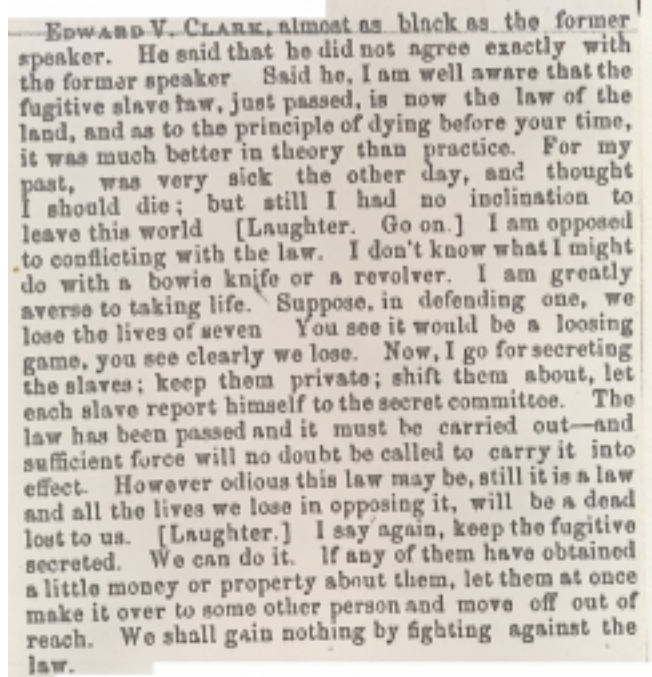


EDWARD V. CLARK, almost as black as the former speaker. He said that he did not agree exactly with the former speaker. Said he, I am well aware that the fugitive slave law, just passed, is now the law of the land, and as to the principle of dying before your time, it was much better in theory than practice. For my past, was very sick the other day, and thought I should die; but still I had no inclination to leave this world [Laughter. Go on.] I am opposed to conflicting with the law. I don't know what I might do with a bowie knife or a revolver. I am greatly averse to taking life. Suppose, in defending one, we lose the lives of seven. You see it would be a losing game, you see clearly we lose. Now, I go for secreting the slaves; keep them private; shift them about, let each slave report himself to the secret committee. The law has been passed and it must be carried out—and sufficient force will no doubt be called to carry it into effect. However odious this law may be, still it is a law and all the lives we lose in opposing it, will be a dead lost to us. [Laughter.] I say again, keep the fugitive secreted. We can do it. If any of them have obtained a little money or property about them, let them at once make it over to some other person and move off out of reach. We will gain nothing by fighting against the law.



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