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**Slavery: Behind The Scenes...**

**A peek behind the wall of slavery.**

**By: Ty Sasser and Karolina Kacinskas**

Slavery, a very sore subject in modern-day America. The story behind it will leave you breathless. It all started in 1619 in Jamestown, Virginia, where the first African-American slaves were brought. Slavery may be in the past, but it is still a vivid memory today.

TO BE SOLD, on board the Ship *Bance-Island*, on tueſday the 6th of *May* next, at *Aſhley-Ferry*; a choice cargo of about 250 fine healthy

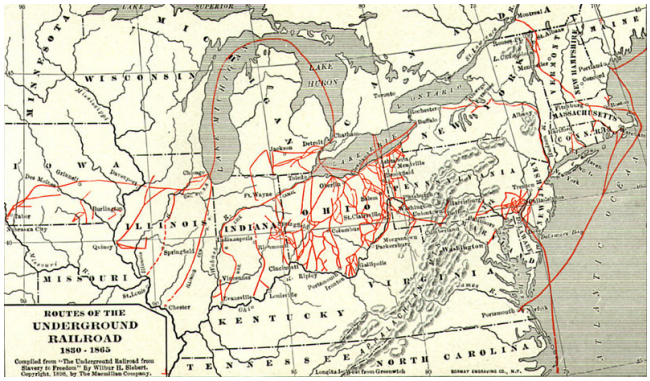
NEGROES,

juſt arrived from the Windward & Rice Coaſt. —The utmoſt care has already been taken, and ſhall be continued, to keep them free from the leaſt danger of being infected with the SMALL-POX, no boat having been on board, and all other communication with people from *Charles-Town* prevented.

*Auſtin, Laurens, & Appleby.*

*N. B.* Full one Half of the above Negroes have had the SMALL-POX in their own Country.

The Underground Railroad was a key piece in the process of saving African-American slaves. These "Conductors" or "Helpers" took it upon themselves to save the lives of these slaves in danger. The Underground Railroad referred to slaves as "Passengers" or "Cargo" to keep a low profile. They had "Stopping Places" also called "Stations" all over the United States in the time of slavery. Harriet Tubman, an escaped slave, was the most important "Conductor". Countless lives were saved by The Underground Railroad.

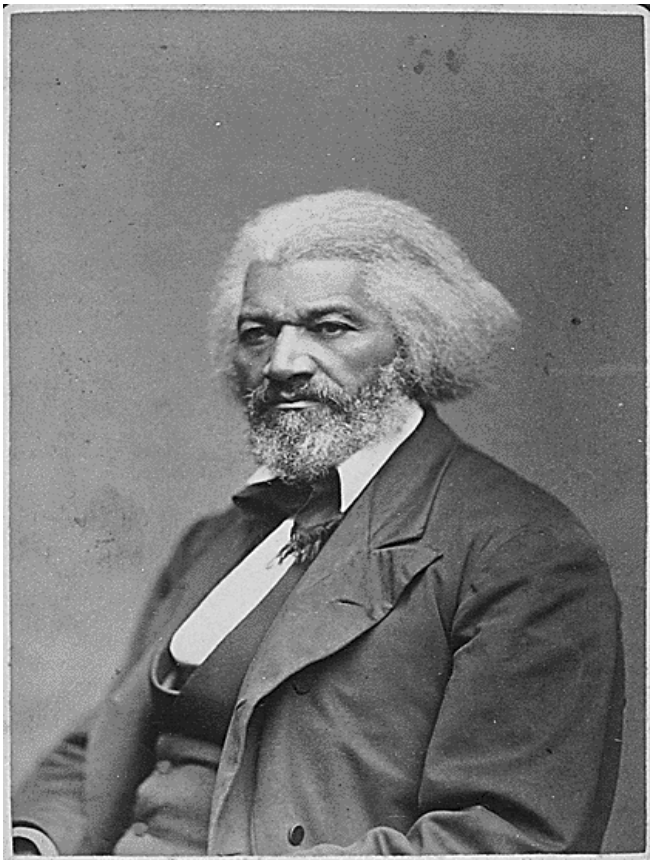



Business was booming for slave owners. In 1619, slaves were sold all over America. Children were kidnapped and sneaked away from their' families to become slaves. Heavily enraged at the lack of respect for their lives,  African-Americans began to kill whites for freedom. Still desperate for a free life, slaves stopped at nothing to escape.

GROUP OF SLAVE-CHILDREN ON BOARD THE "DAPHNE." [*Page* 180.

(*From a Photograph by the Author.*)

Frederick Douglass has a phenomenal story of becoming a leader from a slave. As a child slave, he did not have a bed, no good clothes, and lack of food. The money he earned from hard work and labor, was taken away by the master. With a desperate life, he tried to escape, but was caught and sent to jail. Later in his life, while working as a caulker, he met his one true love, Anna Murray. Frederick was soon to be known as an abolitionist, and did remarkable speeches all over the United States. His speeches were printed into newspapers. Douglass wrote in books about his legacy. He was the first African-American to be nominated for president.



The giant wall of slavery may never be fully uncovered. But, the small peak behind the wall has shaped the America we will in today. From the Underground Railroad to the remarkable stories of abolitionists, slavery has played an important role in history. Slavery is a big deal, and should always be remembered, yet never forgotten.

**Footnotes:**


1) Carole D. Bos, J.D, Underground Railroad, Awesome Stories, Jun/16/2015, Jun/06/2016, https://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Underground-Railroad

2) Carole D. Bos, J.D, Slave Voices, Awesome Stories, Jun/16/2015, Jun/06/2016, https://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Slave-Voices

3) Carole D. Bos, J.D, Frederick Douglass: From Slave to Leader, Awesome Stories, Feb/07/2016, Jun/06/2016, https://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Frederick-Douglass-From-Slave-to-Leader



See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:
http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Slavery-Behind-The-Scenes...1

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:
http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Slavery-Behind-The-Scenes...1

Media Stream

## Advertising Slaves For Sale

Image described above, online courtesy Library of Congress.

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View this asset at:
http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Advertising-Slaves-For-Sale

## Routes of the Underground Railroad - Map

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

View this asset at:
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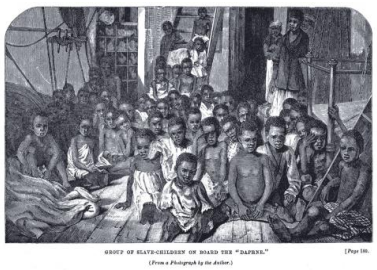

## African Children Rescued From a Slave Ship

From:  George L. Sulivan, *Dhow chasing in Zanzibar waters and on the eastern coast of Africa* (London, 1873), facing p. 180.

The original of this photo, taken by Sullivan (the author of *Dhow Chasing*) in 1869, is maintained by the Public Record Office in London (FO 84/1310).

Image, courtesy slaveryimages.org, sponsored by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and the University of Virginia Library.

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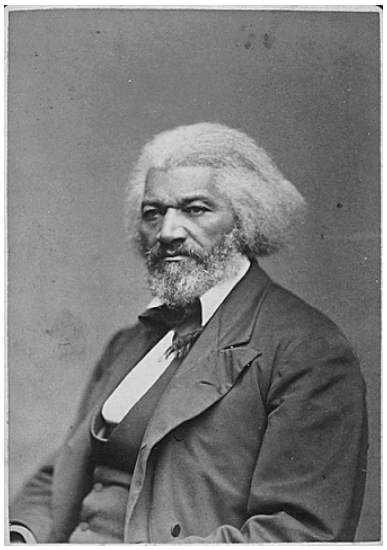

## Frederick Douglass

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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