

Something about Pinchback.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial* tells what he claims to be the true story of Pinckney Bolton Steward Pinchback, of Louisiana. He says:

I am personally cognizant of many points of interest in the life of Mr. Pinchback, he having spent his youth and early manhood in our city (Cincinnati); but to make sure of my facts, I called upon his sister, who resides with her husband in the western part of the city, and compared her information with my own knowledge. To start at the beginning, she informs me that Governor Pinchback never was a slave. His mother was always a free woman, and by the laws of the South, the child followed the condition of the mother. Mrs. Steward, his mother, is still living. Her home is in Sidney, Ohio, though she is spending the winter at the home of her son in New Orleans. His father was named John Pinchback. He lived at first in Georgia, afterward in Mississippi, near Natchez. By Mrs. Steward he was the father of fifteen children, to whom he was a tender and loving parent. He sent Pinckney and his brother, Napoleon B. Steward, to this city about 1845, where they were educated in the Cincinnati High School, an academy established by the late Hiram S. Gilmore, and largely sustained by his munificence. When Mr. Pinchback died, his will, which he had made in favor of his colored children, was destroyed, and they were left to fight the world as best they might. They were already in the North, and here their mother still remains. The name of the subject of this sketch is Pinckney Bolton Steward Pinchback.

The family was generally known by the mother's name, Steward, until after the war, when Governor Pinchback assumed his father's name. Governor Pinchback was in the North in the first years of the war, and instead of assisting blockade-runners, cotton speculators, etc., was to my certain knowledge engaged in raising troops for the Union army. The arrest, which is so much dwelt upon by the enemies of Mr. Pinchback, was caused by an offense certainly regarded as venal in his section of the country. He quarreled with a man, and in the fight which ensued, cut him. As soon as circumstances permitted, under the call of General Butler, he raised a company of troops, and entered the service of the government, his rank being that of captain. His wife, an accomplished and refined lady, was a Miss Nina Barton. Her father was also a white man. These chivalric Southerners have a way of denouncing amalgamation at the North, where it rarely takes place unless under legal forms, and of cherishing it at the South, where it takes place under illegal forms. Mrs. Pinchback, although classed as a colored woman, is rather whiter and purer blooded than the average Louisianian.