"Telegraphic," Bloomington (IL) *Daily Pantagraph*, October 28, 1859 https://stampedes.dickinson.edu/document/bloomington-il-daily-pantagraph-telegraphicoctober-28-1859

TELEGRAPHIC.

Reported for the Daily Pantagraph, by the Illinois and Niss. Line Office, Phonix Block-Mat. L. Steele, operator.

CHARLESTOWN, VA., Oct. 27. The storm of last evening prevented the transmission of the latter of the proceedings of the court. The court finally refused to postpone the trial, and the whole p. m. was occupied in obtaining a jury. Brown occupied a cot on which he was carried into the court room. The trial will be resumed this morning, when counsel for Brown is expected from Ohio. The N. Y. Herald publishes the author of the instruction books for guerrilla author of the instruction books for guerrilla warfare, found at Brown's house, to various Republicans; principally to F. B. Sanbourn, Sec'y Mass. Emigrating Society, and Dr. S. G. Howe of Boston. One letter addressed to the latter, dated May 1858, is prefaced by the following memorandum: "Please show to Messrs. Sanbourn, Lawrence & Co. Conies. Messrs. Sanbourn, Lawrence & Co. Copies will be sent to Gov Chase, who found money, and Gov. Fletcher who contributed arms, and to others interested, as quickly as possible."
The [a?] letter gives the plans of Forbes and
Brown for an insurrection. Forbes' plan, with careful selecting colored and white persons to organize along the northern slave frontier, Virginia and Maryland especially, a series of stampedes of slaves, each one of which operations would carry off in one night and from the same place, some twenty to fifty slaves; this to be effected once or twice a month, and eventually once or twice a week along non-contiguous parts of the line, if possible without conflict, only resorting to force if attacked. Slave women accustomed to field labor, would be nearly as useful as men. Everything being in readiness to pass on the fugitives, they could be sent with such speed to Canada that pursuit would be hopeless. In Canada preparations were to be made for their instruction and employment. Any disaster which might be-fall a stampede would at the utmost compromise those only who might be engaged in that single one; therefore, we were not bound in good faith to the abolitionists, as we did not jeopardize that interest, to consult more than | those engaged in this very project. Against the chance of loss by occasional accident, should be weighed the advantages of a series of successful runs. Slave property would thus become untenable near the frontier; that frontier would be pushed more and more southward; and it might reasonably be ex-pected that the excitement of irritation would impel the pro-slaveryites to commit some stupid blunders. The Missouri frontier being so far from the habitable part of Canada, and the political parties, anti and pro-slavery, being in that State (Mo.) so nearly balanced, suggested a peculiar action in that quarter, which would depend in a great measure on

affairs in Kansas.

Brown had a different scheme. He proposed with some twenty-five or fifty colored and white men, well armed and bringing a quantity of spare arms, to beat up a slave quarter in Virginia. To this objected that no preparatory notice having been given to the slaves, no notice could with prudence be given them, the invitation to rise might, unless they were already in a state of agitation,

meet with no response or a feeble one. To this he replied that he wassure of a response. He calculated that he could get on the first night from 200 to 500; half or there-abouts of this first lot he proposed to keep with him, mounting one hundred or so of them, and make a dash at Harper's Ferry manufactory, destroying what he could not carry off. The other men not of the party were to be sub-divided into three, four or five distinct parties, each under two or three of the original band, and would beat up other slave quarters, whence more men would be sent to join him. The burden of Forbes, letters are grievous complaints for not re-ceiving the aid promised for his services which were to be sent to Paris for the support of Forbes' family. In one letter he says; "On the 1st of May 1858 I had an interview with Senator Wm. H. Seward of New York. I went fully into the whole matter in all its bearings. He expressed regret that he had been told, and said that he in his position ought not to have been informed of the cir-cumstances. In part I agree with him and in part I differ. I regret that the misconduct of the New England should have forced me to address myself to him, but being now enlightened on the subject he cannot let this business continue in its present crippled condition." A cotton speculation was devised by Brown but objected to by Forbes. Brown told him that Amos Lawrence of Boston, had promised him seven thousand dollars when hostilities had actually commenced. these letters were written in 1858,

Brown was brought into court this morning. being able to walk, but he immediately laid himself down on his cot at full length inside the bar. He looks considerably better, the swelling having left his eyes. Senator Mason is among the spectators. Messrs. Harding & Hunter represent the commonwealth, and Botts & Green the prisoner. Mr. Botts read the following dispatch received this morning: "Akron, O., Oct. 26, 1859.—To L. J. Faulkner and L. Botts: John Brown, leader of the in-surrection at Harper's Ferry, and several of his family, have resided in this county for many years. Insanity is hereditary in that family. His mother's sister died with it, and a daughter of that sister has been two years in the lunatic asylum. A son and daughter of his mother's brother have also been confined in the lunatic asylum, and another son of that brother is now insane and under close re-straint. These facts can be conclusively proven by witnesses residing here, who will doubtless attend the trial if desired. Signed, A. H. Lewis."

The telegraph operator at the Akron office, Wm. C. Allen, adds to the above dispatch, that A. H. Lewis is a resident of that place, and his statements are entitled to implicit credit.

