

other. It is expected that every good citizen will aid and assist the lawful authorities in the execution of the laws of the Territory and the preservation of good order.

Your obedient servant,

WILSON SHANNON.

General H. J. STRICKLER.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, }
Territory of Kansas, } ss.

Be it remembered, that on this sixth day of December, in the year A. D. 1855, personally appeared before me, J. M. Burrell, one of the associate justices of the supreme court of the said Territory of Kansas, Harrison Buckley, of lawful age, who being by me duly sworn, saith that he is a citizen of the county of Douglas, and has resided therein since 30th day of March last, and has resided during all that time at Hickory Grove; that he was informed on good authority, and which he believed to be true, that Jacob Branson had threatened his life, both before and after the difficulty between Coleman and Dow, which led to the death of the latter. I understood that Branson swore that deponent should not breathe the pure air three minutes after I returned, this deponent at this time having gone down to Westport, in Missouri; that it was these threats, made in various shapes, that made this deponent really fear his life, and which induced him to make affidavit against the said Branson, and procure a peace warrant to issue, and be placed in the hands of the sheriff of Douglass county; that this deponent was with the said sheriff (S. J. Jones) at the time the said Branson was arrested, which took place about two or three o'clock in the morning; that Branson was in bed when he was arrested by said sheriff; that no pistol or other weapon was presented at the said Branson by any one; that after the arrest and after the company with the sheriff had proceeded about five miles in the direction of Lecompton, the county seat of Douglas county, the said sheriff and his posse were set upon by about between thirty and forty men, who came out from behind a house, all armed with Sharp's rifles, and presented their guns cocked, and called out who they were; and said Branson replied that they had got him a prisoner; and these armed men called on him to come away. Branson then went over on their side, and Sheriff Jones said they were doing something they would regret hereafter in resisting the laws; that he was sheriff of Douglas county, and, as such, had arrested Branson. These armed men replied that they had no laws, no sheriff and no governor, and that they knew no laws but their guns. The sheriff, being overpowered, said to these men, that if they took him by force of arms he had no more to say, or something to that import, and then we rode off. This deponent further states that there has been three houses burned in the Hickory Point settlement; one was this deponent's house, another belonged to Josiah Hargis, and the third to said Coleman. All I had in the world was burned up, leaving my wife and children without clothing. This deponent's wife and