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*Written expressly for the Herald of Freedom.*

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## A COMPLETE HISTORY OF KANSAS,

FROM ITS

**First Discovery by the French to the Close of 1857.**

**By the Editors.**

CHAPTER I.

ITS FIRST DISCOVERY AND ACQUISITION, BY THE UNITED STATES.

Kansas Territory lies between thirty-seven and forty degrees of North latitude, and between ninety-four and one hundred and five degrees of West longitude from Greenwich. It is two hundred miles wide, and seven hundred long, containing one hundred and forty thousand square miles, and twenty-two millions four hundred thousand acres.

Until recently, Kansas has been to the American citizen an unknown or a forbidden country. In early times it was considered a wilderness, or as geographers had it, "the great American desert," of no immediate use, and too far away to be of any practical value at any future time. The fact that it came into the possession of the United States unexpectedly, and almost accidentally, created an indifference about it, in the public mind, which enabled the few, who understood its value, to appropriate it to any use they might consider proper. As the States have filled up with inhabitants, they have crowded upon this frontier, till, finally, the paper barrier set up for its defence, could no longer withstand the rising tide, and so have given way, and the human flood is now pouring over it with resistless and unconquerable force;

"Westward the Star of Empire takes its way,"

was a prophecy of the poet, but to us it has become a living reality.

More than a half a century ago, when the West was only seen in the dim distance, and it was still in doubt whether it was a sandy desert or a fertile plain, the government sent out an exploring expedition to the Pacific Ocean, under the direction of Capts. Lewis & Clark. The first official information concerning Kansas, we find in their journal, as follows:—

"In passing up the Missouri river, on the 25th of June 1804, we reached the river Kansas, 340 miles from the Mississippi. This river takes its rise in the plains between the Arkansas and Platte rivers, and pursues a course generally East, till its junction with the Missouri, which is in North latitude thirty-eight degrees thirty-one minutes; here it is 340¼ yards wide, though it is wider a short distance above the mouth. The Missouri is itself about five hundred yards in width: the point of union is low and subject to inundation for two hundred and fifty yards; it then rises a little above high water mark, and continues so, as far back as the hills. On the south of the Kansas the hills, or highlands, come within a mile and a half of the river; on the north of the Missouri, they do not approach nearer than several miles; but on all sides, the country is fine. The comparative specific gravity of the two rivers are, for the Missouri, seventy-eight, the Kansas, seventy-two degrees; the waters of the latter have a very disagreeable taste. On the banks of the Kansas, reside the Indians of the same name, consisting of two villages, one at about twenty, the other forty leagues from its mouth, and amounting to about three hundred men. They once lived twenty-four leagues higher than the Kansas, on the south bank of the Missouri, but they have been reduced and banished by the Sauks and Ayanways,* who, being better supplied with arms, have an advantage over the Kansas, though the latter are not less fierce and warlike than themselves. This nation is now hunting in the plains for the buffalo, which our hunters have seen for the first time."

For many years no further information was received by the public, excepting incidentally from hunters and trappers.

Mr. Jefferson was the only American Statesman who realized the importance of this vast country, and its future value to the United States, and not knowing whether it was a sandy waste or a fertile prairie; whether it could be inhabited by the millions, in generations yet to come, or must remain forever a dreary solitude, he determined to remove these doubts by the only reliable method within his reach, and, as a preparatory measure to its purchase or conquest, fitted out an exploring expedition across the continent, to examine its climate, geography, soil, and natural productions, with its capabilities and resources generally.

In a private message in January, 1803, Mr. Jefferson recommended an appropriation for defraying the expenses of this expedition, which was accordingly made, and the enterprise placed under the direction of Captains Lewis and Clark as before indicated. This was before the treaty was made with France, and before the United States had any right in the Territory. But all national difficulties on this account were removed by the sudden and unexpected purchase of the whole country claimed by France, by our Minister at Paris: and the expedition started on the 14th of May, 1804, under the most favorable auspices. The exploring party consisted of thirty individuals, and was absent two years and three months, and was eminently successful.

The expedition passed over a country never before visited by a white man, though it had for more than one hundred and fifty years been held by France or Spain.

As early as 1598, France took possession of, and settled the Canadas.—About the same time she also planted colonies in Louisiana. According to the laws of nations as given by Vattel, viz:—

"The first discoverer of a river by the subject of any nation, gives to that nation the right of possession of the whole country watered by that river and its tributaries."

