

TERMS: \$2.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.

FOR PRESIDENT, JOHN C. FREMONT, SUBJECT TO THE DECISION OF THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

Another War Threatening Us!

Let our friends in the North be ready! Kansas is again invaded by armed ruffians. They are gathering in by tens, and fifties, and hundreds. Shannon has regularly enrolled them as Territorial Militia, commissioned their officers, &c. At any moment they may commence the work of devastation.

Let Slip the Dogs of War.

Outrage follows outrage with frightful rapidity. The list is swelling. Every day some new crime is brought to light, which equals in enormity its predecessors. The Reign of Terror has commenced. The bowie-knife and revolver, the hatchet and hempen ropes are the instruments brought into requisition to awe, intimidate and crush out the liberty-loving portion of our fellow-citizens.

Attempt to Arrest Senator Reeder.

On Wednesday last, the 7th inst., while with the Committee at Tecumseh, Gov. Reeder was summoned to appear as a witness before the Grand Jury at Leecompton, which he refused to do. The next day, Thursday last, the Committee having returned to Lawrence in the meantime, a deputy marshal came into the room where they were in session, and served a writ of attachment on Gov. Reeder for contempt of court.

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Who can foresee the end of these things? Our men are aiming themselves and training for war. Our women are formed into military companies, and are practising in the pistol-gallery. One boy is making it a part of their necessary learning to shoot with the rifle and revolver. What has so changed all our practices and pursuits? What danger so omnipresent as to require unceasing vigilance and watchfulness to prevent surprise and death? What power is destroying our crops, burning our houses, driving off, imprisoning and murdering our citizens? Who is instituting a reign of terror in Kansas, equalled only by the reign of terror in France? Who has destroyed the ballot-box, taken away the elective franchise, and reduced the Free State settlers here to the condition of serfs and subjects?

Slaveholders have done all this, and are now doing more. They are sending armed bodies of men to Kansas to fight, to murder and destroy our people, to burn and pillage our towns, and to lay waste the country. No longer ago than last week, 600 armed men from South Carolina were landed on our borders, for the openly avowed intention of burning Lawrence and killing the Free State men. These men, whose lives are sought, are from nearly every State in the Union. They have broken no law. They have simply loved liberty better than slavery.

Do slaveholders ever think? What is to be the end of all this? Are the terms slaveholder and ruffian to be synonymous? Are our communities, our families, our schools, all to be armed against slaveholders? Do they court such a state of things? Is safety to be found in a country without friends? Are our future statesmen to grow up under this influence? Have slaveholders no fear of consequences, when mothers sleep with pistols or knives under their pillows to protect themselves and their offspring from slaveholding violence or death? What effect must it have on the rising generation to see all this? To see their fathers dragged from their homes to a prison, or exiled to distant and unknown parts, cut off from all communication with them. Or, listening to these tales as they fall from a mother's lips, in their lonely and humble homes, who knows what resolves of future revenge may then and there be formed?

For our part, we look upon the whole scene with fearful forebodings. We look upon the slaveholder as an infuriated man. He has thrown away his only efficient safeguard. He has turned his honest friends into active and bitter enemies. One year ago the majority of the people of Kansas were decidedly friendly to slaveholders, or indifferent to their claims. Not one in twenty could be found here, who was reputed an abolitionist in the place from which he came. The people were nearly unanimous in condemning a man who was reputed an abolitionist. The general aim seemed to be to make Kansas a free, white, American State, and no sentiment was expressed against slaveholders, slave States, or slave holding where it was legal. Now behold the change!

Quem Deus vult perdere, prius dementat was a heathen saying, and we fear it may prove true here. Whom the Gods wish to destroy, they first make mad. What greater madness can the slaveholders show, than to arm themselves against the free States, to force slavery upon a people who despise it, or to pull down a political fabric that has supported them three quarters of a century, and under which they have lived safely and prosperously?

