

on Saturday night, and on the next day (Aug. 14) at 9 a. m. arrived at a place where was a saw-mill and improved claim belonging to a Free-State man, but now entirely deserted, where they rested. This was six miles from the Russian fort held by the "Kansas militia." After eating some roasted corn for breakfast they started, and at about 11 a. m. they got within range of the fort. They placed the piece of artillery in front, and were supported by Captain Cutter's company of infantry. The cavalry then rode to the right of the fort, and were immediately fired upon by the Russians. The battle then commenced. The Stubbs were placed in a ravine to the right of the fort, the cavalry (who had now dismounted) in a cornfield within Sharp's rifle shot. The battle raged, though not incessantly, for about five hours, and just as the artillery were taking their third position, a flag of truce appeared. The hostilities now ceased, but Col. Harvey told the flag-bearer that until the black flag which floated over the fort was taken down, he would listen to no propositions. The flag was immediately hauled down and destroyed by themselves, each protesting that he did not help raise it. An agreement was then entered into that they would retire and disband peaceably. There were three Free-State surgeons along, and some of these volunteered to dress their wounded. They had three killed and seven wounded. The Free-State men had five wounded. They (the Russians) numbered eighty men, armed with United States muskets, knives and revolvers.

At 6 p. m. the Free-State men marched back to the place where they had rested in the morning, and in the mean time had sent their surgeons to Lawrence with the wounded. They reached the mill where they intended to camp for the night. Col. Harvey had been invited to eat supper at the cabin of a settler a short distance from there, and after seeing that his men were as comfortable as circumstances would permit, he went there. About 10 p. m., the guard discovered a body of mounted men on the hill overlooking the camp. On being challenged, they stated that they were United States troops, Capt. Wood commanding. Capt. Wood rode down and inquired if this was Harvey's camp? He was answered affirmatively. He then inquired for Harvey. Some one said he was not there. He then ordered the Free-State men to fall into line. About fifteen did so. He then informed them that they might consider themselves prisoners. He was then asked upon what authority he acted. He replied, "By authority of the United States, and by order of Gov. Geary." He told them that they must lay down their arms also. Capt. Bickerton, of the Free-State Artillery, said that, of course, they would not resist the United States troops, and would lay down their arms, provided he (Wood) would be responsible for them. This was promised, and the prisoners were marched, without food, the same night in the direction of Leecompton, where they arrived the next morning (15th) at 8 o'clock. Here they were drawn up in line, and the Pro-Slavery men began to try to taunt them by calling them "Abolitionists," and other names, and crowing over their present condition. They were told that Lawrence had been "wiped out" last evening, and other things calculated to excite them to a quarrel. But they bore these insults calmly.

They were then marched to the camp of the soldiers, and although they called incessantly for food and though one man sunk down from exhaustion, no food was furnished them till 5 o'clock p. m. They were furnished with hard bread and bacon, and though this kind of fare was rough and unusual, yet it must have been sweet after a long march and (with the exception of some roasted corn) a fast of forty-eight hours.

An incident happened at Harvey's Camp which is, perhaps, worthy of record. Immediately after the arrest of Harvey's men, the Pro-Slavery guide who showed Capt. Wood where the Free-State camp was, rode off in the direction of the Pro-Slavery camp, intending, doubtless, to put the Russians on their guard. He was immediately followed by three dragoons, they supposing that he was a Free-State man who was trying to escape. They told him to halt three times. He refused to do so, and they fired. He turned in his saddle and returned the fire at the dragoons. They then fired once more and shot him through the heart. On bringing him to the light they found it was their guide. His body was taken to Leecompton, and to a feed-box behind one of the wagons.

While crossing the ferry at Leecompton on Monday morning, quite a number made their escape, so that when they were counted, there were 101 instead of 125. For shelter, the prisoners had only two small tents, which would shelter, if crowded, eight or ten persons. The balance had to take the prairie for a bed, and the heavy night dews for covering. Lieut. Earle speaks in high terms of the kindness of Lieut. Colburn of the United States army to himself and other prisoners.

