

Dr. Chas. H. Webb

HERALD OF FREEDOM.



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Original Poetry.

For the Herald of Freedom.
The Golden Spirit Chain.
Around the earth a golden chain
Is forever winding,
While upward to the skies it mounts
Toward the stars is binding.
Nearer, closer to the Godhead's throne
Humanity is bringing,
For Aspirations are the links
That lendeth it to wings.
Our sorrow 's but the furnace force,
Where Faith doth forge the link;
That bringing nearer to Love's fount,
We may its waters drink.
Every truth that bold is uttered,
Winds about some sad soul;
The golden links of light this chain,
Bees over mankind roll.
Speak boldly, Preacher—Poet—all,
For some struggler will surely find
The golden link that fell.
MARTIN MORRIS.
Lawrence, Nov. 27th, 1856.

Herald of Freedom.

G. W. BROWN, Editor.
A. WATTELS, Assistant Editor.
H. YOUNG, Corresponding Editor.

LAWRENCE, KANSAS.
SATURDAY MORNING, DEC. 6, 1856.
TERMS:—\$2.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.

Kansas.

In all civilized countries treason has been considered the highest crime that could be committed against a government. Traitors are justly looked upon with the utmost abhorrence, and no punishment is thought to be too severe to be inflicted upon them.

In England the traitor used to be drawn to the gallows on a sledge. He was then hung by the neck, but cut down while alive, and his entrails taken out and burned. He was then beheaded. All his lands and tenements were forfeited, from the time of committing the treason, and all his goods and chattels, from the time of his conviction.

His blood was also "corrupted," so that none of his descendants, to the remotest generation, could inherit any property through him. Now, treason in England, is punished by beheading. In the United States it is punished by hanging.

The Constitution of the United States defines treason thus: "Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort." Where there is no war, then, there is no treason. When there is no enemy to join, there can be no traitors. The crime of treason is considered so destructive of all civil society, and so infamous in itself, that every precaution has been taken in this country, to prevent any innocent person from suffering. It is provided in the Constitution that "no person should be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court."

Corruption of courts and malignity of judges and jury, sometimes pervert the constitution, and thwart the most generous maxims of law.

In our day we have seen this. The old law maxim that "it is better that ninety and nine guilty persons should escape, than that one innocent person should suffer," seems to be reversed.—The ninety-nine innocent persons are punished to get one guilty one. And the probabilities are that no guilty one is finally punished, as there can be no guilt where there is no crime.

Distinguished Arrivals.

Mr. Amy arrived in town last Saturday evening. We hope he will become one of our permanent citizens. Mr. Hyatt, of the same National Committee, has been with us two weeks. These gentlemen have done much for Kansas. We are now better supplied with flour than ever before. Many thanks to our sympathizing friends East. Six thousand sacks of flour received from them, stored in the Territory for present and future use, will make many a glad heart. There is now no fear of want.

Some dissatisfaction was manifested with the disbursing Committee here.—The changes that have been made we hope will prove satisfactory to all parties.

Fearful and Unbelieving.

We received a letter yesterday, containing ten subscribers for the *Herald of Freedom*. The writer says, "none would go over six months, as it is our private opinion, publicly expressed, that is five months longer than it can live." We say to the writer, he knows very little about the people of Kansas if he thinks they are so easily backed down. A Free Press is one of our peculiar institutions, and whether this is again destroyed or not, the *Herald of Freedom* will go on. Buried presses and buried cannon in Kansas have inscribed upon them *resurgens*.

Future Emigration.

The prospect is, that next spring will witness a heavier emigration into Kansas than ever before was seen. Preparations are making for families to come, in the good old substantial way—with wagons and teams. When a man comes with his household gods, erects his altar, and gathers his family around it, we are certain of a permanent settler: gardens, orchards and fields spring up around him. But when single men come, we can make no calculation on them. They come to-day, and go to-morrow. By this we mean no disparagement to our young men, for they constitute a large part of our active, efficient force. And we believe many of them are making homes for a sweetheart left behind, whom they mean to bring out as soon as circumstances will permit.

