

Ritzman's Journal

BY S. B. ROW.

CLEARFIELD, PA., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1858.

VOL. 4.—NO. 25.

LINES ON THE DEATH OF J. S. P.

And art thou gone, my darling boy,
And left me weeping here?
No music in mine ear is sweet,
Since no more thy voice I hear.

Here no more I'll kiss thy rosy cheek,
Nor see thy soft brown eyes,
But still I hope I yet may meet
My loved one in the skies.
Look up, my soul, with eye of faith,
And see thy little one,
With Him, who once so sweetly said,
Let little children come.

Oh! these precious words are never felt,
Fought with so rich a worth,
Until some parent's called to lay
A loved form in the earth.

Clearfield, Jan. 26, 1853.

A TALE OF THE REVOLUTION.

(Concluded from last week.)

CHAPTER IV.

For some time the British Captain rode on in silence, while the guide strode before on foot, taking up the river route. About two miles from the house of Steel, the road ran from a high bluff and the Santee, skirting the foot of the hill, and leaving but a few feet between it and the stream. This pass extended for nearly a mile, when the land abruptly ceased, and a lovely valley, nearly half a mile wide, spread out from the river.

It was a bright moonlight night, and the sable hills glittered in the silvery rays, and the measured tread of the horses' hoofs sounded out plainly upon the midnight air as the band swept down the hill and entered the black pass. Here all became dark, the tall trees which grew on the side of the bluff obscuring the road and shutting out the moonlight, save where here and there a straggling ray fell athwart the path and lit up for an instant the dreary road.

Just half through the pass there is a narrow spot than elsewhere, and a ravine comes down from the highlands and empties into the Santee. Across this a rude way had been dug by excavating the bank, and the road, after gaining the bottom turned down it as though going directly into the river. The bottom of this ravine was as dark as pitch, and as Langford and his men followed the pedler down into its depths they lost sight of him altogether.

Ordering a halt, the Captain hoisted in a low voice, calling for the guide, but no answer came. Again and again did he summon the guide, each time in a louder key, but in vain; and, with a muttered curse upon the stupidity of the guide, Langford ordered his men to advance, and the body once more began to move, and a loud crash was heard in the ravine above them; something came tearing its way through the brush which lined the steep hill side, and a large stone bounded into the ranks, crushing a horse and rider as it fell.

A moment of confusion ensued, amid which the grunts of the wounded trooper could be heard, when a loud voice, which thrilled like molten lead upon the hearts of the British, was heard exclaiming:

"Right, lads—give them the others!"
And like the rush of a destructive tornado a large quantity of rocks came thundering down the hill, landing with fearful accuracy among the excited troopers, and creating sad havoc among the horses.

"Sold!" shouted Langford, in a voice which rose far above the din and tumult around them, "sold by a pedler! Retreat in the rear there, and let all follow as fast as possible."
"Aye, sold," thundered a voice in reply, as the Captain ceased, "and the blood of those you have foully murdered during our absence calls loudly for vengeance. Upon them, comrades, and spare not a man!"

"Darned treacherer if I give quarters to a damned one," squeaked out the well known tones of the pedler. "Hurra for Yankee Doodle Dandy, and won't we dew 'em up too!" Shante, boys and was derved 'em up 'em.

A volley of rifles followed the last order and a blaze ran along the hill side, while the messengers of death sped without mercy into the troopers' ranks, killing many and creating a terrible tumult and dismay.

Some few of those farthest in the rear made a hasty retreat, among whom was Langford, he having pushed his way back, when the first volley of stones was rolled down upon his men, and died as fast as horses' speed would carry him back to Steel's accompanied by about a dozen men.

Upon reaching the house he dismounted from his steed and rushed to the door, which he found was fastened; but a few knocks brought a person to it who threw it wide open, displaying one of his own troopers. The Captain entered, followed by the men who escaped with him, and the door was again secured.

This done, Langford hastened up stairs and knocked upon the door of Mary Steel's room. No answer came, and he knocked more rudely than before, but in vain; all within was as silent as the grave. He shook the door, but it was firmly fastened upon the inside, and he ordered a man to bring him an ax which stood at the stairs. With this he soon forced an entrance, by splitting the panels into pieces, and sprang like a famished tiger into the room. But it was empty—the prey had escaped; and cursing like a fiend, Langford sprang to the open window, out of which he threw his head. As he did so, the sharp crack of a rifle was heard, and staggering back, the Captain fell upon the floor, with the blood slowly oozing from a bullet hole in the centre of his forehead.

