

Herald of Freedom.

BY G. W. BROWN & CO.

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Choice Poetry.

A Poem from the Hidden Path.

BY MARION HARLAND.

A nearly mist, like a young bride's veil
Flows softly o'er the sea,
And spume waves that all the day
Have dashed and danced in glee—
Each rippling smile now passed away
With the autumn sun's red glare—
He hushed—as happy children bow
At their mother's knee in prayer.
The same sweet calm is on my heart;
The gently heaving tide
Bears now no trace of storms that swept
O'er it in angry pride.
The surface sleeps all tranquilly
O'er earth-born passions' grave,
And gleams, like that of heaven's first star,
A tremble on the wave.
Father! I thank thee! though this light
Be not the roseate hue
That tinged with fresh and changeable shade
Thy son, when life was new;
Though the foamy billows bound no more
In sunbright revelry;
Nor echo back the tempest's shout
And wild wind's anthem free;
Though in the deep I look in vain
For youthful visions fair—
Yet the rich pearls of Faith and Hope
Lie fondly cradled there.
Oh! may Thy love as twilight dews
Upon my spirit rest,
And still that ray of heavenly light
Be mirrored in my breast.
RICHMOND, Va.

Political Matters.

Light Penetrating Virginia.

Memorial of the Citizens of Virginia,
to the General Assembly, asking for
certain Reforms in the Laws concern-
ing Slaves and Free Persons of Color.

TO THE HONORABLE THE SENATE
AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:—It is
under a deep sense of the delicate and
peculiar relations of the subject to which
your attention is earnestly called, that
your memorialists address you. But if
its political nature demands caution and
deliberation, its moral bearings may still
more claim thoughtful investigation, and
a calm though prompt action. In the
faith that the best policy of the State
will always be one with the rectitude of
its laws and institutions, and that right
never wronged any man, we respectfully
submit our petition, that the Laws of
Virginia may be so modified as—

1. To protect the parental relation,
forbidding the separation of parents and
young children, at the will of any man
or set of men, under criminal penalties.
2. To recognize and secure the marital
relation to colored persons; forbidding
the disregard of the sacred relation of
husband and wife by any man amongst
his own slaves, and protecting the same
between slaves of different families.
3. To allow persons so disposed to
teach persons of color to read, so as
better to assist their moral and mental
elevation.
Your memorialists readily allow that
these claims, which they solemnly submit
in behalf of the colored population of
the State, are founded on the postulate,
that they are something other than mere
property; and they insist that the claims
of the South, that they shall have pecu-
liar representation in the State and Fed-
eral Governments, as well as the special
code everywhere found necessary, for
them, as distinct from other kinds of
property, imply, equally certain limita-
tions on the powers of individuals over
them. And this necessity for a special
treatment of them rests on this funda-
mental truth: that they have certain nat-
ural gifts which suggest culture. If the
susceptibility of cultivation in the grass,
"which to-day is, and to-morrow is cast
into the oven," makes him a benefactor
of his race "who makes two blades of
grass grow where only one grew before,"
how much nobler is it to assist the germs
of thought and feeling, with which God
has endowed a race, to their utmost
growth and result! Any necessity of
dwarfing this, so plain a law of nature,
is a fearful concession to those who op-
pose the institution of slavery. To say
that they are incapable of culture, is to
utter the severest satire on the law which
prohibits it, and is to give birth to the
solicism, that speech, understanding,
and a moral being have not definite ob-
jects, as the eye and the ear have. To
say that they are a low and degraded
race, is only to charge ourselves with a
heavier weight of duty in their elevation;
since, clearly, the progressive principles,
in man, or beast, or vegetable, is the in-
dex of improvement and promise of suc-
cess, and capacity the only limit. Sure-
ly, then, they are not mere laborers, and
cannot "live by bread alone."

