

The Observations Discontinued.

In a well-considered and thoughtful article, under this head, the Boston Courier, the organ of the Webster Whigs of Massachusetts, says each day throws new light and more full upon the recent outbreak at the South. The actual testimony from the scenes of strife, the disingenuous and unscrupulous line of argument adopted by the Republican press; the reminiscences which are awakened concerning the previous history of Brown, the active ringleader; all these things unite in a chain of most conclusive proof that though the Republican party, as a party, may not be implicated, yet that some of its most influential journals, were one of the most common mistakes in conspiracies, was hastened to a premature and abortive birth.

When the news of the catastrophe was first spread throughout the country, there was a strange and constrained silence among the Republican newspapers at the North: some said not a word; some spoke in general terms of the folly of the attempt. The official organ of the party in Boston hinted that the real cause of the outbreak was a question of wages—then said that the action of Brown was a sad proof of how had the effect of a small quantity of powder could be upon a man who had once taken up arms—hinted also, very timidly, that inasmuch as the outbreak was not wise, its leader must be insane. The impression forced upon the mind of every cool and intelligent reader of these papers was similar to that conveyed by the sight of a band of conspirators, to whose ears a vague rumor of trouble and disaster to a distant wing of their organization has come, and who, stricken dumb with apprehension, separate, holding themselves aloof from each other, and distrustful every man.

But soon the plea of insanity was adopted by the leaders of the Republican party, and was promulgated by the New York Journals. Upon this cue the mouths of the country Press were opened; insanity was all the cry—poor Brown, crazed by the death of his sons, received an outbreak of sympathy which gained the appearance of sincerity, because, seeming to open a path for retreat, it was accompanied by an expansion as of great relief.

What are the facts concerning "Old Brown"? Though early allied with the Republican party, a party with which he has always since acted, he was too bold even for them; though they used him as a tool, they feared that his indiscretion and unscrupulousness would bring trouble upon their heads. He was a notorious murderer long before he is said to have become insane. Months before his son was killed he had reddened his hands with the blood of at least three persons, murdered by him. There is not an act in relation of which the plea of insanity is now set up that cannot be matched in atrocity by deeds committed before even his defenders, brazen as they are, dare to offer the same excuse.

Months before this he was engaged by the Republican leaders to canvass the country, making speeches for their candidate! Says the organ in Boston, referring to his recent plans, they were the "mad schemes of an unfortunate man, whose mind was long since broken and his reason almost dethroned by misfortune." And this broken down man, this raging maniac, or this drivelling idiot, was the chosen and petted and applauded champion of the Republican party! In what a fever of apprehension, in what an age of dismay must these leaders, the editors be, when they can make such humiliating confessions!

A few months ago "Old Brown"—insane "Old Brown"—broken-minded "Old Brown"—was in Boston. He was teased and flattered. He was in secret conference with Republican leaders, politicians and editors. Money was furnished him—for his "Kansas work"? Did he then show evidences of insanity? Was his reason almost dethroned then? Nothing but the necessity of self-preservation can excuse these politicians and editors for their cowardly and ungrateful act in now flinging him overboard. They know too well that they stand on slippery places. They know too well that secrets which are no secrets are flying about on the tongues of men, and that sooner or later they must be made public, to the eternal shame, it may be ruin, of those who have been drawn into the meshes of treason's net.

There is no danger that the people will be hood-winked by this flimsy and desperate plea of insanity. It is too clearly the last resort of trembling criminals. Every attempt made by the Republican press to strengthen their case only exposes its utter weakness. They are almost to be pitied, for they know not which way to turn. See to what contemptible subterfuges one of them is driven. This paragraph here following, is from the pen of one of the most prominent men in the "dominant party" of Mass., he is the Speaker of the House of Representatives; he is the editor of the official organ of that Commonwealth. Hear him.

"The Boston Courier objects that the Republican papers call John Brown crazy. The New York Journal of Commerce says, 'To be sure he was crazy.' Is the Journal of Com. a Republican paper?"

