

RUNAWAY SLAVES.

A gang of runaway slaves passed through our village on the night of Thursday, the 22nd inst. They arrived here about 8 o'clock on the underground railroad, and after halting a few moments, passed on, accompanied by an escort of the managers of said road, which has lately received very large additions to its stock, and the number and respectability of its stockholders. Mayor Guthrie has been an active member of its committee of arrangement, and gave his personal attention to passing this gang along the line of the company's road. He was assisted in the matter by what appeared to be a very respectable majority of the citizens of our twin cities; and we, who had long since despaired of ever seeing such a consummation, are now forced to conclude that "the higher law" has at last prevailed—that the servant who has escaped from his master unto the Iron City, shall not be delivered unto his master. The leader in this gang of runaways, is "the boy Lewis,"—Louis Kossuth—and the whole company belongs to our Northern brethren of Austria. "The boy Lewis" is of light complexion, but not so light as to "pass for white;" and it is matter of congratulation with the friends of the colored races, that the yellow-phobia which has so long afflicted the people of this country, has found an antidote at last. It gave us sincere pleasure to find the poor fugitives getting along safely, and we trembled to remember that in the county in which they then were—Allegheny—the public buildings had been used less than a year ago, as a caboose to lock up a poor fellow who, like these fugitives, had escaped from his master unto us. We were no little apprehensive lest Commissioner Sweitzer and his patriotic allies might be on the lookout. But our county kennel appears not to have been in hunting order, for we did not hear a single bay on the track of this rich game, and this valuable property which the law has made property, and centuries of legislation has sanctioned and sanctified as property, has been suffered to escape; nay, not only suffered to escape, but stolen, actually stolen, from the lawful owner. The "good citizens" of our city, the honest, pious portion of the community will surely be greatly grieved to see so many of our people uniting to steal the property of our northern brethren—interfering with the peculiar institutions of a sister State—encouraging servants to be disobedient to their own masters—giving them aid and comfort in escaping from the same. It is strange that no D. D. has urged upon these miserable Kossuth fanatics, the duty of following the apostolic example—of sending him back, like Onesimus, with an injunction to obedience, and a little brotherly counsel to the bereaved master! It is to be hoped some pious soul will undertake the goodly work of bringing the people to a sense of the enormity of their transgression in depriving masters of their property, and aiding fugitives to escape from a condition authorized by Scripture. A homily might be read to this "boy Lewis" and the benighted creatures he is leading into the dangers of freedom, on the wickedness of disobeying the

Divine command to be subject to "the powers that be." A very little ingenuity could prove indiscriminate obedience to governments to be Scriptural duty, now that chattle slavery is a Bible institution.

In the mean time we trust the sudden growth of sympathy for the oppressed, and love of liberty which is manifested in our midst will not be like Jonah's gourd, and perish in a night, as it has sprung up in one. Should it prove otherwise, show itself a plant of hardy growth, we may expect glorious results, and Kossuth will be a Mesiah to this land. If the apparent sympathy for the oppressed, and hatred of oppression which his history and eloquence have awakened in our country, should prove to be any thing more than an appearance, the blood-hounds which our Republican laws have appointed will no longer track the flying fugitive on American soil.