

FOREWORD

This transcript from early Tennessee anti-slavery journals has been lodged in this library as the result of a letter mailed to its librarian and the librarians of other upper East Tennessee Colleges or historical institutions. That letter read as follows:

"Aquone"
Johnson City, Tenn.,
July 2, 1946.

Librarians of
E. T. State College,
Tusculum College,
C. M. McClung Collection, (Knoxville)
Greene County Library,

Friends:

Many years ago I found in a Cincinnati library a fairly complete collection of the first issues of Benjamin Lindsay's periodical "The Genesis of Universal Emancipation," which was published at Greeneville in the early 1820's. It was the successor of Embree's "Emancipator" published at Jonesborough.

The file of "The Genesis" had so much of East Tennessee history and personages that I made a pencil copy of the pertinent parts, having in view the preparation of a paper on the "Abolition Movement in Tennessee." This I have never gotten around to do. Now that age is working its will, it seems almost certain that I cannot have time to turn to the task.

My pencil draft is important enough, in my view, to be preserved.

Accordingly I write to offer to your collection on terms:

"EARLY EMANCIPATION MOVEMENT IN TENNESSEE"

A COPY OF "NOTES"

Taken By

JUDGE SAMUEL C. WILLIAMS

And Placed by Him in the Library of the

EAST TENNESSEE STATE COLLEGE

Johnson City, Tennessee

September, 1946

Gift




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VOL. III

The same to be typed and four copies to be made, one for each institution addressed. The hard copy should go to the library which does the typing and sends out the other three carbon copies. My pencil draft is to remain with the library which makes the four copies.

I do not know which of the libraries addressed is best equipped to do this work, and leave that to all of you to determine.

If this does not interest any of you, please so indicate promptly.

Let further correspondence be among yourselves. However direct me as to which of the four I should mail the pencil draft (which is of many pages), obliging.

Truly,

SAM'L. C. WILLIAMS

The first of those addressed was the East Tennessee State College at Johnson City, and to its library goes the original transcript for preservation.

Added to the notes from Lundy's Genius of Universal Emancipation is an excerpt from the earlier published Emree's Emancipator. This excerpt gives a contemporaneous account of the history of the Manumission Society of Tennessee. The only file of that magazine in existence is in the Tennessee State Library. Formerly it was in the possession of Judge Samuel J. Kirkpatrick, of Jonesboro. When I became his law partner the bound file of the Emancipator was in the office safe. On examining it I was impressed that (it) illustrated an important phase of Tennessee history. According(ly) an article, titled "The First Abolition Journal in America" was

prepared and sent to the editor of the New England Magazine, of Boston, to see whether it would be accepted for publication, since its theme was that East Tennessee and (not) New England was entitled to credit for having published the first journal that advocated the emancipation of slaves. To my surprise the article was published in 1831, as my first venture in the field of history writing. (By the way, I was sent a check for \$12.50 for the contribution, the only one ever received from a historical journal for any one of three to four score contributed in later years.)

The present depository of the files of the Genius of Universal Emancipation is sufficiently set forth in the letter reproduced above.

It is the writer's hope that the abstracts incorporated in this manuscript booklet may be of some aid to that future historian who may write on this phase of our history - which has received inadequate attention from previous writers in this particular field. Age and feebleness prevents the writer from attempting the task, but he thinks the placement of this booklet, as above, may induce some other student to address himself to that task.

S. C. W.

"Aquone"

Johnson City, Tennessee

September 1, 1948.

HISTORY

OF THE MANUMISSION SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE

Kabree's Emancipator, 4th Month (April) 30, 1820, pp. 10f.

"This benevolent society arose in the year 1815. The first branch of it was formed in Jefferson County, at Lost Creek Meeting House, by Charles Osborn & seven others, chiefly or all of the society of Friends.

Charles Osborn, who may be justly styled the founder of this society in Tennessee, is a Minister of the Gospel, in good esteem with the society of which he is a member, and from his having travelled considerably in the ministry through a great part of the United States, he is considerably known abroad.