Your memorialists feel this to be the
highest law in the universe; and to that
they wish to bear witness. They are
deeply sensible that any law which
dwarfs and impedes the growth and de-
velopment of any part of God's creation,
more especially that which is moral and
intelligent, cannot fail to prove a curse,
however much our shortsightedness may
fancy it a blessing.
The laws which tolerate the separation
of parents and children, produce scenes
that the Christian heart must character-
ize as cruel and impious, and worthy
the slave-coast in a past generation, than
Virginia in this day. They are unchristian
in permitting those to be put asunder
whom God has joined together under the
most solemn circumstances; thus encour-
aging impure and transient connections
between the sexes, and blunting the hol-
iest feelings of the human being; by
this brutalizing the race to a degree that
should cause even our selfish interests to
shudder. They are unwise because they
bring the humanity of our State into

question, and cause a painful conflict in
the minds of her children, as to whether
they shall allow their servants to grow
round them in ignorance, as the laws de-
mand, or "obey God rather than man,"
teach them to "search the Scriptures."
We have reason to know that some are
teaching their slaves in secret, whose
sole protection from their own State is
that their slaves cannot testify against
them! And there must be, in the nature
of things, many who are constantly op-
pressed with the fact that we are faithless
enough in not improving our own talents,
without a consciousness of our unfitness
to bury the talent of our helpless fellow
creatures, whose elevation God has con-
fided to us.

Your memorialists have forbore to
place their appeal on the lower grounds
of interest; for it would be charging our
fellow-citizens with ignoble timidity to
suppose them afraid to do right; and we
believe that they will acknowledge that
honesty, even in the old Roman sense—
embracing all that is right toward God
and man—is the best policy; and that in
being true to the higher relations of life,
we are true to ourselves, our families,
and our State. But there is nothing that
the history of this race has made more
manifest to our minds, than that what-
ever is to be apprehended from them is
not to be feared from their being neglected,
not from their being cared for; from
having their natural and domestic affec-
tions outraged and blunted, not from
their intemperance and profligacy; from
their ignorance, not their intelligence.

Your memorialists would furthermore
submit that they will yield to none in love
of the State, and reverence for her his-
tory and noble sons. They know no better
way to testify that love, than by asking
these reforms; and they would be author-
ized by their writings and remains, in at-
taching to this petition the names of those
who have in times past loved Virginia
best, and given her renown over the world.

Their sympathies and interests being
identified with their State, they unite in
rejecting any foreign interference with
this subject, by any Government, State
or Federal. But above all, they would
scorn the idea as unworthy, that another's
folly should be our wisdom, and that
anything said or agitated abroad should
influence us to a base antagonism, which
should leave our duty to this race un-
performed.

Your memorialists rejoice to see indica-
tions in the South that shows how the
sense is becoming felt of the great re-
sponsibility she has assumed in rejecting
all interference from without with the
temporal and spiritual well-being of the
race. On us, and us only, fall the care
and responsibility of their joys and griefs—
their elevation or degradation. In
Louisiana, the laws prohibit the separa-
tion of parents and young children, and
the same policy has been engaging legis-
lative attention in Georgia and Alabama.
In South Carolina, such modifications of
the code on slavery, as we have called to
your attention, have been advocated by
many able writers and jurists—among
whom we may mention Dr. Fuller, a
large slaveholder and able minister, and
Judge O'Neal. In Maryland, free colored
persons have their own schools, and
with the most encouraging results. In
Louisiana, their schools are not only per-
mitted, but assisted by money from pub-
lic funds.

Shall Virginia be the last to feel this
movement, and showing her respect for
the liberty of conscience which our fathers
secured us, no longer risk the general
respect for her policy by the inhumanity
of a few laws and usages?
All of which is respectfully submitted.

Rights of Foreigners.

On inquiry at the General Land office
we learn that there is no law of Congress
giving away the lands in these Territo-
ries to foreigners. The 12th and 13th
sections of the act of Congress, approved
July 22d, 1854, (Statutes at Large, p.
310), direct the unsurveyed lands to be
exposed to sale from time to time, in the
same manner and upon the same terms
and conditions as the other public lands
of the United States, which sections are
now in full force. Lands are not only
not given away to foreigners, but they
are excluded from the benefits of the
pre-emption laws, which in their op-
eration, are confined to citizens of the
United States.—Washington Union.

The ladies of Utah have adopted
a new costume, which seems to be gradu-
ally increasing in favor. It consists of
a loose fitting dress, resembling, in cut,
a man's sack coat being buttoned in
front, and reaching a few inches below
the knees, a pair of pantaloons adorning
the ankles, and a Leghorn hat set jaun-
tily on the head, being in fact a modifica-
tion of the Bloomer costume. The
ladies are thus relieved of a superabun-
dant load of petticoats, and their hus-
bands are freed from paying for more
than two-thirds the usual quantity of
dry goods.—Territorial Register.

Mr. Baldwin, at Bloomington
has purchased a No 3 Little Giant Corn
Cracker, and will have it in operation as
soon as he can get it up from Kansas
City.

