

generally had abandoned all intention, if any existed, of countenancing, in any respect, renewed attacks upon a people with whom they are professedly at peace, it would be idle to hope for the liberation of those young men now suffering some of the direful consequences of violating the laws of two nations, or for tranquillity on either side.

Colonel Baker spoke in high terms of the friendly and polite attention paid himself and Mr. Merrick by John McDonald, Esq., of Gananoque, the sheriff of Kingston, Allan McDonald, Esq., Colonel Draper, and other officers and gentlemen whose names we do not recollect. The first named gentleman conveyed in his own carriage Messrs. Baker and Merrick from Gananoque to Kingston, and kindly offered to convey them at his own expense to Toronto; if they desired to visit Lieutenant-Governor Arthur. The offer was declined, believing as they did, that their best course in relation to the prisoners was to return and report to their fellow citizens the result of their inquiries and observations.

Colonel Baker stated further, that he found the Canadian authorities were much better acquainted with the plans and operations of the patriots in their secret lodges than he was, they having derived correct information from the prisoners and from their secret agents, who had been employed for that special purpose during the last summer and autumn. He also stated, that the sheriff of Kingston had very kindly expended the money forwarded to the prisoners, for their benefit, keeping an account of the same; and that the prisoners were now in much need of further assistance from their friends on this side.

The meeting was addressed by J. A. Spencer, Esq., of Utica, his Honour Judge Gridley, the Hon. Samuel Beardsley, Attorney-General, the Hon. Richard Hulbert, Hon. T. C. Chittenden, Colonel Camp, William Smith, Esq., and the Hon. Daniel Wardwell. These gentlemen, in spirited addresses, urged the great necessity of disabusing the public mind in relation to Canadian affairs—the importance of regarding our own laws and the rights of others—the absolute necessity of speaking out in a voice that will be respected at home and abroad, and to adopt the most rational measures to mitigate the fate of those young men, now standing on the very borders of the tomb.

To such of our citizens as had not before listened to the fervid and soul-stirring eloquence of Messrs. Spencer, Gridley, and Beardsley, the occasion was one of absorbing interest. Their hearts seemed warmed with the noblest philanthropy, and their tongues dispensed words that indeed burnt deep into the hearts of their hearers. We could not, had we space and time, do justice to their efforts; suffice it to say, that as the subject of their remarks is all important, whether we regard individual happiness or national prosperity and honour, so did they, impressed with that importance, acquit themselves with honour.

A committee of seven was then appointed to draft resolutions, and a collection of *sixty-five* dollars taken up for the benefit of the prisoners, and the meeting adjourned to Wednesday evening at the American.

Wednesday evening, December 19.—The adjourned meeting was held in the American, pursuant to notice. D. N. Burnham, Esq., was appointed secretary in place of J. Mullin, absent. Colonel Baker repeated to the meeting the result of his visit to Kingston, followed by E. G. Merrick, Esq., who fully corroborated the statements of Colonel Baker.

The meeting was addressed by J. A. Spencer, Esq., of Utica, Charles Mason, Esq., of Madison county, Hon. R. Hulbert, and G. M. Bucklin, Esq. The Committee on resolutions, reported a series, which were read and commented upon by Mr. Spencer. Subsequently, they were severally read, and as follows, *unanimously* adopted. The amount taken up at this meeting for the prisoners in Kingston was 75 dollars; the sum total for that purpose at the two meetings and on Wednesday, 150 dollars.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved,—That we regard the preservation of peace with Great Britain as all-important to the best interests of the American and British nations; but that we have no reason to expect its long continuance, unless our citizens refrain from hostile invasions of, or intermeddling with, her territories.

Resolved,—That we feel a deep-seated desire to maintain and preserve the greatest freedom of intercourse and the most friendly relations with our neighbours of Canada; and that the best evidence we can give of our sincerity will be to do unto them as they do unto us,—leave them to enjoy the government of their choice.

Resolved,—That the inhabitants of our frontier are loudly called upon by every consideration of justice and sound policy to exert themselves to the utmost of their power to prevent all hostile invasions into the neighbouring Canadian provinces by bands of armed men from our borders; and that we pledge ourselves, to our Government and to each other, faithfully and fearlessly to preserve the peace of this frontier, the faith of treaties, and the supremacy of the laws.

Resolved,—That any movements injurious to Canada, are open, flagrant violations alike of international law, of the enactments of the Congress of the United States, and of the Canadian Provincial Parliament; and that our ministerial officers, civil magistrates, and judicial tribunals, should be vigilant and prompt to arrest and ready to condemn any and every violation of our laws.

Resolved,—That there is too much reason to believe that many of our citizens have formed themselves into secret lodges or societies, under the sanction of extra-judicial oaths, for the purpose of promoting the organization and armament of bands of men to invade Canada; and that we earnestly call upon these misguided citizens everywhere and at once to disband.

Resolved,—That we regard the late attack upon Prescott as characterized alike by rash-

No. 1.

Sir George Arthur
to Lord Glenelg.
1st January, 1839.

Encl. 5 in No. 1.