

Democrat & Sentinel.



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Trial of Brown the Leader of the Harper's Ferry Conspirators.

The trial of Brown commenced at Charles-ton, the county seat of Jefferson County Vir-ginia, on last Thursday. The indictment charged him first, with insurrection; secondly with treason; thirdly, with murder. On being brought into court, he took occasion to express the belief he entertained, that he would not receive a fair trial. He stated that he had not employed any Counsel and seemed unwilling at first, that the Court should assign him any. It was however finally arranged, that Messrs. Green and Botts, should act as his Counsel. He said that he was not insane at the commencement of, or during the insurrection, and therefore desired that such a plea should not be urged in his behalf. The Jury having been sworn, he pleaded not guilty. Mr. Harding the District Attorney then stated the facts of the case to the Jury, and read the law of Treason in the State of Virginia, which provides, that levying war against the State giving comfort to its enemies, or establishing any other government within its limits, are punishable with death. The murder of a citizen is punishable with death. The advising of a slave to produce insurrection is also a capital offence. After the Counsel for the prisoner had made some able remarks concerning the law affecting the case, the District Attorney proceeded to call the witnesses on behalf of Commonwealth. The testimony thus far does not differ in the slightest degree, from the account of the insurrection published in the Newspapers at the time. On Thursday afternoon, Mr. Green one of the Counsel for the prisoner, informed the court that he had just received a telegraphic despatch from Cleveland, Ohio; stating that Counsel for the prisoner "were coming," and asked the court to adjourn until morning, in order to afford the new Counsel opportunity to cross examine the witnesses. The court refused to adjourn, and the session was continued until the usual hour. The testimony of John Alstadt, a farmer and slaveholder near Harper's Ferry, although brief, gives a correct insight into the designs of Brown in commencing the insurrection, and we therefore publish it.

John Alstadt, sworn—On Monday morning about 3 o'clock, I was aroused from sleep by a noise at the door, I asked who was at the door; the reply was, "get up quick, or we will burn you up." I asked what they intended to do; they said, "To free the country of slavery;" they told me they were going to take me to Harper's Ferry; I dressed myself, and when I got to the door I found they had all my blacks, seven in number; we were all put into a wagon; the negroes were then armed with pikes; all the men who arrested us were armed; we went to the armory yard; where I was put in charge of one of Brown's party; we were afterwards ordered into the watch-house and saw Col. Washington there; Brown came and spoke to us about our getting two negroes to take our place, and he then would release us: nothing further was said about that; Brown's rifle was cocked all the time; the negroes were placed in the watch house with spears in their hands; the slaves showed no disposition to use them; witness was afterwards transferred to the engine house; several negroes were there; saw "Phil" making port holes by Brown's orders; the other negroes doing nothing, and had dropped their spears some of them were asleep nearly all the time (laugh); when the marines made the assault, Brown's party took a position behind the engine house, and aimed at the door; Brown was in front, squatting, he aimed at the marines, and my opinion is that he killed the marine.

Geo. W. Hoyt, Esq., a young Lawyer of Boston, arrived in Charlestown on Friday morning, for the purpose of acting as counsel for Brown. He did not immediately take part in the case. The constitution of the "provisional government" was laid before the Jury. Also a number of letters found in the possession of Brown. Letters from Gerrit Smith, Joshua R. Giddings and other prominent abolition leaders were read. The testimony for the Prosecution closed on Friday afternoon. Several witnesses who had been prisoners of Brown during the insurrection, were called by the defense for the purpose of proving that while in custody, they were treated with humanity. Several witnesses having been called for the defense who did not answer, Brown arose and stated to the Court, "that he thought a fair trial was not given him," and that he believed his counsel were not true to him, that counsel on whom he could rely, would arrive the next day, and requested the Court to adjourn until morning. After some further discussion Mr. Hunter,

one of the counsel for the Commonwealth said:—

"I do not arise for the purpose of protracting the argument or interposing the slightest impediment in any way to a fair trial. This whether promised to Brown or not, is guaranteed by our laws, to every prisoner, and so far as I am concerned, I have studiously avoided suggesting anything to the Court that would in the slightest degree interfere with it. I beg leave to say, in reference to this application, that I supposed the Court, even under these circumstances, will have to be satisfied in some way, through the counsel or otherwise, that this testimony is material testimony. So far as any witness has been examined the evidence relates to the conduct of Capt. Brown, in treating his prisoners with lenity, respect, and courtesy, and this additional matter, that his flags of truce, if you choose to regard them so, were not respected by the citizens, but some of his men were shot. If the defense choose to take that course, we are perfectly willing to admit those facts in any form they desire. Unless the Court shall be satisfied that this testimony which, I have no doubt, is every particle of it here that could be got, is really material to the defense, I submit that the application for delay on that ground ought not to be granted. Some of these witnesses have been here and might have been asked to remain. A host of witnesses on our side have been here and gone away without being called on to testify. I simply suggest that it is due to justice to the Commonwealth which has some rights as well as the prisoner, that information be given to the Court showing what additional testimony is relevant to the issue. The simple statement of the counsel I do not think would be sufficient."

