EXECUTION
—OF—
JOHN BROWN,
FOR MURDER AND TREASON.

Interview of Mrs. Brown with her Husband.

THE MILITARY ARRAY.

His Deportment at the Gallows.

DISPLAY OF SYMPATHY.

Public Meetings, Tolling of Bells, &c.

ACTION OF THE LEGISLATURE.

LETTERS AND SPEECHES.

The Visit of Mrs. Brown.

CHARLESTOWN, Va., Dec. 1. — The Agent of the Associated Press here has been refused by Gov. Wise permission to attend the execution.

Mrs. Brown was escorted over from the Ferry at 3 o'clock, when the entire military were brought out to make a demonstration. She was received with full military honors, but her companions were not allowed to accompany her from the Ferry. After remaining four hours with her husband, she was escorted back to the Ferry, at 9 o'clock, there to await the reception of her husband's body.

CHARLESTOWN, Dec. 2.—The interview between Brown and his wife lasted from 4 o'clock in the afternoon until near 8 in the evening, when Gen. Taliaferro informed them that the period allowed had elapsed, and that she must prepare for departure to the Ferry. A carriage was again brought to the door, the military took possession of the square, and, with an escort of 20 mounted men, the cortege moved off, Capt. Moore, of the Montgomery Guards, accompanying her.

The interview was, I learn, not a very affecting one, rather of a practical character,—with regard to the future of herself and children, and the arrangement and settlement of business affairs. They seemed considerably affected when they first met, and Mrs. Brown was, for a few moments, quite overcome, but Brown was as firm as a rock, and she soon recovered her composure.

There was an impression that the prisoner might possibly be furnished with a weapon or strychnine by his wife, and before the interview her person was searched by the wife of the jailor.

A strict watch was kept over them during the time they were together. At the time of separation they both seemed to be fully self-possessed, and the parting, especially on his part, exhibited a composure, either feigned or real, that was surprising.

I learn from Capt. Moore that she rather repelled all attempts on his part to express sympathy with her under her afflictions. She resented the idea that Captain Brown had done anything to deserve death or to attaint his name with dishonor, and declared that the ignominious character of the punishment that was about to be inflicted upon him was as cruel as it was unjust.

She regarded him as a martyr in a righteous cause, and was proud to be the wife of such a man. The gallows, she said, had no terrors for her or for him. She stated that she had not seen him since last June, about six months ago, and that they had been separate, with the exception of a few days, for nearly two years. They had, however, corresponded, and she had always felt a deep interest in the cause in which he was engaged. The character of the interview may be judged to some extent from this conversation with Capt. Moore, which took place previous to it.

I learn from Capt. Avis, the jailor, that the interview between the prisoner and his wife was characteristic of the man, and the direction given for the management and distribution of his property embraced all the minor details of his last will and testament.

Gen. Taliaferro was also present, and Capt. Brown urged that his wife be allowed to remain with him all night. To this the General refused assent, allowing them but four hours.

On first meeting they kissed and affectionately embraced, and Mrs. Brown shed a few tears, but immediately checked her feelings. They stood embraced, and she sobbing, for nearly five minutes, and he was apparently unable to speak. The prisoner only gave way for a moment, and was soon calm and collected, and remained firm throughout the interview. At the close they shook hands, but did not embrace, and as they parted he said, "God bless you and the children." Mrs. Brown replied, "God have mercy upon you," and continued calm until she left the room, when she remained in tears a few moments, and then prepared to depart.

The interview took place in the parlor of Capt. Avis, and the prisoner was free from manacles of any kind. They sat side by side on a sofa, and, after discussing family matters, proceeded to business. He stated that he desired his property to pass entirely into her possession, and appeared to place full confidence in her ability to manage it properly for the benefit of his younger children. He requested her to remain at North Elba, New York, on her farm, where she now resides, and which belongs to her. He desired that his younger children should be educated, and if she could not obtain facilities for their education at home, to have them sent to a boarding school. He then gave directions and dictated to Sheriff Campbell a will, which directed that all his property should go to his wife, with the exception of a few presents and bequests which he made. To one of his sons he gave a double spyglass, and to another a watch, while a third was directed to take a tomb-stone or monument that marks the grave of his father at North Elba, and have his name, age, and the manner of his death, together with the cause for which he had suffered, cut upon it. He directs that it shall remain at North Elba as long as his family resides there. To each of his children he bequeathed the sum of $50, and to each of his daughters a Bible, to cost $5, to be purchased out of money coming to him from his father's estate. He also directs that a Bible, to cost $3, shall be presented to each of his grandchildren, and that $50 each be paid to three individuals whom he named, if they can be found, if not, to their legal representatives.

