

THE STORY OF GEORGE EDWIN TAYLOR



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for **Enduring Families Project**
Illustrations by Charlene Mosley

COLORING BOOK



**George was born a free person because
his mother, Amanda, was free.**



**In 1859, all free people had to leave the state.
Amanda left with George.**

George and his mother took a riverboat to Alton, Illinois. George was two years old.





**When they arrived, they met people
who helped them.**

In 1862, George's mother became ill and died. The Civil War had started, and George was five years old.



George probably went to an orphanage, but it wasn't a nice place to be. George ran away to the wharf.

George begged for food at the wharf. It wasn't a very safe place for children.



One winter, Alton police found as many as 25 children living in barns and empty houses.

Where did the children find food?



**SUPPER
AND
FAIR!**

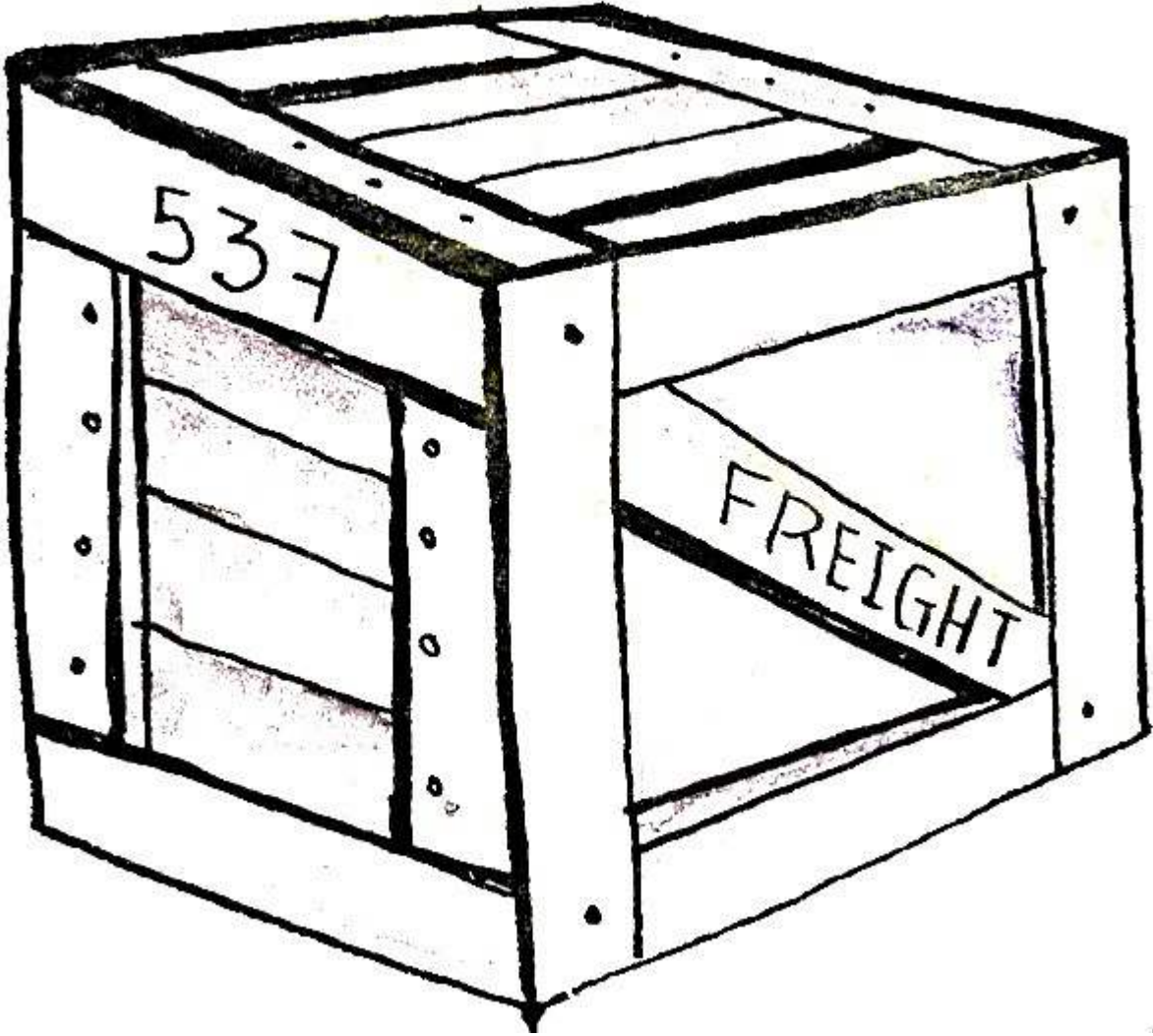
There will be a

Supper & Fair,
HELD
IN EDWARD'S BUILDING,
Corner of Third and Plaza Streets, on
Wednesday & Thursday Evng's.
For the benefit of the
UNION, COLORED, BAPTIST CHURCH.
The public are respectfully invited to attend.
Admittance 25 cts. - - Supper 25 cts.
DECEMBER, 31, 1855.

