FROM KANSAS.

FACTS OF THE LAST INVASION.

From Our Special Correspondent.

LAWRENCE, Monday, June 9, 1856.

I send you herewith a mass of important testimony as to the late invasion. It was taken before the Congressional Committee. The testimony of Mr. Weaver, the Committee's Sergeant-at-Arms, I have already forwarded.

Col. A. H. Reader, called and sworn—I came from Rhode Island to the Territory of Kansas, having Providence, R. I. on the 8th of April, 1856, and got into Lawrence, Kansas, on the 16th of April, 1856; my object in coming here was to see the country, and I was elected a member of a new Committee of Safety, of which Gen. S. C. Pomeroy was Chairman; the reason of appointing a new Committee of Safety was, that five out of the ten members of the old committee were absent, some under arrest; the object of this Committee, as I understood it, was to revive the old Committee of Safety, and to protect the citizens of Lawrence in protecting themselves against the outrages that had been committed by the Pro-Slavery party; the first threats we heard were just after Sheriff Jones was shot; nothing was seen to indicate that Lecompton would be attacked or taken until Deputy Marshal Fane came with an attachment to arrest Gov. Reeder for contempt of Court; I was not in Lecompton at the time of the arrest of Gov. Reeder refused to go, but I came up to the hotel just as the Deputy Marshal was leaving; there were not more than fifty persons about the hotel when I arrived there, and there were others coming toward the hotel at the same time I did; there was no threat made that I heard, and no one seemed inclined or desirous of offering any insult or opposition to the Deputy Marshal, or any one of his party; I saw Gov. Reeder; I saw J. W. Whitfield as I was going to the hotel, and remarked to him that I had heard that Reeder had refused to surrender, and I was in hopes he would come to let the validity of the law; he appeared astonished at the idea of Reeder's not going to Jail, but mingled with me in the opinion that the law was to be carried now with the proper tribunal; I saw a letter in answer to one sent by Reeder to Governor Shannon, in which Reeder requesting them to give him their assurance that he should be protected against the violence of the mob which had threatened to take his life, and that he would go willing to obey the summons of the Court and go to Lecompton; the letter was from Gov. Shannon, setting forth that he could not render him any more protection than would be rendered to any one else, but he thought that he was the best of the Territory, and that he was molested he would render him such assistance as he could; I saw nothing more of Governor Reeder; after that I saw Marshal Jones read a proclamation calling on citizens to Lecompton for his assistance, in which he said that the rescue must should be accomplished, and also the destruction of the town; forces concentrated above and below Lawrence, we arrested and collected in Lecompton; I saw stores, boxes open and pillered boxes of merchandise, &c.; Messrs. Roberts and Babcock were sent up with a letter to Gov. Shannon; I was in Lecompton, and also to learn from him what his demands and intentions were as regards Lawrence; after that Jones said, this proposition was agreed to and the man was sent; after being absent some time he returned and confirmed all the rumors we had heard; he said he should have a letter to the Committee of the Committee of Safety having been this in part, though he certainly said some man who was not been identified with the Free-Soil movement, with a letter to Gov. Shannon and another to Marshal Jones; I saw the Committee of Safety meet the letter, and went to Lecomp on for that purpose on Friday, May 16, 1856; I saw Marshal Donaldson when I entered the City of Lecompton, about 3 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and handed him the letter intended for him requesting him to prepare an answer to it; on my way up to Lecompton I was stopped by several persons, one of whom was Dr. Titus, with some city horse-men armed with Sharpe's rifles; after that Jones and Marshal Donaldson were in the City of Lecompton, with a pistol, bowie knives, &c., and questioned very closely concerning my business and destination, and then permitted to proceed; after I had been there a short time I found, and Gov. Shannon at the door of his office, and entered with him upon his invitation, after having read the letter I brought in to him, I said to Marshal Jones, of the proprietors of the hotel to Lawrence that was afraid to come to Lecompton, and that they desired protection for his property; the first remark made by the Governor was to the effect that he could not answer the letter, from the fact that it requested his intervention, and that he had no power or control at all over the Marshal or his posse; he declared that he could not render any aid to Lawrence, and that he had heard that report he had become connected with the hotel, because I had been built by Free-Soil emigrant and Society and was a nuisance; that the hotel had been fired upon Friday all last Winter, and should be torn down; he then went into a lengthy detail of the history of the hotel, and said, in substance, he also said that the citizens of Lawrence had called the men who came up against them last Winter cowards, and he thought would be found that they were not cowards; I then stated to him that I did not answer for what was done last Winter, as I was not there, but that I could vouch for what the people now in Lawrence that they were a law-abiding people, and that they would not resist any officer in the execution of his duty; I told him I had