During the conversation, Mrs. Brown asked him if he had heard that Gerrit Smith had become insane, and had been sent to the asylum at Utica? He replied that he had read it in the papers, and was sorry to hear it, but immediately changed the subject. The subject of the death of his two sons was spoken of, and Mrs. Brown remarked that she had made some effort, whilst at Harper's Ferry, for the recovery of their bodies, to which object she said Col. Barbour had kindly consented to give his assistance. Captain Brown remarked that he would also like the remains of the two Thompsons removed, if they could be found, but suggested that it would be best to take his body, with the bodies of his four sons, and get a pile of pine logs, and burn them altogether—that it would be much better and less expensive to thus gather up all their ashes together and take them to their final resting place. Sheriff Campbell told him that this would not be allowed within the State, and Mrs. Brown objected to the proposition altogether.

The prisoner said that he contemplated his death with composure and calmness. It would undoubtedly be pleasant to live longer, but as it was the will of God he should close his career, he was content. It was doubtless best that he should be thus legally murdered for the good of the cause, and he was prepared to submit to his fate without a murmur. Mrs. Brown becoming depressed at these remarks, he bade her cheer up, telling her that his spirit would soon be with her again, and that they would be re-united in heaven.

With regard to his execution, he said that he desired no religious ceremonies, either in the jail or on the scaffold, from ministers who consent or approve of the enslavement of their fellow-creatures—that he would prefer rather to be accompanied to the scaffold by a dozen slave children and a good old slave mother, with their appeal to God for blessings on his soul, than all the eloquence of the whole clergy of the Commonwealth combined.

During the past week, several letters, containing checks and drafts, had been forwarded to him by his friends in different sections of the country. These he endorsed, and made payable to his wife, Mary A. Brown, and handed them to her. One of them was for $100, and one for $50.

FRIDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The prisoner was brought out of jail at 11 o'clock. Before leaving, he bid adieu to all his fellow-prisoners, and was very affectionate to all except Cook. He charged Cook with having deceived and misled him in relation to the support he was to receive from the slaves. He was led to believe that they were ripe for insurrection, and had found that his representations were false. Cook denied the charge, but made little reply.

The prisoner then told the sheriff he was ready. His arms were pinioned, and, with a black slouch hat on, and the same clothes he wore during the trial, he proceeded to the door, apparently calm and cheerful.

As he came out, the six companies of infantry, and one troop of horse, with Gen. Taliaferro and his entire staff, were deploying in front of the jail, whilst an open wagon, with a pine box in which was a fine oak coffin, was waiting for him.

He looked around, and spoke to several persons he recognized, and, walking down the steps, took a seat on the coffin-box alongside the jailer, Avis.

He looked with interest on the fine military display, but made no remark. The wagon moved off, flanked by two files of riflemen in close order.

On reaching the field, the military had already full possession.

Pickets were stationed, and the citizens kept back at the point of the bayonet from taking any position but that assigned them.

Through the determined persistence of Dr. Rawlings, of *Frank Leslie's*, the order excluding the Press was partially rescinded, and they were assigned a position near the Major-General's staff.

The prisoner walked up the steps firmly, and was the first man on the gallows. Avis and Sheriff Campbell stood by his side, and after shaking hands, and bidding an affectionate adieu, he thanked them for their kindness.

The cap was then put upon his face, and the rope around his neck.

Avis asked him to step forward on the trap. He replied, "You must lead me; I cannot see."

The rope was adjusted, and the military order given, "Not ready yet."

The soldiers marched, counter-marched, and took position as if an enemy were in sight, and were thus occupied for nearly ten minutes.

The prisoner standing all the time, Avis inquired if he was not tired. Brown said—"No, not tired; but don't keep me waiting longer than necessary."

He was swung off at 15 minutes past 11.

A slight grasping of the hands and twitching of the muscles was seen, and then all was quiet.

The body was several times examined, and the pulse did not cease until 35 minutes had passed.

The body was then cut down, placed in a coffin, and conveyed, under military escort, to the depot, where it was put into a car to be conveyed to the Ferry by a special train at 4 o'clock.

All the arrangements were carried out with a precision and military strictness that was most annoying. The general conviction everywhere entertained was that the excitement about the rescue was an egregious hoax. [illegible] Brown executed an instrument empowering Sheriff Campbell to administer on all property of his in the State, with directions to pay over the proceeds of the sale of the weapons, if recovered, to his widow and children.

Brown's Interview with his Fellow-Prisoners.

[illegible] cell, the latter returning thanks for the Sheriff's kindness, and speaking of Capt. Pate as a brave man.

The prisoner was then taken to the cell of Copeland and Green. He told them to stand up like men, and not betray their friends. He then handed them a quarter each, saying he had no more use for money, and bade them adieu.

He then visited Cook and Coppic, who were chained together, and remarked to Cook—"You have made false statements."

Cook asked—"What do you mean?"

Brown answered—"Why, by stating that I sent you to Harper's Ferry."

Cook replied—"Did you not tell me, in Pittsburg, to come to Harper's Ferry and see if Forbes had made any disclosures?"

Brown—"No, sir;—You knew I protested against your coming."

Cook replied—"Capt. Brown, we remember differently"—at the same time dropping his head.

