

# Squatter Sovereign.

"The South, and her Institutions."  
STRONGBELLOW & KELLEY, Editors.

ATCHISON, KANSAS TERR.,  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1855.

The Best Advertising Medium in the Upper Country.  
Circulation Over Two Thousand!

In this Paper the Laws of Congress are Published by Authority.

FOR PRESIDENT,

Hon. David R. Atchison,  
of Missouri.

## The Season.

Summer has past and autumn has again returned, and with it, it has brought cool evenings and frosty mornings. The season just past has been an abundant one. In no part of our country is heard the cry of "scarcity of provisions," but all have been blessed with plenty. The farmer, and the mechanic, and the merchant, have all reaped the benefits of an abundant yield during the past season. With this state of affairs, our country cannot but prosper. And we have no reason for supposing that the country will not be thus blessed in the future. When we look around us and see the almost instant uprising of towns and cities, and improvements of all kinds making in the most rapid manner possible, we feel proud of our country, proud of America, and proud of the age in which we live. Let every one feel grateful, and let every heart throbb to God with the noblest aspirations of praise and thanksgiving.

"The Kickapoo Pioneer," a Know-Nothing paper published in this Territory, is the only pro-slavery (!) journal that has had the temerity to question the veracity of Mr. Laughlin's exposition of the midnight order of abolitionists in this Territory. It should be remembered that its editors are Know-Nothings, and that Mr. Laughlin is an Irishman, and therefore in the opinions of these scoundrels, his statements are "not worth much."

## GRAND EXCITEMENT AT DONIPHAN: AN ABOLITIONIST KILLED!

We learn from Mr. Newman, of Doniphan, that Samuel Collins of that place, was killed this morning about sunrise, by Pat. Laughlin. As far as we have been able to learn, the circumstances are as follows:

Mr. Laughlin, recently made an exposition of the midnight organization existing among the Abolitionists in the Territory, entitled the "Grand Encampment and Regiments of the Kansas Legion." Collins, it seems was Colonel of one of the Regiments in this order, and determined to force Mr. Laughlin to a retraction, or kill him. In accordance with this determination, he and some TWELVE brother Abolitionists proceeded Wednesday last to seek out Mr. Laughlin, and demanded an unqualified retraction of his recent confession, and upon Mr. L.'s refusing to make any concession whatever, Collins immediately snapped his gun at him. (Laughlin) and then fired at him, but fortunately the weapon was turned aside by a spectator. Mr. Laughlin then drew a revolver and fired on his opponent, killing him instantly.

We regret to learn that Mr. L. was dangerously hurt in the conflict by a knife wound in the side. We are also informed that his friend Mr. Lynch, a member of the pro-slavery party was wounded in the head by the discharge of a gun.

Thus it is, that the fight so long talked about has begun, and it is to be hoped that this fearful, but righteous result, will quell the rising spirit of rebellion and treason which has been rioting in our midst.

We learn that Mr. Lynch, who was engaged in the fight, has been tried and acquitted.

IMPROVEMENTS.—Atchison is still rapidly improving. No one need fear coming to Atchison on account of scarcity of houses. We see Mr. Woolfolk is just completing his large store. He intends opening a large stock of goods in early spring.

We invite attention to the advertisement of A. J. G. Westbrook. He has one of the largest stocks in the upper country, and one of the best selected stocks.—We can testify in behalf of many of his articles, and more especially the Ginger Brandy and Cigars. Call on him if you want good things, at the stand formerly occupied by Ewell & Dykes' drug store.

We publish in to-day's paper, by request, the letter of Pat. Laughlin again, and also, the Constitution and Ritual of the Grand Encampment of the Kansas Legion. We know of nothing that we had rather give place to in our columns.

The weather continues cool at this point. No snow of any consequence has yet fallen, but we look out for a squall, some of these nights.

## From the St. Joseph Gazette. Traitors Exposed.

MISSOURI.—Allow me through the columns of your valuable paper, to lay before your many intelligent readers some very important and startling facts in relation to a subject which the South, and I may say the whole nation is deeply interested in.

But before proceeding farther permit me to say, it is not for the purpose of gaining for myself any newspaper notoriety that I have been induced to publish to the world the midnight treasons of a party with which I regret to say I have acted, alas! too long. Yet in leaving that party and making the exposition I do of so many of its leading members, I am not ignorant of the danger to which I hazard not only my life, but also my character; for I know that both will be violently assailed. But regardless of the danger that surrounds me, I will come out unmasked, as is the duty of every good citizen, let the result be what it will, and show to the nation the midnight wire-working, the treasonable honor of an abolition faction whose trickery, if not stopped, will evidently plunge the country in civil war, and from the hills of Kansas which now look so verdant and beautiful, shall plow torrents of human gore. Yes, Americans shall be arrayed against Americans in this beautiful land; here shall the bonds of the Union be severed, and here will liberty be destroyed.—Anarchy shall follow, and out of confusion and the smoking ruins of our liberties shall spring that abominable thing, an unlimited Monarchy.