What other form of government could secure them so many blessings? They have had the safeguard of the General Government and the support of the individual States, and sympathy of both political parties. What but downright madness can induce the slaveholders to sacrifice all these. Why rush on, in so issue a course, and madly force things to a crisis? Why seek a bloody issue now on a question which has always been amicably adjusted heretofore? Are four millions of black, and fifteen millions of white enemies to be aroused and let loose upon our Southern country for the gratification of a few fanatical slaveholders and ambitious demagogues? The South is living on a magazine, and they are madly bent on firing the train that will blow us to atoms. We warn them of the end before it is too late. We are not negroes. We cannot be subdued, as your arch deceiver has threatened. We are not slaves, and you may be sorry for beginning a war where there may be blows to take as well as blows to give. We are your equals, and we ask for nothing but what is legal and right. If you continue to deny us these as you have done—if you continue to harass us with armed bands from abroad—if you continue to embarrass our citizens by false arrests and imprisonment—if you continue by falsehood and misrepresentation, to excite animosities and hatred towards us among yourselves, and distrust and enmity amongst us toward you, what earthly power can prevent a collision? And if a collision takes place, who brings it on? And what will be the end? We counsel forbearance and patience on our part. Will some one on the other side do the same?

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One of the plainest evidences of the cowardice and meanness of the Border Ruffians is to be found in the fact that when an unarmed man, or one whose calling or pursuits in life have made him not only unfamiliar with the use of deadly weapons, but conscientiously opposed to the employment of such means, falls into their clutches, they poison upon him with an avidity of cruelty which would shame even the howling wolves. Knowing themselves to be safe from retaliation, they disgrace humanity by torturing helpless victims. The old Inquisitorial system never had more finished adepts in human torture, to break its victims on the wheel or bend them to the rack, than can be found now among the Border Ruffians, in their hatchet and bowie knife crusade against freedom.

Our readers will remember the circumstances which called the Rev. Mr. Butler's name before the public last summer. He was seized by a gang of ruffians, headed by KELLY, one of the editors of the Squatter Sovereign, on the 16th of August last, in the town of Atchison, Kansas, and after receiving pretty rough treatment, was put on a raft and sent down the Missouri River. The mob and Mr. Butler parted "with a mutual pledge," he says, in an article which he has furnished us for publication, which will appear next week. "I, that if my life was spared, I would return to Atchison, and they, that if I did come back they would hang me." He did go back last November, taking his family with him, but was not molested. He then returned to the field of his labors in Illinois, where he remained until this Spring. The 30th of last month he came back to Kansas, went to Atchison, near which place his family was living, and was seized by a mob of recently imported South Carolinians, headed by the same KELLY who had figured in the former outrage. They refused to hear him speak in his own defence; cried "kill him! kill him!" and attempted to carry their threats into execution, but were finally persuaded to adopt a different form of outrage. They voted to "tar and feather, and to give him thirty-nine lashes." Some kindly disposed persons prevailing upon them not to inflict this last punishment, they abandoned it, but proceeded to apply the coat of tar and cotton-wool, as a substitute for feathers. This done, they placed Mr. Butler in his buggy, accompanied him to the suburbs of the town, and with shrieks and blasphemous yells, sent him on his journey. He reached home in a few hours, it being the first time he had seen his family since November last. Mr. Butler remarks that there were but a very few residents of Atchison engaged in the proceeding—the mob was composed of the South Carolina and Missouri Ruffians.

The perpetrators of these acts may yet be brought to suffer the penalty which Justice meets out to the violators of Law and the disgracers of Humanity.

Another Assassination.

On Wednesday night, the 29th ult., an attempt was made to take the life of Captain J. N. MACE, a Free State man, who lives a few miles west of Lawrence. He had been in town during the day, giving in his testimony before the Investigating Committee, touching the memorable 30th of March election in the Bloomington precinct; and it is supposed it was on account of his evidence, which exposed the baseness of certain ruffians that the attempt was made to assassinate him. He was sitting in his house about 3 o'clock the evening mentioned, when, from the restlessness of his dog, he was induced to step out of doors. He walked but a short distance from the door, when several shots were fired at him, one taking effect in his leg, near the top of his boot. The shot paralyzed his leg, and so stunned him that he fell to the ground. Two persons, who were concealed in a gully close at hand, hereupon made good their escape, one of them remarking, "there is more abolition wolf-bait." It was several hours before he could make his way into the house. The wound is severe, but is not considered dangerous. See proceedings of a public meeting in another column in relation to this attempted assassination.

James Redpath, Esq.