CHAPTER V.

We must now return to the rebel lover of Mary whom we left bound to the spring, with the pen-knife given him by the pedler secured in his mouth.

ed himself at full length upon the ground. "Keep your eyes wide open," cried the other, as he followed his companion's example. "Don't see the use of watching a man who's tied fast to a tree, at any rate," muttered John, as he sank upon a log near the fire.

Twenty minutes went by, and the two men who had stretched themselves upon the ground gave undoubted signs of being fast asleep. John however, still remained seated upon the log, with his head afloat, nodding, and his body occasionally jerking to and fro, in a state of drowsiness which was the next thing to sleep, but which a slight noise would have thrown off and awakened him fully.

It was at this state of affairs that Harry Bodman, the prisoner, began his preparations to escape. The knife was taken from his mouth, and the keen blade soon severed the cords which fastened him to the tree. He then stepped down, and drawing off his boots, took them in each hand, and noiselessly made his way to the door of the house. It was partly ajar, and on entering he quickly ascended the stairs, when he paused and drew on his boots, then advanced to the entrance of Mary's apartment and knocked upon the door.

"Who's there?" demanded the well known voice of Steel.
"Walter, let me in," he answered.
The key turned instantly in the lock, the door opened, and he glided into the room.
"How did you escape?" murmured Mary, as he hastened to her side.
"You saw the pedler?"
"General Marion—he was in this room," she answered.

"He furnished me with a knife to cut the cords that bound me, and while all the men left to watch me slept, I took advantage of the opportunity to come into the house. But hark!"
They listened in breathless silence, and could plainly hear the sound of heavy bring up the Santee, which told the foe were engaged.

"May God defend the right!" fervently ejaculated Mary.
"Amen!" responded a deep voice out side the window, and three distinct taps were heard upon the pane.
"Who's there?" demanded Harry Bodman, as he started to the door.
"Brady," replied the same voice. "Toist the window, Bodman; you've no time to lose."

Harry threw up the sash, and the man outside sprang into the apartment. He was full six feet high, dressed in a hunting shirt of deep blue, and carried a long rifle in his hand. For an instant he gazed around him, and then exclaimed:
"You must all leave the house at once."
"Has Marion been defeated, then?" asked Mary in breathless alarm.

"No, Miss, but a portion of the fogged British will make this house a place of defence, and in a case of that kind you are better off to lose."
"But we can fasten them out," said Steele, resolutely.
"Nay, better let them trap themselves in it," replied Brady, calmly. "There is a ladder at the window by which you can go down, and in my opinion the sooner you get down, the better. I hear the British coming ready."

As he finished speaking, the distant tread of horses feet was heard coming down the road toward the house.
"Be it so," replied Steele, passing through the window on the ladder. "Let Mary come down first."
The maiden followed her father, and the two soon reached the ground.

"Stand close to the house in the dark shadows there," said Brady, speaking to those who were with him, and at the same time pointing his rifle towards the house.
This had scarcely been done before the troopers reached the house, sprang from their horses, and in a few moments the scouts saw the head of Langford thrust from the window. To level and fire with the effect already noted, the work of an instant, and as the Captain fell heavily back upon the floor, the tramp of more horses was heard, and the rebel band of Marion galloped to the spot.

CHAPTER VI.

The noise of banging doors and securing the first story windows of the dwelling was heard for a few moments after the arrival of the Americans in front of the house, and then all relapsed into silence. The men of Marion had dismounted and surrounded the house, but the shade of the night was so gloomy where Bodman, Steel and Mary stood, that they remained unmolested by either friend or foe.

Ben Brady, the scout, still crouched behind the log, with the muzzle of the gun directed toward the window out of which he had escaped, within the room of which the light was still burning.

Suddenly the moon was covered by a cloud, and darkness rested like a pall upon everything around. Then the voice of Brady rose gradually on the air as he exclaimed:
"Hiss, Bodman—come this way, and bring the girl and her father with you. Quick, as the moon will soon be out again."

