws upon us without our consent, and then raises money by contribution and sends armed desperadoes here to enforce those laws. Every person who came to Kansas from Missouri on that occasion, merited a grave at the expense of the Territory, and that grave should have been such as were awarded criminals in olden time.

The cost of defending ourselves from violence during this war will fall but little if any below \$20,000, and all because we would not submit voluntarily to political and moral enslavement.—The Messenger says:—

"Since the issuance of our last paper, our streets have been filled with men, who are on their way to Kansas, to give aid to the authorities in enforcing the

Territorial laws. Our last accounts inform us that there are 1,500 men at the camp at Wakarusa, six miles this side of Lawrence. They have six pieces of artillery in camp.

"We learn that the Free-soilers have seven companies, of fifty men each, well drilled, in Lawrence; but that they have no artillery. We are also informed, that they have proposed to surrender the men who engaged in rescuing the prisoner from the possession of the sheriff; and it is understood that the Governor went to Lawrence on last Thursday to see something touching the matters of difficulty. Should this be true, it is probable that terms will be made, without further trouble. This is greatly to be hoped. All men should deplore the shedding of blood. And should blood be shed, none can conjecture when it would terminate. All history and all experience teach us, that civil war, proceeded in from whatever cause it may, ends in the subversion of liberty, in the reign of tyranny and anarchy, the sacrifice of right, and the exaltation of the corrupt and heartless."

The Weston Argus did its share to fan the flame. Here is a brief article, abounding with falsehoods as does every other statement emanating from that quarter. Talk about "law and the Constitution," and send armed mobs into a neighboring Territory to crush both!

"ABOLITIONISTS AT LAWRENCE.—We had the pleasure of a minute call by our old friend, the Rev. C. Sexton, of Kickapoo City, yesterday. From him we learned that a messenger had arrived there from Lawrence, which brought despatches confirming all previous reports of the congregation of the Abolitionists at Lawrence, and their preparations for defence. The inhabitants of Lawrence and adjacent country had removed all their women and children beyond the reach of harm, and were busily engaged in throwing up entrenchments and fortifications for the purpose of defence. They defy the officers of the law and are determined to protect the prisoner whom they arrested from the hands of the Sheriff.

"The agitated and aggravated state of the public mind in this section, by the outrages and movements of the Abolitionists in Kansas, demand from the public journals, whose province it is, in a great measure, to mould and give tone to public feeling, to assume a firm, bold and united stand in favor of Law and of the Constitution."

Atchison's Responsibility.

We confess that we have some pride for the reputation of our county and State. Every act calculated to destroy the standing of our county abroad, is an injury more or less to every man in Plate county. No one has regretted more than we have the act of out-lawism and violence perpetrated in this county. We regard such a course as impolitic, unwise, and injurious to the prosperity of this section of the country, and hence it is that the Reporter has all the time been the advocate of law and order, believing that the best interest of all was best promoted by a strict observation of laws, and a proper regard for the rights of persons and property.

The question of slavery, which was made the pretext of these unusual events, was merely a cloak to hide baser and darker designs; for we have yet to learn that there is any difference on the subject of slavery in the minds of the people of this county. They are all in favor of making Kansas a slave State, protecting and defending the institutions of Missouri. Why, then, should there be any disturbances growing out of this question? We answer that there is a grave suspicion hanging upon the public mind that General Atchison is the father of all the outrages perpetrated in this section. Whether this suspicion be true or false, it is a question we leave for the public judgment. We know this, however, that General Atchison's friends are the active instruments in these disturbances, and that with his friends his wishes are law. It will not be denied by any, that General Atchison has great influence in this county among his friends, and that a word from him would be implicitly obeyed. If, then, General Atchison is a man who values the peace and repose of society, and venerates the laws, it was his duty as a good citizen to have used his great influence to preserve the peace of this county.—That a word from him would have been amply sufficient we have no doubt.

He is responsible then to society for the non-performance of a duty which he owed to a people who had long honored him with their confidences, and we do not shrink from the responsibility which devolves upon us as a public journalist to hold him up to the public gaze. That another mob was in process of organizing to go to Parkville, upon a bloody mission, will not be denied in any respectable quarter. That information received from Jefferson City, by those who could control the marching of this mob, which led them to believe that his prospects for the Senate would be injured, did quiet for the time this mob-spirit, too evident to admit of a doubt. Nor was the public meeting at this place without its influence. It has waked up the law and order people of this county from a lethargy which pervaded them, that will be as "good seed sown upon good ground bringing forth good fruit."

