

"A Presbyterian Clergyman Suspended for Being Connected with the Underground Railroad" Article, November 8, 1855

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The Louisville Courier copies with approval the following from the Presbyterian Herald:

The Indiana Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, lately tried and suspended the Rev. T. B. McCormick, one of their ministers, recently, under the following charge and specifications:

Charge. – Unchristian conduct.

First Specification. – For associating himself with an association known as the underground railroad, whose avowed business is to assist slaves from slave to free territory.

Second Specification. – For actually engaging in the business of assisting slaves in making their escape from slave to free territory, which is contrary to the laws or the United States and Statute laws of Indiana.

Several of the witnesses stated that Mr. M. had boasted to them of the number of slaves he had aided to escape, giving the names and places in Kentucky from which they had escaped, and one of testified that he had heard him say that he had never denied belonging to the underground railroad, and that he had said in April, this year, in speaking of the relative numbers taken to Liberia by colonization and to Canada by the underground railroad, that 10,000 had gone to Liberia and 35,000 to Canada by the underground railroad.

One of their papers stated that he visited one of his ministerial brethren in Kentucky, partook in his hospitalities, prayed with his family, and in the meantime arranged matters with his servants to make their escape.