Advertisement for Fund-raiser to Support Union Baptist Church, 1855
Union Baptist Church, located in Alton, IL, Levee in the 1920s (Source: Missouri History Museum)



George lived by himself in a crate on the wharf for three years.



What did George have in the box with him? Draw things you think he might have had in his crate.

Do you think George had any friends? Any pets?

Do you have any pets? Draw them here.

Who do you think helped George when he lived on the wharf? Draw them.

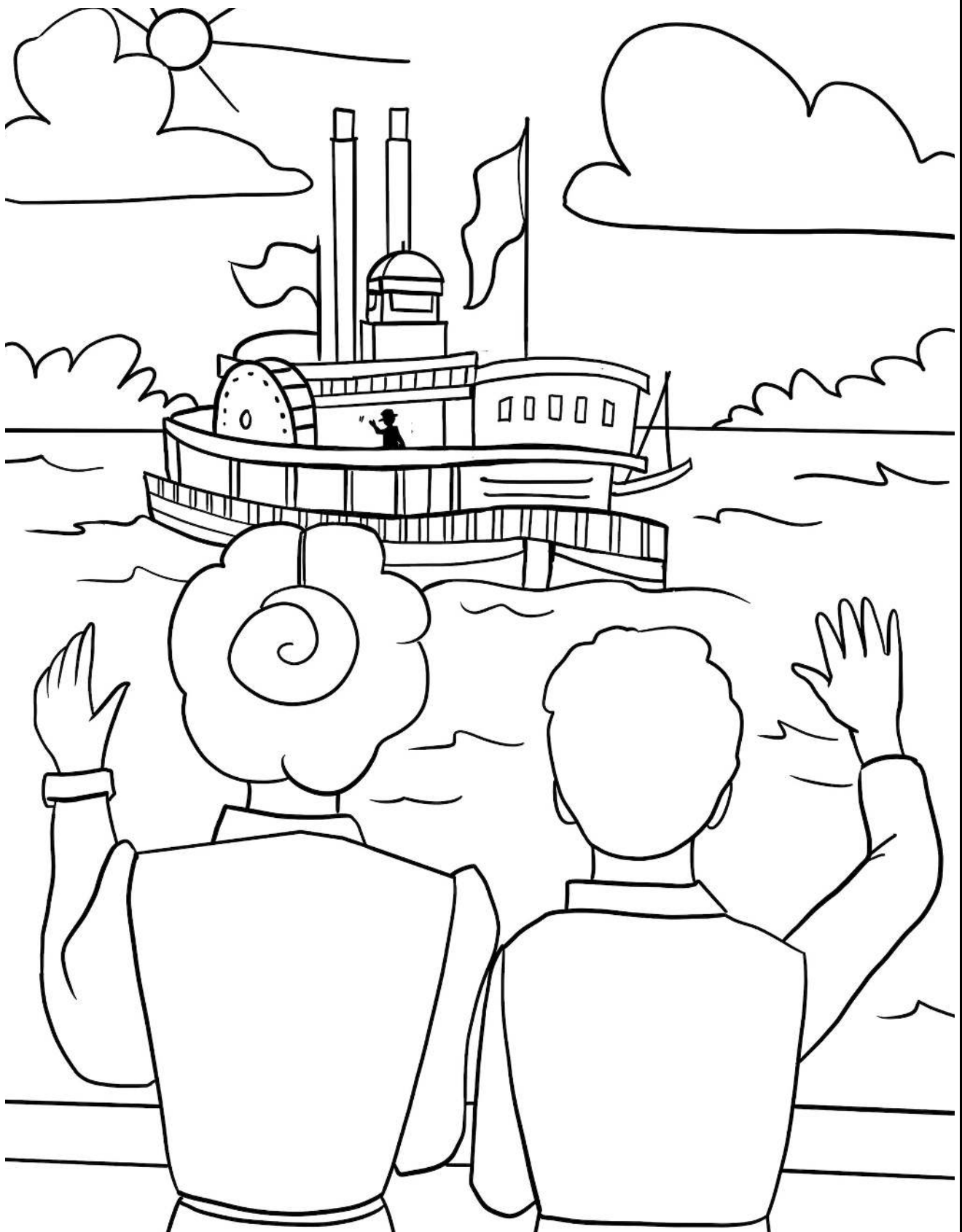
One day, George met a man named Henry Southall.
Henry worked as a cook on a boat
called the *Hawkeye State*.



