

THE WAR IN ARKANSAS.

The Expedition Under General BLUNT— Designs of the Rebels.

Correspondence of the Missouri Democrat.

**HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY OF THE SOUTHWEST, IN
THE FIELD, FORT SCOTT, Kansas, Aug. 26, 1862.**

The greatest activity prevails here in getting the army ready for an immediate advance towards Arkansas.

General BLUNT, commanding the forces, has received information that all the troops in the Department of Kansas, and all those in Southwest Missouri, including all the recent levy of militia, will be concentrated at such point as he may designate.

This portion of the army is finely equipped, and contains four complete batteries of eight guns each. The troops have been brigaded, and the different commanders ordered to move their commands to suitable places east and south of Fort Scott, where a full supply of forage, grass, fuel, and good healthy water can be obtained.

Information has just been received here, confirming the report that the Rebels are concentrating in large numbers at Cross Hollows, Ark., with the intention of marching north, proposing to take Fort Scott and then Fort Leavenworth.

The Rebel PIKE had made a speech to his men, saying that he intended to be at Fort Leavenworth before the snow fell. There is no doubt that such is the idea held out to the Rebel force now concentrating at Cross Hollows, and the recent excursion under COCKERELL and COFFEE to Lone Jack was for the purpose of escorting the new levies down to Arkansas. Hundreds of men followed them, and the two pieces of the Louisiana Battery captured at Lone Jack, but the men were mostly without arms.

The day before yesterday QUANTRELL and HAYS' bands came up with six companies of the Second Kansas and three companies of the Sixth Kansas, near Lamar. Major CAMPBELL and Capt. GREEN, of the Sixth Kansas, attacked them with about sixty of their men, and had a severe fight, lasting two hours. Two men were killed and twenty-one wounded. Lieut.-Col. BASSETT, commanding the Second Kansas, marched upon the opposite side of the stream, out of danger.

The wounded men say that the Rebels had about seven hundred men, and if BASSETT had helped them they would have whipped the Rebels. Col. CLOUD left his force the day before to recruit at this place. All say that had he been there, QUANTRELL and HAYS would have been taken.