We see these circumstances fast coming right. Peace has again visited our borders. Saw mills are completed, and running; lumber can be had for building and fencing. Comfort, if not here, can be seen at a distance. And when spring opens, multitudes will be flocking to Kansas, for permanent and happy homes.

The controversy is over here. As we have said before, Kansas is too far north for slavery to compete successfully with freedom. With all the embarrassments thrown in our way, the Free State party is largely in the ascendancy—in some localities, twenty to one. And we know of no locality where the Pro-Slavery party has a decided majority. The Pro-Slavery settlers in Kansas are generally peaceable men. They have not commenced the strife, and many of them have not joined in it. The troubles have been begun by the border presses, and the aggressors have come from other States. They find the Free State settlers made of sterner stuff than they expected, and their expulsion a more difficult task than they anticipated. So, they have concluded to leave, for a more genial climate, and a less resolute people. Rumor has it, that Col. Titus has left for Central America, taking with him most of his men. He offered all our Free State prisoners their freedom, if they would join and go with him. This class of men, who have had the courage to remain here for the last six months, now leaving, shows that they have given up the game.

At all events, the fact is, we have more quiet times now than we have ever had before. Everybody tells of friends and relatives coming in the spring. It is this combination of favorable circumstances that leads us to believe that an uncommon number will settle amongst us next year. Another fact is favorable to this, i. e. the new lands in other States are closed against settlers, till the railroad grants, which have been made by Congress, are all selected. Prairie lands in Illinois are selling from \$5 to \$20 per acre, when in Kansas much more desirable lands may be had for \$1.25 per acre. One other reason: the country expected to secure Kansas to freedom, by electing Col. Fremont for President; but as it is, the Democrats out-cheated, and consequently they have the political control. To save Kansas now, requires the presence of freemen here, and they are coming. Men of property and standing are coming. Men of education and influence are coming. Men of refinement and intelligence are coming. Kansas will be populated, as no other State has been, with the choice men of the nation.

Many Free Soilers from the slave States are here, and many more are coming. It is this liberty-inspiring sentiment, that will draw the best men from every State, to make Kansas "The land of the free, and the home of the brave."

Military.

Capt. Walker's company was in town on Saturday last. The men were dressed in U. S. uniform, and were armed with U. S. muskets. They made a splendid appearance, and so far as we could judge, went through the exercises with accuracy and skill. Both officers and men acquitted themselves with much credit. They were paid off by the Paymaster on Monday, and disbanded. There are no Militia companies now in the Territory, and the Government troops have returned to Ft. Riley and Leavenworth. Everything appears to be quiet.

Ho! for Kansas.

A strange looking covered vehicle passed through our city yesterday, bearing emigrants to Kansas. The wagon was some sixteen feet in length, quite broad, and possessing a proportionate height. In the interior was placed a stove, around which were sitting several females, giving the establishment a very novel appearance. On the wagon was emblazoned, "Ho for Kansas."—*Dubuque Express and Herald*, 13th.

Home Correspondence.

LAWRENCE, NOV. 29, '56.
MRS. EDITOR:—As straws show the direction of the current, so, trifling incidents indicate the state of the social and moral pulse. Fancying that Kansas items may interest the friends abroad, I propose to detail some of the minutiae of yesterday.

Your last paper states that the avails of the thanksgiving dinner, on the 20th, were to be expended for the benefit of the Free State prisoners. It was the purpose of the ladies to prepare a fine thanksgiving dinner for them, a la New England. This was to have been partaken on the 27th, it being impossible to prepare it in connection with the dinner here. Our resident physicians, however, interposed an opinion which changed our plan, to some extent, and we concluded to renounce the dinner, cooking only a smaller variety of edibles, in plainer style, and purchasing such things as might be a rarity, and would last longer. Butter was sought in vain—but a good large Ohio cheese and a few bundles of apples would not be liable to meet a refusal.

