

Paroled from the Mails. It was apprehended, when the State Legislature first convened at Topeka, on the 4th of March, a quorum of the lower House would not be present, on account of the bad state of the roads and the high water making it impossible to cross some of the streams.

That we are now at the most critical period in the history of our country, none can deny. Every paper we see is filled with portents of "evil omen." Sharp's rifles, armed bands forming for Kansas, in the North and South, forms the staple of every newspaper. In Old Virginia—the mother of States and statesmen, of presidents, patriots and heroes—the gauntlet is thrown down before her sister State, for outrages upon her citizens, with the declaration that unless redress is given, a declaration of hostilities will be made.

What is to be the end of all this? We hope and trust that "common sense," for which the American people are noted, may come to our aid and drive out fanaticism, which now has the ascendancy. If not, there must be separation, before that takes place, however, we must secure the "bone of contention," Kansas; for that lost, there would be nothing to contend about, and we would only have to sit down and see the South prove a "second" edition of Hayti. Is the South prepared for this? If not, bestir yourselves.—Squatter Sovereign.

The American people are just waking up to their rights, and these they are resolved on having, and that without a dissolution. The North has played second fiddle to the South from the very inception of our government. They have the tune now learned, and they propose taking a turn themselves, and mind you, Mr. Sovereign, that "that bone of contention" will not be so easy a matter to get possession of as you may suppose.

Establish a political Quarantine. We suggest the propriety of the "Border Ruffians," establishing a Quarantine, somewhere between St. Louis and Kansas City, where all steamboats may be searched, and the infectious political paupers be prevented from tainting the air of Kansas Territory with their presence.

Prospects of a War. The political horizon in the East has a portentous appearance. There is evidently a desire on the part of the President to plunge the country into a war with Great Britain, with a view of diverting attention from Kansas. President Pierce is greatly exercised in mind because a few persons in the eastern cities volunteered to go to Canada, and there enlisted into the British Army.

We are apprehensive President Pierce will find it a losing game, if he and his coadjutors involve this nation in a foreign war when domestic feuds are distracting us at home.

War with England. We publish in another column a communication from our friend, Wm. D. LEXAR, of Prairie City. The article is well written, and contains suggestions worthy of consideration; and yet we may be allowed to say we shall take a broad issue with him on several of his propositions, particularly that pertaining to the forming of a powerful Northern Confederacy.

As regards the villainies practiced by the ruffians, he endorses them all, even the killing of Dow and BARBER, and the chopping to pieces of poor BROWN, which he alludes to as the "last outrage perpetrated," in the following language: "we do not claim the honor of suggesting the numerous plans adopted by our friends for the riddance of free-soilers from this Territory, but we do endorse every act that has been done, from the submerging of the Parkville Luminary to the 'last outrage perpetrated.'"

Progress. A bill has passed one branch of the Nebraska Legislature giving females the right of electors. If the bill should become a law, Nebraska would soon become the most populous Territory in the Union. Nebraska and Kansas will eventually furnish the world with a specimen of good legislation.

Bad Business. We were very sorry to observe that our friends, ALLEN & GORDON, at Topeka, were engaged in the liquor traffic. A report has reached town that they have determined on abandoning the business. We hope the report will prove true, for our friends are too much the gentlemen to be connected with a business whose touch is contaminating.

Signs of the Times.

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Moneys for Freedom.

Table listing names and amounts contributed to the Free State cause in Kansas. Includes West Brookfield Massachusetts, Leominster, Greenwich, North Brookfield, Oakham, Wilbraham, Bokerstown, Enfield, S. Hadley, Westminister, Lunenburg, Winchendon, Hardwick, Fitchburg, Clappville, Southboro, Warren, Grafton, and Fitzwilliam New Hampshire.

Dr. CUTLER informs us that he is authorized to say that the amount will be doubled in those places at any time our necessities may demand additional relief.

The Lion-Hearted. That "brilliant affair" at Hampden on the 14th ult., the news of which was deemed so important that letters were sent us, as well as the Tribune at Topeka, applauding General JOHN DAILY's eloquence and elocution in unmeasured terms, and describing him as "sweeping over his district like a young hurricane," and as the "lion-hearted Daily," has excited some comments from those who know the facts.

The great Corn and Cob Mill Contest. The \$250 SILVER SERVICE AWARDED TO THE LITTLE GIANT.—The committee appointed to preside at this contest, convened at the Spencer House on Friday morning, when it was found that but four of the originally appointed committees were present, namely: Gov. Wright and Hon. H. L. Ellsworth, of Indiana; Wm. Duane Wilson, of the Iowa Farmer, and Col. S. Harris, of the Ohio Cultivator.

Each party had corn selected for the occasion, and desired that the parcels to be ground should be taken from their own heap, but the committee ruled that one bushel of 70 lbs. should be taken from each lot and ground separately upon each mill.