Messrs. Green & Botts, then stated that in consequence of the remarks of the prisoner, they withdrew from the case, and would take no further part in its management. The Court then adjourned. The repeated efforts of Brown to postpone the case created fears in the minds of many citizens of Charlestown, that a rescue would be attempted. On Saturday morning Samuel Charlton of Washington City, and Henry Griswold of Cleaveland appeared, and were qualified as counsel for the prisoners. After calling and examining several witnesses, the testimony for the defense closed, and the Court adjourned until Monday. The argument of the case commenced on Monday morning.

Republican Testimony.

The Editor of the *Tyrone Star*, can now certainly, justly claim to be that which is extremely rare at the present time—a candid Republican. In the last number of his paper, he acknowledges that the insurrection at Harper's Ferry was an attempt to overthrow the Government, which had been maturing for years, and that Brown and his followers were urged on and encouraged in their treasonable enterprise, by Gerrit Smith and other prominent Abolition leaders. He also acknowledges that the doctrines promulgated by Senator Seward & other distinguished Republicans, contributed not a little towards encouraging the ultra Abolitionists in planning and attempting to successfully carry out this insurrection.

There can be no doubt that when Brown commenced operations at Harper's Ferry, he anticipated that it would terminate in a different manner from that in which it did. He acknowledged to Governor Wise, that he expected large reinforcements from different States, and that he had a sufficient number of Rifles Spears &c., in his possession, for arming 2000 men. He expected that the Slaves in Virginia and Maryland would at once rebel against their masters, that the insurrection would soon extend to all the Southern States, and that the St. Domingo Tragedy with all its horrors, would be reenacted. Happily for the country, the Slaves were not willing to play the part assigned them. Consequently the rebellion was put down without any difficulty, and Brown is now on trial before a Jury of his countrymen, charged with the highest crimes, that a human being is capable of committing. He is a Traitor and a Murderer, and we sincerely hope he will not escape the punishment which his deep guilt merits. But what shall we say of such men as Gerrit Smith, Giddings and Fred. Douglass, who gave Brown "aid and comfort" in his treasonable enterprise, but who kept at a respectable distance when the time for action had arrived? As traitors, they are his equal. But in one respect they are his inferiors; he is a brave man, they are cowards.

In order to show our readers the tone of the article in the *Star*, we clip the following extract from it:

"This attempt was unsuccessful, not because it was premature, but because they mistook the elements with which they had to deal. The slaves did not rush to their support as they anticipated, and in stead of having a thousand armed negroes at their backs, with hourly augmenting numbers, with which they could march Southward and light the fire of rebellion, they found themselves alone and unassisted, and crushed out after a few hours of feeble resistance. That this was a preconcerted movement, and not merely the freak of a madman is proven, besides the documentary evidence found with Brown, by the cautionary letter written to Secretary Floyd months ago, and by Smith's letter to the Jerry Rescue Celebration, in which he predicts this very attempt, railing at the same time, that telegraphs and railroads could be rendered useless in a moment; that the whole South would be paralyzed and horror-stricken the moment the blow was struck; that they would make but a feeble resistance to the uprising of their slaves; but that their whole aim would be to hurry their wives and daughters from the inevitable fate that awaited them. These are not Gerrit Smith's words, but the substance of them. What was at that time considered the blustering of a mad Abolitionist, has now a seeming of reality. But Mr. Smith has not proven to

be even "the son of a prophet." The servile population did not rise—the telegraphs and railroads did their duty—the citizens of the South did not run terror-stricken away—and had it not been for the blood shed, the rebellion would have proved a farce.

We are free to admit, that, in our opinion, speeches such as that made by Senator Seward at Rochester, go far towards fostering and building up the Abolition sentiment. We do not believe that the able Senator himself, endorses in his heart what his lips, for the sake of "bumbo," said about the "irrepressible conflict" between the free States and the slave States. But we will not discuss that question now. We will only say that such speeches as the Rochester speech, whilst they do no good, go far towards embittering both sections of our Country; and bringing on that "conflict" which it should be the aim of every good citizen to avoid.