conversed with them, and that the few who were for resisting the Territorial laws, I knew, and had seen in or near Lawrence that I knew of; and that there is in Lawrence, who were law-abiding and good citizens, might not be able to prevent the mischief done by others; he acquiesced in my opinion, and said that the very few who he heard talk of resisting the United States forces, and also their horror of the probable result of the course they understood the Marshal intended to pursue; and also stated to me what I thought would be his position before the country if this was done; that he had the power to prevent it; he immediately replied that he had not, that he had no, he had no control over the Marshal or his posse, and they were beyond the control of his power, and that it had not been his desire for the peace of the Territory, that he had feared the results; but that it was the wish and desire of all the citizens of the Territory, that they should have that course pursued to ex-cute the laws; he himself had defined to employ the United States forces for this purpose; I said he could avert the blow now, and prevent the destruction of property and shedding of blood, by simply calling upon Colonel Sumner to station a sufficient force of United States at Lawrence to prevent the destruction of property and the taking of life; he straightened up in his chair and appeared angry, and said: "No! will not do; they do not deserve protection at my hands, and they shall not have it." I then asked him if he had not; said to me that it had been his desire to call on the United States troops to prevent the mischief that occurred and adding that I believed that there was no Government in Kansas "We have a Governor, but we have no government to my knowledge; I have tried to do my duty; I am the fact that a few men seemed able to do what they pleased with the Government; he said, "I say again we have no government; I endeavored to reach he feelings by referring to the Territory and country, and appealed to his ability he call them if this mob were permitted to carry out their threats; to d him he knew their intentions, all they had done, and what Lawrence was; I asked him to protect the ladies seemed to affect him somewhat, and he said that the citizens of Lawrence could do no more than he could; he said he was sorry for it, he and every other officer in the Territory, and the citizens alone could do it; I asked him how he was, he; he said they and first gave up their arms, their cannon, level down their forts, stop that Brown's press; at this he was excited, and said to Dr. Titus and Brown, working himself into a fury, and emulated by saying, "that hotel is a nuisance, it has been used as a rendezvous of Free-Soilers; I wish it was torn down too! he said, "I don't know;" I said it would be inconsistent for him to ask me to take my school and help save the property, and he said, "I have been and built last Winter; he said "there will be enough then that will do it; I asked him if he meant that the citizens would do it; he said, "no, there will be enough there to do it if the citizens will not;" I said that I thought he had better let the people keep their arms, and they would not surrender them for fear that they would serve them as they did Brown after he surrender his arms, and they came up with hatchets; he seemed somewhat troubled in his mind, and seemed to think there would be trouble, he became more and more excited, and said he was of a determination not to go back unstaffed; I asked where he meant that he would go back to—where they were from? he said "I am from the centre of the country—a good many in from the Southern States;" I said to him that I was from Rhode Island, and came here from Missouri; he remarked that he had nothing to do with them—that they were beyond his control—he said, "I am from Ohio;" I said to him that I and other person in Lawrence who had been identified with the Abolitionists wanted to save his property, we could protect his property, we could do nothing, we could point out our buildings, and they would be safe; I said, "I will, I will;" I asked him if he was in earnest, he hesitated and the not likely to be destroyed?" he said, "Those forts must go down—they can't be allowed to stand;" I said, "Marshal, the Free-State hotel, building, the Free-State Hotel and Hutchinson's store are all nuisance, and I think they will all come down;" I then said I wished to know what I should do, Lawrence and must get a reply; he asked if I had had a conversation with the Marshal; I said I had not; he said I had better; I said I would go back to Lawrence; I then went into the Marshal's office; he was just finishing the reply to the letter I had brought him from the citizens of Lawrence; I endeavored to draw him into conversation, but he avoided it, and went on with the reply; I waited for it, and it was some fifteen minutes before he returned; he then verbally recited into conversation with me; he seemed to be in some excitement; he said that he had received a report to what were nuisances in Lawrence and the certainty that they would be destroyed; I told him I had conversed with the citizens of Lawrence, and wished to be posted in regard to my conversation with the Governor and my position in relation to the people of Lawrence; I said that I was a Free-State man, and that he had served, and contradicts its assertions in regard to the Free-State Hotel; I said that I was a Deputy-Marshal being reusted when he had undertaken to arrest Reeder, and the shooting of two or three individuals; I said that I was not in Reeder rescued; I said that was entirely false—that there were not fifty persons near the