France claimed all that portion of the American continent, lying West of the Allegheny Mountains, drained by the Mississippi and its tributaries, as well as all the Canadas and the immense countries drained by the tributaries of the St. Lawrence, which included a large portion of New York and New England.

In order to secure these possessions the French formed settlements, built fortifications, and by bribes and other means, won over to their interest several powerful tribes of Indians, which were constantly employed in predatory warfare on the English settlements.—To prevent these encroachments and to weaken the French, it was contemplated as early as 1629 to conquer Canada and drive them from their possessions on the St. Lawrence. This resulted in a three years' war, which terminated in leaving the French in possession of their colonies.

In 1688 another violent war broke out between France and England, which again involved the colonies and continued them in hostilities for nine years longer. After three years peace, England, in 1701, declared war, which involved both France and Spain in a bloody conflict known as "Queen Anne's war." This lasted for twelve years, during which time the English colonies were continually at war with the French and Indians. This war was caused by the French King in placing his grandson, Philip of Anjou, upon the throne of Spain, and thus, as England affirmed, destroying the *balance of power* in Europe.

In 1744 hostilities again broke out between Great Britain and France, which continued for four years, involving the Colonies in heavy losses of men and money. In the peace which succeeded, all the Territory taken from the French was restored to them, regardless alike of the wishes and safety of the English settlers.

Up to 1750 the French had established a chain of fortifications and military posts, extending from Quebec, by the way of Montreal, Detroit and St. Louis to New Orleans; with branches from Presque Isle—now Erie—by the way of Fort Le Bœuf, and Fort Du Quesne—now Pittsburgh—down the Ohio to St. Louis. By this cordon, the French not only expected to hold this whole Western country, but also to expel or conquer the English in the East.

The English were indignant at their assumption, and immediately formed an *emigrant aid company* in London, to co-operate with Virginia planters in America, to settle the country on the Ohio river. This was called the "Ohio Settlement Company." They made several attempts to settle, but were prevented by the French and Indians. To aid and defend this company, the Assembly of Virginia appropriated fifty thousand dollars, and Carolina sixty thousand more. Three companies of troops were raised and placed under the command of Washington, who marched into the disputed Territory. Washington and his three hundred men were taken prisoners by an army of fifteen hundred strong, after an obstinate resistance of ten hours.—They were allowed to return to Virginia unmolested. The colonists were now thoroughly aroused to the danger of their powerful enemy, and began to feel the necessity for mutual co-operation. In 1755 General Braddock arrived and joined the Virginia forces against the French on the Ohio. Although at first defeated, yet before the close of the war, which lasted five years, the English were entirely successful; the French lost all their fortifications and Territory from Quebec to the mouth of the Ohio. Her remaining Territory, Louisiana, which extended from the Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean, was ceded to Spain on the third of October, 1762. Spain held possession about fifty years. By treaty with the United States, Spain had secured to the United States a landing place in New Orleans for all goods and produce exported or imported from or to the upper country. Frequent disputes arose between the parties, which, at times, created apprehensions of a war. To prevent these disputes the Spanish Governor closed the port of New Orleans against the United States. This caused great excitement, and a proposition was made to Congress to declare war against Spain and take possession of all Louisiana. A more pacific method, however, was adopted. The excitement which preceded the election of Mr. Jefferson engrossed the public mind for a little time, and this question was partially forgotten.

Spain, by treaty dated October 1st, 1800, privately conveyed the Louisiana Territory to France. In this treaty it was stipulated that if France parted with the Territory, Spain should have the first offer of possession.

The United States, finding themselves without an outlet for their commerce in this direction, the inhabitants of the upper country became very much excited, and the people from all quarters beset Congress with their complaints and grievances. As soon as the people inhabiting the States and Territories in the valleys of the Mississippi and its tributaries became aware that France had possession of New Orleans their indignation knew no bounds; as they supposed she had taken this position in the spirit of defiance to the United States, and with the old desire of crippling and embarrassing their growth and commerce.

The Spaniards, however, considered themselves masters of Louisiana, so long as the formalities of the cession to France were not fulfilled. By the terms of the treaty, Louisiana was to be delivered up "in its present state," to the French. This "present state" was believed to be the exclusion of the Americans from the port of New Orleans, and that France would soon take possession of the Territory with a large army, preparatory to a determined and permanent obstruction of the navigation of the Mississippi.

