

Fugitive Slave Law Decided Unconstitutional.

S. M. Booth, citizen of Michigan, was in custody of the United States Marshal upon a charge of obstructing the execution of the act of September, 1850, known as the Fugitive Slave law.

A. D. Smith, Jr., delivered the opinion of the court. The following is a summary of his points: 1. That the article in the constitution on which the law of 1850 is based is unconstitutional.

2. That the constitution contemplates an examination into the claim of the claimant of the fugitive, to be made where he is, by presumption, here, while the act of 1850 makes the decision or warrant of a judge or commissioner a judgment in fact, without trial or examination.

3. That the act of 1850 is unconstitutional in that it violates the principle which forbids that persons shall be deprived of liberty without due process of law. The summary proceedings under the act of 1850 clearly violate this provision.

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It is understood here that, anticipating some such objection on the part of this particular abolitionist, the Attorney General of the United States has determined on a course of proceeding which will insure the due trial of Booth, for resistance to the United States officers engaged in executing the Fugitive Slave law.

SINGULAR AFFAIR.—A SON REMAINS AWAY WITH HIS FATHER'S WIFE.—On Monday morning, a man about thirty years of age, accompanied by a woman aged twenty seven, and two children—representing themselves as husband and wife—made application to Mr. Thompson for relief.

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Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

Towards, Saturday, June 21, 1851.

TERMS OF THE REPORTER. 25 CENTS PER ANNUM—paid within the year 30 cents will be deducted—For each paid actually in advance \$1 00 will be allowed. No paper sent over two years, unless paid for.

DEMOCRATIC STATE NOMINATIONS. FOR GOVERNOR, WILLIAM BIGLER, OF CLEARFIELD CO.

FOR JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT, JEREMIAH S. BLACK, OF SOMERSET CO.

FOR CAVAL COMMISSIONER, HENRY S. MOTT, OF PIKE COUNTY.

Watchman, Tell us of the Night. We are not alarmists. The forebodings of the nervous and the croakings of the timid, as well as the ravings of the fanatic, have hitherto failed to satisfy us with the instability of our Union, or to impress us with the belief that danger menaced it.

The wise and patriotic founders of our Government had no common or easy task to perform. Divided in opinion, according to education or habits, while a common desire actuated all, a great diversity of sentiment existed as to the form of government which would best embody and perpetuate the great idea of Liberty and Equal Rights, for which they had battled against odds for eight years of gloom and suffering.

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HOW STANDS THE CASE NOW? The predictions and hopes of the wise men of the Revolution have not been realized. The policy they marked out, has been departed from, the principle of liberty has been swallowed up by slavery, and pecuniary and political interests have usurped the place of patriotism and selflessness.

There can be no denial that the sentiment of the North, is against the institution of domestic servitude. It is loathed and abhorred by nine-tenths of our freemen. Even those who recognize in the most binding manner the constitutional rights of the South to hold slaves, have no sympathy for the institution, but regard it with horror.

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DOWN.—A young man, named Vandergrader was drowned in the Susquehanna river, near the mouth of Towanda Creek, on Wednesday afternoon last, while bathing. His body was recovered in a short time, but not until life was extinct.

THE COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS, is said, will report a bill for the abolition of homesteads fishing vessels. It is delayed only to await the final action on the reciprocity treaty.

CONTRARY, presuming upon the patriotism of the North, whenever an attempt has been made to oppose the extension of slavery, the Disunion of the Union has been the wofcry, used as a frightful Freeman from the policy of their forefathers.

AND IT IS SO, with this cry of a dissolution of the Union. The changes have been rung upon it so often, that Freedom begin to think that if they cannot exercise their constitutional rights without endangering the Union, the sooner they part company with so irritable and uncongenial neighbors the better.

THIS STAGE OF FEELING has been the result of the ambitious personal schemes of Northern dough-faces. Hitherto the South have not been obnoxious to any charge of dishonesty or disregard of compromise—except such as might be assumed from a departure from the line of policy marked out by her own course. Unfortunately for her good name, and for the peace and security of the country, this can now no longer be urged in her behalf.

THAT MISGUIDED, ill advised violation of a compact, only less binding in its obligations than the Constitution itself, breaks down that popular sentiment in the North, which has hitherto been the most reliable safeguard of slavery. The public mind is indignant at this outrage. If this compromise is not to be respected—then away with all compromises. If slavery can violate compacts entered into under the most solemn and binding circumstances, when they are supposed to militate against its interests, then all compacts are null and void.

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The N. B. Canal, and the Montrose Democrat.

OUR contemporary of the Montrose Democrat, has been filling his columns for several weeks, past, with assaults upon the officers connected with the North Branch Canal, and its construction and management generally. What the motives are which actuate these assaults, we care not; and the officials along the line are probably able to take care of their own reputation, but we desire to enter our protest against disposition which is sometimes indulged in, to grumble about the management of the Canal. We have heard considerable of this ourselves, but we never yet heard it charged upon any particular man, or set of men.

