NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

THE CONSPIRACY AT HARPER'S FERRY

The interesting narrative which we copy below, prepared for the Baltimore American by a correspondent who accompanied a detachment of military to Harper's Ferry, will afford the reader full information as to the originators of the late fanatical conspiracy at that place, as well as of their antecedents and of the manner in which their foolhardy enterprise was suppressed. The whole affair presents some extraordinary characteristics on the part of the leaders, and shows the absurd process by which monomaniacs sometimes attempt to carry out their purposes. They have in this case met with a fearful retribution. Of the twenty-three persons of whom their party originally consisted fifteen are now dead and three mortally wounded, two unhurt have been made prisoners, and three only have succeeded in making their escape. Some later intelligence from the scene of the disturbance will be found on the next page of this paper.

THE ORIGINATORS OF THE CONSPIRACY

The principal originator of the insurrection, and the chief leader in its short but bloody existence, was undoubtedly Captain John Brown, whose connexion with the scenes of violence and border warfare in Kansas then made his name familiarly notorious to the whole country. Captain 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. They inquired about land in the vicinity, made investigations as to the probability of finding ores, and for some time boarded at Sandy Hook, one mile east of Harper's Ferry. After an absence of some months they re appeared in the vicinity, and the elder Brown rented or leased a farm on the Maryland side, about four miles from Harper's Ferry. They bought a large number of picks and spades, and thus 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 "Dill Smith" was Captain Brown, or that he intended embarking in a movement so desperate and 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 an insurrection which he supposed was to be successful in exterminating slavery in Maryland and Western Virginia. Captain Brown's chief aid was John E. Cook, a comparatively young man, who has resided in and near Harper's Ferry for some years. He was first employed in tending a lock on the canal. He afterwards taught school on the Maryland side, and, after a brief residence in Kansas, where it is supposed that 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 violent in the expression of his opinions as to excite any suspicions. These two men, with Brown's two sons, were the only white men connected with the insurrection that had been seen about the Ferry. All were brought by Captain Brown from a dis-ance, and nearly all had been with him in Kansas.

THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE INSURRECTION

The first active movement in the insurrection was made about half-past ten o'clock on Sunday night. Wm. Williams, watchman on Harper's Ferry bridge, while walking across towards the Maryland side, was accosted by a number of men, who said he was their prisoner and must come with them. He recognized Brown and Cook among the men, and, knowing them, 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 Williams at mid night found the bridge lights all out, and immediately was seized. Supposing it an attempt at robbery, he broke away, and his pursuers stumbling over the track, 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 the Ferry. A party headed by Cook proceeded thence to the house of Col. W., and told him he was a prisoner. They also seized all the slaves near the house, took a 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 Gen. Washington, and a pair of pistols presented by Lafayette to Washington, both lettered on the family. Before leaving Cook lectured Col. Washington 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 country with which he had been treated, regretting the necessity which made it his duty to detain Col. W. He, however, took advantage of the knowledge he obtained by the former visit to carry off all the Colonel's valuable collection of arms, which he did not recover until after the final defeat of the insurrection. From Col. Washington's they proceeded, with him a prisoner in his 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 sixteen, were taken prisoners, all their negroes within reach forced to join the movement, and 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 the railroad train at the upper end of the town attract attention. It was not until the town 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 the insurrectionists was at once magnified from fifty, which was probably their greatest force, including the slaves forced to join, to from five to six hundred. In the mean time a number of the workmen, knowing nothing of what had occurred, entered the Armory, and were instantly taken prisoners, until at one time they had not less than sixty men confined. Among those thus entrapped were Armistead Ball, chief draughtsman of the Armory, Benjamin Mills, Master of the Armory, and J. E. P. Daingerfield, paymaster's clerk. These three gentlemen were imprisoned in the engine house, which afterwards became the chief fortress of the insurgents, and were not released until after the final assault. The workmen were imprisoned in a building farther down the yard, and were rescued by the brilliant Zouave dash made by the railroad company's men who came down from Martinsburg.

