THE NEW-YORK HERALD.

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REPUBLICAN RATIFICATION MEETING.

Immense Throng at the Cooper Institute—Speeches of Wm. M. Evarts, Hon. Thomas Corwin and Others, &c., &c.

A republican ratification meeting was held at the Cooper Institute last evening, beginning at half-past seven o'clock. From an early hour the citizens began to flow into the building, and at the hour fixed for the commencement of the proceedings the hall was completely filled. A large and efficient band paraded in front of the Institute, playing a variety of stirring airs, while at every moment new accessions to the crowd of people arrived, in the shape of ward associations, bearing banners and flags with various devices and inscriptions. Shortly before the opening of the meeting a pyrotechnic shower was let off, and no means of attracting the passers-by were left untried. An attempt was made to organize a distinct open-air meeting to co-operate with that in session within the building, but the attempt was afterwards abandoned.

The meeting having been called to order in the usual form, Mr. Wm. M. Evarts was proposed as chairman, and the motion was unanimously carried, amid warm applause. An unusually large number of Vice Presidents and Secretaries was also appointed.

SPEECH OF WM. M. EVARTS.

Mr. Evarts, the President, then addressed the meeting, returning thanks for the honor conferred upon him, and said they were met in this great assemblage to ratify the nominations of the republican party of officers to conduct the affairs of this great State. Beside choosing these officers, they were to choose a part of the Legislature, who were to elect a Senator to represent this State in the federal councils. Great in municipal, State and federal relations were the issues pending in the coming contest. The republican party had sprung out of the exigencies of the State and nation, and had an all-important mission. In regard to the government of this city, the republican party also had its purposes. The only points of good government in this city were of republican origin. Where would have been the ballot box and the peace and safety of the city if Fernando Wood and his old police had maintained their sway? He claimed that the great Central Park was a monument of the beneficent wisdom of a republican Legislature. The city had not been able for fourteen months to repair the City Hall, and where then would have been this magnificent park enterprise in such hands? He spoke of the Erie canal enlargement, charging the debt to the opponents of the republican party, and claiming for that party the credit of making the canal loan legal, and carrying on the great work of enlargement to completion. But the great work of the party was in our federal relations. Their object was to restore the policy of the government on the subject of slavery to what it was in the days of Washington and Jefferson. It had been charged that these were but temporary objects, but he asked if the position of the country and of this great question were less vital now than in 1856. It was said the republican party had avowed new doctrines, and it was charged upon them that they were the advocates of an irrepressible conflict. (Applause.) Now the great Senator of the State of New York—(three hearty cheers for Wm. H. Seward)—with all the boldness he had ever evinced, had said that he found that there was in the nature of man and the formation of society an irrepressible conflict going on between the principles of free labor and slavery. That was all; it was an opinion. I agree, said the speaker, with Mr. Seward, and you agree with him. (Cheers.)

A Voice—Reporter for the Herald, please put that down. (Laughter.)

Mr. Evarts—Let me add that this is an opinion easily put down in the columns of the Herald, but hard to put down before the people. (Applause.) Because Governor Seward expressed an opinion of this kind he had been charged with having created and excited an irrepressible conflict. It was just as sensible as it would be to accuse Galileo of causing the earth to go around the sun. If Galileo's opinion had so much force upon the solar system, what might not Mr. Seward do in the atmosphere of moral things? Did the history of Kansas or of Virginia show that there was an irrepressible conflict, or that there is not? Who was responsible for having carried that conflict with a rude shock, involving life and liberty in Kansas and Virginia? Who began it? Who declared that the earth did not go around the sun? Who sought to repress the fires of liberty, but were themselves burned by the bursting flames that could not be repressed? Who brought the federal power and patronage and the federal arms to bear against the people of Kansas? Though that people were few and weak, they (the republicans) had foretold that they would eventually triumph, because of the electric spark of freedom which burned in their bosoms and communicated by the wires of sympathy with millions of hearts all over the North. The republican party undertook the work of collecting the electric shock, and they would force it out next year more than ever. We have lived to hear those who sneered at "bleeding Kansas" shrieking for terrified Virginia. (Applause and laughter.) We told them the men in Kansas were our countrymen, and their sufferings touched our hearts as much as if they were citizens of our State. Virginia was a part of our country, and as dear to us as New York. But we must deal with facts, and our object and purpose is to control this system of slavery, so that where the federal power goes slavery shall not be carried, and shall not be replenished by importations from abroad. We will put it where Madison and Jefferson did—an evil to be endured, but a burden to be diminished. (Loud calls for Corwin.) The republican party was the only one that had the courage to meet this question. All other parties had sought to postpone the evil day. He counselled the party not to desert their great leader unless they expected to be branded as cowards and looked upon as already beaten.

SPEECH OF HON. TOM CORWIN.

