

FROM KANSAS!

Letter from Col. Titus to the Gov.!!

SIXTEEN PERSONS ON TRIAL FOR MURDER!!!

THEIR ACQUITTAL!

MORE IN JAIL!!

Escape of Prisoners!!!

COL. TITUS AND HIS MEN!!!

LECOMPTON, Kansas,)
Sunday, Nov. 30th, 1856. }

To the Editors of the Missouri Democrat; Fusion.

Judge Lecompte issued a writ of habeas corpus for the release of Hayes, the murderer of David Buffum, who was arrested by order of the Governor, and held by Col. Titus, as a prisoner. The following is a copy of a letter in relation to the affair, from Col. Titus to the Governor:

"LECOMPTON, Kansas Territory,)
Nov. 21, 1856. }

His Excellency, JOHN W. GEARY, Governor of Kansas:

Sir—I have the honor to state, that during your recent absence from this place, a writ of habeas corpus, issued by Chief Justice Lecompte, was served upon me, by which I was commanded to produce the body of Charles Hayes before him, with the cause of his detainer.

That in obedience to the writ, I caused the body of Hayes to be produced before Judge Lecompte, and returned as the cause of his detention, the finding by the Grand Jury of a true bill of indictment against him, for murder in the first degree, committed upon the person of David C. Buffum, together with your warrant commanding the re-arrest of said Hayes, and his detention until discharged by a jury of his country, according to law.

I have further to state that Judge Lecompte discharged said Hayes from my custody, notwithstanding my return, and that he is now at large.

I have the honor to remain, your most obedient servant,
H. T. TITUS."

The Governor declared, not long since, that Hayes should have a trial before he could be released from custody; he has had no trial, and is at large, notwithstanding the many threats of his Excellency. The Governor was not able to sustain himself in the interference with the actions of the judiciary, it was too great an assumption of power to be successful—the attempt to override and supersede the Chief Justice of the Territory.

But his promptness in denouncing the act of Lecompte, in releasing a murderer, and the energy manifested in having Hayes re-arrested, shows that he is at heart disposed to have justice done to all parties, and only lacks the power to execute his wishes, to have the laws administered impartially.

Day before yesterday, the trial of sixteen of the free State prisoners was concluded in Tecumseh before Judge Cato, Mr. Parrott, counsel for the defense, closing in a plea of marked ability. The Judge gave his charge to the jury; they retired, and after an absence of several hours, returned with a verdict of "not guilty." Five of the jury were free State, and seven pro-slavery men. The latter were at first determined on conviction of the defendants, the others were as resolute, and at last the pro-slavery men caved in and all agreed on a verdict.

THE ACQUITTAL.

The sixteen men were acquitted, released and proceeded on their way to the city of Lawrence.

PRISONERS IN JAIL.

Nine more are now in prison on the same charge, viz: "murder in the first degree," awaiting trial, which will probably commence tomorrow.

THE ESCAPE OF PRISONERS.

A few nights since ten of the prisoners in this city got their guard "a little elevated or inspired," and while in that state, they passed through a hole in the floor, and escaped, the guard unconscious of the fact. Not one has since been re-arrested by the Territorial authorities.

COL. TITUS AND HIS COMMAND.

The militia under command of Col. Titus, stationed here by the Governor to guard the free State prisoners, have petitioned his excellency to be disbanded, a request complied with, and the militia have gone to Fort Leavenworth to be mustered out of the service of the United States.

GOING TO NICARAGUA.

Titus, with several of his men are on the eve of starting for your city, where they remain until the 10th of next month, and then they take the shortest route to join Walker in Nicaragua. Their absence from Kansas is a blessing and their presence in Central America will be a curse.

"THE CONVICTS."

The young men convicted of manslaughter are now in this little "Virginia town," under the charge of Capt. Hampton, a generous and chivalric Kentuckian. They have good quarters, are well treated, and have the liberty of the town; they are allowed to go out and work for themselves. The captain will not think of putting a ball and chain upon them—his generous nature will not permit suffering if he can prevent it. He is a conservative pro-slavery man.

Yours,
Essex.

Gov. Geary's Militia Disbanded—The Walker and Geary Correspondence, &c.

LAWRENCE, Kansas, Dec. 2d, 1856.

To the Editors of the Missouri Democrat;

Day before yesterday an officer in the United States army was in this city, and mustered the militia, under command of Capt. Walker, out of the service. The same thing was done at Fort Leavenworth on the same day, with the companies under the command of Col. H. T. Titus.

The following is a copy of the correspondence between the Governor and Capt. Walker, in relation to the militia:

LAWRENCE, K. T., Nov. 19th, 1856.

His Excellency Gov. J. W. GEARY, Governor of Kansas Territory:

Sir: The undersigned members of a company, of Kansas Militia, mustered into the service of the United States, at Lawrence, Kansas Territory, in obedience to your call, would respectfully submit that when our services were required, the Territory was distracted with internal feuds, and threatened with invasion by those from abroad, who had no residence in the country then, since or prospectively.

We were ready to give assistance in staying the hand of violence, which had laid this country waste to some extent, depopulated it and made life insecure.

We trusted you were sincere in your professions to act justly towards the settlers, and we cheerfully left our ordinary occupations to aid, so far as we could, in restoring peace and quiet to this unfortunate territory.

We have watched your course since your arrival amongst us, as our Executive, with much anxiety, and although we have wished to see you do what you have not done, still we are sensible, and bear it in grateful remembrance, that by your activity and energy you have done much towards the restoration of that feeling of protection, that all who live under organized governments, have a right to expect.

We feel now that you have the power and will to protect the citizens of the country, and that we be permitted to return to our several occupations, with the assurance that should you require our assistance in the future, you may be sure that right and justice to all will always be the object of our best efforts, and if you should call for them, they will be given to you with unreserved zeal and fidelity. Respectfully,

[Signed] S. WALKER, Captain,
And other members of the company.

The Governor, a few days since, sent the following letter in reply to the above:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, K. T.,)
November 27th, 1856. }

CAPT. S. WALKER, Commanding Company Kansas Militia, mustered into the United States service at Lawrence.

Sir: The petition of yourself and command, desiring to be mustered out of service, because the purposes of your enlistment have been accomplished in the restoration of peace and order in the territory, has just been received.

I take pleasure in mentioning the petition for the reasons therein mentioned, and will have an officer detailed to muster you out of service one day this week.

You will please convey to your command my thanks for their kind expressions of regard, and assure them that I highly appreciate the service they have rendered by their example and soldier-like conduct to the cause of peace and order, and should I again have occasion for their services, I will unhesitatingly accept their generous offer, and rely upon their hearty and energetic co-operation.

Wishing you all a happy return to your respective homes and families, and to the most agreeable and congenial pursuits of peace, I remain, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN W. GEARY,
Governor of Kansas Territory.