

Underground Railroad History and Tradition In Indiana County, Pennsylvania

The Conductors and Their Stories

John Graff (1800-1885)

Blairsville businessman, Liberty and Free Democratic Party candidate. Underground Railroad Agent. His network brought Hardy County, Va. Fugitives Anthony Hollingsworth, Charles Brown and Jared Harris to Indiana County.

James Simpson

Conductor between Indiana and Phillip's Mills (Homer City) Simpson sheltered and employed fugitive Anthony Hollingsworth on his farm, today's Brookside Dairy on Old 56 West. The slavecatchers took Hollingsworth from there and brought him to Indiana, where the town rescued him.

Hon. Joseph Campbell (1799-1879)

Center Township west of Phillips Mills (Homer City)

"He was an Abolitionist when there was none to stand with him...and he supported that cause with his ballot, when he did so amongst taunts and jeers...either as an abolitionist or an advocate of temperance he was a giant."

Andrew Dickson

Conducted on the banks of Yellow Creek by the old Guthrie Farm.

James Moorhead. (1780-1857)

Indiana Abolitionist leader and Underground Railroad Manager and Conductor. Moorhead was a self-educated writer and editor of the Clarion of Freedom and The Independent, both anti-slavery newspapers. He was also a traveling lecturer for the American Anti-Slavery Society and a poet.

Andrew C. Hall Esq. (1813-1866)

Indiana Underground Railroad Conductor and Officer. He was active in the Liberty Party and Free Democratic Party, a witness for Dr. Mitchell and a Temperance man.

Dr. Robert Mitchell (1786-1863) and Jane Clark Mitchell (1805-1890)

Dr. Mitchell was an Indiana County Abolitionist leader and Underground Railroad Manager and the founder of Diamondville (Mitchell's Mills). He was active in the Liberty and Free Democratic Parties and was also a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and an Associate Judge.

Jane Clark Mitchell was his wife and partner in social reform, including abolitionism, women's rights and temperance. The Mitchells had eleven children. Five preceded them in death. Three died as children.

James Hamilton, Esq. (1787-1869)

"For many years he took considerable interest in public affairs and especially in everything that tended to the overthrow of slavery in our country. He was one of the pioneers of Abolition in the county, having in 1844 with twelve others voted for Mr. Birney upon an Abolition platform. He lived to see slavery abolished by bloodshed and war. His life was exemplary and most just." *Obituary*

On one occasion, in 1848, "Old Jimmie Hamilton" provided food and shelter in his barn for six fugitives. Ten minutes after they left, the slavecatchers arrived. Sheriff James Taylor spread the word to two other conductors, who contacted another conductor one mile north of Indiana on the Mahoning Road (North 4th/Old 119 North) The three conductors arrived at Hamilton's farm at 10 PM to put the fugitives on the road.

**How the Railroad Worked:
Corroborative Accounts of one Underground Railroad event involving citizens in
Indiana Borough and Northern Indiana County**

Samuel Jamison
William Caldwell
James Hamilton
Sheriff James Taylor
James M. Hart

David Myers
Jacob Myers
John Jones

John and Alexander Sutor (Marion Center)
John Ewing (Georgeville)

Account #1

Four to six fugitives were sighted on a hill facing town. At dark, they were moved to **Jimmie Hamilton's** barn, one mile distant, where they were fed and sheltered. At 11pm, **Sheriff James Taylor** arrived at the home of the writer, breathless and trembling to announce that six to eight slavecatchers were in town and planning to raid the Hamilton barn. The writer left immediately and aroused **James M. Hart**. He and Hart took a circuitous route to the home of **David Myers**. Myers piloted them through the woods and brush to Jimmie Hamilton's place. They awakened the fugitives "and in a few minutes 'the train' was under headway, 'Conductor' Myers in charge, and passing laboriously but steadily through ravines and over rocks, fallen logs and other obstructions, was brought to a standstill at the house of **Conductor Jacob Myers**."

"Here they were safely secreted for several days, until the immediate danger was past. Then were taken in charge by **John Jones** and the **Sutors [John and Alexander Sutor near Marion Center]** and then by **John Ewing** near **Georgeville**."