Brown then turned to Coppic, and said: "Coppic, you also made false statements, but I am glad to hear you have contradicted them. Stand up like a man." He also handed him a quarter.

He shook both by the hand, and they parted.

The prisoner was then taken to Stevens' cell, and they kindly interchanged greetings.

Stevens—"Good-by, Captain; I know you are going to a better land."

Brown replied: "I know I am." Brown told him to bear up, and not betray his friends, giving him a quarter.

He did not visit Hazlitt, as he has always persisted in denying any knowledge of him.

On his way to the scaffold, a Mr. Sadler, an undertaker, who was in the wagon with him, remarked: "Capt. Brown, you are a game man." He answered, —"Yes; I was so trained up. It was one of the lessons of my mother; but it is hard to part from friends, though newly made. This is a beautiful country; I never had the pleasure of seeing it before."

On reaching the field where the gallows was erected, the prisoner said—"Why are none but military allowed in the enclosure? I am sorry citizens have been put out." On reaching the gallows he observed Mr. Hunter and Mayor Green standing near, to whom he said, "Gentlemen, good bye," his voice not faltering.

While on the scaffold, Sheriff Campbell asked him if he would take a handkerchief in his hand to drop as a signal when he was ready. He replied—"No, I do not want it, but do not detain me any longer than is absolutely necessary."

Shortly after the execution, and whilst the body was being taken to the depot, great excitement was raised by the arrival of a horseman announcing that Wheatland, the late residence of George W. Turner, who was shot at Harper's Ferry, was on fire, and that the fire was extending to the farm and outbuildings of Mr. William F. Turner. The latter, who was in town, said that he had left home at 10 o'clock in the morning; and that several of his horses had died very suddenly, and also some of his sheep. He intended to have their stomachs analyzed, as he believed them to have been poisoned. The stock of Mr. Castleman and Mr. Myers, in the same neighborhood, had also died very mysteriously.

The excitement caused by this was very great. Col. Davis had the Fauquier Cavalry in readiness to go out and inquire into the truth of the report about the fire.

The body of Brown arrived by the special train, and will be taken on by Mrs. Brown and friends, direct to Albany. It is desired to avoid all public demonstrations, and it is determined that the body shall not be visible anywhere on the route to North Elba, where it will be deposited in the family burying ground.

Mrs. Brown speaks in the highest terms of the great kindness shown her by the citizens and authorities of the State. She is, of course, in great distress. She has most favorably impressed all who have met her as a woman of fine feeling and of great affection for her husband.

BROWN'S LETTER TO HIS WIFE.

The following is a copy of the letter written by Brown to his wife, in reference to her proposed visit to him:

CHARLESTOWN, Jefferson Co., Va., 16th Nov., 1859

My Dear Wife: I write you in answer to a most kind letter of November 13, from dear Mrs. Spring. I owe her ten thousand thanks; for her kindness to *you particularly and more especially* than for what she has done, and is doing in a more direct way for me personally. Although I feel grateful for every expression of kindness or sympathy towards me, yet nothing can so effectually minister to my comfort as acts of kindness done to relieve the wants, or mitigate the sufferings of my poor distressed family. May *God Almighty and their own consciousness* be their eternal rewarders. I am exceedingly rejoiced to have you make the acquaintance, and be surrounded by such choice friends, as I have long known some of those to be, with whom you are staying, by reputation. I am most glad to have you meet with one *of a family* (or I would rather say of two families) *most beloved and never to be forgotten by me*. I mean *dear gentle* ——. *Many and many* a time has *she*, her *father, mother, brothers, sisters, uncle and aunt* (like angels of mercy) ministered to the wants of myself and of my poor sons, both in sickness and in health. Only last year I lay sick for quite a number of weeks with them, and was cared for *by all*, as though I had been a most affectionate brother or father. *Tell her* that I ask God to bless, and reward them *all* forever. "*I was a stranger, and they took me in.*" It may possibly be that —— would like to copy this letter, and send it to her home. If so, by all means, let her do so. *I would write them* if I had the power.

Now let me say a word about the efforts to educate our daughters. I am no longer able to provide means to help towards that object, and it, therefore, becomes me not to dictate in the matter. I shall gratefully submit the direction of the whole thing to those whose generosity may lead them to undertake in their behalf, while I give *anew* a little expression of my own choice respecting it. You, my wife, *perfectly well know* that I have always expressed a decided preference for a very *plain but perfectly practical* education for both *sons and daughters*. I do not mean an education so very miserable as that *you and I* received in early life; nor as some of our children enjoyed. When I say plain but practical, I mean enough of the learning of the schools to enable them to transact the common business of life comfortably and respectably, together with that thorough training to good business habits which best prepares both men and women to be *useful though poor*, and to meet the *stern* REALITIES of life with a good grace. You well know that I always claimed that the *music* of the broom, washtub, needle, spindle, loom, axe, scythe, hoe, flail, &c., should first be learned at all events, and that of the piano, &c., AFTERWARDS. I put them in that order as most conducive to health of body and mind; and for the obvious reason that after a life of some *experience and of much observation*, I have found *ten women* as well as *ten men* who have made their mark in life *Right*, whose early training was of that *plain, practical* kind, to one who had a more popular and fashionable *early* training. But enough of that.