We were right well pleased to take this "abolitioner" by the hand again, in the field where he won so many laurels. He still retains his connection with the Missouri Democrat, as special correspondent. He arrived in Lawrence this week, looking as if he and beefsteak had not been strangers of late. The border papers will now surely set up a howl against him, as they have done heretofore, but he is "armed so strong in honesty" and resolution to do his duty, regardless of consequences, that their threats will pass by him like the "idle wind, which he respects not." Mr. Redpath was a Delegate from Missouri to the Republican convention at Pittsburg, and was appointed on the Committee to prepare a call for the National Convention to meet in June next. We understand he contemplates publishing a paper at Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Man Missing.

A young man by the name of Wm. S. Bishop, formerly of Michigan, left Lawrence the latter part of last week to visit an acquaintance on the south side of the Wakarusa. He was last seen about dark on Friday evening near the ford, since which nothing has been heard of him. The next day his horse was found with saddle and bridle on. The stream was considerably swollen and the saddle blanket showed that it had been in the water. There are circumstances to awaken a suspicion that there was foul play. A party of Border Ruffians were encamped about that time in the woods near the ford, and from threats previously made by certain persons, that he (Bishop) was "spotted," it is feared he was murdered and thrown into the creek, or disposed of in some other way. Search was made for the body, but it was not found. Mr. Bishop was a respectable young man, strongly Free State, and his supposed untimely end creates the most sorrowful feelings among his numerous friends. He was a member of the "Stabbs."

Gov. Robinson and Senator Reeder.

It is rumored these two gentlemen left Lawrence for Washington Friday morning, passing down the Missouri river on the Northern State.

Still another Outrage.

Leavenworth City and the country thereabouts is infested with a gang of outlaws, who, if they had their deserts, would swing on every supple sapling in the woods. Their chief business is to harass and persecute Free State settlers. They butchered Brown—tarred and feathered Phillips—incarcerated McCrea, in a close and unhealthy prison, for doing that which he would have been a coward not to have done. They have destroyed a printing press, driven families from claims, and insulted and abused women. They have "no mercy, no remorse, no magnanimity."

The facts in the case we are about to relate have been furnished us by a gentleman whose word is strictly reliable. Last December, on the day the Constitution was voted for, the Kickapoo Rangers, aided by the desperadoes above mentioned, destroyed the ballot-box at Leavenworth and attempted to take the life of one of the judges of election. A young man, of the Free State party, whose name we withhold for good reasons, in company with R. P. Brown, rushed to the aid of the judge whom the mob were trying to kill, and rescued him.

Shortly after this time, a large body of the Ruffians were seen on the opposite side of the Missouri river, some miles above Leavenworth, evidently anxious to "cross over Jordan." Fortunately, the ferry-boat was on the Kansas side; and by accident it was cut loose from its moorings and sunk. The discomfited Borderers on "tother side retired to their homes. The troubles on this side ended with the massacre of Brown.

Last week the young gentleman, whom we have not named, happening in Leavenworth, was accosted by one of the murderers of Brown, with—

"I understand Reeder is in the Territory—I would like to see the d—d scoundrel."

"Yes, he is," was the answer; "and he is a perfect gentleman."

Hereupon the Ruffian seized the young man's horse by the bridle, saying "No doubt all such d—d abolitionists as you think he is a gentleman. You are a d—d robber, and will catch h—ll; I stole the ferry-boat last winter, and I now arrest you for it."

"By what authority do you arrest me?"

"By this authority!" said the Ruffian, brandishing a large bowie-knife.

Our friend drew his pistol, saying, "I don't recognize that authority, and order you to let go my horse's bridle, or I'll burn gun powder in your face."

The Ruffian gnashed his teeth, muttered some threats and walked off. Our friend finished his business in town, and about dusk started on his way home in the country. He had proceeded but a short distance, having just entered a ravine, through which the road led, when he was overtaken by eight or ten men on horseback, led on by the Ruffian. They made him halt, took his arms from him, hit him with their whips, flourished their hatchets over his head, and threatened to hang him on the first tree they came to. They finally concluded to put him in jail and have him tried before the Court for larceny. Accordingly, they hurried off with him to a jail, situated in an isolated place near Delaware, a proscribed town on the Missouri river, and arrived there about the middle of night. Here he was locked up and left to himself. The next day no one came near, but some time during the night following, he heard a key turn in his door, and footfalls outside the house. He waited some fifteen minutes, and then went to the door, which he found open. Walking out on the prairie, he heard his horse neigh in a clump of trees some distance off, and immediately went to him. He found his horse, saddle-bags, and overcoat covered with mud, and soaked through and through. Without waiting for further explanation as to the motive of those who set him at liberty, he mounted and rode home.

