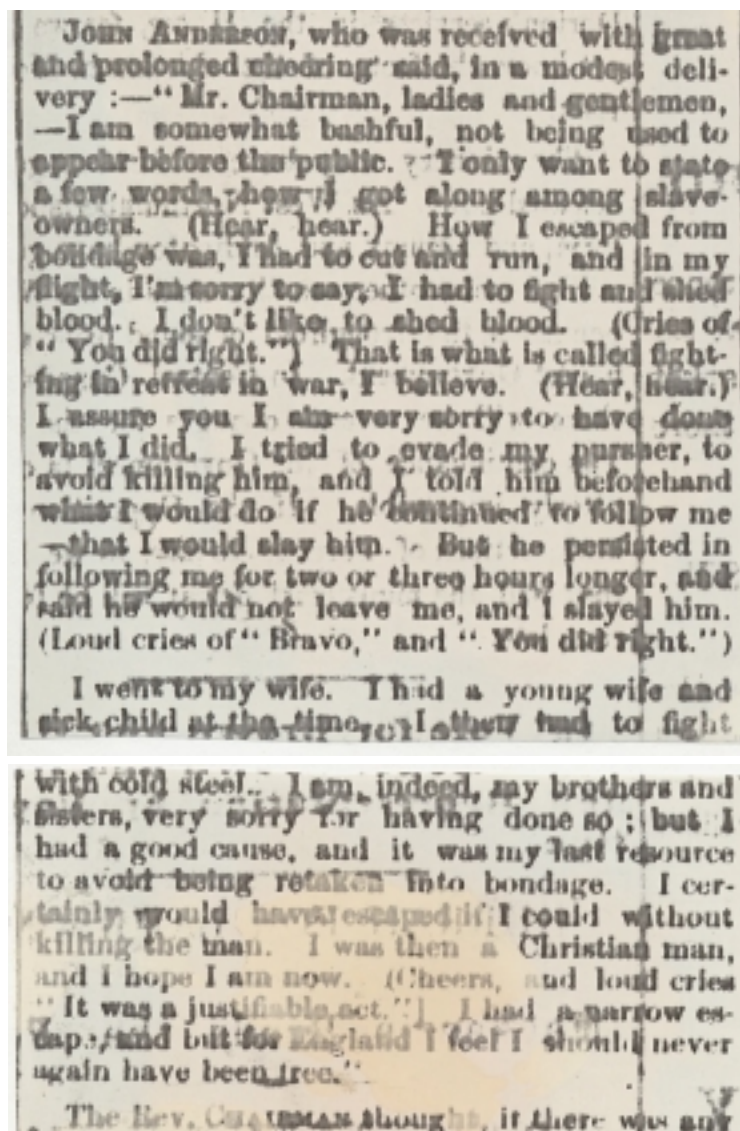


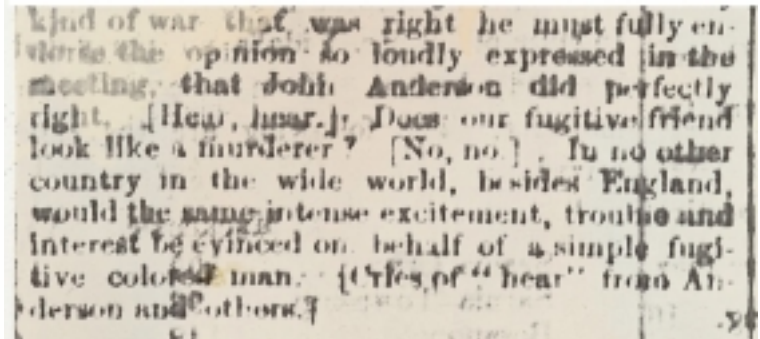
JOHN ANDERSON, who was received with great and prolonged cheering said, in a modest delivery:—“Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,—I am somewhat bashful, not being used to appear before the public. I only want to state a few words, how I got along among slave-owners. (Hear, hear.) How I escaped from bondage was, I had to cut and run, and in my flight, I’m sorry to say, I had to fight and shed blood. I don’t like to shed blood. (Cries of “You did right.”) That is what is called fighting in [retreat] in war, I believe. (Hear, hear.) I assure you I am very sorry to have done what I did. I tried to evade my pursuer, to avoid killing him, and I told him beforehand what I would do if he continued to follow me—that I would slay him. But he persisted in following me for two or three hours longer, and said he would not leave me, and I slayed him. (Loud cries of “Bravo,” and “You did right.”)

I went to my wife. I had a young wife and sick child at the time. I then had to fight with cold steel. I am, indeed, my brothers and sisters, very sorry for having done so; but I had a good cause, and it was my last resource to avoid being retaken into bondage. I certainly would have escaped if I could without killing the man. I was then a Christian man, and I hope I am now. (Cheers, and loud cries “It was a justifiable act.”) I had a narrow escape; and but for England I feel I should never again have been free.”

[The Rev. CHAIRMAN thought if there was any



kind of war that was right he must fully endorse the opinion so loudly expressed in the meeting, that John Anderson did perfectly right. [Hear, hear.] Does our fugitive friend look like a murderer? [No, no.] In no other country in the wide world, besides England, would the same intense excitement, trouble and interest be evinced on behalf of a simple fugitive colored man. [Cries of "hear" from Anderson and others.]



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