These are not fancy sketches; they originated in my mind by calm reason, and were nursed and brought to maturity by long observation and much intercourse with this evil designing party. A party with which I connected myself, not for honor or emolument, but through sympathy because I thought the rights of the people were involved, and the laws violated by the citizens of Missouri (only) and because I felt I could endorse the sentiments of the Free State party, who held out the idea to me that they were for prohibiting the admission of negroes, bond or free, into the Territory, that they endorsed the Fugitive Slave Law, the Kansas and Nebraska Act, and that they would only take honorable steps to carry out their principles.—Such patriotic principles I felt were in perfect accordance with my own private views; I felt I could unite with such a party, and labor assiduously in such a cause. I did unite with them, I felt I was embarked in a good cause, and God knows I was; it was a "good and faithful servant." I rode night and day, neglected my own private business for what I thought the public good. Little dreaming that I was at that time strengthening and spreading the cause of that damnable faction, the Abolition party—whose negro love far exceeds their love of liberty or love of country.

But I do not wish to be understood as branding as abolitionists all who are connected with this party, nor all who are members of the secret organization to which I did belong; for I am personally acquainted with many who are members of both, who are as true citizens as any in the land, and many of whom I believe will endorse my conduct in making the exposition I do. Many of them I believe are ignorant of the net work in which they are caught, and of the manner in which they are entangled. They are not aware, perhaps, that they are bound under a solemn obligation, as soon as an abolition faction shall call on them, to forsake their families and all that is dear to them, and march to the field, rifle in hand, to shed the blood of their countrymen; yet this, though strange, is all a matter of fact, as I shall prove to the satisfaction of all candid minds. In order to do this it is necessary for me to give a history of the manner in which I became a member of the secret organization called, or rather named, the "Territorial Grand Encampment and Regiments of the Kansas Legion."

There was a meeting of the Free State party held at the house of A. Larzelere, on the 25th of August, for the purpose of sending delegates to the Territorial Convention, to be held at Big Springs, K. T., on the 5th of Sept. There were fifteen delegates sent, only ten went to the Convention. I was one among the ten who attended. I was sent at the request of several of the delegates a few days ahead of the others, in order to inquire into the state of the party, as well as to have some private doings. When I arrived at a place called Ocean in Atchison county, I stopped to inquire the way to Lawrence. I soon found I had dropped into the house of one of our party. A conversation sprung up between us in which I took a very important part, and denounced in very harsh terms the people of Missouri on account of their conduct at the spring election.

I showed our resolutions to the gentleman with whom I was conversing (a Mr. Crosby) who, after perusing them, went into a private apartment and bade me follow; he told me in a whisper that they had an organization which served very much to strengthen our party, and with which he would make me acquainted; without receiving an answer from me, he bade me hold up my hand and take the obligation with him. This I did; he then gave me two books, which he told me were the Ritual and Constitution of the order, which he wished me to take to Grasshopper Falls and organize a society there. This I assented to and did, without looking at the books, only at the obligation, which I was bound to do, to organize the society. I organized the society there, and gave up the books. I then went on my way to Lawrence, and went to the office of the "Herald of Freedom," where I was directed by nearly all the Free Soilers on my way, on account of its editors being so perfect in the faith. I went to Mr. Brown's office and introduced myself, showing him the proceedings of our meeting, which he commended on in a very praising way, saying we had done very wrong by adopting some of our resolutions, which were opposed to the admission of free negroes into the future State of Kansas, because he said it would "give offence to many of our best friends in the North." I answered, "these are our sentiments, independent of Northern Abolitionists, or Southern Nefiticians." I then let Mr. Brown know that I was a member of the secret order, after which he hesitated a good deal, and then told me to call the next day. I returned the next day and he gave me two Constitutions for the county, and two for the town

of Doniphan, in which I was to organize a society. Our delegates were informed at Big Springs, that I had Constitutions organized them into a society. When I returned I was immediately put out to organize them which I did, and until after then I never read their Constitution. I then spoke to some men in the county, who would go into it only on condition, and appeared very lukewarm in regard to it. I gave them no encouragement, and felt that my mission was done as I had promised. I then felt that I was at Liberty to remain silent and push this thing no further. I concluded it had better keep the two copies of the constitution, which I thought would be useful to me in making this exposition, a thing I had determined on doing as soon as I discovered their treasonable designs.