Mr. Botts said that on receiving the above despatch he went to the jail with his associate Mr. Green and read it to Brown, and he was desired by the latter to say that in his father's family there has never been any insanity at all, on his mother's side there have been repeated instances of it. He adds, his first wife showed symptoms of it, which were also evident in his first and second sons by that wife.

Slave Stampedes on the Southern Borderlands

"Telegraphic," Bloomington (IL) *Daily Pantagraph*, October 28, 1859 https://stampedes.dickinson.edu/document/bloomington-il-daily-pantagraph-telegraphicoctober-28-1859

Some portions of the statements in the despatch he knows to be correct: of other portions he is ignorant. He does not know whether his mother's sister died in the asylum, but he does believe a daughter of that sister has been two years in an asylum, and thinks a son and daughter of his mother's brother have been confined in the asylum, but he was not aware of the fact that another son of that brother is now insane and in close confinement.

[Our evening dispatch respecting the trial is again a long one, and we summarize as fol-

Brown explicitly informed the court, both through his counsel and in person, that he did not put in any plea of insanity, and did not consider himself insane, while he added that he was aware that insane people generally thought themselves more sane than other people. The sending of the Ohio dispatch was without his knowledge or approbation, and he thought it a miserable artifice and pretext of those who ought to take a different course in regard to him if they took any at all. He repeated, however, his request for a little delay of his trial, to give time for the arrival of foreign counsel, which he expected on the strength of a dispatch from Cleveland enquiring whether it would be of any use for counsel to come, to which he had responded asking them to do so. Counsel discussed this application, prosecution remarking that prisoner had already confessed repeatedly all that was alleged in the indictment. Court decided that a sufficient cause of delay was not shown, and ordered the trial to proceed.

Twenty-four jurors, mostly farmers from a distance, some owning a few slaves, were se-lected as competent jurors; counsel for defence struck off eight of them; and from the remaining sixteen twelve were selected by ballot, and sworn to fairly and impartially try the prisoner. The prisoner was allowed to be on his cot instead of standing while the indictment was read, charging him with in-surrection, treason and murder. Mr. Harding then opened the case for the prosecution, presenting the facts and the law on the part of the commonwealth. Mr. Green replied for the prisoner, reminding the jury that as to the charge of treason, it cannot be established by the prisoner's confession, unless made in open court, and that the treasonable acts must be proved by the testimony of two witnesses to each act; that as to the charge of conspiring with slaves, that must be shown to have been done within the State of Virginia and in the jurisdiction of the court : if done in Maryland or within the limits of the U. S. armory, this court cannot punish it: that crimes committed within the limits of the armory are punishable by the Federal courts: that lastly, as to murder, if that was commit-ted in the armory or in Maryland this court cannot try it; and that if there is any doubt on these points they must give the prisoner the benefit thereof. Mr. Botts followed, insisting on the same points, and urging upon the jury their duty to act impartially and give

a verdict of acquittal if the commonwealth failed to make out her case. He also enlarged upon the prisoner's solemn belief that he was doing right, and urged the jury to remember his kind treatment of his prisoners and his injunctions to spare life and avoid destroying property, &c. The speeches of both counsel for defence seem to have been unexpectedly bold and earnest. Mr. Hunter closed for the commonwealth in a speech which is not reported.

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 27.

The Tennessee has arrived from Vera Cruz on the 22d. She brought \$37,000 in specie.— The sloop offwar Savannah was at Sacrificios. It is reported that the acting British Minister Matthews authorized the British consul at Vera Cruz to recognize the Juarez government. Robles has returned to Jalapa. Miramon's expedition to San Luis is reported still preparing. Degollado was at San Luis, Ampudia at Vera Cruz, Marquez at Gaudalajara; all inactive.

NEW YORK, Oct. 27.

The steamer New World met with a serious accident yesterday evening while off Fort Washington on her way to Albany, by the breaking of the connecting rod. A portion of her machinery was driven through the bottom of the boat, causing her to sink before the freight or baggage could be removed.—The passengers however took refuge on the steam tug Ohio and on a schooner which happened to be in the vicinity, and were put ashore.

St. Louis, Oct. 27.

The Leavenworth overland express from Denyer City with dates to the 20th, and \$6,000 in dust, arrived this evening. The election of Williams as delegate to Congress is confirmed. The people were to vote on the 14th for or against a provisional Government. Mining operations were drawing to a close.

BOSTON, Oct. 27.

The schooner Pacific of Southport, Me., lying at anchor at Magree Island in the Bay of St. Lawrence, got adrift in a gale and run foul of an unknown schooner. Both vessels were sunk and all on board perished. Thirteen dead bodies have floated ashore.

TORONTO, Oct. 27.

The International Bank of Toronto suspended yesterday. The Colonial Bank, an institution of a similar character, is undergoing a great run to day. The doors are beseiged by thousands of excited depositors.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Oct. 26.

The bridge on the Lexington and Louisville railroad, over Elkhorn river, was destroyed by fire this evening. Loss between \$4,000 and \$5,000.

CHAMBERSBURG, Oct. 27.

Capt. Cook was taken to Virginia to-day on the requisition of Gov. Wise, by officers from Virginia accompanied by the parties that arrested him.