For some time before the formation of the society, his pious mind became concerned and frequently drawn into exercise on the subject. At length he made known his concern to a few of his intimates, and proposed to some of his friends to meet at Lostcreek Meeting House in Jefferson County, to take into consideration the propriety of forming into a society, for the purpose of endeavoring to bring about a gradual abolition of Slavery. Accordingly on the 25th of the second month in the year 1815, a number convened, of whom the following eight men organized themselves into a society under the style of the "Tennessee Society, for promoting the manumission of slaves," to wit:

Charles Osborn, John Canaday, John Swain, John Underhill, Jesse Willis, David Maulsby, Elisha Swain, Thomas Morgan. And formed a constitution consisting of a few articles, merely expressive of their object,....."

"Charles Osborn has since removed to Mount Pleasant in Ohio, where he for some time published a weekly paper entitled the "Philanthropist," in which he frequently took occasion to vindicate the rights of the injured sons of Africa. He now lives in the state of Indiana. Jesse Willis & John Underhill have also since removed to Indiana, where J. Willis died. Thomas Morgan also since died in Jefferson County, Tennessee, where this society first arose; leaving a testimony behind them against the iniquitous practice of slavery, which testimony, though they be dead, yet speaketh.

John Underhill was also eminently instrumental in setting up and establishing several other branches of the society. The loss of these two pillars in this humane society, has been sensibly felt in their neighborhoods. May those who occupy their former places of abode feel emulous to equal their Philanthropy. Thousands of first rate citizens, men remarkable for their piety and virtue, have within 20 years past, removed from this and other slave states, to Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, that their

*Complete text of constitution may be found in Murphy's Reprint of The Emancipator, (Nashville, 1838), pp. 10f. - (W.F.R.).

eyes may be hid from seeing the cruel oppressor lacerate the back of his slaves, and that their ears may not hear the bitter cries of the oppressed. I have often regretted the loss of so much virtue from these slave states, which held too little before. Could all those who have removed from slave states on that account, to even the single state of Ohio, have been induced to remove to, and settle in Tennessee, with their high toned love for universal liberty, & aversion to slavery, I think that Tennessee would e'er this have begun to sparkle among the true stars of liberty. But to return to our subject. Soon after the establishment of the aforesaid branch of the society in Jefferson, there were branches formed in Greene & Sullivan counties, and soon afterwards in Washington, Blount, Grainger, and Cocke counties, and two others in Greene county since, and one recently in Knoxville.

Each branch at first formed a constitution to suit its own views, but finding their object all to be the same, a correspondence took place between them, and it was not long before delegates were elected by each branch that then existed, and a convention agreed on for them all to meet, for the purpose of forming one constitution for the government of the whole society; which accordingly took place on the 21st of the 11th month (Nov.) 1815, at the Lick Creek Meeting House of Friends, in Greene county, which constitution, with an address prefacing it, with some small amendments which have since been made, now stands as follows:"

*Complete text may be found in Murphy's Reprint of The Emancipator, 5th Month 31, 1820, pp. 22-27. -(A.P.R.).

The
GENIUS OF UNIVERSAL EMANCIPATION
CONTAINING
ORIGINAL ESSAYS AND SELECTIONS
On the Subject of
AFRICAN SLAVERY

Benjamin Lundy, Editor.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, and endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness -

Dec. of Ind., U. S.

Vol. I*

*Apparently the first seven numbers of Vol. I were published in Mount Pleasant, Ohio. See p. 28 : "Letter" of Nov. 1, 1846 from Public Library of Boston to W. P. Rogers.

TO
THE RISING GENERATION
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
ON WHOM PROBABLY DEPEND
THE SUCCESS AND PROSPERITY OR THE DOWNFALL AND
UTTER RUIN OF THE REPUBLIC
THIS VOLUME OF THE
GENIUS OF UNIVERSAL EMANCIPATION
IS MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED
BY THE EDITOR

FIRST ISSUE SEVENTH NO. (JULY) 4TH 1821.
(Apparently published at Mount Pleasant, Ohio*)

First Article

ADDRESS TO THE PUBLIC

"The subject of African Slavery has assumed a degree of importance that demands the attention of every citizen of the U. S. The question of extending and perpetuating it, has been so critically examined, and so ably discussed of late, that a powerful excitement has been produced, even from Maine to New Orleans, and from the shores of the Atlantic to the savage wilds of the West. The principles and maxims adopted by those sages who laid the foundations for this great and flourishing Empire, are beginning to develop themselves more fully to the view of the American people, and to attract the attention of millions of the human race. * * * That this abomination of abominations, the system of slavery, must be abolished, is clear as the shining sun at noonday," the very nature of our government forbids its continuance, and the voice of the Eternal has decreed its annihilation. And seeing it hath often pleased the All wise to make use of human agency as the means whereby the foulest corruptions have been rooted out, and the most glorious reformation have been effected in the Societies of men, it may fairly be presumed that the present generation will have much to do towards eradicating the noxious