But I must come to the point, and make known the object of this society, and the manner in which it is organized. Its object is to make Kansas a free State, by force of arms, if they fail to carry their point by legal means. To effect this they have organized a society or secret army, who are provided with Sharp's rifles free of charge. (I saw many of those rifles and other equipments in Lawrence) by an organization in Boston, got up for the purpose of aiding the Abolitionists in Kansas to make it a free State. From this organization, I have been informed, the Executive Committee at Lawrence have received \$100,000 to defray the expenses of a State organization, a movement which is on foot by the Free-Soil-Abolition party. I am a member of this Committee, and the above information was brought to me by a member of the Committee. This was just before the election for Ex-Governor Reeder, and made me feel very lukewarm in the cause of the Reeder party, for I began to be convinced more than ever that Ex-Governor Reeder and a large majority of his supporters were strongly tainted with Abolition doctrines, yet I could not muster up courage enough to withdraw from the party until I cast my vote for Ex-Governor Reeder. But in doing so I voted against the State organization, for I felt it to be my duty, as I knew it to be a measure of only a small portion of the citizens of the Territory, and headed only by Abolitionists and traitors to their country. This I am positive of, for it is the Territorial Grand Encampment and the Executive Committee who are at the head of this movement. Both I know to be propagating treason, the Grand Encampment has arms with which to rebel against Government. In the Executive Committee, of which I became a member, from being introduced by Ex-Governor Reeder, there was a resolution offered which provided that every reliable Free State man in the Territory should be furnished with a rifle, a brace of pistols and a sabre, and required to take an oath to hold himself in readiness to march into service under his superior officer when called upon, and that he would go to the rescue of the person or property of any Free Soiler who would be brought by force into obedience to the present laws of the Territory.

The chairman of the committee, Dr. Robinson, of Lawrence, K. T., advised the gentleman to withdraw his motion as they should act upon this in a private manner. The motion was withdrawn. This is sufficient to prove them traitors to their country, and I would be more than a traitor, if I stood a silent spectator to treasonable designs—and acted in concert with a faction whose midnight wire-working, if allowed to proceed, sever the ties of this Union, and finally overthrow our liberties, the foundation of which is built on truth and cemented with the blood of the fearless and manly hearts.

I know that many Free-Soilers, who cannot see as I do, or if they do are not honest enough to confess it, will couple treason with my name and say, such are Irishmen. But if such there be, I can only say, thank God I had the nerve to expose their villainy to the world, and to bring to the Constitution and Laws of the United States and the interests of the South—which, who were wickedly perverted and oppression from my native land, took me to her bosom, gave me a home, made me a freeman, and sheltered me under the folds of the Star Spangled Banner. Receiving such undeserved favors as these from a strange people, would I not be an ungrateful wretch if I failed to show to the world the secret action of a party who are led by and reverence the following Constitution and Ritual more than they do the Constitution and Laws of their country.

## Constitution and Ritual of the Grand Encampment, and Regiments of the Kansas Legion, of Kansas Territory. Adopted, April 4th, 1855.

ARTICLE 1. This Body shall be known as the Grand Encampment of the Kansas Legion of Kansas Territory, and shall be composed of Representatives elected from each Subordinate Regiment existing in the Territory, as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 2. At the first meeting nights in January and July, one Representative from each Subordinate Regiment, and one additional Representative for every 50 members shall be elected as members of this Grand Body, the Regiment having power to fill vacancies in case of the inability of any delegate to attend any meeting of the Grand Encampment: Provided, That should any subordinate Regiment be instituted between the times above specified, that they may have the power to elect their Representatives at such times as will insure them a delegate to the Grand Encampment.

Sec. 3. The regular sessions of the Grand Encampment shall be held on the third Wednesday of January and July, at such hour and places as shall be selected by the Encampment at the previous semi-annual session.

## ARTICLE 2. Officers of the Grand Encampment shall consist of a Grand General, Grand Vice-General, Grand Quarter-Master, Grand Pay-Master, Grand Aid, two Sentinels, and Grand Chaplain, to be elected annually by ballot, at the January session, with the exception of the Sentinels and Chaplain, who shall be appointed by the General for each meeting.

Sec. 1. The officers of each subordinate Regiment shall consist of a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, Quarter-Master, Pay-Master, Aid, and two Sentinels, who shall be elected by ballot on the first meeting nights of January and July.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the Colonel to preside, enforce a due observance of the several constitutions, laws and regulations, and secure a proper respect for the Territorial Grand Encampment and its officers; see that all officers and members of companies perform their respective duties; appoint all officers and committees not otherwise provided for; give the casting vote when a tie may occur except in the election of officers; have special charge of the Constitution and Laws; draw on the Pay-Master for all demands on the Regiment; direct the Quarter-Master to call special meetings when necessary; and perform all other duties pertaining to the office.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the Lieutenant-Colonel to assist the Colonel in the performance of his duties; have special charge of the doors, and in the absence of the Colonel, preside.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the Quarter-Master to keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Regiment, with a roll of the members' names; notify members when ordered by the Colonel or a vote of the Regiment, and perform all other duties pertaining to the office.

