Across the Border: A Transnational Approach to Teaching the Underground Railroad

Primary Document Reader


Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada

Canada
Sometimes standing on the Ohio River bluff, looking over on a free State, and as far north as my eyes could see, I have eagerly gazed upon the blue sky of the free North, which at times constrained me to cry out from the depths of my soul, Oh! Canada, sweet land of rest--Oh! When shall I get there? Oh, that I had the wings of a dove, that I might soar away to where there is no slavery; no clanking of chains, no captives, no lacerating of backs, no parting of husbands and wives; and where man ceases to be the property of his fellow man. These thoughts have revolved in my mind a thousand times. I have stood upon the lofty banks of the river Ohio, gazing upon the splendid steamboats, wafted with all their magnificence up and down the river, and I thought of the fishes of the water, the fowls of the air, the wild beasts of the forest, all appeared to be free, to go just where they pleased, and I was an unhappy slave!

_Henry Bibb, Sandwich, Canada West_

I was told before I left Virginia,--have heard it as common talk, that the wild geese were so numerous in Canada, and so bad, that they would scratch a man's eyes out; that corn wouldn't grow there, nor anything else but _rice_; that everything they had there was imported.

_Dan Josiah Lockhart, St. Catharines, Canada West_
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SLAVERY AND THE LAW IN UPPER CANADA (ONTARIO)*

An Act to prevent the further introduction of SLAVES, and to limit the Term of Contracts for SERVITUDE within this Province

33 George III, c. VII (Upper Canada)

* A Note on Terminology:

In 1793, Canada was made up of a series of separate colonies. Much of what is now Ontario was known as “Upper Canada” because of its position on the St. Lawrence River, relative to Quebec, or “Lower Canada.” In 1840, the Act of Union united Upper and Lower Canada into the province of Canada. Modern Ontario was called “Canada West” and Quebec “Canada East.” In 1867, the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick joined to form the “Dominion of Canada.”
An Act to prevent the further introduction of SLAVES, and to limit the Term of Contracts for SERVITUDE within this Province

[Assented to 9th July, 1793.]

Preamble.

Whereas it is unjust that a people who enjoy Freedom by Law should encourage the introduction of Slavery in this Province, and whereas it is highly expedient to abolish Slavery in this Province so far as the same may gradually be done without violating private property; Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, and by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of Upper Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under authority of and Act passed in the Parliament of Great-Britain, instituted, "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, instituted 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec, in North America, and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province," and by the authority of the same,

Recital of Act 30 Geo. III.

The Same in part repealed. Provisions against the further introduction of slaves.

Term of servitude by contract limited.

. That from and after the passing of this Act, so much of a certain Act of the Parliament of Great-Britain, passed in the thirtieth year of the His present Majesty, instituted "An Act for encouraging new settlers in His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in America." as may enable the Governor or Lieutenant Governor of this Province, heretofore parcel of His Majesty's Province of Quebec, to grant a licence for importing into the same any Negro or Negroes, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed; and that from and after the passing of this Act it shall not be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or other Person administering the Government of this Province, to grant a licence for the importation any Negro, or other person to be subjected to the condition of a Slave, or to a bounden involuntary service for life, into any part of the Province; nor shall any Negro, or other person who shall come or be brought into this Province after the passing of this Act be subject to the condition of a Slave, or to such service as aforesaid, within this Province, nor shall any voluntary contract of service or indentures that may be entered into by any parties within this Province, after the passing of this Act, be binding on them or either of them, for a longer time than a term of nine years, from the day of the date of such a contract.

The owners of slaves at present within the Province, confirmed in their property therein. Nothing herein to extend to contracts for service already made, not to parents and guardians.
II. Provided always, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend to liberate any Negro, or other person subjected to such service as aforesaid, or to discharge them or any of them from the possession of the owner thereof, his or her executors, administrators or assigns, who shall have come or been brought into the Province, in conformity to the conditions prescribed by any authority for that purpose exercised, or by any Ordinance or Law of the Province of Quebec, or by Proclamation of any His Majesty’s Governors of the said Province for the time being, or of any Act of the Parliament of Great Britain, or shall have otherwise come into the possession of any person, by gift, bequest or bona fide purchase before the passing of this Act, whose property therein is hereby confirmed, or to vacate or annul any contract for service that may heretofore have lawfully made and entered into, or to prevent parents or guardians from binding out children until they shall have obtained the age of twenty-one years.

The children that shall be born of female slaves, to remain in the service of the owner of their mother until the age of 25 years, when they shall be discharged.

Birth of the children of slaves to be recorded.

Penalty for neglecting or refusing to record the same.

III. And in order to prevent the continuation of Slavery within this Province, Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That immediately from and after the passing of this Act, every child that be born of a Negro mother, or other woman subjected to such service as aforesaid, shall abide and remain with the master or mistress in whose service the mother shall be living at the time of such child's birth, (unless such mother and child shall leave such service, by and with the consent of such master or mistress) and such master or mistress shall, and is hereby required to give proper nourishment and clothing [sic] to such child or children, and shall and may put such child or children to work, and shall and may retain him or her in their service, until every such child shall have attained the age of twenty-five years, at which time they and each of them shall be entitled to demand his or her discharge from and shall be discharged by such master or mistress, from any further service. And to the end that the age of such child or children may be more easily ascertained, the master or mistress of the mother thereof, shall and is hereby required, to cause the day of the birth of every such child as shall be born of a Negro or other mother subjected to the condition of a Slave, in their service as aforesaid, to be registered within three months after its birth, by the Clerk of the parish, township or place wherein such master or mistress reside, which Clerk shall be authorized to demand and receive the sum of one shilling, for registering the same. And in case any master or mistress shall refuse or neglect to cause such register to be made, within the time aforesaid, and shall be convicted thereof, either on his or her confession, or by the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, before any Justice of the Peace, he or she shall, for every such offence, forfeit and pay the sum of five pounds, to the public stock of the District.
Remedy against the undue detention of such children. Provision for the Issue of children of slaves.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in case any master or mistress shall detain any such child born in their service as aforesaid, after the passing of this Act, under any pretence whatever, after such Servant shall have attained the age of twenty-five years, except by virtue of a contract of service or indentures, duly and voluntarily executed, after such discharge as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for such Servant to apply for a discharge to any of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, who shall and is hereby required thereupon to issue a summons to such master or mistress to appear before him to shew cause, why such Servant should not be discharged, and the proof that such Servant is under the age of twenty-five years, shall rest upon and be adduced by the master or mistress of such Servant; otherwise it shall and may be lawful for the said Justice to discharge such Servant from such service as aforesaid, Provided always, That in case any issue shall be born of such children, during their infant servitude, or after, such issue shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of free born subjects.