Now, in regard to your coming here: if you feel sure that you can endure the trials and the shock, which will be *unavoidable* (if you come), I should be glad to see you *once more*; but when I think of you being insulted on the road, and perhaps *while here*, and of only seeing your wretchedness made complete, *I shrink* from it. Your composure and fortitude of mind may be *quite equal to it all*, but I am in *dreadful doubt* of it. *If you do come*, defer your journey till about the 27th or 28th of this month. The scenes which you will have to pass through on coming here will be anything but those you now pass, with tender, kind-hearted friends and kind faces to meet you every where. *Do consider the matter well* before you make the *plunge*. I think I had better say *no more* on this *most painful* subject. My health improves a little; my mind is very tranquil, I may say, joyous, and I continue to receive every kind attention that I have any possible need of. I wish you to send copies of all my letters to all our poor children. What I write to one must answer for all, till I have more strength. I get numerous kind letters from friends in almost all directions, to encourage me to "be of good cheer," and I still have, *as I trust*, "the peace of God to rule in my heart." May God, for Christ's sake, ever make his face to shine on you all.

Your affectionate husband,
JOHN BROWN.

This letter of Brown's will be read and accepted as a true indication of his character by thousands who have to rely on abolition newspapers for their information in regard to it. It is amazing that such a man could have written such a letter. It opens a new line of investigation in moral psychology. We gave yesterday the evidence of five murders committed by Brown and his party, in the dead of the night, near Pottawatomie Creek, in May, 1856. Referring to that massacre, the following letter to Brown, sent by the widow of one, and the mother of two of the victims, was received at Charlestown, Va., on the 29th ult. The facts stated in it concur with the affidavits heretofore published, and that the letter was sent by Mrs. Doyle has been vouched for by the leading counsel engaged in conducting the prosecution against Brown:

TO JOHN BROWN.

SHATTAKOOGA Tenn., Nov. 20th, 1859.

Sir: Although vengeance is not mine, I confess that I do feel grateful to hear that you were stopped in your fiendish career at Harper's Ferry. With the loss of your two sons, you can now appreciate my distress in Kansas, when you then and there entered my house at midnight, and arrested my husband and two boys, and took them out of the yard and in cold blood shot them dead in my hearing; you can't say you did it to free our slaves. We had none, and never expected to own one. It has only made me a poor disconsolate widow, with helpless children. While I feel for your folly, I do hope and trust that you will meet your just reward. O! how it pained my heart to hear the dying groans of my husband and children. If this scrawl gives you any consolation you are welcome to it.

MAHALA DOYLE.

N. B.—My son, John Doyle, whose life I begged of (you), is now grown up, and is very desirous to be in Charlestown on the day of your execution, and would certainly be there if his means would permit it.

M. DOYLE.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

IN THE SENATE.

Immediately after the close of the prayer, in which allusion was made to the execution of John Brown in Virginia, Mr. LUCE of the Island District moved, in view of the event alluded to by the Chaplain, that the Senate adjourn.

This was opposed by Mr. RICH of Suffolk, who called for the yeas and nays on the question. The yeas and nays being ordered, resulted as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Bacon, Bagg, Cornell, Fisher, Hotchkiss, Luce, Metcalf, D. F. Parker—8.

NAYS—Messrs. Atwood, Branning, G. L. Davis, Frost, Goddard, Knight, Odiorne, Osgood, Rich, Sawin, Simmons—11.

ABSENT—Messrs. Bigelow, Bowerman, Boynton, Brooks, Butler, Conn, Daggett, R. T. Davis, W. T. Davis, Evans, Fabens, Field, French, Norton, E. G. Parker, Peck, Tilton, Upham, Walker, Williams—20.

And the motion was lost.

At a subsequent period of the session:

Mr. LUCE of the Island District moved, that as it was probably about the time that John Brown was being executed, in Virginia, and as an expression of sympathy for him, the Senate adjourn.

Mr. ODIORNE of Suffolk expressed admiration for Brown as a man, yet he thought the Senate would shew more respect for him as an energetic citizen by remaining at their work.

Mr. WALKER of Hampden said that while he yielded to no man in sympathy for Brown, he should very much regret that the Senate should endorse any of his doings. He looked at the action of the State of Virginia as unjust, and condemned the unseemly haste with which the trial and execution had been hurried forward. He considered that an adjournment on the motion made would endorse the acts of Brown, and on that ground he should vote against it.

Mr. LUCE asked the Senator whether the Senate did not adjourn when Mr. Choate died.

Mr. WALKER answered that it did, but he did not consider that a parallel case with the present, as the one was a prominent citizen of our own State and the other was not. He said the Senate had got through with the business of the day and he was ready to adjourn, but he did not wish it to go forth to the country that an adjournment was had for the reason assigned.