Mr. Jefferson had information of the cession of Louisiana to France, early in 1802, and wrote Mr. Livingston, United States Minister to France, in April, 1802, informing him how to act in the premises.

The views of the President were, that if France took possession of New Orleans, the United States must become the allies of Great Britain, and antagonistic to France. He then suggested, that if France considered Louisiana as indispensable to her interests, she may still cede to the United States the island of New Orleans; that this cession, would, in a great degree, remove the causes of irritation, and at any rate, would prevent the necessity of resorting to arrangements with Great Britain.

The cession of Louisiana to France was first communicated to Congress by the President, in his annual message in December, 1802. Resolutions were immediately introduced, authorizing him to take possession of such places, in or near New Orleans, as he deemed fit; and to call into service the militia of the adjoining States, to act with the national troops.

Mr. Jefferson's policy, however, was strictly pacific. In order to carry it out, he, on the 10th of January, 1803, appointed James Monroe minister plenipotentiary to France, to act with Mr. Livingston in the purchase of New Orleans and the Floridas, which he erroneously supposed were conveyed to France with Louisiana. The nomination of Mr. Monroe was confirmed by the Senate, and Congress appropriated two millions of dollars for the objects of the mission.

The instructions of Messrs. Monroe and Livingston only asked for the cession of the city of New Orleans and the Floridas; and that the Mississippi should be divided by a line that would put New Orleans within the Territory of the United States; thus securing the free navigation of the river. Mr. Monroe sailed for Paris on the 8th of March, 1803. Bonaparte was then first Consul of France. He supposed, when informed of the instructions to Monroe and Livingston, that these ministers were authorized, if necessary, to enter into more extended stipulations in relation to the desired Territory. The moment of Monroe's arrival was most opportune. France was on the eve of a war with England, and must have money. Bonaparte appointed the Marquis de Marbois to negotiate with the American ministers. His instructions to the Marquis were characteristic of the man, and were in these words:

"Irresolution and deliberation are no longer in season. I renounce Louisiana. It is not only New Orleans that I will cede; it is the whole country, without any reservation. I know the value of what I abandon, and I have sufficiently proved the importance that I attach to the province since my first diplomatic act with Spain had for its object the recovery of it. I renounce it with the greatest regret.—To attempt to retain it would be folly. I direct you to negociate this affair with the envoys of the United States. Do not even await the arrival of Mr. Monroe; have an interview with Mr. Livingston this very day. I require a great deal of money for this war, and I would not like to commence with new contributions. If I should regulate my terms according to the value of these vast regions to the United States, the indemnity would have no limits. I will be moderate, in consideration of the necessity in which I am of making a sale. But keep this to yourself. I want fifty millions francs, and for less than that sum I will not treat; I would rather make a desperate attempt to keep those fine countries. To-morrow you shall have full powers. Mr. Monroe is on the point of arriving. To this minister the President must have given secret instructions, more extensive than the ostensible authorization of Congress, for the stipulation of the payments to be made. Neither this minister or his colleague is prepared for a decision which goes infinitely beyond any thing they are about to ask of us. Begin by making them the overture, without any subterfuge. You will acquaint me day by day, hour by hour, with your progress. The cabinet of London is informed of the measures adopted at Washington; but it can have no suspicion of those which I am now taking. Observe the greatest secrecy, and recommend it to the American ministers; they have not a less interest than yourself in conforming to this counsel. You will correspond with M. de Tallyrand, who alone knows my intention."

Mr. Monroe arrived in Paris, April 12th, 1803. The powers of which he was bearer, were common to himself and Mr. Livingston. They were overwhelmed with astonishment at the vastness of Bonaparte's proposition. Instead of the cession of a town, and its inconsiderable territory, a vast portion of the American continent was offered to them; a territory equally as large as that claimed by the United States. Mr. Monroe came to ask for the mere right of navigating the Mississippi river, and now was offered a complete sovereignty over the largest rivers in the world. The United States would pass over an interior frontier, to carry their limits to the great Pacific Ocean.

