

less of the lessons which had been so continuously and in every instance taught these desperate and unprincipled men, the invasion of the western district was resolved upon by them, and an armed body amounting to about four hundred embarked in a steam-boat called the "Champlain," in which they crossed to the village of Windsor, where they established themselves for a few hours, but upon being attacked by a small portion of the gallant militia and volunteers stationed at Sandwich, they were defeated and dispersed, leaving many killed, besides numbers who were afterwards taken prisoners. There is reason to suppose that a much larger force was prepared to cross from Detroit, and would have come over but for the intervention of General Brady, the officer in command of the United States troops at that place.

In closing their observations on the different invasions of this province, and the outrages committed upon its inhabitants, since the commencement of the last year, your committee feel it due to the honour and character of their fellow-subjects in this province to record the fact, that in no instance that can be traced did a single resident of Upper Canada, of any class or origin, unite himself with the assailants after they had landed in the province, and that, of those who crossed from the United States, the great majority was composed of citizens of that republic—very few indeed, even of the refugees being associated with them; and if there be any hope of these guilty men being brought to a sense of the crimes which have led them to their own misery, and the great injury they have been instrumental in bringing upon their country, it must be a source of some consolation to them to know, that by resisting the solicitations which no doubt were pressed upon them to join in this wicked and savage warfare, they escaped the horror of witnessing barbarities of the most disgusting and heart-rending description. Not only were the brave defenders of the province shot down and deliberately murdered by their fiendish assailants, but their dead bodies were mangled and mutilated and hung up as objects of scorn and derision to these inhuman monsters. The body of an intrepid and promising young officer, (Lieutenant Johnson,) of the 83d regiment, was thus treated at Prescott, and the lifeless remains of Doctor Hume, were exposed to similar indignities in the west, where also a noble-minded negro, who probably had escaped from a land of slavery to one where he hoped long to enjoy British freedom, was cut down and slaughtered, because he refused to join the band of murderers who called upon him to assist in the destruction of his benefactors.

And these deeds of wickedness and deepest crime were perpetrated by men claiming to be citizens of the most enlightened nation in the world, and who professed to enter the province for the purpose of conferring freedom and equal laws,—general happiness and prosperity upon its inhabitants!

Your committee have, in the course of the foregoing remarks, alluded to the participation, on the part of the citizens of the United States generally, in the conspiracy which resulted in the hostile expeditions against these provinces, and the inefficiency of the measures taken by the American general and state governments to prevent them. But they feel it necessary to point out, in a more particular manner, the evidence on which these statements rest, and to direct attention to the small reliance that is to be placed in any efforts of the public authorities of the United States to protect us from future attacks; and thus prove the necessity for calling upon Her Majesty to continue to her faithful and loyal subjects that protection to which they feel themselves to have so just a claim, and which Her Majesty has hitherto so generously extended to them.

Your committee are aware, that at one period great pains were taken by the press and particular parties in the states, to convince the world that the barbarous outrages, and criminal and disgraceful combinations which they have detailed, were confined to the lowest classes of the population—to the illiterate and notoriously profligate portions of the community.

In the absence of more direct proof of the little credit that should be attached to these statements, it would be difficult to persuade any reasonable person of their truth, when the vast extent and systematic organization of the bands which assailed the province from time to time are adverted to. It is not credible that, from 500 to 1,000 men, composed of mere rabble, and destitute of any visible means of their own for their maintenance, could for nearly a month be clothed, fed, armed and kept together on a desert spot of ground, such as Navy Island, upon which there was no shelter from the inclemency of a Canadian winter, unless they received support and encouragement from the opulent;—and it is equally unreasonable to suppose, that such an assemblage could be collected for the avowed purpose of overturning by force of arms the government of a neighbouring country, with which their own nation was at peace, without the persuasion of men capable of exercising a powerful influence over public opinion. The worst of men are never found congregated in such numbers and for such a purpose, unless brought together by an influence exercised by men of wealth and intelligence. But it is not upon reasoning of this kind that the fact of countenance and support having been given by the American people to the brigands solely rests. It is now an admitted and notorious truth, that, in every one of the numerous instances of invasion of these provinces by the brigands, the arms of the United States were used by them, and found in their possession; while the steam-boats and schooners belonging to their most wealthy merchants were publicly employed in conveying hundreds of men and quantities of military stores and provisions from their chief cities and towns along the frontier to the places of attack. It is equally certain, that during the last summer and autumn, the preparations which were making to invade the provinces and murder its loyal inhabitants were known and encouraged by officers of the general and state governments; by justices of the peace and by citizens of all classes and denominations. Public meetings

Invasion of western district resolved on.

400 crossed over to Windsor in the western district, but defeated by a small portion of militia.

Supposed that General Brady, United States army prevented more crossing from Detroit.

No instance in which any resident of Upper Canada joined the brigands after their several landings.

Horrid cruelties practised by the brigands upon the brave defenders of the province.

Lieutenant Johnston, 83d regiment, at Prescott.

Doctor Hume and a coloured man at the west.

These deeds of wickedness perpetrated by men claiming to be citizens of the most free and enlightened nation in the world.

The part taken by the citizens of the United States generally in these conspiracies and invasions.

Great pains have been taken to convince the world that only the lowest classes were engaged in these barbarous outrages.

Proofs to the contrary of such a notion.

The systematic arrangement of the brigands.

500 to 1,000 men clothed, fed, and armed on Navy Island, where there was no house, in the depth of winter, and kept together for the avowed purpose of overthrowing the government of a neighbouring country, at peace with their own.

Arms of the United States used by the brigands.

Steam-boats and schooners used belonging to their most wealthy citizens, and publicly employed.

Preparations for the invasions known by officers of general and state governments, magistrates, &c.