After sundry petty trials, and a very late start on the morning designated, we found ourselves packed in a light spring wagon, with boxes, bags, pails, &c., going up hill at a rate that they thought too rapid for the welfare of our horse. He went literally upon the jump, when, being slightly checked, he stopped short, and commenced backing down. He backed, and backed, and backed! and utterly refused all other than retrograde progress. After trying sundry expedients, we succeeded in turning his face homeward, when, with a few strokes of the whip, he took such a start that it required our united strength to keep him within the bounds of propriety while descending the same hill. We returned. It was too late to go dallying along at such a rate—too late to hunt another horse and make a new start. It was a beautiful day, though, bright and clear, and unusually mild; besides, it was thanksgiving in old Massachusetts, and perhaps some other States, where an abundant hail from; and it was hard to defer one day longer the pleasant trip. But there was no alternative.

Yesterday morning, a little party set off a little earlier, in detachments—the advance guard of three in an editorial buggy. We passed two lady equestrians, who, more fortunate than we, had each a gallant—and were surprised to meet them at the door of the nominal prison. A phalanx afterwards drove in before us, from a right-about still more striking—a contrast, I will venture to say, between our present Governor and all other Territorial officials, past and present—must be thrown in here. I beg pardon of His Excellency, but for the edification of those who know the value of worthy examples in official stations, I take the liberty of rehearsing a casual incident. A bottle and glasses stood upon the table, and the Governor playfully asked if we would have some brandy.—Of course we thanked him. No. No further remark was made, at the time, though I must confess to some degree of surprise at the unpropitious sight. Not because of its rarity in such places, but because my instincts had told me that his manhood was of another stamp.

There are three wild manias, like beasts of prey running riot upon our magnificent prairies, making sad havoc with the morals of the men of our community; and despoiling the peace and good temper of the other half of creation. These are Tobacco, Alcohol, and Profanity. Those who escape entirely their contaminating influence, command an involuntary respect, which, increasing in strength as the number of its objects diminish, approaches toward veneration for the few, whose very atmosphere commands them to our socialities. Rumor says that our Governor has shown, under excitement, symptoms of one of these phobias so prevalent; but Rumor is an unworthy dame, and if she has told the truth for once, we will hope that he is convalescent, or permanently healed.

It was my pencil who said that. Some movement as we were preparing to leave, imperilled the contents of the bottle, and called forth a word of semi-serious caution from our host. "I am sorry to see that bottle stand there, Governor," I said. The remark may seem rude, as repeated, but I am sure he read me better than to find in it a meddlesome, uncharitable, or censorious spirit. His reply in regard to friends stopping with him, led to a repetition of the same regrets, and this again to the assurance that we mean to re-visit that cheerful prison house? Who wants to cook up the good things, and go?

I forgot to state that the prisoners

to accompany us to the prisoners' dwelling, added that this was almost the first brandy he had seen in Kansas. The fact that our prison-friends had been subject to such indignities as arbitrary power can inflict, followed by the recent escape from Tecumseh, of the majority of those awaiting trial there, had inspired us with doubts as to the nature of our reception. Apprehensive lest the flight of the absent might be visited upon those left, we thought best to seek counsel and protection, if need be, from the Governor, and wrote him accordingly. Receiving no reply, we remembered his former promises, and the result proved that we had not expected too much from him. Although the mail is not opened between here and Leavenworth, yet the letter from Lawrence did not reach him till the mails had passed twice each way! He told us, too, he had received no communication from Capt. Walker, though he heard that several had been forwarded from him.

His reply to our note of the previous week, being all ready for the office, he handed it to us. Forgetting that its contents were just what we wanted at the moment, I was slipping it into my pocket, when he reminded me that rules of etiquette, like all others, have their exceptions, by desiring me to read it there. A brief extract will be pardoned.

"If the ladies are disposed to furnish the Territorial prisoners a dinner, either cold or hot, or exhibit any other act of sympathy towards them, they have my consent to do so, as they have also the warrant of Holy Writ—'When I was sick, and in prison,' &c."

The temporary house of the convicts—for it was those sentenced to hard labor, the ball and chain, that we visited; there are no others at Leavenworth—stands a little out of the town; and they like it much better on that account. On our way, we met Capt. Hampton, who has then in charge. Mr. McAllister introduced him, and we walked on, and he went down town. But he refused to talk to us that it was some notice of Capt. Hampton in the *Herald of Freedom*, which called attention to him, and led to his appointment over his present charge.