Gen. Cass declines being a candi-
date for the Presidency, in a letter to
Andrew J. Weston, of Philadelphia.

Letter from Gen. Stringfellow.

The subjoined letter we find in the
Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser. It was
written by a man who has acquired as
great a notoriety of infamy as any other
of the present age. It is needless to
comment upon it:—

WESTON, Mo., Oct. 6, 1855.

MY DEAR SIR:—I was much gratified
by the receipt of yours of —, and
take pleasure in replying to your inqui-
ries. I have deferred writing until I
could give you the result of the election
of delegates to Congress, which was
held on last Monday. I thought it bare-
ly possible that the result of that election
might affect my answer. From the
threats of the Abolitionists in the East,
and the secret movements of their emis-
saries in Kansas, it was impossible to
foresee what would occur at that election.
It seemed as if they desired a conflict,
and I regarded it as a mere possibility
that at some precise they might bring
it about. But I am glad to find that, as
usual, they are mere boasters, and very
careful to keep out of the way when true
men are at hand. They did not attend
the election; and suffered it to go by de-
fault. The result is Whitfield's election,
though not half the pro-slavery vote was
given. There being no contest, and the
settlers being busy gathering their crops
and preparing for winter, did not turn
out. The Abolitionists have evidently
abandoned the contest in Kansas, and de-
termined to transfer it to Congress. On
next Tuesday, they hold an election on
their own responsibility; will elect Reeder
by as many nominal votes as they
choose to certify, and will rely on the
House with its abolition majority, giving
him the seat. You may think I am
jesting, as it is hard to realize such folly,
but I am in earnest, and am satisfied they
act under advice and instructions from
leading abolitionists in and out of the
House. I am prepared to see any outrage
perpetrated by them. Should the
House give Reeder this seat and elect
Whitfield, what will Southern members
do? I hope no one of them will so far
forget himself as to open his lips in op-
position to such a movement. We should
throw the whole responsibility on the
North; force them to the issue and make
them decide.

I may seem to be wandering from the
matters about which you desire informa-
tion, but I am not. If Reeder be admit-
ted to a seat, or any other action be taken
by Congress to deprive the people of
Kansas of their right to determine their
future condition, we shall need the men
at once. I need hardly say to you that
Abolition cannot be forced upon Kansas,
unless the South prove traitors—and not
then without more and better fighting
men than can easily be found in all Ab-
olition. The Pro-Slavery party have
been indifferent to abuse, to the vilest
slanders; they have submitted to and
availed themselves of Abolition law;
have quietly, by voting, succeeded in
protecting themselves. If resort is to be
had to other means—to force—they will
be found equally ready, and I doubt not,
equally prepared.

If, however, no extra necessity be
created, I would advise you to send those
of little means in the Spring. They can,
by reaching Kansas by the middle of
March, or even 1st of April, secure to
themselves a pre-emption by erecting a
cabin, and then find ample employment
by farmers at good wages during the
Summer and Fall. In this way they can
save enough to pay expenses during the
Winter, and have that time for fencing
and improving their own claim.

There will be no election until next
October.
Men who have means can come in the
Fall—during the Winter fence their land,
so as to be prepared for breaking their
grounds early in the Spring. Our crops
are abundant, and provisions will be very
cheap this Winter. The land is being
rapidly surveyed, and by Spring all
north of Kansas River, and a good deal
on the south, will be surveyed, and no
difficulty will attend settlements. Every
mechanic can find more work at high
wages than he can do. It is thus that
the Abolitionists get all their strength—
their mechanics alone can live in Kansas,
and could Southern mechanics be found,
they could get no employment.

Any who may come, directed to
Thomas Johnson, Shawnee Mission; any
of your friends at Westport; myself at
Weston; P. T. Abell, or my brother,
Dr. John H. Stringfellow, at Atchison,
will at once receive every attention and
be forwarded in their wishes. No healthy,
industrious man will need any help to
support him after he reaches here.—
Twenty-five dollars would be more than
enough to cover contingent expenses
while making a location.

I will say further, that to any man
who will come and secure a pre-emption,
the money necessary to enter it will be
advanced on the security of the claim
at reasonable interest. In ninety cases
in one hundred his claim will, when en-
tered, bring \$500. Claims can now be
had which will bring on entry \$10 per
acre, with only a cabin.