Bodman grasped Mary by the arm, and glided from the shade of the house, but had scarcely proceeded twenty steps when the muzzles of two carbines were thrust out of the window and pointed toward their fleeing captives, whom they could hear but not see in the gloom, while the dusky figures of the troopers who held the guns were plainly discernible within the apartment.

The rifle of Brady was raised in the twinkling of an eye, and three pieces belched forth their contents together. A wild shriek instantly rang upon the air, and the voice of agony was recognized by every rebel soldier as belonging to Mary Steel.

There was an instant of death-like silence, again broken by the wails of the wounded girl, but this time they were drowned by the yells of vengeance which burst from the lips of Marion's men, as like so many blood-hounds, they rushed to the assault.
"Spare not a man!" shouted a well-known musical voice, rising high above the din and tumult of the conflict. "Death to our oppressors!"
"Down with the British—on!" and the sound of the heavy blows falling upon every door, was mingled with the sharp crack of rifles and the curses of the combatants, as the assault progressed.

"There is an unguarded way into the cellar by the spring-house."
A shout from Marion brought the requisite number of men around him; and they followed Bodman and Brady to the place of entrance. A narrow passage led from the spring-house to the cellar, and in a few minutes the party stood within the building. It was the work of but an instant for Bodman to find the stairs, up which they carefully ascended to the door; it was not fastened, and passing through it they stood in the hall which led to the outer door of the building. It was as dark as pitch, and they could not discover a man, but could hear the steps of several beside themselves near the end of the hall, where crash after crash came against the door, fairly making everything creak as the heavy blows descended on the panels.

"Follow me up stairs," muttered Bodman in a low tone; and silently they groped their way to the second story.
As they reached the top of the stairs, the light shone out from the room where the carbines had been discharged, and they hurried to the door. Five troopers stood prepared for conflict within the apartment, while two dead bodies lay stiff upon the floor.

To discharge a volley into the room which killed every trooper, was the work of a moment, and then rushing forward, Brady thrust a candle into the window, and uttered a loud well-known shout. It was answered by twenty men, and in a few moments several of Marion's men had mounted the ladder into the room.

The remainder of the contest was of short duration. The British fell to a man, while scarcely an American suffered in the strife.
The wound received by Mary Steel, turned out not to be mortal; and shortly after her recovery which happened subsequent to the attack, she became the wife of Harry Bodman; and for many years afterwards, the old tin panners, surmounted by a black cap, could be seen upon the mantel-piece of their front room—being the same carried on that memorable evening by the REBEL PEDLER.

ADDRESS OF HON. F. P. STANTON.

LATE SECRETARY OF KANSAS TERRITORY.

To the People of the United States:
Having been recently removed from the office of Secretary of Kansas Territory, under circumstances which imply severe censure on the part of the President, and having had no opportunity for explanation, or any opportunity for explanation, I deem it necessary to present to the People of the United States a brief statement of facts in vindication of my motives, and in explanation of the results of the act for which I have been condemned.

The office in question was not given to my solicitation. My acceptance of it under all the circumstances, was a proof of strong friendship for the President, and of unbounded confidence in the firmness and faithfulness with which he would adhere to the line of policy deliberately agreed upon between him, his own Cabinet, and Gov. Walker.

On my arrival in the Territory, in April last, in advance of Gov. Walker, I confess that I had an imperfect knowledge of the real condition of affairs. I supposed the question of slavery to be the only cause of discussion and difficulty among the people; and in my brief inaugural address of the 17th April, I treated this as the chief subject of difference upon which a submission to the people would be likely to be demanded. I soon found, however, that this view was altogether too limited, and did not reach the true ground of controversy. The great mass of the inhabitants of the Territory were dissatisfied with the local government, and earnestly denied the validity of the existing laws. Asserting that the previous Legislature had been forced upon them by the fraud and violence of a neighboring State, they proclaimed their determination never to submit to the enactments of legislative bodies thus believed to be illegitimate, and entitled to obedience.