Matters at Hickory Point.

Shannon's Law and Order party have been at work again at Hickory Point. Coleman, the man who murdered Dow, their leader. On the evening of the 6th inst., they went to the house of Mr. Ritch, a Free State man, destroyed his furniture, and set fire to his cabin, burning it to the ground. The next day they destroyed a tent belonging to another man. They express their determination to stay in the neighborhood and regulate matters according to their notions of propriety. These facts have been furnished us by a subscriber, who lives in the vicinity of Hickory Point.

Returned.

Our esteemed fellow-citizen, Judge Wakefield, who has been on a visit to the States of Iowa and Illinois, and the Territory of Minnesota, returned to Lawrence last Friday. He reports a strong sympathy with the Free State settlers of Kansas among everybody but Douglas democrats. A large emigration from those places will come here this season.

Generous Donations.

It has been our good fortune, during the last few weeks, to receive several donations from readers of the Herald of Freedom, who had been regular readers of its columns, and in the main approved its positions. One gentleman, of Salem, Massachusetts, sends us \$50. Another, who is known the world over for his liberality, writes approvingly and sends \$19. This is an addition to \$25, which he had previously placed in our hands. Such friends cannot be forgotten. Their aid comes in good time, and is the more appreciated for the relief it affords.

One of the donors suggests—merely suggests—a hint on one matter. We thank him for that suggestion. It shall be taken advantage of, and greater care shall be used for the future. Life in Kansas begets a different spirit from life in New England. We feel differently here from there, and show it in actions and words, and the pen and press record them. We hope other influences will surround us soon; for now it seems we are only fitting ourselves for warriors and the battle field. Implements of death surrounding us in profusion, have lost their terrors. The talk of deadly strife has been so frequent, we all imperceptibly feel a desire to draw the sword, throw away the scabbard, and conquer a peace or find it in death. If occasionally, then, we have been caustic with our pen, ascribe it to the times as much as possible, while we guard ourselves with greater vigilance for the future.

Emigrants' Intelligence Office.

We wish to call especial attention to the card and circular of Messrs. WHITMAN & SEARL, whose map of Kansas we had occasion to notice a few weeks since. If their plan is carried out, it can't fail to be of great advantage to the State and convenience to the emigrant. The knowledge acquired by them in the construction of their map, their extensive acquaintance in the State, and the wide-spread correspondence which they are establishing, must give them large facilities for accomplishing what they propose.

Emigrants, as they arrive, need not as heretofore strike out at random, but may proceed understandingly to the precise point likely to suit them, by first consulting Messrs. W. & S.

We understand that they are taking measures to ascertain and keep the run of all settlements and claims made in the State, with such a record of the same that at any time they will be able to point to any unoccupied land. Nothing could prepare them better for doing a successful business in real estate, and in the private entry of land and location of land warrants at the proper time. In the transaction of a local and real estate business, they possess every advantage.

Mr. Searl laid out our city site and is the only person who can trace back all the lots to their original holders, and show the valid titles. Mr. Whitman is superintending the erection of the new church, and is making it the best and most substantial building that has been put up in the place. Persons wishing to have their buildings well and faithfully done, or their property judiciously cared for, or in the purchase of city property to be sure they are purchasing with a title derived from the original claimant, will do well to avail themselves of the services of these gentlemen. While they are doing by their enterprizes much for the State, they cannot fail to be amply remunerated by securing a large and lucrative business.

Surveillance Extraordinary.