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of the Pay-Master to receive all moneys of the Regiment; pay all demands when authorized by the Colonel; keep an accurate account of all moneys received and expended; exhibit to the Regiment on the last meeting of each quarter a statement of the funds, and at the end of six months give a correct written report of the receipts and disbursements of the term.

Sec. 6. It shall be the duty of the Aid to examine the members, at the opening of the Regiment, and report any who are incompetent to the Colonel, to assist at the initiation of persons and see that the brethren are made comfortable during the sittings of the Regiment.

Sec. 7. It shall be the duty of the Inside Sentinel to attend to the inside door, and report to the Lieutenant-Colonel the names and Regiments of the persons applying for admission, and admit such as the Lieutenant-Colonel may order; but to admit no one without the password, unless otherwise ordered by the Colonel after being vouched for by a member of the Regiment.

Sec. 8. It shall be the duty of the Outside Sentinel to attend to the outside door, and admit no person without the password except candidates and those he may know to be members of the order, or who are vouched for by a member of the Regiment.

of the Organization in the Territory. He shall have power to grant dispensations for the formation of subordinate Regiments, at such places as he may deem best for the welfare of the cause and Order, and may authorize initiations of members in places where Regiments are to be organized, under such regulation as the Grand Encampment may adopt. He may visit personally, or by deputy, all Regiments under his jurisdiction, and require a strict compliance with the rules and usages of the Organization, and shall report to the Grand Encampment, at each session thereof, the results of his labors, with a correct and succinct statement of the Order throughout the Territory.

Sec. 3. The Grand Vice General shall perform the duties of the Grand General in his absence.

Sec. 4. The Grand Quarter-Master shall keep a correct minute of the proceedings of each meeting, and an accurate roll of the members. He shall give information of all meetings by a written or printed notice to the Colonel of each subordinate Regiment. He shall collect and payover to the Grand Pay-Master, all sums due the Grand Encampment. He shall attend to such other business as may properly be required of him by virtue of his office.

Sec. 5. The Grand Pay-Master shall have charge of all moneys belonging to the Grand Encampment. He shall attend to all receipts and disbursements. He shall keep a regular and correct account of his doings, which shall at all times be open to the view of the Grand Encampment, and make a faithful and correct statement of the finances at each session thereof.

Sec. 6. The other officers shall perform such duties as usually appertain to their respective offices under the general direction of the presiding officer.

ARTICLE 3. Sec. 1. The Grand Encampment shall have power to establish such by-laws and rules for their own government as it shall deem necessary; make general provision for the punishment of offences against the laws of the Order; try all appeals from the decision of subordinate Regiments, and establish such constitutions for subordinate Regiments under its jurisdiction, as their welfare and good government may require: Provided, That the same be in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the Grand Encampment.

Sec. 2. The Grand Encampment shall have power to levy a tax upon the subordinate Regiments to defray the ordinary and proper expenses of the Grand Encampment, by requiring of each subordinate Regiment that they have two of our printed books of Ritual and Constitution, to be furnished at one dollar per copy and a charter at fifty cents per copy, and if the above tax is found insufficient to meet the ordinary expenses of the Grand Encampment, they may require of subordinate Regiments such other taxes as will meet the actual expenses incurred.

Sec. 3. The Grand Encampment shall have power to establish term passwords, to be communicated by the Grand General to the Colonel of each Regiment.

Sec. 4. The Grand Encampment shall make all nominations for Territorial officers, at large, and immediately after such nominations shall have been made, the Grand General shall communicate the result to every Regiment in the Territory.

ARTICLE 4. Provisions for charters for subordinate Regiments must be signed by at least five members of the Order, addressed to the Grand General, and have the accompanying fee of two dollars and fifty cents enclosed, which will entitle them to the charter, book of rituals, Constitutions, &c.

ARTICLE 5. Five members shall constitute a quorum for doing business.

ARTICLE 6. Any proposed alteration of or amendment to this Constitution, shall be submitted to the Grand Encampment at least one meeting before being acted upon, when if two-thirds of the members present at said regular meeting vote for it, it shall be adopted.

Officers of Grand Encampment:  
GRAND GENERAL—REV. G. W. HUTCHINSON, Lawrence, K. T.  
GRAND VICE GENERAL—C. K. HOLLIDAY, Topeka, K. T.  
GRAND QUARTER MASTER—J. K. GOODIN, Lawrence, K. T.  
GRAND PAY MASTER—CHAS. LEIB, M. D. Leavenworth City, K. T.

