

EMANCIPATION.

A cotemporary asks: "Who has seen a single slave liberated! by the Proclamation?" In our State two regiments of colored soldiers have been raised for the army. At the time of the final issuance of the emancipation proclamation these colored soldiers were slaves in Missouri. In addition to the number who compose the First and Second colored regiments, we have over five thousand men, women and children among us who have escaped from slavery in the slaveholding States, and who are now enjoying that freedom guaranteed to them by the emancipation proclamation. And the number is daily increasing; not a night passes but that from ten to twenty-five slaves come across the Missouri river into the State of Kansas. The slave population in the border counties of Missouri has dwindled to almost nothing. Platte county, one of the most populous in slaves of any portion of the State, has become almost depopulated, and perhaps not a hundred days hence, in the whole county of Platte, there will be found a single slave. So much for the slave population in our immediate vicinity. We do not speak for other localities, but are assured that our armies are thronged with slaves of rebel masters, who escape to our lines for protection under the proclamation.

The same cotemporary also says that "slaves can only be legally liberated by force." Admitting that the argument has some force; the result shows that thousands of slaves have been liberated in the manner indicated as "the only legal one by which a slave can gain his freedom." But it will make but little difference whether slaves are *legally* liberated or whether they gain their freedom by force. The exodus in the border States has commenced, and will continue until not a single slave is left in bondage. So far as slavery is concerned in the Cotton States, the result of the war will settle the question of its continuance. If the President's proclamation is good for anything, it put an end to slavery in the States in rebellion at the time of its issuance. As soon as the Union forces shall occupy the States in rebellion, then will be an end to slavery. There should be no compromise with it. Let us conquer the rebellion by force of arms and as the war shall draw to a close and the rebellion is crushed out, let there be a year of jubilee for all the down trodden and oppressed throughout the length and breadth of our whole country.