

KANSAS AFFAIRS.

The War in Kansas.

Yesterday morning at 9 o'clock we received the following despatch from Boonville, from a source entirely reliable:

Boonville, May 24.—Lawrence city destroyed on Wednesday last. The hotel, printing office and press all destroyed. Particulars by the Morning Star. But few lives lost.

It is now 9 o'clock, P. M., and the boat has not yet arrived from the Missouri; but a friend at Boonville, to whom we telegraphed for further particulars, sent us the following:

"The number of killed at Lawrence is unknown. The Free State Hotel and printing office of the Herald of Freedom were fired, which connected with other buildings. When the messenger left Lawrence the artillery were still firing, and the fire still spreading. This is the testimony of Hutchinson and Redcalf, (Redpath) Free State men.

It is elsewhere stated upon the authority of Black Republican correspondents for Black Republican papers, that Lawrence was almost evacuated last Monday, and it seems quite improbable that any person was killed in this affair on the following Wednesday.

We have the following, in the shape of an extra, from the office of the Lexington Express:

Lawrence Destroyed.

Lexington, Mo., May 22, 1856, 6 o'clock, evening—We are indebted to the officers of the Morning Star, down this evening from Leavenworth, for the following important news:

Lawrence city was destroyed on Wednesday. The United States marshal, with 500 to 700 men, marched into Lawrence and made the arrest of all he had writs for. The marshal then turned the command over to Sheriff Jones, who had arrests to make, when the people of Lawrence resisted Sheriff Jones and fired on his men, when Jones opened his artillery on the Free State Hotel. The men then charged and set the hotel on fire, destroyed the printing press and set fire to the office, which was in the middle of the building. About 200 were in Lawrence. When the messenger left Lawrence, the artillery was still firing, and the fire still spreading. But few lives lost.

The above is entirely testimony of Hutchinson and Radcliffe, Free State men.

To the politeness of Captain Eastin, editor of the Kansas Herald, we are obliged for the following corroborative statement:

Lawrence was destroyed on Wednesday evening. The artillery opened on the Free State Hotel. The men then charged upon the town, set fire to the hotels, destroyed the printing presses, and set fire to the offices, which were in the midst of the buildings.—But two hundred men were in Lawrence. Jones headed our command. When the messenger left Lawrence, the artillery was firing, and the fire spreading. But few lives were lost.

L. J. EASTIN.

From a passenger on the Morning Star, Mr. Dorris, of Weston, we learn it was the intention of Jones to proceed from Lawrence to Topeka, which would also be destroyed.

As far as we can learn the abolitionists failed in their courage, and made but little resistance.

[Correspondence of the Missouri Democrat—Free Soil.]
Destruction of the Printing Press and the Hotel and probably the whole Town of Lawrence in Ashes.

Leavenworth, Kansas, May 22.—On Wednesday, May 21, the posse that had assembled at Leecompton, in accordance with the United States Marshal's proclamation, made their appearance on the heights that overlook the town of Lawrence, about sunrise.

The first company were mounted on horses, and numbered from 87 to 100. They were reinforced, until the whole amounted to about 400. They took possession of the roads leading to and from Lawrence, so that the citizens in town could not get any communication with those in the country, and even travellers that wished to pursue their journey, were prohibited from leaving. They marshaled their command in battle array, displaying flags at the same time of various kinds and colors. One, I noticed in particular, was red and white with a lone star on the corner; others black and white, green and white, and most all colors and kinds except the national flag of star and stripes.

During the forenoon the Committee of Public Safety, appointed by the citizens of Lawrence, addressed a note to the Marshal, assuring him that the citizens would make no resistance to the serving of any writ, and at the same time, as citizens of the United States and of the Territory of Kansas, asking of him protection of their lives and property; but he (United States Marshal) took no notice of the same. About 11 A. M., the Deputy Marshal, with a posse of nine or ten, made his appearance in the streets. They were unarmed, save small arms. The Deputy Marshal then summoned four of our citizens to assist in making arrests. They went with him and his posse, and made two arrests of our fellow-townsmen, G. W. Detzler and G. W. Smith. The posse then took dinner at the Free State Hotel.

After dinner the two prisoners were conveyed out of town, and Sheriff Jones made his appearance with a party of eighteen armed men. He did not attempt to make any arrest, but in an insulting manner demanded the arms, both private and public, and said that he would give them five minutes to accede to the demand. If they refused to comply, he would storm the town. The public arms were given up, and in half an hour after he made the demand, he and his whole posse, to the number of three hundred and upwards, were in the streets with two pieces of artillery, yelling like savages.

They commenced their work of destruction immediately by throwing two printing presses and type in the river. This being done they began to cannonade the hotel, and fire by platoons at the same time at the windows; in the meanwhile the women and children fleeing in every direction, the sheriff having refused any time to remove them or property to a place of safety, as he said they might have done it before had they wanted to do so. As I was leaving town there were several who wanted to know where they could find a place of safety, but I could afford them no consolation. I being mounted, succeeded in getting away after a long chase. I left the vicinity about 8 P. M. When I was fifteen miles distant, I could see the flames of what appeared to be a large fire in the direction of Lawrence, and have no doubt but that the town is in ashes, and many of its inhabitants butchered. J. C.