Illinois State Register.

LANPHIER & WALKER, Editors.

SPRINGFIELD:

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Fugitive Slaves.

The constitution of the United States provides that any person owing service or labor in one state shall not become free or discharged from such service or labor in consequence of having escaped into any other state, but that he shall be taken back, &c. In order to give full force, life and vigor to the aforesaid provision of the constitution, congress passed an act, in the year 1851, commonly called the fugitive slave law. This law gives the slaveholder no new power or authority. It does not confer on him any power which he did not previously possess over his slave. It simply defines the method of carrying out an important provision of the constitution. The slaveholder has ever since the adoption of the federal constitution, had all the rights, power and authority over his escaped slave, that he now has, and the act of congress known as the fugitive slave law directs the way and manner in which he shall exercise that right. The constitution confers the right to pursue his fugitive slave and arrest him in any of the states and territories of the United States, and the fugitive slave law directs him how to arrest and return with his slave to the place where the service is due.

We have never heard it disputed by the rankest abolitionist, that, by virtue of the constitution, the slave owner had a right to arrest his slave in any free state, and take him back. It is therefore clear as the noonday sun that to prevent the arrest and returning of a fugitive slave, whether by state enactment or by individual interference, is a plain violation of the constitution of the United States.

Notwithstanding the plainness of the constitutional provision in regard to escaped fugitives we find that several of the states have adopted what they term personal liberty bills, the whole object of which is to nullify the provision of the constitution providing for rendition of fugitive slaves. Every person is aware that Massachusetts, and one or two additional states have adopted laws which, if carried into effect, will totally nullify the act of congress alluded to.—Every person is equally well informed of the act that in many parts of the United States it has become an absolute impossibility to carry out the provisions of the constitution, or the act of congress on this subject, on account of individual interference in the shape of organized mobs, composed of a combination of negroes and white men, who are infinitely more to be censured than the negroes. It requires no argument to prove that, notwithstanding all their pretension of attachment and fidelity to the constitution, all such persons, whether in the capacity of legislators or as individuals, are acting in open rebellion against its plainest and broadest provision, and that they are guilty of treason against the constitution and laws of their country. There are numerous towns and cities in the United States where it has become an absolute impossibility to enforce the laws of congress on this subject. To contrast the moral condition of such cities, their love of law and order, and all that is calculated to give prominence and character to large cities, with such as have hitherto yielded obedience to all legal enactments, is our present object.

To carry out our design, we will take for example, Chicago and Springfield, the two largest cities in the state of Illinois. Chicago is rendered notorious for more reasons than one. It is notorious on account of being the commercial metropolis of the northwest, and on account of its rapid and unprecedented growth, or on account of the vast business transactions and the immense amount of capital employed, but it is notorious, if not infamous, on account of the frequency of its mobs, riots, burglaries, murders, suicides and all the crimes in the catalogue. If a law is displeasing to a few of its leaders, it is set at open defiance. It is the only city in the entire Union that, by mob violence, urged on by men who would fain be considered its most prominent citizens, prevented a senator in congress of the United States from addressing his own constituents. It is unnecessary to call attention to the morality of it." It is sufficient to say that it has become a successful rival of ancient Sodom and Gomorrah. This is the city that for humanity's sake repudiates the constitution of the United States and the acts of congress." Persons from the south, in pursuit of fugitive slaves, when they learn that the fugitive has reached Chicago, make no further effort, well knowing that the dominant party there will stop at nothing to defeat the arrest of a fugitive. The entire south has long since learned that, in Chicago, neither constitution, law, oath or honor are held sacred and obeyed.

Permit us to call the reader's attention to Springfield for a moment. In this city riots and mobs are unheard of; obedience to law and order are among the chief characteristics of its citizens. Political excitement is sometimes raised to the very highest pitch, and yet such a thing as a riot or bloodshed is unheard of.—The moral condition of Springfield will compare favorably with any city in the world.

On last Friday, a fugitive slave was brought before U. S. Commissioner Corneau, on a warrant obtained on the affidavit of Hiram McIlroy, jr., of Union county, Ky. This was the first instance of the kind that has occurred in this city since the passage of the fugitive slave law. There is no circumstance that could be named that so strongly shows the superiority of the moral condition of Springfield over that of Chicago, as the conduct of our citizens in relation to the fugitive slave we have alluded to. The fugitive was arrested in the early part of the week, and imprisoned in the county jail. There was no attempt at concealment. The fact was announced in the Register the next morning, and when the trial took place, although a large number of people were assembled, yet there was not the slightest attempt at disturbance, and not even an indication of dissatisfaction.—On the contrary, there was but one opinion among all our people—that was, give him a fair and honest trial, and if he is proven a slave, let him be given up to the claimant, but if not, let him be set at liberty. This, we say, was the prevailing opinion. And while we heard hundreds express this opinion, without reference to their political opinions, we did not hear a single dissenting voice. The State Journal, in this matter, has proven itself the friend of the constitution and of law and order. A day or two previous to the trial in reference to the same case, the Journal contained a well written article (and which, no doubt, contributed much towards the good feeling that prevailed on the occasion) in which it urged, in strong terms, to abide by the law; to carry it out in the letter and spirit. The conduct of the citizens of Springfield in relation to this case, places our city on an eminence so high that Chicago can never aspire to, unless an entire reformation, or rather a resolution first takes place. The same difference that exists between Chicago and Springfield, may be found existing in every instance where, on the one hand, all laws upon the statute book are respected and obeyed, and on the other, are set at defiance and disobeyed. In every instance where organized opposition to the execution of the fugitive slave law is found, the instruments used to obstruct the administration of the law are the lowest, basest and most immoral and worthless part of community. The would be respectable portion of community, although not ashamed to incite the opposition to the law, are ashamed to carry into effect their own iniquitous enhatchments, and procure the service of such villains to carry them into effect. They are responsible for all the subsequent crimes of such desperadoes. They teach them to oppose the law in one instance and such villains argue, and justly too, that there is no more harm in violating the law in one instance than there is in another. There is not a city to be found in which the fugitive slave law has been repudiated in which immorality, vice and crime do not reign supreme, in which riots murders and bloodshed are not the most common and of frequent occurrence.