Hon. Thos. Corwin, of Ohio, was introduced, amid loud cheers, and proceeded to address the audience as follows:—I am very happy, fellow-citizens, to understand, from the eloquent gentleman who presides at this meeting, that our assembling together to-night was intended for the purpose of deliberation. I am very sure that the matter which has been already submitted to your consideration, so suggestive as it has been, if you would but retire now and deliberate upon it, much of your time would be saved in perhaps listening to what can only be but an elaboration of the great subjects which he has already submitted to you. I find everywhere the great heart of the republic is palpitating, in some quarters with fear, sometimes exhibiting dismay at the appalling prospects that are before us; sometimes, animated by the spirit of hope, it seems to be trembling with an exultant feeling of triumph; whilst everywhere all men are inquiring of each other, as it is said they would do in the latter times, "What shall we do to be saved?" (Laughter.) I can hardly find in my own mind any apology, in leaving my home in Ohio, for coming to the city of New York to deliberate with you about those matters which have already been suggested by the gentleman who has just taken his seat. I hardly know now what I shall say to you, for I am satisfied that there are thousands here who understand the great duty which awaits them; that is, they must understand the principles upon which they are to vote on next Tuesday, the day of their election. I have always wished that some device might be found out, that a scheme might spring from the brain of some ingenious and patriotic man, whereby men would be compelled at the elections which we hold to set down the principles which they vote for, instead of representing them through names of men and upon pieces of paper. I know well, and I am sure that I shall not be called presumptuous or self-confident when I say that if the great people of all the Northern States, as they are called, were permitted on the day of their annual election to write down in plain and intelligible language the principles which they wished to be carried out in the government under which we live, there would be but very little controversy in settling the mighty questions which now agitate the public mind. But unhappily we have to represent those principles upon our ballots by name, and so little is this doctrine of the right of suffrage understood, even by intelligent men in this free country, that they very frequently abandon the principles and fail to write it upon their ticket, because there is a name there to represent that principle who personally they do not choose to think the man they love. I do not intend to say, young gentlemen, that this should be carried into effect when you are entering upon a matrimonial engagement. I have found everywhere throughout the Western country, and I have seen it more in the State of New York than anywhere else, that there is a perfect agreement among men who call themselves Americans and men who call themselves whigs with the great doctrines upon which the republican party was based and founded. I do not find anybody among that old whig party, of which I believe I may proclaim myself the only representative alive on the face of the earth. Mr. Corwin proceeded to repeat the argument upon the subject of the power of Congress over the Territories which he delivered in Brooklyn on Wednesday night, and which was reported very fully in the Herald of yesterday. He did not anticipate that any one present was going to utter his opinion before the election, but he urged upon them all the great importance of faithfully discharging the duty of voting. Every voter should be intelligent enough to know what principles his ballot represented, and honest enough to vote for correct principles, in spite of partisan or any other influences.

At this point a fellow in a remote corner of the hall called for three cheers for Fernando Wood, and gave a solitary hurrah by himself, which raised a shout of laughter.

