

AFFAIRS IN KANSAS.

There seems to be no immediate hope of peace in Kansas. Accounts from that distracted territory are of a warlike nature, though very contradictory. At Washington Creek, Major Hoyt had been murdered by the ruffians, and this had so irritated the Free State men that they had attacked the camp of Buford's men at Franklin, and driven them from their quarters.

A messenger direct from Kansas, Mr. Morrow, states that as he was leaving, a large meeting was held in Kansas city (Missouri), at which the citizens agreed to raise a quota of 2000 men to overrun Kansas. At Lexington a like meeting was held. Mr. Morrow concludes;—

From all that I saw in Kansas Territory and on the Missouri river, I am fully satisfied that Missourians, Georgians and South Carolinians are about to invade the Territory, and destroy all free State men, and that civil war with all its attendant horrors, will prevail, unless the general government immediately interferes to prevent it.

The very latest despatches contradict the report that the town of Leocompton had been captured by the free State men under Gen. Lane and destroyed. On the contrary, at the date of our last advices, the U. S. troops and citizens were out in strong force, and determined to defend their property at all hazards.

Several companies of volunteers had, it is reported, also marched on the 19th to aid in its protection. The excitement all along the Missouri border is represented as intense.

Mr. Army, a special messenger from the Free State men in Kansas is now at the Capitol soliciting the President for assistance against their pro-slavery opponents.

The despatch received says;—

"We learn that the President was too much occupied to see the free State agent when he called at the White House on the subject, and he was turned over to Mr. Sidney Webster, the private secretary of the President, who informed him that it was his opinion that the free State men would have to take care of themselves—that the President was just now so much engaged that he could not attend to the matter. With this consolation, Mr. Army left his papers in the hands of the private secretary, and took his departure from the White House.

In his letter to the President, Mr. Army referred to reliable accounts which had been received by the "National Kansas Committee" located at Chicago, of extensive preparations in progress by citizens of Missouri and other States, to drive out of the territory of Kansas or murder all free State settlers; and then proceeds:—

"The committee are fully satisfied that unless the general government immediately interpose to prevent the incursions and outrages contemplated by armed bands of men from Missouri and other States, who are prepared to overrun the Territory, that a civil war will be the result, which will involve the whole North-west against the South.

It will be apparent to your Excellency that any military demonstration, such as is contemplated by citizens of Missouri and other States of the South, against the free citizens of the North-west, who have left their former homes to settle peaceably in Kansas, will justify those persons, and a so the States from whence they came, to resort to similar means in self-defence; and especially so if the Executive of the United States, or of the State of Missouri, should fall to adopt measures to prevent these unlawful acts.

As the free citizens of Kansas deprecate civil war, and have evinced their desire for peace by their submission to robberies and other outrages, they appeal to you to protect them; and in behalf of their committee, whose credentials I bear, as also in behalf of the National Kansas Committee, of which I have the honor to be a member, I solicit your immediate consideration of this important subject, and the interposition of your power and authority to prevent the impending civil war, and its attendant horrors.

Appended to the letter is an affidavit from Mr. Robert Morrow, who has just left the territory, testifying to the imminence of the danger. Mr. Morrow says:—

"The presence of the government troops, while it seemed to produce a check upon the designs of the pro-slavery men, served them with an opportunity to make more extensive preparations. Provisions and arms, both guns and cannon and ammunition have been secretly introduced into and stored in different parts of the Territory; bands of from 50 to 200 men each, from Missouri, are fortifying themselves in a continuous line through the settled portions of the Territory; in readiness for a simultaneous descent, by night, upon the scattered and defenceless free State people. Men from South Carolina and Georgia, commonly called Buford men, remained in Kansas, and erected fortifications, calling them colonies, in different parts of the Territory; the fortifications numbered some ten or twelve.—

There are three in Douglas county, two at Osawatomie, one of them commanded by Coleman, who murdered Dow; and the rest extend along the Missouri river. . . . The question as to the time of attack was the only point, and this was settled on to take place immediately after the adjournment of Congress. Fully satisfied that extreme danger impended over the free State men, they (the free State men) appealed to the military to afford them protection by the dispersion of these armed bands. This was refused in the case of a band of upwards of one hundred men, encamped about six miles from Lawrence, on Washington Creek. The river meanwhile was guarded at every point, and no free State men reached Kansas up the Missouri river, or through the State of Missouri.

Seeing this state of things, knowing that life or death hung upon the crisis, the free State men resolved to meet it like men: They could not wait; to do that would be to secure the success of the ruffians. They decided not to do it, for not only would their property be sacrificed, but their wives and children ruthlessly robbed and murdered. They concluded that the time had come, having been refused protection by the government troops, when they must defend themselves. Franklin was one of the dens of the ruffians. They occupied a block house in the town. This block house the free State men attacked, and carried on the night of the 12th August. The free State men took sixty stand of arms, one cannon, powder, and a large amount of stores. The most of the arms had been stolen from Lawrence, and were identified—there were a few U. S. muskets. The story of the St. Louis Republican and other newspapers in regard to the killing of the Postmaster and robbery of the mails, &c., is untrue—not a building, not a citizen, nor the property of any citizen was searched or disturbed.

Advices from Lawrence, announce that the camp of Col. Titus, near Leocompton, was attacked by the free State men on the 16th, and several prisoners were taken. In a conference, held afterwards, the invaders agreed to disperse their camps and restore six prisoners in exchange for those taken on the 16th.

Later advices received by way of St. Louis, however seem to contradict this report. It is also stated that Gov. Robinson, and the other free State prisoners are still in custody of the U. S. troops.

— We have been wondering, where Matthew