**Henry took George on the boat. George went to live
with Henry and his wife Agnes in
La Crosse, Wisconsin.**



The Southall family in La Crosse



Henry left to work on the *Hawkeye State*.

While Henry was gone, George got into trouble again, and again.



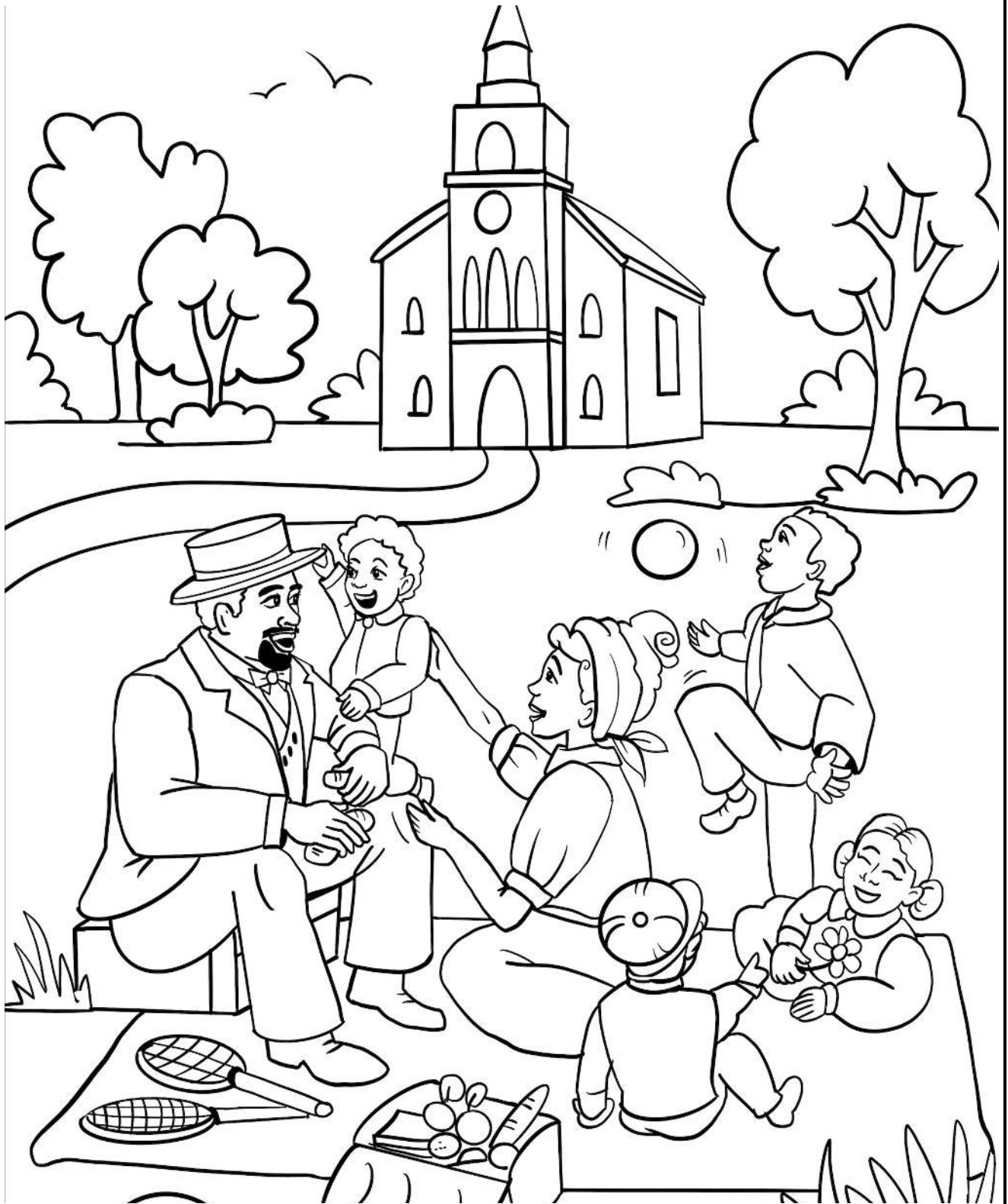
Sometimes the police would bring him home.

Anges took George for a ride. Nathan and Sally Smith fostered children in trouble.



They helped boys like George before. George went to live with the Smith family on their farm.