But you should not confine yourselves
to sending poor men—of all sections of
the Union, Kansas is the most desirable
to men of means—especially to those
who have slaves. It must be one of the
healthiest portions of our country—our
negroes are as healthy as in Virginia.—
They hire for better prices than in any
other State in the Union. This is con-
clusive as to the value of their labor.

There is as little danger of their escape,
even less than from any free State, hav-
ing no facilities for getting away, and our
people are more on the alert than else-
where.

They have now laws more efficient to
protect slave property than any State in
the Union; and these laws have just taken
effect, and have already silenced Abolition-
ists; for in despite of their hereto-
fore boasting, they know they will be en-
forced to the letter, and with the utmost
rigor. Not only is it profitable to slave-
holders to go to Kansas, but politically it
is all important.

Every slave taken there will gain five
votes from Anti-Slavery men. Though
in feeling opposed to slavery those who
have moved—not been sent—to Kansas
from non-slaveholding States, soon be-
come attached to southern men, and are
unwilling to drive them away, or to strip
them of their property, and thus practi-
cally become pro-slavery.

But in addition, the necessity for labor
demands that slavery be brought
here, else the people may be driven to
seek white labor, not being able to get
negroes, and from necessity be forced to
exclude negro slavery, that white slaves
may be induced to come. In this, our
only real danger, were patriotism and
profit combine to call Southern men to
come, I hope they will respond—that
they will not be frightened by the idle
threats of abolitionists in New York or
Boston.

They ought to know that all their out-
cry is in the hope that the southern men,
on the principle—a stupid one, by the
way—that "slavery is timid," will so
long as there is a seeming contest be de-
terred from coming with their slaves, and
that thus, after a time, they may out-
number us. Our friends in Kansas have
given evidence that should satisfy the
most incredulous. They have carried
every election—have enacted most effi-
cient laws—are prepared and determined
to enforce them.

I care not how this has been done—if,
as Abolitionists say, Missourians have
done it, Missourians can do it again!—
As you know we can, if driven to it,
from this country alone, send more men
to Kansas than all New England has
enabled to put there. If we are forced
in self-defence, we will show that we
can do far more than Greeley in his ravings
has charged us with doing. But we do
not wish, and it is not right that we
should be compelled to depopulate our
country in defence of Southern rights.—
Others should be not less patriotic, when,
too, they would be so much greater gain-
ers than we by a removal. The South
has not heretofore been recreant, and I
am glad to find that she is now being
aroused to necessity for action. You are
in the interior, remote from danger. We
are on the outposts fighting our battles.
We will hold the post while we have a
man left—and if you will give us a lit-
tle help, we will not only gain a victory,
but place you and your friends
"out of danger" for the future.

Excuse the length of this. You know
how deeply I feel in this matter. When
started I hardly know how to "stop,"
but I know I cannot say too much even
to one as deeply enlisted as you.
Truly your friend,
B. F. STRINGFELLOW.

Thanksgiving in Virginia.

Gov. Johnson, of Virginia, has recom-
mended and set apart a day of thank-
sgiving and prayer, in view of the abate-
ment of the awful pestilence that has
desolated two of the cities of the State.
The Governor disclaims all authority to
require or control in the case, but simply
recommends that all the people unite in
rendering homage and thanksgiving.—
Church Advocate.

We commend the following text to the
clergymen of Virginia who will officiate
on the Governor's fast day:—

"How can any nation pretend to fast
or worship God, or dare profess to be-
lieve in the existence of such a Being,
while they carry on the slave trade and
traffic in the souls, blood and bodies of
men. O, ye most flagitious of knaves
and worst of hypocrites! Cast off at
once the mask of religion, and deepen
not your perdition by professing the faith
of our Lord Jesus Christ, while you
continue in this traffic."—Dr. Adam
Clarke on Isa. 58: 6.

"Till America comes into this measure
—the abolition of slavery—her prayers
to Heaven will be impious. This is a
strong expression, but it is just. I be-
lieve that God governs the world, and I
believe it to be a maxim in His as in our
courts, that those who ask for equity
ought to do it."—John Jay.

"To number the persons of men with
beasts, sheep and horses, as the stock of
a farm, or with hales of goods, as the
cargo of a ship, is a most detestable and
anti-Christian practice.—Thomas Scott,
the Commentator.