Meanwhile the slavecatchers arrived at Jimmie Hamilton's barn 30 minutes too late.
"By an official of the Underground Railroad" (possibly Constable Joseph R. Smith)

Account #2

In 1848, young **Samuel Jamison** hid two fugitives in a barn near the farm of **William Caldwell** on a hill facing Indiana. Caldwell had hired some local men to help him harvest oats and the fugitives were fascinated by the mechanical mowers and binders. They begged Samuel to let them watch the harvest. Samuel complied, telling Mr. Caldwell to watch for strangers.

Jamison saw the slavecatchers on the road too late. Luckily they rode right past. Samuel got the two fugitives back to the barn quickly and ran back to town to his father John's brick Eastern Inn, two doors west

of 4th Street on the North side of Philadelphia Street. His father told him to prepare for two guests, who arrived at 11 PM. When Samuel escorted them to their room, the men locked the door behind him and began questioning him about the fugitives. "Where does **Mrs. McLeash** live?" they asked. They offered Samuel a roll of bills, but he still refused to give them any information. Finally they gave up. Samuel made sure they were asleep, then ran up Philadelphia Street to find Sheriff Taylor. Taylor sent him back to keep guard over the slavecatchers while he arranged for a safe escape for the fugitives. By then they had been removed to **Jimmie Hamilton's** barn. **David Myers** and another conductor transferred them to the Myers farm. Then the **Jones, the Sutors and the Ewings** in the northern part of the county escorted them out of Indiana County and on their way to Canada.

Robert Mitchell, Jr., Diamondville Conductor

In February 1856, seven fugitive men arrived in Diamondville from Johnstown via Mechanicsburg, brought by "a colored barber at Johnstown named Williams." The slavecatchers were two hours behind them. Mitchell fed the men and put them to bed in a storeroom. At 3 AM they started for Cherry Tree via Hustenville and Pine Flat, reaching there by daybreak. From there they were led to **George Atcheson** in Clearfield County. They ate and slept until 4 PM when Atcheson took them to "a colored man's cabin." From here **Jason Kirk** escorted them to the Grampian Hills.

As Mitchell returned to Cherry Tree, he passed eleven slavecatchers on the road. He also met up with **George Spaulding** who had information about the pursuers. The two men turned to follow the slavecatchers, who stopped for the night at Gamble's Mill. By 11 pm, Spaulding and Mitchell had warned Atcheson, who "Without waiting fully to dress...with a loaf of bread under each arm (and minus his pantaloons) started for the negroes." Reaching the Black man's cabin, they took the fugitives away to dark pine woods on Moss Creek, a tributary of the Susquehanna River. A week later they arrived safely in New York.

The Huston Family of Hustonville Cherry Hill Township

A daughter of the Huston family remembered that when she was eight years old, **Robert Mitchell, Jr.** brought several escaping slaves to her family's home on a winter morning. Her mother made breakfast while the men warmed themselves before the fire. She remembered one man saying, "I wonder who will hostile the master's horses this morning?" The next morning, **George Spaulding** and Mitchell detained the slavecatchers at Gamble's Mill so the fugitives could get away safely.

Lewis Johnston and the Blairsville Rescue of 1856

In 1858, Peter Heck, a Uniontown tailor, signed on to hunt fugitive slaves in Blairsville with a Virginian named Stump. Stump sighted a Black man named Richard Newman who was residing with **Conductor Lewis Johnston**, an African-American Underground Railroad agent, standing in a doorway and told Heck to grab him. Newton slung Heck into the middle of the street. Heck later related:

"It was like prodding a pole into a hive of bees. A swarm of whites and negroes poured from every direction. It fairly rained negroes for a while. Stump and I were quick to take in the situation and determined that the only safety was by complete and rapid flight...Stump, having the start headed for the old canal and I in hot pursuit. We struck the towpath with an angry mob close upon our heels...but in spite of all I could do, one fleet-footed negro insisted that my coat tail could assume a

perpendicular instead of its already horizontal position. About every ten leaps I made, [his] number thirteen boots came into such violent contact with the nether part of my anatomy that I was lifted bodily from the ground. He seemed to say, "Get off the earth, you cuss, get off the earth." Arrived home stiff and sore, made a solemn vow that...I would never more pursue a fugitive slave north of the fortieth degree, so help me Andrew Jackson."