Constitution of Subordinate Encampments. We, whose names are annexed, do hereby pledge ourselves to be governed by the following Constitution:

ARTICLE 1. This Organization shall be known as Regiment No. — of the Kansas Legion.

ARTICLE 2. Sec. 1. Any person can become a member of this Legion who will pledge himself favorably to the freedom of Kansas, and is 18 years of age. Persons being received under 21 years of age must be vouched for by three members.

Sec. 2. The name of any person proposed for membership shall be vouched for by one or more members; when the candidate shall be voted for, and three negative votes shall be equivalent to a rejection: Provided, That no person shall be proposed for membership in any Regiment other than that located in any city, town or district, in which such person resides.

Sec. 3. Any member applying for an honorable discharge from his Regiment, shall upon vote of the members present at the time of such application, be entitled to a certificate, signed by the Colonel and countersigned by the Quarter-Master, upon the payment of 10 cents for such certificate, and any such member being desirous of becoming a member of another Regiment, shall present his certificate, being subject to the same vote as a new applicant.

Sec. 4. Members of the Order shall have the right of debate in other Regiments than their own. Their right to vote, however, shall be confined exclusively to the Regiment with which they are connected.

ARTICLE 3. Sec. 1. The officers of each subordinate Regiment shall consist of a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, Quarter-Master, Pay-Master, Aid, and two Sentinels, who shall be elected by ballot on the first meeting nights of January and July.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the Colonel to preside, enforce a due observance of the several constitutions, laws and regulations, and secure a proper respect for the Territorial Grand Encampment and its officers; see that all officers and members of companies perform their respective duties; appoint all officers and committees not otherwise provided for; give the casting vote when a tie may occur except in the election of officers; have special charge of the Constitution and Laws; draw on the Pay-Master for all demands on the Regiment; direct the Quarter-Master to call special meetings when necessary; and perform all other duties pertaining to the office.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the Lieutenant-Colonel to assist the Colonel in the performance of his duties; have special charge of the doors, and in the absence of the Colonel, preside.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the Quarter-Master to keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Regiment, with a roll of the members' names; notify members when ordered by the Colonel or a vote of the Regiment, and perform all other duties pertaining to the office.

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of the Pay-Master to receive all moneys of the Regiment; pay all demands when authorized by the Colonel; keep an accurate account of all moneys received and expended; exhibit to the Regiment on the last meeting of each quarter a statement of the funds, and at the end of six months give a correct written report of the receipts and disbursements of the term.

Sec. 6. It shall be the duty of the Aid to examine the members, at the opening of the Regiment, and report any who are incompetent to the Colonel, to assist at the initiation of persons and see that the brethren are made comfortable during the sittings of the Regiment.

Sec. 7. It shall be the duty of the Inside Sentinel to attend to the inside door, and report to the Lieutenant-Colonel the names and Regiments of the persons applying for admission, and admit such as the Lieutenant-Colonel may order; but to admit no one without the password, unless otherwise ordered by the Colonel after being vouched for by a member of the Regiment.

Sec. 8. It shall be the duty of the Outside Sentinel to attend to the outside door, and admit no person without the password except candidates and those he may know to be members of the order, or who are vouched for by a member of the Regiment.

ARTICLE 5. Sec. 1. All charges and offences preferred against a member shall be duly specified in writing, when they shall be referred to a special committee, who shall summon such member to appear before them to answer to the allegation set forth; and after a fair and impartial examination thereof, report their decision to the Regiment, which shall at once proceed to the consideration and disposal of the case.

Sec. 2. Any member who shall be proved guilty of violating any principle of the Order, offending against these articles or otherwise militating against the interests of the organization, shall be subject to reprimand, suspension or expulsion, as two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting may determine. When a member shall be expelled for revealing the secrets of the Order or militating against the interests of the future freedom of Kansas, his name shall be stricken from the roll and sent to all the Regiments in the Territory, as a man destitute of the principles of truth, honor and integrity.

Sec. 3. The Regiments located in each and every election district shall make nominations for all candidates for office in their respective districts; but where there shall be two or more Regiments in one election district, of whatever kind, then, nominations shall be made by delegates from the respective Encampments within said district; each Encampment being entitled to one delegate, and one additional delegate for each and every twenty members over and above their first twenty.—The Regiments shall make nominations for the Territorial officers at large, thro' their delegates and the Grand Encampment.

ARTICLE 6. A quorum for business in a Regiment shall consist of not less than five members.