*Biographers of Lundy have said his first issue was printed January, 1821, but it appears July was the month. See: Page 28 paragraphs 5 & 6 of "Letter" from Public Library of Boston to W. P. Rogers. (W.P.R.)

plant from the soil of Columbia. Happy will it be for our Country, happy will it be for the countless thousands that are to succeed us, and to inhabit the vast and fertile regions of America, if this hydra of iniquity can be vanquished ere the storm of vengeance is raised, and the destroying angel, the gory fiend of Intestine War, is permitted to lay waste our cities, our villages and our fields, and to consign their possessors to the sword. That this will one day be done, there is no shadow of doubt, unless the Sons of Liberty be fairly roused from their lethargy, unless they be induced to act consistently with their professions, and remove the blot without the borders of their wide domain.***"

"For the purpose of aiding the great work of Emancipation, and in order to contribute his mite to lessening the amount of human woe, the undersigned has commenced the publication of this paper. As it is his intention to devote its pages almost exclusively to the subject under consideration, and as he will carefully select the most important matter connected therewith, expecting at the same time to have the assistance of men of first-rate talents, and literary acquirements, he hopes that it will be found worthy (of) the patronage of persons of the highest standing in the nation. If it is urged that it is published in a State where slavery is not tolerated, he will observe, that it is by no means to be considered a local publication; but, on the contrary, mere local matter will be excluded from its columns, that it may be calculated for general circulation. And as one great objective

will be to point out the inconsistency and overcome the prejudice in the free, as well as the slave holding states, that the individuals in favour of the work of emancipation, throughout the great American family, may be brought to cooperate together, it is desired that it may be read in every part of the Union. The Spirit of Emancipation is designed to rise, like a Phoenix from the ashes of the late "Emancipator" published at Jonesborough, in Tennessee, by Elihu Sabree. Had that worthy man still lived to extend his useful labours it is not likely that this paper would have appeared at this time; but as it hath pleased the Almighty Disposer of events to call him from works to rewards, and as there does not appear to be a prospect of a continuance of the "Emancipator", it is hoped that this work may supply its place.*

Important information from every part of the country, contained in numerous publications will be collected for this paper, and presented to its readers. Well written essays and communications from societies and individuals, tending to subserve the cause of emancipation will be gratuitously inserted. Short biographical and historical sketches will occasionally find a place in this work; reports of important

*Charles Osborn, who was a principal in founding Manu-
mission Society of Tennessee and who had published his
"Philanthropist" in Mount Pleasant, Ohio, was a connecting
link between Lundy and the Tennessee group. Also, White's
"Sketch of ... Sabree", Murphy's reprint of Emancipator,
p. x, gives its circulation as 2000, 'extensively...in the
United States.' (W. P. B.)

law cases, and details of cases of unusual barbarity when forwarded will be duly attended to; the constitutions, orations, reports and proceedings of the various abolition and other societies, established for the purpose of restoring to Africans and their descendants their natural rights are solicited for publication.

In short the editor intends that this work shall be a true record of passing events, and of the various transactions relative to the enslavement of the Africans, and he hopes it may eventually prove a faithful history of their final Emancipation. He solicits the patronage of the public and promises to spare no pains to make it worth the price demanded.*

(FIRST ISSUE SEVENTH NO. 4TH 1821.) page 4

FOURTH OF JULY

"As many of the sentiments contained in the declaration of independence coincide with my own ideas, I think myself entitled to the privilege of celebrating the period of its promulgation in such way as I consider best calculated to be useful to myself and others, and believing it to be an apt occasion, I have chosen this day to present the public with the Genius of Universal Emancipation."

* The price was \$1.00 payable annually in advance. (S.C.W.)