Twin was the condition of things at daylight, about when time Capt. Cook with two white men, and accompanied by thirty slaves, and taking with them Colonel Washington's large wagon, went over the bridge and struck up the mountain road toward Pennsylvania. It was then believed that the large wagon was used to convey away the Paymaster's safe, containing $17,000 in Government funds, and also that it was filled with Minie rifles taken out to supply other bands in the mountains who were to come down upon Harper's Ferry in overwhelming force. These suppositions both proved nature, as neither money nor arms were disturbed.

THE BEGINNING OF THE FIGHT

As the day advanced, and the news spread around, and the people came into the Ferry, the first demonstrations of resistance were made to the insurrectionists. A guerrilla warfare commenced, chiefly led on by a man named Chambers, whose house commanded the Armory yard. The colored man, named Hayward, railroad porter, was shot early in the morning for refusing to join the movement. The next man shot was Joseph Burley, a citizen of Harper's Ferry. He was shot whilst standing in his own door. About this time also Samuel P. Young, Esq. was shot dead. He was coming into the town on horseback, carrying a gun, when he was shot from the Armory, receiving a wound of which he died during the day. He was a graduate of West Point, and greatly respected in the neighborhood for his high character and noble qualities.

The insurrectionists at this time, finding a disposition to resist them, had withdrawn nearly all within the Armory grounds, leaving only a guard on the bridge. About noon the Charlestown troops, under command of Col. Robert W. Baylor, arrived, crossing the Potomac river some distance up, and marching down the Maryland side to the mouth of the bridge. Firing a volley, they made a gallant dash across the bridge, clearing it of the insurrectionists, who retreated rapidly down towards the Armory. In this movement one of the insurrectionists, named Wm. Thompson, was taken prisoner. The Shepherdstown troops next arrived, marching down the Shenandoah side and joining the Charlestown forces at the bridge. A desultory exchange of shots followed, one of which struck Mr. Fontaine Beckham, Mayor of the town and agent of the Railroad Company, in the breast, passing entirely through his body. The ball was a large elongated slug, making a dreadful wound. He died almost immediately. Mr. Beckham was without arms and was exposed only for a moment whilst approaching the water station. His assailant, one of Brown's sons, was shot almost immediately, but managed to get back to the engine-house, where his dead body was found the next day. The murder of Mr. Beckham excited the people, and the cry was immediately made to bring out the prisoner Thompson. He was brought out on the bridge and shot down; from the bridge he fell into the water, and some appearance of life still remaining he was again riddled with balls.

FURTHER CONFLICTS.

At this time a general charge was made down the street from the bridge towards the Armory gate by the Charlestown and Shepherdstown troops and the Ferry people. From behind the Armory wall a fusilade was kept up and returned by the insurrectionists from the Armory buildings. Whilst this was going on the Martinsburg levies arrived at the upper end of the town, and entering the Armory grounds from the rear made an attack from that end. This force was largely composed of the railroad employes gathered from the towns and trains at Martinsburg, and their attack was generally spoken of as showing the greatest amount of fighting pluck exhibited during the day. Dashing on, firing and cheering, and gallantly led by Capt Alburtis, they carried the building in which the Armory men were surprised and released the whole of them. They were, however, but poorly armed, some with pistols and others with shotguns, and when they came within range of the engine-house, where the *élite* of the insurrectionists were gathered, and were exposed to their rapid and dexterous use of Sharp's rifles, they were forced to fall back. Conductor Evan Dorsey, of Baltimore, was mortally wounded, and Conductor George Richardson received a wound from which he died during the day. Several others were wounded, among them a son of Dr. Murphy, of Harper's Ferry.

A guerrilla warfare was maintained during the rest of the day, resulting in the killing of three of the insurgents and the wounding of a fourth. One of them crawled out through a culvert leading into the Potomac and attempted to cross to the Maryland side whether with a view of escaping or of carrying information of the Ferry party was not known. He was shot while crossing the river, and fell dead on the rocks. An altercation had ensued and secured his Sharp's rifle, and the body was afterward stripped of a portion of its clothing. On one of his boots was found a captain's commission, drawn up in full form, and declaring the bearer, Capt. Lehman, held that command under Major General Brown! A light mulatto was also shot just outside the Armory gate. He was dashed through and through his thigh, tearing away all the great arteries and killing him almost instantly. His name was not known, but he was one of the free negroes who came with Captain Brown. At this moment a tall, powerful man, named Aaron Stevens, came out from the Armory conducting some prisoners, it was said, and was shot twice, once in the side of the face and once in the breast. He was captured and taken into the tavern, and after the insurrection had been quelled was turned over in a dying condition to the United States authorities. Another man was shot in the Armory yard.