The full powers of the American plenipotentiaries extended only to an arrangement respecting the left bank of the Mississippi river, including New Orleans. It was impossible for them to consult the home government. The necessity for acting was present, and the least delay would ruin the opportunity. The French had not time even to send to the Court of Madrid, as they were bound to do, by the treaty of October 1st, 1800. The Spanish ministry were not, therefore, informed, till after the business was completed. They complained bitterly of this, and for nearly a year it was impossible to obtain from that Court a recognition of the treaty.

The American ministers, after some deliberation, concluded to take upon themselves the responsibility of accepting Bonaparte's offer, and negotiating for the whole Territory, knowing that they would be sustained by the home government, and by the people of the United States.

The price agreed upon, was eighty millions of francs. Sixty millions were negotiated for, and paid immediately. The remaining twenty millions were to pay those Americans who had claims on France, arising from requisitions, seizures and captures of ships made in times of peace.

The treaty was concluded on the 30th of April, 1803, and was drawn up in French and English, and signed by the three ministers, four days afterwards.

On the 22d of May, 1803, Bonaparte gave his ratification to the treaty of cession of Louisiana, without waiting for the ratification of the United States. This haste was considered necessary, in order to stop any attempts which Great Britain might contemplate against it as a French Colony.

The treaty was received in the United States, in July, and was ratified by the Senate on the 20th of October, 1803, by 24 votes to 7.

The area of country thus ceded, according to the claims of France, and also as estimated by Mr. Jefferson, exceeded a million of square miles; but all, except a very small portion, was occupied by savages, who were the natural owners. The whole number of white inhabitants, was probably not over 40,000, consisting of French, Spanish, Americans and Germans, living mostly at New Orleans and St. Louis, and a few French villages on the Mississippi. It was also estimated to contain, at that time, 40,000 slaves.

Congress provided a temporary government for the Territory, by an act passed the 31st of October, 1803, continuing the French code for a short time—thus far sanctioning slavery.

But on the 26th of March, 1804, the Territory was divided; the southern part being called the Territory of Orleans, and the northern part the District of Louisiana—including what is now Kansas. The division line between the Territory and District, was the thirty-third parallel of north latitude, which is now the northern boundary of the State of Louisiana. The District north of this line was made a part of the Indian Territory, and subject to its laws and ordinances.—This, of course, abolished slavery, north of the the thirty-third degree of north latitude, so far, at least, as French law was concerned.

This opinion is sustained, first, by the well-known sentiments of Mr. Jefferson. He supposed the country would be held sacred to freedom; and, as he guided the legislation in its first inception in the new Territories, it may legitimately be considered his measure to sever this vast District from the Orleans Territory, and, by attaching it to Indiana Territory, bring it under the restriction of the ordinance of 1787.

By the act of 26th of March, 1804, above alluded to, power was given to the Governor and Judges "to make all laws which they may deem conducive to the good government of the inhabitants thereof." Also, that "the Judges shall possess the same jurisdiction they possess in the Indiana Territory."

By the act of May 7, 1800, Indiana was erected into a Territory, and a government provided, "in all respects similar to that provided by the ordinance of Congress, passed July 13, 1787, for the government of the territory of the United States north of the river Ohio; and the inhabitants shall enjoy, all and singular, the rights, privileges and advantages, granted and secured to the people by the said ordinance," and the same powers were conferred, and duties enjoined upon its officers, as had been exercised by the officers of the Northwestern Territory, under the said ordinances.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

* Now probably Ottawas.

### Railroad Projects.

A public meeting was recently held at Keokuk, Iowa, to consider the project of a railroad from that point to Kansas City. Resolutions were passed favorable to the project, and a determination was evinced to carry the plan into execution. By reference to the map of the West, we observe that Keokuk is on a direct line with Chicago and the Kansas river. The design of the projectors, is to make this road a part of the great highway between the East and the Northern lakes, and the Pacific; connecting all the railroads of that region with the main branch of the Pacific road, which the whole country now admits must pass up the valley of the Kansas, *en route* to the Pacific.

Shrewd men everywhere are looking forward to a business connection with Kansas, conscious that our Territory is to be commercially, what it is geographically, the heart of the American Republic.

### The New Kansas Judge.

We are glad to learn, says the Chicago *Tribune*, that J. O. Harrison, of Kentucky, will accept the appointment offered to him, as a Judge of Kansas, in place of Lecompte. The Louisville *Courier* "supposes," at least, that he will do so. We trust he may.