Weston Reporter.

Choice Poetry.

For the Herald of Freedom.
A Voice from New England.

Freemen! shall the blighting curse
Slavery fling upon our land,
Doom to endless toil, a race,
Groaning 'neath the oppressor's hand?

"From our rude and rocky shore,
From each snow-crowned mountain height,
In their strength shall freemen pour,
To maintain a nation's right.

"Though the tyrant master bend
Down to earth the hopeless slave,
And his boasted claims defend,
From the cradle to the grave;

"Though the statement of our age,
Recount prove to truth and fame,
Darkening our historic page
With the record of their shame;

"Let each true New England son
Shout the watch-word of the free,
Onward! till the race be won—
Onward! Light and Liberty!

"When, by southern breezes fanned,
Words of high and angry tone,
Claim a wide-spread virgin land,
As a home for slavery's own;

"Mid the threatenings of the storm,
Be it ours to ward the blow,
While, from thousand patriots warm,
Echoes wide the answer—'NO!'"

Miscellaneous.

The West.

When we contemplate the grandeur and beauty of the West, our minds are carried back upon the wings of memory to the scenes of by-gone days. The playground, with all its associated charms, presents itself to our imagination. The inviting mansions, where home had thrown its friendly arms around the objects of its love, lean upon the affectionate heart; the smiles of parental affection linger around the cherished home, and fasten upon the meditating mind that cloudless bliss that hovers around the peaceful hours of youth, as messengers of delight. There is not a spot on which memory cannot feast, nor a flower around whose stem the foot of time has not left some trace; all around may be seen the objects of early affection, and the toys of childhood. Popular cities, with richest specimens of art and science, are portrayed upon the tender mind, teaching the important lesson that man in art and science is ever approximating towards creative power.

Leaving our native land, with all its magnificent cities and flourishing towns, we set out for the far West—leaving behind a country ripe with internal improvement, and loaded with the richest luxuries of life,—to rear a peaceful home in Kansas; and as we sail, let us remember our country's flourishing institutions, where once the immortal Washington led on his conquering army to victory. Notwithstanding our homes are in the far West, where the Red Man's haunts are seen, our obligation to God and our country are the same as they were while we were inhabitants of the North. We are in a new country, surrounded by objects diversified and strange; and while we suffer a few privations we can realize the fruits of liberty and fame, sprung from the labors of '76, and remember that there is no excellency without labor, and that the beautiful West can only develop her rich resources through the instrumentalities of man. The saw and the hammer is already heard; the distant prairie now listens to the hum of the busy city, while the forest-dale echoes with the voice of the industrious husbandman, and every part is welcoming hundreds more to our new colony, men of wealth and talent, who are willing to sacrifice the comforts and luxuries that stocked around their peaceful homes in the Old Key Stone State, for the good of their country and themselves. In our new country they meet a happy reception for they are republicans, they are Americans, they have been shaded by the tree of liberty, and for them our country calls. Their eyes have caught sight of Banker Hill, their feet have trod the bloody field of Landy's Lane, and the rugged heights over which our immortal Washington led his conquering army. Is there a spot where the light of liberty has dawned that would not hail them as Americans?—While the rude hand of despotism was raised to strike the fatal blow, they unhesitatingly stepped forward, and girded on their shields. When the dark clouds of Nullification gathered in the South, threatening not so much the destruction of the Union as of the South itself, American patriots interposed to rescue an army of despots from the grave of infamy.

While the watchful eye of liberty and reform is steadfastly fixed upon the present age, let us not forget our responsibility to the West, a country that nature has most beautifully decorated, and marked as the cherished home of Americans.—Though she is a star whose flickering light is but dimly seen, let her fair face, which has not been wrinkled by age, nor shaded by African gloom, be ever cloudless, showing the colors of freedom.—Let the rose-flush upon her cheek be a mark of Constitutional health and vigor; and like many of her sister States, may her blood never be poisoned by the dregs of amalgamation, but may she ever stand as the proud Goddess of the West, beautifully decorated with the habiliments of freedom; may her votaries bear the national flag, and bask in the boundless ocean of philanthropy, and all the world mark her as the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

DR. E. A. BARNES.