Jane Conrad of Brush Valley

Jane Conrad hid fugitive slaves in her barn and then conducted them to another barn on the edge of Indiana. One day at dawn, two men, a woman and a baby arrived. Jane fed them and put them to bed to rest for the coming night's journey. When they had been gone for two hours, the sheriff, the slaveowner, and the bloodhounds arrived in pursuit. When Jane said she had seen no one, the men asked to spend the night. Jane was glad she had waxed the floors and hidden any trace of the fugitives. The sheriff and the slaveowner settled in for the night in the same bed and linens the fugitives had vacated earlier that night.

Major Samuel Thompson 1814-1865 Flora A. Stewart Thompson East Mahoning Township

Underground Railroad Stationkeepers. Samuel was the first Secretary of the Indiana County Anti-Slavery Society. Hugh, his son, later remembered four men and a woman with a baby receiving aid in his home and moving to the next station, probably John Ewing's. Two days later two strangers on horseback with whips in their hands stopped him on the road looking for the fugitives. Hugh, a young child, innocently told them what they wanted to know and "the lad had to listen to such a reprimand that he never afterwards had the least disposition to give pointers to slave-hunters. He never forgot that lesson on the subject of human slavery."

Uncle Jim Taylor, 1799-1851 Indiana County Sheriff William Caldwell 1789-1856 Indiana County Commissioner and Treasurer

Three people escaped from Virginia and were pursued closely to Somerset County, where the slave-hunters lost the trail. The slave-hunters came to Indiana but the fugitives had remained in Somerset for a week. Ex-Sheriff **Taylor** overheard them talking. When he could get away without suspicion late at night, he went to home of **Joseph R. Smith**. In fact, the three fugitives had arrived the night before and were hiding in William Caldwell's woods, later the James Gompers farm. The next day conductor **Charles Slaysman** went "squirrel hunting" on Caldwell's Hill and escorted the fugitives to the Caldwell barn on the pike just east of Indiana, and covered them with hay in the foddering room. Later that night Mr. Caldwell came in from a business and gathering up some hay to feed his horse, discovered the body of a man! He thought the man was a drunk and "gave him a vigorous kick." It is no telling who was the most alarmed. The fugitives jumped up and ran out of the barn. But just at that moment, the next conductor gave the signal, a bird call, and they went on to the next stop. Another watchmen noted that 10 minutes later, the slave-hunters arrived at the barn. Caldwell pretended to help them look and denied any knowledge of the fugitives. He later said, "I kept them hunting as long as I could..."

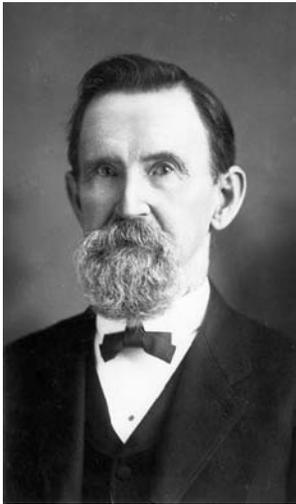
Center Township Anti-Slavery Society
Organized January 28, 1838

Men selected as officers and delegates to a county-wide anti-slavery convention included:

Alexander McMullen	Joseph Campbell, Jr.
John Allison	John H. Allison
William Harrold	Peter Harrold
Joseph Campbell	Jonathan Allison
Jonathan Agey	William Campbell
William Carson	William Allison
Joseph R. Smith	Adam Kunkle
David Munshower	

Alexander T. Moorhead, Jr. 1833-1912

Editor and Publisher of the Indiana Progress. Founder of Taylorsville. Underground Railroad Conductor during his five year apprenticeship in his grandfather, James Moorhead's Clarion of Freedom office. Published his account of the Underground Railroad in 1899.



Alexander Thompson Moorhead, Jr. in later life.