(FIRST ISSUE SEVENTH NO. 4TH 1821)

(Communication, page 5)

"Slavery is an evil of great magnitude - a supreme curse; and if it is not ere long abolished it will cause the ruin of the nation. One would suppose that from this it would follow, that measures should be taken to hasten the period when it shall be finally done away with. What, let me ask will be the consequence of 'letting it alone?' Here I must pause, for a moment: - the hair rises on my head and the blood runs cold through my veins, while I contemplate these dreadful scenes which must one day be opened to the view of thousands, and will strike terror and dismay in the breasts of beholders. * * *

We do not pretend to scrutinize the dispensation of a Divine and an Adorable Providence; but that this traffic in bones and sinews, this sale of immortal souls, must be abolished is as plain as that the solar rays now bespangle the firmament."

SECOND ISSUE EIGHTH NO. (AUGUST) 1821 (VOL. I)

"Far be it from me to entertain the slightest wish to irritate the slave holder or others; but I shall not hesitate to call things by their proper names, nor yet refrain from speaking the truth whenever I think it may subserve the cause of liberty."

THIRD ISSUE 9TH NO. 1821 (VOL. 1)

(Mount Pleasant, Ohio - W. F. R.)

(Lundy in leading editorial outlines his plans - S.S.W.)

"I. Total abolition of slavery in all territories and districts over which Congress possesses exclusive control, in order to prevent the spread of the institution.

II. To prevent the smuggling of slaves into the Country from abroad, and to put a stop to the domestic slave trade, by preventing the transportation from one state to another, except in case of removal of actual owners.

III. Let the free states agree to receive free persons of color upon the footing of aliens.

IV. Let all blacks that may be willing to go to Hayti, or elsewhere, be sent at public expense or by the joint co-operation of the general, state governments, societies, etc.

V. Let the slaves states make simultaneous arrangements for a gradual though certain emancipation of their slaves.

VI. Let the regulations relating to slave representation be done away with immediately...."

* * * * *

"The idea is too prevalent that the Southern people are mostly actuated by sordid or tyrannical motives. To form a correct opinion of the public sentiment there, in regard to slavery, we must suppose the white population to be divided

into three classes. - The first of these consists of the religious, the moral and benevolent persons opposed to the system from principles, including many actual slave holders, who have it not in their power in the present state of things, to emancipate their slaves (as they believe) without running the risk of making their conditions worse instead of better.

The second class is chiefly made up of such as are in low circumstances and unable to purchase slaves, many of whom are laboring people and consequently opposed to slavery from motives of interest.

The third is supposed to consist of thoroughgoing advocates of slavery, and the avaricious, the vain, the idle, the unthinking, the vicious; and these people are the materials of which it is composed. In viewing the conduct of the people in the states where slavery is tolerated, a proper line of demarkation should be drawn betwixt the several classes. I think it may be fairly presumed that the first and second classes above mentioned would prove to be a large majority of the people and would willingly use their exertions to abolish the system of slavery, provided a plan should be laid down by which they could be satisfied that it might be done with safety...."

"Though the friends of Emancipation should never for a moment lose sight of their object, but vigorously pursue it through every intricate maze of mistaken policy, and though the will of the majority, when fairly expressed should

be the suppress law, yet a course of conduct that would have a tendency to irritate those who honestly differ from them in opinion, should be carefully and studiously avoided... Particular care should be taken not to wound the feelings of the honest and upright, nor to withhold from any the meed of merit justly due."

FOURTH ISSUE 10TH NO. 1021 (VOL. I)

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"Those who are acquainted with the works of Col. John Philipot Curran*, will have observed that it is a literal quotation from a passage in one (of) the speeches of that unrivaled orator.

The speech from which it was taken fell into my hands when young and the passage alluded to particularly and forcefully attracted my attention. To me it appears as the most extraordinary burst of eloquence that ever I had known to be uttered by mortal man, and it made an impression on my useful (youthful) mind which will, doubtless, be as lasting as life."

*Curran, 1750-1817, was a Judge in Ireland, whose "speeches, though burgid and pompous, abound in passages of extraordinary eloquence, which made him the first orator of his time." See Dictionary of National Biography, V, 332-334f, for biography. (W.F.R.)

Could not decipher these two words - (W.F.R.)

(VOL. I, EITHER 10TH OR 11TH OR 12TH NO. 1821 - W.F.R.)

(Notice of a Proposal for Publication of "Abolition
Intelligencer" at Shelbyville, Ky., 1821, under the patron-
age of Kentucky Abolition Society - S.C.W.)

* * * *

(ISSUE) NO. 12, 6TH NO. 1822. (VOL. I)

(Published at Greenville, Tennessee - W.F.R.)