ARTICLE 7. Any Regiment shall have power to establish such By-Laws and Rules as may be deemed expedient; Provided, They accord with the Grand Territorial Encampment, subject at all times to their approval or rejection.

ARTICLE 8. All moneys except herein provided shall be raised by vote and assessment of members belonging to Regiments.

ARTICLE 9. Sec. 1. Each Regiment shall meet at least twice per month, at such hour and place as shall be selected by the Regiment at the previous session.

Sec. 2. As soon as each and every Regiment shall number thirty members upon its muster roll it shall proceed forthwith to organize an efficient regular Military Company.

ARTICLE 10. Any proposed alteration of, or amendment to this Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Grand Encampment, at least one meeting previous to being acted upon.

Country. Aid, are the sentinels at their posts with closed doors?

Aid, They are!

Colonel, Aid, you will now review the Troops in the Regiment passwords.

Aid, (after examination.) I have examined them personally and find cash correct.

Colonel. I pronounce this Regiment arrayed and ready for service.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1st. Reading the minutes by the Quarter-Master. Proposals for New Recruits.

3d. Voting for same.

4th. Initiation of Recruits.

5th. Reports of Committees.

6th. Unfinished business appearing on the Minutes.

7th. Miscellaneous Business.

8th. Adjournment.

INITIATION. [The member proposing a friend for membership, shall announce him when in readiness; and at the proper time the Aid shall present him to the Colonel and thus address him:]

Worthy Colonel, the candidate proposed and requested for is now in readiness for enlistment in our Army.

Colonel, The Aid will present the candidate to the Quarter-Master.

[Thus addressing him—]

Aid, Quarter-Master, I am directed by our Colonel to present you this person who is desirous of enlisting in our ranks.

Q-Master.—Sir, you have doubtless been informed of the general design of the institution to which you now seek admission. Permit me, however, by authority, to state to you more fully those principles, that you may more clearly understand what you are to expect. You will be required, first, to take an obligation of secrecy, holding up your right hand and repeating after me; when I pronounce my name you pronounce yours.

OBLIGATION. I, ———, solemnly pledge my honor as a man, that I will never reveal, or cause to be revealed, in any manner, or to any person, the fact that I have been an applicant for admission to this institution, or anything which has, or may hereafter be communicated to me, or the names of the persons present—all this I promise.

Q-Master.—This institution is temporary and local in its character and nature. It is designed for the Territory of Kansas, and is to continue at least until the vote shall have settled the question as to whether Kansas shall be a FREE or SLAVE State. The requirements of this institution will not interfere with rights of conscience, or the duties you owe to yourselves, your families, your country, or your God. They will conflict with no law of the land. We seek, in a noble, honorable and just manner, to accomplish two things. First: To secure to Kansas the blessing and prosperity of being a Free State; and, second, to protect the ballot-box from the leprous touch of unprincipled men. Such are our principles. Do you still desire admission?

Candidate.—I do.

Q-Master.—You will then enroll your name in full upon this book, after which the Aid will conduct you to the Colonel for further instructions.

Aid.—Worthy Colonel, I am directed to present this person to you for instructions.

Colonel.—Sir, it is with joy we welcome you to this place, to these scenes and to this sacred alliance. We trust you will find in it that purity of purpose, and we will find in you such nobleness and truth, that this union may result in constantly increasing regard, confidence and love between us. This country is yours by adoption, and as belonging to you and your children, you feel a deep interest in its prosperity, its honor, and its destiny. We are here, where shall every noble man make his home, and where shall we have the forecast of its continuing touch, and knowing that strength lies in union—feeling that our country and our God demands of us in this emergency that we demand of ourselves should do his duty, we have banded ourselves together under solemn bonds, in order that we may know our own strength, possess an efficiency, and enjoy personal and civil protection, which as mere individuals we could not obtain. With these explanations upon our part, we shall ask of you, that you take with you an obligation, placing yourself in the same attitude as before.

OBLIGATION. I, ———, in the most solemn manner, here, in the presence of Heaven and these witnesses, bind myself that I will never reveal, nor cause to be revealed, either by word, look or sign, by writing, printing, engraving, painting, or in any manner whatsoever, anything pertaining to this institution, save to persons duly qualified to receive the same. I will never reveal the name of this organization, the place of meeting, the fact that any person is a member of the same, or even the existence of the organization, except to persons legally qualified to receive the same.

Should I at any time withdraw, or be suspended or expelled from this organization, I will keep this obligation to the end of my life. If any books, papers or moneys belonging to this organization be entrusted to my care or keeping, I will faithfully and completely deliver up the same to my successor in office, or any one legally authorized to receive them. I will never knowingly propose a person for membership in this Order, who is not, in favor of making KANSAS A FREE STATE, and whom I feel satisfied will exert his entire influence to bring about this result. I will support, maintain and abide by any honorable movement made by this organization to secure this great end, which will not conflict with the laws of the country and the Constitution of the United States. I will unflinchingly vote for and support the candidates nominated by this organization, in preference to any and all others.

