

more creditable it would be to the commander and to the crew.

But the whole crew was far from being tranquilized. The most seriously implicated began once more to collect in knots during the night. Seditious words were heard through the vessel, and an insolent and menacing air assumed by many.

Some of the petty officers had been summoned by the first Lieutenant, and found to be true to their colors. They were under the impression that the vessel was yet far from safe, that there were still many at liberty who ought to be confined; and that an outbreak, having for its object the rescue of the prisoners, was seriously contemplated.

Various intelligence was from time to time obtained of conference among the disaffected. Individuals not before supposed to be very deeply implicated were now found in close association with those who were. Several times during the night there were symptoms of an intention to strike some blow.

Mr. Wales detected Charles A. Wilson attempting to draw out a handspike from under the launch with an evident purpose of telling him, and when Mr. Wales cocked his pistol and approached, he could only offer some lame excuse for his presence there.

I felt more anxious than I had yet done, and remained continually on deck. At 12 o'clock, when the watch was called and mustered, McKinley, Green, and others seriously implicated, missed their muster. That they should have been asleep at all that night was not likely; that they should have missed their muster on that particular occasion, having never done so before, otherwise than intentionally, was impossible.

Those who missed their muster had all some lame excuse.—There was probably an agreement to meet round the officer of the deck and commence some act of violence. I heard Green give as an excuse for missing his muster that he was on deck, but could not get aft for want of room.

I immediately went forward, rejected his excuse with some exclamation of impatience, and ordered him to take the lookout forward for four hours, directing the midshipman of the fore-castle to watch him closely; the others who had missed their muster were similarly distributed. At 4 o'clock others of the implicated also missed their muster. I could not contemplate this growth of disaffection without serious uneasiness.

Where was this thing to end? Each new arrest of prisoners seemed to bring a fresh set of conspirators forward to occupy the first place. With fine weather and bright nights there was already a disposition to make an attack and rescue the prisoners. When bad weather should call off the attention of the officers, when the well disposed portion of the crew should be occupied in shortening sail, and utter darkness should withdraw every thing from view, how great the probability of a rescue! If the deeply implicated were ironed, would all the dangerous be in custody? What sympathy might not be excited by the sufferings of the prisoners?

These grave considerations, the deep sense I had of the solemn obligation I was under to protect and defend the vessel that had been entrusted to me, and the lives of her officers and crew, the seas traversed by our peaceful merchantmen, and the unarmed of all nations using the highway of the seas, from the horrors which the conspirators had meditated; and above all, to guard from violation the sanctity of the American flag displayed from the mast-head of one of its cruisers, all impressed upon me the absolute necessity of adopting immediately some further measures for the security of the vessel.

I am, very respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient,

ALEX. SLIDELL MACKENZIE, Commander.

Lieut. Guert Gansevoort. Passed Assistant Surgeon R. W. Leacock, Purser H. M. Hieskell, Acting Master M. C. Perry, Midshipman Henry Rodgers, Midshipman Egbert Thompson, Midshipman Charles W. Hays.

After I had written the letter to the officers, but before I had sent it, 9 o'clock of Wednesday morning, 30th November, had arrived, and with it the customary morning quarters. Wilson having failed in his attempt to get up an outbreak in the night, and finding himself narrowly watched; feeling, indeed, that he could be no longer left at large, had come forward with some lame and absurd confession, and the request that he should not be ironed.

I immediately told him that if he would make a real confession, he should not be molested; and that it was only an insult to offer me such a lame story as that which had been already reported to me by Lieut. Gansevoort. Nothing more could be got from him, and at quarters he was ironed. In his sail bag was found an African knife, of an extraordinary shape, short and gradually expanding in breadth, and sharp on both sides; it was of no use for an honest purpose; it was fit only to kill. It had been seen secretly sharpened, by his own confession, the day before, with a file, to a perfect edge.

He had begun also to sharpen his battle-axe with the same assistant. One part of it he had brought to an edge; the sharpening of battle-axes had never been allowed or practised on board the Somers.

McKinley, also down among the certain, and beyond a doubt correctly, was arrested. Hitherto he had kept at large by his admirable steadiness and command of countenance. He, in fact, is the individual who, if the mutiny had been successful, would have made way with all his competitors and risen to the command.—Remembering Green's demeanor during the past night, I sent for him, interrogated him, and ironed him. Alexander McKee, who was to have taken the wheel, and who was entirely in the confidence of Cromwell, was also ironed.

