

THE HARPER'S FERRY RIOT!

ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF THE FIGHT!

One of the Ringleaders and a large body of Slaves in the Mountains.

Old Brown's Proposed Plot—He intended establishing an Abolition Government—Had issued Commissions to Officers.

THE WHITE RINGLEADERS ALL FROM KANSAS.

SOLDIERS POURING INTO THE PLACE—ENERGETIC PURSUIT OF THE FLEEING MOBILES.

Last Night's Report.

HARPER'S FERRY, Oct. 18.—1:30 P. M.—The Secretary of War has telegraphed to Col. Lee that Mr. Ould, the District Attorney for this District, will proceed forthwith to Harper's Ferry to take charge of the legal proceedings against the prisoners, and bring them to trial.

The train is now getting ready to convey horses and men from here to pursue the rioters into any State or locality where they may have fled. This is by order of the President at the request of Gov. Wise.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 18.—The Directors of the Penna. R. R. and families left Martinsburg this morning for Baltimore.

Travel is now resumed, and trains are running regularly.

An eye witness who has returned from Harper's Ferry, describes the scenes there as follows:

The first attack was made by a detachment of the Charleston Guards, who crossed the Potomac river above Harper's Ferry, and reached the building where the insurgents were posted by the canal on the Maryland side. Smart firing occurred, and the rioters were driven from the bridge.

One man was killed here and another arrested. The latter ran out and tried to escape by swimming the river. A dozen shots were fired after him and he partially fell but rose again and threw his gun away and drew his pistols, both of which snapped. He then drew his bowie knife and cut all heavy accoutrements off and plunged into the river. One of the soldiers was about ten feet behind the man; he turned around and threw up his hands and cried, "Don't Shoot." The soldier fired and the man fell into the water with his face blown away. His coat skirts were cut from his person and in his pocket was found a Captain's commission to Capt. F. H. Leeman, from the Provincial Government of the United States.

The commission was dated Oct. 15th, 1859, and signed by A. W. Brown, commander-in-Chief of the army of the Provincial Government of the United States.

A party of five of the insurgents arrived with five Minnie rifles and posted in rifle armory, were repelled by the Charleston Guards. They all ran for the river and one who was unable to swim was drowned. The other four swam out to Koch's, in the middle of the Shenandoah, and fired upon the citizens and troops assembled on both banks.

This drew upon them the muskets of between 200 and 300 men, and not less than 400 shots were fired at them from Harper's Ferry, about 200 yards distant. One was shot dead. The second, a negro, attempted to jump over the dam, but fell short, and was not seen afterwards. The third was badly wounded, and remaining was taken unharmed. The white insurgent, wounded and captured, died in a few moments in the arms of our informant. He was shot through the breast, arm and stomach. He declared there were only 19 whites engaged in this insurrection.

For nearly an hour a running and random firing was kept up by the troops against the rioters. Several were shot down, while many managed to limp away wounded.

During the firing the women and children ran shrieking in every direction, but when they learned that the soldiers were their protectors, they took good courage and did good service in the way of preparing refreshments, and attending the wounded.

Our informant, who was on the hill when the firing was going on, says all the terrible scenes of a battle passed in reality beneath his eyes. Soldiers could be seen pursuing singly and in couples, and the crack of the musket and rifle was generally followed by one or more of the insurgents biting the dust. The dead lay in the streets where they fell. The wounded were cared for.

Capt. Brown's wounds consisted of a sword cut in the forehead and a bayonet wound in the kidneys.

Another of the rioters killed was named Steward Taylor, J. C. Anderson, a ring-leader who stopped conductor Phelps yesterday, was killed during the first attack by the Virginians. Anderson was a fine looking man, with a flowing white beard.

Some of the Maryland volunteers are in pursuit of Capt. Cook's party. A body of forty mounted men left this afternoon for Harper's Ferry to pursue the rioters. It is reported that many of them are escaped and are secreted in the mountains. A negro named Green, who was conspicuous in the fugitive slave riot at Harrisburg some years ago, was among the insurgents.

CAPT. BROWN—Dear Sir: I have been disappointed in not being able to see you ere this to take charge of your freights. They have been here now two weeks, and as I have had to superintend the providing for them, it has imposed on me no small task besides, and if not soon taken care of some of them will go back to Missouri. I wish to know definitely what you propose doing. They cannot be kept here much longer without risk to themselves, and if any of them conclude to go back to the state it will be a bad termination to your enterprise."

No signature signed.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 18.—The following interesting narrative is gleaned from the report of the *American*, who accompanied the troops from this city and returned in the evening:

The principal originator of the short but bloody existence of this insurrection was undoubtedly Capt. John Brown, whose connection with scenes of violence in the border warfare of Kansas, then made his name familiarly notorious to the whole country. Brown made his first appearance in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry more than a year ago, accompanied by his two sons—the whole party assuming the name of Smith. He inquired about land in the vicinity and made investigations about the probability of finding ores, and for some time boarded at Sandy Point, a mile east of the Ferry. After an absence of some months he re-appeared in the vicinity, and rented or leased a farm on the Maryland side.

They bought a large number of picks and spades, and this confirmed the belief that they intended to mine for ores. They were seen frequently in and about Harper's Ferry, but no suspicion seems to have existed that Bill Smith was Capt. Brown, or that he intended embarking in any movement so desperate or extraordinary, yet the development of the plot leaves no doubt that his visits to the Ferry and his lease of the farm were all parts of his preparation for the insurrection, which he supposed would be successful in exterminating slavery from Maryland and Western Virginia.