Mr. ODIORNE of Suffolk said he had the greatest sympathy with Brown, yet he would not officially sanction his course. It had been suggested that the Senators go and join in the services being held at the Old South Chapel, and he should not object to any going, yet he thought the motion to adjourn should be made without any connection with matter entirely disconnected with the business of the session.

Mr. BRANNING of Berkshire said he had as deep an abhorrence of slavery as any man could have. Brown suffers for the commission of two of the highest crimes known to the law, and while he deeply deplored his fate he would not give any official sympathy for him. Action of this kind would give the enemies of human freedom an opportunity to make capital from. Mr. BRANNING said he would not interfere with the slaves in any State, and would strongly uphold the Constitutions of all the States, yet he would insist on the non-extension of it as far as he could. [illegible]

Mr. DAVIS of Bristol did not propose to condemn the acts of John Brown, as he wished them to be judged by posterity, and he felt sure that no more heroic or brighter name would be found in history than that of old Osawatomie Brown. He then spoke of the murder of Brown's children in Kansas, and alleged that the man was driven to do what he did from the wrongs inflicted on him. [illegible] Virginia, said the Senator, [illegible] and this we call [illegible] and why should we not free the slaves in the land as well as old sod. [illegible] the Constitution of the United States in one hand and the golden rule in the other marched straight and smashed the slave power, and he will be honored there. [illegible] that this was a simple motion to adjourn, and [illegible] he did not consider he endorsed the acts of Brown.

Mr. WALKER [illegible] said he did not believe, as a lawmaker. He agreed with the Senator from Berkshire in relation to leaving the slave States unmolested in their property, and he was also opposed to the extension of slavery, but he thought the agitation of this matter would be forever settled at the election in 1860. We are no more responsible, said he, for the institution of slavery here, than we are for the internal institutions of any foreign country, and while he did not approve of going into slave States and running off slaves himself, yet he did not object to others doing it if they saw fit. Should I vote to adjourn now, said the Senator, it would be imputed to me that I adjourned in token of approval of the acts of Brown, and I do not wish to rest under such an imputation.

Mr. HOTCHKISS of Franklin said he was a State Rights man in the fullest sense, but he thought it would be as perfectly proper to adjourn out of sympathy for Brown as any other great and good man, and he considered John Brown one of the noblest works of God. If he had done wrong it was an error of the head and not of the heart. The Senator said he held the Governor of Virginia guilty of wilful murder, and this act would be the hanging of the Governor and the whole State of Virginia. Brown had not been proved guilty, and he insisted that he had not been guilty of treason to Virginia, and if guilty of this offence at all, it was of treason to the United States. He would vote for adjournment, yet, by so doing, he wished to express sympathy for the man, and did not consider the Senate was endorsing all his acts.

Mr. RICH of Suffolk called for the yeas and nays, and these being ordered resulted as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Bacon, Bagg, Cornell, R. T. Davis, Fisher, French, Hotchkiss, Knight, Luce, Metcalf, D. F. Parker, E. G. Parker—12.

NAYS—Messrs. Atwood, Boynton, Branning, Conn, Daggett, G. L. Davis, Evans, Fabens, Field, Frost, Goddard, Norton, Odiorne, Osgood, Peck, Rich, Sawin, Simmons, Upham, Walker—20.

And the motion was lost.

IN THE HOUSE.

Mr. RAY of Nantucket offered the following motion:

Moved, That for the great respect we have for the truthfulness and faith that John Brown has in man and his religion, and the strong sympathy for the love of liberty, (the avowed principle of Massachusetts,) for which he is this day to die, this House do now adjourn.

Mr. SPOFFORD of Newburyport was proceeding to argue the question, when Mr. WENTWORTH of Lowell raised the point of order that the motion was not debatable.

Some discussion ensued as to the character of the order, and whether it was debatable or amendable, or could be laid over.

The CHAIR (Mr RICE of Worcester) decided that the order might be amended, but could not be laid over.

Mr. RAY then proposed to amend his order so that the adjournment shall take place at 11 o'clock. Other propositions were made to adjourn at 1 o'clock and 2 o'clock.

Mr. ROBINSON of Middleboro' moved to amend by striking out the preamble.

Mr. WENTWORTH of Lowell appealed from the decision of the Chair, that the order could not be made to lie over.

Mr. RUSSELL of Boston thought the motion was not an order which could be laid over.

The vote was then taken, and the decision of the Chair was sustained.

The question being upon amending the order as to the hour of adjournment,

Mr. SPOFFORD of Newburyport said he thought he perceived a disposition on the part of some of the leading men of the House to skulk the question, by omitting the preamble of reasons. He went on to speak against the motion, and closed by asking for the yeas and nays.

Mr. ATWILL of Lynn thought it was unnecessary for the House to express an opinion upon John Brown and his acts, and that it ought to go on with the business of the session.

