



Chapter 6

 Acts of Resistance:
Black Men and Women Engage Slavery in
Upper Canada, 1793-1803
Afua Cooper 

Questions for Critical Reading

1. How does Cooper's article complicate the more prevalent history of slavery in Canada?
2. Did Western notions of womanhood apply to black women? Why or why not?
3. In what ways did slaves in Canada resist? Why is their resistance, however limited, important?
4. Why is Martin, the black male in this story, treated differently than Chloe Cooley?

List of Primary Sources

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- "Mary Ann Shadd Cary Collection." Textual documents. 1852-1889.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=100441&rec_nbr_list=100441
- "William King Collection." Textual Documents. 1836-1895.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=101149&rec_nbr_list=101149
- "Letter from Lord Elgin to Mr. Cumming-Bruce." Letter. 1850.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=4052656&rec_nbr_list=4052656
- "The Good 'Woman of Colour' who Lived Near us in Lundy's Lane." Estcourt, Caroline Bucknall. Watercolour. 1838.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2837066&rec_nbr_list=2837066

- “Negro Man and Child on the Way Side, Southwestern Ontario.” Acland, Henry Wentworth. Drawing. 1860.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2859639&rec_nbr_list=2859639
- “The Land of the Free and the Home of the Braves. (Slave Market).” Martin, Henry Byam. Watercolour. 1833.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2833438&rec_nbr_list=2833438
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http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2836448&rec_nbr_list=2836448
- “Josiah Henson.” Postal Cover. 1983.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2235179&rec_nbr_list=2235179
- “Unidentified Portrait of an African-Canadian Boy.” McKie, Mary R. Painting. 1840-1846.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2836925&rec_nbr_list=2836925
- “Lieutenant Governor J.G.Simcoe.” Print. 1800-1880.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=4310484&rec_nbr_list=4310484
- “Letter from John F. Crampton to Lord Elgin.” Letter. 1849.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=4004474&rec_nbr_list=4004474

Multimedia Resources

- Fields of Endless Day (NFB Documentary) (1978)
<http://onf-nfb.gc.ca/eng/collection/film/?id=12646>
- Enslaved Africans in Upper Canada
<http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/explore/online/slavery/index.aspx>
- Chloe Cooley and the Act to Limit Slavery in Upper Canada
<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/chloe-cooley-and-the-act-to-limit-slavery-in-upper-canada/>
- Abolition of Enslavement in Canada
<http://blackhistorycanada.ca/events.php?themeid=21&id=3>

- Underground Railroad Heritage Minute
<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/underground-railroad>