During the afternoon a sharp little affair took place on the Shenandoah side of the town. The insurrectionists had also seized Hall's rifle works, and a party of their assailants found their way in through the millrace and dislodged them. It was afterwards recognized that some of the insurrectionists were killed, but we found but one dead body, that of a negro, on that side of the city. Night by this time had come on and active operations ceased. Guards were placed around the Armory and every precaution taken to prevent escape.

ARRIVAL OF THE MILITARY.

At 10 o'clock on Monday night the train with the Baltimore military and United States marines arrived at Sandy Hook, where they waited for the arrival of Col Lee, deputized by the War Department to take command of the expedition. Leaving the military behind. They found the bridge in possession of the military, and entered the besieged and beleaguered town without difficulty, the occasional report of a gun or the singing motion of a Sharp's rifle ball warning them that they were already within the range of the Armory. Their first visit was to the bedside of Aaron Stevens, the wounded prisoner. They found him a large, exceedingly athletic man, a perfect Sampson in appearance. He was in a small room, filled with excited armed men, who had just brought in and placed on a chair him to whom he was groaning with pain, but answering with composure and apparent willingness every question in relation to the foray in which he was engaged. He said he was a native of Connecticut, but had lately lived in Kansas, where he knew John Brown. He had always lived in the United States army. The sole object of the attempt was to give the negroes freedom, and Captain Brown had represented that as soon as they seized the Armory the negroes would flock to them by thousands, and they would soon have force enough to accomplish their purposes. He believed that the freeing of the negroes was a proper purpose, one for which he would sacrifice his life, but thought that Captain Brown had been greatly deceived in relation to the movement. He said preparation had been making for months for the movement, *but that the whole force consisted of seventeen white men and five free negroes*. This statement was repeated without variation by all the prisoners with whom we conversed. They all agreed as to the number in the movement, and as to its objects, which some of them called the work of philanthropy. Lewis Leary, the negro shot at the rifle mill, stated before he died that he entirely sympathized with Captain Brown for the insurrection at a fair held in Lorraine county, Ohio, and received money from him to pay his expenses. They all came down to Chambersburg, (Pa.) and from there travelled across the country to Brown's farm.

HOW THE NIGHT PASSED.

The night passed without serious alarms, but not without excitement. The marines were marched over immediately after the arrival of Col. Lee, and were stationed within the Armory grounds, to be completely surrounded the engine house. Occasional shots were fired by the country volunteers—what for was not understood; but there was only one return fire from the insurgents. The broken telegraph was soon repaired through the exertions of Superintendent Wallis, who accompanied the expedition, and the announcement that communication was opened with Baltimore gave the "press representatives" abundant employment.

There was no finding any bed, and daylight was awaited with anxiety. Occasional shots were exchanged, varied with a discussion of all sorts of terrible rumors.

FORT OF THE INSURGENTS

The building in which the insurgents had made their stand was the fire engine-house, and no doubt the most defensible building in the Armory. It has dead brick walls on three sides, and on the fourth large doors, with windows above, none eight feet from the ground. A dead stillness surrounded the building, and, except that now and then a man might be seen peeping from the nearly closed centre door, or a dog's nose slightly protruding, there was no sign of life, much less of hostility, given. Various opinions were given as to the number of persons within, and the amount of resistance they would be able to offer. Cannon could not be used without endangering the safety of Col Washington, Mr. Daingerfield, Mr. Ball, and other citizens, whom they still held prisoners. The doors and walls of the building had been prepared for resistance, but to expose these holes no range could be had, and that without opening the door they would be shooting in the dark. The murder of the prisoners held was thought by many to be a desperate resource, and that a fight to the death was ending of their desperate attempt. Whilst people thus looked and speculated, the door was thrown open and one of the prisoners was sent out with a flag of truce, and delivered what was supposed to be terms of capitulation. The continuance of the preparations for assault showed they were not accepted.

THE ATTACK AND CAPTURE.

