

Abbott, W[ilson] R.; et. al.

Great Anti-Slavery Meeting in Canada.

We learn with much pleasure from the *Toronto Globe*, that on February 27th, there was a glorious demonstration given in that city, against the diabolical system of slave-holding and slave-hunting, in the United States.

Down with the bloody system! bring down the execration of the whole civilized world against it, and the work is done!

The largest and most enthusiastic meeting we have ever seen in Toronto, was held in the City-Hall last night—his Worship the Mayor in the chair. The spacious Hall and the large gallery, shortly after the opening of the doors, were densely crowded, and many persons left from being unable to obtain places. The meeting was called to enable the citizens of Toronto to enter their protest against the manifold and unspeakable iniquities of Slavery, and a very interesting and effective demonstration it certainly was. The speaking was exceedingly good; we have a full report, but as the meeting did not rise until a late hour last night, we must postpone it till Saturday. Meanwhile we may state shortly the proceedings. Rev. Dr. Willis having opened the meeting with prayer, the first resolution was moved by Rev. Mr. McClure, seconded by Rev. Mr. Esson, and carried as follows.

1st.—That Slavery, that is, the wanton and forcible bringing into bondage, and retaining indefinitely in that state, of rational beings, is an outrage on the laws of humanity, and of the Bible; and that the continued existence of the practice on this continent is just cause of grief, and demands our best exertions by all lawful and practical means, for its extinction.

It was moved by Rev. Dr. Willis, seconded by Mr. Peter Brown and carried:—

2nd.—That, entertaining the feelings of brethren and friends to the inhabitants of the neighboring States, (in the most part united to us by a common origin and common language,) and disclaiming all desire to intermeddle officiously, with their internal affairs, we feel we but take the privilege of our common humanity in asserting that the Slavery enforced under their laws is not to be confounded with ordinary oppression, however severe, either political or domestic, civil, military, or naval; it is the forced servitude in perpetuity of the helpless poor, unaccused, untried, and uncondemned; imposed on them by a power which they cannot resist, supported by laws in which they have no voice. These laws are grievously aggravated by the Fugitive Slave Bill, are at open variance with the best interests of man, as endowed by our Great Creator with the privilege "of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."—privileges and rights always inalienable, except when forfeited by crime, charged and proved.

It was moved by Rev. Mr. Lille, seconded by Rev. Mr. Roaf, and carried:—

3rd —That this meeting heartily bids God-speed to the noble and ever-increasing band of Christians and Patriots in the United States—the truest friends, in this particular, of their country,—who publicly plead without fear or favor, the cause of their enslaved fellow-subjects, by all constitutional and Christian means, pursuing their object with singleness of aim, and not mixing it up with ulterior and irrelevant designs.

It was moved by Mr. Plummer, seconded by Rev. Mr. Geikie, and carried:—

4th.—That a Society be now formed, called “the Anti-Slavery Society of Canada,” the object of which shall be to aid in the extinction of Slavery, all over the world, by means exclusively lawful and peaceable, moral and religious, such as the diffusing of useful information and argument, by tracts, newspapers, lectures, and correspondence, and by manifesting sympathy with the houseless and homeless victims of Slavery flying to our soil.

It was moved by Captain Stuart, seconded by Mr. T. J. Short, and carried:—

5th.—That a Committee, now to be named, shall be appointed, with suitable officers, who shall conduct the business of the Society, have power to make by-laws, and shall meet on an early day for that purpose—three to be a quorum.

It was moved by Mr. Christie, and carried:—

6th.—That the Office Bearers consist of—

Rev. M. WILLIS, D. D., *President.*
 Rev. WILLIAM McCLURE, *Secretary.*
 Capt. CHARLES STUART, *Cor. Sec'y.*
 ANDREW HAMILTON, *Treasurer.*

COMMITTEE.

Samuel Alcorn,	Rev. A. Lillie,
W. R. Abbott,	O. Mowatt,
P. Brown,	Rev. John Roaf,
Rev. Dr. Burn,	John McMurrich,
Dr. Connor,	A. T. McCord,
George Brown,	Augus Morrison,
John Doel, Jr.,	John McNabb,
Rev. H. Esson,	G. P. Ridout,
James Foster,	J. Laidlaw,
Patrick Freeland,	Mr. Pea,
Rev. A. Geikie,	Rev. J. Pyper,
Thomas Henning,	T. J. Tyner,
James Lesslie,	J. Woodhouse,
John Shaw,	T. J. Short.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Roaf, a vote of thanks was carried by acclamation, to the Mayor, for his service as President. The Mayor returned thanks, and the meeting broke up at a late hour.