

THE VIRGINIA INSURRECTION.

John Brown, it appears, the hero of numberless border skirmishes in Kansas, and whose thirst for vengeance for the loss of a son and of property at the hands of the Pro-Slavery party, prompted him to acts of bitter retaliation, seemed to have transferred his warfare to the State of Virginia. Having bought a farm some time ago in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, he proceeded to arrange the details of a plot which was to extinguish Slavery in Maryland and Virginia, and to revolutionize the Government of the United States. John C. Cook, a young man who had become associated with him in Kansas, became a participant in this new enterprise. A general uprising of the negroes, free and enslaved, throughout the South seems to have been counted upon as the immediate result of the pronouncement; and to arm them, as they flocked in, the arms and munition of Harper's Ferry Arsenal were provided. Such was the plot—the plot, it is not to be doubted, of a crazed fanatic, who, in his eagerness for vengeance, lost all sense of proportion between means and ends. How the scheme prospered we have abundantly seen. Aided by some nineteen whites and a considerable number of negroes, which they pressed into their service, Brown obtained possession of the United States Arsenal, and seized all the arms and ammunition belonging to Government. The whole town, in fact, was at one time entirely at his mercy. Various acts of violence were perpetrated, and it is difficult to tell to what lengths the insurgents might not have gone, had they not been forced at length by superior numbers and military intelligence to succumb. As it was, the defence made by them when attacked by the military was desperate. Brown and his men were finally, after considerable skirmishing by military companies from surrounding towns and a party of United States marines, driven into the Arsenal building, where they were besieged and conquered. Among these killed among the insurgents was the son of the leader. Brown himself was desperately wounded, but there is a possibility of his recovery. The insurrection may now, doubtless, be considered at an end.

The further development of the extraordinary conspiracy at Harper's Ferry, shows that Brown and his immediate aids were not without assistance from Abolitionists in various parts of the North. Letters and other papers are said to have been discovered implicating Gerrit Smith, Fred. Douglass, and others of equally strong proclivities for Anti-Slavery agitation, in the movement, though there is a possibility that the documents in question, if genuine, may be connected with the earlier career of Brown in Kansas. There was also found among these papers an instrument described as the "Constitution" of the provisional Government. This is the key and clue to the entire project. The Federal Government, it seems, was not to be overthrown; State authorities were to be left in formal possession of sovereignty; but supreme over all was to be John Brown, Commander-in-Chief, under the Provisional arrangement, and was to range the Union at the head of his part-colored troops, redressing wrongs and liberating the enslaved; advising as circumstances demanded, with a Provisional House of Representatives, established for that purpose somewhere in Western Victoria. To bring such rude governmental machinery as this into action, the motive power was insensibly inadequate.

The force voluntarily enlisted in the conspiracy did not exceed twenty two men, of whom seventeen were whites. The remainder of the army consisted of impressed slaves; quite indisposed for fight, and constituting a fatal incumbrance to military operations. There was, to be sure a vast army of fugitives counted upon as certain to assist the rebels in the moment the standard of revolt was displayed; but so premature was the movement, and so prompt the action of the authorities, that no time was given for the intended stampede. Brown discusses his errors and details his plans with entire freedom. This frankness is perhaps due to the consciousness that his house, when searched would be found to contain overwhelming evidence of his guilt and ample development of his aims and means. The case indeed is too flagrant to admit of any attempt to partial suppression. Yesterday various documents forming part of the insurrectionary scheme were transmitted to Washington. They are in cypher, and are supposed to be of the highest importance. Harper's Ferry remains in the hands of Federal troops. Capt. Cook with his fugitives have still eluded pursuit, though the chase is hotly urged.

VOLUNTARY STARVATION.—Dr. Geo. W. Jones, writing to the Hastings Chronicle, gives the particulars of an extraordinary case of voluntary starvation, under religious excitement. The subject was a German-Canadian woman, of 62 years of age. Dr. Jones says, 'on the 29th of August I found her firmly resolved upon starving herself to death. I interrogated her as to what had induced her to arrive at such an absurd decision. She replied that it was the will of the Lord that she should terminate her earthly existence by such means; and also that she would never obtain peace and pardon without first abstaining entirely from food. I conversed with her, and endeavored to erase such erroneous ideas from her mind, but all to no purpose; she obstinately refused to take nourishment of any kind, with the exception of a little sugar dissolved in water.' On the 27th of September—and not until then—the woman died, having been thirty days without food, except about three quarters of a pound of sugar.

Enamored writing master to a young lady: 'Dear pupil, I can tell you nothing; your hand is already a very desirable one, and your P's (eyes) are the most beautiful I ever saw.'