Shortly after seven o'clock Lieut J. E. B. Stuart, of the 1st cavalry, who was acting as aid for Col. Lee, advanced to parley with the besieged. Samuel Strider, Esq., an old and respectable citizen, bearing a flag of truce. They were received at the door by Captain Cook. Lieut. Stuart demanded an unconditional surrender, only promising them protection from immediate violence and trial by law. Capt Brown refused all terms but those previously demanded, which were substantially: "That he should be permitted to march out with his men and arms, taking their prisoners with them; that they should proceed unpursued to the second toll gate, when they would free their prisoners. The soldiers were then at liberty to pursue and they would fight if they could not escape." Of course this was refused, and Lieut. Stuart urged upon Brown his desperate position, and urged a surrender. The expostulation, though beyond ear-shot, was evidently very earnest, and the coolness of the Lieutenant and the courage of his aged flag bearer won warm praise.

At this moment the interest of the scene was intense. The volunteers were arranged all around the building, cutting off escape in every direction. The marines, divided in two squads, were ready for a dash at the door. Within, twenty men, having exhausted all argument with the determined Captain Brown, walked slowly from the door.

Immediately the signal for attack was given, and the marines, headed by Colonel Harris and Lieutenant Green, charged in two lines on each side the door. Two powerful fellows with sledges battered the door, but the sledge hammers attempted to batter down the door. The door swung and swayed, but appeared to be secured with a rope, the spring of which deadened the effect of the blows. Failing to obtain a breach, the marines were ordered to fall back, and twenty of them, bearing of a ladder, some forty feet long, and advancing at a run brought it with tremendous power against the door. At the second blow it gave way, one leaf falling inward in a shattering position. The marines immediately advanced to the breach, Major Russell and Lieutenant Green leading. A marine in the front fell; they fire with deliberate aim, and for the moment the resistance is serious and the issue seemed to be with the operatives within firing like a pitch of frenzy. The next moment the marines pour in, the firing ceases, and the work was done, whilst the cheers rang from every side, the general feeling being that the marines had done their part admirably.

Men on the Armory grounds were brought out, some dead, others wounded—they were greeted with execration, and only the precautions that had been taken saved them from immediate execution. The crowd, nearly every man of which had a gun, swayed with tumultuous excitement, and cries of "Hold them," "shoot them," rang from every side. The appearance of the liberated prisoners, all of whom, through the steadiness of the marines, escaped injury, changed the current of feeling, and prudence and cheers took the place of hooks and execrations. In the assault private Rupert, of the marines, received a ball in the stomach and was believed to be fatally wounded; another received a slight flesh wound in the face.

THE DEAD AND WOUNDED

The lawn in front of the engine house after the assault presented a dreadful sight. Lying on it were two bodies of men killed the previous day and found inside the house; three wounded men, one just at the last gasp of life, two others groaning in pain. One of the latter was Capt. Cook, who, it is known, the wounded man his son Watson, whilst the father himself laid upon the grass a gory spectacle, his face and hair clotted with blood and a severe bayonet wound in his side.

CAPT BROWN'S STATEMENT.

A short time after Capt. Brown was brought out he revived and talked earnestly to those about him, defending his course and avowing that he had done only what was right. He replied to questions substantially as follows:

Q Are you Capt Brown, of Kansas?

A I am sometimes called so.

Q Are you Osawattamie Brown?

A I tried to do my duty there.

Q. What was your present object?

A. To free the slaves from bondage.

Q Were any other persons but those with you now connected with the movement?

A No.

Q Did you expect aid from the North?

A. No; there was none connected with the movement but those who came with me.

Q Did you expect to kill people in order to carry your point?

A. I did not wish to do it, but you forced me to do it.

Various questions of this kind were put to Capt Brown, which he answered clearly and freely and seemed anxious to vindicate his course. He urged that he had the town at his mercy—that he could have burnt it and murdered its inhabitants, but did not. He had treated the prisoners he had taken with courtesy, and complained that he was hunted down like a beast. He spoke of the killing of his son, which he alleged was done after he was having a flag of truce, and seemed very anxious for the safety of his wounded son. Altogether his conversation bore the impress of a conviction that whatever he had done to free slaves was right, and that in the war in which he was engaged he was entitled to be treated with all the respect of a prisoner of war. He seemed fully convinced that he had been badly treated, and had a right to complain.

