

0. THE UNDERGROUND IS BORN - Story Preface

1. THE UNDERGROUND IS BORN

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THE UNDERGROUND IS BORN



Vintage postcard depicting the home of Rev. and Mrs. John Rankin in Ripley. Ohio. The Rankins opened their home to escaping slaves as a "stop" on the Underground Railroad. Image online, courtesy Flickr. Tice reached the shore first that night, in 1831.

Although his pursuer knew the exact place where his slave had landed, Tice had vanished. The owner searched everywhere, to no avail. It was unbelievable, to him, that no one had seen his runaway.

Enraged, the empty-handed slave owner returned to Kentucky where he told others:

He must have gone on some underground road.

Thereafter, legend has it, the already existing network of free blacks and white <u>abolitionists</u> who broke laws and risked much <u>to help</u> an enslaved people was called the "Underground Railroad."

The first overnight stop on Tice Davids' trip to freedom was likely the <u>Ripley</u>, Ohio home of Rev. and Mrs. John <u>Rankin</u>. There, Tice probably <u>slipped</u> (out of his master's <u>view</u>) into the <u>cellar</u> of the <u>home near</u> the river. He would have stayed there until it was safe to move on.

As states united <u>edged closer</u> to becoming states divided, more and more people fled <u>America's system</u> of chattel slavery. By the time the war between the states was over, at least <u>100,000 people</u> had exchanged <u>bondage</u> for freedom by making an arduous, risk-filled trip on one of the <u>Underground Railroad's routes</u>.

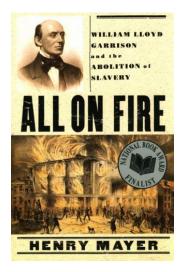
Difficult as they were, however, such flights to freedom would have been no worse than journeys to slavery which kidnapped Africans endured until slave-trading was outlawed in the 19th century.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-UNDERGROUND-IS-BORN-Underground-Railroad</u>

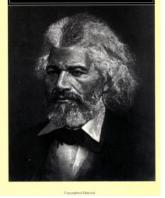
See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/THE-UNDERGROUND-IS-BORN-Underground-Railroad





PENGUIN () CLASSICS AGAINST SLAVERY AN ABOLITIONIST READER





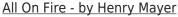


Image online, courtesy the <u>amazon.com</u> website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/All-On-Fire-by-Henry-Mayer</u>

<u>Against Slavery - An Abolitionist Reader</u> Image online, courtesy the <u>amazon.com</u> website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Against-Slavery-An-Abolitionist-Reader</u>

<u>Ripley, Ohio - Slave Haven</u> Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. License: CC BY-SA 3.0. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Ripley-Ohio-Slave-Haven</u>



<u>Slave Protectors - Mr. and Mrs. John Rankin</u> Image online, courtesy the Ohio Historical Society. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Slave-Protectors-Mr.-and-Mrs.-John-Rankin</u>



Rankin Home - Area View Image online, courtesy the Ohio Historical Society website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Rankin-Home-Area-View</u>

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Rankin-Home-Cellar-Door

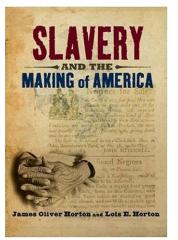
Rankin Home - Cellar Door

Image online, courtesy Pat's Bike Blog website.

Rankin Home - Cellar Image online, courtesy the National Park Service website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Rankin-Home-Cellar</u>







Rankin Home - Parlor Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Rankin-Home-Parlor</u>

<u>Ohio River - Near the Rankin Home</u> <u>Image online</u>, courtesy the ohiocivilwar150.org website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Ohio-River-Near-the-Rankin-Home</u>

<u>Slavery and the Making of America - by James Oliver Horton</u> Image online, courtesy the <u>amazon.com</u> website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Slavery-and-the-Making-of-America-by-James-Oliver-Horton</u> PENGUIN CLASSICS HARRIET JACOBS INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF A SLAVE GIRL WRITTEN BY HERSELF



Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl - by Harriet Jacobs

Image online, courtesy the <u>amazon.com</u> website. View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Incidents-in-the-Life-of-a-Slave-Girl-by-Harriet-Jacobs



<u>Routes of the Underground Railroad - Map</u> Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Routes-of-the-Underground-Railroad-Map