Security to be given on liberating a slave.

V. And be it further enacted, That whenever any master or mistress [sic] shall liberate or release any person subject to the condition of a Slave from their service, they shall at the same time, give good and sufficient security to the Church or Town Wardens of the parish or township where they live, that the person so released by them shall not become chargeable to the same, or any other parish or township.

John Beverley Robinson, Attorney General, Upper Canada, giving an opinion to the Lieutenant Governor, York [Toronto], July 8, 1819:

May it please Your Excellency "In obedience to your Excellency’s commands I have purused the accompanying letter from C. C. Antrobus Esquire, His Majesty’s Chargé d’affaires at the Court of Washington and have attentively considered the question referred to me by Your Excellency therein – namely – ‘Whether the owners of several Negro slaves from the United States of America and are now resident in this Province’ and I beg to express most respectfully my opinion to Your Excellency that the Legislature of this Province having adopted the Law of England as the rule of decision in all questions relative to property and civil rights, and freedom of the person being the most important civil right protected by those laws, it follows that whatever may have been the condition of these Negroes in the Country to which they formerly belonged, here they are free – For the enjoyment of all civil rights consequent to a mere residence in the country and among them the right to personal freedom as acknowledged and protected by the Laws of
England in Cases similar to that under consideration, must notwithstanding any legislative enactment that may be thought to affect it, with which I am acquainted, be extended to these Negroes as well as to all others under His Majesty’s Government in this Province—

“The consequence is that should any attempt be made by any person to infringe upon this right in the persons of these Negroes, they would most probably call for, and could compel, the interference of those to whom the administration of our Laws is committed and I submit with the greatest deference to Your Excellency that it would not be in the power of the Executive Government in any manner to restrain or direct the Courts or Judges in the exercise of their duty upon such an application.

Library and Archives Canada, Upper Canada Sundries, 1819

NOTE: Attorney General John Beverley Robinson (1761-1863) is referring to the decision of Lord Mansfield in the Somerset Case, tried in London, England in 1772. An enslaved man named James Somersett had been brought to Britain by his owner in 1769. He escaped in 1771, and was captured and imprisoned on a ship on the Thames River, preparatory to being shipped to Jamaica for sale.

Abolitionists brought the case to trial before William Murray, Lord Mansfield. Mansfield famously ruled that since there was no British law legalizing slavery, and since slavery was so “odious” that only a positive law could actually make it legal in Britain, Somersett had to be set free.

Mansfield’s ruling did not apply outside Britain, but Attorney General John Beverley Robinson decided that it also had the force of law in the colony of Upper Canada (modern Ontario). Since he was Attorney General and then Chief Justice of Upper Canada (and then of Canada West) for almost the entire period between the War of 1812 and the outbreak of the American Civil War, his decision was never challenged.

Lieutenant Governor Simcoe’s legislation, coupled with Robinson’s 1819 decision, meant that thousands of freedom-seekers would have legal protection once they arrived in Upper Canada. Thus what is now Ontario became the main terminus of the Underground Railroad.

Lieutenant Governor Sir John Colborne’s Response to a request from Cincinnati Black Leaders to establish a settlement in Upper Canada, 1829

“Tell the Republicans on your side of the line that we royalists do not know men by their color. Should you come to us you will be entitled to all the privileges of the rest of His Majesty’s subjects.”
Narratives of Freedom-Seekers in Canada

American abolitionist Benjamin Drew visited Canada West (Ontario) in about 1855. He visited the cities, towns and farming communities of the province where formerly enslaved African Americans had settled. His purpose was to collect their stories, and examine the condition of such settlements. He asked a series of similar questions to each of the individuals he interviewed.

These accounts were published along with an extensive description of the settlement in which they resided, in a volume entitled: A North-Side View of Slavery. The Refugee: or the Narratives of Fugitive Slaves in Canada, Narrated by Themselves, With an Account of the History and Condition of the Colored Population of Upper Canada (Boston: John P. Jewett & Co., 1856). It is available online at:

http://docsouth.unc.edu/neh/drew/drew.html

Harriet Tubman’s is very short, but some narratives continue for many pages.

TORONTO (94-117)

THE population of this wealthy, enterprising, and beautiful city is estimated at forty-seven thousand, of whom about one thousand are colored persons. Of these no separate count is made in taking the census. The greater part of the colored people reside in the north-western section of the city. Their houses resemble those of the same class of persons in St. Catharines: but as they have not generally so extensive gardens, more time can be allotted to the beautifying and general care of their dwellings than in St. Catharines.

Many of the colored people own the houses in which they dwell, and some have acquired valuable estates. No distinction exists in Toronto, in regard to school privileges. One of the students in the Normal School was a fugitive slave, and colored youths are attending lectures in the University. There are three churches exclusively belonging to the colored people—a Baptist and two Methodist churches. They are excluded, however, from none of the churches, and in all of them a few of the African race may be found.

The colored people in Toronto are, on the whole, remarkably industrious. Their condition is such as to gratify the philanthropist, and to afford encouragement to the friends of emancipation everywhere. A portion of them sustain a lyceum or debating club (which is attended by both sexes) where debates are held, and original essays are read. A large majority of the adult colored people are refugees from the South. Several of these furnished their testimony in regard to the institution under whose fostering care they were reared. They gave their statements readily and with every appearance of truth. Their evidence is as reliable as any which can be obtained. No longer dreading the lash, they are free to utter their real sentiments, and to communicate their actual experiences. Some of the details would appear too shocking for credence, were it not admitted on all hands, that the only limit to the cruelty of a mean, ill-tempered, virtually irresponsible tyrant, is the capacity for suffering with which the victims of his malignity may be endowed.
Those who have been most cruelly treated and unjustly used, are most likely to undertake an escape. Those who have succeeded in the undertaking, therefore, may fairly be expected to give a very dark picture. Ought slavery then, as a whole, to be condemned by the evidence they present? We answer, that every slave is liable to the same maltreatment and abuse from which the fugitives in Canada have escaped; and that an institution which holds such liabilities over the heads of millions, and inflicts the most enormous evils on many thousands, might as well be set aside.

Again, in forming a judgment of slavery as to its merits and demerits, this testimony should receive at least as much weight as a class of anecdotes so readily chronicled, and so widely circulated, of individual slaves who have manifested great attachment to their masters, or refused to receive their freedom. The excellence of pious masters who exhort and pray with their slaves from the best of motives, is also deemed worthy of record; and if from such anecdotes, of slaves loving slavery, and of the kindness of some masters, inferences are drawn favorable to the continuance of slavery, facts of the opposite class, although it is a more ungrateful task to expose them, ought also to be fully stated, lest humanity and benevolence be lulled to sleep over evils which they should do their utmost to remove.