* * * *

FOURTH NO. 1823 (VOL. II, NUMBER 10 - W.F.R.)

(Greenville, Tennessee)

Announces that the "Abolition Intelligencer" will
be discontinued in Kentucky.

Valedictory to appear in the next number of that
journal. (S.C.W.)

THE
GENIUS OF UNIVERSAL EMANCIPATION
a
Monthly Paper
Containing
Original Essays and Selections
on the Subject of
AFRICAN SLAVERY

Benjamin Lundy, Editor

Vol. II*

Greeneville, Tenn.,

Printed by the Proprietor

1822-3

*The first issue of this Vol. II was that of July, 1822 ("Seventh No. 1822"). Direct evidence indicates that the first issue printed in Greeneville, Tenn., was that of April, 1822 (Vol. I., Number 10, "Fourth No., 1822"). Vol. I., issues 2-7, were published in Mount Pleasant, Ohio, but in numbers 8 and 9 of Vol. I. no place of publication is mentioned. (See; p. 28, par. 4 of the "Letter" from Public Library of Boston to W. F. Rogers.) Mott in his History of American Magazines, 1741-1850, p. 163 says "Lundy was a great walker; he had walked half the distance from Mount Pleasant to Greeneville;...." Could it have happened that he published numbers 8 and 9 in some town through which he passed on his way to Greeneville? (W.F.R.)
* McClung Collection, Lawson McChes Library, Knoxville, Tennessee, has copy of this issue. - (W.F.R.)

(DEDICATION)

(Issue No. 1, Seventh No., 1822, Vol. II)

"To James Jones, President, and his Fellow
Labourers and Coadjutors, the Founders of the
Manumission Society of Tennessee, whose laudable
zeal and sturdy perseverance in the cause of
Liberty and Justice, entitle them to the lasting
esteem and gratitude of their Countrymen - This
volume of the Genius of Universal Emancipation
is most respectfully dedicated
By the Editor"

SEVENTH NO. 1822 (VOL. II, ISSUE NO. 1.)

"The present number commences the second year of the Genius of Universal Emancipation notwithstanding the prediction of the advocates of slavery, as well as the lukewarm philanthropists that 'it would not live over a year,' it has survived that period, and is looking forward, animated with livelier hopes of brighter prospects than ever.... Posterity will do justice to our efforts."

(Cuts or illustrations appear for first time - C.C.W.)

("No. 2, Vol. II, EIGHTH MONTH, 1822. Whole No. 14.")
(Greenville, Tennessee. - W.F.R.)

President's address before the Manumission Society
of Tennessee, at Lost Creek Meeting House, 12th & 13th
days, August, 1822:

"This our eighth convention has now met for the
purpose of adopting the best measures for promoting the
great object of the Manumission Society of Tennessee which
is the gradual abolition of slavery in our country."

The president proposed the expediency of calling
on each society of Christians and each humane and benev-
olent institution as far as practicable to co-operate with
this Society in petitioning the Legislature and Congress
to pass laws for the gradual abolition of slavery....
He advocated caution in admitting slave-holders as
members.

(Signed) James Jones
Pres't. (S.C.W.)

John Coulson, Clk.

Thos. Doan, it was announced, has a prize poem:

"The Republic of Columbia," composed June, 1822. (S.C.W.)**

* * * *

John Swain was clerk of the Jefferson County
Branch (of Manumission Society of Tennessee). (S.C.W.)

* Copy of this issue in McClung Collection, Lawson
McChes Library, Knoxville, Tenn. Also has "Ninth Month,
1822" and "Tenth Month, 1822" - (W.F.R.).
** Doan's poem published in full in this issue. (W.F.R.)

("No. 3. Vol. II. NINTH MONTH, 1822. Whole No. 15")
(Greenville, Tennessee. - W.F.R.)

Proceedings 8th Annual Convention (at) Lost
Creek Meeting House, August, 1822.

In attendance were:

From Greene Branch,

John Marshall,
Sam'l McKees,
David Stauffer.

From Maryville,

David Delzell,
Aaron Hackney,
Andrew Cowan.

From Bethesda,

Isaiah Harrison.

From Hickory Valley,

John Coulson,
Wm. Rice.

From Holichucky,

Lawrence Earnest.

From Turkey Creek,

Wm. Milliken.