hotel at the time, and I could prove it; he said he could prove it, and I could judge; I then went over the same ground I had with the Governor in regard to the position of the people of Lawrence; I said that I was a Free-State man as United States Marshal without a single man as posse, and never; I said that I was not in Reeder's rescue; he referred to Reeder's case; I told him that that was no criterion; that Reeder considered himself proscribed, and was in a position irresponsible for his conduct, and that he was not the criterion for us to go by; he then referred to Jones being shot; I told him that I was not in that affair, and considered that as a cowardly act of assassination, and asked him if he meant to charge it upon the Free-State men; he hesitance as their deed; he replied that it was done in the City of Lawrence; I admitted that, but said we could not be responsible for that; he said it was done by a coward or an assassin; he wished to know if I was willing to do my duty, and I said I assumed my duty in assisting any man; I said that I was not only ready to assist him as United States Marshal, but that I would do right by him; I said that I was willing to indulge, rant, and peremptorily refused to do any such thing; he said he was serious; I said that I had been present at Dr. Wood and two other times; at the time of the conversation Dr. Wood called out, "That is adding insult to injury;" I said that I had been present at different times during the conversation, that the forts in Lawrence must be leveled, the cannon and all the Sharpe's rifles given up; he said he would not do any such thing; he replied, "No, I have no authority to make that demand, and I do not make this as a demand; I am here to notify you that the forts are now collecting together;" I asked him if he was sure what would satisfy him, and if he could guarantee that there would be no trouble if the forts were leveled, and the arms given up—if he could control the mob; he said he could not; I said, "Marshal, I was once before this, and I turned to him and asked cum wouldn't you see that his name was Dr. Wood, and that he had been former acquaintance of mine; I then asked the Marshal if he felt justified in bringing a mob into Lawrence that was composed of men who had not been sworn to wish to make any reply to that, and kept on smoking his pipe; he sat in a deep study for some time, and I waited for an answer to my last question; I asked him again if those buildings would have to come down; he said that would all depend upon the position he was in; I said that I was in a position to know that it was stated in the camp of his forces that the posse were to be disarmed in the City of Lawrence after the arrests had been made; I said that I was sure he; I said that if he did that, he would be held responsible for all the power and consequences; I said that I had brought three union men, hitched, armed with United States muskets, and dismissed in the city; I stated further, that if I was not sure of my life and property in or near the city, I desired to know it, and said I would give my reasons for wanting to know that, and that they were, that I had been informed that the posse proposed to carry forward on an emergency and take care of matters; I said that there was no resistance to them while they were destroying property and taking life, but as soon as he dismissed them they could resist; I stated that I was not in the habit of making arrests against any depredations, and if they commenced them, we would exterminate them or they should exterminate us; I said that I was in the habit of the order that he could not leave to say that I had been a hypocrite, and that I was armed me afterward he would unmeasured my position; I said that I was armed some six or seven persons present all around, and when I made this remark I was standing in the same position, and some of them commenced handling their pistols, which they use in their hands; I told the Marshal that I had never seen a man who was in the City or on the other side, and I should state plainly what I had to say to him; I told that some of my friends had advised me not to go there without a Sharpe's rifle; I received, as they thought my plan way of talking would frighten him, and he seemed, and I would never get back, but that I had no fears whatever; I said that I had purely upon his honor for protection while I was in his power; he said he would give me his word for him; he then stated on his honor that he would not come into the city while a large posse unless resisted, and that he would not; I asked him if he would give up the Free-State Hotel, and he said he would not; I said, "Marshal, I am sure he; he said, "I will do my duty;" I asked him if he sanctioned any violence to my person, and he said, "no, no, no;" I asked him if he did not intend to take my Sharpe's rifle arms, whether they were rifles or side-arms; I said that I was in the habit of my rifle, stolen rifle and side-arms and money from a young man who came up to the Territory with me, and had nothing to do with the troubles; I said that I was in the habit of my rifle, they had reprimanded him for being in or near Lawrence, when he was six miles from Lawrence when I was in Lecompton; I said that I was in the habit of my rifle, and I should state plainly what I had to say to him; I said that some of my friends had advised me not to go there without a Sharpe's rifle; I received, as they thought my plan way of talking would frighten him, and he seemed, and I would never get back, but that I had no fears whatever; I said that I purely upon his honor for protection while I was in his power; he said he would give my