"To all of this obligation I do most solemnly promise and affirm, binding myself under the penalty of being expelled from this organization, of having my name published to the several Territorial Encampments as a perjurer before Heaven and a traitor to my country—of passing through life scorned and reviled by man, frowned upon by devils, forsaken by angels, and abandoned by God."

Colonel, Gentlemen, you have enlisted in a noble Army—having in a glorious cause. For 33 years this soil has

been to us considered free. We live in Kansas. We love her hills, her prairie, her streams and her skies. We wish to build her up a noble State. Believing that Slavery makes ignorant men, ignorant States, for ourselves and our children, we desire such settlements as will ensure to us intelligent, law-abiding, policy, and educated people. We believe that Slavery spreads immorality and licentiousness through the community where it exists, and wish for ourselves, for our wives, and for our children, to live in a land where no class of people are by legal compulsion made the victims of the brutal passions of another class. We wish, and we expect to have here, a State where the right of opinion shall not be a speech shall not be a crime. In a word, if we make Kansas free, Education, Morality, Religion, Internal Peace, and Prosperity Success will be vastly increased among us. If treacherous or selfish men the duties devolving upon us, we bring deep disgrace and mortal anguish in our very midst, which will be more tormenting than the scorpions' sting.

There are signs by which members of this organization may know each other.—[Colonel will give them to Candidates]. There is also a Grip. There is a circulating Conversation and Signals of distress. There are Passwords which can communicate to you save the presiding officer, or upon his authority, you cannot communicate them to another save to the Aid upon your examination. These passwords are invariably given to a whisper.

Instructions on entering Regiments are these—at outer door—any alarm—here you will give the Sentinel the Password—at inner door 3 raps—here you give the Sentinal your name, No. of your Regiment, and explanation to the Password. Salute the presiding officer, both in your ingress and egress by placing right hand on breast and gently bowing.

CLOSING CEREMONY. Colonel.—Fellow Soldiers, I trust my review has been both pleasant and profitable to all. We met as friends, let us part as brothers, remembering that we seek no wrong to any, and our best union in battling for the right, most noble to make us better men, better neighbors and better citizens. We thank you for your kindness and attention and invite you all to be present at our next review to be held at ———, on ——— next, at ——— o'clock, P. M. Mr. Sentinels, you will open the doors that our Soldiers may retire pleasantly and in order.

The following preamble and resolutions were passed at the 1st session of the Grand Encampment held at Lawrence, Feb. 24, 1855.

Whereas, while we regard the Freedom of Kansas Territory as the highest of all political considerations which may now or hereafter engage our attention as a free and intelligent people, we at the same time regard it as impolitic and wrong to adopt any line of policy that may in any manner interfere with the domestic relations of our neighboring States or Territories—therefore,

Resolved, That we hold it to be just and proper in our relations with our sister States as a *suavissima* *sententia* *proferenda*, and most promotive of the good of the Territory, that laws protecting the migration of either Slave or Free negroes be enacted by our country General Assembly and eventually grafted in the constitution of the States.

Now that I have shown the foul, treasonable and murderous plottings of a party in which preachers of the Gospel stand pre-eminent—it is my duty to grow also to the world, in order to make my statements more perfect, the Grip, Signs and Passwords of this modern army, made up of the chivalrous sons of darkness. The first sign is as follows:

Left fist doubled and resting on left hand and right hand thrown across the small of the back.

Answer—Right thumb in vest arm-hole, left hand hanging carelessly down the side.

Grip—Thumb pressed hard on the middle joint of third finger in shaking hands.

CERTIFYING CONVERSATION.—Q.—Where have you been?  
Ans.—Not far off.  
Q.—What did you see?  
Ans.—I saw signs.  
P.—At outer door, "The 30th of March."  
This is all I know. I feel now that I have done my duty as a citizen. I now have some sleep and an easy conscience—blessings I have not enjoyed since I became identified with this secret society.

PAT. LAUGHLIN.  
Kansas Territory, Oct. 22, 1855.

The undersigned, having been acquainted with Mr. P. Laughlin ever since he became a resident of Kansas Territory, and now six months or upwards, take pleasure in saying that his denunciations have been those of a gentleman, and that they contain statements perfectly reliable in every respect.

JOHN W. FORMAN,  
JAMES LYNCH,  
JOHN A. VANARSDALE,  
WILLIAM SUBLETTE,  
D. MARSHALL JOHNSTON,  
JAMES F. FORMAN,  
A. P. FORMAN.  
Doniphan, K. T., Oct. 22, 1855.