This was the condition of things when Gov. Walker came to the Territory in the latter part of May. It was evident that the just policy of permitting the people to regulate their own affairs could not be successfully carried out unless they could be inspired with confidence in the agents of Government through whom this result was to be effected. If a mere minority of the people had been thus dissatisfied and continuations, they might possibly have been pronounced factious and treated as disturbers of the peace; but when the dissatisfaction was general, comprising almost the whole people, a more respectful consideration was indispensable to a peaceable adjustment. It was evident that the policy of repression—a rigid attempt to enforce submission without an effort at conciliation—would inevitably result in a renewal of the civil war. With commendable anxiety to avoid this contingency, Gov. Walker resolved to go among the people, to listen to their complaints, to give them assurance of a fair and just administration of the Territorial Government, and to induce them, if possible, to abandon their hostility, and to enter upon the peaceful but decisive struggle of the ballot box. I was often with the Governor when he addressed the people, and gave my best efforts in aid of the great purpose of conciliation.

It was too late to induce the people to go into the June election for delegates to the Convention. The registration required by law had been imperfect in all the counties, and had been wholly omitted in one-half of them; nor could the people in these distressed counties vote in the election, as they had been falsely suggested. In such of them as subsequently took a census or registry of their own, the delegates were not admitted to seats in the Convention. Nevertheless, it is not to be denied that the great central fact which controlled the whole case, was the utter want of confidence in the present government, and the wish to have the Territorial Government.

They alleged that the local officers, in all instances, were unscrupulous partisans, who had previously defrauded them in the elections, and who were ready to repeat the same outrages again; that, even if intruders from abroad should not be permitted to overpower them, they would be cheated by false returns, which it would not be possible for the Governor and Secretary to defeat. Although at that time these apprehensions seemed to me to be preposterous and unfounded, it was impossible to deny the earnestness and sincerity with which they were urged, or to doubt that they were the result of deep convictions, having their origin in some previous experience of that nature.

The worst portion of the small minority in Kansas, who had possession of the territorial organization, loudly and bitterly complained of Gov. Walker's policy of conciliation, and demanded the opposite policy of repression. And when, under the solemn assurance given that the elections should be fairly conducted, and no frauds, which we could reach, be countenanced or tolerated, it had become apparent that the mass of the people were prepared and determined to participate in the October elections, the minority endeavored to defeat the result by revising the law qualification for electors, which had been repealed by the previous Legislature. Opinions were obtained from high legal sources, the effect of which, had they prevailed, would have been to exclude the mass of the people from voting, to retain the control in the hands of the minority, and, as a consequence, to keep up agitation and to render civil war inevitable. But the intrepid resolution of Gov. Walker, in spite of fierce opposition and denunciation, far and near, carried him through this dangerous crisis, and he had the proud satisfaction of having achieved a peaceful triumph, by inducing the people to submit to the arbitration of the ballot-box.

But the minority were determined not to submit to defeat. The populous county of Douglas had been attached to the border county of Johnson, with a large and controlling representation in the Legislature. The celebrated Oxford fraud was perpetrated with a view to obtain majorities in both Houses of the Assembly. When these returns were received at my office, in Gov. Walker's absence, I had fully determined not to give certificates based upon them. If they had been so formal and correct as to have made it my duty to certify them, I would have resigned my office in order to testify my sense of the enormity of the wrong. Gov. Walker, at Leavenworth, had formed the same resolution, as he stated to me and several others, and we were both gratified that we found the papers so imperfect as to make it our duty to reject them. Great excitement followed in the Territory. The minority, thus righteously defeated in the effort to prolong their power, became fierce in opposition and resorted to every means of intimidation. But I am led to believe that they had their most effectual means of operation by undermining us with the Administration at Washington.

The Constitutional Convention, which had adjourned over until after the October elections, met again in Leavenworth to resume its labors. Many of the members of that body were bitterly hostile to the Governor and Secretary, on account of their rejection of the Oxford and McGee frauds, in which some of the members and officers of the Convention had a direct participation. In fact, this body, with some honorable exceptions, well represented the minority party in the Territory, and were fully imbued with the same spirit and designs. It was obviously not their desire, to secure to the real people of Kansas the control of their own affairs. In the Constitution soon afterwards adopted, they endeavored to supersede the Legislature which had been elected by the people, by providing, in the second section of the schedule, that "all laws now in force in the Territory shall continue to be in force until the 1st of January—when an act of the Legislature under the provisions of this Constitution." They provided still more effectually, as they supposed, for the perpetuation of their minority government, by adopting the Oxford fraud as the basis of their apportionment, giving a great preponderance of representation to the counties on the Missouri border, and affording, at the same time, every possible facility for the introduction of spurious votes. The President's time was clothed with unlimited power in conducting the elections and receiving the returns, while the officers are not required to take the usual oath to secure fair and honest dealing. The elections were hurried on in midwinter—the 21st of December, the 4th of January—when emigrants could only come from the immediate borders, under the qualification which invited to the ballot-box every white male inhabitant "in the Territory on that day." The same man who did this had previously denounced Governor Walker for the suggestion in his inaugural address, and in his Topeka speech, that the constitution of the people of Kansas should be the law of the land, when asked for explanation, that some reasonable length of residence ought to be required as evidence of the bona fide character of inhabitancy.

