

BRUTALITY OF COL. TITUS

We learn from a reliable source that Col. Titus—Mr. Shannon's right-hand man, and the same one of \$500 for the head of Capt. Walker, a few days ago attempted to take possession of a claim belonging to Free State man by the name of Smith, who resides near Leconpton, and was one of the first settlers. Titus took advantage of Smith's absence, went to his claim, tore down the house, and erected a shanty of new. On Smith's returning and finding his house demolished he rallied a few of his neighbors and re-erected it. He had not much more than got it up, however, before Titus came along with a few of his men, and ordered him off; which order he chafed to be very hasty about obeying. Titus became impatient; and, seeing that he was much the stronger man, both in regard to bulk and gas, and also had plenty of his crew to back him, he concluded that he would be perfectly safe in attempting a visit. After pounding Smith to his heart's content, and having him helpless upon the ground, he ordered some of his men to go and set fire to his building. The man was rather reluctant about obeying so tyrannical an order, when Titus drew his revolver and threatened to shoot him unless he obeyed. He accordingly went to the building, which was burned to the ground. Shannon's attention was immediately called to these acts by Smith's friends; he promised them that he would attend to it, and he did so, the day following, by sending on a company of U. S. dragoons, to defend him in his assumed right to the claim and improvements.

Despicable as this last act of the appointee of President Pierce may seem to some, it is strictly in accordance with his previous course, and with the aim of this great Democratic Administration. Every effort that has been taken by the Administration and its supporters in regard to Kansas, has had but one aim—to drive out or exterminate every Free-State settler.

They find that all their threats—the destruction of a large amount of our property by fire and ball, the imprisonment of some of our prominent citizens in jail, and even in irons, and the cold-blooded murder of others, have failed to intimidate us, and now they propose to resort to the last expedient, that of driving us from their homes because they dare to differ from them in sentiment, and yet we are told that the law has not yet come to act. We would like to know how it will come. Will it be when a company of United States Dragoons are stationed on every claim to protect some bold like Titus who wishes to enjoy the fruits of an honest man's toil? or will it be when we are all tied hand and foot and confined under a gun of United States troops, or hung to the nearest gallows?