

my informant of the captain of this band, after he had related the incident.

“O, well, I don't know; *they all got into the river somehow.*”

“Oh! if that river could speak, what tales it could tell!” was the passionate exclamation of that truly loyal but terrible man, before he narrated that affair. Such men were made terrible by the stormy scenes in which they lived and moved — scenes begun by border ruffians battling for slavery, and continued by rebels.

I cannot close this notice of Lawrence without some mention of a well-remembered friend of my early life, Judge Smith, formerly of Butler, Pa., and who is well known to many of the readers of the *Gazette*. He was in Kansas during all the border troubles, in which he bore an active and conspicuous part, but rather as a counsellor and guiding mind than as a warrior. Few men labored harder, suffered more, or did more to bring that memorable struggle to a successful and triumphant termination than he. I was glad to meet him and his excellent wife — a Kittanning lady — and I highly enjoyed the hospitality of their beautiful home, where, in quietude and peace, and loved and honored by those by whom they are surrounded, they can rehearse to their stranger friends the struggles, the battles, and the triumphs of bygone days.

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LETTER XII.— *Towns in Kansas — Atchison — Kansas City — Wyandotte — Topeka — Waumega — Lecompton — Manhattan.*

ST. LOUIS, July 3, 1867.

I HAVE said that I should only speak of such cities and towns in Kansas as I have visited. I did not visit Atchison, a lively and progressive city of several thousand inhabitants, situated on the west bank of the Missouri, some fifteen miles below St. Joseph, and a like distance above Leavenworth. A railroad running directly west for one hundred miles through a very fine country, starts here and is already finished and in operation for a distance of fifty or sixty miles. A law of Congress grants the company a subsidy in lands and bonds for a distance of one hundred miles; and doubtless the grant will be extended as soon as the road shall be completed that distance. Whether it will be continued on until it reaches the Union Pacific Railway of the Kansas, or that of the Platte, or both, is a question not yet determined. Should it be continued in a southern direction to the first-named road, it will probably reach it at or near Manhattan, 120 miles west of Kansas City. Atchison is connected by rail with St. Joseph.