It was apparent that all the machinery had been artfully prepared for a repetition of gross frauds, similar to those which had been attempted in the case of the Oxford and McGee frauds, after the adjournment of the Convention, that the people of the Territory, by an almost unanimous demand, called upon me, as the acting Governor, to convene an extra session of the Legislature in order to enable them peaceably to protect themselves against the wrongs evidently contemplated by the Constitution. There was no law to punish frauds in election returns. The people were intensely excited; and it was the opinion of the coolest heads in the Territory, that, without a call of the Legislature, the elections under the constitution could not have taken place without collision and bloodshed. The meeting of the Legislature deferred the attention of the people from the schemes of violence upon which they were brooding, substituted the excitement of debate and investigation for that of fierce and warlike hatred, and enabled their representatives to devise means for counteracting the wrongs which they had just apprehended.

Recent events have shown that their apprehensions were well founded. Enormous frauds had been perpetrated at the precincts of Oxford, Shawnee and Kickapoo; and it may well be believed that this result was actually designed by the artful leaders who devised the plan and framework of the Leavenworth Convention. I have lately been at Shawnee, and I have seen and conversed with persons who were at Oxford on the day of election. The frauds committed are notorious; and though dishonest persons may deny them, and may fill the channels of public information with shapeless presentations to the contrary, they can be easily established beyond all controversy. It was to enable the people to shield themselves from these frauds, and to give legal expression to their hatred and rejection of the instrument which permitted them, and was to be carried by them, that I called the Legislature together.

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It was apparent that all the machinery had been artfully prepared for a repetition of gross frauds, similar to those which had been attempted in the case of the Oxford and McGee frauds, after the adjournment of the Convention, that the people of the Territory, by an almost unanimous demand, called upon me, as the acting Governor, to convene an extra session of the Legislature in order to enable them peaceably to protect themselves against the wrongs evidently contemplated by the Constitution. There was no law to punish frauds in election returns. The people were intensely excited; and it was the opinion of the coolest heads in the Territory, that, without a call of the Legislature, the elections under the constitution could not have taken place without collision and bloodshed. The meeting of the Legislature deferred the attention of the people from the schemes of violence upon which they were brooding, substituted the excitement of debate and investigation for that of fierce and warlike hatred, and enabled their representatives to devise means for counteracting the wrongs which they had just apprehended.

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In my judgment, the people had a fair claim to be heard on this subject through the Legislature. The organic act confided to me the discretion of convening that body in extra session. The President of the United States had

no rightful authority to exercise that discretion for me. He had the power of removal, and such control as that power gives him. But I would cheerfully have submitted to removal and consequent loss of favor with the President, rather than occupy the position of Governor and refuse to the people an opportunity to assert their most essential rights, and to protect themselves against the basest frauds and wrongs ever attempted upon an outraged community.

Not having been informed of the grounds of my removal, I knew not only through the newspaper reports, to the effect that, in calling the Legislature, I disobeyed the instructions of the President. I had no instructions bearing on the subject, and there was no time to obtain them, even if I had felt bound to substitute the President's will for that discretion which the organic act confided to me. The convening of the Legislature undoubtedly prevented difficulty and secured peace. Were it important, I am confident I could establish this position by the most indubitable facts; but it is sufficient now to say that the peace of the Territory was not in fact disturbed, and whatever approaches were made towards such a result were wholly attributable to the policy of the Administration in censuring my acts and removing me from office.