There is a man in Vermont who seeds his geese on iron filings and galvanized steel pens from their wings.

Those who blow the coals of contention, may chance to have the sparks fall in their own faces.

If a gentleman were to enter into partnership with a blacksmith, would he be legally connected with forgery?

A Cincinnati editor being asked "what is the news," replied—"Sir, I see news at ten cents a week; don't let me in."

WHO WANTS TO MAKE A FORTUNE?—Any one who will come to Atchison and put up a good grain mill, can make a fortune in five years. There is plenty of corn and wheat in the country, and no mill. Don't let come at once!

Country. Aid, are the sentinels at their posts with closed doors?

Aid, They are!

Colonel, Aid, you will now review the Troops in the Regiment passwords.

Aid, (after examination.) I have examined them personally and find cash correct.

Colonel. I pronounce this Regiment arrayed and ready for service.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1st. Reading the minutes by the Quarter-Master. Proposals for New Recruits.

3d. Voting for same.

4th. Initiation of Recruits.

5th. Reports of Committees.

6th. Unfinished business appearing on the Minutes.

7th. Miscellaneous Business.

8th. Adjournment.

INITIATION. [The member proposing a friend for membership, shall announce him when in readiness; and at the proper time the Aid shall present him to the Colonel and thus address him:]

Worthy Colonel, the candidate proposed and requested for is now in readiness for enlistment in our Army.

Colonel, The Aid will present the candidate to the Quarter-Master.

[Thus addressing him—]

Aid, Quarter-Master, I am directed by our Colonel to present you this person who is desirous of enlisting in our ranks.

Q-Master.—Sir, you have doubtless been informed of the general design of the institution to which you now seek admission. Permit me, however, by authority, to state to you more fully those principles, that you may more clearly understand what you are to expect. You will be required, first, to take an obligation of secrecy, holding up your right hand and repeating after me; when I pronounce my name you pronounce yours.

OBLIGATION. I, ———, solemnly pledge my honor as a man, that I will never reveal, or cause to be revealed, in any manner, or to any person, the fact that I have been an applicant for admission to this institution, or anything which has, or may hereafter be communicated to me, or the names of the persons present—all this I promise.

Q-Master.—This institution is temporary and local in its character and nature. It is designed for the Territory of Kansas, and is to continue at least until the vote shall have settled the question as to whether Kansas shall be a FREE or SLAVE State. The requirements of this institution will not interfere with rights of conscience, or the duties you owe to yourselves, your families, your country, or your God. They will conflict with no law of the land. We seek, in a noble, honorable and just manner, to accomplish two things. First: To secure to Kansas the blessing and prosperity of being a Free State; and, second, to protect the ballot-box from the leprous touch of unprincipled men. Such are our principles. Do you still desire admission?

Candidate.—I do.

Q-Master.—You will then enroll your name in full upon this book, after which the Aid will conduct you to the Colonel for further instructions.

Aid.—Worthy Colonel, I am directed to present this person to you for instructions.

Colonel.—Sir, it is with joy we welcome you to this place, to these scenes and to this sacred alliance. We trust you will find in it that purity of purpose, and we will find in you such nobleness and truth, that this union may result in constantly increasing regard, confidence and love between us. This country is yours by adoption, and as belonging to you and your children, you feel a deep interest in its prosperity, its honor, and its destiny. We are here, where shall every noble man make his home, and where shall we have the forecast of its continuing touch, and knowing that strength lies in union—feeling that our country and our God demands of us in this emergency that we demand of ourselves should do his duty, we have banded ourselves together under solemn bonds, in order that we may know our own strength, possess an efficiency, and enjoy personal and civil protection, which as mere individuals we could not obtain. With these explanations upon our part, we shall ask of you, that you take with you an obligation, placing yourself in the same attitude as before.

OBLIGATION. I, ———, in the most solemn manner, here, in the presence of Heaven and these witnesses, bind myself that I will never reveal, nor cause to be revealed, either by word, look or sign, by writing, printing, engraving, painting, or in any manner whatsoever, anything pertaining to this institution, save to persons duly qualified to receive the same. I will never reveal the name of this organization, the place of meeting, the fact that any person is a member of the same, or even the existence of the organization, except to persons legally qualified to receive the same.

Should I at any time withdraw, or be suspended or expelled from this organization, I will keep this obligation to the end of my life. If any books, papers or moneys belonging to this organization be entrusted to my care or keeping, I will faithfully and completely deliver up the same to my successor in office, or any one legally authorized to receive them. I will never knowingly propose a person for membership in this Order, who is not, in favor of making KANSAS A FREE STATE, and whom I feel satisfied will exert his entire influence to bring about this