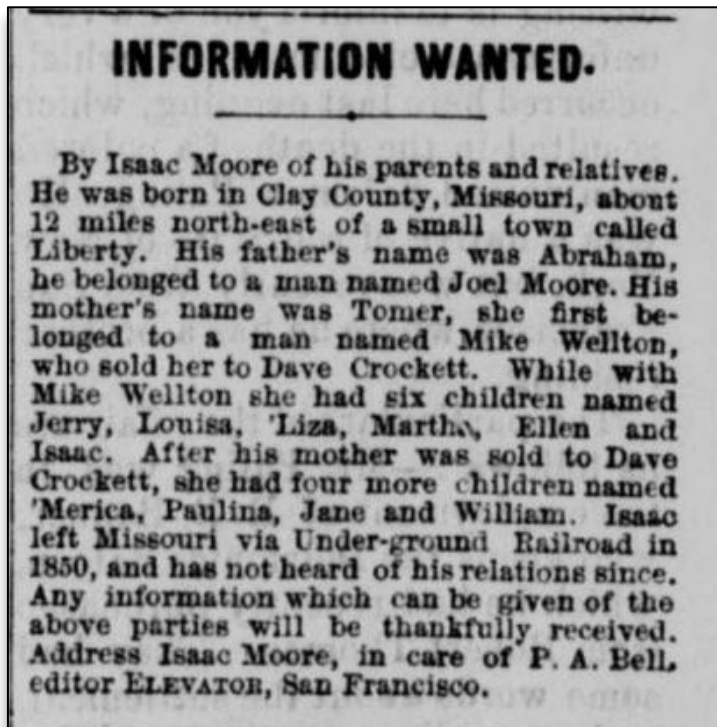


Isaac Moore searching for his father Abraham and mother Tomer

Isaac Moore placed this ad in *The Elevator* an African American newspaper published in San Francisco, California from 1865 to 1898. Isaac Moore's ad reveals his own story of resistance and his search for the family he left behind.



INFORMATION WANTED.

By Isaac Moore of his parents and relatives. He was born in Clay County, Missouri, about 12 miles north-east of a small town called Liberty. His father's name was Abraham, he belonged to a man named Joel Moore. His mother's name was Tomer, she first belonged to a man named Mike Wellton, who sold her to Dave Crockett. While with Mike Wellton she had six children named Jerry, Louisa, Liza, Martha, Ellen and Isaac. After his mother was sold to Dave Crockett, she had four more children named 'Merica, Paulina, Jane, and William. Isaac left Missouri via Under-ground Railroad in 1850, and has not heard of his relations since. Any information which can be given of the above parties will be thankfully received. Address Isaac Moore, in care of P.A. Bell, editor ELEVATOR, San Francisco.

Frances Parker seeking information about brothers Thomas and Amiger Moton

Frances Parker placed this ad in *The Christian Recorder* in 1870. Published by the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, *The Christian Recorder* is the oldest continuously published African American newspaper in the United States. Although the AME church published the newspaper, much of its content focused on secular issues that affected the African American community.

Parker's ad is unusual in that it directly references the Underground Railroad and references contact Parker had with her brothers after their escape.

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INFORMATION WANTED,

Of my brothers Thomas and Amiger Moton, sons of Polly Parker, of Washington city. When last heard from they were in Canada. They lived at Fredericksburgh, and belonged to Lewis Halton, but escaped by Underground Railroad. Any information will be gladly received by their sister,

FRANCES PARKER,
St. Joseph, Mo.

July 2—3m.

—◆—◆—◆—

INFORMATION WANTED,

Of my brothers Thomas and Amiger Moton, sons of Polly Parker, of Washington city. When last heard from they were in Canada. They lived at Fredericksburgh, and belonged to Lewis Halton, but escaped by Underground Railroad. Any information will be gladly received by their sister,

FRANCES PARKER,
St. Joseph, Mo.

July 2—3m.

Ellen Nettleton searching for her husband George Nettleton

Ellen Nettleton placed this ad in the *Provincial Freeman and Weekly Advertiser* in 1855. The *Provincial Freeman* was founded by Mary Ann Chadd in 1853 and ran for four years. It was the first newspaper published by an African American woman in Canada. Initially, Shadd left her name off the paper's masthead to avoid the negative public reaction to a paper published by a woman. The following year, however, Shadd placed her name in the paper's masthead, announcing her position as publisher and editor. She even hired her sister to help edit the paper.

In Nettleton's ad, although she does not specifically reference the Underground Railroad, there are several clues that allude to her family's escape along the secret network. First, she was parted from her husband at "one of the Stations," a common reference to secret locations where enslaved people stopped and stayed waiting and preparing for the next leg of their journey. Second, the ad appeared in 1855—at the height of abolitionist activity along the Underground Railroad. Finally, her ad references locations in Canada and appeared in a Canadian newspaper—a popular destination for enslaved people seeking to self-emancipate.

INFORMATION WANTED.
ELLEN NETTLETON wants to find her husband, GEORGE NETTLETON. She got parted from him at one of the Stations west of Hamilton, and don't know the place he his gone to. He had two young children with him. She is in Chatham, a stranger and without money. Exchanges will serve the cause of humanity by making the above known. Commercial Hotel, Chatham.

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Exchanges will serve the cause of humanity by making the above known.

Commercial Hotel, Chatham.

Sources: First: *The Elevator* (San Francisco, CA), December 29, 1871. <https://informationwanted.org/items/show/3689>
Second: *The Christian Recorder* (Philadelphia, PA), July 2, 1870. <https://informationwanted.org/items/show/357>;
Third: *Provincial Freeman and Weekly Advertiser* (Windsor/Toronto/Chatham, Canada West), November 10, 1855. <https://informationwanted.org/items/show/1138>
Fourth: *The Christian Recorder* (Philadelphia, PA), June 12, 1869. <https://informationwanted.org/items/show/335>

Sarah Elizabeth Brooks seeking information about her mother Deborah Brown

Sarah Elizabeth Brooks placed this ad in *The Christian Recorder* in 1869. Published by the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, *The Christian Recorder* is the oldest continuously published African American newspaper in the United States. Although the AME church published the newspaper, much of its content focused on secular issues that affected the African American community.

Brooks's ad describes her mother's escape from enslavement and her presumed location in Canada.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Information wanted of my mother, Deborah Brown, of Chestertown, Kent Co., Md. She was a slave of Daniel Collins, but escaped from him in 1854. Five years ago I heard she was in Canada. Any information of her whereabouts will be thankfully received. Address

SARAH ELIZABETH BROOKS,
Chester, Pa.

June 12—1t.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Information wanted of my mother, Deborah Brown, of Chestertown, Kent Co., Md. She was a slave of Daniel Collins, but escaped from him in 1854. Five years ago I heard she was in Canada. Any information of her whereabouts will be thankfully received. Address

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June 12—1t.

Sources: First: *The Elevator* (San Francisco, CA), December 29, 1871. <https://informationwanted.org/items/show/3689>
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