Let it not be understood, however, that in this work we intend to make a selection of the most atrocious cases of abuse. Any instances of kind, self-sacrificing masters, or humane, benevolent overseers, will be mentioned at greater length and in greater fulness than those of opposite character, to relieve, if possible, the canvas which truth is reluctantly obliged to crowd "with bitter and with black."

What is here incidentally said in regard to the narratives of the fugitives in Toronto, applies with equal force to all statements of fugitives in Canada West in this work.

HARRIET TUBMAN (St. Catharines, Canada West)

I grew up like a neglected weed,—ignorant of liberty, having no experience of it. Then I was not happy or contented: every time I saw a white man I was afraid of being carried away. I had two sisters carried away in a chain-gang,—one of them left two children. We were always uneasy. Now I've been free, I know what a dreadful condition slavery is. I have seen hundreds of escaped slaves, but I never saw one who was willing to go back and be a slave. I have no opportunity to see my friends in my native land. We would rather stay in our native land, if we could be as free there as we are here. I think slavery is the next thing to hell. If a person would send another into bondage, he would, it appears to me, be bad enough to send him into hell, if he could.

HENRY WILLIAMSON (Hamilton, Canada West)

I came from the State of Maryland, where I was a slave from birth until thirty-three years of age, in a small town.
Around that part of the country, the slaves are better treated than in some other parts because they are so near the line. They are better used than they were a few years ago. I was taught to read but not to write I used to tell my boss that I wouldn't stand such treatment as the people got on some farms. He used to laugh and say "you wouldn't, eh?" There was one Gen.--had a slave, and it was town talk, that his overseer, by his order, dug a hole in the ground, and set a man in it as if he had been a post, and then cut him so badly with a whip that he died in about half an hour.

My father was sold about twelve years ago, and taken west. About two years ago, I came away because I wanted to be free. The circumstances were these. I had then been married about ten years. My wife's sister was sold at private sale to a trader to go south, and was carried away. Her father and mother were dissatisfied with this, and concluded to go to Canada. I concluded to start with them with my family. In all eighteen of us came away at one time. We were more troubled on the way from want of money than from any other cause.

Those who came out with me, are scattered in various parts of Canada. I have heard from them and they are doing well. We came like terrapins,--all we had on our backs. We took a house together when we came,--the house was bare of furniture: there was nothing in it at all. We had neither money nor food. It was in the fall: we gathered chips and made a fire. That is the way the principal part of our people come: poor, and destitute, and ignorant, their minds uncultivated, and so they are not fitted for business. In the face of these drawbacks, they have to do the best they can. I went to work on a railroad,--to which I was wholly unused, having been a waiter. I worked at it till I found something I could do better. I enjoy better health here than I ever did before in my life.

I heard when I was coming that Canada was a cold and dreary country; but it is as healthy a place as a man can find. The colored people tell me the climate agrees with them, and I do know it is so.

Some of our people are very jealous of the white people. If they approach them with the best intentions in the world, they are suspicious, and will not communicate anything, even if it were to their own benefit. This is because they have been so much deceived and kept down by the white people. I have seen people who had run away, brought back tied, like sheep, in a wagon. Men have told me, that when making their escape, they have been accosted, invited into a house in a friendly way, and, next thing, some officer or their owner would be there. The lowest class of people do this to get money,--men who might get an honest living,--some having good education, and some good trades.

Others who owned servants used to find fault with my master and mistress for using us so well. They did use us well, and I would not have left them only for the love of liberty. I felt that I was better off than many that were slaves, but I felt that I had a right to be free.

In all places and among all kinds of men there are some loafing characters: so with my color. Some few of them get in with poor, low, white young men, and get into bad ways. But the better part are disposed to elevate themselves.
I am a member of the Methodist church, having had good religious instruction from Bible and catechism from my youth up.

I have heard that my master has set his older slaves free.

Contrasting what I feel now and what I was in the south, I feel as if a weight were off me. Nothing would induce me to go back,--nothing would carry me back. I would rather be wholly poor and be free, than to have all I could wish and be a slave. I am now in a good situation and doing well,--I am learning to write.

MRS. CHRISTOPHER HAMILTON (London, Canada West)

I left Mississippi about fourteen years ago. I was raised a house servant, and was well used,--but I saw and heard a great deal of the cruelty of slavery. I saw more than I wanted to--I never want to see so much again. The slaveholders say their slaves are better off than if they were free, and that they prefer slavery to freedom. I do not, and never saw one that wished to go back. It would be a hard trial to make me a slave again. I had rather live in Canada, on one potato a day, than to live in the South with all the wealth they have got. I am now my own mistress, and need not work when I am sick. I can do my own thinking, without having any one to think for me,--to tell me when to come, what to do, and to sell me when they get ready. I wish I could have my relatives here. I might say a great deal more against slavery--nothing for it.

The people who raised me failed; they borrowed money and mortgaged me. I went to live with people whose ways did not suit me, and I thought it best to come to Canada, and live as I pleased.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON (London, Canada West)

I was brought up in St. Louis, Mo.,--was not very badly used, except that I was not taught to read nor write,--I was not used well enough to stay there. I have seen many very badly used, and many sent down the river to the south. It was a common thing to take off a drove for a cotton farm. I never heard that it was intended to sell me; but I knew it might be so, and I thought I would make hay while the sun shone. I left St. Louis in '34, at the age of about eighteen. We don't know our ages exactly.

I knew one man to cut off the fingers of his left hand with an axe, to prevent his being sold South. I knew of another who on hearing that he was sold shot himself: I saw physicians dissecting this man afterward. I knew of a woman who had several children by her master, who on being sold, ran down to the river and drowned herself: I saw the body after it was taken from the water.

I think that God made all men to be free and equal,--not one to be a slave. Other nations have abolished slavery, and there is no reason why the United States cannot do the same thing. We would many of us like to live in the United States were it not for slavery.
Many separations I have seen,—dragging husbands from wives, children from their mother, and sending them where they could not expect to see each other again.

I reached Canada in 1834. I had only a dollar and a half. I had no need to beg, for I found work at once. I have done well since I came here: have made a good living and something more. I own real estate in London,—three houses and several lots of land. It is a healthy country--Canada.

The colored people in London are all making a living: there is no beggar among them. Some of us would like to live in the South if slavery was done away with, and the laws were right. I am naturalized here, and have all the rights and privileges of a British subject.

**MRS. HENRY BRANT (Sandwich, Upper Canada)**

I am from Maryland. I suffered the worst kind of usage: that of being held as a slave.

