

### Attack on Col. Treadwell.

The following account of the attack made, some weeks ago, on Col. Treadwell by a band of Lane's marauders is given by the members of his company:

As a great many statements are in circulation in regard to the attack upon Col. Treadwell and his party, the undersigned deem it their duty, as they composed a part of his party, to make the following statement of facts:

About a month since we formed ourselves into a company for the purpose of settling in Kansas Territory: Our company numbered about twenty-five men, under the direction of Col. Treadwell as the head of the Colony—the members of the company were all Southern men—and went to the Territory for the purpose of settling there permanently. We first went to Hickory Point, intending to build a town, but finding that we could not get possession of an eligible town site, removed to Washington Creek, at and near Capt. Saunders farm, each one taking a claim, and making Capt. Saunders' our head quarters. Capt. Saunders resides near the centre of Douglas county. When we first stopped at Hickory Point, Capt. Anderson with a company of U. S. troops was stationed at that point, but the abolitionists made complaint against his company as being troublesome and had them removed to Wakarusa, so as to get them out of our way, and so that they could offer us no protection. We went down on to Washington Creek because we could get locations. We were warned by the Abolitionists that we must leave or they would kill us, and notified the neighbors that if they helped us they would murder them. For some time we heard of companies and spies of Abolitionists being out in the neighborhood. On Monday or Tuesday last we discovered companies of Abolitionists parading on the prairie, and on Thursday last they menaced us with three companies of about forty men each. On Friday morning at sunrise there was a company to the south and south-west, and one company to the north-east, between us and Capt. Anderson's company of U. S. troops, cutting us off from any communication with Leecompton or settlements in that direction. At about 11 o'clock this company retired from view and we felt like attacking the other company, although they were on horseback; and Capt. Treadwell had almost given his consent for an attack, but from the following reasons declined to do so: First because the company was well mounted, whilst we were on foot—they were armed with Sharpe's rifles and revolvers, whilst we had only three or four Sharpe's rifles and very few side arms, our arms being musketry. Second, our force which had been increased by persons who had fled from Franklin and some neighbors who were threatened, only amounted to forty-five men. Third, we were only supplied with about twenty rounds of ammunition. But the great and paramount reason with Capt. Treadwell was, that at the very moment they had a large reserve to cut us off in case we should engage the company then in sight, and it was evident that the display of one company was only made to draw us out; for about one o'clock we discovered their whole force marching from the direction of Leecompton, bringing with them several pieces of artillery—the column, as appeared to us, extending for a mile in length, marching ten abreast. As near as could be ascertained their force consisted of 325 horsemen and twelve wagons filled with soldiers. Our fortification was Capt. Saunders' log house—the logs were bullet proof, but the cracks between the logs were very wide—on the outside we had nailed fence rails over the cracks. We regarded it as unsafe to stay in the house in case we were attacked with cannon—the house was enclosed with a low rail fence, against which we had thrown sod dirt to break the force of the rifle balls, determining to entrench ourselves behind this slight breastwork, instead of making our defence in the house. We intended to fight them here, in case they brought no cannon, at all odds and all hazards, although we were badly situated for water, having no well, and the spring being at such a distance that they could easily cut us off from it. We could get no expresses through their lines, and were entirely cut off from communication with friends.—Taking these things into consideration we concluded, against our inclinations greatly to abandon the place and make if possible a safe escape. We think no sensible man can censure us for making the retreat we did, when the above facts are known, showing our critical situation.

We abandoned our place at 2 o'clock, each one endeavoring to take care of himself. Some of us were for fighting them even at so great odds, but we are satisfied that to have done so would only have resulted in the destruction of our whole party, and we sincerely and honestly believe that it was the part of wisdom and discretion to disband our company, and that we owe our lives to the determination of Col. Treadwell not to stand a fight. We tender

thanks for his uniform kindness to us during our residence with him, and whilst under his command in Kansas Territory, and that we have full confidence in his valor, wisdom and discretion, and that we regard him as a brave and worthy man.

P. COSGROVE, 1st Lieut.  
ROBT. Y. JONES, 2d Lieut.  
P. X. RICHARDSON, Surgeon.  
WM. F. BEARD, Orly Serg't.  
and members of Company.