Mothers and Babies

Alex Moorhead, Jr. was sent as an advance guard to find shoes and leave food for a fugitive slave mother from Virginia and her baby. The fugitive mother's shoes had worn out and she was leaving bloody tracks. Moorhead knocked on the door of a poor woman who also had a baby in her arms and whose husband was involved in the Underground Railroad. She cried out, "Oh my God, how long shall this be? Help, Lord!" Moorhead related, "Stooping down, she unloosed her own shoes and gave them to me for the slave mother...[but] they were not the right size." Her husband's shoes were a better fit and she gave them to Moorhead, who then asked what they would do for shoes. The woman replied, "The Lord will provide. True, we are poor, but think of that poor mother and child lying out at night." Then she pulled the quilt off the bed and offered it as well, bidding Moorhead to go quickly as he had to meet her husband at the next stop. As Moorhead left, he "heard her singing sweetly" to the baby.

Abraham Johnson, Indiana African-American Conductor

In an 1850's incident, slavecatchers asked for him by name when looking for fugitives in the "colored community" in Indiana. They asked Jonathan Agey where Johnston lived. Agey alerted Johnston but too late to stop slavecatchers from arriving to search Johnston's house. Agey and Johnston were held at gunpoint but refused to allow the search, and the slavecatchers finally left.

Liberty Meeting in Green Township October 21, 1845 at Schoolhouse #6

Protesting the raid on Mitchell's cabin and the abduction of the fugitives, Washington and Green County men met and offered resolutions including:

"The great mass of our citizens are by no means abolitionists politically, yet they are entirely antislavery in their sentiments...They look upon the system of negro slavery...as a great moral and political evil - as a system that is evil, and only evil, in its relations, and in its effects."

"Resolved, that we consider the conduct of any man or set of men, who are Pennsylvanians, in aiding slavery, as acting in variance with the fundamental principles of our State, treason against society, and a wicked conspiracy against the laws of God and man."

Those signing included:

David Barnet	Alexander Dunn	David Price
Jacob Rodkey	James Davis	Samuel Couch
John Spaulding	George Kneeder	John Howe
Samuel Davis	George Spaulding	Robert Barr
Josiah Shields	John Allen	
Andrew Shields.		

George Atcheson and George M. Gamble on Cush Cushion Creek 1787-1877

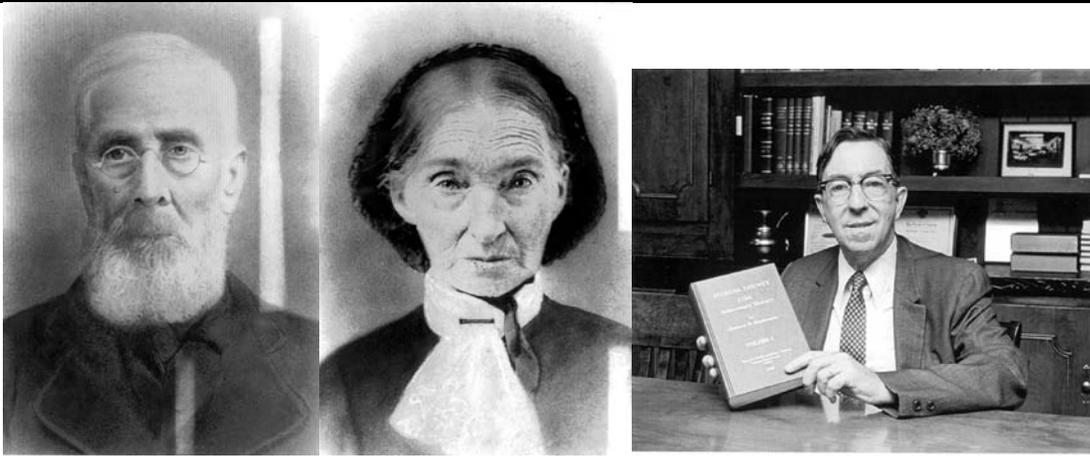
UGRR Conductor and Free State emigrant to Kansas. Lived in Clearfield County on Susquehanna River, but managed a UGRR "turnstile" at the County line around Cherry Tree and Cushion Creek. Liberty and Free Democratic Party member. James Lang Park of Marion Center built him a house in 1845 that had a secret apartment for runaway slaves.