I was fortunately among those who did not beat and bruise me. I was gambled off to a trader by my owner. I made such a fuss, (and the people told him 't was a shame to let me go to a trader,—that I was too good a girl for that, having taken care of him in sickness,—that I ought to have had a chance to find someone to buy me,) that he felt ashamed of what he had done, and bought me back. Then he gave me a chance to buy myself,—gave me one year to pay $270: before the year was out, I offered him $150 in part payment,—he wouldn't take that unless I'd pay all. I then asked him, would he take that, and security for $120, payable six months after, and give me my papers down. He refused. Then I said to myself, "If you won't take that, you shan't take any." I started for Canada, and travelled in style,—he couldn't take me.

My sister was a free-woman. She was to buy me, and pay $270, and I was to be the security. But he overreached himself: for he drew the paper in such a way, that he could not get the money of my sister. Had I overstayed the year, I would never have seen Canada; for then I would have been carried back to the eastern shore.

One thing which makes it bad about getting our children into school here is, we are so near Detroit. The people here would feel ashamed to have the Detroit people know that they sent the white into the same school with the colored. I have heard this from a white woman.

William and Ellen Craft escaped from slavery in Georgia by an ingenious ruse. Ellen Craft was very light-skinned, so she dressed in the clothing of a young man, tied up her face as if she was injured, to hide the fact that she had no beard. She also wore sling suggesting her arm was injured to disguise the fact that she could not write. Setting off on December 21, 1848, Ellen traveled as a young male slaveholder accompanied by his enslaved servant, who was really her husband, William. Eight days later they arrived on free soil. They settled in Boston, where they remained for two years.

However, in 1850 the US Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Law. Much harsher than previous legislation, it empowered slaveholders and their agents to seek out their fugitive “property” anywhere in the US, and greatly increased penalties for assisting in slave escapes. Local constables and judges were required to assist in the recovery of fugitives, and special commissioners were also appointed for this purpose. The sum of $10 was awarded a judge who decided on behalf of the slaveholder, and only $5 if he judged the accused fugitive legally free. Black Americans could not testify against whites in a court of law and even free people were sometimes captured and sold away under the legislation.

The Crafts who were living in Boston were claimed by their former owners. Affidavits were placed in the hands of US Marshalls. Slave catchers also chased the couple, but were discouraged from proceeding with their arrest by the weight of public opinion. In the face of this danger, William and Ellen Craft made plans to flee the US entirely. The Vigilance Committee arranged for their travel to St. John, New Brunswick, and from there to Halifax, Nova Scotia. At Halifax the Crafts would take ship for England, where their safety was assured.

**The Crafts in Maritime Canada**

**Preface**

HAVING heard while in Slavery that "God made of one blood all nations of men," and also that the American Declaration of Independence says, that "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these, are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;" we could not understand by what right we were held as "chattels." Therefore, we felt perfectly justified in undertaking the dangerous and exciting task of "running a thousand miles" in order to obtain those rights which are so vividly set forth in the Declaration. . . .
We finally got off to St. John’s, New Brunswick, where we had to wait two days for the steamer that conveyed us to Windsor, Nova Scotia.

On going into a hotel at St. John’s, we met the butler in the hall, to whom I said, "We wish to stop here to-night." He turned round, scratching his head, evidently much put about. But thinking that my wife was white, he replied, "We have plenty of room for the lady, but I don’t know about yourself; we never take in coloured folks." "Oh, don't trouble about me," I said; "if you have room for the lady, that will do; so please have the luggage taken to a bed-room." Which was immediately done, and my wife went upstairs into the apartment.

After taking a little walk in the town, I returned, and asked to see the "lady." On being conducted to the little sitting-room, where she then was, I entered without knocking, much to the surprise of the whole house." The "lady" then rang the bell, and ordered dinner for two. "Dinner for two, mum!" exclaimed the waiter, as he backed out of the door. "Yes, for two," said my wife. In a little while the stout, red-nosed butler, whom we first met, knocked at the door. I called out, "Come in." On entering, he rolled his whisky eyes at me, and then at my wife, and said, in a very solemn tone, "Did you order dinner for two, mum?" "Yes, for two," my wife again replied. This confused the chubby butler more than ever; and, as the landlord was not in the house, he seemed at a loss what to do.

When dinner was ready, the maid came in and said, "Please mum, the Missis wishes to know whether you will have dinner up now, or wait till your friend arrives?" "I will have it up at once, if you please." "Thank you, mum," continued the maid, and out she glided.

After a good deal of giggling in the passage, some one said, "You are in for it, butler, after all; so you had better make the best of a bad job." But before dinner was sent up, the landlord returned, and having heard from the steward of the steamer by which we came that we were bound for England, the proprietor's native country, he treated us in the most respectful manner.

At the above house, the boots (whose name I forget) was a fugitive slave, a very intelligent and active man, about forty-five years of age. Soon after his marriage, while in slavery, his bride was sold away from him, and he could never learn where the poor creature dwelt. So after remaining single for many years, both before and after his escape, and never expecting to see again, nor even to hear from, his long-lost partner, he finally married a woman at St. John’s. But, poor fellow, as he was passing down the street one day, he met a woman; at the first glance they nearly recognized each other; they both turned round and stared, and unconsciously advanced, till she screamed and flew into his arms. Her first words were, "Dear, are you married?" On his answering in the affirmative, she shrank from his embrace, hung her head, and wept. A person who witnessed this meeting told me it was most affecting.

This couple knew nothing of each other’s escape or whereabouts. The woman had escaped a few years before to the free States, by secreting herself in the hold of a vessel; but as they tried to get her back to bondage, she fled to New Brunswick for that protection which her native country was too mean to afford.
The man at once took his old wife to see his new one, who was also a fugitive slave, and as they all knew the workings of the infamous system of slavery, they could (as no one else can,) sympathise with each other's misfortune.

According to the rules of slavery, the man and his first wife were already divorced, but not morally; and therefore it was arranged between the three that he should live only with the lastly married wife, and allow the other one so much a week, as long she requested his assistance. After staying at St. John's two days, the steamer arrived, which took us to Windsor, where we found a coach bound for Halifax. Prejudice against colour forced me on the top in the rain. On arriving within about seven miles of the town, the coach broke down and was upset. I fell upon the big crotchety driver, whose head stuck in the mud; and as he "always objected to niggers riding inside with white folks," I was not particularly sorry to see him deeper in the mire than myself. All of us were scratched and bruised more or less. After the passengers had crawled out as best they could, we all set off, and paddled through the deep mud and cold and rain, to Halifax.

On leaving Boston, it was our intention to reach Halifax at least two or three days before the steamer from Boston touched there, en route for Liverpool; but, having been detained so long at Portland and St. John's, we had the misfortune to arrive at Halifax at dark, just two hours after the steamer had gone; consequently we had to wait there a fortnight, for the Cambria.