Mr. ROBINSON of Middleboro' was opposed to adjournment at any rate, and he was unwilling to say that John Brown was right, though he respected him, and thought his motives were good. On this principle he hoped the preamble of the motion would be struck out.

Mr. GRIFFIN of Malden said he could not see any occasion for getting into such a white heat as had been manifested by the gentleman from Newburyport. While he thought that it would be more wise for the House to remain in session during the melancholy events of the day, he hoped nobody would be frightened by the talk about "treason" which came from that gentleman. There is not a man here who would not travel from here to Virginia to arrest the hand of any man who should attempt to harm that frightened Commonwealth. The spirit of the order is merely a tribute to the piety and integrity of John Brown. If we are to adopt anything, let us adopt the recital; that is the best part of the order. He did not think the House should adjourn whenever any good man was in danger. The event of to-day acquires no new significance by anything we can do. Let us imitate Old Brown, and attend to the business God and our constituents have given us to do. If in order, he would move that the motion be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. SPOFFORD said he was surprised at the position of the gentleman from Malden. He had seen a notice that he would speak at a meeting this evening in honor of John Brown. If Brown had done his duty, then it was proper for the House to adjourn. The gentleman had said that this was not a political question. What else is it? The other day a gentleman died in New York (Mr. Irving) who had done more for the country than a million John Browns; but nobody proposed to do honor to him. If the House is disposed to do honor to John Brown and his acts, let it do so manfully and boldly. Let not gentlemen who have likened his gallows to the cross, skulk behind any technicalities or any pretence that it is not a political question. Mr. Spofford, in conclusion, acknowledged that he was in a heat, and he thought there was need of it. He was speaking for the Union and the Constitution, as well as for his constituents.

Mr. WENTWORTH satirized Mr Spofford's exhibition of zeal for the Constitution and Union, but he thought it unnecessary. We are all for the Constitution and the Union. Without expressing any opinion as to the precise meaning of the preamble—whether it endorsed John Brown's acts, or merely praised his piety and fidelity to duty—he thought it not wise to adopt the preamble or to adjourn. John Brown is to be executed to-day. Let Virginia take the responsibility; and let it not be said that she executed Brown on account of the exhibitions of Northern sympathy for him.

Mr. GRIFFIN said the gentleman (Mr. Spofford) seemed to infer a treasonable inference in the resolution. It was not the Legislature of Massachusetts which entertains the treason. The telegraph tells us daily where the treason is lurking. The gentleman from Newburyport can do no better when his services here are closed, than to make tracks for South Carolina. He called the gentleman's attention to the resolutions of the South Carolina Legislature, proposing to establish a Southern Confederacy, and the remarks of the Governor on it. This furnished a beautiful theme for the gentleman from Newburyport. Where can his young heart find greener pastures than there? Why should he spend his breath here with these fanatics when his brethren of South Carolina are willing to take up arms for the overthrowing of this Constitution? He is needed in South Carolina. They are crying for him, as babies down town are said to be crying for worm lozenges. [Laughter] Mr. GRIFFIN had high views of John Brown, and his value to the race, but this was not the place to express these views. In other places it may be done. Had there been a motion to adjourn, out of respect to Washington Irving, he would have opposed it. He renewed the motion to indefinitely postpone.

Mr. TUCKER of Boston condemned severely Brown's wicked and uncalled folly; he pitied his rash madness. Perhaps if Mr. Griffin was in Virginia, he would not sneer at the men of that State. If he was there he might not do it. Mr. Tucker called the attention of the gentleman to the killing of Batchelder at the time of the Burns surrender, and alluded to the Worcester county men surrendering their banner to two Boston policemen, as showing their bravery. What, he asked, is left to the Southern men to do but to make a Southern confederacy? They are driven to it by self defence. Read the articles of the fanatical wanderings and ravings of the Boston press. The Southern press is mild, compared with them. What good have all your ravings been to your Union; or what relief has it been to one slave? Not any. But it has destroyed the peace of the country, and done only injury.

The gentleman from Lowell, with his usual cunning, says it's only John Brown and his seventeen followers. Does he mean to say Brown would have attempted it if he hadn't promise of succor from without? He knows Brown was prompted by the coward Dr. Howe and others. John Brown was not insane, as he was said to be. There was method in his madness. The gentleman knew better than to say it was only John Brown and his seventeen followers.

Mr. WENTWORTH explained that he said Brown and his followers made a pitched battle and stood a regular siege.

Mr. TUCKER.—Well it's easy enough to do that because they had taken the United States Arsenal. [Laughter.]

Mr. BEALS of Weymouth opposed the motion to adjourn.

Mr. UPTON of Salem moved the previous question.

The Chair decided that the motion to indefinitely postpone was not in order.

The House refused to adjourn at one o'clock.

The motion to strike out the preamble was carried by a vote of 104 to 34.

The question recurring on the motion to adjourn, the House refused the yeas and nays, and then rejected the motion by a vote of 6 yeas to 141 nays.