News items.

A MOTHER IN SEARCH OF A DAUGHTER.—From a Detroit exchange we learn the following infernal and infamous conduct of an old man, by the name of Daniels, who, by using the most damnable art, succeeded in seducing his own grand daughter, the child of his own daughter, married to a man by the name of Fay, who is a respectable minister of the gospel, in the Baptist church. The girl was sent to Detroit by Daniels, and put under the care of an infernal hag, and a man of like character, a physician, to procure an abortion, which was done, but which reduced the poor girl nearly to death, and led to a discovery of the entire transaction. Daniels and the two abortionists were arrested and held to bail. These damning villains procured a fellow by the name of Woodruff to take the girl off, to prevent her appearing against them. The poor girl's mother never rested until her unfortunate child was found. They have returned home to confound the old hoary and lecherous villain.

MCKIM THE MURDERER.—From the Hollidaysburg Standard, (Pa.,) we learn that McKim, who murdered the Illinoisan at Altoona, Pa., and who is to be hung on the second Friday in August, made an attempt to break out of his cell a few days since. He was frustrated in his efforts, and is now heavily ironed, hand and foot, and a guard kept over him every night.

PROSPECTS OF IMMENSE CROPS IN ALL THE MIDDLE AND WESTERN STATES.—We make the following brief summary of the latest crop intelligence, gleaned from the newspapers and our private sources of information. In Wyoming county, N. Y., wheat, barley and oats are looking finely, and in Niagara county, do. In other interior counties winter and summer crops give good promise. We hear, however, of the ravages of the weevil in southern Monroe and Ontario to such a degree that millers are looking to the western surplus to supply their mills.—The hay crop is especially fine, and is being gathered in good order. In Canada there is fine weather, and little complaint among farmers.—In Ohio, the wheat crop is probably the larges ever grown, and in the southern portion of the state wheat has been harvested in excellent condition. In the north, harvesting has scarcely yet commenced. Corn is also doing very finely in this state. From Michigan little has bee heard, it is probable the crops are, at least, fair Wisconsin will gather larger and better crops o all kinds than ever. From Iowa accounts ar discouraging. A gentleman just from there, i no way connected with the produce trade, say there will be no surplus of consequence. Whea is light on the ground, and heading out a ver short stalk, and corn generally looks yellow — A very bad drouth has been experienced." Illi nois is gathering the best wheat crop she eve had, and corn, and other summer crops, are do ing well. Indiana, do. The general impressio is, if the frosts do not come early, the yield o corn will be a good one, but, if the reverse hap pens, it will be light. Kentucky, Tennesse Virginia and Alabama, have al harvested a excellent crop of wheat. On the whole, wit ordinarily good weather the remainder of th season, we may expect something more than a average yield of every article of farm produc

THE EAST INDIA INSURRECTION—GEN. WOO AND GEN. WALKER—SECRETARY DAVIS' I STRUCTIONS—APPOINTMENT OF NAVY PURSER &c.—WASHINGTON, Tuesday, July 21.—Fro the general and extended insurrection in Indi it is believed that Persia and China were ins gators to the revolt.

Advices from the American consul at R Janeiro to the 12th ult., state that the yello fever had subsided. For the last six weeks tw persons only had died on board American ve sels. The city was perfectly healthy.

The National Intelligencer this morning co tains a letter from Gen. Wool, explaining h conduct in not interfering with Gen. Walker his expedition to Central America, called out Walker's letter to the president. It seems th Secretary Davis had countermanded previous o ders relative to violations of the neutrality law and instructed Gen. Wool not to interfere cases of "civil misdemeanor."

Beverly Tucker has written a letter to t Richmond South, defending Governor Walk and expressing the views of his friends.

The insinuation against Governor Walk that he is in joint speculation with Stanton, O Aiken, and Whitfield, as a cause for proceedi against Lawrence, is pronounced by Mr. C basely malicious. No joint speculation ever e isted.

William Richardson, a connexion of Willi Carry Jones, was accidently killed, yesterd afternoon, by L. A. Bergy, in discharging a p tol.

THE WARSAW AND CARTHAGE RAILROAD The Warsaw Express, of Saturday last, has following encouraging item concerning the p gress of this road:

The road will be put in running order fr Warsaw to Carthage this fall. From Carth to Bushnell *via* Fountain Green, LaHarpe Blandinsville, the grading will most likely finished by spring; and the probability is, t the work from Bushnell to Lafayette, Ind., w be pushed forward as rapidly, so that we m have a continuous road completed next y which will give us railroad facilities equal any other western town or city. Let the g work prosper, say we!"

☞It appears that Vienna has a populat of four hundred and seventy-one thousand