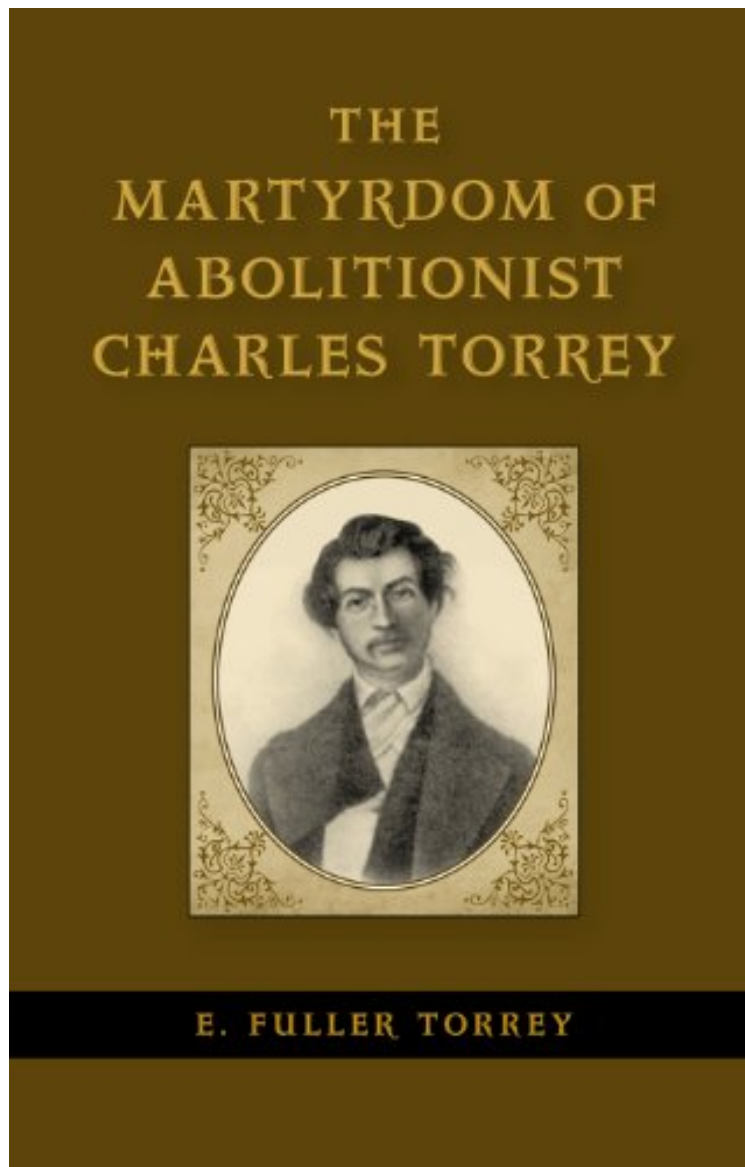


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The Martyrdom of Abolitionist Charles Torrey (Antislavery, Abolition, and the Atlantic World)

