

DISCLOSURES BY THE CONSPIRATORS.

In another portion of our paper we have occupied considerable space in order to give a more connected and intelligible narrative of the recent exciting events at Harper's Ferry than had been presented in the disjointed despatches first received. That narrative contains a full account of the proceedings of the insurgents from the time they took possession of the Armory until they were themselves captured or slain. We have since received, however, some further and important developments in the subjoined statements of the chief conspirator. His impracticable and ridiculous scheme has been happily frustrated, but it will be seen that there was something like "method in his madness."

As an appropriate prefix to these fresh disclosures we insert a copy of the anonymous letter which was sent to the Secretary of War nearly two months ago, and to which he, of course, under the circumstances, paid no attention. It is postmarked at Cincinnati, August 23d, and is addressed to the "Hon. JOHN B. FLOYD, Secretary of War, Washington, D. C., *Private*."

"CINCINNATI, August 20.

"SIR: I have lately received information of a movement of so great importance that I feel it to be my duty to impart it to you without delay. I have discovered the existence of a secret association, having for its object the liberation of the slaves of the South by a general insurrection. The leader of the movement is 'Old John Brown,' late of Kansas. He has been in Canada during the winter, drilling the negroes there, and they are only waiting his word to start for the South to assist the slaves. They have one of their leading men (a white man) in an armory in Maryland; where it is situated I am not enabled to learn. As soon as every thing is ready, those of their number who are in the Northern States and Canada are to come in small companies to their rendezvous, which is in the mountains of Virginia. They will pass down through Pennsylvania and Maryland, and enter Virginia at Harper's Ferry. Brown left the North about three or four weeks ago, and will arm the negroes and strike a blow in a few weeks, so that whatever is done must be done at once. They have a large quantity of arms at their rendezvous, and are probably distributing them already. I am not fully in their confidence. This is all the information I can give you. I do not sign my name to this, but trust that you will not disregard this warning on this account."

A despatch received from Harper's Ferry last night informs us that the prisoners have been committed to the jail at Charlestown to await the action of the Grand Jury, and that they will be indicted and tried in a few days. The Virginia authorities are first to try them for murder, and in the mean time the United States authorities will proceed to try them on a charge of high treason. Thus has the question of jurisdiction been settled between Governor WISE and District Attorney GUILD. The despatch then proceeds as follows:

Brown is better, and has made a fuller statement. He says he rented the farm of Dr. Kennedy six months ago, and has paid him the rent up to next March. He never had over twenty-two men with him at the farm at any one time that belonged to the organization, but had good reason to expect reinforcements from Maryland, Kentucky, North and South Carolina, and the Canadas. He had arms sufficient for fifteen hundred men; had two hundred revolvers, two hundred Sharp's rifles, and one thousand spears, all which he left at the farm. Had also an abundance of powder and fixed ammunition. The arms from time to time he brought from Connecticut and other Eastern points to Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. They were directed to J. Smith and Sons, Kennedy Farm, and were packed in double boxes so as to deceive those who handled them.

Brown says he made one mistake in either not detaining the train on Sunday night or permitting it to go on unmolested. This mistake, he feared to infer, exposed his doings too soon, and prevented his reinforcements from coming in.

The names of all his party at the Ferry on Sunday night, except three whom he admits he sent away on an errand, are as follows, with their titles under the Provisional Government:

WHITE.—Gen. John Brown, Commander in Chief, will recover; Capt. Oliver Brown, dead; Capt. Watson Brown, dead; Capt. Aaron C. Stephens, of Connecticut, badly wounded—has three balls in him—cannot live; Lieut. Edwin Cooper, of Iowa, unhurt; Lieut. Albert Hazlett, of Pennsylvania, dead; Lieut. William Leman, of Maine, dead; Capt. John E. Cook, of Connecticut, escaped; Stewart Taylor, of Canada, dead; Charles P. Tidd, of Maine, dead; William Thompson, of New York, dead; Capt. John Kagi, of Ohio, but raised in Virginia, dead; Lieut. Jeremiah Anderson, of Indiana, dead; and three other whites previously sent off, making seventeen in all.

NEGROES.—Balogersfield, of Ohio, but raised in Virginia, dead; Emperor, of New York, but raised in South Carolina, unhurt and a prisoner—he was elected a member of Congress of the Provisional Government some time since; Lewis Leary, of Ohio, raised in Virginia, dead; Copeland, of Ohio, raised in Virginia, unhurt, and a prisoner.

Gen. Brown has nine wounds, none of which are fatal. At least a bushel of letters have been discovered from all parts of the country. One from Gerrit Smith informs Brown of money being deposited in a bank in New York to the credit of J. Smith & Sons, and this appears to be one of many informing him from time to time as the money was received. The following is the Constitution of the Association.

Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States:

Preamble—Whereas slavery throughout the entire existence of the United States is none other than the most barbarous, unprovoked, and unjustifiable war of one portion of its citizens upon another portion, the only continuance of which are the perpetual imprisonment and hopeless servitude, or absolute extermination, in utter disregard and violation of those eternal and self-evident truths set forth in our Declaration of Independence; Therefore we, citizens of the United States, and oppressed people who, by a recent decision of the Supreme Court, are declared to have no rights which the white man is bound to respect, together with all other people degraded by the laws thereof, do, for the time being, ordain and establish for ourselves the following "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances," the better to protect ourselves, property, lives, and liberties, and to govern our actions.

Art. I.—Qualifications for Membership—All persons of mature age, whether proscribed, oppressed, and enslaved citizens, or of proscribed and oppressed races of the United States, who shall agree to sustain and enforce the Provisional Constitution and Ordinances of the organization, with all minor children of such persons, shall be entitled to protection.

Art. II.—The Provisional Government of this organization shall consist of three branches, viz: legislative, executive, and judicial.

Art. III.—Legislative—The legislative branch shall be the Congress or House of Representatives, composed of not less than five nor more than ten members, who shall be elected by all citizens of mature age and of sound mind connected with this organization, and who shall remain in office for three years, unless sooner removed for misconduct, inability, or by death. A majority of such members shall constitute a quorum.

Art. IV.—Executive—The Executive branch of this organization shall consist of a President and Vice President, who shall be chosen by citizens or members of this organization, and each of whom shall hold his office for three years, unless sooner removed by death, or inability, or misconduct.

Art. V.—Judicial—The judicial branch shall consist of one Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and four associate judges of said court; each constituting a circuit court. They shall each be chosen in the same manner as the President, and shall continue in office until their places have been filled in the same manner by the election of citizens.

Articles XIII. to XXV provide for the trial of the President and other officers and members of Congress; impeachment of the Judges; duties of the President and Vice President; the punishment of crimes; army appointments, salaries, &c., treaties of peace, &c. It is further provided that before any treaty of peace shall take full effect it shall be signed by the President and Vice President, and the Commander-in-Chief, a majority of the House of Representatives, a majority of the Supreme Court, and a majority of all the general officers of the army.

Art. XXVII.—The Duty of the Military—It shall be the duty of the Commander-in-Chief and all officers and soldiers of the army to afford special protection to Congress or any member thereof; to the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary of War; and to afford general protection to all civil officers or other persons having the right to the same.

Art. XXVIII.—Property—All captured or confiscated property, and all property the product of the labor of those belonging to this organization and of their families, shall be held as the property of the whole equally, without distinction, and may be used for the common benefit, or disposed of for the same object; and any person, officer or otherwise, who shall improperly retain, secrete, use, or needlessly destroy such property, or property found, captured, or confiscated, belonging to the enemy, or shall wilfully neglect to render a full and fair statement of such property by him so taken or held, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be punished accordingly.

Art. XXIX.—Safety of Intelligents Fund.—All money, plate, watches, and jewelry captured by honorable warfare, found, taken, or confiscated, belonging to the enemy, shall be held sacred to constitute a liberal safety or intelligence fund; and any person who shall improperly retain, ill-dispose of, hide, use, or destroy such money or other article above named, contrary to the provisions and spirit of this article, shall be deemed guilty of theft, and on conviction thereof shall be punished accordingly. The Treasurer shall furnish the Commander-in-Chief, at all times, with a full statement of the condition of such fund and its nature.

Art. XXX.—The Commander-in-Chief and the Treasury—The Commander-in-Chief shall have full power to draw from the Treasury the money and other property of the fund provided for in article 29, but his orders shall be signed also by the Secretary of War, who shall keep a strict account of the same, subject to examination by any member of Congress or general officer.

Art. XXXI.—Surplus of the Safety or Intelligence Fund. It shall be the duty of the Commander-in-Chief to advise the President of any surplus of the safety and intelligence fund, who shall have power to draw such surplus, (his order being also signed by the Secretary of State,) to enable him to carry out the provisions of article 17th.

Art. XXXII.—Prisoners—No person, after having surrendered himself or herself a prisoner, and who shall properly demean himself or herself as such to any officer or private connected with this organization, shall afterwards be put to death, or be subject to any corporal punishment, without first having had the benefit of a fair and impartial trial; nor shall any prisoner be treated with any kind of cruelty, disrespect, insult, or needless severity; but it shall be the duty of all persons, male and female, connected herewith, at all times and under all circumstances, to treat all such prisoners with every degree of respect and kindness the nature of the circumstances will admit of, and insist on a like course of conduct from all others, as in fear of Almighty God, to whose care and keeping we commit our cause.