"The whole commerce between master
and slave is a perpetual exercise of the
most boisterous passions; the most
unremitting despotism, on the one part,
and degrading submission on the other.
I tremble for my country when I reflect
that God is just—that his justice cannot
slumber forever."—Thomas Jefferson.

If human authority is unrecognized
when opposed to slavery, we commend
them to study these Divine emanations:
"Do unto others as ye would that
others should do unto you." "Proclaim
Liberty throughout the land, to all the
inhabitants thereof."

The Kansas Rebellion.

Since our last issue we have obtained
full and reliable information touching the
late difficulties in Kansas, and as many
conflicting reports have gone forth, we
propose to give a brief statement of the
matter, its origin, extent and settlement.

The public have learned from the
publication of Laughlin, that an armed
organization of abolitionists existed in
Kansas, the avowed object of which was
to resist the execution of the laws enact-
ed by the Territorial Legislature; to ex-
pel pro-slavery men from the Territory,
and to make it a Free State. Arms and
money for the purpose were supplied by
the Emigrant Aid Society in the East.

The arms consisted of Sharp's rifles
with minnie balls and Colt's Navy Re-
volvers. Rumor says artillery was to be
furnished, and that one or more Canon-
were actually received—of this last
statement we have our doubts. The ab-
olitionists in their public meetings, under
the lead of Reeder, Lane and others,
proclaimed their determination to resist
the execution of the laws, and at length
under the impression that they were
strong enough to contend successfully,
commenced by burning several houses
occupied by pro-slavery men, in Douglas
county. Among others they burned the
house of Coleman and turned his family
out. Coleman who had gone for arms
to defend himself, on his return, finding
his house burned was met by one of the
incendiaries armed with a Sharp's rifle
and revolver. The latter attempted to
fire but his gun missed fire, and Cole-
man killed him.

Coleman immediately surrendered
himself to Jones the Sheriff, and also
made affidavit for the arrest of another
abolitionist who had followed and sought
to kill him. Jones arrested the ab-
olitionist, and while taking him to Le-
compton, called at the house of the ab-
olitionist to inform his family of the oc-
currence. He was thus separated from
his prisoner a few moments having
left him in custody of a guard of some
six men. This was about midnight and
very dark. On separating from the
prisoner about forty armed abolitionists
rushed out and surrounded the prisoner.
Jones finding that he was so greatly
outnumbered and not willing to risk the
lives of his men was forced to abandon
his prisoner. The rescued man was
taken to Lawrence and threats were made
by the abolitionists there that they would
take and hang both Jones and Coleman.

There being in Douglas county a
sufficient force to enable Jones to put
down the abolitionists, he called on the
Governor for aid, to assist in arresting all
who had been engaged in the house-
burning, the rescue &c.

The abolitionists relying on their
arms and military organization, and
knowing the difficulty of assembling
pro-slavery men from settlements so
sparse and remote from each other, were
very impudent and boastful.

Their agents were out in every direc-
tion calling in their forces. On one of
them, arrested at Doniphan, were found
papers containing the constitution, by-
laws, pass-words &c., of the Kansas
Legion precisely as stated by Laughlin.

The numbers assembled in Lawrence
were variously estimated, but we are sat-
isfied that they at no time exceeded 400
men. In less than four days from the
Governor's proclamation, the pro-slavery
men, the real law-abiding men, began to
assemble at Wakarusa, below, and Le-
compton, above, Lawrence. In less than
a week from the proclamation of the
Governor, 1800 well armed men, with
six or seven cannon, were around Law-
rence! No abolitionist dared show him-
self outside of the town! The few who
ventured out traveled by night, and but
few of them escaped. Although there
was a burning and feverish desire on the
part of the pro-slavery men to hang the
leaders and drive the last one of the mis-
erable wretches back to their dens in
New England, they determined to re-
strain their personal feelings while en-
forcing obedience to the laws. They hoped
the abolitionists would stand to their
threats, and would thus give a justifica-
tion for blotting them out. Not only
Gov. Shannon, Gen. Richardson, the
officers, but the men felt that if one
bullet was struck, the end would be the
summary execution of every abolitionist
in the Territory. The abolitionists were
not slow to discover their condition, and
were ready to submit to any demands
made by the Governor!