New Advertisements this Week.

Farming Stock and Implements for Sale.—G. P. Dickson
Postponed Sheriff's Sale
List of Letters in Richmond Hill P.O.
Fall and Winter Goods.—T. Amos
An Apprentice Wanted

The York Herald.

RICHMOND HILL, NOV. 4, 1859.

BUSINESS NOTICE.—Parties writing to this Office will please bear in mind that they are wasting their time, paper and ink, unless they prepay their Letters. All Letters addressed to this Office must be post-paid.

THE CONVENTION—HOW DELEGATES ARE CHOSEN.

So the pure and immaculate Clear Grits are going to hold a great Convention in Toronto on the 9th inst., to make arrangements for the best method of being the ins instead of the outs, as upon the solving of this great question rests the well-being, if not of Canada, at least of themselves. They have issued circulars to the elect, urging upon them the necessity of sending Delegates to this giant imposture. We should dearly like to see a sort of blue book wherein would be faithfully chronicled the manner by which the legion of delegates are appointed, as we firmly believe that if the truth could only be elicited, delegate appointing would be found to be the greatest sham and most veritable piece of humbug ever foisted on the Canadian public. We should much like to know the numbers present at the various delegate appointing meetings, as we are rather inclined to the belief that many of these gentry are virtually self-appointed, estimating themselves as "the virtuous'est, discrettest, wisest, best" specimens of the genus homo in their various localities; and they actually no more know or represent the wishes of the people upon the questions of a Dissolution of the Union, a Federation of the Provinces, or a written Constitution, than the man in the moon.

We think that a flood of light is thrown on the subject in the account of the public meeting of the Reformers of Markham township, as given in another column, it being no garbled version, but a correct and faithful report of what actually took place on the occasion in question. Rarely, if ever, have we heard of a more contemptible hoax than was proved to have been attempted the playing, on the reform electors of Markham; and had it not been for Dr. Dougherty and a few more kindred spirits insisting upon holding the meeting, which we give an account of, the Reformers of Markham would have been sold to such a ridiculous extent as to have had five delegates sent to this convention, and supposing to represent their views when they were actually the choice of only four electors. We ask, were ever mortals more gulled than would have been the so-called reformers of the above-named township? It seems, from what we could gather at the meeting referred to, that Mr. Wright (of whom as a man and a gentleman we should be sorry to speak a disrespectful word) the member for the Riding, received about forty circulars to circulate in his riding, urging upon the parties receiving them to take what steps they might see fit in order to appoint delegates to the forthcoming convention. It appears that it was left at the option of Mr. Wright and his friends as to whether a public meeting of the electors should be called or not; accordingly a secret meeting was held, at which only four electors were present these four electors appointed five gentlemen to represent the liberal reformers at the forthcoming meeting in Toronto, and in due course a list of their names was published in the Markham Economist.

But now came the rub. Some inconvenient and ugly questions were asked relative to the appointment of these gentry. Nobody could get an answer, as no one except the initiated few knew anything of the matter. Finally, several leading electors of the reform party determined to know how these delegates were elected, and called a public meeting, and asked the M.P. and his coadjutors for an explanation; at which an exposure was made of as barbafeant an attempt at defrauding the electors of their rights as was ever perpetrated. Mr. Wright stated that he consulted with Mr. Reesor, editor of the Markham Economist, [a thick and thin supporter of Geo. Brown, being very often more rabidly Grit than his master] who strongly advised him not to call a public meeting for that Conservative rowdies should break it up. This charge Mr. Reesor warmly denied, stating that he was, on the contrary, in favor of a public meeting of the reform electors being held, and that

the suggestion for not holding one came from Mr. Wright. Mr. Wright retorted by stating that it was in consequence of Mr. Reesor's advice that no public meeting was held.

From this we learn that a gross subterfuge and cheat was concurred in by Messrs. Reesor & Co., and when we hear from Mr. Wright, "that he had pursued the same course with the other townships appertaining to the Riding," we know how to estimate the value of the opinions expressed by these gentry. They are not the opinions of the Reformers of the Riding,—they will be merely the conceits of a few private individuals.—But, forsooth, Dr. Dougherty and his friends did not think the error intentional; the heart was right, it was the head alone that was wrong. But this ruse won't do. When Mr. Reesor advised that no public meeting was to be called, you may depend upon it, it was the heart that erred. Catch a weasel asleep if you can. When the editor of the Economist gave such advice, he knew well that the reformers did not heartily approve of Mr. Brown's course; and as he did not wish to see his pet condemned, he and his coadjutors perpetrated this pious fraud, on the tyrants plea "that the end justifies the means."