"I called around, Mr. Editor," said

Mordicai to us on last Saturday, "I called around to see the Mountain Cricket Club playing a few days ago. I was very much pleased with the game, but I think the fellows who hold the paddles, or whatever you call them, occupy positions which every good man must condemn." "Why Mordicai?" we asked. "Because he answered, it is the duty of both, to protect the wicked (wicket)." "Mordicai," said we, "I think that is a very flat pun." "That may be all true, Mr. Editor," he replied, "but if you are in the habit of perusing the column headed "Editorial Notes" in the *Alleganian*, you know as well as I do, that flat things are not only said, but actually get into print now a days. "That is very true Mordicai," we answered, "and I must confess, that the sayings of Damphool have gone far towards shaking my belief in the assertion of Shakspear, that there is nothing in name." Do you know Mr. Editor?" said Mordicai, "that Bitters and Damphool are brothers? Damphool is the surname of the family. The youngest of the two was nicknamed Bitters by his friends a number of years ago, because he was in the habit of always taking several Nips before breakfast—a practice to which he still religiously adheres. So you see, Mr. Editor, that they are brothers and both Damphools. "I suspected as much Mordicai for some time," we answered. "There is certainly a strong family resemblance between them." "Mordicai" we continued, "if we may credit the Editor of the *Alleganian*, Bitters says you are better at taking a Nip with your friends than you are at treating them." "Tis a vile slander Mr. Editor," said Mordicai, "but inasmuch as Bitters is a particular friend of mine, I won't quarrel with him about it. Mr. Editor," continued the old gentleman, "although I am not much of a scholar, I think no man can say or write any thing gracefully unless it is natural and not far fetched. If it displays premeditation and a desperate determination on the part of the talker or writer to be witty or smart in spite of nature and his stars, it is absolutely disgusting. There is always great danger of over doing the business in these matters. A fool is often showing his folly when he thinks he is playing the part of a witty or wise man." "That is all true Mordicai," we replied, "and your observations remind me of Hudibras' saying that,

"Food is known by looking wise."

As men find woodcocks by their eyes."

"Mr. Editor" said Mordicai, "let us step over to Isaac's and take a Nip—or if you are not busy, we'll walk up to Whisell's. He keeps a superior article of small beer. Bitters and I drank several bottles of it the other night. Its a wholesome beverage and wont intoxicate." "Thank you Mordicai," we answered, "I am not thirsty just now." "Well," said Mordicai, "I am, Mr. Editor, so good by I'll call to see you again in a few days."

"Last Monday night was Holloway, or Halloween, as Burns calls it, and of course the b'hoys of our town were around for several hours after the "old folks" had retired to rest. They however behaved themselves remarkably well under the circumstances. They amused themselves by barreling the Diamond with store boxes, wagons, &c., and several signs were removed. As the rising generation must and will have a little fun occasionally, it dont do to be too severe on them on occasions of this kind. Mordicai is of the opinion, that none but old women in breeches, grumble at the good natured tricks of Young America on Halloween. He thinks however, that it would be much better for them if they were asleep in their beds, instead of making night hideous with their noise."

Dr. D. T. Storm, our newly elected County Commissioner, has already entered on the discharge of the duties of the office.—

As a business man he has few superiors in the County, and is possessed of both integrity and strong practical common sense, the essential constituents of a model county commissioner. The board now consists of John Bearer of Susquehanna tp., Abel Lloyd of Cambria tp., and Dr. D. T. Storm of Richland tp.

Our enterprising friend, Mr. A. A. Barker, has just received and opened an extensive and well selected stock of Dry Goods, Groceries, &c., in his store-room on High street. Barker is famous for keeping good articles and selling them cheap, and we are certain those of our friends who visit his establishment with the expectation of getting good bargains, will not leave disappointed.—He has also for sale, a large assortment ready made Clothing.

A shock of Earthquake was felt in a portion of Maine and Canada last Friday.

We will feel under obligations to those of our friends in the country, who will send us an account of any event worthy of notice that may occur in the neighborhood in which they reside.

A young Miss, named Sarah Jane Johnston, was recently arrested in Detroit, for stealing five dollars from one lover, to pay the Clergyman's charge for marrying her to another.

A large Bear was shot by Mr. Samuel Tibbott on last Saturday, near the Farm of James Myers, about one mile south of this place.

A bill has been introduced into the Tennessee Legislature, to prevent free Negroes travelling on the Railroads of that State.