These individuals were made to sit down as they were taken, and when they were ironed I walked deliberately round the battery, followed by the first Lieut., and we made together a very careful inspection of the crew. Those who, though known to be very guilty, were considered to be the least dangerous, were called out and interrogated; care was taken not to awaken the suspicions of such as from courage and energy were really formidable, unless it was intended to arrest them.

Our prisoners now amounted to seven, filling up the quarter deck, and rendering it very difficult to keep them from communicating with each other—interferring essentially with the management of the vessel. The last prisoners taken were those to whom reference is made in my letter to the officers, written before, but not sent until after their capture.

On the receipt of my letter, the officers immediately assembled in the wardroom and commenced the examination of witnesses. The witnesses were duly sworn and testimony accurately written down; in addition to the oath, each witness signed the evidence which he had given after it had been read over to him. The officers passed the whole day in this occupation without interruption and without food. I remained in charge of the deck with the three young Midshipmen on constant duty. The officers were excused from evening quarters. At nightfall, orders were sent to them to discontinue their deliberations and resume their watches, as the present safety of the vessel must be attended to.

The risks and uncertainty of the preceding night had determined me that another such should not be passed. I drew up a watch bill of all the officers, officers included, dividing them into two watches, and assigning each a separate station in different parts of the vessel. I took charge of the starboard watch myself, and assigned the larboard to the first Lieutenant. This brought me with two watches on deck; but the first Lieutenant had been as much on duty as myself. Even this, however, was a great relief, as I obtained at intervals during the mid watch, an hour or two of refreshing sleep.

and of those committed to our charge, requires that (giving them a sufficient time to prepare) they should be put to death, in a manner best calculated as an example to make a beneficial impression upon the disaffected. This opinion we give, bearing in mind our duty to our God, our country, and to the service.

We are, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servants, GUERT GANSEVOORT, Lieutenant. R. W. LEECOCK, Passed A. Surgeon. H. M. HIESKELL, Purser. M. C. PERRY, Acting Master. HENRY RODGERS, Midshipman. EGBERT THOMPSON, Midshipman. CHARLES W. HAYS, Midshipman.

I at once concurred in the justice of their opinion, and in the necessity of carrying its recommendation into immediate effect. There were two others of the conspirators almost as guilty, so far as the intention was concerned, as the three ringleaders who had been first confined, and to whose cases the attention of the officers had been invited; but they could be kept in confinement without extreme danger of the ultimate safety of the vessel. The three chief conspirators alone were capable of navigating and sailing her.—By their removal, the rescue, a capture, and a carrying out of the original design of piracy, was at once taken away. Their lives were justly forfeited to the country which they had betrayed; and the interests of that country, and the honor and security of its flag, required the sacrifice, however painful, should be made. In the necessities of my position I found my law, and in them also I must trust to find my justification.

I had, for a day or two, been disposed to arm the petty officers. On this subject alone the first Lieutenant differed from me in opinion; influenced in some degree by the opinions of some of the petty officers themselves, who thought that in the peculiar state of the vessel, the commander and officers could not tell whom to trust, and, therefore, had better trust no one. I had made up my own mind, reasoning more from the probabilities of the case than from my knowledge of their characters, which was necessarily less intimate than that of the first Lieutenant, that they could be trusted, and determined to arm them. I directed the first Lieut. to muster them on the quarter deck, to issue to each a cutlass, pistol, and carriage box, and to report to me when they were armed. I then addressed them as follows: "My lads! you are to look at me: to obey my orders, and to see my orders obeyed! Go forward!"

I gave orders to make immediate preparations for hanging the three principal criminals at the main-mast. All hands were now called to witness the punishment. The after guard and officers of both watches were mustered on the quarter deck at the whippintended for Mr. Spencer; the fore-castle men and fore-top men at that of Cromwell, to whose corruption they had been chiefly exposed; the main-top men of both watches at that intended for Small, who, for a month or more, had filled the situation of captain of the maintop. The officers were stationed about the decks according to the watchbill I had made out the night before, and the petty officers were similarly distributed, with orders to cut down whoever should let go the whip with even one hand, or failed to haul on it when ordered.

