

Kansas Affairs—Policy of the Administration Triumphant.

The New York Tribune of the 7th instant said:—

There prevails a very general, and we trust well grounded impression, that Kansas will come into the Union a free State. * * We rejoice, therefore, in a lively hope, but not in a sanguine confidence, that Kansas will be added to the number of free States.

The N. Y. Times, a more candid black paper, of the same date, said:—

We hear from all parts of the Territory that quiet has been restored; that general confidence is felt in the intentions and efforts of Gov. Geary; and that *there is scarcely any room for doubt that Kansas will be a free State.*

Mr. Army, the agent of the National Kansas Committee, in his report, says:—

Through the wise and efficient policy adopted by Gov. Geary, that harassed people now enjoy peace, and that beautiful country is open for settlement, and invites the occupancy of thousands who now live in the older States.

Mr. H. M. Selden, one of the Connecticut company to whom the Reverends Beecher and Dutton contributed the Sharpe's rifles, in a private letter published in the New Haven Courier, says:—

Kansas presents a very different aspect at present from what it did when murder, robbery and arson were the order of the day.— Then I was a soldier, and lay down at night with my rifle at my side, expecting to have to use it before morning. Then, no one was safe travelling on the highway; but now, everything is the reverse—peace and quiet are restored, the guilty are punished and the innocent protected.

The natural inquiry is, to whom do we owe this change. I have no hesitation in saying, that we owe it to Gov. John H. Geary, who has done more, in my estimation, for Kansas than any other man. The Governor makes no distinction between free State and pro-slavery men, but if he finds either committing depredations, has them arrested and dealt with as they deserve.

All the free State men in prison here have been liberated or escaped, excepting fifteen, which the Governor will probably pardon before long. Clark, the Indian agent—the supposed murderer of Barber—has been arrested by order of the Governor, and has since been removed by the President. Marshal Donelson resigned several weeks ago. Col. Titus, Capt. Donelson, (not the Marshal,) and a large party of ruffians, have left for Nicaragua. Put all these together, and it looks as if the South had given up Kansas, which I think they have.

Kansas is bound to be a free State. Gov. Geary says that "two-thirds of the people are free State men, and if the majority of the people say free State, in God's name let it be a free State!" This I heard him say myself.

And such is the testimony of all whose testimony is worth anything—that peace and quiet reign, that Gov. Geary enjoys the confidence of all good citizens, and is doing his duty honestly, efficiently, impartially, and that there is no room for doubt that Kansas will be a free State. And this wonderfully improved state of affairs is the natural result of the policy of the administration—of the proper application of the great principle of the Nebraska bill, and it affords a most triumphant vindication of that policy and principle. Gov. Geary has acted under the same instructions that were given to Reeder and Shannon. If Reeder had been honest, no troubles would have existed in the Territory; and if Shannon had possessed the energy of Geary, he would have accomplished all that the latter has. The success of Geary is due as well to the correctness of the policy of the administration in regard to Kansas as to his energy and fidelity in its enforcement. Thus the great measure of the administration, and the great principle which underlies it—the *right of a people of a Territory to exercise all the powers necessary for the regulation of their own domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the constitution of the United States*—have vindicated themselves, while they have at the same time been most distinctly and emphatically endorsed by the people at the ballot-box. In corroboration of the success of this policy, under the vigorous and impartial administration of Gov. Geary, we present the following significant extracts from a letter from the New York Times' correspondent, which we commend to the careful and candid attention of all who have opposed the policy of the administration in regard to Kansas. The writer has been as bitterly opposed to that policy as the paper in which his letter appears:—

LAWRENCE, K. T., }
Saturday, Jan. 3, 1857. }

The great and important change that has become visible in the condition of Kansas, since the arrival of Gov. Geary, is a subject of general remark, not only here, but throughout the Union. I confess that I am quite surprised at his success; and although some of his acts may not have elicited general commendation, the result proves that he is aiming to secure substantial and impartial justice to all bona fide settlers of the Territory without distinction of party. What more can we ask?