The measure for which I have been unjustly condemned has enabled the people of Kansas to make known their real will in regard to the Leavenworth Convention. This affords the Democratic party an opportunity to defend the true principles of constitutional liberty, and to save itself from disastrous division and utter overthrow. If Congress will heed the voice of the people, and not force upon them a government which they have rejected by a vote of four to one, the whole country will be satisfied, and doubtless, also, by preventing others which would have been attempted. It has driven the guilty miscreants engaged in them to become fugitives from justice, and has rendered it impossible for the peace of the Territory hereafter to be endangered by similar occurrences.

In view of these facts and results, I willingly accept the rebuke conveyed to me by my temporary dismissal from office, but I appeal to the deliberate judgment of the people to determine whether I have not chosen the only honorable course which the circumstances allowed me to pursue.

FRED. P. STANTON.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 29, 1858.

JACKSON AND DICKINSON.—Jackson settled in Nashville, between the years 1790 and 1800, and began the practice of law. Dickinson was already there following the same profession. He was a great duelist, having killed several in duels, and almost sure to kill the first fire. His mode of firing was very uncommon. Instead of raising his pistol from his side to fire at the word, he would bring it down from above until he got it to the proper level, and then fire. All the merchants in Nashville had Dickinson retained in their behalf, and he being the only lawyer there until General Jackson came, no redress could be obtained upon the opposite side. Gen. Jackson refused to be retained by these merchants to the exclusion of all parties. The consequence was, that he issued fifty writs to the first term of the Court of Nashville. He issued writs against merchants, who until then, had gone Scott free. This irritated them, and they being desirous of getting Gen. Jackson out of the way, incited Dickinson to provoke a duel. He began by acting on trials offensively to the General. He remonstrated with Dickinson and plainly informed him that he would not submit to such disrespectful treatment. Dickinson persisted and Gen. Jackson challenged him. The time and the place for the combat were fixed upon, and the news spread around. There was at least two hundred people on the ground, and bets were made as if it were a horse race. Dickinson himself bet that he would kill Jackson with the first fire. Dickinson fired first and pecked Jackson's breast. He had a callous lump until the day of his death. As soon as the smoke of Dickinson's pistol cleared away, and he saw Jackson still standing, he exclaimed, "Hav'n't I killed the d—rascal?" Gen. Jackson told Gen. Eaton that until then he meant to give him his life, but on hearing these words he raised his pistol, fired and killed him instantly.

THE WINTER TWENTY YEARS AGO.—We have noticed many comparisons between the years 1837-8 and 1857-8 in financial and monetary matters, but more can be presented in regard to the seasons. It was then, as now, feared that the winter would much increase the physical suffering among the poorer classes; but the evil was averted by a winter as mild and as pleasant as the present one. Fuel and provisions, such as coal, wood, and flour, fell in price. The records inform us that the month of December, 1837, was very mild and open, no frost in the ground; Christmas pleasant and warm, and so continuing until the end of the year. No snow for sleighing, except on the 10th and 11th Dec., and then for but a short time. January 1838, twenty years ago, was a remarkable winter month; the weather, excepting the last two days, was nearly as mild as an Indian summer. On the 1st of February, the thermometer averaged at 2 P. M. at forty degrees through the month; and the succeeding months contradicted many wise remarks, such as we often hear, that "a warm winter brings a cold spring," "winter never melts in the sky," &c. February was cold, but little snow, there being fourteen cold days. March had but two snow-storms and much mud. April was variable, but the temperature averaging a few degrees above that of January. The Hudson river opened and closed three times during the season, the last opening being about the 18th of March. Other rivers opened about the same time. Boston Transcript.

A little boy six years old, was killed in New York recently, by drinking brandy which his mother had left in a pitcher upon her table. A sad warning to mothers.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.

THE LEAVENWORTH CONSTITUTION SENT TO CONGRESS.

The President, on the 2d instant, communicated the following message to Congress, and accompanied it with a copy of the Kansas (Leavenworth) Constitution:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:
I have received from J. Calhoun, Esq., president of the late Constitutional Convention of Kansas, a copy fully certified by himself, of the constitution framed by that body, with the expression of a hope that I would submit the same to the consideration of Congress, "with the view of the admission of Kansas into the Union as an independent State." In compliance with this request, I herewith transmit to Congress, for their action, the constitution of Kansas, with the ordinance respecting the public lands, as well as the letter of Mr. Calhoun, dated at Leavenworth on the 14th ult., by which they were accompanied. Having received but a single copy of the constitution and ordinance, I send this to the Senate.