Few men stand higher in Kentucky, for solid worth and marked integrity. His feelings are liberal, and his action manly. Indeed, we have supposed him to be ready to act in behalf of emancipation in his native State, whenever such action could be so arranged as to benefit both master and slave.—That he will be impartial and upright, as a judge—that he will be above the control of politics or of men—we believe, and, therefore, do we rejoice in his nomination.

☞ THADDEUS HYATT, Esq., conscious of the great want of Kansas, has determined to supply that want by placing two steamers on the Kansas river on the opening of spring, to ply between Lawrence and Quindaro.

## Communications.

From our English Correspondent.

LONDON, ENGLAND, Dec. 2nd, '56.

G. W. BROWN ESQ:—DEAR SIR:—I addressed you a communication on the 24th of the last month, which I trust you have received. At that time, the painful rumors of the defeat of the Republican candidate for the Presidency, Col. JOHN C. FREMONT, had not been certainties, and therefore I would not mingle my sorrow with the congratulations I wished to give you on the re-appearance of your journal. It does seem a strange idiosyncrasy of the human mind, that it seldom desires to impart pleasure without mingling some pain with it. I wished to avoid this, and waited for another opportunity and more conclusive intelligence, ere commenting on the failure of the liberal party in America.

I, for one, while studying into the intricacies of American politics, during my late residence in the States, never felt that unbounded confidence in the success of the Republican party that its adherents seemed to revel in. The Anglo-Saxon race, as well in America as in Britain, are too much the slaves of custom. The man who has voted with a certain party for a long period, finds it almost impossible to leave its ranks and join their opponents, even though his sense of justice, tell him that they are recreant to principle. He seeks excuses and evasions, and dwells upon the men put forward as the party leaders, and hopes that their conservatism will set all things right, and bring matters back to the same old level. This feeling of love for party, combined with the conservatism of capital, that fears if the harmony is any ways disturbed, it cannot make money so fast, and that excessive love of the Union, which is so prominent a feature in your politics, have tended to elect Mr. Buchanan to the Executive chair of your nation. The Republican party combined the elements of *future* greatness, more than any political body which has been formed in your Republic. It brought together the progressive elements of society, and yet secured enough of the coherent bond of conservatism, to enable it to keep together and maintain its hold. The radical anti-slavery man found in this movement a step in the right direction, and, therefore he could aid it as far as it journeyed on his road, and help its progress onward. The moderate respectable citizen, saw in it the preservation of cherished institutions and the maintenance of traditionary policy untarnished. The Republican party brought nearly all the intelligent, honest, reliable elements of your Northern States into play, and I predict for it, not dissolution, after its defeat, but a more firm and determined stand.

You have accomplished one great thing in this political campaign, and that is, the rousing of the educated and refined classes, to a participation in politics. One thing that makes intelligent, thinking Europeans, doubt the final success of your grand experiment of self-government, was the fact that the really intelligent,—the educated citizens did not take any interest in the politics of the country, and year by year neglected to do their share, by voting or otherwise, to elect honest men; and the consequence has been the ascendancy of demagoguism and the occupation of offices of honor and trust by mere tools, or worse, by scheming scoundrels, who desired nothing but their own aggrandizement. This which the Republican party called into active life by the exigencies of the times, has been, in a great measure remedied, and now this non-political classs of your citizens, take a proper interest in the affairs of government. It will have its effect upon the policy of Mr. Buchanan. He is too crafty, too desirous of popularity, to carry out the fire-eating, filibustering policy, which adopted the Cincinnati Platform, which he virtually announced as his own. I do not think that Mr. Buchanan will attempt to carry out these ideas, at least openly; but I do think, that with the natural tendency of the age to reverence the past, he will attempt to make his cabinet and administration a restoration to the good times thirty years since. He will attempt to lay this ghost of Slavery, that stalks at the banquet board of American greatness, by another compromise, or some similar quieting method. *He will not succeed*, mark that; and the agitation, subdued for a period, will burst forth with greater violence. American slavery, has to be met, fairly, openly and squarely and the issue placed on the basis of Truth and Justice, and not mere expediency. The tendency of opinion in the masses of the American people, is to a greater freedom, to latitudinarianism, to an elevation of Humanity; in fine, a full belief, in the great philosophy of Progress that has grown up in the midst of the nations, during the last century. I believe that there will gradually grow up in your country, from the nucleus of action formed by the Republican party, a great political anti-slavery party, who will seek, by political means, to ameliorate and finally remove slavery from your borders.

