

96. TE

HE STROVE FOR FREEDOM

**Death of a Prominent Colored Citizen
of Bedford County.**

WAS AN UNDERGROUND ENGINEER

**Slaves That He Succeeded in Saving After-
ward Brought Into and Passed
Through Blair County—A
Struggle for Freedom.**

THERE WERE MANY OF THEM

Special to the TRIBUNE.

BEDFORD, Pa., March 27.—One of the most important "engineers" on the underground railway, Benjamin H. Walker, died on Thursday at his home in Alum Bank, Pa., aged 81. He was born in 1808, in York county, this state, and in 1827 moved from thence in company with his father's family, to Bedford county. The year following he and his father walked to Ohio and back in search of a more desirable location for a home, but eventually settled in what is now West St. Clair township, Bedford county. Benjamin H. Walker was the father of eleven children, having raised of this number six sons who served honorably in the late war. As early of 1848 he was actively engaged with the system of assistance to escaping slaves known as the underground railway, in that year alone having helped to freedom twenty-seven fugitives.

At that time the route led from Virginia through Maryland via Cumberland valley, in Bedford county, to Bedford. The station here was in charge of Joseph Lawley, John Fiddler and Elias Rouse, all of whom have died. From Bedford the route led to Alum Bank or Pleasantville as it was then known. On the premises of Mr. Walker beneath a shed

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Wed, Nov 22, 2017