

had got here some time ago. In fact, it has been coming, or, like Funch's daughter, "coming to come" for some time; and amid such uncertainty, we are happy to have such positive assurance of its advent to Independence, even if it should have been forced upon them. It seems they have got something worse than Free Soil or Abolition thralldom in Independence, which I am inclined to believe. The sentence beginning, "Already the insulting threat has been made," is a masterpiece of ambiguity, which I recommend to President Pierce. Whether the curse alluded to means the "thralldom," or the "Black Mail," or the "Free Niggerism," is uncertain. I apprehend that the parties about to be "route'd" (the orthography of their "route" is singularly happy and comprehensive) are the Simon-pure Border Ruffians, who have borne the burden and heat of the day in Kansas and elsewhere. That any self-righteous man, with a beam in his eye, should have dared to call their gallant masculinity in question, is certainly not to be borne, and that forbearance, long and patiently endured, should cease to be a virtue, is not to be wondered at.

As the meeting in question was to be on the night of the 17th I had hoped to hear from it before the mail (the Black Mail, I suppose) went out, for, however stupid, these documents are generally the prelude to some grand piece of devilment; but up to the present writing I have no notices as to the resolves executed. If they are going to fight among themselves about Independence, I hope they will have a good time, for if there are any good men there, they ought to have shown their hands long ago.

I have just heard of another instance showing that "forbearance, long and patiently borne, has ceased to be a virtue." Col. Titus, the Florida worthy who keeps company with Gov. Shannon, distinguished himself yesterday by burning down a house, and taking possession of a claim. The whole affair was managed in the most gallant and chivalrous style. The claim belonged to a young man of Free-State principles; was a very good one, and only a short distance, a mile and a half, from Leecompton. The young man's name was Smith, and as he objected to the proceeding, the gallant Colonel, with his two assistants, administered a persuasive hearing to mediate resignation. The unfortunate youth was so short-sighted as to appeal to Shannon. I have not heard that Executive interference or protest has been made, and do not expect to hear of any.

Whether in contempt of the passage of the Fugitive bill, or because they are after further mischief, some very large parties of the Southern braves have recently come into the Territory. In my last I mentioned that a camp of 240 of them were down some ten miles below Osawattamie on Middle Creek, their camp being a regular military operation. Beside these there is a party of eighty that have gone up on the Big Blue, forty miles above Fort Riley, and camped. Both of these parties pretend that they are going to locate towns; but they are armies regularly encamped to a definite intent and purpose, and as they have done some mischief already, and will, of course, do more, you may look for further incidents shortly. There is a pretty decided determination to give them "bits" the moment they make it perfectly justifiable by carrying on their outrages.

The Missouri River is still closely guarded by large armed bodies and artillery. A few single parties, who are discreet, and keep as close as an oyster, and are inclined to take what the gods send, get through; but all emigration is watched, and even single emigrants, known to be Free-State rather than bound for Kansas are apt to be sent back. Parties have gone up from Atchison, Kickapoo, Weston, and Platte City, to stop the Northern emigration through Iowa. They may find it a tough job, and may, haply, catch a Tartar.

Last night an expedition of some twenty-five of the boys went to the house of a Pro Slavery man named Hays. Some sharp's rifles, taken at the sack of Lawrence, were known to have been there, and a young Free-State man was stopped, his horse and arms taken from him three or four days ago. It seems that they received intelligence of the expedition, for the young man's horse and the sharp's rifles had been sent away. Fifteen of the Mississippi rifles and bayonets were found, however, and as they had no business to be there, were taken. A party of Southerners had been there a few days ago, and fighting had been expected, but the Southerners had left, and there were only some half a dozen there.

Two of the young men who were disarmed by Col. Sumner succeeded in getting back three of the guns taken, their own private property. Col. Sumner was very reluctant, and expressed himself of the opinion that the "war was not over." However, as the young men talked of leaving the Territory, he gave them up the guns they claimed; one of them a globe-sight sharp's rifle, owned by J. E. Cook, formerly of New-York. Cook was the leader of one of those companies, some weeks ago recalled and broken up.

Capt. Wood, of the army, sent two soldiers after Cook and his companion and under pretence that Col. Sumner wanted to see them, decoyed them to his, Capt. Wood's quarters, where he took occasion to abuse them, and when Mr. Cook replied, ordered him to be silent, in the most violent tone, and said if he spoke a word he would order him fifty lashes. Capt. Wood has acted in an unworthy manner in a great variety of instances.

#### KANSAS CLOSED AGAINST FREE-STATE IMMIGRANTS.

Correspondence of The Alton (Illinois) Courier.

LAWRENCE, K. T., Thursday, July 10, 1856.  
Missouri has shut the doors of Kansas against the citizens of Illinois, and indeed, against all settlers from Free States. The pretense to search for arms is made to screen piracy and highway robbery, and the Free-State immigrants, on their behalf, working on "Squatter Sovereignty," are shut out from the public heart. The right to bear arms is a great constitutional right, in Kansas it is also a great necessity. These thieves and murderers who pass over in armed bands to molest us, say we must be disarmed, and that Free-State settlers are not to enter the Territory.

