

came to bring him to head quarters. He went with the officer and was conducted into the presence of Col. Stringfellow. Close by stood a pail of flour, some sugar, rice and other things. The Col. told him he must take these and cook them for the prisoners. He refused to do it. A rope was brought and threats were made that he would be hung if he persisted. He said they might try it if they liked, but he shouldn't do any such thing. Finding they could prevail nothing by commands or threats, they gave way to the resolution of their prisoner.

After five days of detention, without learning the cause or obtaining any hearing, tho' they asked that they might have their trial, if they were accused of any thing, they were moved with the rest of the camp into the neighborhood of Lawrence, the day before this place was sacked. The next morning Marshal Donalson stopped at the camp on his way from Lawrence, and proceeded to set the prisoners at liberty. In the course of the same day they learned that the Marshal left Lawrence as soon as he had made his arrests and dismissed his posse, and before the destruction of the printing presses and the Free State Hotel. Dr. Root and Mr. Mitchell told the Marshal they had been confined six days, and they wished to know the cause of their imprisonment before they were sent off.—The Marshal said he did not know—he did not even know they were in the camp. He sent for the Captain who had charge of them, but the Captain did not know. The Orderly Sergeant who arrested them was then summoned, the Ord'y Serg't. could not tell why they were arrested. They then said they wanted their mules restored. The mules were not to be found. The Marshal said he would give an order for the delivery of the mules and other property taken from them. He could do nothing more. They had been taken away without his orders, and he could not be responsible for the lawless acts of his men. Capt. Donalson, who became responsible for the weapons and letters, could find only one pistol. One had been lent, but the borrower had had it stolen from him. The Captain's carpet bag, which contained the rest, had been robbed of its contents. The pistol that had been loaned was paid for, and Capt. Donalson gave his note for the remainder.

The gentlemen then asked the marshal for a pass. They had been stopped without cause, and for aught they knew they might be again before they got into Lawrence. The marshal was very obliging and wrote one for each of them. The following is a copy of one:

May 21, 1856.  
Let the bearer, Win. Mitchell, pass unmolested.  
J. B. DONALSON, U. S. Marshal.

During this interval Mr. Mitchell had been elected Captain of the Prairie Guards, a military company composed of members of the Conn. Colony. On the return of Capt. Mitchell and Dr. Root, this company met and escorted them to the camp on the town site, when the following resolutions were read:

Whereas the violent proceedings of the U. S. Marshal, in command of a pro-slavery mob, have led to the capture and serious peril of Capt. Mitchell and Dr. Root, members of the Conn. Colony in Wabaunsee; and whereas, after a week's imprisonment, without cause, they were set at liberty without accusation and have come back safe through the merciful provision of our God—therefore

*Resolved*, That we, the Prairie Guards, give expression to our joy and gratitude for their safe deliverance.

*Resolved*, That we welcome Capt. Mitchell to the command of this company, and express our pleasure at coming under the authority of one whose wisdom and courage inspire universal confidence.

*Resolved*, That we invite Dr. Root to join the company he was instrumental in starting; and we congratulate ourselves on having in our ranks a gentleman whose bravery made it necessary for the U. S. Marshal to detain him through this extraordinary crisis.

M. C. WELCH,  
Clerk of the Company.

P. S.—Within a week past certain Connecticut papers have reached us containing statements copied from the Hartford Times, and credited to a gentleman of Hartford who set out with the Conn. Colony and turned back before reaching his journey's end. With regard to these we have only one word to say. The impressions are strangely at variance with those received by the rest of the party, and the account of the wish of the people to return strangely contrary to the fact. The people of Kansas wish not to bandy words with those who have left them. They ask their Eastern friends to give their confidence only to those they know to be worthy of credit.

The Conn. Colony are settled in Wabaunsee, a town on the south side of the Kansas river, and over 100 miles from its mouth. They are united as a Colony and have been ever since their first organization. Fifty-six of the original company still belong to it and of those who have withdrawn, only six have gone out of the territory.

The prairie of Northern Kansas is the rolling prairie, and in this vicinity bluffs and hills rise out of it. The country here is well watered. Creeks and smaller streams, fed all along by springs, are numerous. The prairie is not well timbered in the sense that Indiana is well timbered; neither is it flat and dismal and reeking with fever and ague as many portions of Indiana are. The banks of the Kansas and of these creeks are covered with trees. Besides this, an examination shows that many places now burned down every year will be converted into forests as soon as a stop is put to these fires. These rolling prairies, which look as if they were under high cultivation, the wooded creeks and ravines, and the bold bluffs, give a landscape of surpassing beauty. Nothing but the absence of towns and villages reminds us that we are not in the ancient abode of a civilized people.

M. C. W.

For the Courant.

The Prairie Guards of Wabaunsee, K. T., at their meeting, June 7th; voted to send to the Connecticut Courant, the following statement and resolutions for publication.

About a week before the sack of Lawrence, the Conn. Kansas Colony, passed the following vote.

WHEREAS Information has reached this Company to the effect that certain disturbances exist in the vicinity of Lawrence, growing out of existing differences between the pro-Slavery and Free-State Men; and whereas, if the reports we hear should prove true, some of the members of our Company, now in that region with their teams, may be involved in difficulty; therefore

*Resolved*, That we dispatch three of our number for the purpose of ascertaining the facts in the case, providing for the protection of our teams, if need be, and taking such further steps as they may judge best in the premises.

In accordance with this vote, Mr. Mitchell, Dr. Root, and Mr. Nesbitt, went down to Topeka, and the two first named, proceeded to Lawrence. Having done their business, they set out from Lawrence on the evening of the 16th of May. They had rode about seven miles when a party of men burst out of a cabin, cried to them to halt, and *in the same instant* fired. The balls whistled about the heads of the gentlemen, without producing any other effect than causing them to halt. The commanding officer of this party told them they must go down to the camp. They asked, by what authority he required this? The officer replied that he was acting under the authority of the U. S. Marshal. They said they would not go without more satisfactory evidence. The officer said they should have this if they would go down; and they concluded to go without further altercation. On reaching the camp they were delivered up to Capt. Donalson, a relative of the Marshal, who assured them he acted under the authority of the U. S. The Captain demanded their arms. They said they would not give them up without knowing who would be responsible for them. Capt. Donalson said he would be responsible and received the weapons. He then asked if they had any papers or memoranda of any description, except three letters which Mr. Mitchell had taken from the Lawrence P. O., for his friend Mr. Gould, and Mr. Gould's order for the same. Mr. Mitchell receiving the word of Capt. D., that he would be responsible for these also, delivered them up. Dr. Root and Mr. Mitchell were then put in a tent with a guard over them. In the morning they were had before Col. Stringfellow, and separately examined. The examination was close and vulgar, and overbearing. The inquisitors wanted to know the condition and purposes of the Conn. Colony, the number of rifles, and what we intended to do with them. They were told we had them to get game, and to *defend ourselves if molested*. One inquisitor, Col. Titus by name, asked the prisoners "if they would steal niggers." After the examination they were remanded to their tent, and treated well for the most part. One day, however, an order came for one of the gentlemen to go and cook for the prisoners in the camp. He sent back word that he would not go. Pretty soon an officer