From Washington,

Jos. Tucker.

From French Broad,

Wm. Snoddy,
John McCrosky.

From Holston,

Jesse Lockhart,
James M. Campbell.

From Jefferson,

John Caldwell,
James Caldwell,
Elisha Hamner.

From Middle Creek,

John Bair. (and Kerr? - W.F.R.)

*Copy of this Issue in McClung Collection, Lawson
McGhee Library, Knoxville, Tenn. (W.F.R.)

EIGHTH MONTH, 15th, 1823 (GREENEVILLE, TENN. - W.F.R.)^e

Beaver Creek, Sullivan, Powell's Valley, Newport, and Knoxville were not represented.

James Jones elected President, Thos. Doan, Clerk, and Isa Gray, Treasurer.

474 members (were) reported outside of those branches not represented.

Robt. M. Anderson and Jesse Lockhart (were) appointed a committee to prepare (a) memorial to Congress.

Ninth Annual Meeting, (had a) list of branches represented; with Dumpling Cr(eek), Beaver Cr(eek), Carter's Sta(tion), Chestneys (as) new branches reported established.

* Chestna in lower East Tennessee. (S.C.W.)

* * * *

Delegates in attendance from Greeneville branch:

W. W. Woods,
B. Lundy,
*Francis A. McCorkle,
Isaiah Osborn,
Joseph B. McClellan,
Thos. Hoge,
P. W. Wilson.

* Pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Greeneville - a most valuable acquisition. (S.S.W.)
Benj Lundy, President
* W. W. Woods, Clerk (S.S.W.)

ISSUE OF 1823 (August) (VOL. III. 2nd ISSUE)

James Jones, President, announced the sending of an additional memorial to Congress, urging gradual emancipation of slaves, etc.

^eSee p. 29, "Letter" from Oberlin College Library, #1

SIXTH MONTH, 1854, (GREENEVILLE, TENN. - N.F.R.)e

The Editor Announced he is to Publish his last issue at Greeneville.

"It has been a leading object with me to divest the paper of local or sectional features, that it might circulate generally. The motives have been duly appreciated by my fellow-citizens, and its circulation has been extended to nearly every state in the Union. At the time when I commenced my editorial labors, I was sensible that one of the Atlantic Cities would be, by far, the most suitable place for publishing such a work as mine; and I had fully determined on Baltimore as soon as necessary arrangements could be made.

Finding that the Manumission Society of Tennessee had procured a press, for the purpose of exposing the pernicious effects of slavery and discussing the principles of the Genius of Universal Emancipation, I concluded it was my duty to undertake the work of editing that organ." Lundy then showed the insufficiency of the southern mail service; the mail bags got wet and papers injured.

The P. M. General had tried to remedy (the) evil.

eSee p. 59, "Letter" from Oberlin College Library, #2.

(OF THE MANUMISSION SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE)

"The favorable impressions made upon my mind by a knowledge of the virtuous sentiments of its members, a view of the noble stand they have taken, and the unshaken perseverance with which they have pursued their objects amidst the greatest discouragements, cannot soon be effaced from my memory. I shall ever be happy to consider myself a co-worker with them in the Christian Republican vineyard of Universal Emancipation.

(Signed) E. Lundy

The organ was afterward published in Baltimore.
(S.C.S.)

John Rankin, a member and delegate from Concord branch of the Kentucky Manumission Society, in 1821, ...
(S.C.S.)

Jacob Peck was Chairman of the Committee on Slavery of the Legislature of Tennessee in 1821.

Quoting from his report:

"Your committee begs leave to further state that very few cases have occurred where slaves have been, by being freed, charges on the county.

"It is worthy of the consideration of the legislature to examine into the policy of providing for the emancipation of those yet unborn. Liberty to the slave has occupied the research of the moral, philanthropic statesman of our own and other countries; a research into this principle extends wide into any soil whose root is perhaps dangerously interwoven with the liberty of the only free government."

Humane Protecting Society of Tennessee (was) announced; as existing on November 21, 1821.

The Public Library of the City of Boston

Boston 17, Massachusetts

1 November 1946

Mr. W. F. Rogers, Chairman
 Department History & Social Studies
 East Tennessee State College
 Johnson City, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Rogers:

In reply to your inquiry of 24 October 1946 you will find below the report of our assistant, Mr. Chas. L. Higgins of the General Reference Department.