The coach was patched up, and reached Halifax with the luggage, soon after the passengers arrived. The only respectable hotel that was then in the town had suspended business, and was closed; so we went to the inn, opposite the market, where the coach stopped: a most miserable, dirty hole it was.

Knowing that we were still under the influence of the low Yankee prejudice, I sent my wife in with the other passengers, to engage a bed for herself and husband. I stopped outside in the rain till the coach came up. If I had gone in and asked for a bed they would have been quite full. But as they thought my wife was white, she had no difficulty in securing apartments, into which the luggage was afterwards carried. The landlady, observing that I took an interest in the baggage, became somewhat uneasy, and went into my wife's room, and said to her, "Do you know the dark man downstairs?" "Yes, he is my husband." "Oh! I mean the black man--the nigger?" "I quite understand you; he is my husband." "My God!" exclaimed the woman as she flounced out and banged to the door. On going upstairs, I heard what had taken place: but, as we were there, and did not mean to leave that night, we did not disturb ourselves. On our ordering tea, the landlady sent word back to say that we must take it in the kitchen, or in our bed-room, as she had no other room for "niggers." We replied that we were not particular, and that they could send it up to our room,--which they did.

After the pro-slavery persons who were staying there heard that we were in, the whole house became agitated, and all sorts of oaths and fearful threats were heaped upon the "d--d niggers, for coming among white folks." Some of them said they would not stop there a minute if there was another house to go to.
The mistress came up the next morning to know how long we wished to stop. We said a fortnight. "Oh! dear me, it is impossible for us to accommodate you, and I think you had better go: you must understand, I have no prejudice myself; I think a good deal of the coloured people, and have always been their friend; but if you stop here we shall lose all our customers, which we can't do no-how." We said we were glad to hear that she had "no prejudice," and was such a staunch friend to the coloured people. We also informed her that we would be sorry for her "customers" to leave on our account; and as it was not our intention to interfere with anyone, it was foolish for them to be frightened away. However, if she would get us a comfortable place, we would be glad to leave. The landlady said she would go out and try. After spending the whole morning in canvassing the town, she came to our room and said, "I have been from one end of the place to the other, but everybody is full." Having a little foretaste of the vulgar prejudice of the town, we did not wonder at this result. However, the landlady gave me the address of some respectable coloured families, whom she thought, "under the circumstances," might be induced to take us. And, as we were not at all comfortable--being compelled to sit, eat and sleep, in the same small room--we were quite willing to change our quarters.

I called upon the Rev. Mr. Cannady, a truly good-hearted Christian man, who received us at a word; and both he and his kind lady treated us handsomely, and for a nominal charge.

My wife and myself were both unwell when we left Boston, and, having taken fresh cold on the journey to Halifax, we were laid up there under the doctor's care, nearly the whole fortnight. I had much worry about getting tickets, for they baffled us shamefully at the Cunard office. They at first said that they did not book till the steamer came; which was not the fact. When I called again, they said they knew the steamer would come full from Boston, and therefore we had "better try to get to Liverpool by other means." Other mean Yankee excuses were made; and it was not till an influential gentleman, to whom Mr. Francis Jackson, of Boston, kindly gave us a letter, went and rebuked them, that we were able to secure our tickets. So when we went on board my wife was very poorly, and was also so ill on the voyage that I did not believe she could live to see Liverpool.

However, I am thankful to say she arrived; and, after laying up at Liverpool very ill for two or three weeks, gradually recovered.

It was not until we stepped upon the shore at Liverpool that we were free from every slavish fear.

We raised our thankful hearts to Heaven, and could have knelt down, like the Neapolitan exiles, and kissed the soil; for we felt that from slavery

"Heaven sure had kept this spot of earth uncurs'd,
    To show how all things were created first."

In a few days after we landed, the Rev. Francis Bishop and his lady came and invited us to be their guests; to whose unlimited kindness and watchful care my wife owes, in a great degree, her restoration to health.
in the development of a new hydroelectric project. The company, having acquired the necessary permits, is now proceeding with the construction of the dam and power plant. The project is estimated to cost $5 million and will provide electricity for the surrounding area.

The project is expected to create over 200 jobs and will be completed within two years. The company has invested heavily in renewable energy technologies and aims to produce 100% clean energy.

The project is supported by the local government, which has provided tax incentives and grants to encourage development.

In the meantime, the company is continuing to explore other opportunities in the region, with a focus on sustainable development and community engagement.

The company's commitment to environmental sustainability is reflected in its ongoing efforts to reduce its carbon footprint and promote eco-friendly practices. The project is expected to have a significant impact on the local economy and will serve as a model for future renewable energy projects in the region.
19

WANTED TO HIRE—A young lady, a servant of about 15 or 16 years of age. Apply at the Regent or写点什么，位于雷根多街，约半英里外。

THOS. JENSEN

NOTICE.—By virtue of the last will and testament of John Stout, deceased, now on deposit at New Kent Courthouse, on the 12th Tuesday in February next, I, W. New, the last executor of the will, do hereby publish notice, according to the rules of the said will, of the time and place of the sale of the estate of said John Stout, deceased, to be held at the said New Kent Courthouse, on the second Thursday in May next, at 12 o'clock, and at such time, and also upon the premises now belonging to the said John Stout, deceased, in New Kent County, at the place of sale, it being understood that the said John Stout, deceased, died intestate, and that all persons interested in the premises are hereby required to appear at the time and place appointed for the sale, and to make all necessary claims for the same, and that the sale will proceed to the extirpation of the estate of the said John Stout, deceased.

D. S. ALEXANDER, Executor.

NOTICE.—I hereby certify, that the estate of John R. Parratt is now about to be settled, and that all persons interested in the said estate are hereby required to appear at the time and place appointed for the settlement of the said estate, and to make all necessary claims for the same, and that the settlement will proceed to the extirpation of the estate of the said John R. Parratt.

D. S. ALEXANDER, Executor.

$100 REWARD.—For the recovery of the horse belonging to the subscriber, on the premises of said subscriber, in the town of Fincastle, on the 16th day of January next, the horse was last seen on the said premises at 9 o'clock in the evening, and is believed to be a large, black, shaggy, long-haired horse, with a white mark on the forehead. Any person who shall return the said horse, or any part thereof, to the subscriber, shall be rewarded with the sum of $100. Any person who shall aid or abet in the recovery of the said horse, or any part thereof, shall be guilty of fraudulent homicide, and shall be punished accordingly.

E. B. SPRAGUE, Fincastle,

FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT—The Circuit Court of Grey County, on Monday, the 12th day of October next, will be held in the town of Greyville, for the purpose of hearing and determining the various cases pending before the court, and the proceedings thereof shall be reported in the Greyville Gazette.

