

## Late Events in Kansas—Murder of Mr Buffum of Massachusetts.

The Boston Traveller has a letter from Lawrence, Kansas, dated the 16th, which gives a clear and connected account of recent events there:—

After Gen Lane surrounded Lecompton, as I informed you in my last, the Missourians assembled there as militia by acting Governor Woodson, disbanded to re-assemble on the 13th inst. Gov Geary came to Lawrence on the morning of that day, and after a long conference with the principal men in Lawrence, desired us to maintain our organization and if we were threatened to send to him and the federal force should protect us. He made a short speech to the assembled citizens, in which he promised to protect our lives and property as far as possible, and to use all the federal force at his disposal to drive out armed bands of marauders. That he should take for the basis of his actions the constitution and the organic law of the territory, and he hoped that our citizens would aid him in his endeavors to promote peace, establish harmony and restore prosperity to our distracted land. In regard to the obnoxious laws, his position was a difficult one, but he hoped if we could not obey, we would at least avoid all collision with them, and on his part he would not employ aught but the federal officers in his communication with our people.

Gov Geary is a fine looking, well proportioned man of about forty-five, with dark complexion, hair and eyes. His features bear the impress of a strong will, and he leaves on the mind of the observer an impression that he is not easily swerved from his position. He made a favorable impression on the people, and was greeted with hearty cheers when he left.

On Saturday evening an express arrived with the intelligence that our foes were assembling in large numbers below Franklin, and that we might expect an attack within a day or two. On Sunday the 14th inst., about five in the afternoon, the alarm was given. The majority of our forces had left for home, and when the enemy's scouts appeared in sight there were not more than 250 men in Lawrence. The force in the Missouri camp was variously estimated at from 15 to 2500. Not a cheek paled nor an eye faltered, and every one determined to defend the town to the last extremity. Every step that experience would suggest were taken, men were placed in all the houses commanding the roads, the forts thrown up last winter were manned, and a new one erected on Mount Oread during the past week, was occupied by a company with Sharps' rifles. We fully expected that Lawrence would be destroyed, but still determined to contest every inch till the last shot was fired and the last man fell.—Cool bravery and unflinching determination was written on every face, and we waited the expected attack in perfect silence. A company of forty, with Sharps' rifles, were sent out as skirmishers, and were fired upon by the scouts, who, about eighty in number and supported at a short distance by another body of 150, were waiting the approach of reinforcements. Our men returned the fire, and a brisk discharge was kept up for about an hour after, when the border ruffians retreated with the loss of four killed and some wounded, number not known. Anticipating that there were not over a hundred men in Lawrence, and surprised at the preparations made for resistance, the attack was postponed till morning; and they contented themselves with burning the steam saw mill and other buildings owned by free state men at Franklin. Meanwhile messengers were sent to Gov Geary, and late at night a large body of troops, with four pieces of artillery, arrived and took up a position commanding the Franklin road.

Early on Monday morning, the Border Militia was again seen approaching, and the Governor and suite went to meet them. He was gone several hours, and the result of the conference was the disbanding of the militia, or rather the breaking up of 2700 men assembled, into small bands, who have scattered over the whole country and are plundering to an alarming extent. They collected all the cattle in the neighborhood of Franklin and drove them to Westport. Col Titus, the Kickapoo Rangers and other bands passed that evening and on Tuesday morning on the California Road on their way to Lecompton, availing themselves of the Governor's protection to outrage the people of Lawrence with their presence. Previous to Gov Geary's return to Lecompton on Tuesday, these marauders plundered the houses of the free state men on the road. They stole two horses from Capt Thom, and also robbed the house of his neighbor, Mr David Buffum. Mr Thom heard his neighbor in dispute with them, and immediately after a report of a gun. When they left, Mr Buffum was found, dangerously wounded, and this morning he died from the effects of his wound. Mr B had suffered much since taking up his residence in the territory. Last winter when moving from Missouri he was robbed by the ruffians, and the last summer was accidentally shot. The disturbances have prevented him from working his claim to advantage and now he has been slain by a ruffian band.

The prompt action of the new governor has saved Lawrence this time, but we don't expect this will be the last; and even if peace should be established, our people will have to suffer much during the winter. At the present moment there is not provision enough in Lawrence, even in private hands, to sustain her own inhabitants three days, without counting the settlers who so nobly have flocked in to aid in her defense. The North must aid us promptly and effectually, ere the settlers are compelled to leave the territory. This is part of the subduing policy announced by the author of the Nebraska bill; and in the harrassing contests and outrages that have been pursued we see the legitimate fruits of that policy. Let not the North forget, in the excitement of the presidential contest, the suffering men and women who nobly have been struggling for the freedom of the whole country on the plains of Kansas during the past two years.