In the name of respectability, of ordinary truth, what are we to think of him who could deliberately cut out the above words from their context, and affix to them such a false implication! Here is the passage from the Journal of Commerce:

"Where, then, rests the responsibility of this insurrection? Who is responsible for the thirty lives lost, and for the hangings and imprisonments which are yet to follow? Do not the words 'John Brown crazy'—'Max'—'frown down upon every one of those persons, whether editors, clergymen or other citizens, who have aided, directly or indirectly, in exciting or promoting the fatal attempt? It matters not that they thought they were doing God service. It is in vain that they asseverate, in the distressed language of one of our contemporaries, that 'no political party is responsible,' and plead in extenuation of the atrocities of Brown, that he was 'crazy.' To be sure he was crazy, and has long been so; but he is no more a paper than those by whom he has so long been encouraged in his bloody career."

tors compelled to resort to such prevarication! "Old Brown" was crazy? He was a "fanatic," and at the head of a few "fanatic" crazy like himself," he essayed a hopeless strike. Where could he have procured his arms and ammunition sufficient for a host of soldiers? Whence came the revolution, the Sharpe's rifles, the spears? "Old Brown" received much money from all parts of the North—but it was for his "Kansas work!" It is a monstrous sham, this which the Republican press are trying to force down the throats of their friends, to pour into the ears of the people at large. It is a monster and an abortion.

The Erie Observer joins the Democratic papers of a like stripe in attempting to inflame the public mind by charging the recent insurrectionary movement at Harper's Ferry upon the Republican party.—Gazette.

True, most true; and for such a course it has had most efficient teachers in the Gazette, and now because the chickens of the Gazette's own hatching have come home to roost, our cotemporary is wonderfully exercised. There has not been a fight over a land title—a personal quarrel at an election—a horse thief shot or hung—or an outrage of any kind in Kansas for the last four years, that the Gazette and kindred Republican papers have not ascribed to the Democratic party. Again, to adopt the language of the New York Times, the Gazette "saw no propriety in Republican organs holding the attempt of Forney's press to fasten the responsibility of Senator Brodrick's death upon the Administration. They charged Mr. BROWN and his adherents with having persecuted Mr. B. for his hostility to their policy, with having goaded him into passionate resentment of their injustice, and with having virtually conspired to get rid of him by assassination. But they now resent very vigorously the attempt of the Democratic journals to fasten upon them the responsibility of the insurrection at Harper's Ferry. They are shocked at the injustice and malevolence of the effort. They should have learned from their own experience that there is no passion so reckless and remorseless as party zeal—that it seldom consults truth or justice in the warfare it wages, and that if they resort to poisoned weapons themselves, they must expect to have them hurled back into their own ranks."

We think the Harper's Ferry affair can be traced to the political warfare waged in Kansas, and to the inflammatory temper to which the public mind has been heated by the passionate harangues of Anti-Slavery politicians in the Northern States." The Gazette, led on by the Tribune, Post, and other Republican journals, disclaim eagerly, on behalf of the Republican party, any intent or thought to foment such bloody and disastrous outbreaks as this at Harper's Ferry, and we believe that so far as the rank and file of the party is concerned, the disclaimer is just. But we shall not absolve nor will the public, the leaders of that party—the Searws, the Chases, the Wilsons, the Webbs, and the Greeleys, from their just responsibility. To show that we do no injustice, in what we have said, to the Republican party, or its individual members, we quote here what their leading organ said—the N. Y. Tribune—printed a day or two after the capture of Brown, in the disclosure of an internal scheme of treason and civil war before it. Speaking of the ringleaders of the insurrection, it pours forth this maudlin strain of compassion and eulogy upon their martyred souls:

"There will be enough to heap execration on the memory of these mistaken men. We leave this work to the fit hands and tongues of those who regard the fundamental axioms of the Declaration of Independence as 'glittering generalities.' Believing that the way to universal emancipation lies not through insurrection, civil war and bloodshed, but through peace, discussion, and the quiet diffusion of sentiments of humanity and justice, we deeply regret this outbreak, but remembering that if their fault was grievous, grievously have they atoned it, we will not, by any reproachful word, disturb the bloody shrouds wherein John Brown and his conspirators are sleeping. They dared and died for what they felt to be right, though in a manner which seems to us fatally wrong. Let their epitaphs remain unwritten until the distant days when slave shall clank his chains in the shade of Monticello or in the grave of Mount Vernon."

Now, what is this but a cowardly paltering, in which sympathy with the object of a devilish conspiracy is qualified by a feeble condemnation of the means for its achievement? Is it not the thin ambiguity through which a traitor would excuse treason, yet seem to denounce it? The substance of the whole paragraph is—and we hold it as the sentiment of all the Republican leaders—that Brown and his confederates were right in their purpose, but imprudent in the mode of executing it, and that abolitionism, triumphant through safer ways of reaching its aim, will yet shout halloo to their noble sacrifice in the cause of "universal emancipation."

The Gazette calls our attention to the fact that "seventeen white men and five negroes" captured two thousand people at Harper's Ferry, without firing a gun! True, but the Gazette neglects to state an important fact, that these "seventeen white men and five negroes" took the town in the night when almost everybody was in bed and asleep, and that by morning they were safely entrenched in a government building. Now let us suppose another case; suppose twenty-two desperate men well armed should march into this town, with her ten thousand inhabitants, some fine heron, and in the morning we should wake up and find them in possession of the Market House, the docks and windows of which would be bristling with Sharpe's rifles and Colt's revolvers.—How many have we even as our cotemporary would it take to dislodge them? A good many, we reckon. The truth is there has been a great deal of courage exhibited by people hundreds of miles away from the range of Brown's rifles, which would have never been exhibited within their range. In other words, it is easy for men to talk fight when out of danger; but show such people the muzzle of a rifle, and their courage very soon cools out of their finger ends.

The number of prisoners in the Erie county jail has increased during the last week, says the Gazette, from 21 to 30. It will be found absolutely necessary to enlarge the jail to accommodate them. Erie county must have a hard race of inhabitants.—Herald.

True!—it sometimes gives two thousand Republican Majorities, and the Gazette promises it shall give three next year!

The Harper's Ferry trials—Conviction and Sentence of Brown. Messrs. Russell & Norton, from Boston, reached here to-day. Cook was brought before the magistrate court and underwent an examination. Copple's trial was resumed. No witnesses were called. Mr. Harding opened for the common-law. Messrs. Hoyt & Griswold followed for the defendant, and Mr. Hunter closed for the prosecution. The speeches were of marked ability. Mr. Griswold asked for several instructions to the jury, which were all granted by the Court, and the jury retired. Brown was then brought in, and the Court House immediately thronged. The Court gave its decision—the motion for an arrest of judgment overruling the objections made. In the objection that treason cannot be committed against a State, he ruled that where allegiance to a State, treason may be committed. Most of the States have passed laws against treason.

The objection as to the form of the verdict rendered, the Court also regarded as insufficient. The Clerk then asked Mr. Brown whether he had anything to say, why sentence should not be passed upon him. Mr. Brown immediately rose, and in a clear and distinct voice said: "I have, may it please the Court, a few words to say. In the first place, I deny everything but what all along I have admitted of a design on the part to which I intended, certainly, to have made a clean thing of that matter, as I did last winter when I went to Missouri and there took slaves without the snapping of a gun on either side, moving them thro' the country and finally to the State of Canada. I designed to have done the same thing on a larger scale. That was all I intended, I never intended treason or the destruction of property, or to excite or incite slaves to rebellion, or to make insurrection. I have another objection, that is, it is unjust that I should suffer such a penalty. 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