OF DELEGATES—Mr. Tallent moved the appointment of a committee of five persons to report on the subject of the election of a delegate to the Legislature of the State, and the committee was appointed as follows:

1. MR. J. B. WRIGHT
2. MR. J. W. SMITH
3. MR. J. W. BROWN
4. MR. J. W. HARRIS
5. MR. J. W. BACON

In the afternoon of the 12th day of October next, the Legislature of the State will be in session, and the committee is hereby requested to report the same as soon as possible.

L. B. SPRAGUE, WEAVERVILLE

IN FT. NASHVILLE WHIP COPY WEEKLY TWICE AND CHARGE $5.

In Fincastle Courthouse, December 24th, 1850,

Frederick B. Harris and Thomas H. Harris,

PLAINTER.

To the Subscriber:

The subscriber, having been appointed by the proper authorities, do hereby give notice, that he will hear and determine all cases pending before the court, and that the subscriber is hereby requested to report the same as soon as possible.

J. W. SMITH, WEAVERVILLE.

IN CHANCERY.

The object of this suit is to have the premises, belonging to the estate of the said William O. Harris, among others, transferred to the subscriber. The premises are described as follows: a tract of land, bounded on the north by the road, on the south by the street, on the east by the river, and on the west by the lake.

This case is submitted to the subscriber, who will have the premises conveyed to the subscriber, and the subscriber to the premises, and the subscriber to the subscriber.

D. B. HARRIS.

NEW LAW BOOKS—MORRIS & PRO.

In Fincastle Courthouse, December 24th, 1850,

Henry W. Quinlan,

20
Crew of the captured vessel afterwards
beacn holed in jail. This vessel was to
and sold. —"Staten Freeman.
—The Nashville Banner of the Statate
condemned for Congress and the Assembly
(audacious the State, and that there was
to anticipate an old fashioned triumph for
y of the city of New York to be enlarged
500 acres 3 rods and 36 poles to the present ex-
out at a cost of $27,712. The present size of
1 square 3 rods 36 poles and the
was 24 acres.
—The Washington Gazette of the 29th ult.
to learn that a man by the name of Harden
man, accused of murdering Mr. Smith and
other crimes, (a detailed account of which
were number of our paper) were hung
thereby, under the authority of Lynch

PENNSYLVANIA.—A mine has recently been
10,000 feet from Philadelphia, Chester Co.,
about 33 ounces of pure silver to the ton.
the Rotheschild is said to be John An-
be worth seven millions sterling. The ag-
tal employed by the Rotheschild in their
mines, is computed to be worth 20 millions ster-

PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.—Oconom庭
ward.—Mary King against Miles Smith
bargains for breach of promise of marriage,
are ordered peremptory, defendant owning real
jury referred to. —Verdict for plaintiff $1,000.
N. Y. Express.

DIED.
in life on Monday morning, at half past 9 o'clock,
HELEN, the youngest daughter of Peter and
and aged 16 years and 21 days
and unpleasantness are requested to attend the
the widow's residence at 10 o'clock, without further.
father's residence, at the extreme end of Clay
Loco Run and Clipper please copy.

OF MUNCIE & CO., ask the attention of
their friends at the wholesale and retail.
OF BALTIMORE AND PHIL.
ADELPHIA.—The PHOENIX, Capt. Barnum,
will receive freight till 2 P.M. for the above
LUDGAM & WATSON.

OF PHILADELPHIA.—The steamer
PENNSYLVANIA, Capt. Barnum,
will receive freight on Monday afternoon and positively
ended by the 24th inst. For freight or passage,
of State's orders, apply to
HAINES & WHITLOCK.

BOOKS, of all kinds, Manufacture, may be had
of all sizes and qualities, made to order, by
J. W. RANDOLPH.

LAND FOR SALE IN GOODCHILL.—The
subscribers, intending to remove to Alabama, will offer
for sale, at Goodchill Court House, on Monday, the 1st
August next, 200 acres, 3 rods and 36 poles; the present ex-
out at a cost of $27,712. The present size of
1 square 3 rods 36 poles and the
was 24 acres.
—The Washington Gazette of the 29th ult.
to learn that a man by the name of Harden
man, accused of murdering Mr. Smith and
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JOHN H. CLAIBORNE.

ROSIN.—40 bbls. for sale by

DAVENPORT. ALLEN & CO.

COFFEE.—360 bags Rio, for sale by

DAVENPORT. ALLEN & CO.

WANTED.—A female House Servant.

One accustomed to milking preferred.

JOHN H. CLAIBORNE.

$100 REWARD.— Runaway from the subscriber, on Wednesday, 23rd instant, a young Mulatto Girl, between 18 and 19 years old, very large for her age. For any information, please send to the subscriber, Mr. Lucy, at the corner of 10th and Bank streets.

RITCHIES & DUNNAVANT.

5TH OF JULY COTTON PARTY
AND RIVER EXCURSION.

On Monday, July 5th, 1859, At Warsaw's Spring, five miles below Richmond.

The subscriber has engaged Warsaw's Spring, on the banks of the James River, for the above occasion. A limited number only will be taken, and it is desirable the party should be made up before Monday, the 8th inst., so as to enable the subscriber to make the best arrangements possible, for the comfort of the party. Prompt application should, therefore, be made to secure tickets.

THOS. STELWALD.

Tickets $5.50 for Gentlemen and $3.50 for Ladies, which will include refreshments and transit expenses. Tickets to be secured of THOMAS STELWALD, Liberty Hall, or at SCOFIELD'S New York Saloon, Main street.

SITUATIONANTED, in a dry goods or grocer store in Richmond, by a young merchant from the Valley of Virginia, who has had several years experience in the dry goods business in the city. Best references given. Address Box 326.

200 BILLS, CASHED CHEAVERS, 50 cts. each, payable immediately, can be obtained.

RICHARD H. WHITLOCK.


JOHN H. CLAIBORNE.

ROSIN.—40 bbls. for sale by

DAVENPORT. ALLEN & CO.

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SITUATIONANTED, in a dry goods or grocer store in Richmond, by a young merchant from the Valley of Virginia, who has had several years experience in the dry goods business in the city. Best references given. Address Box 326.
BETWEEN MAIN AND MARKET.

FIRST LARGE ARRIVAL OF

FALL GOODS.

CONSISTING of the following articles, to which we
would respectfully call the especial attention of the public,
White and Gold Band Tin and Slicing Sets, from 25 to 315
pieces.
Rich decorated Tin and Slicing Sets, from 31 to 250
pieces.
White Old Band and rich decorated Silver Sets of 77
pieces.
Rich decorated Toled Set, including Stop and Foot
Rush.
Together with one of the largest and most handsome assortments
of Mayfair, decorated Dessert Dishes, Yasses, Cigar Holders,
Cupples, Snuff Boxes, etc., that was ever presented to the Loui-
sville public.
Our assortment of rich cut Bohemian and pressed Glass
ware is also one of the largest in the city, and is
companied by a complete assortment of Plated and Briquettes.
War, together with every article to be found in a proper
Purveyor's establishment.