All honor, however, to the gentlemen, who by calling a meeting, assisted (perhaps unwittingly) in bringing to light this disgraceful transaction. As to the fear of rowdyism, if there was any, it would be amongst the Clear Grits themselves, as we are persuaded that the Conservatives would not touch such imposters with a pair of tongs.—We think that this public meeting will teach the people a great lesson. They (the people) will now know that all the boasted love of country means merely an intense hankering after the "loaves and fishes," or, in other words, they (the popularity hunters) want to get a share of official plunder; their great convention will simply be a discussion of the best means to get and to keep in office, and to give to their hungry crew some stray waifs from official spoils.

PUBLIC MEETING OF REFORMERS IN MARKHAM.

A RICH SCENE!

On Tuesday last, November 1st, a public meeting of Reformers was held according to announcement at Size's Hotel, Unionville, at which barely 20 persons were present at any time during the proceedings, which, as will be seen below, were of the most lively and interesting character—Dr. Dougherty presiding.

Mr. H. P. Crosby proposed the first resolution, which was as follows:

"That though the Markham Economist of last week announced that a public meeting of the Reform Electors had been held, and Delegates appointed to represent the views of the Reformers at the Convention, to be held in Toronto on the 9th inst., this meeting is of opinion that the same was not properly announced, nor was there such a representation of the electors present as would secure a fair representation of the views of the electors with reference to the subjects to be discussed at the approaching convention. This meeting is therefore of opinion that a public meeting of the Reformers of this Township be called on Saturday next, for the purpose referred to, and that it shall be publicly announced in the Markham Economist, and by hand-bills; and that the Chairman and Secretary of the meeting see that such be done."

He said that the way in which these delegates were appointed seemed to him most unaccountably strange. There was no public meeting, and the first word he knew of the matter, was by seeing it in the Economist. He did not object to the gentlemen appointed, but he most thoroughly disapproved of the manner in which they were appointed. There were very important subjects to be discussed at that convention, and he would like to know how it was possible that these gentlemen could represent the views of the reform party, when that party had had no opportunity given them to express any opinion on the subjects in question. It seemed to him that the course adopted was absurd in the extreme. He would like to know who appointed these gentlemen as delegates. He thought they—(meaning Messrs. Wright, Reesor and Co.)—had used the reformers shabbily, although he would not impute to these gentlemen any unworthy motive, as he was of opinion the error was of the head, and not the heart.

Mr. C. F. Hall, in rising to second the resolution, said—The question as it brought the lately appointed delegates too prominently forward, whereas the next meeting ought to be untrammelled.

Mr. Wright—You never expressed any such wish to me. Mr. Crosby still thought that both Mr. Wright and Mr. Reesor were to blame, as it was evident they both came to the conclusion that it was best not to have a public meeting.

Mr. Reesor—I deny it. I expressed myself distinctly in favor of a public meeting.

Mr. Wright—You never did to me, at least I never heard you. Mr. C. F. Hall—The pretext of a fear of conservative rowdyism is absurd and ridiculous in the extreme. Mr. Wright said that he did not wish to take a leading part in the affair, therefore he asked Mr. Reesor's advice, and he expected that as an honest man, Mr. Reesor would give the best advice.

Mr. Reesor—I did; I really think that Mr. Wright is behaving unfairly towards me. I am sure that I never doubted his word, and as I am the best judge as to what I said, I think that although he might not happen to hear me, he ought not to doubt my veracity, as I do not think that I am such a falsifier as that my word should be doubted, therefore I think my word ought to be taken.

Mr. Reesor moved, seconded by Mr. Eakin, a resolution to the following effect:—"That whilst this meeting has every confidence in the integrity of the parties named as delegates, it nevertheless regards the calling of a public meeting of the Reformers of Markham as absolutely necessary."

Mr. W. Eckardt opposed the resolution, as it brought the lately appointed delegates too prominently forward, whereas the next meeting ought to be untrammelled.

Mr. Wright to Mr. Reesor—If you had expressed these opinions

when I held a conversation with you, this difficulty would not have occurred. I perfectly understand this sort of thing, and if you wish to censure any one, come straight to it.

Mr. Reesor—I have no such intention; I have no cause to be two-faced.

Mr. L. Crosby thought that the course Mr. Wright, Mr. Reesor, and himself had pursued was perfectly justifiable, for Mr. Reesor certainly advised Mr. Wright and himself not to call a public meeting.