Mr. Corwin went on to condemn the suicidal course of men of business and wealth who abandon the polls to rowdies and shoulder-hitters. If they would only go a step further, and abandon their houses in like manner, they would soon find them converted into lager bier saloons. If respectable people refused to vote, their necks would soon come under a yoke. The man too respectable to vote was an unworthy citizen. He was afraid that some would think that stump speaking was not respectable. He had come here all the way from Ohio to convince them that it was quite respectable. (Laughter.) He considered it a great and prevalent error of members of Congress that all they had to do was to take care of the peculiar interests of their own particular State or section. But they were sworn to support the constitution of the United States, and their real duty was to guard all the interests of the whole country—of South Carolina as well as of New York or Ohio. Southern men as well as Northern, if they had true American hearts, would fly to arms to repel an invasion of any part of the country. He reminded the South that it was their own statesmen—their Jeffersons, Madisons and Randolphs—that established the ordinance of liberty for the Northwest, in 1787, taking the same ground that the South now apprehended in those they regarded as anti-slavery fillibusters. He spoke of the denial by Congress of the petitions from Indians to be allowed to hold slaves, as an illustration of the views of the makers of our government, and told a comical story about a coon skin, to show the tenacity with which, according to popular sovereignty democracy, inherent sovereignty clings to an American citizen. Mr. Dickinson had said the other night that the republicans had got all the bad elements of the old whig party. I suppose, said Mr. Corwin, he meant me and Hoxie. (Laughter.) He would remind Mr. Dickinson of the elements of his own party. In the South the democracy held that the constitution carried slavery with it into all the Territories, and that Congress was bound to protect it by law; while in the North, where such doctrines were unpalatable, this ingenious dodge of popular sovereignty had been invented for the unterrified to swear by. If Jacob's cattle were here we might get something like an emblematic representation of Mr. Dickinson's democratic party. (Laughter.) The republican party, on the other hand, maintains simply the old doctrines of the constitution, as declared and sanctified by the legislation of the country and the practices of the government in all its departments throughout all our early history—namely, that slavery is a local institution, belonging entirely to the States where it exists, and that it is to be protected there under the constitution in the same manner that any other local institution is to be protected in every section. Such was the doctrine of the party at least in Ohio, and if they departed from the constitution they would part company with the people of the great valley of the Mississippi. If the people of the East should go too far in their anti-slavery crusade, or if the fire-eaters of the South should make any assault upon the constitution, there were eight millions of men in the West who would rise up and lay one hand upon the South and another upon the East, and say "Peace, be still." (Applause.) Mr. Corwin argued further from contemporaneous interpretation that the constitution was intended to give Congress power to control the subject of slavery in the Territories, and repeated his argument on the subject of the Fugitive Slave law, in nearly the same language used at Brooklyn. His declaration that the law ought to be, and must be, enforced, was received with mingled applause and hisses, and several questions were propounded by the audience, but were not heard by the speaker, in consequence of the confusion. It was apparent, however, that a large majority of the meeting concurred in Mr. Corwin's conservative views. He would not say that the Fugitive Slave law was right, "but," said he, "if you don't like it, have it changed; and if you can't get it changed by a majority, then leave the country and go to Morocco." (Loud cheers.) He would not contend with the men of Virginia about the right of holding slaves any more than he would go to India and knock some minister in the head for officiating in the bloody rights of Juggernaut. We could no more go to Virginia to put down slavery than Virginians could come here to put down our common schools, though they might try to convince them by argument, as men argue about the unity or trinity of God. For his part, he knew there was one God, and when he found that the law of the land did not agree with God's higher laws, he went to work making stump speeches to get the people to change them. They saw by the experiment of one misguided man in Virginia that the penalty of resisting the laws must be death, and he was satisfied that slavery never could be abolished by any such course. We have nothing to do with slavery in the States, but everything to do with slavery in the Territories. Before you part with the constitution show us what you would have in its place; before you pull up that tree under which we have shelter show us a safe retreat to another. It had been said the age of bullets was past, but Solferino did not look like it. He was rather of opinion that only the terror of bullets would compel some men to obey the law. In all past history it was shown that the laws were only respected because they were supposed to come from God. The Jews got to quarrelling about State rights, and chose a king: they got very much such a fellow as we have sometimes elected. The prophet went out and found a man with a halter in his hand hunting his father's horses, and he told him to get down and let him pour a little bear's grease on his head and make him a king. He was a tall, rawboned, ungainly fellow, and because he was a foot or two taller than anybody else around the people shouted, "Long live King Saul!" But when the cares of government fell upon him, like some of our Presidents, he became insane. And poor Mr. Buchanan has treated the David of his household—Mr. Douglas—very much as Saul treated that old harper of Israel; and when Mr. Douglas plays upon his harp that sweet song of popular sovereignty to charm away the devil from poor King Buchanan—(uproarious laughter, in which the remainder of the sentence was lost.) King Saul and King Buchanan have been pretty much alike in all the capers they have cut. Mr. Corwin attributed all the evils which had culminated in this irrepressible conflict, to the original departure from the policy of the founders of our government in the repeal of the Missouri compromise.

A Voice—Good night.

Mr. Corwin—Farewell; I shan't speak more than a minute or two longer. Out of this repeal of the Missouri compromise had grown a three years civil war in Kansas, and that strange compound of truth and treason, honor, honesty and violence exhibited in the spectral image of John Brown. There was no apology for rebellion in this country as there was in the old. All they had to do to change any obnoxious law was to get a majority to agree with them. If such a majority will not agree with you, take away the right of suffrage from those not so wise as yourself. He had often wished for power to do so. (Laughter.) He didn't think slavery could go to Washington Territory or New Mexico. It would have gone to Kansas but for the terrible conflict waged there, in which free territory had conquered all opposition. All he asked was "a fair field and a clear sky, and God defend the right." He wanted free territory only because he was more concerned about the white man than the negro. If they would find a place where white labor could not live, then Cuffee might go there, for all he cared. He referred to the rapid growth and unexampled prosperity of the Northwestern States as in illustration of the beneficence of free institutions. Harper's Ferry had taught them that the institution of slavery was not so safe as free institutions; for no score of men with any amount of backers could have seized a lager-beer saloon in Lebanon, Ohio, and held it for twenty-four hours, nor if they had would it have frightened the State from its propriety. Another lesson to be drawn from this event was that slavery could never be mitigated by violence. If they learned these two truths only from the unhappy adventure and fate of poor, misguided, crazy old Brown, they would at least gain some good by him. He advocated the Homestead bill, which was proposed at the last Congress, and which Southern members of Congress opposed because slave owners could do nothing with small farms. He supposed Northern democrats voted against it because they were afraid of making poor laboring men aristocratic. If a dozen free white men from the North settled with their wives on a dozen quarter sections there would be "subsequent consequences," as a lawyer would say, in a few years, in the shape of thirty or forty children, with churches and school houses to fit them to be intelligent voters. The republican party when it came into control of government, as he believed and hoped they would—(applause)—would have to do the duty of cutting down the extravagant expenditures of government, of maintaing the neutrality laws, not only between us and foreign nations, but between the several States. (Cheers.) If they failed to do their duty in these respects they would go out; as they deserved, as quick as they came in. He spoke encouragingly of republican prospects in the West, and called upon New York to set a good and encouraging example to other States. Let every man work from now till election, as the old Jew worked in the second building of the temple, with his sword in one hand and his trowel and hammer in the other. Keep the democrats off, and for God's sake work among the old whigs. Then, in time, they might come to do almost as well in this barbarous region as the republicans had done in the free and enlightened regions of the West.

