

VIRGINIA AND JOHN BROWN.

The extraordinary measures which Virginia has pursued and is pursuing in relation to the John Brown affair, compels the attention of the country. To-morrow is the day fixed for the execution of the principal, and it is very evident that the Old Dominion will be glad to get him off its hands; for the chivalry will not be able to breathe freely until John Brown is hanged, dissected by the Virginia surgeons, and his remains resolved into their original elements. The announcement is made that Capt. Brown is to be choked with a rope made of South Carolina cotton, and that the strangling implement has been on exhibition at the Sheriff's office, to please the curiosity of the gaping multitude!

The arrest of tin and wooden ware peddlers, book agents, holders of New England bank bills, cigar vendors, clock merchants, and other itinerants who may dare to utter a word that can be tortured into cause of suspicion, continues; and suspected persons are either arrested and imprisoned, or ordered off. Even in Washington, the capital of the United States, a Doctor, who had some warm words with another Doctor in relation to the Harper's Ferry affair, has been arrested and held to bail in the sum of \$2000, on the charge of uttering seditious language inciting to rebellion!!!

Meanwhile the Governor and military commanders of Virginia are making themselves as ridiculous as possible. The telegraph reports that Gov. Wise has issued a proclamation, announcing that the State has taken possession of the Winchester and Potomac Railroad, and that on the first three days of December they will be used entirely for military purposes. He also warns the people of the State to remain at home on patrol duty on the day of the execution, to protect their own property. Women and children will not be permitted to approach the scene of the execution, and strangers are cautioned that there will be danger in approaching Charlestown or near it, on that day—that, if it is deemed necessary, martial law will be proclaimed and enforced.

Gen. Taliaferro has also issued a proclamation, announcing that all strangers who cannot give a satisfactory account of themselves will be promptly arrested; that all strangers approaching Charlestown by railroad or otherwise, under the pretext of witnessing the execution of John Brown, will be met by the military and turned back or be arrested. He also emphatically warns the people of the country to stay at home and protect their property, assuring them that information from reliable sources indicates that by so doing they will best consult their own interests.

The military force now in Charlestown numbers about 2000. Four companies of United States Artillery, under Col. Lee, are ordered to the vicinity, two to take position at Fort Henry, and two in the Armory grounds at Harper's Ferry.

Passengers by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad are not taken for Harper's Ferry unless they previously satisfy the President and officers of the company that they have a legitimate business there, and, by an arrangement with the Governor of Virginia, they are furnished with passports.—Think of it! Passports required to enter Virginia, as though the Old Dominion had become the Austria of the American Union! Several reporters of the Northern press, having arrived at Harper's Ferry, were compelled by the military to return to Baltimore.

A Charlestown correspondent of the N. Y. Times, who signs himself "A Virginian," says:—

"The programme for the execution, as arranged by Gov. Wise, is substantially as follows: All good citizens will be requested to absent themselves from the scene and about the scaffold; the troops, two thousand strong, will form an immense square, with the object of keeping the people beyond the reach of Brown's voice, should he desire to deliver an incendiary speech. If Brown desires to address the public he must do so in writing. The soldiers are having a jolly time, at the expense of Virginia. It will cost the treasury a quarter of a million at least."

Mr. M. B. Lowry, of Erie, Penn., who has visited Brown in Prison, writes that, in an interview with Gov. Wise, he (Lowry) asked the Governor if Brown's friends could have his body after his death. He answered, "The Surgeons will claim his body." Mr. Lowry further writes:—

"A very intelligent Virginia gentleman, a Mr. Brown, asked me 'what I wished to do with Brown's body?' I told him it would belong to his wife; but, if his friends would not claim it, I would, if they gave it to me, and bury it in my own burying ground. He remarked that it would be used for a different purpose if the North should get it; that Massachusetts would take the head, and other Northern States other parts of the body, and each would erect over its portion a monument higher than Bunker Hill."

"Gov. Wise told me there was one condition on which he would surrender Gen. Brown—which was, that I should deliver up to him General Sympathy for execution in his stead. The Governor and the citizens are evidently more afraid of the latter than the former."

Probably they are; and yet every step which they have taken in the process has tended to establish general sympathy more and more strongly.

After the executions, when reason has resumed its sway and the Virginians review calmly all the occurrences of the past month, there will be food for many a sober reflection. The re-action will surely come, and, when it does, we trust that the result will be as healthful and salutary as the present spectacle is painful and revolting.

A despatch from Charlestown to the Tribune says, at Brown's request but few persons were admitted to see him on Tuesday. Rev. Mr. Waugh, a Methodist clergyman, was with him some time on Monday, and visited him again on Tuesday.—Brown is reported to have said that he would make no speech from the scaffold, and also that he has nothing in the way of a confession to offer.