HUBER, BARRET & CO.

STOP THE THIEF AND RUNAWAY.

A RUN AWAY, from my residence in Lebanon, Ky.,
Stang, married woman, aged 30 years, about 5 feet, 6 inches, dark hair, about 135 pounds, no marks
remembered except the words "W. H. B.

WANTED.

THREE white female servants to go to a Female Academy
in a country. They are expected to do washing and
cooking, and to those who can give satisfactory references
$50 reward.

KAUFMANN.

RANAWAY from the undersigned, on the night of
the 15th inst., a large quantity of gold, silver, and
paint, marked with an eagle, and not over

$50 REWARD.

Kaufmann, 442 Jefferson street, last Third and Fourth,
The Bourbon Fair.

And almost of the season commences to

dwell throughout the week,

so that correspondent "sc. de kar" will

not furnish us with every interesting

thing that may transpire.

My country grocery merchants are

1 that Mr. C. C. Spencer sells at 10

his morning, at his auction rooms, No.

street, between Third and Fourth, a

of sack, wrapping paper and glass-

paster with a retail stock of family groc-

tering every variety, sold by order of

We advice a general attendance.

We are compelled to defer until to-mor-

longly communication of "A Kentucky

in reply to the Journal. The article is

cerful one, and shows that the author

read to know the use of the dis-

knife.

Miss Flora Minor Hates, of Virginia,

a Wm. S. Beene & Co., Greer: Considera-

lady to the afflicted alone prompt me to

this voluntary testimonial to the great val-

uer's Spanish Mixture," for that almost

discourage Scrofula.

it being disposed of so fast, it necessary

the particulars of the case, I can say that

things results that have been produced by

that medicine to a member of my own

with my own observation and super-

ce, after the skill of the best physicians

exhausted and all the usual remedies bad

by justifying me in recommending its use to

suffering from that dreadful malady,

a necessity to say that it is adapted to all con-

ting that it will afford the same relief in all

cases, of course, I can know nothing about

from what I have seen of the effects, I

hesitate to use it in any and every case,

with persons for whom it is, under-

whom I could expect influence on

Respectfully yours,

JNO. M. BOTTIS.

MARRIED.

L. B. Davie and Miss Mary A. Bird, all of

the size, on the 29th Inst., by Rev. C. J. Bannister

and Rev. C. J. Bannister

more and Mrs. Leslie papers please copy.

OID ALL QUACKERY.

ARE MEDICINES PREPARED BY

BOULEIN PHYSICIAN ONLY.

SOAPS unbranded Family Medicines are the

old fogy more prominent in Philadelphia, pria-

are for each complaint, and have been well

opposed by hundreds of physicians and pharmacists.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LESSONS IN SINGING AND PIANO FORTE.

MISS MADAM ABALOVICZ

PROSPECTUS, notes that she is taking additional

students at the Ashley Female College, in New
ey, has a few new lessons, which she will introduce to the pub-

lic, on the 29th Inst. Lessons are to be had in the room above

the Post Office, and the address is at any of the music stores,

and she will give lessons on the pupils' instru-

ments.

LAW NOTICE.

JAMES POPP and JAMES A. BARRY are incor-

porated in the last city of the law, and the law of

SPOOK AND REAL ESTATE.

FALL AND WINTER GOODS.

JOHN H. CANNON.

No. 421 Market street, between Fourth and Fifth,

the law in the city of Norfolk, and the latest in the city of

White and colored straw bonnets;

Beautiful bonnets, of the latest designs;

Balls, cones, and trimming ribbons;

Flower veils and facookers;

Hats, dresses, and coats;

Vests, flounces, and lace;

Roses, France, etc.

Together with every article of Millinery material, all of

which are at full prices, either wholesale or retail.

JOHN H. CANNON.

$200 REWARD.

HABIT from the subscriber, living in Lou-

siana, on Wednesday, September 15th, about 7

o'clock, my mare, Nellie, valued, about, $75.

She is about 14 hands high, the color black, and is

a very gentle animal.

For its return, the subscriber will give as much

as has been lost by her.

The above reward will be given for the recovery of

any other, and if returned in good condition.

JOHN H. CANNON.

GRATIS.

Just Published: A New Discovery in Medicina.

A few weeks on the rational treatment of

Science, Medical Journal, of Norfolk, of

Society, Ladies' Society, of the.

Great benefit, formed in the county of Norfolk,

the benefit of mankind, and especially for study and la-

bor, District of Norfolk, Litchfield, at the office of

the editor, of the Society, of Science, Medical Journal, of

of the Lodge, of the Medical, scientific, and social

ladies, of the lodge, of the medical, scientific, and social

be fore the public, and all others interested in the

benefit of mankind.

CITIZ. W. LEVERING.

NEW GOODS,

At No. 79 Fourth Street.

WHEREAS we have secured a good stock of Window Shades

and Blinds, which is the largest and most com-

bined of all kinds made and put up at

THE AMERICAN APOTHECARY

MISCELLANEOUS.

RICH FANCY AND STAPLE

EMBROIDERY.

HOSIERY, GLOVES,

BENT & DU

No. 307 Main street, opposite 1

Do you now prepared to exhibit to

public at wholesale and retail, a vast var-

of Dry Goods, Embroideries and Millinery,

Also, a full assortment of

Domestic Goods,

in the very latest designs,

in the very latest styles.

Also, a full assortment of

Domestic Goods,

in the very latest designs,

in the very latest styles.

In the very latest designs,

in the very latest styles.

Here is a small sample of the new arrivals of Millinery Goods, comprising all the latest

in the very latest designs,

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By permission of the United States.

COMPETITION IS THE SOIL.

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COMPETITION IS THE SOIL.
GIVE YOUR CHILDREN BENEFICIAL WORM LOZENGES!!

Ready in the World for Worms!

They are certain and safe, and agreeable to the taste and can be administered in any quantity. The ingredients contained in the Worm Lozenges have been tested and found to be effective in combating worms.

DR. A. HOYT

Selling Agents: Dr. R. D. Thompson.

Address: 110 W. Market St., Louisville, Ky.

$25 REWARD.

BANAWAY, from the subscriber, on the 1st inst., April 3rd, 1850, in the city of Louisville, for the recovery of a silver watch, named ERNEST, aged about 11 years, and containing 10$.

Send boy to the subscriber's house, and he will reward him with 10$.

Louisville, Ky.

K. L. HOWDIE.

$100 REWARD.