This fact, the shrewd party leaders plainly see, and they wish to stave off the time and throw obstacles in the way of its progress. They know too, that this will not be accomplished by pursuing the blind, reckless policy that has been followed with regard to Kansas; so they will try their hands at the conciliatory game and see if they cannot lull the people into another general apathy and thus secure their object. Mr. Buchanan will not follow his predecessor's steps in Kansas, but will endeavor to lull the storm and secure a proportion of the settlers in favor of a pro-slavery constitution; or, failing in that, will propose to buy Cuba, giving it as a Slave State to the South and *generously* making Kansas a present to the Free States. With regard to his foreign policy, I do not share by any means in the view taken of it by some London journals. On the contrary, I believe that he will ignore the Ostend Conference and endeavour to sink it to oblivion. This same class of citizens, whom I spoke of as seldom interfering with political matters, that is to say party issues, are now roused on the great question of the day and their influence will *tell*. It will be *unseen*, but will be productive of good.

AN ENGLISH REPUBLICAN.

*For the Herald of Freedom*

### The Feeling in New York.

CLYDE, WAYNE CO., N. Y.
December 28th, 1856.

The disgraceful scenes that have been enacted in Missouri and Kansas, during the past year, have opened the eyes of many Northern men, to the true condition of our country and the necessity of a change in the administration of affairs at the "Political Fountain Head." There is not a man, woman or child, in the Free States, who does not rejoice at the prospect of a change in the occupants at the "White House." Many fear, it is true, that Buchanan will pursue the same policy that has characterized the administration of Franklin Pierce; but as he can do no worse, they are willing to hope that he may do better. We believe that the feeling of the North, (as expressed at the northern election (will have a powerful influence upon Buchanan's administration. The Republican party have failed to elect their candidate; but they are *not* defeated, and the glorious principle they are striving to promulgate, will yet prove the salvation of our glorious union. The conduct of the Border Ruffians in Missouri, is disgraceful, it is true; but there has been a time when an anti-slavery man was unsafe in Western New York.—We can remember, many years ago, when a company of pro-slavery men entered the Presbyterian Church in this village, (Clyde,) and broke up an anti-slavery meeting. The speaker, (whose name we noticed the other day, among the Herald's subscribers,) was compelled to leave the house, attended by a body guard. Public sentiment, however, has changed here since then. *Now* the great mass of our citizens, are Free State men—and the most ultra anti-slavery sentiments, are daily promulgated by those who once sympathised with the slaveholder. May not a like change of public sentiment take place in Missouri?

God, too, is on the side of Freedom—for whilst the liberty loving citizens of the Free States, are in the full enjoyment of "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness;" the slaveholders of the "Sunny South," are in a truly lamentable condition—they are to-day in continual fear lest the down-trodden victims of their oppression should arise and attempt to gain their liberty by destroying them. Are not the slaveholders suffering, in some measure, the penalty of their numerous crimes?

The history of our Kansas difficulties, has been ably recorded by Mrs. Robinson. We regret however that she has been guilty of doing injustice to certain prominent free State men. Dr. Charles Robinson, it is true, has done much for Kansas. He was a pioneer, and every throb of his manly heart has beat for freedom; but if we remember distinctly, Massachusetts had another son, who left New England at an early day, and whose devotion to Freedom and Kansas, was no less than his. When Gov. A. H. Reeder arrived at Lawrence, this gentleman was selected to welcome him, which he did, in a beautiful speech, now on record in the columns of many a New England journal. Soon after the first settlement of Lawrence, when the Missourians attempted to drive away the settlers, and forcibly seize a *certain* tent, this gentleman was there, and took part in the defence. He has traveled over much of the Territory, and his name is known and repeated in the lowly cabin of many a genuine squatter sovereign. In nearly every Free State Convention, he has been sought for, upon all of the important topics of the day. Notwithstanding this, his name has been inserted only a few times in Mrs. Robinson's book, and then only in a sarcastic way. Prejudice and injustice may do for political writers, but these ill timed characteristics, should be obliterated from the works of the Historian. There are others to whom she has neglected to confer the praise that is their due. But enough of this; the unprejudiced reader must judge of the real merits of the work.