A great delusion seems to pervade the public mind in relation to the condition of parties in Kansas. This arises from the fact that, of inducing the American people to realize the fact that any portion of them should be in a state of rebellion against the government under which they live. When we speak of the affairs of Kansas we are apt to refer merely to the existence of two violent political parties in that territory, divided on the question of slavery, just as we speak of such parties in the States. This presents no adequate idea of the true state of the case. The dividing line there is not between two political parties, both acknowledging the lawful existence of the government, but between those who are loyal to this government and those who have endeavored to destroy its existence by force and usurpation—between those who sustain and those who have done all in their power to overthrow the territorial government established by Congress. This government they would long since have subverted had it not been protected from their assaults by the troops of the U. States.

Such has been the condition of affairs since the inauguration. Ever since that period a large portion of the people of Kansas have been in a state of rebellion against the government, with a military leader at their head of a most turbulent and dangerous character. They have never acknowledged, but have constantly renounced and defied the government in official relations, and have been all the time in a state of rebellion against its authority. They have all the time been endeavoring to subvert it and to establish a revolutionary government, under the so-called Topeka constitution, in its stead. Even at this very moment the Topeka Legislature are in session. Whoever has read the correspondence of Governor Walker and the State Department, recently communicated to the Senate, will be convinced that this picture is not overdrawn. He always protested against the withdrawal of any portion of the military force of the United States from the Territory, deeming its presence absolutely necessary for the preservation of the regular government and the execution of the laws of the United States. He dispatch to the Secretary of State, dated June 2, 1857, says: "The most alarming movement, however, proceeds from the assembling on the 9th of June of the so-called Topeka Legislature, with a view to the enactment of an entire code of laws. Of course, it will be my endeavor to prevent such a result, as it would lead to inevitable and disastrous collision, and, in fact, renew civil war in Kansas." This was with difficulty prevented by the efforts of Gov. Walker; but soon thereafter, on the 14th of July, we find him requesting General Harney to furnish him a regiment of dragoons to proceed to the city of Lawrence—and this for the reason that he had received authentic intelligence, verified by his own actual observation, that a dangerous rebellion had occurred, "involving an open defiance of the laws and the establishment of an insurgent government in that city."

In the Governor's dispatch of July 10th he informs the Secretary of State "that this movement at Lawrence was the beginning of a plan, originating in that city, to organize a rebellion throughout the Territory, and especially in all towns, cities or counties where the republican party have a majority. Lawrence is the hot-bed of all the abolition movements in this Territory. It is the town established by the abolition societies of the East; and filled there are respectable people of merit, who will be a considerable number of mercenaries, who are paid by abolition societies to perpetuate and diffuse agitation throughout Kansas, and prevent a peaceful settlement of this question. Having failed in inducing their own so-called Topeka State Legislature to organize this insurrection, Lawrence has commenced it herself, and, if not arrested, the rebellion will extend throughout the Territory."

"In order to see this insurrection immediately by mail, I must close by assuring you that the spirit of rebellion pervades the great mass of the republican party of this Territory, instigated, as I entertain no doubt they are, by eastern societies, having in view results most disastrous to the government and to the Union; and that the continued presence of Gen. Harney here is indispensable, as originally stipulated by me, with a large body of dragoons and several batteries."

On the 20th July, 1857, Gen. Lane, under the authority of the Topeka convention, undertook as Governor Walker informs us "to organize the whole so-called free State party into volunteers, and to take the names of all who refuse enrollment. The professed object is to protect the polls at the election in August of the new insurgent Topeka State Legislature."

"The object of taking the names of all who refuse enrollment is to terrify the free State conservatives into submission. This is a new and recent atrocity committed on such men by Topekaites. The speedy location of large bodies of regular troops here, with two batteries, is necessary. The Lawrence insurgents await the development of this new revolutionary military organization." &c.

In the Governor's dispatch of July 27, he says that "Gen. Lane and his staff everywhere deny the authority of the territorial laws, and counsel a total disregard of these enactments."

Without making further quotations of a similar character from the other dispatches of Gov. Walker, it appears by a reference to Mr. Stanton's communication to Gen. Cass of the 6th December last, that the "important step of calling the Legislature together was taken after I [he] had become satisfied that the

(Remainder on fourth page.)