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Digital Footprints: Freedom on the Move at the University of Kentucky

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Digital Footprints: Freedom on the Move UK

Jennifer Bartlett, Vanessa M. Holden, Reinette Jones, Kopana Terry University of Kentucky

UK Libraries • Department of History •
Program in African American & Africana Studies • Commonwealth Institute for Black Studies



This picture of a poor fugitive is from one of the stereotype cuts manufactu in this city for the southern market, and used on handbills offering rewards runaway slaves.

THE RUNAWAY.

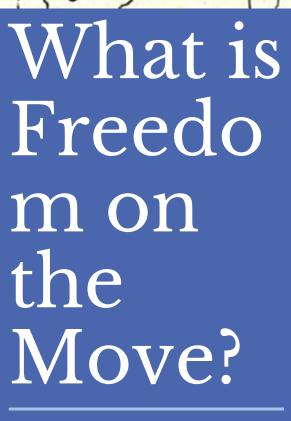
RAILROAD

1880 - 1865

Compiled from "The Underground Railroad from Slavery to Freedom" By Wilbur H. Slebert. Copyright, 1898, by The Macmillan Company. Source: "The Project Gutenberg EBook of The Underground Railroad from Slavery to Freedon (1898) by Wilbert Henry Siebert." https://www.gi-tenbirg.org/files/49038/49038-h/49038-h.htm.

NORTH

Longitad West from Greenwie



Crowdsource Transcription Platform

Source: Archibald H. Grimke. Anti-Slavery in Boston. New England Magaz<mark>t</mark> Wikimedia Commons.

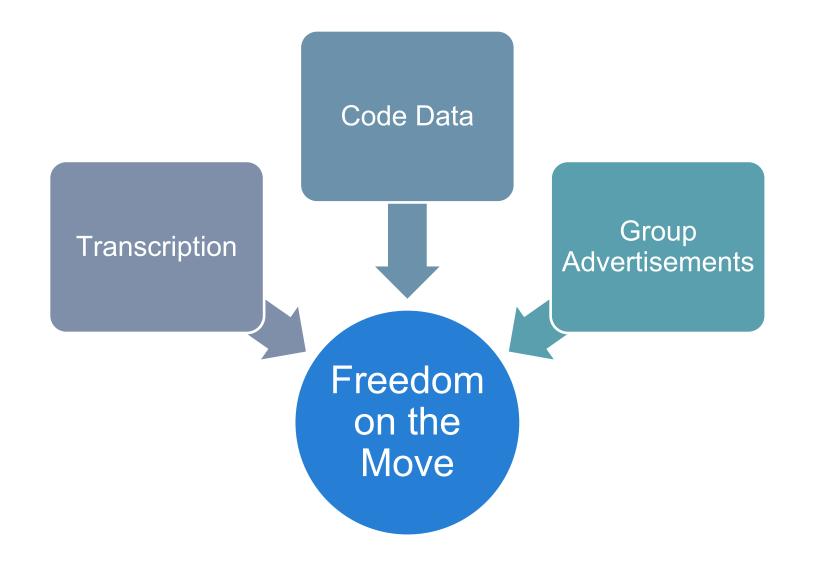
RAILROAD

1880 - 1865

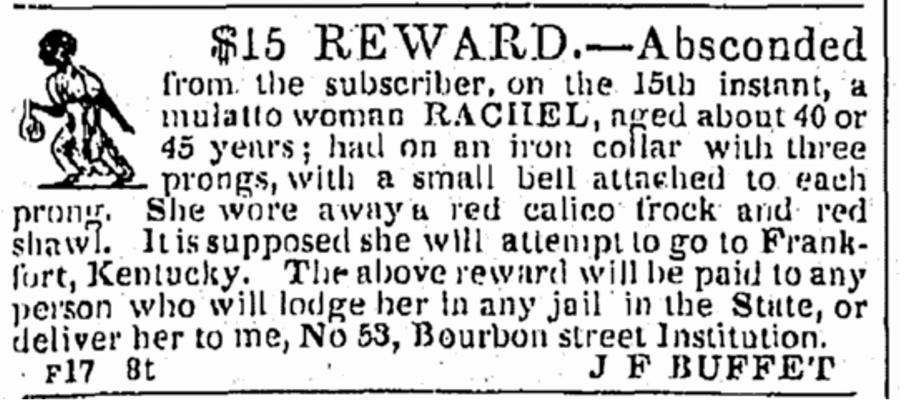
Compiled from "The Underground Railroad from Slavery to Freedom" By Wilbur H. Slebert. Copyright, 1898, by The Macmillan Company.