Very truly yours,

Edward H. Redstone
 Supervisor in the
 Reference Division

1. We have examined the first twelve issues of "The Genius of universal emancipation" and on the basis of the evidence noted below, suggest that the first seven numbers were published in Mount Pleasant, Ohio. Beginning with volume 1, number 10 (fourth month, 1822) the journal was published in Greeneville, Green county, Tennessee.
2. Regarding volume 1, number 1 (seventh month, 1821) there is no direct statement that it was published in either place. However internal evidence points to Mount Pleasant. For example this statement is made on page 2 of volume 1, number 1 as part of a general introductory essay on the aims of the paper: "... if it be urged as an objection that it (the journal) is published in a State where slavery is not tolerated...." At this time, Ohio was a so-called "free" state. Various other items confirm this point of view.
3. In volume 1, number 2 (eighth month) we find a definite statement regarding place of publication. Here on page 31 under heading of "Terms of this paper" the following appears:

"The Genius of universal emancipation is published monthly in Mount Pleasant, Ohio, at one dollar per annum..."

4. This statement appears in various forms in each number until volume 1, number 8 is reached. In this number and in the succeeding number, no place of publication is noted. In volume 1, number 10 (fourth month, 1822) page 149, under heading of "Removal", notice is given that the magazine is now being published in Greeneville, East Tennessee. The notice reads as though the change had just been accomplished and no mention is made of any reason why the place of publication was omitted in the two previous numbers. Hence, while we have direct evidence that beginning with the fourth month, 1822, publication was done in Greeneville, there is nothing to indicate that the change from Mount Pleasant to Greeneville might not have occurred during the previous two months. Volume one, numbers 11-12 carry notice of publication in Greeneville.

5. The above estimate is borne out by a passage in the article on Benjamin Lundy in the "Dictionary of American biography", volume 11, page 507 as follows:

".... when Lundy returned to Mount Pleasant, (Ohio) he began publication, January, 1821, of a new paper, "The Genius of universal emancipation". After but a few issues, it was removed to Greeneville (sic) Tennessee, where it was published until the summer of 1824, when Lundy removed it to Baltimore ..."

6. You will note that the date set here for the first issue conflicts with the date on our copy of volume 1, number 1. Mott in his "History of American magazines, 1741-1850" on page 796 makes a similar statement, but in all other particulars his account conforms to the data noted above. Gregory's "Union list of serials" does not note the month of the first issue and while listing first place of publication as Mount Pleasant fails to note the removal to Greeneville, although later changes in place are noted.

7. While the exact month during which the first issue of this journal appeared is not material to the points you raise, we nonetheless note this seeming conflict. We regret that in the time at our disposal we are not able to undertake the research needed to resolve the difficulty. But we note that the issues we have examined fail to indicate that the date of volume 1, number 1 (seventh month, 1821) is not in fact the date of the first issue. No reference is made to any previous issue.

8. This position is strengthened by a pencilled note on the second preliminary leaf of our copy. The note is surmounted by the name "William Lloyd Garrison" and is signed by "F. J. Garrison". William Lloyd Garrison at one period helped Lundy in the editing of "The Genius ...". F. J. Garrison was the son of William Lloyd Garrison. The note reads:

"This set of the Genius of universal emancipation is complete from August 1821 to December 1826, inclusive, with the exception of the numbers for Sept. 6, 1828 - January 5, 1829 ..."

OSWALD COLLEGE LIBRARY
Oberlin, Ohio

December 6, 1946

Dear Sir:

Here is the information you desire from the Genius of Universal Emancipation.

(1) The account of the Ninth Annual Convention of the Emancipation Society of Tennessee appears in the issue for the Eighth Month, 15th, 1883. The Minutes give a list of the delegates and the branches they represent, together with a list of branches not represented. But I can nowhere find an account of new branches reported established, at least in this issue. In a subsequent number, Fourth Month, 1884, there is a brief paragraph about the number of existing branches, and here occurs a sentence to the effect that several new branches are about to be formed. But no clue is given concerning their location.

(2) Lundy's announcement that the paper is moving to Baltimore appears in the issue for the Sixth Month, 1884.

I hope that the above will answer your questions. If not, do not hesitate to write me again.

Faithfully yours,

JACK SANSON

Mr. W. F. Rogers, Chairman
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