

While both articles ("Acts of Resistance" and "Enslaved Africans in Upper Canada") speak of slaves and their resistance, what really stands out is the story about Chloe Cooley. She seems to be what started the whole movement, whether she intended to or not.

Cooley's story starts with Peter Martin, a black man, addressing the legislature and trying to convince them that how this girl was treated was wrong. He knows he will not be trusted by the men so he brings an eye witness. Their story really appeals to the Lieutenant Governor, John Graves Simcoe, and he tries to change the rules on slavery. While this doesn't go exactly as he planned ("The slaveholders within and outside of Parliament clamoured for their property rights and told Simcoe in no uncertain terms that they would not give up their ownership on their slaves. Simcoe and his Chief Justice buckled under the pressure." [Cooper, "Acts of Resistance Black Men and Women engage Slavery in Upper Canada 1793-1803," P. 12]), Simcoe was still a big part of the movement to free slaves.

Unfortunately, this shows us again how Canada was not always the stereotypical (kind, polite, etc.) country that is portrayed today. There is a silver lining in this dark situation; there always seemed to be someone who stepped up to fight for the underdog. In this instance, it was Martin and Simcoe. While our history needs to be addressed and our wrongs need to be righted, it's nice to remember the people who fought for what was right and helped those who needed it.

#### Works Cited

Cooper, Afua. "Acts of Resistance Black Men and Women Engage Slavery in Upper Canada 1793-1803." Ontario History. Volume 99, Number 1. 2007: P 5-17.