

he at length escaped to Canada. Eager to lead others into liberty, he travelled on foot 400 miles into Kentucky, and brought off safely a party of thirty fugitives. Time after time he repeated his adventurous journey and rescued in all 118 slaves from bondage. Of one of these journeys he writes: "Words cannot describe the feelings experienced by my companions as they neared the shore; their bosoms were swelling with inexpressible joy as they mounted the seats of the boat, ready eagerly to spring forward that they might touch the soil of the freeman, and when they reached the shore they danced and wept for joy, and kissed the earth on which they first stepped, no longer the *Slave*, but the *Free*."

John Mason, another fugitive slave from Kentucky, aided the escape in nineteen months of two hundred and sixty-five fugitives, and in all assisted not less than 1,300 to escape to Canada. He was finally captured by the aid of bloodhounds. He resisted till both arms were broken. He was sold south to New Orleans, but escaped to the city of Hamilton, in Canada. "Let a man walk abroad on Freedom's Sunny Plains," he writes, "and having once drunk of its celestial 'stream whereof maketh glad the city of our God,' afterward reduce this man to slavery, it is next to an impossibility to retain him in slavery."

A brave woman named Armstrong, disguised as a man, returned to the Kentucky plantation, where she had been a slave, hid near a spring where her children came for water, and brought off five of them to Canada.

Surpassed by none in high courage and consecrated zeal in these efforts to emancipate the slave was the humble heroine Harriet Tubman. Of this simple black woman Governor William H. Seward, of New York, wrote: "I have known Harriet long, and a nobler, higher spirit or a truer, seldom dwells in human form." John Brown described her as "one of the bravest persons on this continent—General Tubman, as we call her." "She saw in the oppression of her race," says Siebert, "the sufferings of the enslaved Israelites, and was not slow to demand that the Pharaoh of the South should let her people go." She, therefore, received the name of Moses—from the great Hebrew liberator who led to freedom a nation of slaves. Herself born a slave, she first tasted the sweets of liberty in 1849. She subsequently made nineteen excursions south and brought off over three hundred fugitives from bondage. All her own earnings were devoted to this mission together with generous sums given her. Her method was, having secured her convoy of slaves, to start north on Saturday night so as to allow a good start before they could be advertised, and to pay negroes to tear down the advertisements of