Their leaders at once declared that
though they believed the acts of the
Legislature invalid, until so decided by
courts, they would not only submit to,
but will aid in enforcing them, and would
assist the Sheriff in arresting any per-
son charged with their violation. Gov.
Shannon was not willing to take the
word of Lane and others, their leaders,
but required evidence of their submis-
sion which would justify him before the
public. They then proposed that they
would subscribe a written declaration of
their submission to the laws, and of their
pledge to sustain and aid the sheriff in
their execution, and would obtain the
signature of every man in Lawrence.

This they proceeded at once to give,
and the sheriff immediately went into
Lawrence and commenced arresting of-
fenders. Upon this the Governor order-
ed the militia to return to their homes.
When they left the sheriff had arrested
many and was arresting others. We
learn that some of their wealthiest men
are implicated in house-burning, and will

be apt to serve the Territory as good
hands in the chain gang.

The Governor at one time determined
to require them to give up their arms,
but when they submitted and insisted
that their arms were private property,
and necessary to aid in executing the
laws, the Governor consented to let them
retain them. There was some dissatis-
faction among the pro-slavery men at
his permitting the arms to be retained,
but we are assured that all upon reflection,
approve the action of the Governor.
His position required that he should not
treat it as a case of rebellion, if possible
to do otherwise; his feelings disinclined
him to force white men, even abolition-
ists, to too great humiliation, and we are
satisfied that it was the more prudent
course, even as regards the safety of the
persons and property of the pro-slavery
men in that portion of the Territory.—
The abolitionists have shown that they
are not only miserable cowards, but
there is no danger of any open violence
in the future. They have been cowed,
but not trampled upon; they have thus far
their fear to restrain, without having
their cowardly vengeance aroused to
commit secret crimes.

They have seen that in a moment a
force can be arrayed sufficient to crush
them—the boasted promises of their
leaders are falsified—they have been com-
pelled to back out from the position taken
in their public meetings and conventions,
to yield obedience to the laws, even to
aid in enforcing them. All this has been
effected without bloodshed. Had the
natural embittered feelings of many of
the pro-slavery men once burst forth, it
would not have been in the power of any
to control them. The Territory would
have been scourged; the last abolitionist
executed. The moral effect would have
been far less than the peaceable submis-
sion we have seen effected. Greeley and
his Eastern aids are made to see that they
are at the mercy of brave and good men.
Southern men have proof that they and
their property are safe—will be protect-
ed.

Many instances have been related illus-
trating the difference in the spirit of the
men of the two parties. Sharp's rifles
had no terrors for the Squatters; were
no protection to the cowards who had
them. In one instance three abolitionists,
armed with rifles and revolvers, were out
as a sort of scout, when one of the pro-
slavery men seeing them gave chase;
they all fled into Lawrence, one of them
receiving a shot which we learn proved
fatal. On another occasion, shortly after
the militia began to assemble, twenty
three abolitionists posted as a picket
guard, were met by six of the other guard
—were ordered to halt, and compelled to
march back to town! Neither arms nor
odds availed them—the metal was not
there.

We are gratified at the result—gratified
that Gov. Shannon, while adminis-
tering the law rigidly, was able to admin-
ister it mercifully. And we look to no
future trouble in the Territory. At the
polls—on the battle-field, the abolition-
ists have been signally vanquished.—
They must seek another field for their
operations.—Weston Argus.

Sharp's Rifles.

This recently invented weapon, if it
possesses one half the power and capac-
ity claimed for its proprietor, is destined
soon to supersede every other weapon
for war-like purposes now in existence.
The small carbine now used by the U.
S. mounted men, throws a ball with dead-
ly accuracy one quarter of a mile, and
can be fired ten times per minute. It is
not complicated in structure, is easily
cleaned, and suffers no injury from wet
weather.

This rifle in the hands of a good
marksman, is equal to ten muskets, bay-
onet and all, for, place a man six rods
distance with a musket and bayonet, and
before he can bring the bayonet into use,
the rifle can be loaded and discharged
ten times. They carry balls with great
precision and force. Mr. Sharp intends
these rifles to become a national weapon,
and should Congress, by using a little
liberality, purchase the patent, the country
would be possessed of a means for
warfare unequalled in the world.

In a letter written by the Sur-
veyor General of Kansas and Nebraska
to the Commissioner of the General
Land Office, it is stated that a large
number of new contracts for additional
surveys in these Territories have recent-
ly been made. The letter is accompa-
nied with maps of surveys which have
already been completed.

The jury in the trial of Baker for
the murder of Poole, disagreed, and
have been discharged. The last ballot
stood—for manslaughter, 7; for murder
in the first degree, 2; and for acquit-
tal, 3.