Last week a young man from Mass., on his way to Lawrence, being unwell, was advised to stay in Westport, Mo., a few days until he could go to work. As is usual in such cases, he walked about when able. On the arrival of Buford's party from Alabama and Georgia, he was seized as a spy by them, and compelled to open his trunk and allow it to be examined, and to even take off his clothing, boots, &c., so that the chivalry might search for concealed papers. None being found, he was permitted to go, with many curses and threats. He is wholly unacquainted with the nature or bearings of the Slavery question, and had those who seized him been at all acquainted with human nature, they might have seen his innocence in every word and look. Driven to desperation, like a drowning man, they seize at a straw, and every grasp shows the hopelessness of their case. The toleration of such outrages by the people of Westport, will sink that place beyond the respect of every honorable man in all sections of the country. The time is at hand when the merchants and business men of the border towns will find it to their interest to deal out severe punishment to the lawless men who commit outrages on inoffensive visitors.

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On his way Home.

The senior editor, G. W. Brown, Esq., we learn is on his way home.— He will probably be here in time to relate the result of his mission in next week's paper, and to assume the post of duty at the helm of the Herald of Freedom. His readers will doubtless be glad to hear this. The Herald is Mr. Brown's favorite work—one to which he has devoted his abilities and means for the two years last past, and it were folly to suppose any one else could take hold of it and manage matters so successfully as he. We yield up our "brief authority" cheerfully, conscious that in this case change is reform: We must not forget here to thank our good farmer-friend, AUGUSTUS WATKINS, Esq., for the valuable assistance he has rendered in getting up the Herald. What he has given has been a free-will offering to the good cause.

In this connection we will be doing a simple act of justice to Mr. Brown, by noticing, what we have neglected to before, some invidious sayings of those who by detraction and envy seek to create distrust and ruin reputation. Mr. Brown has about the same number of enemies that prominent public men usually have. They vent their spleen also in the usual way, by slander and detraction. During his absence they have been firing in his rear. But nobody is hurt so far.

That business men consider Mr. Brown competent, is evident from the fact that he is selected to arrange an extensive system of commerce between Kansas and the East. That he is honest, is evident from the manner in which he conducted important public trusts during this whole Free State movement. That he is a man of energy, is evident from the fact that during this whole inclement winter, and all through our hard times, he has issued the only regular Free State paper in the Territory, besides attending to public and private business. That people continue to have confidence in him, and appreciate his labor as an editor and a man, is evident from his weekly subscription list.

We cannot take any further notice of his enemies, or their sayings and doings. If, on his return, he sees it important to bestow any attention to the subject or the subjects, they will hear from him.

Asserting their Independence.

We wish the South could send many such parties as that brought here by Maj. BUFORD, of Alabama. The Free State ranks have been recruited prodigiously since his arrival. Not a day passes that we do not see emigrants from the "sunny South," sent here by the aid of Slave drivers' means to assist in the enslavement of the actual residents to the behests of an imposed authority, who have since their arrival in our beautiful country, relinquished the bloody designs of their leaders, quietly turned their coats, and are fixing to settle down permanently and aid in keeping Kansas a Free State. In nine cases out of ten, where individuals emigrate from the Slave States on their own hooks, they seek out Free State settlements, and unite heartily and cheerfully in the Free State movement. But we hardly expected the emigrants sent out by the Southern Aid Companies, would so soon see the error of their ways and come over from the ranks of the enemy to our side. Ultimately, we were sure that result would happen, but it has taken place sooner than we anticipated. Thirty of Buford's men have left him and joined us. There may be some excuse for their doing this, in the treatment they received from the doughty champion of Slavery. Several boxes of guns were given to Buford's party at New Orleans. They brought them as far as Lexington unopened. There Major Buford commenced distributing them among his party; requiring, however, a note of twenty-five dollars from each individual, payable in one year, in default of which the rifle should be returned! Numbers of the party refused to give their notes, and of course, received no shooting irons.— Buford next demanded that each man should take an oath to hold himself in readiness to do his bidding and be subservient to his purposes, for one year after their arrival in Kansas! Many demurred, but finally made the oath reluctantly. THURTY noble spirits were refused to bind their future action in any such manner, and asserted and maintained their independence, in spite of remonstrances and threats. These thirty men, who whilom served Slavery, now give themselves heart and hand to Freedom! There's work for them.

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The Leecompton Union.

We have received the first No. of a paper with the above title, published at Leecompton, Kansas, by A. W. JONES and CHAS. A. FARNS. It is pro-slavery.