

gow to destroy a skiff. One object of our cruise was to take from the rebels the means of crossing the Missouri River. On his return he was followed by a young negro, who had been out on a Sunday walk, and suddenly conceived the idea of getting rid of his master. He was brought aboard, and turned out to be a slave of Col. Lowz, of the rebel army, and Ex-Secretary of the State Convention, and named NARR. He was christened ESSEX, and set to work washing dishes and scouring kettles. I asked him, the other day, "ESSEX, would you like to be a slave again?" "No, Massa, it feels good to be free, only I'd like to have my mother free, too."

A detachment of the Halleck and Essex Guards visited the farm of Maj.-Gen. STERLING PRICE at night.

His son was at home on parole, and his daughter. They received their visitors courteously, and supplied them with all that they wanted. On leaving, several of their slaves packed up their bundles and followed the men to the boat. Here occurred a division of opinion. Part of the men wanted them to be taken aboard, and freed; part not. There came near being a fight. The majority sent them back to slavery, and once more to taste its bitterness. J. W. S.

THE BATTLE OF LONE JACK.

This battle took place Aug. 17, between 800 men, composed of Companies C and A of the Second Battalion State Militia, an artillery company (F) of the Seventh Missouri, having two 12-pounders, and a small part of MERRILL'S cavalry, and 4,000 men, under Col. COFFEE and Col. UPTON HIGGINS. The command has passed through Lone Jack—a small town, divided into two parts called the old and new town. About 11 o'clock at night they had a skirmish, and then fell back to the new town, and encamped. The cannon were posted in and commanding a lane, but were surrounded by high corn. The pickets northwest of the town found before daylight that they were within a half mile of the picket of the enemy. At sunrise the enemy, under COFFEE and HIGGINS, swarmed in toward the cannon, firing irregularly. The Texas Rangers soon picked off the cannoniers and shot the horses, then charged and took the cannon. The militia, under FOSTER, rallied and retook the cannon, drove the enemy through the new town to the old town, and out of that. At this moment a large body of men were seen coming from Independence. The order was given to retreat. The cannon was dragged away by hand, but being without harness had to be left. The other cannon had been taken to pieces by the rebels, dismounted and scattered, so that parts could not be found. The fire of the enemy is represented as terrible, but the militia stood to their work without flinching. A soldier says the balls flew like bees. The small balls sharp toned, the large ones with a whizz; Minié balls mostly flying over. I have not seen a man yet who does not show bullet holes in his clothes. Lieut. ANDERSON, of Company —, shows four holes in his coat, had his shoulder strap shot off, and was wounded slightly in two places. The buckshot penetrate but little. I saw one man with a shot in his scalp which he says he'd keep there for a trophy.

ADVENTURE OF CAPT. LAWREN, OF COMPANY A.

Capt. LAWREN found himself at a critical period of the fight detached from his company. He ordered a charge by company F to the right to flank the party attacking the cannoniers. He led them on, but soon found himself alone, was shot, and fell on his back. Five men approached. He shot one with his revolver. The rest fled. His men rallied, and took him to the dam, where they left him. Hearing a noise he turned around, and found a bushwhacker poking his rifle through a crack, and drawing a bead on him. He threw back his pistol behind him, fired, and killed his man. His men returning soon after, brought him in.

HEROISM OF MAJ. FOSTER.

Maj. FOSTER was the hero of the expedition. He was everywhere in the thickest of the fight, rallying and cheering on his men. When the cannon were taken, first he addressed the militia, told them to die rather than surrender, and ordered a charge. The Texans gave way before their furious onset and retreated. FOSTER was struck three or four times, and finally fell, and was left with a flag of truce in the hands of the enemy. He is a second LYON, and was sacrificed in much the same way. The loss of the enemy was about 200, of whom 85 were killed outright. Our loss was 55, of whom a list is appended. The prisoners were released on parole, and state that they were treated very kindly. The prisoners report that the enemy were glad to get off as well as they did, as they thought at one time that they were whipped. They recognized many among the rebels who had taken the oath of allegiance and were on their parole. In fact, the whole country has arisen, and mostly joined the ranks to escape the draft. We are mustering a force, however, that will settle the heads of the rebels. There will be no "cooping up," as in MULLIGAN'S case under FREMONT, or waiting for the rebels to gather head and attack. Gen. LOAN, the great rebel-hunter who chased down POINDexter and PORTER, is here, and has assumed the command. Our force of 5,000, I venture to predict, will be launched on HIGGINS and QUANTRELL like a thunderbolt. The Warner ferried across 800 men and horses yesterday and to-day. They were all "butternuts" in homespun, on their own nags, armed with rifles and shot-guns, and powder-horns; their blankets taken from their beds, and showing the work of their wives and daughters. Four of the companies are from Jay County, and three from Carroll. They can ride like Arabs and shoot like Indians. Wo to the rebels that cross their path.

The Warner, in her passage up the Missouri, caused the release of our contraband from Slavery. Lieut. FOSTER, of the Essex Guard, went ashore below Clus-