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Six months later, John Brown visited Concord and met Emerson at the house of Thoreau, where Brown had been staying with me, and describing to Thoreau the fight at Black Jack and the nature of his hostility to slavery.

*se* The two idealists, both of them in revolt against the civil government then established in this country, because of its ~~base~~ subservience to slavery, ~~found themselves~~ friends from the beginning of their acquaintance. They sat after dinner, discussing the events of the border warfare in Kansas, and Brown's share in them, when, as it often happened, ~~Mr.~~ Emerson called at ~~Mr.~~ Thoreau's door on some errand to his friend. Thus the three men first met under the same roof, and found that they held the same opinion of what was uppermost in the mind of Brown. He did not reveal to them, either then or later, his Virginia plans; but he declared frankly, as he always did, his purpose of attacking slavery, wherever it could be reached; and this was the sentiment of his speech at the evening meeting, when he told the story of his Kansas life to the grandsons of the men who began the war of the Revolution at Concord, ~~bridge~~. He spoke of the murder of one of his seven sons, the imprisonment and insanity of another; and as he shook before his audience the chain which his ~~free-born~~ son had worn, for no crime but for resisting slavery, his words rose to thrilling eloquence, and made a wonderful impression on his audience. From that time the Concord people were on his side, as they afterwards testified on several occasions. He was again

*his*

in Concord for several days in April, 1857, and on this visit was the guest of Mr. Emerson for a day; from whose house he drove across the country to Mr. Stearns's house at Medford, one pleasant Sunday morning in that April. The journals of Emerson, Thoreau, and, two years later, of their friend Bronson Alcott, will bear witness to the impression made by ~~Captain~~ Brown on these three founders of a school of thought and literature.

*John*