Atcheson delighted in foiling the slave-hunters. He said, "I am not monarch of all I survey but I am master of this situation, and I defy the slave-catchers once the slaves are under my care "

"They may bate us in the Supreme Court but we can bate them on the Cush Cushion!"

George M. Gamble was also in Atcheson's network.

The Sutor Family
East Mahoning Township



Alexander
Sutor
(Far left)

Jane Sutor
(Center)

Great
grandson
County
Historian
Clarence D.
Stephenson
(Left)

John (1779-1873) and Ann More Sutor (1783-1859) and their sons and daughters had a station near Marion Center. They hid fugitive slaves in "a dense thicket of willows near an old coal bank." Fugitives were driven from there to Georgeville and there made contact with John Ewing. The horses' names were Tom and Commodore. County Historian Clarence Stephenson is the descendent of this family. John's son Alexander also conducted for the Railroad. *Photos courtesy of Clarence D. Stephenson and HGSIC*

Benjamin Warren
Mr. & Mrs. Thompson Hays of Plumville

Five fugitives were hidden in dense woods on the banks of Little Mahoning Creek near Georgeville. Benjamin Warren was conducting them when when slave-hunters with bloodhounds arrived in the area. Warren asked Plumville residents, **Thompson Hays and his wife** for help. The couple hid in the bushes eighty yards from where the fugitives had crossed the road. The slave-hunters came down the road and one of their bloodhounds got the scent of the fugitives and began pursuit. Hays brought his rifle to his shoulder and brought the bloodhound down in his tracks. Badly frightened, the slave-hunters fled and the fugitives got away safely. Bill Stancombe of the Lions Club in 2002 told us that his family told him that Hays hid fugitives in coffins. A late 19th Century obituary confirms (and Stancombe didn't know of it) that Hays made coffins during the Civil War for Union soldiers.

William Lewis and David Myers

In summer of 1846, Lewis was helping David Myers haul hay and move it from the meadow to the barn. Suddenly, an African-American man came running into the meadow, and asked, "Is this Master Myers' farm?" He said he was an escaped slave and the bloodhounds were after him. Lewis, who was on top of the load of hay, reached down and pulled the man up. Lewis and Myers drove the wagon quickly to the barn and told the fugitive to jump into the center of the mow. They then pitched hay over him to conceal him.

A few minutes later they heard the baying of the hounds who came right up to the spot where the fugitive had jumped into the wagon. Then they became confused.

The slave-hunters accosted Lewis and Myers, who continued nonchalantly unloading the hay. They denied seeing any fugitive slaves. The slave-hunters searched all over but finally gave up. Lewis and Myers continued to load and haul the hay, packing it around the outer walls so as not to smother the fugitive.

That night, Myers contacted **James Hamilton**, who came with two strong horses. In the meantime, the fugitive was given food. Lewis and the fugitive mounted one horse, and with Jimmie Hamilton on the other, started off for George Atcheson's below Cherry Tree avoiding the main roads. "There was not a cow path or a short cut that Messrs. Lewis and Hamilton did not know about." There is a possibility that William Lewis was African American. Abraham Lewis was an Indiana AME Zion elder.

Called of God: The Underground Railroad as a Family Affair

"My mind runs back to my boyhood days when the road was in operation. Well do I remember one night of someone tapping at one of the windows of my father's house and he going to the door and talking to him a short time and then coming back in the house and getting his hat, saying to my mother, "It is some runaway slaves going to Uncle Atcheson's that have got lost; I am going to put them on the right road..."

On the journey, the conductor told my father how he had missed his way...and he had inquired if there were any abolitionists around and they were directed to our house. Well, in a short time, Uncle Atcheson came over and told of his success and how they were safe in Canada by that time. Uncle Atcheson had some peculiarities. He believed he was called of God to help free the slaves as much as Moses was to free the Israelites. Talk to him about the violation of the law! He would say it was just as right as it was for the children of Israel to flee from Egyptian bondage....