The following resolutions were then read by Mr. James C. Carter, and unanimously adopted:—

1. Resolved, That we the republicans of the city of New York, have assembled to-night in preparation for the general election now at hand, to declare our attachment to the great principles upon which our organization stands, and to pledge to each other our best efforts to maintain and preserve them.

2. Resolved, That under the rule of the self-styled democracy, the federal government has been and still is shamelessly prostituted in a base subserviency to the slave power; that this power is still dominant in the high places of the nation; and that for the purpose of extending and perpetuating itself it has sanctioned and aided, in a distant Territory, crimes over which the indignation of the country is not yet silent, trampled upon the sacred right of suffrage, and made a desperate though vain endeavor to fasten a tyranny upon the necks of a free people; that in pursuit of the same end it has introduced political and financial corruption into every department of the general government, and sacrificed the great and paramount interests of free labor; and that now, not content with its past aggressions, it is unblushingly seeking to reopen what Jefferson denounced as "the execrable commerce in men."

3. Resolved, That to effect a final overthrow of this pernicious power, and to drive it forever from the capital of the nation; to restore the principles and the practice of the fathers of the republic; to prevent the extension of slavery over a single foot of soil new free; to administer equal and exact justice to every part and section of the country; to preserve with jealous care the reserved and sacred rights of the States; to foster the great interests of American labor; to banish corruption and extravagance, and introduce purity and economy into the management of political affairs; to stay the present headlong decline in national morals—these have been our principles from the beginning. We have inscribed them again and again on our standards; we fling them out on our banner to-night, and, inviting every good citizen and true patriot of every name to join us, we mean to carry them to victory.

4. Resolved, That we declare our devotion to all the principles and parts of our federal constitution, and our unshaken attachment to the Union of the States; that though we would hail with gratitude and joy the day when "the last fetter shall fall from the last slave," we yet would not venture to approach this end through any violation of our constitutional obligations; that slavery in the States is a thing for which we are not responsible, and we leave the evil and the remedy to the justice and the wisdom of those who have the proper control over it.

5. Resolved, That the recent disturbance of the domestic peace of Virginia deserves and receives our strongest condemnation; and that the vain endeavor to fix upon some of our distinguished leaders a complicity with that lawless outbreak, is but one of the dishonest resorts by which our opponents hope to escape the great issue which is pressing them into defeat; but that, nevertheless, we see in the alarm and terror which this event has aroused, and in the sad prostration by a Virginia court, in the trial of a brave but misguided man, of the time-honored safeguards of innocence, a new incentive to our effort to prevent the extension of the pernicious system of slavery.

6. Resolved, That we point with pride to the administration of Gov. Morgan, as an example of the faithful, fearless and statesmanlike discharge of the executive functions of our State government.

7. Resolved, That the recent shameful partisan action of the democrats in the Board of Supervisors, in making the appointments of Registrars, was a deliberate and intentional effort to defeat the wholesome provisions of the Registry act—to stifle the voice of the people at the polls—to furnish shelter for contemplated frauds—and ought to receive the condemnation of every honest citizen.

8. Resolved, That our late Convention at Syracuse, in presenting for our suffrages so admirable a selection of candidates, has well discharged its high duty. We ratify the result of its labors, and pledge to the ticket it has given us, as well as to our own local nominations, a cordial and hearty support.

9. Resolved, That we catch with delight the sounds of triumph which come to us from our brethren in the great West. We hail them as auspicious signs of mightier victories in the great national struggle yet to come, and promise that they shall have from us an early echo worthy of the Empire State.

Among the letters received by the committee was the following from Gov. Chase, of Ohio:—

Columbus, Oct. 31, 1859.

Gentlemen—If it were at all possible for me to visit your city at this time, I should accept your invitation to address the republicans of New York on the 3d of November. But my duties here forbid me to yield to the promptings of my inclination. The verdict of Ohio in favor of freedom and reform this fall is emphatic and significant. Concurred in, as it is, by Iowa and Minnesota, and, so far as local results seem to indicate general sentiment, by Indiana also, it exhibits the fixed determination of the free States of the Great Central Valley to exclude slavery from national Territories, and to bring back our national government to the principles of its founders. In this resolution we are gratified to find ourselves sustained by the sober judgment of steadfast Pennsylvania, and we are looking with confidence for the confirming suffrages of Wisconsin and Kansas, as well as for that of your own Empire State. Thus, all the omens are auspicious. May courage and patience, wisdom and conciliation, fidelity to principle, disregard of personal considerations, and supreme devotion to the cause, distinguish our action, and insure a glorious triumph to "the sacred side" which we espouse.