IT MUST BE CONSIDERED that the work was resumed when the State Treasury was really bankrupt.—Every dollar which has been expended has been needed for other purposes, and has been applied in the face of a general sentiment against the Commonwealth investing more money in public improvements. Hence its friends have been obliged to put up with small annual appropriations. The money voted could not be obtained before June or July, and then one half of the working season had passed. The contractors then went to work vigorously, but before they were fairly started, the money was exhausted, and they received notice that if they did work, they must run the risk of being paid. Such has been the experience of every contractor.

HAD THE AMOUNT necessary to complete the North Branch been attainable when the work was resumed, it would have been ready for operation on the 1st of March 1851, so that hundreds of thousands of dollars less cost than now. But the progress of the work has been constantly interrupted and hampered by a want of means, producing great embarrassment to the officers, and serious difficulties to the contractors. Of course the work could not be done faster than there was money to pay for it.

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The Homestead Bill.

THE PREDICTIONS contained in the following remarks, from the Montrose Democrat, meet our ideas exactly. They are sensible, and it not verified, we shall be very agreeably disappointed.—The Bill granting one hundred and sixty acres from the public lands to each actual settler thereon, which has so long been agitated in Congress, and which passed the House early the present session, still hangs in the Senate. It will be recollected that it passed the House last session and was then smothered in the Senate. The country is beginning to look to the fate of the present bill with much anxiety, and to us the writing appears plainly on the wall.

WE HAVE NO CONFIDENCE in the Senate so far as favorable action on this bill is involved. That body is too far removed from the people, too independent of their sovereign, too conservative in ideas. Such a proposition shakes their nerves, has too much of Young America about it ever to meet with favorable action there. But there is another reason why that bill will not pass the Senate, in our judgment more powerful than any other, and of itself sufficient to put an end to its existence. The South in a body oppose it. The fat has gone forth from that quarter that the bill in some way will damage the "peculiar institution," and hence must fail.

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Common School Superintendents.

IN ACCORDANCE with the provisions of the New School Law, the School Directors in the different counties throughout the State, have duly assembled, and fixed the salaries of, and appointed their Superintendents. We compile from our exchanges the following list of appointments in the various counties, as far as has been ascertained, leaving only the counties of Elk, Jefferson, McKean, Sullivan and Warren, to be heard from.

Table with columns for COUNTY, SUPERINTENDENTS, and SALARIES. Lists names and amounts for various counties like Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Bradford, Bucks, Butler, Cambria, Carbon, Centre, Chester, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Franklin, Fulton, Geneva, Huntingdon, Indiana, Jefferson, Juniata, Lancaster, Lawrence, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKean, Mercer, Mifflin, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Pike, Potter, Schuylkill, Somerset, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Venango, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Westmoreland, Wyoming, York.

Meeting at Lawrenceville.

PURSUANT to notice, a meeting of the citizens of Lawrenceville and vicinity, was held at Lawrenceville, on Saturday evening, June 10th, for the purpose of manifesting their disapprobation of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise.

MR. DRISCOLL was chosen President, Hon. Curtis P. Knorr Vice President, and Geo. W. Stratton Secretary. John W. Ayer, Esq., addressed the meeting in an able and effective manner for about an hour, after which the following resolutions and resolutions were unanimously adopted.

RESOLVED, That we regard the bill which has recently passed both houses of Congress, providing Governments for the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas as an insult to the American people; a wanton violation of public faith; a cold blooded conspiracy against humanity and republicanism; and a crime against God. That we believe it to be a link in a chain of measures, looking to the absolute supremacy of slavery, and the subversion of freedom throughout this continent, and that we therefore demand its speedy and unconditional repeal.

RESOLVED, That submission by the North to Southern dictation is no longer a virtue, and that we will resist it by all judicious means in our power.

RESOLVED, That those laws and those only made by the people and for the people, deserves our respect, and that as the Nebraska bill was passed by the South and their Northern tools for their own iniquitous purpose, and not for the good of all, therefore we look on those laws with contempt, as unworthy of our respect and support.

RESOLVED, That we recommend to the people in all our townships, to unite themselves in a league against the extension of slavery, and suggest to the citizens that County, State and National Conventions be called to nominate men for all offices in the gift of the people, who are decidedly free men.

RESOLVED, That a committee of seven be appointed by the Chair of this convention, the duty of which committee shall be to invite the Hon. David Wilmot, to address the citizens of Lawrenceville on the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, at his earliest convenience. That the Secretary be requested to procure the publication of the doings of this meeting, in the papers of this Congressional district.

ACCIDENT ON THE NEW YORK AND ERIE RAILROAD.—A very serious collision between an express and freight train occurred at New Orleans, on the Erie road, on Wednesday morning. The engineer and fireman of the express train were badly injured, at first supposed fatally, but, at the last account, they were in a fair way to recover. About \$5000.00 was carried and sustained a damage of about \$5000.00. The engineer of the freight train is considered the individual in fault.

DRAPLON.—On the 18th ult. a little son of Wm. Taylor, of Randolph county, Indiana, aged four years, died of delirium tremens. It was a horrible sight, says the Winchester Emblem, to see the little fellow screaming at, and jumping from the snakes that he thought he saw. The father of the boy was an imtemperate man.