5TH. A Reward of One Hundred Dollars will be offered for the recovery of a silver watch, named ERNEST, aged about 11 years, and containing 10$.

Louisville, Ky.

K. L. HOWDIE.

$50 REWARD.

BANAWAY, from the subscriber, on the 1st inst., April 3rd, 1850, in the city of Louisville, for the recovery of a silver watch, named ERNEST, aged about 11 years, and containing 10$.

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GUNNY BAGS.

30,000 Cast Iron Gunny Bags, received on consignment and for sale by HENRY MORRIS.

No. 1 Second street.

CIGARS.

150,000 Camacho Cigars, which I will sell to close acquaintance.

HENRY MORRIS.

No. 2 Second street.

WANTED.

30,000 Russian Cigars, Prime Yellow Cope. Apply to HENRY MORRIS.

No. 3 Second street.

ELOCUTION.

MR. STRICKLAND will prepare to receive pupils for his Advanced Elocution Classes. Those who desire to become members are requested to write their names to Mr. B. S. when he will be pleased to forward, a list of terms, rules, and particulars.

100 Fourth street, next to Distinct Church.

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100 Fourth street, next to Distinct Church.
PUBLIC SALE.

On Wednesday, April 3, 1866, at the hour of 2:00 p.m., the property described as

NOTICE:

OFFICE FRANKLIN B. CO. OF LOUISVILLE,

...and the buildings on the premises, situated on the

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALES.

HOUSE AND LOT AT AUCTION.

...the property described as

FLAT HUNTER, MUSIC, ETC.

I A S, at the will of the owner, a certain dwelling house and lot located at

LA ROSA UNICA POLA,

...a lady of the city,болшевая, she was sold to

ASSAY.

156-20 Orleans, New Orleans,

LACE works to sell by

T. W. BICKLER & Co.

T. W. BICKLER & Co.

Furniture to sell by

A. C. SMITH...
At this time, the city of New York was under siege by British forces. The fortifications around the city were being reinforced, and the streets were filled with soldiers and supplies. The British had occupied many of the buildings, and the citizens were living in fear of the constant shelling. The city was in a constant state of alert, and the streets were filled with people carrying their belongings and seeking shelter.

In this article, the author describes the daily life of the citizens during this time. The streets were empty except for the soldiers and the occasional civilian. The shops were closed, and the markets were deserted. The only sound was the constant rumble of cannon fire and the occasional explosion. The people were living in constant fear, wondering if the next attack would be the one that would end their lives.

The author also describes the state of the city's infrastructure. The roads were in disrepair, and the bridges were falling apart. The water supply was interrupted, and the citizens were forced to rely on their own resources. The food supply was also in short supply, and the people were forced to scavenge for what they could find.

Despite the difficulties, the people of New York were determined to hold out. They continued to work and to fight, and the British were forced to retreat. The city was finally able to return to some semblance of normalcy, although the scars of the war were still evident for many years to come.
Dear Gay,

Here is a man who has been the hero of one of the most extraordinary achievements I ever heard of. He came to me on Saturday morning last in a box tightly hooped, marked “this side up” by overland express, from the city of Richmond!! Did you ever hear of any thing in your life to beat that? – Nothing that was done on the Barricades of Paris exceeded this cool and deliberate intrepidity – To appreciate fully the boldness and risk of the achievement you ought to see the box and hear all the circumstances. The box is in the clear 3 ft 2 inches long; 2 ft 8 in deep; + 1 ft 11 in wide. It was a regular old store box such as you see in Pearl St. It was grooved at the joints and braced at the ends, leaving but the very slightest crevice to admit the air. Nothing saved him from suffocation but the free use of water – a quany [sic] if which he took in with him in a beef’s bladder, and with which he bathed face, and the constant fanning of himself with his hat. He fanned himself unremittingly all the time. The “this side up” on the box was not regarded, and he was twice put with his head downwards – resting with his back against the end of the box, his feet braced against the other. The first time he succeeded in shifting his position; but the second time was on board the steamboat, where people were sitting and standing about the box, and where any motions inside would have been over heard and have led to discovery; he was therefore obliged to keep his position for 20 miles. This nearly killed him. He says the veins in his temples were as thick as his finger.

I had been expecting him for several days, and was in mortal fear all the time lest his arrival should only be a signal for calling the coroner. You can better immagine[sic] than I can describe my sensations when in answer to my rap on the box and question – “all right?” the prompt response came “all right sir.” The man weighs 200 lbs and is almost 5 ft 8 in in height, and as you will see a noble looking
fellow. He will tell you the whole story. Please send him on to Francis Jackson, Boston, with this letter to save me the time it would take to write another.

And now I have one request to make for Heaven’s sake don’t publish this affair or allow it to be published. It would compromise the Express, and prevent all others from escaping in the same way.

Yours truly

J.M. McKim

S.H. Gay,

He was boxed up in Richmond at 5 a.m. on Friday: shipped at 8 & I opened him up at 6 (about day-light) next morning.

Francis Jackson will doubtless be able without difficulty to find a place for him. He will be invaluable to somebody. He has a sister in New Bedford.

The Fourth of July Speech by Frederick Douglass

On July 5, 1852, Frederick Douglass was asked to deliver a Fourth of July speech in Rochester, New York.

What to the American slave is your Fourth of July? I answer; a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him, your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your sounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your denunciation of tyrants, brass fronted impudence; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mockery; your prayers and hymns, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade and solemnity, are, to Him, mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy --- a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages. There is not a nation on this earth guilty of practices more shocking and bloody than are the people of the United States, at this very hour ...
Harriet Tubman

After freeing herself from slavery, Harriet Tubman returned to Maryland to rescue other members of her family. In all she is believed to have conducted approximately 300 persons to freedom in the North. The tales of her exploits reveal her highly spiritual nature, as well as a grim determination to protect her charges and those who aided them. She always expressed confidence that God would aid her efforts, and threatened to shoot any of her charges who thought to turn back.

When William Still published The Underground Railroad in 1871, he included a description of Harriet Tubman and her work. The section of Still's book captioned below begins with a letter from Thomas Garret, the Stationmaster of Wilmington, Delaware. Wilmington and Philadelphia were on the major route followed by Tubman, and by hundreds of others who escaped from slavery in Maryland. For this reason, Still was in a position to speak from his own firsthand knowledge of Tubman's work:

WILMINGTON, 12 mo. 29th, 1854

Esteemed Friend, J. Miller McKim: - We made arrangements last night, and sent away Harriet Tubman, with six men and one woman to Allen Agnew's, to be forwarded across the country to the city. Harriet, and one of the men had worn the shoes off their feet, and I gave them two dollars to help fit them out, and directed a carriage to be hired at my expense, to take them out, but do not yet know the expense....

THOMAS GARRET