On Thursday, (Sept. 18), sixteen other Free State prisoners were brought down from Topeka. On Friday, fifty of them were marched down to Leecompton to be examined before Judge Cato. They were lined around the Court-room, and the citizens were told to look at the prisoners and see if they could identify any of them. Several of the Russians who had promised Col. Harvey to go home, stepped forward and identified fifteen. The Judge remanded all of them back to prison till Monday, and said that there would be more witnesses against them then! Notice was accordingly sent around to that effect, so that Pro-Slavery men can have a chance to trump up charges against them. The fifteen identified are charged with murder, robbery, grand larceny, and all the other crimes in the calendar. Of course all the others will be identified.

On Friday night Mr. Earle, with three others, took advantage of the intense darkness, and rolled about a hundred yards, crawled about as many more, and, as that brought them outside the sentinels, they made tracks for home. "Tis said others have rolled out.

Pro-Slavery men, in the mean time, are swearing to the ownership of Free-State horses and rifles which they never owned. Indeed, upon application to Donaldson, they can sometimes be had without an oath, and thus Free-State men are being robbed, while they have no chance to rebut the oath, or prove that their property never was owned by its claimant. On being remonstrated with about this matter, Mr. Donaldson made this reply: "If you are released, you can apply to the Courts for redress." What consolation!

The murderer of David Buffum is still unarrested and unhung. It is very singular that he is not yet taken. Not a Pro-Slavery man has yet been arrested in the Territory, by order of Gov. Geary.

I have just heard from Leecompton. The Free-State men are in charge of Col. TITUS, whom Geary has enrolled as a captain of a company, under command of Gen. Smith. Of course, the Free-State men will be well taken care of by TITUS. Geary was down here to-day, I understand, trying to raise a company of volunteers to serve, like TITUS, under Gen. SMITH. I think the number (eighty-three) can be raised to-morrow. But they will never consent to be used to enforce the bogus laws, so that he cannot ensnare them in that way at least. The Free-State men were not examined to-day before Cato. They were remanded back again till to-morrow. They will be represented in Court by M. J. Parrott and H. Mills Moore, esqs.

I have refrained, thus far, from commenting to the disadvantage of Gov. Geary upon these facts, although these facts are made the premises from which, without a very intricate mode of reasoning, it is assumed that his influence is against the Free-State cause. True, he may be able to show the wisdom of his policy, and such wisdom may be self-evident to the Buchanan organs of the nation; yet he will probably find that there are other elements than Buchananism at work in the popular heart. I have no doubt at all that Gov. Geary means well, but when we remember that he is surrounded by the same batch of Territorial officers which surrounded Shannon—when we remember that these men will offer their counsel and wield more or less influence upon him—when we remember that these men, from Woodson down to Cramer, hate with malignant hatred anything which looks like Freedom—when we remember that he was appointed by a puerile and wicked Administration, and instructed by the head of a bloodthirsty Department—when we remember all these things, and many more as strongly to the point as these, we are fearful that the design of the President is to crush out Freedom, and that even the individuality of John W. Geary may be submerged, and perhaps lost, as Shannon's was, in this grand effort.

FOTTLER.

## THE BATTLE BETWEEN COL. HARVEY AND THE FREE-STATE RUSSIAN PRISONERS.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune.

LAWRENCE, K. T., Sept. 22, 1855.

I have been waiting for some days to unriddle, if possible, the mystery which hangs around the position of Gov. Geary in relation to the Bogus Laws. To me that position is still a mystery, and I therefore propose to tell you what the people here think about it, judging him solely by his acts since he came into the Territory. Some of these acts were duly mentioned in my last letter, and the state of the case will more fully appear by the following statement of facts, made to me by Lieut. George Earle of the Lawrence "Stubbs," who was made prisoner by order of Gov. Geary.

I need not restate the circumstances which led Col. Harvey to start to Lane's assistance with a force of over 100 men. It appears now that the people here sent a dispatch to Geary stating the case, and recounting some of the outrages which that body of Russians were every day perpetrating upon Free-State men, and asking him whether it would be right to go to their assistance? To this Gov. Geary replied by a messenger, who never reached Lawrence, that they must not go. No messenger reaching Lawrence, Col. Harvey marched