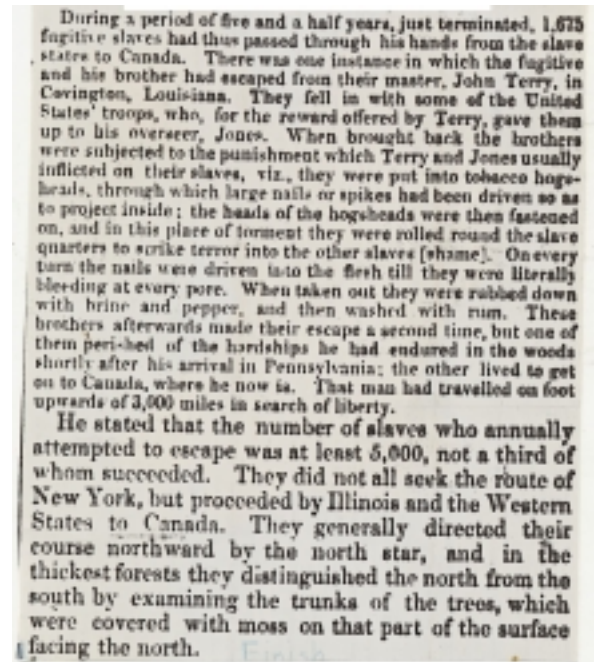


During a period of five and half years, just terminated, 1,675 fugitive slaves had thus passed through his hands from the slave states to Canada. There was instance in which the fugitive and his brother had escaped from their master, John Terry, in Covington, Louisiana. They fell in with some of the United States' troops, who, for the reward offered by Terry, gave them up to his overseer, Jones. When brought back the brothers were subjected to the punishment which Terry and Jones usually inflicted on their slaves, viz., they were put into tobacco hogs-heads, through which large nails or spikes had been driven so as to project inside; the heads of the hogsheads were then fastened on, and in this place of torment they were rolled round the slave quarters to strike terror into the other slaves [shame]. On every turn the nails were driven into the flesh till they were literally bleeding at every pore. When taken out they were rubbed down with brine and pepper, and then washed with rum. These brothers afterwards made their escape a second time, but one of them perished of the hardships he had endured in the woods shortly after his arrival in Pennsylvania; the other lived to get on to Canada, where he now is. That man had travelled on foot upwards of 3,000 miles in search of liberty.

He stated that the number of slaves who annually attempted to escape was at least 5,000, not a third of whom succeeded. They did not all seek the route of New York, but proceeded by Illinois and the Western States to Canada. They generally directed their course northward by the north star, and in the thickest forests they distinguished the north from the south by examining the trunks of the trees, which were covered with moss on that part of the surface facing the north.



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