Crowdsourced Transcription



freedomonthemove.org



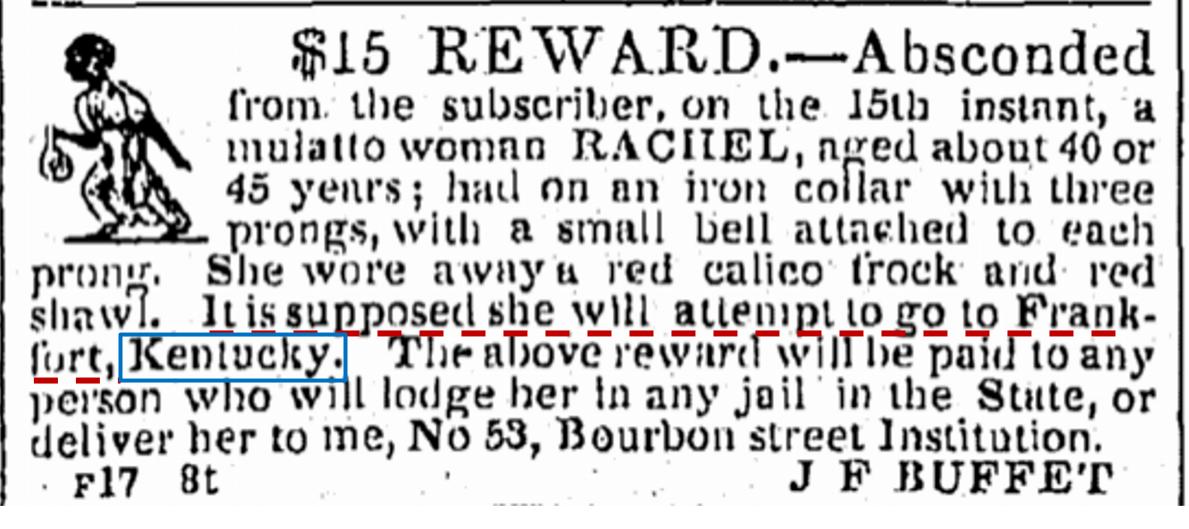
The Role of Advertisements

Enlisting the public's help in racialized policing.

February 24, 1844

The Daily Picayune

New Orleans, LA



Advertisement Types

Who placed advertisements and why?

\$ 200 REWARD.

RUNAWAY, from the subscriber in Murray county, on the 10th insttwo Negro men.

LEVI AND ISAAC.

Levi is about 5 foot 10 or 11 inches high 22 or 23 years of age, middling stout, and well made, not very black, when spoten to is very bold, and has a round fullface.

Isaac is a small African, one of his upper fore-teeth out, about 5 foot 7 or 8 inches high, about 28 years of age, very black complected, and speaks broken English. I expect they are trying to get to the state of Ohio, and are likely now in this neighborhood, as I have heard of them between Nashville and Murfreesborough. Any person securing said negroes so that I get them if then out of the state, shall recieve the above reward, or one hundred dollars for either. If taken in the state fifty dollars for either.

SIGNER CAWLEY.

The Editors of the Kentucky Reporter, Lexington, and Cincinnati Inquisitor, and Public Advertiser, Louisville, and Shawnoetown papers, will insert the above three times, and forward their accounts to Columbia, Tenn for payment.

Jailors also placed ads when enslaved people were delivered into their custody.

Enslavers placed ads in hopes of enlisting the help of other whites to find enslaved people.

NOTICE.

TAKEN UP and committed to the Jail of Craven County on the 17th instant, as a runaway, a negro man who says his name is SHARPER, and belongs to Mrs. Isler, of Duplin County, N. C.—Said negro is 5 feet 3 or 4 inches high, and black. Has on a blue Kentucky Jeans coat. The owner of said negro is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take him away, or in due time he will be disposed of as the law directs.

S. BISHOP, Jailor.

Newbern, October 18th, 1848.

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Kentucky in the FOTM Archive

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S. BISHOP, Jailor.

Newbern, October 18th, 1848.

Newbernian and North Carolina Advocate 11/07/1848

Note that this ad was placed on 10/18/1848

Nashville Gazette 05/03/1820

Kentucky in the FOTM Archive

RUNAWAY

ROM the subscribers on Sunday night the 13th inst., two negro boys, Henry and Pinkney, aged about 19 years each, coloured near the same. slightly copper or yellow. Henry wore off a suit of linsey jeans black or dark blue, took two vests and and two pair of cotton pantaloons (store goods.) a high crowned black hat and a cap, he is about 5 feet 5 inches high, wide mouth, and thick lips, weight about 145 pounds, is quick spoken but rath! er down look, has a small scar on back of his head the only scar recollected, he is a tolerably likely, active and shrewd black boy for his age. Pinkney wore off cotton check sack, black and white mixed pantaloons and cotton vest, black wool hat, took no other clothing, he is about 5 feet 4 or 5 inches high. weight 140 pounds or perhaps over, is very ugly, face rough, large thick nose, very short forehead, ill shaped and sharp head, long feet, and has a sear from the cut of an axe some 2 inches long, lately well, in the calf of one leg, coarse voice and slow spoken.

It is believed they will aim for a free State by passing through Virginia and Kentucky. They may have some sort of free papers, it not they will either get in with moving families or follow other waggons and profess to belong with them.

