

pet-toned voice commanding, gives us confidence, and is more cheering than all the soul-stirring music of uniformed regulars.

The afternoon before we were drawn up in line on Massachusetts street, about 400 being the force then in Lawrence. Gen. Lane, dismounting from his horse, gave the order, "Commissioned officers four paces to the front." He then spoke to them "Lane alone can speak." "To the commissioned officers." He described our present situation, the efforts of Missouri to invade our territory and to exterminate our settlers, which for the past few weeks has been most horribly verified. He said: "In order that our country may be triumphant, it is necessary that we have an organization. If we wish that organization sustained, we must obey orders. If there is any man among you who is willing to die for his home, for his family, for free Kansas, let him obey the order I am about to give. If there is any man among you who will not meet death rather than sacrifice once more to the killing miscreants who are in our midst, murdering our citizens, razing our families, destroying our property, let him stand fast! Commissioned officers to the front, two paces." The order was obeyed. The same was repeated to the men in the ranks, and the order given, "1st division to the front four paces, march!" Not a man remained in the rear. We took up our line of march for Leavenworth, within two miles of which the Wagona Riflemen were deployed in skirmishers, and marched ahead to prevent a surprise, in case any of the enemy should be secreted in the timber. As we marched on to the hill which overlooks Leavenworth, an intensely interesting sight presented itself. On the plain below us our scouts were skirmishing with the scouts of the mob. Three were firing upon each other, the fellows from the mob running towards the timber, and then charging out towards our men again, and firing. Our scouts afterwards told us that they probably had a company of men in the timber, and they contented themselves with driving them in from the open prairie. The scouts of the Wagona Riflemen were placed near the edge of the bush, at the southeast corner of the town, and the footmen drawn up in line of battle behind them, the position commanding the whole town. The cavalry was posted on the south and west sides, the scouts were skirmishing, and a U. S. soldier brought out a note to Gen. Lane and Capt. Walker, as follows:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Leavenworth, K. T., Sept. 5, '56.

To Gen. Lane and Capt. Walker:
Gentlemen:—Learning from a U. S. soldier that you only object is the release of certain prisoners held here, please let me know upon what terms you desire their release. Answer immediately in writing, by the bearer. Very respectfully,
DAN'L WOODSON, ACT'G. GOV. K. T.

The answer returned was as follows:—
"We demand the release of the prisoners in the hands of the militia." Respectfully, &c.

After the men were drawn up in line and the cannon placed, Mr. Chas. H. Branncom, of Lawrence, and Capt. Cline, of Leavenworth, were ordered to take a small white flag, and demand the unconditional release of all free State prisoners now in Leavenworth. Gen. Lane immediately released all the free State prisoners then in Leavenworth. Mr. Branncom has, at my request, handed me a written statement of his mission, from which I make a few extracts:—"I took a flag of truce, and we proceeded immediately to the headquarters of the enemy. Their forces were drawn up in battle array, near the capitol, which is in process of erection. They were using this unfinished building for a fort. I inquired who had command of the forces there assembled. Some persons standing near, said Gen. Richardson. I called for Gen. Richardson, who presently came forward, and I said to him, 'Do you have command of the forces here assembled?' He answered, 'Well, I do not know as I have.' An individual here stepped forward, and inquired of Gen. Richardson whether he still retained the command. The General answered, 'No, I suppose not, I resigned this morning.' This individual then said to me, 'I am in command of the forces here, and am ready to receive any proposition.' 'I am directed by Gen. Lane, commander of the free State forces of Kansas, to demand of you the unconditional and immediate release of all free State prisoners now in Leavenworth.' Gen. Lane shall replied, 'we wish to make with Gen. Lane, no compromise, only that he shall treat our prisoners as kindly and courteously as we treat his.' I said 'do I understand you to refuse to surrender the prisoners demanded?' He said, 'such is the understanding.' We were about to retire, when Gen. Marshall requested me to wait a few moments. 'Why did you?' After consultation with his friends, he said to me that the prisoners, which were demanded by Gen. Lane, were already released, and that provision had been made to obtain an escort of U. S. troops to attend them to Lawrence. He then said that he wished to make a demand on Gen. Lane for all the prisoners he had taken, and requested me to state the demand to him."

Mr. Branncom and Capt. Cline returned to the lines, accompanied by two of the enemy, bearing a flag of truce. They had some conversation with Gen. Lane, the purport of which I do not know. While they were conversing, an officer informed Gen. Lane that a company from the town were approaching the timber, and were apparently endeavoring to get a position in the timber, between us and the town. The General immediately ordered two companies from the right of the line to be deployed forward into the timber, with orders not to fire unless ordered to do so from him. The conversation, which, from the manner of Gen. Lane, had not been an agreeable one, ended here, and Mr. Branncom and Capt. Cline were ordered to escort them beyond the lines.