I have examined the subject carefully, and from frequent conversations with the Governor, as well as with both pro-slavery and free State men of conservative sentiments, who are competent to judge of the motives and effects of his policy, I am confident that Kansas affairs will soon cease to be a merely sectional question. Governor Geary has acquired the confidence and respect of nine-tenths of the people of the Territory, and seems determined to perform his mission in a creditable manner. He makes no pretensions to the character of a politician. His military experience renders fatal all attempts to move or control him by mere technicalities, and therefore due allowance must be made for some acts, which, at first, rendered him obnoxious. He says he is governed by the same instructions that have been on file in the executive office since the organization of the Territory, together with a general letter of discretion, concerning emergencies. He acts upon his instructions as he understands them, and construes the Kansas Nebraska bill in a fair and liberal sense, and as all men of honesty and common sense would naturally understand and construe it—that the people of the Territory shall be left perfectly free to form their own institutions and regulate their domestic affairs in their own way, subject only to the constitution of the United States. * * I believe that good policy and justice require fair treatment towards those Southerners who have brought their slaves into the Territory, and that under no circumstances should they be deprived of their slave property, or by a territorial legislative act be compelled suddenly to send away their slaves. The great mass of the free State men of Kansas, I believe, entertain these views. Prudence requires that we should look at and handle the whole question as it stands to-day. It is useless to go back two years and whine over intermediate results. The party in power, and to be in power for four years hence, controls the destiny of Kansas. Let that party now take the responsibility of making it a free or a slave State. The recent changes in federal officers here and many other parts induce me to believe that all has been done by us that is necessary at present. Let well enough alone. The composition of the Senate precludes all hope of success for the Topeka constitution, and the House of course will not pass the Toombs bill. Under these circumstances, congressional action is impossible, and the sooner our friends comprehend that fact the better it will be for our interests. A "masterly inactivity" now will probably accomplish our views.

While such is the true state of affairs in Kansas, it would seem that all honest free State men ought to be content to "let well enough alone." But this state of affairs does not suit a few miserable demagogues there; they desire to renew the late scenes of anarchy, bloodshed and rebellion. This is apparent from the following "special despatch to the N. Y. Tribune":—

TOPEKA, K. T., Jan. 7.

The State Legislature opened here yesterday, and after a short session adjourned until to-day, as neither Gov. Robinson nor Lieut. Gov. Roberts has been here. Gov. Robinson has resigned. Roberts is in the Territory, but has failed to attend. Much dissatisfaction prevails in consequence. Yesterday a U. S. Deputy Marshal, acting under a writ from Judge Cato arrested seven members of the State Legislature. The writ has upward of thirty names attached to it. More arrests will likely be made. This is another effort to kill the free State movement. Judge Curtis, President of the Senate, will deliver a Message as acting Governor to-day. There is an almost unanimous determination that the Legislature shall go on with its work. It is doubtful whether they will be able to do so. Gov. Robinson has resigned and Lieut. Gov. Roberts is not here, and the people are now holding a meeting to censure both. It is thought a quorum will be here in a day or two, which is better than was at first supposed.

It is apparent from this that the more prom-

inent of the free State men are opposed to this attempt to renew the rebellion against the U. S. authorities. "Gov." Robinson has resigned, "Lieut. Gov." Roberts was absent, and it is doubtful whether a quorum of this sham Legislature would be present. Truly, the game of setting up a revolutionary government in Kansas must be pretty nearly played out, when so many of its leaders and prime movers have backed out of it; and the sooner it is given up entirely, and the more decidedly it is reprobated by all parties, the better will it be for the cause of freedom in Kansas, and for the happiness and welfare of the people there. No intelligent man can doubt this, and all who aid or countenance this wicked movement will thus far contribute to the defeat of the object they profess to desire.