



Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Men

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

Towanda, Saturday, Sept. 20, 1851.

Democratic State Nominations.

- FOR GOVERNOR, WILLIAM BIGLER, OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY. FOR VICE GOVERNOR, BETH CLOVER, OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY.

Democratic County Ticket.

- FOR PRESIDENT JUDGE, DAVID WILMOT, OF BRADFORD COUNTY. FOR COUNTY CLERK, MYRON BALLARD, OF COLUMBIA TWP.

Terms of the Reporter.

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The Prospect.

We feel safe in assuring our Democratic friends, that the prospect of securing the election of our ticket is in all respects as favorable as it could wish.

DEADLY ACCIDENT.—We regret to learn, that BENJAMIN BUNTING, of Warren township, came to his death on Tuesday afternoon last.

The Fugitive Slave Riot.

We publish in another column, full particulars of a riot, attended with loss of life, which occurred at Christiansburg, in Lancaster County, last week.

It is deeply to be regretted that such an occurrence has taken place to darken the fair character of the law-abiding and peaceable citizens, of this Commonwealth.

The broadening curse which, vampire-like, sits upon our nation, and retards our progress, and stirs up all the ill-feeling which is ever engendered in this Republic, is primarily answerable for all the blood which has, or may be shed, in occurrences like this.

We believe in the faithful execution of all laws. We are bound, as good citizens to respect and obey laws which are constitutionally enacted.

There is a great and natural repugnance in every citizen to see a man sent back to Slavery. Nothing but a well defined estimation of the compromises of the Constitution and of the duty of every citizen under those compromises, reconciles them to such a sight, which is painful at best.

You must respect the spirit of Freedom, which inhered from our forefathers, and strengthened by the remembrance of their struggles and the blood they poured out against oppression.

The operation of the present law, has done much to lighten the repugnance which is felt towards all kidnapping. Its harsh and unjust features have been developed by the indecent lustre and zeal of JAGGERS, and by the stupidity and ignorance of Commissioner SMITH at Buffalo.

In this connection, we feel called upon to deprecate any attempt to drag this unfortunate occurrence into the arena of politics; for the purpose of making capital for any party.

dicts of men, while we are a party of principles—not upon the bleeding corpses of men who have fallen victims in such a manner, endeavor to prejudice either local or state authorities, without better cause.

The immediate instigators of the riot which has eventuated so fatally, will we trust be brought to condign punishment. They are more culpable than the negroes, who ignorant of the magnitude of the crime they were committing, armed themselves to do duty their master in his attempt to regain possession of his property.

It is one of the deplorable but legitimate consequences attendant upon and resulting from, the institution of human slavery. Upon that dread evil falls the odium—brought about and hastened by the Fugitive Slave Law.

Such publications, while they are calculated to widen the breach between the North and the South, also have a tendency to make their property more insecure, and to make more hazardous the attempt to reclaim the fugitives from service.

These men are doing immense injury to the South. Claiming to be peculiarly National—they are the only truly sectional party in the North, and their insidious efforts have in them more of hazard to the Union, than the labor of the open disunionist.

They would resist the rendition of fugitives—they would open wounds of the most painful nature, if it was necessary to convince the South that they alone are ready to render her rights.

Representative Ticket.

Messrs. GIBBS and M'KEAN are again before the people of Bradford County for re-election to the Legislature. These gentlemen are so well known to their democratic fellow-citizens that it is unnecessary to say much in relation to their claims upon your confidence and regard.

As members of the last Legislature Messrs. Gibbs and M'Kean met the full expectation of their friends in the performance of their duty.

That they will be triumphantly re-elected we do not doubt, despite the schemes which may be put on foot to affect either of them in any particular locality.

We shall need in the next Legislature our best men. We need men who are capable of properly representing and advocating the interests of the North.

Stand by the Ticket.

Stand by the ticket and you will stand by the Democracy. Rest assured of this fact, and be not led away by any seductive promises of the Whigs.

Fidelity to regular nominations compels an adherence to Democratic principles by procuring the success of the Democratic party. This principle is a cardinal one in our party drill, and ought to be obeyed with military promptitude and strictness.

Each party, on reaching Christiansburg, immediately proceeded to discharge their duty, by scouring the woods and surrounding villages for miles.

Franks of the Fugitive Slave Law.

TERRIBLE RIOT IN LANCASTER COUNTY!

Attempted Arrest of Fugitive Slaves!

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 12, 1851.

The reports from the scene of the riot in Lancaster county are most contradictory. The determined resistance on the part of the colored residents to the operation of the Fugitive Slave Law, has, at length, led to riot and murder.

We have a report from Lancaster, to the effect that a serious riot occurred yesterday, at Christiansburg, fifteen miles from the former place, in connection with the Fugitive Slave Law.

