

# Pittsburgh Gazette

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ADVERTISING AT RATES

PITTSBURGH, PA.

THURSDAY MORNING, JAN. 24, 1861.

The Republican County Executive Committee will meet upon Thursday, the 24th inst., at 10 a.m., at the office of Marshall & Brown. The members are earnestly requested to attend.

THOMAS M. MARSHALL, Chairman.

JOHN F. WILSON, Secretary.

Locating the Standard.

Four years ago the great men who framed our Constitution and organized our government had such explicit ideas of the rights of man and of the necessities of liberty, that they carefully abstained from putting into the Constitution any word or phrase which could convey the idea that there could be any such thing as property in men. It is true that there was no such provision in the original Constitution, and that the colored race, descendants of slaves, were necessary to its maintenance and regulation so long as it should be referred to exist; but it was universally regarded as an evil, a relic of barbarism, which they fondly hoped would pass away in a generation.

It was necessary, so long as it should exist, to make regulations for its peaceful existence and names, and the only later state regulation that I am aware of is a provision in the condition of the slaves in one of the States of another.

Now it is the word; for there is not the most remote hint given that slaves could be held anywhere but in a State, and that "in pursuance of the laws thereof."

The Major went to that meeting to represent the peace and common prosperity of his State.

He did not say it was possible to do under the Constitution. He appealed to the crowd to let the meeting proceed quietly, but the crowd either could not or could not hear him. As a last resort, he threatened to turn off the gas; but he did not give any order to do so, and the gas was turned off by the man having charge of the hall, without any directions from the Major to do so.

We know that the Major was extremely desirous to have a full expression of public opinion, and he was present there solely to give his aid in protecting the right of those who called it to hold it unmolested. It was not his fault that the crowd in attendance was too vast to be controlled by any one man or set of men.

The Major deserves praise, instead of censure, for the desire manifested to secure to the gathering the quiet enjoyment of the Hall, and we marvel that any slave should be found willing to abuse a faithful public officer because he was unable to accomplish impossibilities.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatches of the W. H. Smith.

Washington, Jan. 23, 1861.—The action of the Virginia Legislature, as far from being conciliatory, as it is supposed in some quarters, precludes any probability of adjustment, by making demands which are of those preferred by South Carolina. Her conspirators are prompted by an ambition to carry on their rebellion, under the idea that Virginia will control the policy of the projected confederacy, and Mr. Hunter be chosen President. "They are ready to sacrifice一切 to the cause."

If this clause provides for the condition of fugitives, it is to be presumed that slaves and negroes will be safe by the same terms; for if that is not so, what was provision not made for the condition of slaves or other slaves?

The reason is that by common law a slave is property, and that the moment a slave crosses the line that marks the boundary of the local statute, he becomes a man, as the law now stands, he is fit just upon the soil of another.

But mark again: "The men who framed the constitution would not permit the word to be used in the brightness of the instrument. It was necessary, as we said before, to make one little provision for this relation; and in physiology as legions as it is delicate, they are styled "passages held to service." This includes indentured apprentices as well as slaves."

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