The contest commenced between the Excelsior Mill and the Little Giant, for the silver cup offered by Charles Leavitt, Esq., to the Little Giant or to any other mill that should grind finer and faster than the Excelsior mill of the same size.

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Vital Correspondence.

Letter from Pennsylvania. RANOLPH, CRAWFORD Co., Pa., February 25, 1856. FRIEND BROWN:—I am but one of the millions who sympathize with you and the champion best of Kansas, and who express their sentiments when I say, that had I power I would make a living Border Ruffian, or any of their abettors, a thing to be sought for, more precious on account of their scarcity than fine gold.

It may require no small degree of courage in the friends of Freedom to battle her own enemies in Kansas; more to meet the Border Ruffian host; but how much more to meet and beard the lion in his den! The die is cast, and it must be done.

I have not heard from you since I wrote to you last fall, only by receiving two Herald, making in all 5 or 7 since September. We have had a winter of unparalleled severity. The snow has lain from the 25th of Dec. without a thaw, and is from 2 1/2 to 3 feet deep.

Letter from Massachusetts. BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 25, '56. G. W. BROWN:—Dear Sir:—Enclosed I send you two dollars for the renewal of my subscription to the Herald of Freedom for 1856.

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Business Cards.

James Christian. ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW. Lawrence, Kansas Territory, will attend promptly to all business entrusted to him, in the various Courts of the Territory.

G. P. Lowrey. ATTORNEY AT LAW and General Land Agent. Lawrence, Kansas Territory.

G. W. Brown. COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS, and other Instruments of Writing under Seal, and Depositions for Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Vermont, Iowa, Illinois, Ohio, and New York.

Dr. Jno. F. Wood. FURNISHING AND COMMISSION MERCHANT. Lawrence, Kansas Territory.

Edward Clark. ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR, & COUNSELLOR, and General Land Agent. Office on Massachusetts street, Lawrence, Kansas Territory.

G. W. Brown. ATTORNEY AT LAW. May be found at Herald of Freedom office K. T. Jan. 4.

John Hutchinson. ATTORNEY AT LAW and SOLICITOR IN CHANCERY. 30 Main street, Lawrence, K. T.

J. S. Emery. LAW OFFICE 30 Main st., up stairs. Lawrence, Jan. 6, '55.

Dr. John Dox. MAIN street, Lawrence, K. T. Jan. 20, '55.

Dr. S. C. Harrington. OFFICE No. 1 Twelfth street, Lawrence, Kansas Territory. Jan. 4, '56.

Dr. A. B. Barnes. PHYSICIAN & SURGEON. Main street, Lawrence, K. T. June 23, '55.—4f.

A. D. Searl. CITY SURVEYOR AND CIVIL ENGINEER. No. 20 Main street, Lawrence, KANSAS T.

JAMES G. SANDS. MANUFACTURER OF Saddles, Harness, Bridles, Bags, &c. LAWRENCE, KANSAS TER.

CONSTANTLY on hand an assortment of everything in his line. A superior lot of buggy and stage collars, over-shoes, &c., &c. 1616-17

CHILD, PRATT & CO.,

Importers and Wholesale Dealers in FOREIGN & DOMESTIC HARDWARE & CUTLERY. GUNS, RIFLES, &c., No. 147 Main Street, Third Door North of the Bank of Missouri, SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI.

THE EMPORIUM OF TRADE! New Store and New Goods! G. W. & W. HUTCHINSON & CO., are just opening at their new and commodious Sales Room, the largest and best selected stock of Goods ever offered in Kansas.

With interior towns, and can warrant their goods at lower prices than can be found at any store west of St. Louis. In every instance where they have filled orders for country trade they have been gratified to know that better satisfaction has been given than by going to the States to purchase.

They have also commenced the MERCHANT TAILORING BUSINESS, and besides their fine stock of broadcloth, doe skins, casimeres, vestings, and shawls, they have at all times the largest stock of READY MADE CLOTHING for gent's, youth, and boy's, ever opened in Kansas.

Books! Books! A FINE selection of School and Miscellaneous Books, kept for sale by the Herald of Freedom, among which are The Heroic History of Heroes of the Crusades, Fox's Book of Martyrs, Perilsous Adventures of Travellers, &c., &c.

Valuable Claim for Sale. MY CLAIM, situated within one and a half miles of Lawrence, and the prettiest in the Territory, with a two story log house, forty eight feet long, with six spacious rooms, a fine cellar, with stable and never-failing spring of water near the house, with ten acres improved with fence, eighty acres of timber, and numerous improvements which I have not room to mention.

HEAD QUARTERS! Cogwell & Corbett, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS, In Dry-Goods, Groceries, and Clothing, South-West Corner Public Square, Independence, Missouri.

Protection Against Fire, Tornado and Lightning. INSURE YOUR PROPERTY! THE undersigned has been appointed an Agent for the Union Insurance Company of Pennsylvania, and is fully authorized to insure every species of personal property against loss or damage by fire, tornado, lightning, or otherwise, as low as in any other responsible company.

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