The ensign and pennant being bent on and ready for hoisting, I now put on my full uniform, and proceeded to execute the most painful duty that has ever devolved upon an American commander—that of announcing to the criminals their fate.—I informed Mr. Spencer that when he had been about to take my life, and to dishonor me as an officer when in the execution of my rightful duty, without cause of offence to him, on speculation, it had been his intention to remove me suddenly from the world, in the darkness of night, in my sleep, without a moment to utter one murmur of affection to my wife and children—now prayer for their welfare. His life was now forfeited to his country; and the necessities of the case, growing out of his corruption of the crew, compelled me to take it. I would not, however, imitate his intended example as to the manner of claiming the sacrifice. If there yet remained to him one feeling true to nature, it should be gratified. If he had any word to send to his parents, it should be recorded, and faithfully delivered.—Ten minutes should be granted him to this purpose; and Midshipman Egbert Thompson was called to note the time and inform me when the ten minutes had elapsed. This intimation overcame him entirely. He sank, with tears, upon his knees, and said he was not fit to die. I repeated to him his own catch-words, and begged him at least to let the officer's name to the men he had corrupted and seduced—the example of dying with decorum.—This immediately restored him to entire self-possession; and while he was engaged in prayer, I went and made, in succession, the same communication to Cromwell and Small. Cromwell fell upon his knees completely unmanned, protested his innocence, and invoked the name of his wife. Mr. Spencer said to me, "As these are the last words I have to say, I trust they will be believed; Cromwell is innocent!" The evidence had been conclusive, yet I was staggered.

I sent for Lieutenant Gansevoort and consulted him; he said there was not a shadow of doubt. I told him to consult the petty officers. He was condemned by acclamation by the petty officers. He was the man of whom they had real apprehension; the accomplice at first, and

afterwards the urger on of Mr. Spencer, who had trained him to the act by which he had intended to benefit. I returned to Mr. Spencer. I explained to him how Cromwell had made use of him. I told him that remarks had been made about the two, not very flattering to him, and which he might not care to hear, which showed the relative share ascribed to each of them in the contemplated transaction. He expressed great anxiety to hear what was said. One had told the first Lieutenant, "In my opinion, sir, you have the damned fool on the larboard arm-chest, and the damned villain on the starboard." And another had remarked, that after the vessel should have been captured by Mr. Spencer, Cromwell might allow him to live, provided he made himself useful; he would probably make him his secretary. I remarked: "I do not think this would have suited your temper." This effectually aroused him, and his countenance assumed a demoniacal expression. He said no more of the innocence of Cromwell. Subsequent circumstances too surely confirmed his admission of guilt. He might, perhaps, have wished to save him, in fulfilment of some mutual oath.

He more probably hoped he might yet get possession of the vessel, and carry out the scheme of murder and outrage matured between them. It was in Cromwell that he had apparently trusted, in fulfilment of some agreement, for a rescue, and eloquently plead to Lieutenant Gansevoort, when Cromwell was ironed, for his release, as altogether ignorant of his designs and innocent. He endeavored to make of the "E. Andrews" appearing on the list of the certain, an alias for Small, though his name as Small appeared also in the list among those to effect the murder in the cabin, by falsely asserting that Small was a leigned name, when he had evidence in a letter addressed by Small's mother to him, that Small was her name as well as his.

[CONCLUSION IN OUR NEXT.]



THE HUNTINGDON JOURNAL.

Huntingdon, Jan. 25, 1843.

"One country, one constitution, one destiny."

V. B. PALMER, Esq. (No. 104 S. 3rd St. Philadelphia,) is authorized to act as Agent for this paper, to procure subscriptions and advertisements.

Wood Wanted.

Wood will be taken at this office in payment of subscription or job work. Also Hay and Oats, at market price.

We tender our thanks to Gen. JAMES IRVIN and JONATHAN M'WILLIAMS, Esq., for valuable public documents.

Godey's Lady's Book.

The February number of this work has already reached us; and, as usual, it is beautifully embellished with plates, and well stored with choice reading. See advertisement in another column.

The Bankrupt Law.

On Tuesday the 17th inst., the bill to repeal this law passed the lower House of Congress by a vote 140 yeas to 71 nays. The fate of this bill in the Senate is uncertain.

Adjourned Court.

An adjourned Court of Common Pleas will be held for this county in March next, commencing on the 1st Monday of the month.