Art. XXXIII.—Volunteers.—All persons who may come forward and shall voluntarily deliver up names and have their names registered on the books of the organization, shall, so long as they continue at peace, be entitled to the fullest protection of person and property, though not connected with this organization, and shall be treated as friends, and not merely as persons neutral.

Art. XXXIV.—Neutrals.—The person and property of all slaveholders who shall remain absolutely neutral shall be respected, so far as circumstances can allow of it, but shall not be entitled to any active protection.

Art. XXXV.—No Needless Waste.—Needless waste or destruction of any useful property or article by fire, throwing open of fences, fields, buildings, or needless killing of animals, or injury of either, shall not be tolerated at any time or place, but shall be promptly and properly punished.

Art. XXXVI.—Property Confiscated.—Entire personal and real property of all persons known to be acting, either directly or indirectly, with or for the enemy, or found in arms with them, or found wilfully holding slaves, shall be confiscated and taken wherever and wherever it may be found, in either free or slave States.

Art. XXXVII.—Desertion.—Persons convicted on impartial trial of desertion to the enemy, after becoming members, acting as spies, or of treacherous surrender of property, arms, ammunition, provision, or supplies of any kind, roads, bridges, persons, or fortifications, shall be put to death and their entire property confiscated.

Art. XXXVIII.—Violation of Parole of Honor.—Persons proven to be guilty of taking up arms after having been set at liberty on parole of honor, or after the same to have taken any active part with or for the enemy, direct or indirect, shall be put to death, and their entire property confiscated.

Articles XXXIX, XL, and XLI require all to labor for the general good, and prohibit immoral actions.

Art. XLII.—The Marriage Relation—Schools—The Sabbath.—The marriage relation shall be at all times respected; families kept together as far as possible, and broken families encouraged to reunite, and intelligence offices established for that purpose. Schools and churches to be established as soon as may be, for the purpose of religious and other institutions; and the first day of the week regarded as the day of rest, and appropriated to moral and religious instruction, and the improvement and relief of the suffering, the instruction of the young and ignorant, and the encouragement of personal cleanliness; nor shall any persons be required on that day to perform ordinary manual labor, unless in extremely urgent cases.

Art. XLIII.—Carrying Arms Openly.—All persons known to be of good character and of sound mind, and of suitable age, who are connected with this organization, whether male or female, shall be encouraged to carry arms openly.

Art. XLIV.—No Persons to Carry Concealed Weapons. No person within the limits of conquered territory, except regularly appointed policemen, express officers of the army, mail carriers, or other fully accredited messengers of Congress, the President, Vice President, Members of the Supreme Court, or commissioned officers of the army, and those under peculiar circumstances, shall be allowed at any time to carry concealed weapons; and any person not specially authorized so to do, who shall be found doing, shall be deemed a suspicious person, and may at once be arrested by any officer, soldier, or citizen, without the formality of a warrant, and may at once be subjected to thorough search; and shall have his or her case thoroughly investigated, and be dealt with as circumstances or proof shall require.

Art. XLV.—Persons to be Seized.—Persons within the limits of territory taken by this organization, not connected with this organization, having arms at all concealed or otherwise, shall be seized at once or be taken in charge of some vigilant citizen, and their case thoroughly investigated; and it shall be the duty of all citizens and soldiers, as well as officers, to arrest such parties as are named in this and the preceding section or article, without formality of complaint or warrant; and they shall be placed in charge of some proper officer for examination or for safe-keeping.

Art. XLVI.—These articles were not for the overthrow of government. The foregoing articles shall not be construed so as in any way to encourage the overthrow of any State Government or of the General Government of the United States, and look to no dissolution of the Union, but simply to amendment and repeal; and our flag shall be the same that our fathers fought under in the Revolution.

Art. XLVII.—No Parity of Offices.—No two of the offices specially provided for by this instrument shall be filled by the same person at the same time.

Art. XLVIII.—Oath.—Every officer, civil or military, connected with this organization, shall, before entering upon the duties of office, make solemn oath or affirmation to abide by and support the provisional constitution and these ordinances; and, every citizen and soldier, before being fully recognized as such, shall do the same.

CHAP. IX.—The President of this Convention shall convene immediately on the adoption of this instrument a Convention of all such persons as shall have given their adherence, by signature, to the Constitution, who shall proceed to fill by election all offices specially named in said Constitution; the President of this Convention presiding and issuing commissions to such officers elected; all such officers being hereafter elected in the manner provided in the body of this instrument.