SYMPATHY FOR BROWN IN THIS CITY AND ELSEWHERE.

Meeting at the Tremont Temple.

The meeting called with reference to the execution of Captain John Brown, at Tremont Temple Friday evening, was attended by an immense crowd. A large part of the meeting was composed of ladies, and the air was so close and suffocating that quite a number fainted during the evening. A large number of placards were exhibited in different parts of the Hall, with the sayings of Washington, Jefferson, Lafayette, and John Brown thereon, all relating to the question of slavery. On the front part of the stand, on the platform, there was a cross of evergreen, and a picture of John Brown with an evergreen wreath around it. Back of this there was a large banner, with the coat of arms of the State of Virginia, and below it the words "Be it ever to tyrants." Mr. Samuel E. Sewall presided at the meeting, and made a few introductory remarks on taking the chair. Mr. William Lloyd Garrison was first introduced, and read the address of John Brown to the Court of Virginia, commenting upon the same. Rev. J. Sella Martin of Philadelphia, (colored) was next introduced, and addressed the meeting at some length.

Mr. J. Q. A. Griffin of Malden, a member of the Legislature, made a speech which was received with great applause. Gov. Wise had been likened to Pontius Pilate, he said, but he was disposed to think Pilate far, far ahead of Gov. Wise. Pilate acknowledged that he had no jurisdiction over Jesus Christ, and sent him to Herod; but did Gov. Wise, who it was admitted by Democratic lawyers even, had no jurisdiction over Brown, say to him, Go to Herod, to wit, Buchanan?—No. He had not the generosity of a Pontius Pilate. Look anywhere, even to the annals of Italian rule, and you do not find such an act as that of Gov. Wise. The chairman, who spoke of the comparison between him and Pontius Pilate, should, in justice to the memory of Pilate, make a public apology. However much John Brown's acts were condemned, or justly applauded, all must admire his courage, firmness and integrity; and his act was calculated to educate the public mind on the great question of slavery.

At the conclusion of Mr. Griffin's remarks, a letter from Henry M. Dexter, pastor of the Pine Street Church, was read. He regretted his inability to be present. He was persuaded that John Brown was a monomaniac, made so by his Kansas acts, but he considered that his life was as a light from heaven on the question of slavery.

Speeches were afterwards made by Rev. John Pierpont, Mr. Robert T. Davis, member of the State Senate from Fall River, Mr. William Lloyd Garrison, and Rev. James Freeman Clarke.

COLORED SYMPATHY FOR BROWN IN BOSTON.—A portion of the colored people appeared in the streets on Friday with crape on their arms or crape rosettes on their breasts. A public meeting was held by them in the Southac street Church, at 11 o'clock. The attendance was quite small. The second hand clothing stores in Brattle street had quite a funeral appearance.

SYMPATHY FOR BROWN IN CHELSEA.—Some disturbance was created in Chelsea on Friday by a baker named Martin, who attempted to raise a flag at half-mast in the square as a token of sympathy for John Brown. A large number of the citizens objected to this as an act which might compromise them, and Mr. Martin carried his flag home again.

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 2.—The sympathisers with John Brown held quite a large meeting here to-day. Ex-Mayor Barstow presided, and made a long speech. Speeches were also made by Hon. Thomas Davis and Rev. Mr. Day, Free-will Baptist. The feeling of the larger part of the community was strongly against the meeting. All the prominent men engaged in it are among those entertaining extreme views upon the slavery question.

WORCESTER, Dec. 2.—The church bells were tolled here to-day for the execution of John Brown, from 10 to 12 o'clock. This evening a great meeting was held in Mechanics' Hall, which was addressed by prominent gentlemen of the city, clergymen, and others. It was the largest meeting that has been held here for a long time. Three thousand persons were in the hall, and a great many could not get in. At the close a collection was taken up for Brown's family, which was very successful.

PLYMOUTH, Dec. 2, 11 A. M.—The bells of the several churches in this town are now being tolled, on account of the execution of John Brown.

NEW BEDFORD, Dec. 2.—Great excitement exists here about the execution of John Brown. Several church bells are tolling, and there are numerous crowds in the principal streets.

MANCHESTER, N. H., Dec. 2.—There was a brisk excitement here this afternoon, occasioned by an attempt to toll the knell of Old Brown from the city bell. It had struck four or five times, when the Mayor, Mr. Harrington, appeared among the sympathizers in the belfry and ordered them to desist. Mr. James B. Straw, a brother of [illegible] of the Amoskeag Co., refused to leave, when the Mayor dropped him through the scuttle by the most convenient mode, and the bell didn't ring any more. [illegible] were tolled at 11 o'clock, in commemoration of the hanging of Old John Brown.

PORTLAND, Dec. 2.—As the railway train passed through Gardiner to-day, the bells were tolling for Brown. In this city there does not appear to have been the slightest feeling in regard to it.

