

Henry Brown seeking information about his mother Rebecca and father, a free man,  
Samuel Brown

This ad appeared in *The Christian Recorder*, the oldest continuously published African American newspaper in the United States. Although the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) published *The Christian Recorder*, much of its content focused on secular issues that affected the African American community.

Brown placed this ad in 1873 during Reconstruction. In it he details his family's separation decades ago as his mother and siblings were sold from one slaveholder to another in Kentucky.

**Information Wanted.**

I, Henry Brown was born in Versailles, Woodford Co., Kentucky, (a slave) belonged to the Subletts family. My mother's name was Rebecca, and my father's Samuel Brown. (He was always free.) I am the eldest of four children. Samuel and David are the names of my two brothers; Anna is the name of my sister. My mother and her family were moved to Shelbyville, Shelby County, Ky., between twenty and thirty years ago. At the expiration of two years she was removed to Jefferson County, near Louisville; having with her David and Anna. It has been twenty-three years since I have seen any of them. If any person or persons can give me any information of the whereabouts of the above-named persons, through the CHRISTIAN RECORDER, or by letter, I will be under obligations to the said person or persons.

I am, respectfully,

HENRY BROWN,  
Lincoln, Nebraska, Box 36.

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