The United States District At-
torney in New York has received infor-
mation from the President concerning
certain filibustering movements in pro-
gress, for the invasion of Nicaragua,
instructing him to take prompt measures
for the suppression of the same.

Hon. James M. Mason was re-
elected to the U. S. Senate by the Vir-
ginia Assembly, by a majority of 58.—
Mr. M. enjoys an infamous notoriety as
the author of the Fugitive Slave Act.

Original Correspondence.

For the Herald of Freedom.

Napoleon and Kansas City Railroad.
This grand enterprise of Arkansas has
not been the subject of newspaper re-
mark for several months; nevertheless,
it is progressing as fast as its most sanguine
friends ever anticipated. The first
section of 60 miles will be completed by
the 25th of December, 1856. It runs
through a rich bottom 75 miles wide, of
unexhaustible fertility, yielding 1000 lbs.
or two bales of cotton, per acre; and of
corn 100 bushels per acre. It is well
adapted to the growth of wheat, oats,
clover, timothy, and the various kinds
of roots, and in fact all the necessaries
of life, save sugar and ice. I have no
doubt that shortly after the Napoleon
and Kansas City Railroad is completed to
Pine Bluff, the country in the vicinity
of the road will be speedily brought into
cultivation and become the very garden
of the South. Lands that sell at 5 and
10 dollars will sell at from 50 to 100
dollars per acre.

If I could have doubted the ultimate
completion of this road to Kansas City
before I moved to Kentucky, the great
impetus given to agriculture, commerce,
and manufactures by the Chattanooga
and Nashville railroad in this section of
country (40 miles from the road) would
have dispelled it. Before the road was
built wheat sold at 40 cents per bushel,
which now brings \$1.25. Corn sold at
50 and 75 cents per barrel, and now
sells at \$1.25. Pork sold at \$2.50 and
\$3.50, and now sells at \$5.50 and \$6
per 100 lbs. Bacon sold at 4 and 7
cents, and now sells at 15 cents. To-
bacco sold at 3 and 84 per 100 lbs.,
which now sells at 5 and \$10. Horses
sold at \$75, and now sell at 200 and
\$300. Indeed, every thing is selling at
starvation prices, notwithstanding the
whole earth is groaning under the mighty
weight of the rich products of the soil.
Such crops of every kind have not been
raised in this country since its settle-
ment. Lands that sold for 5 and \$10
per acre now sell at 25 and \$35, and are
much easier paid for at those prices than
when they sold at 5 and \$10, as I am
credibly informed by the farmers.

When the first section of this road
and the Memphis and Little Rock road
shall be completed, the vast resources
of Arkansas will be speedily developed.
Wealth and capital will flow into the
State; the people will continue to urge
the pioneer road up the Arkansas valley
and the Neosho through the rich State
of Kansas to Kansas City—the great
emporium of the Kansas valley.

The citizens of Kansas City are urging
a project to connect Kansas City with
Galveston by railroad. That road would
run from Kansas City through the State
of Kansas down the Neosho, and would
cross the Arkansas River at the same
point that the Napoleon and Kansas City
road. We have no objections to meeting
them at that point. The people of the
Kansas valley and upper Missouri will
have a southern outlet. They pay annu-
ally for the want of egress and ingress
from and to their rich valley money
enough to build a road.

The farmers in Southern Kentucky tell
me that the increase in the value of their
produce would build such a road, per
annum, as the Nashville and Chattanooga
road. They are all fully satisfied that
the road has produced the wonderful
change in commerce, agriculture and
manufactures alluded to above.
F. A. RICE.
Keaysburg, Ky., Dec. 1, 1855.

HIGHLAND, Dec. 14, 1855.

FRIEND BROWN:—I understand you
are having rather rich times about Law-
rence. You "Abolitionists" are getting
rather "obstreperous." Poor Shannon
was obliged to call out the "awful mili-
tary" of Kansas to straighten you. And
then to send all the way to Washington
for Mr. Pierce, to order out Uncle
Sam's men—his too bad; how could
you be so naughty? I should think you
would feel proper "green," if you don't
Shannon does. He must have a fine
time "collaring head" of his own by this
time. On the whole, I think the re-
nowned Governor had better stay in Jeri-
cho until his beard becomes grown—for
all the glory he has won by this
"war" has already oozed out at his toes,
"pro bono publico."