Mr. Reesor—Mr. L. Crosby has left out, perhaps unintentionally the fact that I stated I was in favor of a public meeting, unless they thought there was danger of rowdyism, and that I recommended in the first instance the calling of a public meeting.

Mr. L. Crosby really could not remember that Mr. Reesor expressed any such wish.

Mr. Reesor really thought that his word should be taken; they might not have heard him, but still they did not ought to doubt him. Mr. Reesor then withdrew his resolution.

MARKHAM COUNCIL.

The Council met at Size's Hotel, Unionville, on Saturday, October the 29th. Members all present. The Reeve in the chair. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Mr. Burton presented a petition from Peter Brooks and others, praying that no action might be taken on the petition to remove the east-half of lot No. 9, in the 9th concession, and lot No. 10, in the 10th concession; and lot No. 11, in the 11th concession, from School Section No. 21, and annex them to School Section No. 20.

Mr. Burton presented a petition from Mr. Urquhart and others, to take them from Union School Section No. 17, and join them to School Section No. 7.

The Reeve read a communication from Mr. G. Smith, declining the office of collector for the east-half of this Township.

Moved by Mr. Burton, seconded by Mr. Mans, that the Collector for the east-half of this Township—Mr. G. Smith having tendered his resignation—that the same be accepted.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Bowman, seconded by Mr. Mans, that Mr. H. Marr be appointed as Collector for the east-half of this Township, in the room of Mr. G. Smith, resigned.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Fenwick, seconded by Mr. Mans, that this Council do resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to examine its financial affairs.—Carried.

The Council then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole—Mr. Fenwick in the chair.

Mr. Fenwick drew the attention of the Council to the fact that according to the books they ought to have nearly \$700 on hand; whereas they actually had no funds, and were compelled to borrow.

The Clerk (H. P. Crosby, Esq.) stated that the collectors had not been able to get in all the money as yet.

boards were not to be enforced; he, for one, was not in favor of suing.

Mr. Crosby then announced, that at the next meeting of the Council he should resign his office as Clerk and Treasurer, as he could no attend to it. All the members of the Council begged of him not to do so.

Mr. Fenwick hoped that he had not offended Mr. Crosby, as it was clear that it was not his fault (the Clerk's) fault that the bonds were not enforced.

The Reeve introduced a By-law to amend By-law No. 96, by adding lots No. 33 and 34, in the 9th concession, and lots No. 33 and 34, in the 8th concession, to School Section No. 17.—said by-law read a first and 2nd time.

Moved by Mr. Burton, seconded by Mr. Fenwick, that the Clerk be authorized and required to prosecute the bonds of the Collectors for the present year, if the said Collectors neglect to pay in all taxes by the 18th day of December next.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Burton, seconded by Mr. Bowman, that the selectors of Jarras be paid for the years 1858 and 1859, at \$2 per day each.—Carried.

On motion of Mr. Mans, seconded by Mr. Bowman, the account of the York Herald and Markham Economist for advertising, were ordered to be paid.

Moved by Mr. Burton, seconded by Mr. Mans, that Messrs. A. H. Fenwick, W. Burton, and D. Reesor, be appointed a committee to make arrangements for the maintenance of the woman Cleudening and her three children, for such time, and on such terms as they may be able to effect and consider suitable.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Mans, seconded by Mr. Fenwick, that Mr. Peach be heard before the Council relative to School Section No. 16.—Carried.

He was then heard, and stated that he knew of nothing to hinder them from having a good school if it was established.

Moved by Mr. Burton, seconded by Mr. Mans, that the Council do now adjourn to meet again the second Saturday in November, and that the question relative to School Section No. 16, be the first order of the day.—Carried.

VAUGHAN COUNCIL.—The above Council meets at the Town Hall on Monday next, the 8th inst.

INCENDIARISM.

On Monday evening last, on the 31st ult., an attempt was made to set fire to the premises of Mr. John McCague, Lot 28, 3rd Concession of Markham. There was found on the premises two bunches of matches, and a cotton stocking filled with powder, shavings, &c. and had been dipped in the spirits of turpentine. The matches were partially burned. The proprietor offers \$400 reward for the detection and conviction of the guilty party.

RICHMOND HILL FAIR.—The usual monthly fair was held in this place on Wednesday last. There was a large show of Cattle, Sheep, &c., which found purchasers at somewhat higher prices than on former occasions.

FURTHER PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—The Canada Gazette of Saturday last contains a proclamation further proroguing Parliament till Wednesday the 7th December next.

TORONTO FALL ASSIZES.

From the Leader.
MONDAY, October 31.
Before the Hon. W. H. Draper, C. B., Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas.