[Even in] his last illness...he was still rejoicing in the Lord, praising Him for letting him live to see the desire of his heart, the emancipation of the slaves. But this has all passed, and those old conductors have...all gone to their reward." *Anonymous account*

Joseph R. Smith, Esq. (1816-1887)
Indiana constable

Smith traversed the county on his white horse. Everyone thought he was on legal business but often, he was carrying information and conducting for the Underground Railroad. He may have been the "official" who wrote a later account.

Mr and Mrs. David Myers
White Township

Myers believed all men to be free and equal. He was "an ardent friend of the slaves and brave as a lion in their defense. His wife was just as loyal and devoted to the cause of the oppressed as her husband." She once baked enough bread for seven fugitives for seven days plus a substantial meal. When they began to

eat, word arrived that the slavecatchers were close at hand. The men were so hungry they had to be driven from the table. Mrs. Myers pulled the bread out of the oven. It was so hot the men had to toss it from hand to hand as they fled. The slavecatchers were ascending the Rieder hill, (North 4th/old 119 North) not a half mile away. The fugitives, the conductor and two rear guards could hear the hoofbeats of the pursuers. A member of the guard walked back to meet them, carrying a common grain rake and pretending to be a simple farmer boy returning from work. He said he had met six or eight Blacks and wondered where they were going. "To hell," said one of the Southerners. The "farmer boy" agreed to show them the road for fifty cents, "putting them on the left hand road while the conductor and his charge passed safely on to the right." George Myers of Rayne Township and Jacob Myers were also "friends of the slave."

Charles Slaysman, the Hunter

Known as an avid hunter, Slaysman used his many hunting trips as a cover for his Underground Railroad activities. He may have delivered Anthony Hollingsworth's 1862 letter postmarked Ontario, Canada to Dr. Robert Mitchell as his name appears on the envelope.

The Underground Railroad Subsistence Department in Indiana Food, Clothing, and Shelter for Fugitives

Ann Irwin McAnulty Stanard (1785-1824)

Sarah Cook Stansborough Sutton (1816-1899)

Mary Agnes Walker Sutton (1826-1898)

Catherine Brooks McConnell White (1806-1880)

Margaret Steel Blair (Died 1865)

Jane McKennan Watt (1815-1904)

Miss Mary Rutherford

Elizabeth Houston (Born 1795)

Jane Clark Mitchell (1805-1890)



Elizabeth Houston House, Philly St., Indiana

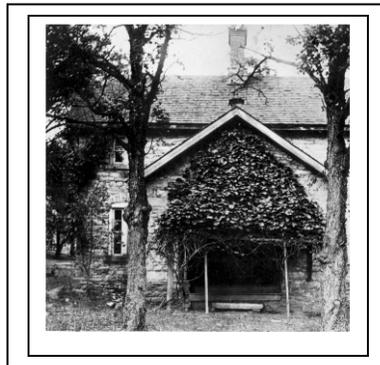
Spouses Daniel Stanard, James and John Sutton, Judge Thomas White, Reverend David Blair, Isaac Watt, and Dr. Robert Mitchell were also anti-slavery activists. Elizabeth Houston supplied the railroad in secret to keep her husband out of trouble.

Johnston Montgomery Palmer of Palmerton (Black Lick) (1818-1896)

"He was one of the promoters of the Underground Railroad as it was called in the days of slavery and many a poor hungry, colored man blessed him for his kindness and help while fleeing from his master seeking a home of freedom in Canada. He was a successful businessman whose motto was make your word as good as your bond and his hand was ever open to the needy."

Judge Thomas White (1799-1866)
Catherine McConnell White (1806-80)

Thomas and Catherine were Underground Railroad stationkeepers. Tradition says that they hid fugitive slaves in their stone guardhouse in White's Woods. One of those fugitives was Sam Williams, noted Indiana citizen who married into the Harvey family. Reverend Hubert Redd of Saint James A.M.E. Zion Church, Helen Brandenburg, Margaret Jones, the Buggs family, and other Indiana citizens (in 2008) are descendants of the Williams / Harvey family. White was the judge who freed Anthony Hollingsworth after the town rescued him in June 1845. The White gatekeeper's son, who was African-American, testified that fugitives were hidden on the White estate in this stone structure. White's son Harry was a commanding officer of the 67th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. When he was captured by Confederates and on the way to Andersonville Prison, he escaped, and in a fascinating turn of events given his family's anti-slavery activities, was hidden, fed and led through the night for 29 days by Georgia slaves. Later White visited the South as the head of a commission to put up a Pennsylvania memorial at Andersonville. Seeing a Southern history textbook, White said that it was not history but was trying to make a political case. White said that although the men in blue and the men in gray were all brave men, their causes were completely different. "One," he said, "is eternally right; and one is eternally wrong." White's brother Richard was a Colonel in the 55th Pennsylvania. His regiment was part of the effort to organize Black troops from the ex-slave population in South Carolina. Richard died after spending time in Confederate prison on the same day that Lincoln was assassinated. White Township is named after the White family.



