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Will YOU be One?

THE NEGRO MIGRATION TO CANADA AFTER PASSING OF THE FUGITIVE SLAVE ACT

(Continued from last issue)

The northern newspapers of the period supply abundant information regarding the consternation into which the Negroes were thrown and their movements to find places of safety. Two weeks after President Fillmore had signed the Fugitive Slave Bill a Pittsburgh dispatch to The Liberator stated that "nearly all the waiters in the hotels have fled to Canada. Sunday 30 fled; on Monday 40; on Tuesday 50; on Wednesday 30 and up to this time the number that has left will not fall short of 300. They went in large bodies, armed with pistols and boyie knives, determined to die rather than be captured." A Hartford dispatch of October 18, 1850, told of five Negroes leaving that place for Canada; Utica reported under date of October 2 that 16 fugitive slaves passed through on a boat the day before, bound for Canada, all well armed and determined to fight to the last; The Eastport Sentinel of March 12 noted that a dozen fugitives had touched there on the steamer Admiral en route to St. John's; The New Bedford Mercury said: "We are pleased to announce that a very large number of fugitive slaves, aided by many of our most wealthy and respected citizens have left for Canada and parts unknown and that many more are on the point of departure." The Concord, New Hampshire, Statesman reported: "Last Tuesday seven fugitives from slavery passed through this place . . . and they probably reached Canada in safety on Wednesday last. Scarcely a day passes but more or less fugitives escape from the land of slavery to the freedom of Canada . . . via this place over the track of the Northern Railroad."

Many other examples of the effect of the Fugitive Slave Act might be noted. The Negro population of Columbia, Pennsylvania, dropped from 943 to 487 after the passing of the bill. The members of the Negro Community near Sandy Lake in northern Pennsylvania, many of whom had farms partly paid for, sold out or gave away their property and went in a body to Canada. In Boston a fugitive slave congregation under Leonard A. Grimes had a church built when the blow fell. More than forty members fled to Canada. Out of one Baptist Church in Buffalo more than 130 members fled across the border, a similar migration taking place among Negro Methodist of the same city though they were disposed to make a stand. At Rochester all but two of the 114 members of the Negro Baptist church fled, headed by their pastor, while at Detroit the Negro Baptist church lost 84 members, some of whom abandoned their property in haste to get away. A letter from W. Still, agent of the Philadelphia Vigilance Committee, to Henry Bibb at Sandwich says there is much talk of emigration to Canada as the best course for fugitives. The Corning Journal illustrates the aid that was given to the fugitives by northern friends. Fifteen fugitives, men, women, and children, came in by train and stopped over night. In the morning a number of Corning people assisted them to Dunkirk and sent a committee to arrange for passage to Canada. The captain of the lake

steamer upon which they embarked, very obligingly stopped at Fort Malden, on the Canadian side, for wood and water and the runaways walked ashore to freedom. "The underground railroad is in fine working order" is the comment of The Journal. "Rarely does a collision occur, and once on the track the passengers are sent through between sunrise and sunset." That time did not dull the terrors of the Fugitive Slave Act is shown by the fact that every fresh arrest would cause a panic in its neighborhood. At Chicago in 1861, almost on the eve of the Civil War, more than 100 Negroes left on a single train following the arrest of a fugitive, taking nothing with them but the clothes on their backs and most of them leaving good situations behind."

(To be continued)

More Than 1000 Prizes Distributed

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Columbia, S.C., Oct.—The catalogue of the Negro State Fair Association of this state discloses that more than 1000 premiums will be distributed for exhibits in the various departments. Green Jackson, executive secretary, and Dr. Goodwin, president, say that the fair this year will be the largest ever. The date of the fair is October 31st to November 3rd.

FLOOD IN OKLAHOMA

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Oklahoma City, Oct.—The overflow waters from the North Canadian River which flooded Oklahoma City are receding. The down town and south side sections of the town were severely hit, damage being estimated at \$2,500,000. Colored people live chiefly on the East Side and suffered a minimum of loss.

Hampton Defeats St. Paul

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Hampton, Va., Oct.—In one of the hardest and most bitterly contested games ever seen on Armstrong Field, Hampton Institute outplayed and defeated the powerful St. Paul eleven to the tune of 7 to 6. The first three quarters were remarkable in that there were no points scored. The final period opened with a bang and Byrd, St. Paul's left end, managed to get away from one of Hampton's tackles for a forty yard run to a touchdown. All through the first part of this quarter, Hampton fought against the most powerful line they had ever seen. It was only after a fumble that they were able to make any points. After much line play, Hampton scored a touchdown, followed by a drop kick by Jacobs for the winning extra point.

Atlanta Holds Tuskegee to Tie

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Tuskegee, Institute, Ala., Oct.—In their annual pre-season game the Tuskegee eleven held the aggressive Atlanta University squad to a 7 all tie. Last year the Atlanta romped off with their hosts. This year their line was outweighed from end to end. After losing one of her backs through an accident they had to resort to straight football. The visitors scored in the first few minutes of play, but their points were easily matched by the play of Tuskegee's back's. There was a large representation of the visitor's school at the game which made it a success.

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11.00 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.—Preaching.

Harvest Home Services Oct. 7 to 12.

St. John's A.U.F. C.M.B. Church

CHATHAM

Preaching 11.00 a.m. and 8.00 p.m.

Sunday School 2.00 p.m.

Spencer's League, 7.30 p.m.

Rev. Wm. A. Richardson, Pastor

Hill St. Baptist Church

Hill Street, London, Ont.

REV. J. F. JOHNSON, Pastor

Sunday Services

Brotherhood—10 a.m.

Preaching—11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Sunday School—12 n.

Prayer Meeting—Wednesday evening

Sunday Oct. 21, first report of Annual Rally.

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