DANGEROUS STATE OF AFFAIRS ON THE NORTHERN FRONTIER.—From a gentleman recently from Minnesota, we learn that there exists a very unpleasant state of feeling among the settlers on the frontiers of the State. They are living in constant growing fear of an attack from their Indian neighbors. The settlement at St. Joseph has been deserted by at least one-third of its population, the people leaving their houses and going to the British forts for the protection denied them on this side of the line. All the habits of the people seemed formed and guided by the haunting presence of some invisible danger lurking in the woods and bushes around them. They live as in an enemy's country. All them are furnished with thick wooden shutters, which are always closed at night, even in the hottest summer days. The trading house and the Nursery are enclosed in high stockades. No man goes into the woods close by without his gun. The cattle and horses which are not driven to White Horse Plains for safe-keeping, are every day counted over, and sometimes driven into enclosures with a guard at night. Experience has taught them a nervous fear of a hidden foe in every bush and ravine and clump of grass. Almost every year some of their number are killed near the village by their ambushed enemies.

Sr. Louis, Oct. 29.
A despatch received here says that the Salt Lake mail of the 7th inst. reached Acheron yesterday. A party of emigrants, numbering seventeen from Bucknall County, Iowa, were attacked by Indians near Kenney's Cut-off and New Kilm. Mr. Mittlemore his wife and her children were killed. Mittlemore's two eldest sons and the remainder of the party escaped, and are now at Camp Floyd in a destitute condition. Colonel Stamborough, Surveyor-General of Utah Territory, arrived out on the 26th ult.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN HAMILTON.
A fire broke at four o'clock on Saturday morning, in the brick buildings on James Street, between King Street and the Market, occupied on the ground floor by Fields & Davidson, Saddlers, and Joseph Mills, Hatter and Furrier. The blaze was first discovered on the landing of the stairs leading to Mr. Sinclair's Daguerrean Gallery, but before it was seen it had evidently been burning for some time inside. The house and couplings were screwed to the hydrants close by without much delay, and streams of water soon deluged the upper stories of the building, keeping the fire in check, preventing its spreading to the adjacent buildings, and enabled many goods to be saved from the stores below.

Mr. Mills got out most of his property, little damaged except by water. Messrs. Field & Davidson were however much less fortunate, for they probably lost \$7,000 or \$8,000 worth of good, only half of which were insured. Mr. Sinclair, the Photographer, lost all, as did also Mr. Bruce, the tailor, who has the rooms above Mr. Mills. The buildings themselves, were owned by Mr. Forbes of Wellington Square.

The amount of the insurances on the buildings is \$4,400. Mr. Mills was fully insured, Field & Davidson had \$4,000 in a good office, Mr. Sinclair's stock was insured for \$1,500, and Mr. Bruce's was not insured at all.—Spectator.

There are thousands who covet not only praise, but the reputation of despising it.

An Irishwoman called upon an apothecary with a sick infant; he gave her a powder, of which she was to give the child as much as she could get on a sixpence. The woman said, 'P'aps yer honor will lend me a sixpence, for I haven't one at all.'

THE COLLECTORS APPOINTED.—In adherence to the principle of promoting old and efficient public officers, we may learn that Mr. Simpson, for many years Collector of Customs at Brockville, is appointed collector at this port, vice Mr. Hopkirk, deceased.—Kingston News.

Sally, said a young gent, preparing to take a snooze, 'if any one calls, tell them I'm gone.'
'Gone where, sir?'
'Gone to sleep.'

'I say, neighbor Hodge, what are you fencing that pasture for forty acres of it would starve a cow.'
'Right,' replied Hodge, 'I'm fencing it to keep the cows out.'

An old lady down east, having kept a hired man on liver nearly a month, said to him one day: 'Why, John, you don't seem to like liver.'
'Oh, yes,' said John, 'I like it very well for fifty or sixty meals, but I don't like it as a steady diet.'

A little ragged urchin, begging in the city the other day, was asked by a lady, who had filled his basket, if his parents were living?
'Only dad, marm,' said the boy.
'Then you're enough in your basket now to feed the family for some time,' said the lady.

'Oh, no, I haven't neither,' said the lad, 'for dad and me keeps five boarders; he dges the house-work, and I does the marketin.'

COLD BLOODED MURDER.—We are informed that the body of a Russian Pedlar was found at Butterton Creek, in the rear of Roxborough, in this county, on Tuesday last, and from the fact that a dirk knife was found in his body there is no doubt but a foul murder had been committed. His pack was found by his side. No clue has been obtained as to the identity of the murderer.—Cornwall Freeholder.