The Somers Mutiny Case.

The Court of Inquiry in this case has just closed its session. In to-day's paper we give a portion of Capt. Mackenzie's narrative—the remainder will be given next week.

Tavern Licenses.

The applications for tavern licenses made to the Court at the January Sessions were taken up on Saturday last, and disposed of. There were but five petitions, and only one of these was granted. Two were defeated on account of defective publication—the law requiring that they be published for three weeks, the last of which publications must be at least ten days before the first day of the Court to which the application is intended to be made. This part of the law was not complied with—the last publication being only five days before the Court. Another petition was refused because some of the persons who certified were not residents of the borough in which the tavern was intended to be kept—the law requiring them to be citizens of the ward, borough, or township in which the tavern is proposed to be kept. Applicants will do

well if they procure more than twelve signatures to their application, to guard against accidents and technicalities. The last application was rejected on the ground of "no necessity."

There seemed to be not a little excitement in one quarter, and considerable dodging in another. For our own part we do not feel any exciting interest in this question; but, in the language of Davy Crockett, we like to see folks "walk up to the rack, fodder or no fodder"—no underhanded operations—and no gouging. The cause of temperance is progressing finely, and is not advanced by such means.

Whether people are for or against taverns, they will probably not entertain a very exalted opinion of the judgment of Courts when they solemnly decide that there is "no necessity" for a tavern in the county town, but that there is "necessity" for one six miles from it, in a village of some twenty or thirty families, on a road that leads from thence to no place.

Important to Justices of the Peace and Bail.

Judge Wilson decided at the late sitting of the Court of Common Pleas in Huntingdon, that all Bail entered before Justices of the Peace since the passage of the Act of the 12th July 1842, entitled an "Act to abolish Imprisonment for debt" or that may hereafter be so entered, in order to obtain an appeal, stay of execution or adjournment, is bail under the 33d section of that act "that no part of the property of the Defendant (for whom such bail is entered) which is liable to be taken in execution, shall be removed, secreted, assigned, or in any way disposed of, except for the necessary support of such defendant and family, until the plaintiff's demand shall be satisfied, or until after the expiration of ten days after such plaintiff shall be entitled to have an execution issued on the judgment obtained in such cause, if he shall obtain such judgment." COMMUNICATED.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

Friday Jan. 13, 1843.

On motion of Mr. Cochran, the Senate resumed the consideration of his resolution instructing the Committee on the Judiciary system to bring in a bill repealing the law abolishing imprisonment for debt, in part. After some debate it was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Penniman, the Senate took up the report on rules for the action of the Senate.

Mr. Heister moved to amend that ex-members and reporters be allowed to come on the floor of the Senate. Adopted. Numerous amendments, on each of which more or less debate ensued were offered, some adopted, and some rejected, but nothing occurred in relation to the adoption of these rules in which the public is interested. After spending one and a half hour on this subject it was adopted.

Mr. Headley offered a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee of five to District the State into Senatorial and Representatives Districts.

Mr. Penniman offered the following resolution: Whereas, A joint committee of investigation was appointed by the last legislature to enquire "whether any corrupt means had at any time been employed by the banks, or their agents, or any of them, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of influencing the action of the legislature, or any other department of the Government of this Commonwealth, in regard to any legislation for their benefit." And whereas, In the report of the minority of the Committee, made by M. B. Lowry, on the 12th day of July, 1842, the following sentence is found:

"The utmost latitude has been extended to them in this examination, and in all cases except when reports relative to members of the Committee, hear say testimony was fully admitted." And whereas, Public rumor and newspaper publications over the names of persons interested, has clearly indicated the members referred to, therefore,

Resolved, That a select committee of three Senators be appointed to inquire and report to the Senate, whether any testimony implicating a member of the committee has been suppressed, and all the facts connected therewith, and that the said committee have power to send for persons and papers.

[Mr. Penniman, himself, is understood to be the member referred to.] HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Mr. Barrett made his daily motion that the House go at once into the election of printer:—negatived.

Mr. Brawley, from the joint committee reported a system of rules for the government of the committee on pensions and gratuities; read and agreed to.

Mr. Foreman reported an act to erect the new county of Columbus out of Lancaster, Lebanon and Dauphin. The bill relative to the public printing and binding was taken up next in order, which was discussed for a considerable time, amended, and adopted by a vote of

77 yeas to 12 nays, and ordered to be sent to the Senate.