S. P. Chase.

A. C. Dixon, of the State Senate, was next introduced to the audience, and begun by throwing out the admonition that the strength of a position, either military or moral, depended on the safety of the line adopted. This fact should be borne in mind by the republican party. Their enemies would endeavor to break their line, force their centre, turn their flanks, and set them one against the other. But they must see that their wings and their centre are firmly defended, for only in that case can they hope again for the days of Jefferson and Washington. The republican party had no business to interfere in the affairs of individual States, nor to create divisions in their own camp, for if they only continued united the powers of hell could not prevail against the republican party. (Applause.) He defended the republican party of the charge of having brought debt upon the city of New York, for the fact was that this party had risen upon the ashes of the old radical democratic party. He stood up for the right of Congress to exclude slavery from the Territories. He would like to see the free soiler who ever quailed before a mob, or who would not fight his way up to the ballot box. He was a man of peace. He never engaged in a physical contest, and he hoped he never would. But if he ever had to do so, it would be in opposing with physical force the physical force that would oppose him in the exercise of his privilege at the ballot box. (Cheers.) He hoped the republican electors of the city of New York had no fear of violence on the day of election. If they had, they have only to defer their election for one day, and there would come such an overwhelming force from the country that would soon make the way clear. (Tremendous cheers.)

Joseph Hoxie was the next speaker, and in his usual humorous vein, he delighted his audience with what might be called a medium speech—that is, it was neither long nor short, nor good nor bad. It was eleven o'clock before he was brought before the audience, which had considerably diminished, and he thought that the bill for preventing cruelty to animals should be invoked to keep him from making a speech. He however did not fail to launch out into the same fancies and theories as had already been a thousand times advanced.

The enthusiasm and excitement now began to die out, and it was not long after before the proceedings were brought to a close.

Navigation of Harlem River and Water Communication Around the Island.

A meeting of the citizens of the Twelfth ward, and of Westchester county adjacent to Harlem river, was held at Kingsbridge, on the evening of October 31.

The meeting organised by selecting Colonel Lewis G. Morris for chairman.

The committee appointed at a previous meeting submitted their report, showing that a company could be organised under the general act, with a capital of $50,000, with which two good steamers could be obtained, and the necessary docks and slips provided, also that a ferry lease from the Corporation of the city of New York was feasible, and might be desirable to secure permanent privileges and establish the undertaking upon a secure basis.

It was then resolved that a company be organised by the name of the Harlem and Spuyten Duyvil Navigation Company, for the purpose of establishing a line of steamers between these points, touching at Macomb's Dam, High Bridge, Morris' dock, Fordham and Kingsbridge, with a capital of $50,000.

Subscriptions were then made for a large portion of the capital stock, to be available when the certificate of incorporation should be filed and the company incorporated, and the Executive Committee were directed to keep the subscription list open for one week.

It was resolved that our Representatives in Congress from New York and Westchester, and our Senators and members of Assembly for the two counties, be requested to use their most strenuous exertions to obtain an appropriation from Congress and the Legislature for the improvement of the river channel, and for connecting the waters of the Harlem and Hudson rivers; and that the secretaries be requested to notify them of this resolution, and the urgent desire of the people of the two counties for action thereon.

It was also resolved that the Road Commissioners of New York and Westchester have their attention called to the bad condition of the roads and causeways connecting the two counties, so that the same may be speedily repaired.

The confidence expressed, and the ease with which good stock subscriptions, were obtained satisfactorily establish the faith of the meeting in the enterprise, and the Harlem river, which has so long been closed to navigation and commerce, is already opened up to the industry of the community; and when its waters are connected with the Hudson, as will assuredly be the case ere long, it will afford a much needed channel for vessels sailing from the towns along the Hudson river to the Eastern States and ports on Long Island Sound, and will thereby save a long and frequently tedious journey around the Battery and through the crowded channel of the East river; and the city of New York will obtain on her northern shore a water front of eight or ten miles in extent for the accommodation of the business and population soon to fill the vacant grounds now known as the Twelfth ward, from Hellgate to Spuyten Duyvel.

Coroners' Inquests.