By this time the companies which had been drawn up in line, had been marched out of the way, so that the trees which intervened between us and the town (with the exception of an opening a few rods wide, where our cannon was planted) prevented us from seeing a large number of them. They had two cannon, one of them I could see, aimed directly at us, and the howitzer, of which I had charge, loaded with a shell, and the gun sighted to drop the article, at the word, directly into their fort, which we have since learned was stocked with men. Capt. Bickerton, who had charge of the "Herald of Freedom," so called from the bills used in it being made from the types of the ill-fated press, was about to do his best to cannon the position, towards us, when a small body of dragoons came into the town from the west, soon came out towards us. We knew that the cowardly miscreants had got a messenger to the U. S. troops, and that was an end of justice for that day. They came up the hill, the skirmishers in the timber being cautioned not to fire, and requested Gen. Lane and the staff, who met them, to wait for a short time until the arrival of Col. Cook, who was on his way with a body of troops. Of course the request was complied with. In a few moments Col. Cook rode in, from a southerly direction, and a conversation was held, our officer explained, &c. The Colonel pledged himself that every prisoner should be released, and sent to Lawrence the next day, and an escort of troops sent to protect them. With this pledge we were soon on our march homewards. It may not be understood that the prisoners held for this time were not, as those we demanded and obtained a few days before from Gen. Shannon, taken under the "law," but were taken and held by the mob, without any charge. Among them were Rev. Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Sutherland, a committee sent to see Gov. Woodson about the terms and met taken on the Leavenworth, and who were taken by the mob shortly before the arrival of Col. Cook, and the least remonstrance. The most of the prisoners were those captured on their way to Leavenworth, among whom were Dr. Avery, of Richmond, Indiana, and two Messrs. McFarland, from near Franklin. The prisoners were released at once, and told quite interesting stories about their capture, though they fear that Mr. Wilder, one of our most respected citizens, has shared the same of some of our men. Dr. Avery said that he had seen him, he and another man were being carried off around a field near Leavenworth, and that shortly after they disappeared from his sight he heard a single gun fired, and fears that he was shot at that time. He may yet be a prisoner in some of their camps. There is some little hope that he is alive, as the man in whose hands he was last seen, Mr. Emory, owner of the mill here, knew him, and that he had known him to be an inflexible man, and a perfect gentleman. Emory has, however, killed several good citizens of Leavenworth, and this is a poor prospect to lean upon. Dr. Avery said that if he had undertaken to make him believe that there were such a set of beings upon the face of the earth as the men he had met with, he could not have believed it; that he was a man of the most perfect gentleness, and that his friendliness. Some of them, he was glad to say, treated him well. As they were about to leave, some one snapped a gun at them; but the gun, happily, did not go off. He said a horse-thief would stand a much better chance in their hands than a preacher. All the prisoners said that the mob were exceedingly alarmed, and that in the night, while the prisoners were in camp, some of our men were placed of confinement, were of course overjoyed; rejoicing, however, "with trembling." Some of the mob had threatened to kill them, in case they were attacked; but in their fear, some of the leaders watched over them, lest any untoward accident happening to the prisoners should bring down the dire vengeance of Gen. Lane and his army of Free State men. On the other side of the river, Col. Harvey's force of 250 to 300 men, under Col. Harvey, had been stationed, to cut off their retreat if they attempted to make one. His force had deterred many of the mob from crossing the river. Col. Harvey's men had however taken only their blankets and provisions for a day, and before we arrived at Leavenworth had returned. The Missourians had evidently found that their force was not strong enough to meet the determination of the Government, without his officers, and desired that the militia were disbanded; but we have learned to believe different since that. The following letter, which was found hidden in the grass near Clark's house, as we approached for fear that his house would be destroyed, shows the state of the invading army on the day of our demonstration at Leavenworth.

Leavenworth, K. T., Sept. 5.

Judge Gibbs & Dyer—I write a few hasty lines this morning, to inform you that you may expect me in a few days. Our cause has completely deserted us. All the forces are disbanded and are being sent home. Atkinson & Co. have returned to Missouri. Richardson's men are going. One hundred and fifty men cannot be had at present. The country is left in a state of insurrection, and without protection from the enemy. No cause assigned by any party.
Yours truly,
W. C. WENSTR.