His own appearance, as well as that of the whole party, indicated more of a family feeling than would result from the nominal relations existing between them. "My boys put them up a kitchen yesterday," he said, and mentioned other improvements going on for their comfort and the ease of their warden, going into town next week, to get work for themselves. We neither saw, heard, or thought much of the ball and chain sentence, which we were told had been suspended in its execution, by the influence of the Governor and Capt. Hampton. The Captain does not like to be called keeper—gives them the parole of honor—they go and come without guard; and he talks of furnishing each a revolver and knife, so that they can guard themselves. That of course is talk. But he remarked to us that he could not treat them like thieves, murderers, &c., for he knew they were not such. "Though I give them so much liberty," he says, "I do it on my own responsibility. My honor is involved in their remaining. If they choose to leave me, I forfeit my bonds." He has made a "sub" of one of their own number, and when inviting us to repeat our visit—which we all want to do—he added: "If I am not here, Mr. Stewart, or these other gentlemen [indicating such as were present] will take care of you. Only send us word when to look for you, and we will have the flour washed, and our clean clothes on, ready to receive you." He seemed to enjoy the visit as much as our friends or ourselves. One of the ladies suggested that she was glad "our boys" had so good a father. He "wished his wife were here, that they might have a good mother, too." He is from Kentucky—she a native of Ohio. Other Kentucky gentlemen were introduced by Mr. McAllister. One of them has liberated all his slaves who are able to take care of themselves, and wants to come to Kansas, if it is to be a Free State—which Mr. McAllister told him was beyond a doubt. A couple of the younger men must have been engaged in the *soft soap* business, or have lived where the article was in great demand among the ladies. After leaving with these, our unwearied friend brought Gen. Pomeroy, whose sunny face is ever welcome; and he partook with us of the generous repast which our hosts so cheerfully supplied.

We were waited on as the Governor himself might covet to be served. Having repeated a kind message from him, and expressed our own wishes, we were told, and the assurance several times repeated, that they preferred seeing the end of their troubles—that they might have escaped long ago, had they chosen; but they were unwilling to give their enemies any such advantage over them. They expressed the hope that those who had fled from Tecumseh would voluntarily return for trial, and sent a message to another, begging him to come back to Leavenworth. He is a stranger to us all, and we never heard of him, except through them. A sick man was sent here yesterday morning, and another will be removed as soon as proper conveyance can be had. I could add much, but this paper has already overgrown the original intention.

You ought, though, to have seen the trouble in getting our horse started homeward—his excessive brawny head and heels when he once got on the way, and the contagious hilarity that set us all a-baying, for a time, towards Lawrence. Do you wonder that we mean to re-visit that cheerful prison house? Who wants to cook up the good things, and go?

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desired us to expend the remainder of the fund for their brethren at Tecumseh. They assured us that whatever the Leecompton market affords they can have. Apples and cheese were a rarity. They brought in two small lumps of butter, a luxury they seldom enjoy. If anybody knows of thirty, forty, or fifty pounds of good butter for sale, let them send word to the *Herald of Freedom* office. Let it be secured for them.

And who will go to Tecumseh on a similar visit? Don't know how we will be received there—would like to make trial.

Letter from a Traveler.

LEAVENWORTH CITY, Dec. 5, '56.
FRIEND HERALD:—From the time that Kansas was opened by act of Congress, inviting the immigrant to its settlement, I have been an attentive observer of all that the press and private correspondence would enable me to judge of her condition and prospects.

Under the weight of accumulated and incontrovertible evidence of her wrongs and outrages, my heart has sunk and sickened, and, in the deepest disgust, has often turned away for relief, to the brighter picture on the map, to the West Coast, and the fertile soil, one of our Eastern monarchies, have I witnessed a dith of the tyranny which this, our boasted Republic, has held up to the view of European and Asiatic despots. Nor had I seen, or dreamed a half of the sad reality. As soon as the United States path of the Republic was declared again sufficiently safe to warrant the attempt, I resolved to visit you. And what do behold! In the natural beauty of the country, and the fertility of soil, one of our Eastern monarchies, have I witnessed a dith of the tyranny which this, our boasted Republic, has held up to the view of European and Asiatic despots. Nor had I seen, or dreamed a half of the sad reality. 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