**On the farm, there was a lot of hard work to do.
But there was also plenty of food.**



George and the Smith family going to church

George was happy on the farm with the Smiths.



Nathan loved playing the banjo.

Nathan helped four of the boys on the farm go to college.



George went to college. He decided to become a newspaper editor.

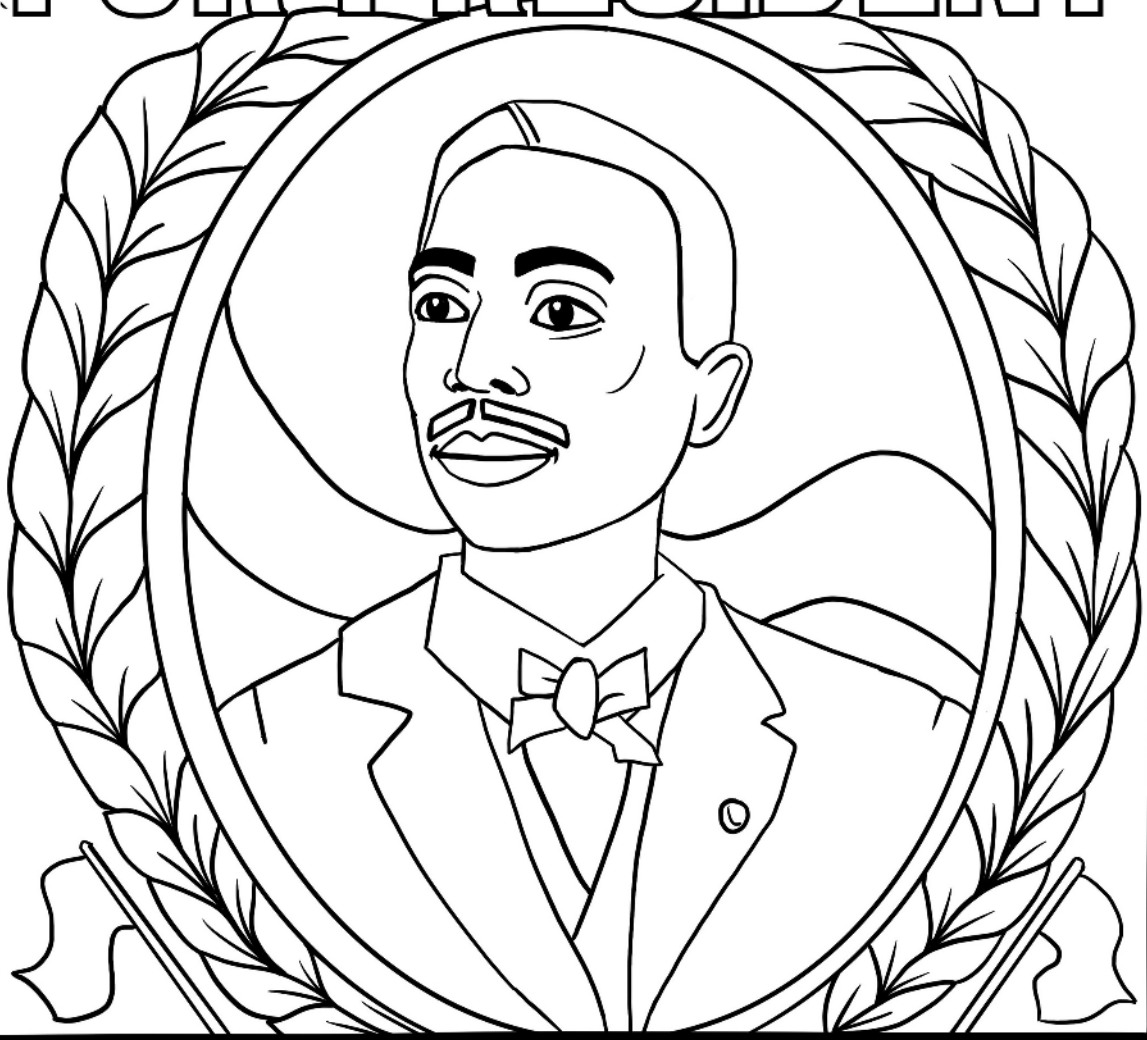
**George wrote for many newspapers
across the country.**



In 1904, George Edwin Taylor ran for
President of the United States.

GEORGE

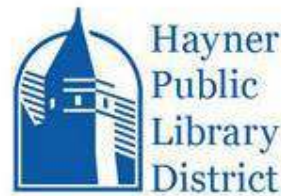
FOR PRESIDENT



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Enduring Families Project;
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Dr. Bruce Mouser
Black La Crosse, Wisconsin
1860-1905



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