THE IRON CITY COLLEGE, of Pittsburg, Pa. drew first Premiums for best Business Writing, at the State Fair at Philadelphia, September, 1859, over the Commercial Schools at the East. The superiority of the Penmanship of this Institution, has been acknowledged at the principal Fairs of the United States, for the last four years.—*Pittsburgh True Press.*

Lyceum.—The question for discussion at the Lyceum on next Friday evening is:

Resolved.—That the love of nationality as manifested by some of our adopted citizens, is inconsistent with the genius of our government.

Mr. Thomas Jones, formerly a resident of Jackson township, died in Johnstown on the 26th ult. The deceased possessed many good qualities both of mind and heart, and numbered many sincere friends among the citizens of this place. His remains were interred in the Beulah Burying ground on last Friday.

No further seek his merits to disclose,

Or drive his frailties from their dread abode: (There they, alike, in trembling hope repose.) The bosom of his Father and his God.

The Mission of the Newspaper.

There is probably no one fact more generally received as truth, than that the character of a community is evidenced by the prominent characteristics of its newspaper press. If the press possesses life, energy, prominence and the elements of progress, they are the reflections of the people who sustain it. If the people possess industry, integrity and business qualifications, they may be safely inferred from the prosperity and standing of the local press.

The importance of sustaining the local press is not properly considered by those having an interest in the advancement of this new settled country. All the anticipation of its greatness in power and wealth, now concealed in the womb of futurity, are dependent upon the influx of a hardy, enterprising population. To notice such from the sterile and unbroken plains of the new, you must send forth your messengers, bearing the tidings that here Nature has prepared a rich field, in which the husbandman may reap a rich reward for his labor.

It should require no argument to convince the people of Iowa, that an extensive circulation of the newspapers published in the State, throughout the eastern States, is the surest means of inducing immigration. The first thing to be attended to, is to give a generous and liberal home support to the local press. A dollar invested for this purpose, will return to the purse of the patron with double interest. If those immediately concerned give a deaf ear to the appeals for "aid and comfort," made by home newspapers, the results to be reasonably expected, are a sickly existence for them, and a retrograde march in the improvement of the country.—*Dav. Democrat and News.*

The Growth of the United States.—At the taking of the first census under the Federal Constitution, in 1790, the population of the United States amounted to three million nine hundred and twenty-nine thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven. At intervals of ten years the census has been taken regularly, and the result at each period is as follows:

Census of 1790,	3,929,827.
" 1800,	5,305,925.
" 1810,	7,539,814.
" 1820,	9,638,131.
" 1830,	12,366,020.
" 1840,	17,093,000.
" 1850,	23,101,876.

The census will again be taken in 1860, and will show a population within the limits of the United States of more than thirty-two million.

Broderick's Will.—The San Francisco correspondent of the *New York Times* states that Mr. Broderick left a property variously estimated from \$100,000 to \$500,000. By his will he gave \$15,000 to the Protestant and Catholic Orphan Asylums of San Francisco, the amount to be equally divided. A legacy of \$10,000 was left to the Hon. J. C. McElroy, and the remainder of Mr. Broderick's estate is bequeathed to the widow of his late friend, James Estill, who was left in very moderate circumstances at the death of her husband.

The population of Rome, at the highest period of its power, has been estimated at six million eight hundred thousand. The present population of London is about two million eight hundred thousand. The entire population of Paris, including that of all its metropolitan suburbs, is about one million five hundred thousand. That of New York, estimated in the same way, is one million one hundred thousand.

Governor Weller, California, writes to the treasurer of the Washington Monument Association as follows:—"In compliance with an act passed by the Legislature, I have this day forwarded to the Hon. Wm. Medill, a draft on New York for \$1,000, with directions to hand the same to you. California proposes to give this amount annually towards the erection of that noble shaft to the memory of our Washington."

PENNSYLVANIA ELECTIONS.

OFFICIAL RETURNS.

Counties.	Cochran.	Wright.	Klein.	Bowe.
Adams,	2,529	2,539	2,520	2,546
Allegheny,	7,934	4,720	7,939	4,729
Armstrong,	2,282	1,943	2,261	1,942
Beaver,	1,766	1,131	1,748	1,132
Bedford,	2,011	2,147	2,009	2,150
Bucks,	6,251	7,444	6,451	7,268
Blair,	2,600	1,449	2,602	1,449
Bradford,	3,741	1,689	3,735	1,651
Bucks,	5,172	5,159	5,176	5,154
Butler,	2,075	1,614	2,087	1,514
Cambria,	1,593	1,863	1,581	1,900
Carroll,	1,491	1,646	1,513	1,625
Centre,	2,446	2,283	2,444	2,283
Clarion,	5,006	4,044	5,055	4,046
Clearfield,				