

MEN OF NOTE IN KANSAS.

NUMBER IV

COL. TITUS.

Colonel Henry T. Titus is a native of the State of New York, having been born in one of the pleasant little villages that dot the shore of Cayuga lake. His father conducted and owned a 'mammoth distillery' there.

While Henry was yet a lad, his father engaged in the lumbering business on the Lehigh, in Pennsylvania, and removed with his family to the Valley of Wyoming. In this valley of the mountains, peopled originally by a Connecticut colony, Henry grew up to manhood.

While a boy at school he became prominent, not from proficiency in his studies or development of intellect, (for he was never noted for either of them) but because he was large for his years and possessed of great physical beauty. For beauty of face and person the whole family were rather remarkable, and Henry had his full share of it.

Shortly after coming to manhood he obtained a situation in the Philadelphia Post Office through a relative, a distinguished lawyer of that city. While he held this he was one of the gayest of the dashing and fashionable boarders at Jones' Hotel in Chestnut street, drove a splendid pair of fast trotters, and was the admiration of all the ladies.

He was handsomer then than now, for his form, which is beginning to grow corpulent, was very graceful, and his fresh, girl-like face did not look deficient for want of intellectual or manly expression. His features had not yet 'set,' and his character was just beginning to develop.

He soon left this situation, however, and after an interval of gay leisure, he went South and engaged with his father in the manufacture of yellow pine lumber, in Florida. Here he married a Southern lady, and became, as usual in such cases, more orthodox on the slavery question than Southern men themselves.

When the Kansas excitement swept the South he was selected as a suitable man to go there from Florida, and taking a colony of white men and a dozen slaves, he fixed his residence a couple of miles southeast of Lecompton, the territorial capital, and became an acknowledged leader in the pro-slavery party.

The men under his command committed depredations on their Free State neighbors until they could stand it no longer, and a company under Captain Walker resolved to attack his house and drive him and his men from the neighborhood. Titus fought bravely at the commencement of the action, and was wounded in three places—in the right arm and hand, and in the left shoulder; but after the place was taken it is said he was found ignominiously concealed in a closet, and when dragged out by order of Captain Walker, begged piteously for his life.

When Captain Mitchell was afterwards a prisoner at Lecompton—among the hundred and ten—he was impetuous enough, at some slight affront from Titus, to say to him, 'You may shoot me, but you can't make me beg as you did when we dragged you out of that closet.' For this, Titus ordered him to be gagged.

After Mitchell escaped they met. Titus was alone, but Mitchell surrounded by his free State friends. The gallant free Stater said to the Colonel: 'I have a bullet consecrated for your destruction, but will not take advantage of you in the midst of my friends, but should we ever meet in the Territory on equal terms, it will be your life or mine.'

Captain Mitchell was not the only free State prisoner who had consecrated a bullet for this especial purpose, and, some say, a knowledge of this fact had as much to do in influencing Titus to go to the aid of Walker, as any desire for the independence of Central America.

When taken by Capt. Walker, Titus was carried to Lawrence a prisoner, but released mainly through the influence of Col. Lane, with whom, though fighting on the opposite side of a great cause, he has many sympathies in common.

When Gov. Geary arrived in Kansas, all the free State men who had taken part in the troubles were arrested, while the Border Ruffians who had been successful in their raids, took their stolen property and went home to Missouri, and those that had been unsuccessful were promoted to offices and places of trust.—Under this arrangement, Col. Titus was

made the Governor's Aid, and set (with his men) to guard as prisoners the free State men whom he had so lately met on the field as enemies.

Gov. Geary, with great tact, tried to use Col. Titus to conciliate the pro-slavery party, and before he left Kansas Titus began to reap the harvest that all pro-slavery men, born in the North, are sure to reap, if they are not violent or reasonable men, or ever dare to discountenance the most outrageous of pro-slavery reasoners. His party began to say of him, 'He was born in the North, he's a d— abolitionist at heart, anyhow.' Toward no man could this remark be more unjust than toward Col. Titus, who was born to be a slaveholder and a fillibuster—fitted for these two positions by every characteristic of his nature.—Not artful enough for concealment or mental reservation, he spoke what he thought, and his sentiments were ultra enough for the most orthodox and exacting southern man.

Colonel Titus is a fine looking military man, and is very proud of his trappings and attire. This weakness is seen particularly in his gay Kossuth hat with its long black feather. He is about six feet high, with a full broad face, a clear healthy complexion of white and red, a large black eye, jet black hair and beard.—He is about twenty eight or thirty years of age, is just beginning to show signs of corpulence, and if he lives to any age, will become bulky and unwieldy.

His title of Colonel is complimentary—that term is used to designate the commander of a regiment of four companies, but Titus has never had two full ones under his command. His rank, therefore, should be Captain, but military titles are so common in Kansas that less than Colonel there don't mean anything. The stable-boy that takes your horse is called Captain, and a common soldier would feel insulted to be spoken to as Sargeant or Lieutenant.

Though always extravagant, he was not rich; but his Southern wife is said to have property, twelve thousand dollars of which, it is said, the Colonel has sunk in trying to introduce slavery into Kansas. He, however, gave up the enterprise as desperate, and is now on his way to unite his fortunes to those of Capt. Walker in Central America. His full habit and high living will be more dangerous enemies to him in that tropical climate than the natives. With little heart and less brain, he has already achieved a notoriety which abler men have struggled for in vain, and should he find a grave in that pestilent country, either from disease or the guns of the enemy, it is not impossible that he may receive the reward of earthly greatness—a monumental marble, and a place in story.

Snow Storm South.

There was a severe snow storm and extensively cold weather at Memphis, on the 20th inst. The Little Rock True Democrat, of the 13th inst., says:

We have just had the heaviest and most lasting snow, during the last week, that we ever remember to have seen in Arkansas. The river, though yet in good beating order, is slowly falling. The ice is running this morning pretty considerably.

The weather is turning warm—the sun is beginning to be felt, and we may expect in a very few days to see the ground clear of snow, and the river again swelling.

Here is a fifty year old *jeu de esprit* that is quite "as good as new." A rich old gentleman of the name of Gould married a girl not yet out of her "teens."—After the wedding he wrote the following couplet to inform a friend of the happy event:—

"You see, my dear Doctor,
Though eighty years old,
A girl of nineteen
Falls in love with old Gould!"

To which the Doctor replied—

"A girl of nineteen
May love Gould it is true,
But believe me dear sir,
It is gold without 'ul"

A JOKE AT THE PROFESSION.—In the trial of Huntington, the New York forger, his father testified as follows: 'My son Charles was, in his youth, prone to take things that did not belong to him; he has altered the family record, would tell untruths, and would give two different stories about the same fact, without any motive for it. In consequence of his proclivities I had designed making him a lawyer.'

The New York Times says the new coinage law is already in effect, and that orders have been given at the postoffice in that city to receive no more Spanish small coins.