SENATE.

Saturday, Jan. 14, 1843.

After petitions, &c., the bill from the House, relative to the public printing and binding was received, and on motion of Mr. Darsie, referred to the select committee on reform.

A resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Penniman, to raise a committee to make inquiry relative to the suppression of testimony taken before the investigating committee of last session, relative to the U. S. Bank, was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Champneys, the Senate took up the nomination of Judge Lewis to be President Judge of the Lancaster district; when Mr. Heister moved that the nomination be confirmed, which was agreed to. Mr. Penniman voted against the nomination.

The following Associate Judges were confirmed: N. White—McKean county. Emanuel Shaeffer—Lancaster county.

On motion, the Senate proceeded to the nomination of candidates for State Treasurer:

Mr. Heister nominated Job Mann. " Baily " Oliver Allison. " Sullivan " John Gilmore. " Cochran " S. D. Leib. " Bigler " Lewis W. Smith. " Headley " V. Best. " Brower " W. A. Bringham.

Mr. Headley was appointed Teller on the part of the Senate.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Mr. Sharswood submitted a resolution calling upon the Auditor General for information in regard to the appointment of an Agent to collect the State Tax on Bank dividends.

Mr. Roumfort reported a bill to require Iron manufacturers to brand their productions with their names.

Mr. Storer reported the old bill to form a new county out of Washington, West moreland and Allegheny, to be called "Carroll."

Mr. Picking reported a bill to incorporate the York and Cumberland Railroad Company.

The bill to abolish the Nicholson Court was then considered in committee of the whole, Mr. Elwell in the chair. Mr. Wright spoke at length in favor of the bill, and it was further advocated by Messrs. M'Daniels, Kerr (of Mercer) Lowry and others. Mr. Barrett offered an amendment for the relief of those who have compromised with the Commissioners. The subject was pending when the House adjourned.

SENATE.

Monday, Jan. 16, 1843.

Petitions were presented by a number of members.

REPORTS.

Mr. Penniman, from the committee of conference on the subject, reported the joint rules for the government of the two Houses, as agreed upon in committee.—The report was adopted.

Mr. Sullivan, from the committee on printing, reported the House bill regulating the printing and binding for the present session, with amendments.

Mr. Crabb read a bill in place, on leave given to reduce the capital of the Bank of North America.

On motion of Mr. Heister, the Senate proceeded to the nomination of Bank Directors. For the

PENNSYLVANIA BANK.

Mr. McCully nominated Paul S. Brown. " Wilcox " Jos. H. Newbold. " Penniman " Paul K. Hubbs. " Crabb " Jesse R. Burden. " Smith " Wm. J. Leiper. " Headley " C. W. Brook.

PHILADELPHIA BANK.

Mr. McCully nominated G. G. Wescott. " Bigler " Ed. S. Mott. " Crabb " B. C. Cooper. " Spackman " W. G. Copp. " Penniman " D. C. Possier. " Crabb " G. H. Martin. " Headley " Tho. C. Major. " Dimock " Caleb L. Ash.

COLUMBIA BRIDGE CO.

Mr. Champneys nominated Wm. A. King. " Gorgas " Jacob Gratz. " Heister " D. Reinhart. " Cochran " Jos. Cresson. " Bigler " H. Haldeman. " Gibbons " Sam'l Humes.

Mr. Baily submitted a resolution asking for the Canal Commissioners a statement of the number of persons employed on the several lines of the public works, which was agreed to.

The bill reported this morning by the committee on printing was taken up, passed committee of the whole, and was postponed until to-morrow.

The nomination of Jacob W. Smith, as Associate Judge of the Union district, in the room of John Baskins, was taken up, but, on motion of Mr. Mathers, was postponed until Thursday next.

The hour of twelve having arrived, the Senate proceeded to the hall of the House of Representatives, to go into the election of a State Treasurer.

The Convention having assembled in the hall of the House of Representatives, a motion was made to postpone the election until Thursday next, which was debated at some length, and finally voted down.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot, and Job Mann was re-elected State Treasurer for the ensuing year, by the following vote:

Messrs. Bigler, Black, Champneys, Crabb, Dimock, Eyre, Farrelly, Fegely,