The Sixteenth Street Homicide Case.—Coroner Schirmer held an inquest at the New York Hospital yesterday, upon the body of Charles Cobane, who was fatally stabbed in the liquor store No. 220 West Sixteenth steeet, on Friday night, while endeavoring to quell a disturbance between two men, named John Donnell and John Monaghan, as previously reported. The evidence adduced went to show a state of facts precisely similar to what has already been published, and nothing new or interesting was developed. The evidence was not very clear against Donnell, but the jury were of the opinion that no one else could have inflicted the wounds, and they rendered a verdict against the prisoner accordingly. On being examined by the Coroner previous to his committal to the Tombs, the prisoner stated that he was thirty-four years of age, was a native of Ireland, and was a pedlar by occupation. In answer to the charge preferred against him he said, "I have nothing to say at the present time." The deceased was quite a young man, having scarcely attained his twentieth year.

Suicide by Taking Laudanum.—An inquest was held at the New York Hospital, by Coroner Jackman, upon the body of Charles Jones, a native of Ireland, aged forty-two years, who committed suicide by taking laudanum. Deceased, it appeared, was somewhat addicted to intemperance. On Monday he became intoxicated, and falling, injured himself so severely that he was compelled to keep his bed in consequence. On Wednesday deceased sent his son for twenty-five cents worth of laudanum, for the purpose, as he said, of applying it to some bruises on his side. The lad obtained four ounces of the desired poison at the drug store No. 182 Canal street, and returning, handed the bottle to his father. Deceased then poured the contents of the vial into a tumbler, and swallowing the liquid, coolly told his son that he would soon be dead. The boy immediately ran out of the room and gave the alarm, when the suicide was removed to the hospital. Every effort was made to extract the poison from his stomach, but in vain. He lingered but a short while after his admittance. The jury rendered a verdict of "Premeditated suicide by taking laudanum." Deceased resided at 60 Mott street. He lost his wife about three months ago, which preyed so heavily on his mind that he became a drunkard, and finally a suicide.

Fatal Casualties.—Coroner Jackman also held an inquest at No. 68 Ridge street, upon the body of a child five years old, named Catharine Brown, who died from the effects of injuries accidentally received by a window shutter falling upon her head. Verdict, "Death from fracture of the skull, accidentally received." The same Coroner also held an inquest at No. 201 avenue C, upon the body of John Kiernan; a native of Ireland, aged forty-two years, who died from the effects of injuries accidentally received by falling down stairs. Verdict, "Accidental death."

Death from a Bayonet Wound.—Walter Higgins, the young man who was accidentally stabbed with a bayonet in the hands of a companion, on Tuesday last, died yesterday at the New York Hospital. Deceased had been on a target excursion with the Coughlin Guard, and while leaving a steamboat at the foot of Spring street, slipped on the gang plank, which precipitated him upon the weapon of the person in front of him. An inquest will be held on the body to-day.

Jersey City News.

Probable Homicide.—About eleven o'clock on Wednesday night the inmates of a tenement house in Newark avenue, near South Sixth street, were aroused by hearing a heavy fall in the hallway below. Upon going down to ascertain the cause, they found a tunnelman, named James Sullivan, lying insensible in a pool of blood. Doctors Scarderling and Quidor were called in, and upon examination found eight knife wounds upon the body and head. Two of the wounds were in the region of the heart, one of which is supposed to have penetrated the lung, and will probably prove fatal. As far as can be ascertained, the injured man and a negro, named Elijah Jones, were on intimate terms with a white girl, who was in the habit of resorting to the tenement houses known as "Dutch row." The two men happened to meet there on Wednesday night, and became engaged in a quarrel in reference to the girl, who was also present. They afterwards met in the street, when the quarrel was resumed, and a desperate fight took place, during which Sullivan received the stabs. The colored man Jones made his escape, leaving behind his hat; and it is supposed he has gone on board a coasting schooner lying at Brooklyn, upon which he is employed. A warrant was issued for his arrest yesterday, and officers were in pursuit of him. Coroner Morris proceeded to take Sullivan's deposition, but found him in too critical a condition for that purpose.

THE HARPER'S FERRY AFFAIR.

OUR SPECIAL DESPATCH FROM CHARLESTOWN.

Charlestown, Va., Nov. 3, 1859.

ABATEMENT OF THE EXCITEMENT—COPPIE NOT YET SENTENCED—ONE OF THE COLORED PRISONERS ON TRIAL—THE CONDITION OF STEVENS—THE CASE OF COOK—VISIT TO OLD BROWN—HIS ANXIETY TO SEE COL. FORBES' LETTERS—ARREST OF AN ALLEGED SPY, ETC., ETC.

There has been a marked abatement in the excitement here to-day. The town is, however, as full of people as when the excitement was at its height, and strangers are continually coming and going.

Judge Russell and lady, and Mr. Hoyt, who first took up Brown's defence, left here this morning for Boston.

Coppie, who was found guilty yesterday, has not yet received sentence.

Shields Green, one of the negro prisoners, was put on trial to-day. He is defended by Mr. Sennett. The evidence is closed, and the case will be submitted to-morrow to the jury. Copeland is next for trial, and on Monday it is expected that the wounded man, Stevens, will be brought up. It is almost certain that Cook will plead guilty, first submitting a written confession or statement of his connection with Brown. His brother-in-law, Gov. Willard, of Indiana, is still here.