When first brought out he was supposed to be mortally wounded, and he himself said he was dying. An examination of his wounds proved them to be not necessarily fatal, and he afterwards expressed a desire to live and to be tried by his country. In his pockets a considerable number of papers were found, among which were the articles of agreement under which the insurrectionists acted, and what purported to be a schedule for the establishment of "provisional government." In his pockets were found nearly four hundred dollars in gold, which was committed to the care of Dr. Murphy, the Armory paymaster. The most important papers found in his possession were taken in charge of by Col. Lee, on behalf of the Government. The following note, characteristic of the operations of the man, fell into our possession:

"CAPTAIN BROWN—DEAR SIR: I have been disappointed in not seeing you here ere this to take charge of your freight. They have been here two nights and two days waiting for it; superintend the traveling for them it has imposed upon me so small task. Besides they are getting discontented, and if not soon taken on some of them will go back to Maysville. I wish to know definitely what you propose doing. They can not 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*]

THE PRISONERS.

Captain John Brown, the commander and instigator of this most singular project, has been known by the name of "Osawattamie Brown," by which name he has obtained quite a notoriety throughout the country as one of the leaders of the Free State party in Kansas. He was the hero of fifty guerrilla fights in the vicinity of Osawattamie, in one of which his son Frederick Brown was killed. His death and Brown's escape from the affair were undisputed. The two sons who were engaged with him in the Harper's Ferry invasion were also with him in his Kansas fights. Ottowa Jones, especially, figured extensively with his father in Kansas, and his brother Owen, Lawrence and Charles Brown, who died starved by fire by the pro slavery men on the same day that his brother was killed.

Besides Captain Brown the prisoners taken are his son, who is seriously wounded in the abdomen and not likely to live; Edwin Coppuck, who belongs to Iowa, and a negro named Shields Green, who came from Pittsburg to join Brown. The stories of all these men are precisely the same; they agree as to the object they proposed to accomplish and the number of parties in the movement. Young Brown, in answer to a question, said that there were parties in the North connected with the movement—thus differing with his father on this point. Coppuck, the other white prisoner, is quite young, and seems less surewed than the others. He said he did not wish to join the rebellion and when asked, gave a reply which showed the influence Brown had over him. He said: "Ah! you gentlemen don't know Captain Brown; when he calls for us we never think of refusing to come."

Several slaves were found in the room with the insurgents. Some of them did not believe that they were there willingly. Indeed Brown's expectations as to the slaves running to him were entirely disappointed. None seem to have come to him willingly, and in most cases they were forced to desert their masters. But one instance in which a slave made a public appearance with arms in his hands is related. A negro who had been sharply used by one of the town people, when he found he had a pike in his hand, used his "brief authority" to arrest the citizen and have him taken to the Armory.

THE IMPRISONED CITIZENS.

The citizens imprisoned by the insurrectionists all testify to their lenient treatment. They were neither tied nor insulted, beyond the outrage of restriction of their liberty, were not ill used. Captain Brown was always courteous to them, and at all times assured them they should not be injured. He explained his purposes to them, and whilst he had the workmen in confinement made an abolition speech to them. Colonel Washington speaks of him as a man of extraordinary nerve. He never blenched during the assault, though he admitted during the night that escape was impossible and he would have to die. When the door was broken down one of his sons received cut "I surrender." The captain immediately cried out, "there's one surrenders, give him quarter," and at the same moment fired his own rifle at the door. During the previous night he spoke freely with Colonel Washington, and referred to his sons. He said he had lost one in Kansas and two here; he had not pressed them to join him in this expedition; but he did not regret their loss, they had "died in a glorious cause. The position of the prisoners in the engine-house during the firing on Monday and at the moment of the final attack was a very trying one. Without any of the incentives of combat they had to risk the balls of their friends, but happily they all escaped. At the moment when the doors were broken in the prisoners, at the suggestion of Col Washington, threw up their hands, so that it might be seen they were not combatants.

EXCITING SCENES.

During the morning armed men continued to pour into Harper's Ferry in all sorts of costume and with every variety of arms. Over two hundred men came in on horseback, and probably there were from one thousand to twelve hundred men assembled there. The desire to inflict summary vengeance was exhibited in the strongest manner, and the vindictive feeling existing found one mode of expressure not at all commendable. The body of one of Brown's party, shot in the river the previous day, was dislodged from the rock on which it fell and came floating down. As it passed down toward the bridge it was made the target for probably a hundred shots, and must have been thoroughly riddled with balls.