O. C. Brown, Esq., of Osawatomie, K. T., has been in this village, and delivered some two or three lectures upon "Kansas Affairs." His style was prepossessing, and the sentiments uttered, eloquent and truthful. He left a very favorable impression upon the minds of his numerous hearers, and since he left us several farmers and mechanics from this section, have dedetermined to leave for Kansas the coming spring. Yours, truly,

B. H. CLARK.

☞ MR. HYATT, the President of the Kansas National committee, started East last Monday.

### Letter from Mr. Arny.

The following letter is among the suppressed ones which we find on "file,"—and which we had hesitated about publishing until earnestly requested to do so—as a specimen of the kind which we thought best to withhold from the reader, but which justice to the public, perhaps, demands at this time:—

LAWRENCE, Dec. 27th, 1856.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—On the 24th day of December, 1856, there were in the hands of the Kansas Central Committee, the following amounts:

| | |
|---|---|
| Amount of horses &c. sold and unaccounted for, as per certificate of Wm. Hutchinson, | $2,064 25 |
| Amount of notes in Treasury, as per report of J. Blood, | 614 56 |
| Amount of flour paid for by James Blood, and not yet delivered to the Central Committee. | 3,500 00 |
| 'Amount of cash on hand' as reported to me by James Blood, | 8,921 63 |
| | 10,100 43 |
| Deduct from this am't the account of James Blood against the National Committee for flour and provisions delivered on my orders, | 1,386 75 |
| | $8,713 68 |

Amount remaining in the hands of the Central Kansas Committee on the 24th day of December, '56, the above sum of $8,713 68. I have not been able to ascertain here the amount placed in their hands previous to my former visit to Kansas; but will upon my return to Chicago be able to ascertain the amount.

As the present Executive officers of that Committee refuse to allow me, as general agent of the National Committee, to direct the appropriation of the above balance of $8,713 68 all of which was placed in their hands by the National Committee, we hope the citizens of Kansas will see to it that this amount is properly appropriated towards the relief of the sufferers in the Territory.

As soon as possible after our return to Chicago we propose to make a full statement, and submit our vouchers to a competent committee, when we expect to show that more than the above amount has been paid to the Central Committee and make a call from the National Committee in full session, on the Central Committee for a full statement with the vouchers, which after three weeks effort we failed to obtain.

In the meantime we have appointed Chas. Stearns, of Lawrence, our agent,—who has given bonds in the amount of $20,000 for the faithful discharge of his duties—with a good committee to aid him, and placed funds in his hands so that the destitute can be to some extent relieved. As our mission is to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, we intend to perform that work regardless of the misrepresentations of others, till that work is accomplished. We will then have time to defend ourselves. Respectfully Yours,

W. F. M. ARNY,
Gen'l Ag't Nat'l Committee.

### Kansas Skies.

Kansas can boast of possessing, besides a fertile soil and beautiful scenery, one of the clearest and loveliest skies, with a never ending variety of the grandest cloud-views. Talk of the fabled azure sky of Italy; let the traveler in search of that place of beauty, come to Kansas, and our word for it, he will be gratified beyond description. No matter at what season or at what time, the heavens are always beautiful. In the sunniest days of June, or the coldest hours of winter, the shifting panorama that Dame Nature rolls above us, has always sublimity and beauty. Our sunsets are grand beyond words, and we have been watching the light of one fading away, till our whole soul is full of the emotions it called forth. The scene we are looking on is the most perfect picture of repose upon which our eyes ever gazed. The western hills that skirt Lawrence, are all aglow with the crimson-hued sunset, whose gleam extends far up the heavens, gradually dying away in the deep blue over head. Not a breath of wind is stirring, and the clouds lie motionless in heavy fleecy masses. Not a sound falls on our ear, and the town which lies mapped out before us seems to have stopped its busy life to honor the departing day. The white snow is tinted with the fiery blush, and the leafless trees are from every icicle-hung branch, reflecting back the softened hues of the failing light.

### Correction.

We stated in the first number of the H. of F since its resumption, that Mr. DONALDSON, who boasted to us while in custody at Lecompton, that he led the company against our office on the 21st of May last, was afterwards taken prisoner by the Free State party at the destruction of Titus' residence, and was confined for several days a prisoner in the same room where the press was destroyed. Mr. D. informs us that we were mistaken, and that it was a twin brother of his who was taken and thus detained.—We make the correction with pleasure, as it will always afford us gratification to do in any other case into which we may be accidentally led.