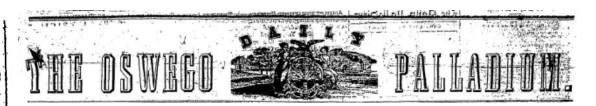
## Starr Clark: Forming County Anti-Slavery

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NE of the greatest evils, both natural and moral, with which our beloved country is afflicted, is slavery. That it is an increasing and threatening evil, is generally admitted. To this subject, in all its interesting aspects and relations, is the attention of our country being called at the present period. A variety of circumstances have conspired to bring it prominently before the American people. It claims their discussion and decision. It asks not, nor will the Genius of the land and age permit, a decision without discussion. When this engrossing subject shall have been fully discussed, and then only, will the people be prepared to act, and act right in relation to it. By the interchange of sentiment, and the exhibition of light and truth, we are fitted to act in important, and even difficult matters, and by concert of counsel and offort, become encouraged to engage in the most interesting enterprizes. The exigencies of the times call for this concert among us-Therefore the undersigned in the exercise of their rights as members of this community, without presuming to dictate to others, would respectfully invite a Convention of the citizens of the county of Oswego, who are friendly to the "Immediate Emancipation of the Slaves," to be held on Thursday the 8th of October next, at 10 o'clock, A. M. at Mexicoville, to consider the propriety of forming a County Anti Slavery



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Geo W Allen Thos C Baker Rev Ralph Robinson Wm Taylor Ard H Stevens A W Baker A Z McCarty Roswell Famran Alfred Wells Jno Remington Jas C Jackson Ephm Barnes John Gratton William Savage Eld Sam'l Davison Azel M. Law Levi Mitchell Wm Guile Clarke Beebee Abel M Law Joel Savage Hezekish Nichols Sabin Wood Cyrus L Head Artemas Wheeler Nathaniel Marvin Asa McNett Samuel Allen Daniel McNett Joseph Allen A J Savage H Schermerhorn William Goit Daniel Hitchcock Starr Clarke R H Doolittle Eld Wm Storrs Asa Scofield Wm L. Porter Benj Simmons Perry N Allen Chas Nichols Perry Allen Edwin W Clarke Cyrus Allen Moses Whitney Stephen Luce Edward Griffing Dr Stephen F Kinne Henry M Willis Chester R Wells C C Cooper Dr John G Aver H K Thurber

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## **Questions:**

- 1. The article mentions "discussion and decision". What did the group want to discuss and decide?
- 2. Where, and when, was the meeting going to be held?
- 3. What did the group want to form?
- 4. Because of the same surname, make a list of people who signed this letter who might be related to someone else on the list.
- 5. Use census data and directories to determine any relationship status between the members who signed this letter.
- 6. What group of people appears to be missing from the list.
- 7. Why do you think they are missing from this list?
- 8. Can you locate any more information about the Oswego County Anti-Slavery Society?

## For Further Research:

Hiram Bracev

Using a variety of means, select a name from the list above to research and discover more information about the person and his contributions to his community.

Possible resources include: connecting with the town or county historian, old church records, directories, census pages, newspapers (Friend of Man, Oswego county newspapers <a href="http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/#">http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/#</a>, etc.)