

The accounts which reach us of the war in Kansas are of a most exciting character. We condense from the mass the following items:

In the Indianapolis Journal we find some account of the arrest of Mr. Nute, as well as of the murder of Mr. Hopps, furnished by Mr. S. S. Houghton of that city, who left Leavenworth on the 13th ult., and who was captured in company with Mr. Nute. Mr. Houghton relates the particulars of the murder of Mr. Hopps, who was a brother-in-law of Mr. Nute, and formerly resided in Somerville, as follows:

"Mr. Hopps had been on a visit to Mr. Nute, and was returning to Leavenworth, when killed. His murderer was named Fugate. He, Fugate, went to the house of a gentleman named Wallace, on the Lawrence road, about two miles from Leavenworth, and stopped about an hour. He used most offensive and indecent language to the lady, who was alone at the time, and finally started off, swearing that he meant to kill and scalp a Free State man before dark. He went to the corner of a field fence, some distance from the house, and had been gone but a short time when Mrs. Wallace heard the report of his gun. She didn't know at that time what had occurred. In a few moments a teamster, driving one of the United States transportation wagons, came up and saw the body, which was recognized as that of Mr. Hopps, lying in the road. It had been scalped. The murderer had apparently attempted to rob his victim, as the watch was found with blood marks on it, lying on the ground by the body, but was scared off by the arrival of the teamster. The corpse was taken to Mr. Wallace's, and buried. The murderer went into Leavenworth, and flourished the scalp about the streets, boasting that he had killed an 'Abolitionist,' but nobody raised a finger to arrest him."

Mr. Nute, in his last letter from Lawrence, stated that he was about leaving that place in company with a small number of volunteers for the purpose of recovering the body of Mr. Hopps, together with his property, and it was while on this brotherly errand that he was arrested, on the 17th ult., by a party of men headed by a Mr. Emery, who is a United States mail agent. In company with Mr. Nute were some fifteen or twenty persons, among whom was Mrs. Hopps. We quote from the Journal:

"Mr. Houghton and the company with him, some fifteen persons, were captured by a band of ruffians under the command of Mr. Emery, a United States Mail Agent, or some other officer, the day after leaving Lawrence, (last Thursday) and were taken to Leavenworth. In the company were Mr. Nute, and the wife of the murdered Hopps, who were going to Leavenworth to ascertain the facts in regard to the murder, and to take possession of the deceased's goods in that place. When the company arrived at the place of the murder, the gallant ruffian captain refused to let the widow see the grave of her murdered husband; but sent her, with the other ladies of the company, and the men in whose charge they were traveling, into Leavenworth. The rest of the company were held prisoners, and taken to the ruffian camp. Among them was Dr. Avery, of Richmond, in this State, a gentleman of sixty years of age, who had possession of the papers of the murdered Henry Shombre, which he was bringing home. Mr. Houghton says that the Doctor happened to drop a little diary or memorandum book, in which some expressions offensive to the ruffians had been penned, and some of them picked it up. He was at once put under close guard, and stands a good chance to be hung, as some of the more outrageous of the band swore he should hang."

The ladies and the men with them were taken into Leavenworth, and forbidden to go out of the house. They were held in custody all day, and at night (Friday night last) were taken down to the river and put on board the steamer. As Mr. Nute, with Mrs. Hopps, stepped on the gangway plank to go on board, a ruffian, with a rifle loaded and cocked, ordered them to stay. Mr. Nute wanted to know why, but no answer was vouchsafed, and he and the lady, under strict guard, were taken back prisoners into the town. As Mr. Nute was quite prominent as a Free Kansas advocate throughout the East not long ago, it is not at all improbable that he will have to suffer either death or such a terrible lynching as was inflicted on Mr. Sellers.

While in Leavenworth, a German who had been captured with the Free State party, attempted to escape, but was seen by the guard and shot. He died almost instantly. This occurred while Mr. Houghton was in Leavenworth, and he knows the fact. Mr. Emery, the United States officer, said it was right, and "he would have killed the Dutchman himself if he had been in the guard's place."

In regard to the battle at Osawatimie, we have the following from the Glasgow, Mo., Times of Sept. 2. It says:

"We have just received, per steamer Wm. Campbell, an extra from the Weston Dispatch office, dated Independence, Sunday evening, containing important news from Kansas. The letters below were brought in by Mr. Shepherd, of Independence, a reliable man. He also reports a battle had been fought in the direction of Fort Scott, in which 13 Southern men were killed. No particulars.

Capt. Reid writes: I moved with 250 men on the Abolition fort and town of Osawatimie, the headquarters of old Brown, on night before last; marched 40 miles, and assaulted the town, without dismounting the men, about sunrise on yesterday. We had a brisk fight for an hour or more, and had five men wounded, none dangerously—Capt. Boyce, William Gordon, and three others. We killed about thirty of them, among the number, certain, a son of old Brown, and almost certain, old Brown himself; destroyed all their ammunition and provisions, and the boys would burn the town to the ground. I could not help it.

Mr. James Childs writes: Gen. Reid with two hundred and fifty men, had a fight at Osawatimie yesterday. We had five men wounded. Capt. Boyce, of Lexington, had his wrist broken; Frank Gordon, of Clay was shot in the shoulder; young Jackson, of Howard, was shot in the mouth—badly hurt; George Gordon, of Lafayette, was shot in the thigh; young Parker, of Lafayette, was shot in the leg. The Abolitionists made the attack. We killed twenty and burn the town.

On the same evening a large number made their appearance near camp. We expect to have a fight at Prairie City. We then march to Lawrence, where we will have the big fight. We need men and means. There are here now 1200 men, and about 800 opposite Lawrence, that will operate with us.

Brown was supposed to be killed at Osawatimie.

The St. Louis Democrat has a correspondent in Kansas who thus exculpates the Free State men:

"I have characterized the several battles, of which I have kept you fully advised, as being imprudent on the part of the Free State settlers; but when we consider the fact that the United States troops were appealed to to disband these gangs of 'young gentlemen' in vain, when we consider that not one of the murderers of Free State men heretofore have been brought to justice, but rather encouraged by patronage from Mr. Pierce, and by being enrolled as United States officials, we are led to look upon the uprising of the people as perfectly natural, if not perfectly right. In judging of these things, people should lay the case in question in its true position; divesting themselves of all prejudice, they should ask themselves, 'What if these murders had occurred in our own State, and the authorities had refused to bring the murderers to justice—what would we have done?'

Civil war exists—there is no denying this—and civil war would be the result anywhere in the United States where the people of one State undertook to control the actions of the people of another State.—Civil war has been existing in Kansas ever since the 30th of March, 1855, and will continue to exist till the State Government of Missouri or the General Government at Washington shall take measures to prevent filibustering expeditions—in short, till the actual settlers shall be allowed to cultivate peaceably their soil and their political opinions, and so decide peaceably the character of both at the ballot box."