The following is the statement of one of the members of a party recently stopped while coming to Kansas:

#### STATEMENT OF JAMES B. BALDWIN.

The undersigned started in company with eight families from McLean County, Ill., for Kansas, on the 22d of last May. They proceeded on their journey unimpeded, until within four miles of Platte City. While traveling on the State road there, on Tuesday, the 21st of June, the company was met by a large band of armed men, at least 150, who had guns and bayonets—United States arms. These men stopped the emigrants, and asked them where they were from and whether going. I said they were from Illinois and were going to Kansas. On this the captain of the company said: "I suppose you've heard 'em tell that we don't allow any more to go through 'em into the Territory?" to which witness answered that he had not. "Yes," replied several voices, "We stop 'em." They then said they would have to search if there were any arms on board. One man from the subject, when they told him he had better be quiet, and one man crew a revolver and told him he "had better shut up." They then searched the wagons, rummaging every box and every corner, and threats and insults. After ransacking all the wagons once, they returned and searched them all a second time. Several articles disappeared in this process. One man says they took \$150 in gold from him. The wife of Mr. Draper had put \$1,500 in a curn and covered it with salt, and they did not find it. They professed to be searching for arms. They found a gun in front of the man who were with the emigrant train—there were mostly Western rifles and shot guns, being the guns they had when they lived in Illinois. All of these were taken. They then told the emigrants that they could not be permitted to go on, that they must get out of Kansas. Several men in the company who attacked them, and who appeared to be more decent, wished the emigrants to get back their guns, as they were to be sent home to Illinois. Several speeches were made on it, when a vote was taken, and the large majority voted that they should have the guns. The leaders of the company, and influential men, were opposed to this, and so evaded it, and the others yielded, when they determined the matter. Receipts were given for the guns as follows:

Received of \_\_\_\_\_, one long Western rifle, has been used, (these marks described) to be deposited with the \_\_\_\_\_ of Platte County, to be delivered at the end of the war.

These receipts were signed by two of the men, whom the others said were good, responsible men. During all this time men continued to arrive, and nearly two-thirds of all that came were armed with United States muskets and bayonets: all were well armed. Nearly five hundred got to the point of stoppage before three hours. Emigrants were told that they would be guarded back till they got out of the State. Some of the emigrants asked these men if they could not be allowed to stay there with their teams until the difficulties were settled, so that they could go over

## KANSAS.

From Our Special Correspondent.

LAWRENCE, K. T., July 19, 1856.

I have just received a copy of the following pronouncements. It had been posted up for a day or two in and about Independence and Westport. As I wish to preserve the specimen of poster typoglyphy brought to me, I attempt a pen etching fac simile:

"CITIZENS OF JACKSON COUNTY!—As one man in your might arise and say if Free Niggerism shall be any longer backed up to exclusive patronage and the formation of a weekly Black Mail from Independence to Lawrence, via Leavenworth City. The crisis has at last been forced upon us to purge our city and county of the diabolical entangle us with worse than Free-Soil and Abolition thralldom, and let the 'beam' be removed from among us ere we attempt to remove the 'mote' from Kansas. Already the insulting threat has been made to 'route' from our county those who have lately endeavored to remedy this evil and cure in our midst. It is now for you to determine how long the 'things shall last. Remember, too, that forbearance long and patiently exercised has ceased to be a virtue. Meet, therefore, en masse, at the Court-house in Independence, on THURSDAY EVENING, the 17th inst., and execute your resolves to the letter."  
"July 14, 1856. REGULATOR."

It must be confessed that the precise drift of this warlike document is wrapped in obscurity. The reader may guess what "Black Mail" means. "Black Mail Line" is, I confess, not quite so clear, and "Black Mail Line from Independence to Lawrence, via Leavenworth City," is as incomprehensible as "Free Niggerism" being "backed up to exclusive patronage" therabouts. I apprehend that "Regulators," big with a magnificent idea, in the effort "as one man in their might to arise," have not been very happy in its expression. There is one peculiarly refreshing point. It is scriptural, too, and if well carried out would be a good thing. I mean, to "let the beam be removed from among us, ere we attempt to remove the 'mote' from Kansas." The idea is indeed excellent, although I scarcely looked for it from such a source.

We also learn that the crisis has been forced upon them at Independence. I thought the crisis

into the Territory. They replied that they could not unless they would agree to settle permanently. If they would proceed thenceforward to stay in Platte County, and would buy farms, and conform to the regulations of the country, they could stay, in which case "they would be taken care of." Not valuing the privilege lightly, they declined. A guard of eight mounted and armed men escorted them back to Liberty, where they were received up to the leading men in the place, Judge Thompson being an active participant in this hospitable reception. They were here permitted to go out to the back of town where they could water their teams and find grass for them. That afternoon the good folks about Liberty came out to them and told them that they were at Liberty; that they could go where they pleased, provided that they did not go into the Territory; but would go back to Illinois. The truth was, they did not like the trouble and expense of escorting them clear across the State. Hoping to be able to make their escape, they stayed where they were for two days, when some men came out of Liberty, and assuring them they were their friends, advised them to start back for Illinois immediately; for if any thing happened or devilment was done, they would be held responsible for it, and would be sure to get into trouble. The emigrants took up their line of march, and travelled some ten miles back into Missouri. Here they raised houses and are at present staying.

JOHN B. BALOWIN.