DISCOVERY AND SEIZURE OF A. S.

During Tuesday morning one of Col. Washington's negroes came in and reported that Cook was in the mountains only three miles off. About the same time some shots were said to have been fired from the Maryland hills, and a rapid fusilade was returned from Harper's Ferry.

The Independent Greys, of Baltimore, immediately started on a scouting expedition, and in two hours returned with two wagons loaded with arms and ammunition found at Capt Brown's house. The arms consisted of boxes filled with Sharpe's rifles, pistols, &c., all bearing the marks of the Massachusetts Manufacturing Company, at Chicopee, Massachusetts. There were also found a quantity of United States ammunition, a large number of spears, (sharp iron bowie knives fixed on a pole, a terrible looking weapon,) intended for the use of the negroes, with spades, pick-axes, shove's, and every thing that might be needed; thus proving that the expedition was well provided for, that a large party of men were expected to be armed, and that abundant means had been provided to meet all exigencies. How all these would, twenty days ago, have been carried through without arousing observation is not known. They are supposed to have been brought through Pennsylvania.

The Greys pursued Cook so closely that they secured part of his arms, but with his more perfect knowledge of roads and cities he was enabled to evade capture. On their arrival at the Ferry with the enemy's spoil they were greeted with hearty cheers. The wagons were driven into the Armory yard and given into the custody of the Government. As everybody else, however, who could, by his hand on a Sharpe's rifle considered it legitimate spoil, why should not the Greys have a claim on their valuable capture?

The insurrectionists did not attempt to rob the Paymaster's department at the Armory. A large amount of money was there, but it was untouched.

Perfect order having been restored, the military, with the exception of the United States marines, who remained in charge of the prisoners, left in the various trains for home. An immense train brought the Baltimore troops, accompanied by the President cars to the junction, home, with that freedom from accident or detention that is a great characteristic of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad.

INCIDENTS OF THE FIRST CONFLICT.

A gentleman who returned to Baltimore from Harper's Ferry on Tuesday evening has furnished the Sun with the following account of the capture of the bridge and town early on Tuesday morning:

The first attack was made by a detachment of the Charlestown (Va.) Guards. They crossed the Potomac river above Harper's Ferry, and reached the building where the insurgents were posted by the canal, on the Maryland side. A smart firing occurred, and the rioters were driven from the bridge. One man was killed here and another arrested.

A man ran out of the building and tried to escape by swimming the river. A dozen shots were fired after him and he partially fell, but rose again, threw his gun away, and plied his pistols. Both mapped, and he drew a bowie-knife, cut his heavy accoutrements off, and plunged into the river. One of the soldiers was about ten feet behind; the man turned round, threw up his hands, and said, "don't shoot." The soldier fired, and the man fell into the water, with his face below way. His coat skirts were cut from his person, and in the pockets was found a captain's commission to Capt. W. H. Leeman, from the Provisional Government. The commission was dated October 16, 1859, and signed by John Brown, Commander-in-Chief.

A party of fire of the insurgents, armed with Minnie rifles, and posted in the rifle armory, were expelled by the Charlestown Guards. They all ran for the river, and one, who was unable to swim, was drowned. The other four swam out to the rocks in the middle of the Shenandoah and fired upon the citizens and troops upon both banks. This fire was upon them the scattering between two and three hundred men, and notless than four hundred shots were fired at them from Harper's Ferry, about two hundred yards distant. One was finally shot dead. The second, a negro, attempted to jump over the dam, but fell shot, and was not seen afterwards. The third was badly wounded, and the remaining one was taken unharmed. The white insurgent wounded and captured died in a few moments after in the arms of our informant. It was shot through the breast, arm, and stomach. He declared there were only nineteen whites engaged in the insurrection.

For nearly an hour a running and random firing was kept up by the troops against the rioters. Several were shot down, and many managed to limp away wounded during the night. Some were seen to be wounded in every direction, but when they learned that the soldiers were their protectors they took courage, and did good service in the way of preparing refreshments and attending to the wounded.