The letters of the officials to our leading men read very different at different times. The letter of Gov. Woodson, which was completely deserted us, was held prisoner by the mob, newly stating that he was not our friend, but just the opposite of the insulting reply to the citizens of Topeka; when they asked him for protection a few weeks since. His treatment of free

State men, grossly insulting at Leavenworth, when committees waited upon him asking for his interpolation, renders his obsequiousness when he is obliged to come to terms more contemptible. So, too, with all these menials. Woodson, who has been in the main in the position, and looks our people with insult, when he is placed in a position to realize the danger of such conduct, most humbly inquires what is the will of the free State men. Woodson, however, told Mr. Whitman yesterday, at Leavenworth, that the militia was not disbanded, and would not be until the matters were settled. Mr. Whitman, however, who was in the army, to Richardson, the General of the Missouri Kansas Militia, that if he came into Lawrence alone he would not be harmed. It was a very unwise promise; for in an excited throng of 600 or 800 men, among whom were men who had suffered personally from this same Richardson, it would not be long before his words would be taken as a challenge upon him. He, however, on Saturday afternoon, came into town, having an escort of U. S. troops. When it was learned who he was, there was quite an excitement, which was allayed, or rather kept in check, by some remarks from Gen. Lane that his business was that of peace. He promised Gen. Lane to use his influence to stop the incoming militia from Lawrence, to report to the home, and was escorted out of town by Gen. Lane and Col. Walker. But, see the perfidiousness of these men who are endeavoring to exterminate us; he has since boasted that he had entered Lawrence, and that all were afraid of him; and is now engaged with others in making preparations at Westport for an invasion of our territory, extending from the mouth of the river both east to Missouri, to assist in raising the forces. Meanwhile, in different parts of the Territory, the bloody work goes on. Homes are being burned and plundered; families are being driven from their homes. On the south side of the river, so active have been the free State men under Lane, Walker, Brown, and others, that the mob have been unable to send small forces still in the country, and the militia of the river the mob is sojourning the country, and terror prevails. Leavenworth is entirely in the hands of the mob. Some of her leading citizens who have thousands of dollars worth of property there are in Lawrence, some in other places. Every hour the tales of horror which have been so common to us as hardly to exceed the feelings which once moved us, come to us. Refugees seek protection here. The mob that crossed at Leavenworth, on their way back to Missouri, made a terrible pathway. Mr. E. R. Zimmerman, a member of the free State Legislature from Kickapoo, came in yesterday; he had walked 20 miles barefoot, having worn his boots off in travel. Eng. he was several days getting across the military road, so closely was it watched.

The road to Leavenworth is blockaded. Some Government teams who crossed there reported to Capt. Sackett, of the U. S. troops, that there were five dead bodies on the road. Capt. Sackett said that he was going to bury them; any of his men who were disposed could go and help him. Mr. Sackett will send you a statement of Mr. Golden, that I received from his own mouth, also some extracts from letters found near Clark's, &c. Yours,
THREEMOVELAN.

WASHINGTON, 1st March, '56.
To G. W. Clark:—Shannon is with you I hope before long, with full and ample power to move the last Abolitionist in the Territory. We think here Mr. Pierce came up to the scratch nobly. Your humble servant is charged with figuring in getting up the message. One thing is certain, Clark; if they attempt to fight Uncle Sam's boys, the ball is open, and civil war is inevitable. If so, you will see me in Kansas. You can command me here, say and all times. Yours truly,
J. W. WATFIELD.

Shannon's Letter to Gen. W. Clark, Esq., when about to leave for Washington.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Shannon Mission, K. T., Jan'y 4, '56.
I would be glad if you would write to your friends in Congress, and get them to post me up in what I may do for the Territory. Moreover, I desire to see and talk with the leading men in Leavenworth, in relation to matters in this Territory. I wish to post them up on the real state of things out here, and what the South must do the coming year, or lose all dominion in a few years in the affairs of the Republic. Write to me frequently at Washington City, to the care of Gen'l Whitfield, &c.

Yours, with great respect,
WILLIAM SHANNON.

Statement of J. W. H. Golden, formerly of Wayneboro', Green County, Pa.

I started from Leavenworth on Thursday morning, leaving on account of threats of the mob. I went to the Fort, and stayed there two nights. I left the Fort on Saturday morning, and went some 8 miles up river, to a place of safety. On Tuesday morning I was joined by two men from Leavenworth, who said on the mob were intending to kill in Leavenworth, and we all concluded to go to Lawrence. We started for Lawrence over the prairie, avoiding the crossings to avoid falling into the hands of pro-slavery men, until we came to the house of Tonganoxie, about 15 miles from Lawrence, at whose house we took supper. I inquired if there was any difficulty near his place in travelling. He told me there were no difficulties on the road between his house and Lawrence. After eating our supper we started for Lawrence, and proceeded but about half a mile when five Missourians, armed with revolvers and muskets, rode up and took us prisoners, we being unprepared. They asked us where we were going. To answer them we told them we were going to Leavenworth. They told us to go back with them to the next branch. We went back with them until we came to the Indian house we had just left. The sun was then about an hour high. Two of the party went off to find some more of their men, leaving the other three to guard us. The three sat supper, asking us to eat. We declined, and they sat supper. They all went to sleep, and we all concluded to go to Lawrence. We started for Lawrence over the prairie, avoiding the crossings to avoid falling into the hands of pro-slavery men, until we came to the house of Tonganoxie, about 15 miles from Lawrence, at whose house we took supper. I inquired if there was any difficulty near his place in travelling. He told me there were no difficulties on the road between his house and Lawrence. 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