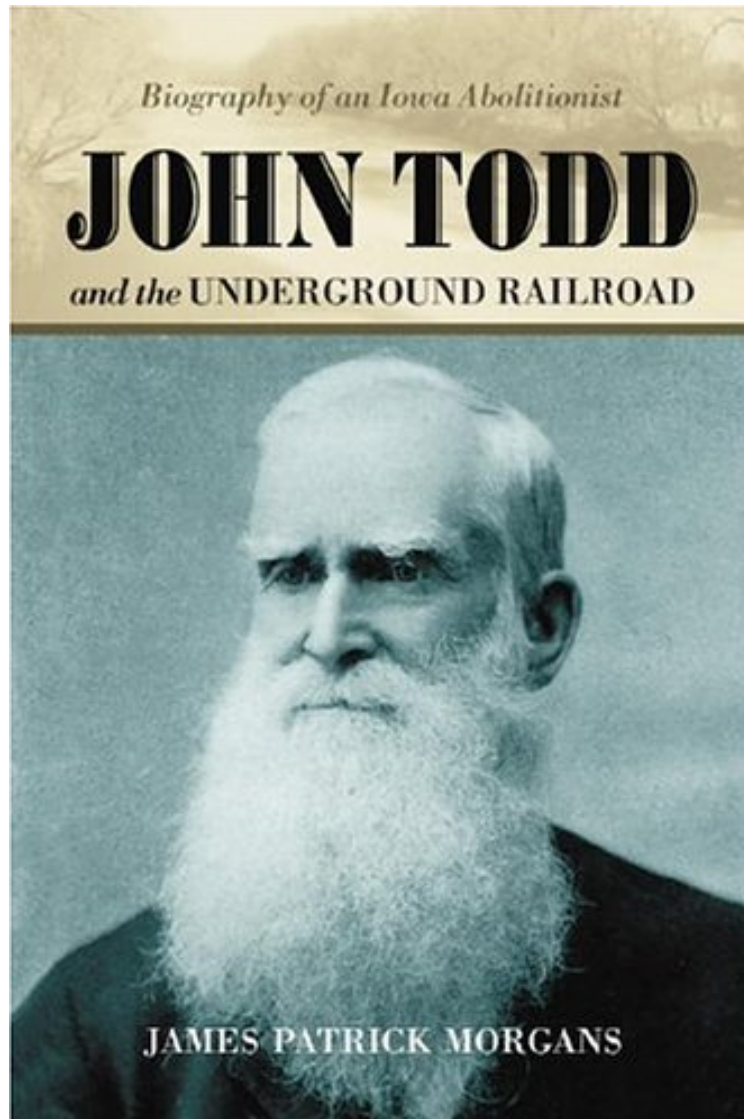


## John Todd and the Underground Railroad: Biography of an Iowa Abolitionist

*James Patrick Morgans*

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**James Patrick Morgans : John Todd and the Underground Railroad: Biography of an Iowa Abolitionist** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised John Todd and the Underground Railroad: Biography of an Iowa Abolitionist:

0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Covers many subjects, not enough underground railroad infoBy glamIt appears that the author did not have enough information on his subject, so he skipped around the time period

and came up with stories that had nothing to do with John Todd, or the underground railroad. My great-grandfather was in the underground railroad in Guthrie, Iowa and wrote a better account...one that left you with tears in your eyes. I expected the same from this book, but it was lacking.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. a book re a 19th century Iowa abolitionistBy Schmerguls5505. John Todd and the Underground Railroad Biography of an Iowa Abolitionist, by James Patrick Morgans (read 7 Oct 2017) John Todd was born 10 Nov 1818, attended Oberlin College in Ohio beginning in September 1835, and after a short time as a minister in Ohio, moved to Tabor, Mills County, Iowa. He was a devoted opponent of slavery and active in the Underground Railroad in Iowa. This book tells of his life and of the abolitionists in Iowa, and their connection with John Brown, who spent some time in Tabor before he went o Virginia and to his death there. The book is quite detailed in relating the activities at Tabor and the founding of Tabor College, which existed from after the Civil War until 1927. The book includes letters by and to John Todd which while they tell of the events in regard to the Todds in Iowa before the Civil War are not of excessive interest. The book is competently done but is not of overwhelming interest unless you have some connection to Tabor, Iowa, which I do not have.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. well researched biographyBy Andrew MichaelBuy it

Born November 10, 1818, John Todd grew up in the rural area surrounding Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The most formative experience of his life was attending college in Oberlin, Ohio. A one-of-a-kind educational institution, Oberlin College was fully integrated--allowing men and women, black and white, to attend the same classes--at a time when the entire country was in a racial upheaval. As a result, Oberlin turned out a group of men and women almost devoid of racial prejudice. It was from this pool of graduates that many of the founders of Tabor, Iowa, were drawn. They were determined to found an Oberlin-like college in the westernmost territory of the United States, so it was no surprise that this group quickly became active in the Underground Railroad and other abolitionist activities. This biography details the life of the Reverend John Todd and presents the story of the Underground Railroad Station in Tabor. With the life of Todd as a common thread, the book explores how the station began and the noble purposes behind its birth. From the beginning of Todd's career at Oberlin College, the book follows him from an unsatisfying first pastorate to the site of his life's work in Tabor, where he would provide spiritual guidance and leadership, along with friend George Gaston, for the settlement. The work covers the prewar construction of the Tabor Literary Institute, which was beset by financial and administrative difficulties from the beginning. With a singleness of purpose spurred on by Todd and Gaston, the residents of Tabor joined in the abolitionist movement through participation not only in the Underground Railroad but in the Jim Lane Trail and Kansas Free State Movement as well. John Brown was in and out of Tabor on many occasions, bringing escaped slaves with him. Todd's service in the Union Army and jubilation with the Federal victory are also discussed. An appendix contains various letters and documents pertaining to the Todd family, the Underground Railroad and other abolitionist activities.

"But when he tells the story of John Todd and the Underground Railroad in southwest Iowa, events with which he is intimately familiar, Morgans is at his best." --The Annals of IowaAbout the AuthorJames Patrick Morgans has written over 150 periodical and magazine articles as well as two books. He lives in Council Bluffs, Iowa where he operates a library consulting firm.