

# The Republican.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 11, 1857.

☞ This week completes the college anniversaries, to which, as much from choice as necessity, we have surrendered considerable space. We give this morning the opening exercises of the week at Amherst and the proceedings of commencement day at Burlington, Vt., from our own correspondents.

## Kansas Affairs--Gov Walker's Escape--Apportionment Fraud.

It is not known yet how much foundation there was for the cry of "Indians," by which Gov Walker was delivered of his unpleasant state of siege at Lawrence. The Herald of Freedom, which is now Walker's organ, represents that the governor had information that the Indians had driven in the settlers about Fort Riley, and that the commander of the fort asked for immediate assistance. It states that the governor started for the fort with the troops. But the Lawrence correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette, writing at the same date, Aug. 3d, gives another version of the affair, as follows:—

"Gov Walker having remained watching the people of Lawrence till on his sober mornings he became heartily ashamed of himself, has been for several days casting about him for some means to get out of his miserable scrape. Four days ago a messenger was despatched by him to Fort Riley—for what purpose nobody knew, but last night a courier came from the fort to Walker's camp with despatches, and this morning at 8 o'clock Walker's famous camp near Lawrence was broken up, and he and all his troops started up the river, leaving the people of Lawrence to commit treason unpunished. It is reported that the courier brought news that the commander of the fort was afraid the Cheyenne Indians would attack him, and asked Walker for aid, but the messenger himself (I saw him this morning) did not think the fort in any danger. The whole thing is understood here as an invention to give Walker an opportunity to withdraw gracefully from Lawrence. Ashamed of his exploit, he is glad to retreat back into the interior of the territory, away from newspaper reporters, and out of sight and hearing of Lawrence. Col Titus arrived here last night. He has gone up the river with the governor."

Gov Walker is justly held responsible for the gross fraud in the apportionment of representatives to the territorial legislature, by which the free state majorities are rendered powerless. The law provided that he should make the apportionment, and in case of his neglect to do it before the first of June, it devolved on the officers of the last bogus legislature. The governor did neglect it, and now makes the poor excuse that he did not know that the law required it of him. He should have known it, and it is believed that he did, but purposely shirked responsibility. The result is that the officers of the bogus legislature have made the apportionment so that nineteen counties, containing within eight hundred of one-half of the entire population of Kansas, are allowed only three representatives, while the remaining fourteen counties, north, are allowed thirty-six representatives! Provision has been made, also, in case of a free state majority, under circumstances so unfavorable, to bring in manufactured and fraudulent returns from the Rappahoe county which is cunningly annexed to Douglas county. Johnson is united to Douglas, because Lawrence is in Douglas, and Johnson is near the Platte purchase—a fertile quarry of votes.

Again there will be no polls opened at all in some fifteen counties, filled chiefly with free state men, where there are no county officers, as the law provides that the judges of election shall be appointed by the county officers, and the pro-slavery men declare that their law shall be rigidly enforced. The five counties on the Missouri border, where the imported votes have always been cast, under this apportionment control both branches of the legislature. And to make sure of their triumph, all the emigrants of 1857 are to be disfranchised. Finally, as a proper cap-stone to this symmetrical structure, bogus judges of election are to preside over the farce of voting, assisted by a limited number of federal bayonets in each precinct to preserve the purity of the ballot box! Gov Walker and the administration have been promising the people of Kansas the right of suffrage under the fraudulent government; did they honestly mean it, or are they plotting to drive the free state men into rebellion, that they may crush them out by the troops, and deliver the territory, bound and bleeding, into the arms of the slave power? We fear the guilty plot against Kansas has yet a terrible consummation in the future. Well may the Weston Dispatch, a violent border ruffian paper of Missouri say:—

"We are sorry to see a faint-hearted few, who, by the way are not thoroughly acquainted with Kansas matters, indulging in words of despondency as to making Kansas a slave state. Those best acquainted with the affairs of the territory, and who have labored long and faithfully for the purpose of implanting southern institutions there, entertain high hopes of success, and look upon the signs of the times as more cheering to their cause than at any former period in the history of the territory."

Col Orr of South Carolina, who has lately been on a political mission to Kansas, states in the southern papers, that although the South has contributed huge amounts of money, it has failed in Kansas for the lack of men. He makes the free state voters in Kansas 17,000, to 5000 pro-slavery. The last is evidently an over-estimate, as they did not cast 2000 at the constitutional election. This statement is important as an admission on high democratic authority that the government of Kansas is a sheer usurpation and fraud.

Ex-governor Reader, writing to Judge Conway of Kansas, alluding to the probable triumph of the free state men in adhering to the Topeka constitution, gives the following appreciative view of the glory of such a success:—

"You will have triumphed by the moral power of true manhood, over a spirit of violence as ruthless and independent of law and social duty as the raving maniac, backed by all the physical force it desired, and a cunning sharpened to the last degree by seared and hardened villainy. You will have calmly walked over the head of a prostrate despotism, as naked of any vestige of justice or conscience as if it had come warm from the infernal regions. You will have lived down and looked down a mountain mass of slander and misrepresentation, built up by corrupt men, by hosts of partisan presses, by Congressional reports and speeches and disgraceful presidential messages, and which, according to all human judgment, must have been expected to crush you forever. You will have gone on in the steady and undeviating pursuit of the right of self government, almost through extermination itself. You will have defied and conquered the government and army of the United States without striking them a lawless blow; and to that dangerous and rampant spirit of slavery extension, which has proved too strong for all three departments of our national government, you have dealt the first stunning and staggering stroke which it has received for half a century. History records few such achievements as this; and the men who accomplish it, ought to be and will be immortal in their fame wherever human rights are cherished and heroism is admired."

Outside of politics the only present topic of interest in Kansas is the recent tragedy at Leavenworth. James Stevens, a resident of Leavenworth, was enticed from the town by an acquaintance, named William Bays, and was then fallen upon by Bays, John C. Quarles, and Ammon Knowlton, and robbed, probably of \$108 in gold, and then thrown into the river. "Bill" Woods was also suspected of complicity in the affair. Bays and Quarles were hung at once by lynch law, amid the great excitement and general indignation of the people. The exhortations of Judge Lecompte and Mayor Adams, were in vain. The crowd were eager to get possession of the other two prisoners, but finally, at the suggestion of a respected citizen, a jury was formed from among the crowd, and the trial began. The proceedings were frequently interrupted by the clamors of the impatient populace, but finally receiving the assurance of some of the jurymen that the guilt of Woods was not well established and being promised by the Mayor that justice would be done in the premises, they subsided and dispersed. The murderers are the debris of the gang of southern cut-throats, taken to the territory last year by Col Buford to murder the settlers, and afterwards employed and paid by the general government.