We will give 20 dollars for their delivery to us or confinement in any jail in this State or 10 dollars for either, or \$20 if confined out of this State. It is supposed they will continue together or in company.

Address Brummell's P. O., Pavidson Co. N. C.
JOSEPH RAPER,
HALEY BROWN.

April 17th 1851, 51 tf.

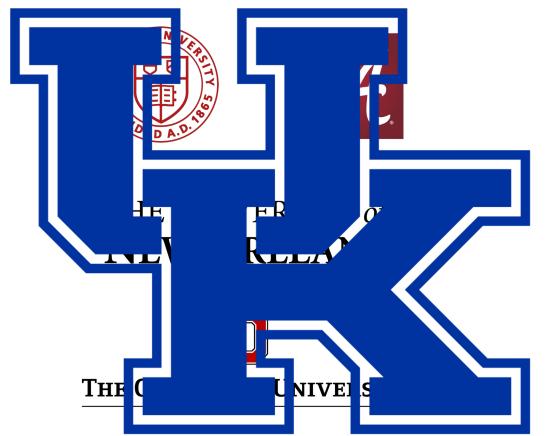
***Abington Virginian publish one month and forward recount to this Office for collection.

PUBLICATION DATE:
04/19/1851
NEWSPAPER:
Greensborough Patriot
NEWSPAPER LOCATION:
Greensboro, Greensboro, NC, US

Our Current Partnership

Working with
Students to
Expand the
Archive Nationally

- FOTM has 32, 254 Advertisements available for search and transcription.
- None of those ads come from Kentucky's historical newspapers.
- UK Librarians in partnership with CIBS are leading the national effort to expand this important archive.



UK Libraries: Expertise & Resources







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UK Libraries:

KDNP

- 67 newspaper titles
- 15,128 issues
- 60,532 approx. pages
 - Kentucke Gazette
 - Oldest in KY
 - Oldest west of the Allegheny Mountains
 - Courier Journal (preceding titles)
 - State newspaper of record
 - Majority of titles from Bluegrass Region

Question: How many pages/issues can 8 students get through in 2.5 months?

Question: How many ads collected during 2.5 mo.?

Question: What period of time and/or titles contain the most ads?

Kentucky gazette. [volume] (Lexington [Ky.]) 1789-1803 FoTM Code kylxkeg **≡** LCCN sn82014782 date range (digiti... 1789-1803 722 # of issues # estimated pages Internet Archive https://archive.org/details/kentuckynewspapers? and%5B%5D=creator%3A%22kentucky+gazette+%28lexington%2C+ky.+%3A+ https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82014782/ Microfilm Databa... https://ukmfilms.omeka.net/ ✓ Digitized ✓ Irrelevent to FOTM ✓ Microfilm ✓ NDNP5 Candidate ✓ Not@UK (digital ... ■ NOTES Oldest newspaper in KY; oldest newspaper west of the Allegheny Mountains -Issue 2, printed in Lexington March 14, 1789; http://Newspapers.com (1787-1841)

UK Libraries:

NKAA



- 1. Entries and references related to the contributions of African Americans in and from Kentucky
- 2. Half a million hits each calendar year
- 3. A homegrown, in-house library database
- 4. Free to anyone with internet access
- 5. Content covered from 1700s-present
- 6. Three sections:
 - 1) Kentucky history and resource entries
 - 2) African American Library Directors in the U.S.
 - 3) African American Women Veterans in and from Kentucky

UK Libraries:

Workflow Management via Notion





■ Show All +

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Guardian of freedom. [volume] (Frankfort, Ky.) 1798-180?	sn82014659	kyfrgua	gua	https://chroniclingar	~	✓
Kentucky gazette and general advertiser. [volume] (Lexington [Ky.]) 1803-180	sn84038147	kylxkeg	keg	https://chroniclingar	✓	
Kentucky gazette. [volume] ([Lexington, Ky.]) 1809-1848	sn82014783	kylxkeg	keg	https://chroniclingar	✓	✓
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FoTM-KY Student Workspace

- Student 1
- Student 2
- Student 3

Project Contacts

Dr. Vanessa Holden	Associate Professor of History and African American & Africana Studies; Director, Central Kentucky Slavery Initiative	vanessaholden@uky.edu		
Reinette Jones	Special Collections Librarian and African American Studies Affiliate, Special Collections Research Center, UK Libraries	rjones@uky.edu		
Kopana Terry	Oral History Archivist, Historic Newspapers Curator, Special Collections Research Center, UK Libraries	kopana.terry@uky.edu		
Jennifer Bartlett	Oral History Librarian, Special Collections Research Center, UK Libraries	jen.bartlett@uky.edu		

Other Resources

Freedom on the Move | Cornell University
A database of fugitives from American Slavery

thtps://freedomonthemove.org/

Impact

- This project is a student focused crosscollege collaboration with community impact.
- We are making the rich history of African American Kentuckians more accessible.

\$95 REWARD

Questions?

Charles street. m30 6t WILLIS HOLMES.