A batch of persons were admitted to-day to see the prisoners. I entered with them, and for the first time spoke to Brown. He was anxious to know where Forbes was, having heard that he had left the country. He said he would very much like to see the revelations that were published in the Herald under Forbes' signature. The visit was very short, and the first subject brought up was the Forbes matter, and at this point I had to leave. When I entered he was sitting on a chair at Stevens' bedside. The latter is still in great pain from his numerous wounds.

A man was brought in this morning by two of the Shepherdstown militia, who was taken up on suspicion as a spy. He is the man who has been referred to as going about the country collecting information for a history of Virginia. He is at present in jail.

The surveillance of strangers is still in full force, and any one going about at night without the countersign is in danger of paying a visit to the guard house. I learn that at Harper's Ferry even a greater amount of vigilance as respects strangers is exercised than here.

LETTER FROM FRED DOUGLASS.

Canada West, Oct. 31, 1859.

I notice that the telegraph makes Mr. Cook (one of the unfortunate insurgents at Harper's Ferry, and now a prisoner in the hands of the thing calling itself the government of Virginia, but which in fact is but an organized conspiracy by one party of the people against the other and weaker), denounce me as a coward, and to assert that I promised to be present in person at the Harper's Ferry insurrection. This is certainly a very grave impeachment, whether viewed in its bearings upon friends or upon foes, and you will not think it strange that I should take a somewhat serious notice of it. Having no acquaintance whatever with Mr. Cook, and never having exchanged a word with him about the Harper's Ferry insurrection, I am disposed to doubt that he could have used the language concerning me which the wires attributed to him. The lightning, when speaking for itself, is among the most direct, reliable and truthful of things; but when speaking for the terror stricken slaveholders at Harper's Ferry, it has been made the swiftest of liars. Under their nimble and trembling fingers it magnified seventeen men into seven hundred, and has since filled the columns of the New York Herald for days with interminable contradictions. But assuming that it has told only the simple truth as to the sayings of Mr. Cook in this instance, I have this answer to make to my accuser: Mr. Cook may be perfectly right in denouncing me as a coward. I have not one word to say in defence or vindication of my character for courage. I have always been more distinguished for running than fighting; and tried by the Harper's Ferry insurrection test, I am most miserably deficient in courage—even more so than Cook when he deserted his brave old captain and fled to the mountains. To this extent Mr. Cook is entirely right, and will meet no contradiction from me or from any body else. But wholly, greviously and most unaccountably wrong is Mr. Cook when he asserts that I promised to be present in person at the Harper's Ferry insurrection. Of whatever other imprudence and indiscretion I may have been guilty, I have never made a promise so rash and wild as this. The taking of Harper's Ferry was a measure never encouraged by my word or by my vote, at any time or place. My wisdom or my cowardice has not only kept me from Harper's Ferry, but has equally kept me from making any promise to go there. I desire to be quite emphatic here, for of all guilty men, he is the guiltiest who lures his fellow men to an undertaking of this sort, under promise of assistance, which he afterwards fails to render. I therefore declare that there is no man living, and no man dead, who, if living, could truthfully say that I ever promised him or anybody else, either conditionally or otherwise, that I would be present in person at the Harper's Ferry insurrection. My field of labor for the abolition of slavery has not extended to an attack upon the United States arsenal. In the teeth of the documents already published, and of those which may hereafter be published, I affirm that no man connected with that insurrection, from its noble and heroic leader down, can connect my name with a single broken promise of any sort whatever. So much I deem it proper to say negatively.

The time for a full statement of what I know, and of all I know, of this desperate but sublimely disinterested effort to emancipate the slaves of Maryland and Virginia from their cruel taskmasters, has not yet come, and may never come. In the denial which I have now made, my motive is more a respectful consideration for the opinions of the slaves' friends, than from my fear of being made an accomplice in the general conspiracy against slavery. I am ever ready to write, speak, publish, organise, combine, and even to conspire against slavery, when there is a reasonable hope for success. Men who live by robbing their fellow men of their labor and liberty, have forfeited their right to know anything of the thoughts, feelings or purposes of those whom they rob and plunder. They have by the single act of slaveholding, voluntarily placed themselves beyond the laws of justice and honor, and have become only fitted for companionship with thieves and pirates—the common enemies of God and of all mankind. While it shall be considered right to protect oneself against thieves, burglars, robbers and assassins, and to slay a wild beast in the act of devouring his human prey, it can never be wrong for the imbruted and whip-scarred slaves, or their friends, to hunt, harrass and even strike down the traffickers in human flesh. If anybody is disposed to think less of me on account of this sentiment, or because I may have had a knowledge of what was about to occur, and did not assume the base and detestable character of an informer, he is a man whose good or bad opinion of me may be equally repugnant and despicable. Entertaining this sentiment, I may be asked why I did not join John Brown—the noble old hero whose one right hand has shaken the foundation of the American Union, and whose ghost will haunt the bed-chambers of all the born and unborn slaveholders of Virginia through all their generations, filling them with alarm and consternation. My answer to this has already been given—at least impliedly given: "The tools to those that can use them." Let every man work for the abolition of slavery in his own way. I would help all, and hinder none. My position in regard to the Harper's Ferry insurrection may be easily inferred from these remarks, and I shall be glad if those papers which have spoken of me in connection with it would find room for this brief statement.