Brown's chief aid was John E. Cook, a comparatively young man, who has resided in and near the Ferry for some years. He was first employed in tending a lock on the canal, and afterwards taught school on the Maryland side of the river, and after a brief residence in Kansas, where it is supposed he became acquainted with Brown, returned to the Ferry and married.

There he was regarded as a man of some intelligence, known to be anti-slavery, but not so noted in the expression of his opinions as to excite suspicion.

These two men, with Brown's two sons, were the only white men connected with the insurrection that had been seen previously about the Ferry; all were brought by Brown from a distance, and nearly all had been with him in Kansas.

The first active movement in the insurrection was made about half-past ten o'clock on Sunday night.

Wm. Williamson, the watchman on the Harper's Ferry bridge, was, whilst walking across towards the Maryland side, seized by a number of men, who said that he was their prisoner and must come with them. He recognized Brown and Cook among the men, and knowing them, he treated the matter as a joke, but enforcing silence, they conducted him to the armory, which he found already in their possession. He was retained till after daylight, and then discharged.

The watchman who was to relieve Williamson at midnight found the bridge lights all out, and was immediately seized. Supposing it was an attempt at robbery, he broke away, and his pursuers stumbling, he escaped.

The next appearance of the insurrectionists was at the house of Col. Lewis Washington, a large farmer and slave owner, living about four miles from Harper's Ferry, and a party headed by Cook, proceeded there, roused Col. W. and told him he was their prisoner. They also seized all the slaves near the house, and took the carriage and horse and a large wagon with two horses. When Col. Washington saw Cook he immediately recognized him as a man who had called upon him some months previous, to whom he had exhibited some valuable arms in his possession, including an antique sword presented by Frederick the Great to Geo. Washington, and a pair of pistols presented by Gen. Lafayette to Washington, both being heirlooms in the family.

Before leaving, Cook invited Col. W. to a trial of skill at shooting and exhibited considerable certainty as a marksman. When he made his visit, on Sunday night, he alluded to his previous visit, and the courtesy with which he had been treated, and regretted that necessity which made it his duty to arrest Col. W. He however, took

advantage of the knowledge he obtained by his former visit to carry off all the valuable collection of arms, which Col. W. did not recollect till after the final defeat of the insurgents. The party proceeded with him as a prisoner in his own carriage and twelve of his negroes in the wagon to the house of Mr. Allstadt, another large farmer on the same road. Mr. Allstadt and his son, a lad of 16 years of age, were taken prisoners and all the negroes within reach being forced to join the movement. They returned to the armory at the Ferry.

All these movements seem to have been made without exciting the slightest alarm in the town nor did the detention of Capt. Phelps' train at the upper end of the town attract attention. It was not till the town was thoroughly waked up and found the bridge guarded by armed men and a guard stationed at all the avenues, that the people found they were prisoners.

A panic appears to have immediately ensued, and the number of insurrectionists at once increased from 50, which was probably their greatest force including the slaves who were forced to join, to from 500 to 600. In the meantime a number of workmen knowing nothing of what had occurred, entered the armory and were successfully taken prisoners, until they had at one time not less than sixty men confined in the armory; among these thus entrapped were Armisted Ball, chief draughtsman of the armory; B. Mills, master of the armory, and J. L. Daugerfield, paymaster's clerk. These three gentlemen were imprisoned in the engine house, which afterwards became the chief fortress of the insurgents and were not relieved until after the final assault.

The workmen were imprisoned in a large building farther from the yard and were rescued by a brilliant Zouave dash made by the Railroad Company's men, who came down from Martinsburgh.

This was the condition of affairs at daylight, about which time Capt. Cook with two white men, accompanied by thirty slaves, and taking with them Col. Washington's large wagon, went over the bridge and struck up the mountain on the road towards Pennsylvania.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 18.—Overland mail of 26th arrived last night.

Pacific R. R. Convention adopted resolutions favoring Central Route. Appointed committees to mature plans to be recommended by the legislature and Congress, and adjourned to meet at Sacramento in January.

Judge Terry was placed under \$10,000 bonds. Schooner *Lewis Perry* arrived from Amoor river, with Russian and Asia advices of August 12th. Small steamers are capable of ascending Amoor river 2000 miles, launched Nicolanski, by a company of Americans, who have the privilege of navigating the river. Russian officials show greatest favor to American enterprises, and encourage immigration.

The American barque *Milita*, was lost on Amoor river on the 22d of June. Vessel and cargo insured in Boston.

The Sacramento correspondent of the San Francisco *Bulletin* says a project is on foot among the Republicans to exclude Scott and Burch, Congressmen elect, from the House of Representatives, on the ground that the California Legislature neglected to distinctly state as is required by Congress, or to comply with the Constitution, which says Representatives shall be elected every two years.

Nearly the whole town of Montecristo was destroyed by fire on the 19th ult. Loss \$92,000.

There was a large fire at Diamong Springs, involving a loss of \$40,000 and upwards.

Sixty Pete Indians were killed by a party of citizens of Pitt River Valley, who design to keep themselves volunteered until the Indians are exterminated.

Business dull. Quotations nominal.

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 18.—The engine Madison with the accommodation freight train, east of the Bellefontaine Railroad yesterday P. M., blew up near Kilgore station, instantly killing James Wood and a man named Griffin, firemen.