It is pleasing to observe the reaction which is rapidly taking place in Northern sentiment. The sympathizers with the mad act of John Brown and his deluded followers, though few in number, made a great deal of noise at first, and almost convinced some too credulous Southern men that their reigns were a fair reflection of Northern feeling. But now that the excitement of the moment has passed, the strong undercurrent of genuine Northern patriotism is beginning to be felt. Conservative Union meetings, at which resolutions condemning the Virginia invasion and all incendiary attempts to excite the slaves against their masters are passed, are being held throughout the entire North. The following telegraphic dispatch will give our readers a true idea of Northern sentiment:

Excitement at Philadelphia.—Riot Anticipated.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec 15.

There is some excitement at present existing here, and there are prospects of a riot to-night. A meeting was being held in Concert Hall, and a meeting at the Asylum. During the meeting this morning, a request was received from the Mayor, to remove a flag hanging before Concert Hall, as a violation of the ordinances in obstructing the streets. The flag bore certain words and characters which might lead to a disturbance of the peace; also an order of the Sheriff was demanded by the owners of the building, objecting to the action of the lessee in letting it for such purposes.

G. W. Curtis is to lecture to-night, on the aspect of the slavery question, at National Hall.

Advertisements appear in the papers for a meeting outside, to adopt such measures as the exigency may require, to prevent the discussion from becoming too heated, and to arouse a spirit of the most patriotic and harmonious feeling in the community, which may lead to fruitful consequences, and to check harrassing incendiaries from making further inflammatory addresses in our loyal city.

The Mayor is taking every precaution to prevent a disturbance, which seems almost inevitable, if either side turns out in strength.

LATER.

Mr. Curtis lectured to-night to an audience of two hundred, while about four hundred people attended a meeting outside. The latter party was ad

Soon after Curtis commenced, several of the mob threw stones at the building, breaking the windows.

Five hundred police were stationed in the vicinity and immediately took possession of the rioters and arrested several. This summary proceeding had a tendency to calm the excitement, which at first threatened serious consequences.

Major Henry and the Sheriff were on the spot, directing the police.

During Curtis' lecture he was several times hissed by the inside audience. The hisses were immediately ejected by the police.

The excitement is subsiding, and possibly the trouble is ended.