I have no apology for keeping out of the way of those gentlemanly United States Marshals who are said to have paid Rochester a somewhat protracted visit lately, with a view to an interview with me. A government recognizing the validity of the Dred Scott decision, at such a time as this is not likely to have any very charitable feelings towards me, and if I am to meet its representatives, I prefer to do so at least upon equal terms. If I have committed any offence against society I have done so on the soil of the State of New York, and I should be perfectly willing there to be arraigned before an impartial jury; but I have quite insuperable objections to be caught by the hands of Mr. Buchanan and "bagged" by Governor Wise—for this appears to be the arrangement—Buchanan does the fighting and hunting, and Wise "bags" the game.

Some reflections may be made upon my leaving on a tour to England just at this time. I have only to say that my going to that country has been rather delayed than hastened by the insurrection at Harper's Ferry. All knew that I had intended to leave here in the first week of November.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

GERRIT SMITH'S GUESTS.

A correspondent, in allusion to the meeting at Gerri Smith's house last spring, where John Brown had consultations with a number of the most prominent leading republicans, assures us that among these latter were Wm. H. Seward, N. P. Banks, John P. Hale, Governor Chase of Ohio, and Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts.

Re-opening of the Nicaragua Route.—We are informed, from a reliable source, that several influential gentlemen connected with the Panama Railroad and Pacific Mail companies, intend to apply to the Nicaragua government for a Transit grant, in order to prevent that strong position from falling into the power of their mighty foe, Commodore Vanderbilt. Mr. Webster, a person well versed in the Transit diplomacy, and who is represented as very influential with the members of the Nicaraguan Cabinet and Congress, is the appointed representative of the applicants to Nicaragua, and he will sail by the steamer of the 5th, accompanied by a gentleman from Costa Rica, whose assistance has been already secured, and will carry $20,000 in gold and something more in drafts to be used in Nicaragua as they may think most efficient for the accomplishment of the desired object. Should the above mentioned parties succeed in their aim they will no doubt give the law to their present and future rivals. The only strange part of the business is that they have not taken this step before.

Naval Intelligence.

The United States steam frigate Lancaster sailed from Rio Janeiro for Valparaiso on the 28th of September.

Brooklyn City News.

The State Tax to be Levied on Kings County.—At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors yesterday, a communication from the State Treasurer was submitted, stating that the aggregate valuation of property in Kings county was $104,295,591, upon which amount a State tax of $260,738 98 is to be levied for the current year, being three-fourths of a mill on the dollar, or $78,221 69, for school purposes, and five-eighths of a mill, or $65,184 75 for the canals, and one and one-eighth mill, or $117,332 54, for general purposes. A resolution was adopted apportioning the same upon the several wards and towns of the county, as follows:—

Ward 1	$16,065 24	Ward 13	$17,825 21
2	11,600 50	14	8,225 34
3	27,589 84	15	3,836 89
4	15,789 38	16	4,204 56
5	25,432 81	17	5,289 66
6	27,647 00	18	4,021 13
7	9,376 70	19	7,800 30
8	8,917 81	New Utrecht	4,625 20
9	16,858 94	Flatbush	3,931 80
10	22,549 87	New Lots	2,333 01
11	24,160 57	Gravesend	1,642 79
12	9,628 29	Flatlands	1,775 99
Total			$260,738 98

Resolutions were adopted determining the sum of $310,000 as necessary to defray the ordinary and contingent expenses of the county; $88,958 71 for interest on public debt; $140,208 48 to defray instalments which will become due on the public debt during the year; $225,476 for salaries, public school and general purposes; $61,550 for Fire Department purposes; $101,500 for lighting streets; $42,200 for cleaning streets; $16,000 for sewerage, &c., &c.; for local expenses of Flatbush, $222 56; New Lots, $404 34; Flatlands, $213 11.

Rates of Taxation in the County of Kings.—The following are the rates of taxation in the county of Kings for the year 1859, as presented to the Board of Supervisors yesterday afternoon:—

Average.

Whole county	$1 20.3
City of Brooklyn	1 24.2
Late city of Williamsburg	1 64.1

Rate.

Ward 1	$1 11.0	Ward 13	$1 62.5
2	1 23.0	14	1 67.8
3	1 28.5	15	1 46.4
4	1 31.1	16	1 80.0
5	1 26.4	17	1 24.6
6	1 26.0	18	1 11.0
7	0 97.4	19	1 00