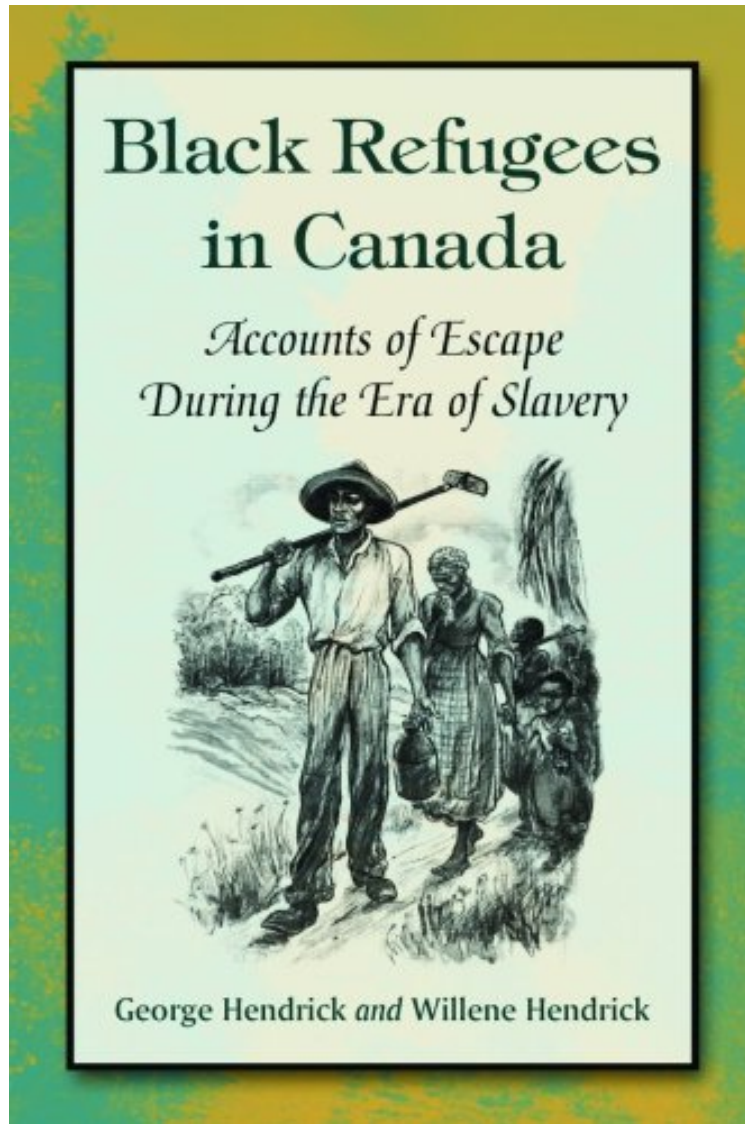


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Black Refugees in Canada: Accounts of Escape During the Era of Slavery

George Hendrick

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George Hendrick : Black Refugees in Canada: Accounts of Escape During the Era of Slavery before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Black Refugees in Canada: Accounts of Escape During the Era of Slavery:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Interesting Accounts on the Lives of Refugees in the White North.By dwood78Recently there has been a number of books released about the Underground Railroad, how they

helped slaves escape to the North or into Canada. This paperback book, which is less than 200 pages is a very interesting page turner. After starting out with a look at slavery in Canada, which did exist, but not to the extent as it did in the 13 colonies later the US, there's accounts from those who were able to escape to the Great North, where they were guaranteed freedom by the Canadian government despite the racism that existed along its population. It's also worth noting that many of these escapees were able to make a living on their own terms, rather than being slaves for someone else's profit like the Blackburns would later start a taxi business and own lots of property (check out "I've Got a Home in Gloryland: A Lost Tale of the Underground Railroad" for more info on this couple.) After the Civil War, many of these escapees returned to the United States, only to be disappointed as they find themselves (esp. those who returned to the Deep South) living under Jim Crow laws. Yet some of the accounts include those who eventually became Canadian citizens, thus becoming permanent members of its society. This is perhaps the 3rd book I've read about the Underground Railroad runaway slaves this year. But this one's the most intimate with such wonderful individual accounts. Check it out if you're into the history of American slavery.

Thousands of black people sought refuge in Canada before the U.S. Civil War. While most refugees encountered at least some racism among Canadian citizens, many of those same refugees also thrived under the auspices of the Canadian government, which worked to protect blacks from the U.S. slaveowners who sought to re-enslave them. This work brings to light the life stories of several nineteenth-century black refugees who managed to survive in their new country by gaining work as barbers, postal carriers, washerwomen, waiters, cab owners, ministers, newspaper editors, and physicians. The book begins with a short historical account of blacks in Canada from 1629 until the early 1800s, when the first groups of escaped slaves began to enter the country.

About the Author Independent scholar George Hendrick lives in Urbana, Illinois. Willene Hendrick is an independent scholar from Urbana, Illinois.