

Report on Kansas.

We take the following report from the St. Louis Republican, and recommend it to all who wish a condensed view of recent occurrences in Kansas:

RETURN OF THE COMMITTEE.

The mass meeting of the citizens of St. Louis, held a short time since, appointed a committee to visit Kansas Territory and inquire into the actual condition of things there. That committee met promptly, and deputed two of their number—Messrs. McLure and Lay—to undertake this service. They have done so, and have placed in our hands the following

REPORT.

Hon. John F. Darby, President of the Kansas Mass Meeting of St. Louis:

SIR: The undersigned, committee appointed to visit Kansas Territory, beg leave to report that, in conformity to the requirements of the resolutions of said meeting, they have visited the Territory of Kansas with a view to learn the true state of facts in relation to the present disturbed and distracted condition of that Territory.

We do not, sir, pretend to give a full and detailed statement of every particular violation of law and order in that ill-fated Territory, for the time expended in our inquiries did not afford us the means of so doing; but we believe that we have succeeded in collecting all the necessary facts in relation to all the most prominent occurrences and acts of hostility and violence committed against the citizens and society of Kansas.

During the early part of summer, peace and quiet prevailed generally through the Territory; pro-slavery men and free-soilers were living on neighborly terms with each other—differing with each other on the subject of slavery as other political topics.—This quiet was of short duration, however. All again became excitement upon the news being spread through the Territory that Colonel James H. Lane was marching an army of about one thousand men from the North eastern States into Kansas, for the purpose of controlling the political destinies of the Territory; and some time in the latter part of July or in the early part of the month of August last, said Lane, under the disguised name of Colonel Cook, with a regiment of armed men, (consisting of, as variously estimated, from six hundred to one thousand men,) entered the Territory on its northern boundary, after having marched in a body through the State of Iowa and Nebraska Territory, to the Kansas line, entered the latter in small detachments, and again united after having marched some distance into the Territory; about two hundred of his army are Canadians. Soon after this, and between the 1st and 12th of August, this army marched through the counties of Lykins, Franklin and Douglas, robbing the pro-slavery citizens of their horses, mules, provisions, and arms, and commanding them to leave the Territory, many of whom did so, with their families, in a most destitute condition; others sought protection by flying to other parts of the Territory and, uniting with other pro-slavery men, formed companies for the purpose of protecting themselves against the threatened assaults of Lane's party. In a very short time most of the abolition citizens of the Territory armed themselves and united with Lane's party, swelling his army to about fifteen hundred, (Lane says twenty-two hundred.) On the 12th of August, at about 11 o'clock at night, a company of Lane's men, numbering about two hundred and fifty, made an attack on the town of Franklin, where a small company of pro-slavery men (about fourteen in number) had collected and armed themselves for protection.

Lane's party commenced the attack by firing upon the house in which the pro-slavery men were. The fire was returned, and after a hot contest of some half hour or more, Lane's party retreated, leaving seven of his men killed and a much larger number wounded. They soon returned and set fire to the house and burned it, and took all its inmates prisoners. They then robbed the post office, and also the dwelling houses of the town—some six in number—of all their valuables, and returned to the town of Lawrence, at which place Lane had established his headquarters.

A settlement, known by the name of "the Georgia Colony," which was composed of a number of families from the State of Georgia, settling in the same neighborhood, with their farms adjoining each other, on the south side of Kansas river, was attacked on the 23d August by a company of abolitionists, commanded by — Brown, and all the houses of the colony were burned, and everything of value was destroyed or carried away by the victors. There were no women or children at the colony at the time of the attack; they had been removed for safety, and but few men were there at the time—six of whom were supposed to be killed.

On the — day of August, a company of Lane's men, about three hundred in number, marched to a settlement called "Treadwell's Settlement," in Douglas county, composed of several families from the South, settled near each other with their slaves, engaged in farming. When the attack was made they all took shelter in Treadwell's house. The house was soon besieged by the abolitionists. They then attempted to escape by flight, but many of them were killed and wounded. The houses were burned and all the property of value taken by Lane's party.

The next night a party of some two or three hundred of Lane's regiment attacked the dwelling house of H. T. Titus, in which some twelve or fifteen pro-slavery men had taken refuge, after having been driven from their own homes by the abolitionists.—Titus and the men in his house were armed, and resisted the assailants for some time, killing several of their men, and compelling them to retreat; but they soon renewed the assault by firing a cannon several times through the house, killing one man and severely wounding Mr. Titus and M. M. Holsey.—They then made preparation to set fire to the house, when Mr. Titus and the others in his house surrendered. After Titus' party were made prisoners, they commenced searching the house and premises for Mrs. Titus, and after spending some time in hunting for her, they informed of the prisoners where she was. They informed them that she was not there, but had been sent away for safety the day before. They accused the prisoners of lying; that they knew she was there, and swore they would find her, and continued their search, and ripped up the floor of the house, and searched under it for her. They then robbed the house and all the prisoners, and burned the house.

After all these outrages by Lane's party, the whole country was under the most intense excitement and alarm. Lane had established his headquarters at Lawrence, and daily sending out scouting and marauding parties to plunder and rob, and in a short time they had all the horses and mules in the interior of the Territory in their possession, and the pro-slavery men driven away, and many of them murdered. Lane was no longer in disguise; he now openly declared that Kansas should be a free State at all hazards, and that the pro-slavery men should all leave the territory.

