

"The runaway slaves again," Maysville (KY) Campaign Flag, August 18, 1848  
<https://stampedes.dickinson.edu/document/maysville-ky-campaign-flag-runaway-slaves-again-august-18-1848>

**The Kentucky Flag.—Close of the Second year, &c.**

The present number (52) closes the second volume of this paper, since its establishment in Flemingsburg, in August, 1846; and we cannot permit the opportunity to pass, without returning to its patrons and friends our most profound and grateful acknowledgements for the many favors which we have received at their hands, during the brief period of our acquaintance.

When we look back and contemplate the difficulties which have been overcome, and the apparently insurmountable barriers which seemed to forbid the possibility of the permanent establishment of a democratic paper in Northern Kentucky, we are led to wonder how we have succeeded so well. It is, indeed, a matter of surprise to our political opponents, as well as to our friends, that a small democratic paper, established only two years ago, in the whig State of Kentucky, should have grown to the present size of the FLAG, and extended its circulation from 300 to 2000 copies, in so short a period; but it is nevertheless true, and if we shall meet with the same encouragement which has thus far been extended to us, we hope to be able to do even more than has yet been accomplished. It is our aim to progress in making improvements upon our paper and extending its circulation, until it shall not only be the *very best paper in the State, but have a more extensive circulation than any other*; and with the assistance of such friends as we have had, the work can soon be accomplished.

As a proof of the *value* of such a paper to the democratic party in Northern Kentucky, it is only necessary to point the impartial reader to the vote of the Northern counties the present year, and ask him to compare it with that of 1844.—The great increase has been occasioned by *something*, but by *what*, it does not become us to say. One thing, however, is certain—the progress of democratic principles will always be in proportion to the degree of light and knowledge which may be poured in upon the minds of the people; and we know of no better method of imparting these blessings, than to recommend every democrat, and honest and enquiring whig, to take, pay for, and read some good democratic newspaper.

We have seen the benefits resulting from this course, and can say that we know, *positively*, that it is the only plan which can be devised to refute the thousands of falsehoods put forth by the opposition, and the most certain and effectual plan to make democrats. The people want light upon the various questions which spring up between the parties, and there is no way of giving that light more readily, nor with less expense, than by taking some good and truth-telling democratic paper—one that will fearlessly contend for truth, justice and equal rights, and at the same time boldly charge upon the strong fortresses of the enemy.

If, instead of holding public meetings, spending money in riding over the country electioneering and making speeches, our leading men would devise some plan to place a good democratic paper in the hands of every man in the State, whiggery would soon lose a footing in its strong holds and democracy reign sovereign of the ascendant. Suppose, for instance, meetings of the democracy were called in every county throughout the State, at which resolutions should be passed that every man present would subscribe and pay for at least one paper every year; and if any should not be able to do *that*, some of his rich neighbors would do it for him, every man might soon be put in possession of more real and valuable information on the subject of politics and all other matters of interest, than he would be able to glean from all the *stump speeches* which have been delivered since the day of Pentecost. Beside this, he would save much time and money in obtaining his knowledge from reading, instead of seeking after it at public meetings where speeches are made, from the fact that the loss of *two days* labor is, in most cases, equivalent to the price of a paper. We merely drop these few desultory remarks for the consideration of our friends in all parts of the State, in the hope that, as they desire to witness the triumph of democratic principles, they will at once set about the good work; not that we desire

to profit by it ourselves, but that we desire to see old Kentucky fully and fairly unfettered from the galling chains of federal oppression, which have hitherto bound her.

But we have digressed from our subject—we began this article with a view to call the attention of our readers to the commencement of a new volume, and to solicit their aid in giving the FLAG a more extensive circulation. The new volume commences with the issue of the next number, and we do hope many active friends will take an interest in the matter. We wish to commence the new year with from 500 to 1000 new subscribers, and we know they can be had, with a little exertion upon the part of those who feel a deep and abiding interest in the success of the cause we advocate. The Flag has found its way into the remote parts of nearly all the western States, and we cannot see why it should not be found in every county throughout Kentucky. Democrats of Kentucky, will you not put forth your best efforts one time more, to swell the list!

Slave Stampedes on the Southern Borderlands

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