(above) White Stone House.
The son of its African
American gatekeeper testified
that fugitive slaves were hidden
here.
(left) Colonel Harry White
67th Pa. Volunteer Infantry

Flag incident in Saltsburg

In the 1930's, the Federal Writer's Project published a story about a near riot over slavery in Saltsburg "many years before the Civil War." This story is in the realm of oral tradition and deserves further study and scrutiny.

Major Francis Laird, who owned a grist mill, was a strong Democrat (pro-slavery party then) who provoked abolitionists who "were in the great majority in the town." The abolitionists had a meeting in which they insisted that Saltsburg businessmen "display the American flag as a symbol of faith in the cause against slavery."

"Major Laird declined to display the flag unless the Abolitionists bought him one." The abolitionists refused and threatened to burn the mill in 24 hours if Laird did not display the flag.

The next day a Democrat from Bell Township, Westmoreland County came to get his grain ground. Laird told him he couldn't do it because the abolitionists were going to burn the mill. The customer went home and returned with 200 men on horseback. They also carried the American flag and a banner which read, "The smoke from Major Laird's mill will be the signal to burn Saltsburg."

The abolitionists backed down and the mill survived.

The Unwritten Law of the Human Heart

E. B. McCormick of Cherry Tree was married to George Atcheson's granddaughter. McCormick's father, Robert, gave shelter to fugitive slaves on occasion for Atcheson. McCormick remembered Atcheson's stalling tactics with a group of slavecatchers who had just missed some fugitive slaves Atcheson had hidden.

The slavecatchers asked if they could spend the night. Atcheson agreed but warned them that they should put their saddles in the granary, because there had been some local thievery.

The next morning Atcheson told the slavecatchers that he never let a guest leave hungry. He then informed them that "he always had a family worship before breakfast....he read a long chapter in the Book, and prayed for everyone in authority from the President of the United States, down to the President of the School Board. By this time, the Blacks were in safe territory and escaped.

McCormick wrote: "Nine tenths of the people in this territory were favorable to the slave and aided him in his escape.....while it was a violation of the law to aid these people in their race for freedom, many of our people believed that there was a higher and a holier law than the law of the statute book, it was the law that taught the Samaritan that he was the neighbor of him who was among thieves, the unwritten law of the human heart.....The sympathy of our people was with the underdog [and] it took a mint of money and rivers of blood to wipe out the accursed traffic in human flesh."

This is dedicated to the courageous African-American men, women and children who were at the heart of this magnificent freedom story, who risked all for freedom, many whose names we may never know, as well as to the people of faith and compassion, both Black and White, who aided them.

These stories were compiled, edited and further researched by Dr. Chris Catalfamo, Kathleen Werner, Sonya Stewart and Dr. Veronica Toombs-Watson for the Indiana County Underground Railroad Project 2001 exhibit: "Freedom in the Air: Indiana County's Underground Railroad in Black and White." Images are mostly courtesy of the Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County, 200 South 6th St. Indiana, Pa. 15701. Central to this study was Clarence D. Stephenson's Impact of the Slavery Issue on Indiana County. (1964.) Thanks also to Blairsville historian Nicolene Cravotta for information on Johnston Montgomery Palmer, her ancestor. The most recent work of the movement to commemorate the Underground Railroad in 21st Century Indiana County is being carried out by the Blairsville Passport to Freedom Underground Railroad Experience. Visit them on the web at <http://www.undergroundrailroadblairsvillepa.com/>