

Speech on Price's Raid

[page 1]

It is not true but false that Genl[.] Curtis did not see or converse with Genl[.] Marmaduke until the following day at Fort Scott--on the contrary Genl[.] Curtis did not see either Genls[.] Marmaduke or Cabell the following day either at Fort Scott or elsewhere--but left that place early the following morning in the pursuit of Price intent upon the demolition of the army of that [MS. illegible]--leaving to his subordinates the custody of the prisoners.

Again on the field of that charge Genl[.] Marmaduke was formally delivered to Genl[.] Curtis as a prisoner by Col[.] Blair in my presence & [remained?] between Genls[.] Curtis & myself [as?] such prisoner for at least one half hour & was by Genl[.] Curtis in my presence treated well by

[page 2]

his influence extended it would be [MS. illegible] to have him return it.

The [MS. illegible] at the Kansas troops contained in the above is as cowardly as the statements to which I have referred are false[.] Twenty five [thousand?] Kansas troops aided by north Missourians in Kansas regiments [MS. illegible] at Lexington & for five long hours held them at bay & not until they were almost [MS. illegible] by [text stricken through] overwhelming [MS. illegible] did they draw back & when they did retire--[MS. illegible] slowly [text stricken through] [MS. illegible]. Again at Little Blue the [same?] handful of [heroes?] [text stricken through] [found?] in the [Second?] Colorado composed chiefly of Kansas men--again fought for 4 1/2 hours

[page 3]

Prices entire army & for a portion of the time gained considerable advantage over him.

Again at Westport the same troops reinforced by the Militia of [text stricken through] of Kansas & aided by a [division?] from the Division of Genl. Pleasanton [MS. illegible] after two days fighting toward Prices army southward.

These various engagements & this heavy marching had so exhausted the [MS. illegible] of the Kansas & Colorado troops--that at [text stricken through] point Genl[.] Curtis determined to give Genl[.] Pleasantons command the [MS. illegible] for the following [text stricken through] [MS. illegible] Genl[.] Blunts force within easy supporting distance--nobly did the troops of Missouri[,] Iowa & Indiana aided by the Kansas troops & officers to whom I have referred discharge their duty--The battles of Lexington--Little Blue & West Point [MS. illegible]

[page 4]

[MS. illegible] that I was in all the engagements from Lexington to Drywood--& it [is] with pleasure I bear testimony to the skill & courage of Genl[.] Curtis, Blunt & Pleasanton & to the fighting qualities of their troops[.] [text stricken through] nobly & gallantly did they discharge their duty--their conduct & never has or can be surpassed--to their bravery & devotion & to our noble militia is Kansas indebted for her preservation[.] long may her people remember with gratitude [text stricken through] their [MS. illegible][.]