

Lawrence, Kansas,

Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> 1859.

Dear Doctor -

On Monday the Legislature assembled at Leecompton and organized by the election of A. Largalier, of Doniphan, speaker, B. P. Ayres, of Linn, clerk, and - Elder from the<sup>19</sup> disfranchised counties as assistant clerk.

The Council reorganized, threw Good in overboard, but reelected Babcock.

You will wonder why Roberts, who<sup>was</sup> prospect for speaker was so fair when you went away, should so easily have been defeated, Up to ~~the~~ last Thursday he seemed to be the only prominent candidate in the field, but on the arrival of the Doniphan and Atchison members it was found that the master hand of some eminent scoundrel had been at work. These persons, or some one of them, aided by some outsider, had formed a combination to take advantage of the desire of the Douglas & Johnson del-  
egation

to secure the sitting of the Legislature at Lawrence. On Saturday they made to our county, this proposition: "If you will go for A. Largalier, for speaker, and M. W. Delahay, for clerk, we will furnish nine votes for Lawrence and for making Tracher, Printer. Our delegation, excepting Morrow consented. In addition to this, Largalier and his friends, among them, Rev. Johnson and the anti-slavery man of 30 yrs standing, together with Conway, Tracher & their followers held a caucus on Saturday evening at the Johnson House, deciding thereat, that it was the duty of those members of republican tendencies to support this ticket. Roberts was denounced as a Democrat, although in opposition to Douglas & Dred Scott, and whiskey loving Delahay, who had as lief by a "nigger as a mule," fully ~~xxx~~ endorsed as a true and worthy Republican. The last was not done, perhaps, so much from their admiration of the man, as from the fact that he with some good old Bourbon had

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managed to get control of some votes those  
simon pure republicans very much needed.

This combination could have been defeated  
had not Rev. Johnson and Taughton frightened  
some of the Leavenworth delegation, by telling  
them that Roberts as a Wyandott man,  
was opposed to them and that it would not  
do to give him too much prominence.

On Sunday, the Sargalier men became  
frightened on account of their endorsement of Del-  
abay. He was too impure for any man to swal-  
low, so by Monday morning they concluded to  
drop him and probably arranged with Mitch-  
ell to vote for Ayres, his partner, as clerk, if  
Mr. would vote for Sargalier.

If I had not been from Lawrence  
I could have secured the clerkship. I should  
have been chosen assistant clerk on the 1<sup>st</sup>  
ballot, had Wright not made, as he says, a  
bull, and voted against me. As it was I  
should have been elected, had not the 19  
counties, made a personal appeal in behalf of  
their candidate, saying, it was all they asked.

Thacher has lately been at Leavenworth a number of times, and it is thought that this arrangement was made there, in order that he might secure the printing. Plumb, however will be a formidable competitor, he being a candidate.

Vaughan, the old gent., is on hand, cultivating acquaintance, giving advice, and preparing the way for his senatorial race.

The adjournment to Lawrence was easily carried and approved by the Governor, after 20 hours ponderous deliberation.

Judge Wright, has as you predicted, made an ass of himself. He got into a row with Branscombe, called him a beardless boy; at which B. got angry & with great indignation showed his beard and denied the charge.

Wright was well bribed for his dunce like sallies, and Branscombe added no laurels to his scholastic brow.

Deitzler rode up, and came down with me. He says he has often told Thacher that he treats you wrongly and wishes very much to see the differences healed. He regrets that you should suppose that he sympathizes with ~~you~~ these attacks upon you and would like to have the old friendly feeling exist ~~with~~ between you.

He thinks of writing a letter to you asking you to write on <sup>subjects</sup> general interest, which he will give to Thacher for publication. He asked whether I thought you would repulse him? Thacher told me that when he came to Kansas there was no man ~~for~~ whom he had higher admiration than for you, and that this feeling continued until you charged with things he had never done. He dislikes to have the present feelings exist, and

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presumes that he, like yourself, <sup>is</sup> somewhat vindictive, when aroused. Deitzler is down on Conway and the Leavenworth Constitution.

No one has appeared to pay for the Hooten property.

I was elected as chief enrolling clerk. James has promised me he will not get drunk again until you return. I told him if he did, he must leave.

Enclosed I find a letter this day received.

Truly Yours

S. C. S.

On last Sunday evening, an amusing, if not ridiculous, circumstance, took place at the Methodist church. The Rev. Johnson, was the preacher. During his sermon, he most loudly, and perhaps fervently, declaimed in favor of a revival and thought the fire might as well commence at Lawrence as anywhere, and also made some personal allusions to that distinguished murderer, whom he denominated Brother Lane, who was present.

When Johnson concluded his mighty effort, he sat down and covered his massive brow with his hand, in that devout and affecting manner which is so natural to divines of refined and elegant taste. McLean, of the Leavenworth Ledger, who was there, drunk as usual, got up, walked to the pulpit, seized his hand & congratulated him on his effort & trusted it would have a good effect upon him. Johnson got up, put his arm affectionately around him, led him to a seat & said something in relation to him, concerning his desire to be a better man & his conduct during the war in Mexico. McLean replied, saying that as he had been personally alluded to, he believed it his duty to say something to his brothers and sisters of Lawrence. He said when Bro. Johnson spoke of Mexico, he was forcibly reminded of the time when he "fought, bled and died, nary a time on its blood stained fields." Lane soon got up and made an exhortation in which among other things he said that, when his mother died, she with his hand upon his head & with tears

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