"The Virginia Insurrection," Jamestown (NY) *Journal*, November 4, 1859 https://stampedes.dickinson.edu/document/jamestown-ny-journal-virginia-insurre ction-november-4-1859

From the New York Tribune. The Virginia Insurrection.

The Insurrection, so called, at Harper's Ferry, proves a verity. Old Brown of Ossawatamie, who was last heard of on his way from Missouri to Canada, with a band of runaway slaves, now turns up in Virginia, where he seems to have been for some months plotting and preparing for a general stampede of slaves. How he came to be in Harper's Ferry, and in possession of the U. S. Armory, is not yet clear; but he was probably betrayed or exposed, and seized the Armory as a place of security until he could get safely away. The whole affair seems the work of a madman; but John Brown has so often looked death in the face that what seems madness to others doubtless wore different aspect to him. He had twenty-one men with him, mostly white, who appear to have held the Armory from 9 P. M. of Sunday, till 7 of Tuesday morning, when it was stormed, by Col. Lee, and a party of U. S. Marines, and its defenders nearly all killed or mortally wounded. Old Brown was severely wounded, and his son (we bolieve his last surviving son,) killed. Of the original twenty-two, fifteen were killed, two ly wounded and two unhurt. The other

three had pushed northward on Monday morning, guided by a number of fugitive slaves through Maryland.

Harper's Ferry was full of soldiers and militia men, yesterday, and more are censtantly pouring in. Never before was such an uproar raised by twenty men as by old Brown and his confederates in this deplorable affair.

There will be enough to heap execuation on the memory of these mistaken men. We leave this work to the fit hands and tongues of those who regard the fundamental axioms of the Declaration of Independence as "glittering generalties." Believing that the way to Universal Emancipation lies not through insurrections, civil war and bloodshed, but through peaceful discussion, and the quiet diffusion of sentiments of humanity and justice; we deeply regret this outbreak: but, remembering that, if their fault was grevious, greviously have they answered it, we will not, by one reproachful word, disturb the bloody shrouds wherein John Brown and his compatr ots are sleeping. They dared and died for what they felt to be right, though in a manner which seems to us fatally wrong. Let their epitaphs remain unwritten, until the not distant day, when no slave shall clank his chains in the shades of Monticello or by the graves of Mt. Vernon.