Since the above was written we have the following additional particulars, through the politeness of Paul Hanaway, Conductor of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

It appears that Mr. Gorsuch, the owner of the two fugitive slaves from Baltimore county, accompanied by his two sons, the Deputy United States Marshal, from Baltimore, two United States officers from this city, and several policemen, also from this city, proceeded, on Wednesday evening to Christiansburg, about twenty-one miles this side of Lancaster, for the purpose of arresting the fugitives.

After a consultation between the officers, it was deemed inexpedient to make the arrest until yesterday morning. From the best reports, we learn that the colored population, in the vicinity, having been informed of the nature of the visit of the officers to Christiansburg, held a meeting, and asked the opinion of several leading abolitionists as to what course they should pursue.

The Marshal telegraphed back for a detachment of men, and that Mr. Gorsuch, an elderly gentleman, and the owner of the fugitive slaves, was instantly killed, and one of his sons mortally wounded.

The white people of the neighborhood of the scene refused to assist the officers, and could afford no facilities for the pursuit of the fugitives, who escaped. They refused even to furnish a horse and wagon. No arrests were made.

The assaulting party was headed by an old negro preacher. When he saw the fallen bodies of Mr. Gorsuch and son, he rushed forward with his arms extended, and cried, "Forbear, forbear—You'll all be hung! They are dead!"

There is no great excitement in the vicinity of the scene of the murder. No one has taken any interest in the horrid occurrence.

We must add that Mr. Gorsuch the elder, was not only brutally murdered, but robbed by the blacks, after he was dead, of \$100 in money.

On Saturday morning, the United States Marshal, Mr. Roberts, accompanied by Mr. Commissioner Ingraham, John W. Ashmead, Esq., United States District Attorney, Recorder Lee, and several other gentlemen, left the city for the scene of the outrage at Christiansburg, Lancaster county, with the view of fully enforcing the laws of the United States, relative to the rescue of several fugitive slaves, the murder of the elder Mr. Gorsuch, and the wounding of his son, and nephew. The officers were accompanied by some 45 U. S. Marines, under command of Lieut. Watson and Jones, with a civil posse of some 50 men, Marshal Roberts having made a requisition to the effect:

The party, on reaching Christiansburg, immediately proceeded to discharge their duty, by scouring the woods and surrounding villages for miles.

Smith, George, Washington, Harvey Scott, Sumner Clark, Tamsy Brown, Eliza Brown, Eliza Parker, Hannah Finckney, Robert Johnson, Miller Thompson, Isaiah Clarkson, and Jonathan Black, all colored.

In the possession, or rather upon the premises, for which some of the parties were taken, several guns, dirks, and huge clubs, were found. Some of the guns were heavily charged, and are now in the hands of the proper officers.

There was but one disposition manifested on the part of the authorities from the city, which were promptly executed by the Prosecuting Attorney from Lancaster, Mr. Thompson, and a portion of the police from that city, who, we learn, made some eleven arrests on Friday, conveying their prisoners to Lancaster jail.

The excitement about Christiansburg, and neighborhood, was intense, and hundreds of people were in attendance during the examination of the prisoners on Saturday afternoon and evening. It was after nine o'clock, before the officers of the United States could attend their arduous duties, the heat being intense, and almost suffocating throughout.

When our reporter left the scene of the outrage, young Gorsuch was yet alive, as was also the nephew of the elder Gorsuch, but there was little hope of the recovery of the former.

The following is the testimony, in full, as taken upon the spot, before Mr. Commissioner Ingraham, and furnished by our Reporter:

Miller Knott, affirmed.—Remains close to where the transaction occurred, in Salisbury Township was not present when it occurred; I mean the resistance of the law and the murder of Gorsuch; there was no one with deceased when I saw him; first; there was many colored people there, and no conversation with Clark, except when I assisted to carry deceased to Mr. Pownall's house; the crowd had not altogether dispersed; Scarlet expressed no opinion when he carried deceased; no report about arresting the blacks; saw no officer that I know of; the one who took me to the place of deceased; the old gentleman, wearing a blue coat, and the firing took place after the sun was up some time; a good many guns or pistols were fired saw a man riding off armed, on horseback; the firing was principally from black men; there was balling before the firing; did not hear a horn blown; Scarlet lives about 1 1/2 miles from the place; he was riding on the lane, and had been there before me; after awhile I saw him ride in again; the main body of the fight was over; the mob had passed within ten yards where the man was wounded; there was no conversation between us that I recollect; I knew that William Parker lived there; that Pickett did not; Clarkson was there; had no conversation with any person that did appear to me to be a participant in the outrage; as far as I know, I saw no one else; I saw him ride in again; the main body of the fight was over; the mob had passed within ten yards where the man was wounded; there was no conversation between us that I recollect; I knew that William Parker lived there; that Pickett did not; Clarkson was there; had no conversation with any person that did appear to me to be a participant in the outrage; as far as I know, I saw no one else; I saw him ride in again; the main body of the fight was over; the mob had passed within ten yards where the man was wounded; there was no conversation between us that I recollect; I knew that William Parker lived there; that Pickett did not; 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