The Governor of the territory, in consequence of these enormities, on the 25th August issued his proclamation declaring the territory in a state of open insurrection and rebellion, and calling upon all the law-abiding citizens and officers, civil and military, of the territory, to assist, by all means in their power, to put down the insurrection.

The whole country now became divided into two great parties, the free-soilers having before armed themselves and joined Lane's regiment, and the pro-slavery men imbedded themselves together for the purpose of resisting Lane and his party. Lane's party is a regular army, well fortified at Lawrence, and protected by six or eight pieces of artillery, and his men all well-armed with Sharpe's rifles and side-arms.

The pro-slavery party are in detached parties, and stationed in and about the river towns to protect them from Lane's attack—Lane having full control of nearly all the interior portions of the Territory.

On the 30th of August a battle was fought between a company of two hundred and fifty pro-slavery men, commanded by General Ried, and about two hundred abolitionists, commanded by Brown, at Ossawatimie. Thirty of Brown's party were killed and several wounded, and five of Ried's men wounded. The town was burned by Ried's men, after the battle was over. Gen. Ried tried to prevent the burning of the town, but some of his men were so much exasperated he could not control them.

On the 3d of September Lane sent two hundred mounted men from Lawrence to the town of Tecumseh, (the citizens of this town were not armed or expecting an attack;) they completely sacked the town. They had five wagons, which they filled from the provision and other stores of the town of great value. The stock of Mr. A. J. Vaughn, formerly of Liberty, Missouri, amounted to about \$5,000. The company returned to Lawrence with their booty.

On the 5th of September Lane, with about five hundred men, marched to the town of Leecompton, the capital of the Territory, and in line, and planted five cannon and one mortar in range of the town, and then demanded the surrender of the prisoners, Robinson, Brown, and others, who are under indictment for treason; at which time a company of United States troops (then stationed at Leecompton) marched out in protection of the town, and Lane's party retreated.

A company of about one hundred men of Lane's party marched from Lawrence to the town of Easton, about twelve miles from Fort Leavenworth, on the 8th day of September, (which was a week ago last Tuesday,) and robbed the citizens of the town of all their property, consisting of groceries, dry goods, clothing, horses, mules, and every thing of value that was in the town, even stripped some of the inhabitants of the clothes they had on, and immediately returned to Lawrence.

And the next night a company of about fifty men from Lawrence robbed the town of Osawkee, about thirty-five miles from Leavenworth, in the same manner as the town of Easton; and either the same company, or another of about the same number, murdered a pro-slavery man in his own house, and robbed the house, near Osawkee, the next morning. A company of men were being raised at Leavenworth city to go in pursuit of these marauders, but whether they succeeded in overtaking them we have not learned.

The people of Leavenworth City were thrown into a state of excitement about the 30th of August by the discovery of a plan of Lane's party to murder the citizens of that town and then sack and burn the town. This plan was discovered by some letters and other documents found in possession of some men from Lawrence, who had come into Leavenworth in disguise, and who were immediately arrested on suspicion. The plan was, that on a certain day a large company from Lawrence should attack the town, previous to which they would smug-

gle as many free-soilers as they could into the town, who were to be lodged and secreted by the free-soil citizens of the town and furnished with arms, and when the assault was commenced by invaders, and the pro-slavery men engaged against them, these secreted free-soilers were to leave their hiding-places in the city and attack the pro-slavery men in the rear, and thus defeat them.

When this plan was discovered, the citizens held a meeting and resolved to disarm all those free-soilers who had been implicated in the plan, twelve in all. Capt. Emory was appointed to carry out the resolution. He succeeded in disarming the first eleven without difficulty, but the twelfth one, a man by the name of Wm. Phillips, was prepared for fight, had his doors bolted, and several men in the house with him, all armed; and when Capt. Emory and his company came in front of the house, Phillips fired upon them from the window of the second floor, and killed one man; and then he, or some other man with him, fired again, wounding another man.—Capt. Emory then fired on Phillips and killed him, and wounded his brother. The others in the house were taken prisoners and sent away without injury. This Phillips was a lawyer and kind of land agent. He was tarred and feathered and rode on a rail about a year ago for crimes imputed to him. He is generally known to have been a regular reporter in relation to Kansas difficulties for the New York Tribune, the Chicago Tribune, and the Missouri Democrat. In consequence of all these outrages, and many other enormities of a more private character, or in which cases few persons were the sufferers, many worthy families have been turned out of their homes to seek shelter, food, and protection as best they might; and many of the citizens of the river towns in Kansas have contributed to the full extent of their means in rendering the needed assistance to them; and much more is necessary to be done, and beyond what the people of Kansas are able to do.—We do therefore recommend to the citizens of St. Louis to collect means and forward to Wm. H. Russell, of Leavenworth city, or to A. G. Boone, of Westport, or to such other persons as they may think proper.

It may be said by some that a repetition of these outrages, and consequent suffering proceeding from the same, will not again happen, as the new governor has taken measures to put an end to this kind of warfare. But we very much doubt so favorable a result, as we believe, from all the facts we have been able to collect, that Lane and his party came to Kansas under pay, and for the double purpose of making Kansas a free State and also to keep up the excitement on the subject of slavery till after the presidential election, and even if Lane's party be routed or disbanded by the United States troops, yet they will form into companies of marauding parties, for the purpose of harassing the pro-slavery citizens of Kansas until their object be accomplished.

Respectfully,

C. C. McLURE.

JOHN LAY.