Lawrence, K. T., 22d Dec. 1855.

The Convention in Kansas.

We publish in another column, a letter from the correspondent of the New York Tribune giving an account, to the latest dates, of the action of the Constitutional Convention of Kansas. All our accounts have agreed in ascribing a high character to the men who form this convention.

The press has been too eager to declare this Convention something unprecedented, and, as our readers are aware, Gov. Shannon has, in advance, deprecated any attention to its proceedings, as if they were the movement of an unauthorized, restless mob. In fact, however, the existence of such a Convention, which isout of necessity forced upon the people of Kansas, is called forth under precisely similar circumstances to those which created the Constitutional Conventions of many of our other States.

For instance, there is quite a strong analogy between the position of the people of Kansas and that of the people of California, after the Mexican officers were ejected. For the period before California was admitted as a State, it is well known that her people were obliged to arrange as they could; and they arranged with very admirable promptitude and decision. Does anybody pretend now that the acts of one or another of the provisional governments of California were illegal? They were not authorized by Congress nor by the President. But they were de facto governments emanating from the people, where other government was none. They therefore had the authority which the first Constitution of Plymouth Colony had, they had the authority which the existing Constitution of Massachusetts has. Their decisions, their appointments, are recognized every day by the Government of the United States. The acts of the magistrates appointed under them are recognized as legal.

Kansas is in precisely a corresponding position. Left to what is called squatter sovereignty, her squatters have been obliged to take up the warrant given them by the Kansas-Nebraska act; and in the failure of any other government to make their own. The State of Missouri did the same thing when she wanted a government. Nay, she went so far as to say that if she could not come into the Union with a Constitution thus formed she would stay out of it. Let her beware how her young sister follows that high handed example.

A body of men, it is true, invaded Kansas last spring, appointed a crew of strangers to her whom they called a legislature, and then retreated to their homes. The men thus appointed, scarce a quorum of a legal legislature met, turned out all their fellow members, and voted that "the laws of Missouri should be the laws of Kansas." After passing some other enactments, they too dispersed. They named county officers for six years—knowing that they themselves would never meet again. This is no more a legal government, it is no more answers the purposes of government, than the Mexican authorities answered a like purpose for California, after they had retired to Mexico; nor than the old Spanish laws answered the purposes of the Anglo Saxon settlers there.

There is no doubt, we are willing to acknowledge, that Gov. Wilson Shannon is the rightful Territorial Governor of Kansas. But what is a Governor who has no laws to execute? Does it help a citizen of Lawrence who wants to make a will, that Gov. Shannon is living at the Shawnee Mission and drawing his salary? What he wants is some security of probate, some legislation regarding it, some government. If a man knock another down in the street, it does not help matters that Gov. Shannon is in the Territory with a commission in due form. He cannot sit as a Turkish Cadi, and himself administer such justice as occurs to him, without law to administer. That there may be law in an American State, there must be a representation of the people.

The people of Kansas have taken this into their own hand. They are more than 30,000 in number; they have done what half the Western States did when they were Territories—called their Constitutional Convention. That Convention is proceeding with wisdom and dignity. By next May, they assure us, they shall have more than 60,000 people—quite enough for the action of a State. We doubt not they will reach this population, or more, if they have the generous assistance of New England.—Boston Messenger.

An Incident in the History of Slavery.

A few days since a stranger, apparently a southern gentleman, arrived at Washington on his way to the North. Learning that no train would leave in the direction that he desired to travel, all the next day, he booked himself at one of the principal hotels, where he received such attentions as are always due to gentlemen, and passed his time as agreeably as one could be expected to do who was somewhat anxious to prosecute his journey. The next day he went to the railroad station to take the cars for the North where he was arrested by the chief police, on the ground that instead of being a gentleman, as his appearance indicated, he was merely a chameleon person, belonging to a batcher of Richmond with the name of Lyman. There was nothing in his complexion or appearance any way that betrayed the slightest taint of Ethiopian blood, and he spoke the English and German languages fluently.