ALBANY, Dec. 2.—100 minute guns were fired today, commencing at half-past 12 o'clock, in commemoration of the execution of John Brown.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—The John Brown prayer meeting at Dr. Cheever's church was numerously attended, and lasted for two hours. A prayer meeting was also held at Siloh Church.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 2.—A meeting assembled in the National Hall this morning, where there was an overflowing attendance, to offer prayers for John Brown.

Rev. Mr. Furniss read a number of letters from Brown.

Addresses were delivered by Lucretia Mott, Mary Green and others.

Murders Committed by Brown Before His Two Sons Were Killed.

Persistent efforts having been made to show that Brown was driven into the desperate and bloody career which marked the last three years of his residence in Kansas, in consequence of the murder of two of his sons by the pro-slavery party, affidavits taken in June, 1856, have been published, proving that he was the aggressor in the work of slaughter. Louisa Jane Wilkinson, widow of the late Allen Wilkinson, a member of the Kansas Legislature, deposed that between midnight and daylight, May 24, 1856, a party came to the house, and, in the name of the "Northern Army," took her husband out and shot him. Not having known Brown, she was not able to state of her own knowledge that he was one of the party, but the description she gave of the leader corresponded with his appearance in every respect. On the same night, William Sherman was taken out of the house of James Harris, and murdered by Captain John Brown and party, styling themselves the "Northern Army." At the time they took Sherman out, they took some property from the house. Harris, in his deposition, calls Brown by name, identifying him with certainty. The deposition of Mahala Doyle, widow, disclosed a more extensive butchery. The party came to her husband's house about 11 o'clock on the night of the 24th, and enquired where Mr. Wilkinson lived. Her husband, William P. Doyle, got up to tell them. They then told Doyle and his two sons, William and Drury, that they must surrender. Within fifteen minutes they were all three killed in the road, near the house. William was twenty-two years of age, and Drury twenty. John, seventeen years of age, was spared at the earnest entreaties of his mother. In his deposition, John gave a description of the leader fully answering to Brown. All these depositions were taken within a month of the occurrences testified to by the survivors. Here we have the murder of five persons, who, up to the time of their seizure, had been living in peace upon the land they had settled. To meet this evidence, John Brown, one of Brown's surviving sons, has put forth his assertion that his father was not in Franklin county in May, 1856. But the newspapers of that day show that he was then in that part of Kansas, at the head of an armed party, which was spoken of by the pro-slavery men as a band of freebooters, and by the free-state men as an organization got up for the defence of Kansas and freedom. From the first, the night's bloody work took the name of the "Pottawatomie Creek Massacre."

THE FEELING IN VIRGINIA.

The following is an extract from a letter from a lady in Virginia to a relative in this city. The reader, who has been deceived by the false and domestic manufactured correspondence of the New York sensation papers, will derive from this letter a true statement of the real feeling in our sister State.

—— Nov 22, 1859

"The repeated warnings that Gov. Wise has received, and the excitement in the country around, have made it advisable to send troops to Harper's Ferry, in case of an attempt being made to rescue Brown. He is evidently expecting it himself. The barns and wheat stacks of the jurors have been burnt, and those of several of the prominent citizens also. There is, it is said, a band of men sworn to rescue Brown or die in the attempt. Things have come to a fearful state when a murderer, a horse thief, and an incendiary like Brown, tried by our Courts, and condemned by our laws, is to be forcibly rescued from the punishment he deserves! The newspapers are teeming with falsehoods as to the terror that pervades this country. There is no panic here. The women are as quiet and as little alarmed as you can imagine. Our men are all enrolling themselves in volunteer companies, and preparing themselves for the worst coolly, quietly, and with deep determination to be ready for any emergency. Our Legislature, which meets next month (December), will form a regular system of military organization and defence. The Governor has received a despatch from Ohio, saying there were armed bodies of men leaving that State for Virginia, and we know this from the best authority. The Governor has a military force stationed in Jefferson county. Men, who would be equal to anything—young men of the best among us. Heaven grant that these may be only precautionary measures. The conservative papers at the North treat this terrible business at Harper's Ferry as a mere bagatelle, and the *Daily Advertiser* of Boston speaks of the terror and the panic that pervades the South, in a tone of as insolent superiority as if any such panic existed. The Harper's Ferry raid was bad enough alone and unconnected with anything else, but it has laid bare a wide-spread plot extending through many States, and embracing many prominent men, and this is frightful indeed. Frightful to think of arms and murderous weapons manufactured by our brothers, as it were, and smuggled amongst us by persons of whom we had no suspicion, to be placed in the hands of our domestic servants, incited to the murder of women and children. This is enough at once to arouse indignation and stifle fear. Mr. —— says that he never had such feelings as at the sight of one of these pikes brought hither from Harper's Ferry, manufactured in Connecticut, paid for by the Massachusetts Aid Society! The impending dissolution of the Union, and the danger of civil war are now talked of by our oldest and most conservative men, and it is terrible to think what the next year or eighteen months may bring about."