Aaron D. Stevens, a captain of the rioters, shot at the bridge, was taken into the Carroll Hotel, where his dreadful wounds were dressed by Dr. McGarrity. Heavy bullets passed through his breast, head, and one arm. He was shot in the breast to three around him that, as he expected to die before morning, he wanted somebody to telegraph to his father, at Norwich, Connecticut, to say that his son died at Harper's Ferry, in an attempt at high treason against the State of Virginia. He was alive at four o'clock Tuesday morning.

INCIDENTS OF THE SECOND CONFLICT.

The special reporter of the same paper furnishes a detailed account of the storming of the Armory and the capture of the insurgents, from which we make the following extracts:

HARPER'S FERRY, OCTOBER 18, 1859.

The town of Harper's Ferry was thronged last night with military and rioters, and martial law prevailed throughout the entire community. No one could pass the bridge without arrest, unless permitted by Col. Shriver, commanding the Frederick military. This precaution was taken to prevent the possibility of the escape of any of the disturbers of the peace of the town.

The citizens have not yet recovered from their astonishment at the civil war which has suddenly been engendered in their peaceful community. Their surprise at the boldness and absurdity which characterizes the efforts of the conspirators who have so mysteriously alighted, full armed, in their midst. The insurgents are caged, however, after their work of violence and death, and the town is free from the great anxiety awaited the results of the events of the day.

At about 5 o'clock yesterday morning the military companies, a part of which had been on duty at guard during the night, were ordered out. The volunteers took possession of the Armory, and secured their prisoners in small building at the extreme end of the Government works. They held as their prisoners some half dozen citizens of wealth and respectability, and some half dozen negroes. One of the Baltimore companies (the Independents, who had been captured by the rebels, and were held as prisoners, were released unhurt. It was the safety of those gentlemen that made me endeavor to induce the rioters to surrender. I await your instructions.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE, Col Commandant.

This extraordinary movement at Harper's Ferry on the part of the abolitionist Brown, characterized by such audacity and folly, is fertile of comment. It appears that he was a monomaniac, possessing a strong will, superior firmness and resources of mind, and that his followers possessed a weakness of mind and character which enabled him to obtain that ascendency over them which led them to their destruction.

KILLED AND WOUNDED

The following are among the killed and wounded in the recent conflicts at Harper's Ferry:

Killed—Fountain Beckham, railroad agent, on Sunday, by a single shot; Hayard Sheppard, colored porter at the railroad station, killed Sunday night in working at the train; Thomas Boerly, citizen of Harper's Ferry, killed in Monday's assault; William Richardson, of Martinsburg, killed in same assault; George W. Turner, of Charlestown railway, killed on Monday; William Leary, son of "Old Brown;" Stewart Taylor, insurgent; J. C. Anderson, insurgent; W. H. Leeman, insurgent; Albert Hazlitt, insurgent, and several colored men.

Wounded—Osawattomie (old) Brown; Watson Brown, a second son; Evans Dorsey, mortally; Allen Evans, mortally; Private Quinn, U. S. Marines, mortally; another Marine, name unknown, slightly; Alexander Kelly; George Murphy, State's attorney, of Martinsburg.

Captured Prisoners—Edwin Coppoc, of Iowa; Shields Green, colored, of Harrisburg; Watson Brown, a son of old Brown.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES OF COL. LEE.

The Constitution of yesterday publishes the following despatches from Col. LEE, in command of the troops at Harper's Ferry:

HARPER'S FERRY, OCTOBER 18, 1859.

TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR: I find it unnecessary to bring the troops from Fort Monroe here, and have stopped them at Fort Mellenry to await your orders. All the rioters are now in the engine-house, except three who have escaped, are barricaded in the engine-house within the enclosure of the Armory. They have with them some of our citizens, whom they refuse to release. There are several companies here from Virginia, and Frederick, Maryland, in charge of the village. I will post the marines in charge of the Armory property, and endeavor to secure and protect the rioters. They have killed several citizens and several of them have been killed.

R. E. LEE, Col. Commandant.

HARPER'S FERRY, OCTOBER 18, 1859.

TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR: I have the honor to report: At 7 A. M. I summoned the rioters that had taken refuge in the Armory building to surrender, promising to hold them in custody till the decision of the President of the United States was known. The summons was presented by Lieut. Stewart, first cavalry, and declined. A strong party, under command of Lieut. Green, of marines, had been previously posted near the building, and at a concerted signal broke down the door and captured the party. Two marines were wounded—one mortally, I fear, the other slightly. Two of the rioters were killed, two wounded. Osawattomie Brown, the leader of the party, was mortally wounded. One prisoner is dangerously wounded. The prisoners are now in small building at the extreme end of the Government works. They held as their prisoners some half dozen citizens of wealth and respectability, and some half dozen negroes. One of the Baltimore companies (the Independents) who had been captured by the rebels, and were held as prisoners, were released unhurt. It was the safety of those gentlemen that made me endeavor to induce the rioters to surrender. I await your instructions.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE, Col Commandant.

THE CONSPIRACY

The following are among the killed and wounded in the recent conflicts at Harper's Ferry:

Killed—Fountain Beckham, railroad agent, on Sunday, by a single shot; Hayard Sheppard, colored porter at the railroad station, killed Sunday night in working at the train; Thomas Boerly, citizen of Harper's Ferry, killed in Monday's assault; William Richardson, of Martinsburg, killed in same assault; George W. Turner, of Charlestown railway, killed on Monday; William Leary, son of "Old Brown;" Stewart Taylor, insurgent; J. C. Anderson, insurgent; W. H. Leeman, insurgent; Albert Hazlitt, insurgent, and several colored men.

Wounded—Osawattomie (old) Brown; Watson Brown, a second son; Evans Dorsey, mortally; Allen Evans, mortally; Private Quinn, U. S. Marines, mortally; another Marine, name unknown, slightly; Alexander Kelly; George Murphy, State's attorney, of Martinsburg.

Captured Prisoners—Edwin Coppoc, of Iowa; Shields Green, colored, of Harrisburg; Watson Brown, a son of old Brown.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES OF COL. LEE.

The Constitution of yesterday publishes the following despatches from Col. LEE, in command of the troops at Harper's Ferry:

HARPER'S FERRY, OCTOBER 18, 1859.

TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR: I find it unnecessary to bring the troops from Fort Monroe here, and have stopped them at Fort Mellenry to await your orders. All the rioters are now in the engine-house, except three who have escaped, are barricaded in the engine-house within the enclosure of the Armory. They have with them some of our citizens, whom they refuse to release. There are several companies here from Virginia, and Frederick, Maryland, in charge of the village. I will post the marines in charge of the Armory property, and endeavor to secure and protect the rioters. They have killed several citizens and several of them have been killed.

R. E. LEE, Col. Commandant.

HARPER'S FERRY, OCTOBER 18, 1859.

TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR: I have the honor to report: At 7 A. M. I summoned the rioters that had taken refuge in the Armory building to surrender, promising to hold them in custody till the decision of the President of the United States was known. The summons was presented by Lieut. Stewart, first cavalry, and declined. A strong party, under command of Lieut. Green, of marines, had been previously posted near the building, and at a concerted signal broke down the door and captured the party. Two marines were wounded—one mortally, I fear, the other slightly. Two of the rioters were killed, two wounded. Osawattomie Brown, the leader of the party, was mortally wounded. One prisoner is dangerously wounded. The prisoners are now in small building at the extreme end of the Government works. They held as their prisoners some half dozen citizens of wealth and respectability, and some half dozen negroes. One of the Baltimore companies (the Independents, who had been captured by the rebels, and were held as prisoners, were released unhurt. It was the safety of those gentlemen that made me endeavor to induce the rioters to surrender. I await your instructions.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE, Col Commandant.

HEADQUARTERS WAR DEPARTMENT,

Near Harper's Ferry, Md.

Whereas W. H. Leeman has been nominated a captain in the army established under the *Provisional Constitution*, now, therefore, in pursuance of the authority vested in me by said constitution, we do hereby appoint and commission the said Wm. H. Leeman captain.

Given at the office of the Secretary of War, this day, 16th of October, 1859.

JOHN BROWN, Commander-in-Chief.

H. KAGI, Secretary War.

There was taken from the person of Stevens a printed pamphlet of twenty-five pages, containing the constitution, &c. of Mr. Brown's provisional government. The work is in the possession of Col. Lee, and would be treasonable were it not so ridiculous.