E. Fuller Torrey

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E. Fuller Torrey : The Martyrdom of Abolitionist Charles Torrey (Antislavery, Abolition, and the Atlantic World) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Martyrdom of Abolitionist Charles Torrey (Antislavery, Abolition, and the Atlantic World):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Pastor Who Fought SlaveryBy AvidReaderDid you know that before the Civil War there were dozens of men locked up in jail for running the Underground Railroad? Charles T Torrey was a pastor who couldn't keep his religion in the pulpit. He chose to love his neighbor by enabling hundreds of slaves to escape on the Underground Railroad. And he even had the courage to target slaves owned by U.S. Congressmen! This is the true story of a side of Civil War history that is simply amazing. The research is excellent and the writing very entertaining. This book belongs in every Civil War library!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Martyrdom of Abolitionist Charles Torrey, By E. Fuller Torrey MDBy David R BoydE.Fuller Torrey writes again in his scientifically based style and brings in relevant social and political determining features. I must read for any serious student and made understandable to the casual historian. A previous critique below;The Martyrdom of Abolitionist Charles Torrey, By E. Fuller Torrey MDMy dear classmates, the following is an unsolicited and unpaid critique of E. Fuller Torrey's new book on the life story of his heroic relative Charles Fuller, better known as the "Father of the Underground Railroad". C Fuller's important contributions to ending slavery in the United States in the early nineteenth century had been for the most part lost to history, and were most admirably resurrected by our colleague E Fuller Torrey.I found this biography of CT to be engaging, well documented and enlightening with several new perspectives. Important social-historical themes were presented along with the simultaneous occurrence of CT's bravery, inspiration and leadership to move the abolition movement into the political arena. In this, CT and his comrades change the playing field and set up an irreparable schism between the New vs. the Old Abolitionists. This split and political maneuvering establishes the ground rules for other "special interests groups down the road, including the Temperance and woman's suffrage and beyond. CT, however, goes further into "active" by assisting in the escape (i.e. stealing) of slaves and transporting in person along the First Line of the Underground Railroad that started in Baltimore MD and went onto Albany NY. He documents some 400 successful trips. I particularly enjoyed that CT's slave holding targets were prominent Southern Congressman and White House connected officials. And, upon success CT would write letters to those he "robbed" detailing the success of the UGRR trip and safe emancipation in Canada. What a Guy! There are several other important sub-themes in E Fuller's book that include historic and contemporary social and organization behavior patterns including political infighting over ideas and mechanisms, passive aggressiveness and hypocrisy,--the stuff of humankind, especially in times of critical issues. Those of you that think the US political scene is now at its worst need to read this book. I found this book enchanting as a mystery novel with unexpected outcomes and revelations. I am somewhat familiar with this historical period but not to the detail of the Underground Railroad described by E Fuller. Other research and by later analysis estimate that 6000 individuals were successfully transported to freedom. Charles Torrey showed others the effectiveness of these transports, and encouraged many other Conductors in the northern states. CT's target population was high profile slaves in the District of Columbia. These irritated the Southern establishment, encouraged others to catch the UGRR to the Promised Land and mellowed northern public opinion beyond the Religious Abolitionist fringe group. These actions were instrumental to the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850. And these brought forth a series of Nullification "Freedom" Laws in northern states. And step by step, the American Civil war.This is a great read and I highly recommend. it to the class. And, we also invite to visit and tour the Antietam Battlefield probably the most important intellectual turning point in the Civil War. Lincoln was looking for a win from which he could announce his Emancipation Proclamation. This battle changed the war goals from "Reunion" to the Final Abolition of Slavery in the USA.Again Fuller, thank you an excellent book, an enjoyable and educational read. I am proud to see your defense of CT's reputation and historical significance in Assessment in the last chapter. Nice Work.Thank you, and Season's Greetings, drbDavid R Boyd MDCM

During his brief yet remarkable career, abolitionist Charles Torrey -- called the "father of the Underground Railroad" by his peers -- assisted almost four hundred slaves in gaining their freedom. A Yale graduate and an ordained minister, Torrey set up a well-organized route for escaped slaves traveling from Washington and Baltimore to Philadelphia and Albany. Arrested in Baltimore in 1844 for his activities, Torrey spent two years in prison before he succumbed to tuberculosis. By then, other abolitionists widely recognized and celebrated Torrey's exploits: running wagonloads of slaves northward in the night, dodging slave catchers and sheriffs, and involving members of Congress in his schemes. Nonetheless, the historiography of abolitionism has largely overlooked Torrey's fascinating and compelling story. The Martyrdom of Abolitionist Charles Torrey presents the first comprehensive biography of one of America's most dedicated abolitionists. According to author E. Fuller Torrey, a distant relative, Charles Torrey pushed the abolitionist movement to become more political and active. He helped advance the faction that challenged the leadership of William Lloyd Garrison, provoking an irreversible schism in the movement and making Torrey and Garrison bitter enemies. Torrey played an important role in the formation of the Liberty Party and in the emergence of political abolitionism. Not satisfied with the slow pace of change, he also pioneered aggressive abolitionism by personally freeing slaves, likely liberating more than any other person. In doing so, he inspired many others, including John Brown, who cited Torrey as one of his role models. E. Fuller Torrey's study not only fills a substantial gap in the history of abolitionism but restores Charles Torrey to his rightful place as one of the most dedicated and significant

abolitionists in American history.

"The author . . . does a remarkable job of drawing his story from a combination of primary sources, such as personal letters and abolitionist newspapers, and secondary sources." --Journal of Southern History
About the Author
E. Fuller Torrey, M.D., is the executive director of the Stanley Medical Research Institute and a professor of psychiatry at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. He is the author or coauthor of twenty books, including *The Roots of Treason*, which was honored by the National Book Critics Circle.