I can truly say, I have spent some of the happiest moments of my life since landing in this country. I seem to have undergone a transformation. I live a new life.
Frederick Douglass to William Lloyd Garrison. Belfast, 1 January 1846.

1793 – the first Fugitive Slave Act was passed – free states were required to return escaped slaves to their ‘owners’

1807 – the Westminster Parliament outlawed British participation in the African Slave Trade

1808 – Congress outlawed American participation in the African Slave Trade

1818 – Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey was born into slavery in Talbot County, Maryland

1820 – the Missouri Compromise was passed: Missouri entered the Union as a slave state, Maine as a free state

1827 – taught the alphabet by his mistress – until her husband forbade it

1829 – began work in a shipyard

1831 - William Lloyd Garrison began publishing The Liberator, the most famous anti-slavery newspaper

1836 - first attempt to escape to the North (unsuccessful)

1838 - 3 September – escaped and arrived in New York. Changed his surname to Douglass

15 September 1838 – married Anna Murray, a free Baltimore woman who had helped him to escape
1840 - American Anti-Slavery Society split over the issue of the public involvement of women

**28 May 1845** – *Narrative* was published

**16 August 1845** - left Boston on board the *Cambria*, bound for Liverpool. He was not allowed to travel first-class

**27 August 1845** – was prevented from lecturing on board the *Cambria* by pro-slavery passengers who threatened to throw him overboard

**28 August 1845** – arrived in Liverpool

**IN DUBLIN**

**31 August 1845** – Sunday. Arrived in Dublin

  Attended Temperance meeting in Celbridge

**3 September 1845** – first anti-slavery lecture in Dublin

**9 September 1845** – anti-slavery lecture

**10 September 1845** – anti-slavery lecture to Hibernian Anti-Slavery Society

**12 September 1845** – anti-slavery lecture

**16 September** – spoke at Temperance meeting

**17 September** - anti-slavery lecture

**21 September 1845** – spoke at Temperance meeting

**23 September 1845** – anti-slavery lecture

**29 September 1845** – attended Repeal Meeting in Conciliation Hall. Met Daniel O’Connell

**Late September 1845** – first Irish edition of *Narrative* was published

**1 October 1845** - anti-slavery lecture
WEXFORD AND WATERFORD

7 October 1845 - left Dublin
    anti-slavery lecture in Wexford

8 October 1845 – anti-slavery lecture in Wexford

9 October 1845 – anti-slavery lecture in Waterford

CORK

11 October 1845 – arrived in Cork

12 October 1845 – attended a Temperance Festival

13 October 1845 – attended a Temperance meeting

14 October 1845 – lectured at anti-slavery breakfast meeting

14 October 1845 – anti-slavery lecture

17 October 1845 – anti-slavery lecture

20 October 1845 – spoke at the Temperance Institute on ‘Intemperance and Slavery’

21 October 1845 – attended a Festival at the Temperance Institute

23 October 1845 – lectured to the Cork Anti-Slavery Society

25 October 1845 – Thomas Auld ‘sold’ Frederick to his brother, Hugh, for $100.

27 October 1845 – anti-slavery lecture

28 October 1845 – attended a Temperance Soirée

3 November 1845 - anti-slavery lecture

4 November 1845 – anti-slavery lecture

LIMERICK

10 November 1845 - anti-slavery lecture

12 November 1845 – anti-slavery lecture
21 November 1845 – anti-slavery lecture

BELFAST

5 December 1845 – anti-slavery lecture

9 December 1845 – anti-slavery lecture

11 December 1945 – Thursday, Presbyterian Meeting House, Donegall Street, Belfast.

12 December 1845 – anti-slavery lecture

14 December 1845 – 19 December 1845 – travels to England to attend Temperance and Anti-Slavery meetings

23 December 1845 – anti-slavery lecture

26 December 1845 – anti-slavery lecture

29 December 1845 – anti-slavery lecture

1 January 1846 – anti-slavery lecture

2 January 1846 – anti-slavery lecture

6 January 1846 – farewell breakfast

lecture on temperance

7 January 1846 – lecture on temperance

10 January 1846 – left Belfast

SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND

February 1846 – second Dublin edition of *Narrative* is published

February to April – lectured in Scotland promoting the ‘Send Back the Money’ campaign, aimed at Presbyterian churches who accepted money from slave-owners

18 May 1846 – arrived in London
RETURN TO BELFAST

16 June 1846 – anti-slavery lecture
8 July 1846 – anti-slavery lecture
10 July 1846 – anti-slavery lecture
13 July 1846 – anti-slavery lecture
16 July 1846 – Garrison sailed for England on board the Hibernia
21 July 1846 – attended Temperance meeting
22 July 1846 – attended Temperance meeting
25 July 1846 – left Belfast

LONDON

4-8 August 1846 – attended World Temperance Convention in London
24 August 1846 – attended meeting of Anti-Slavery League in London
26 September 1846 – death of Thomas Clarkson, veteran anti-slavery activist

RETURN TO BELFAST

3 October 1846 – anti-slavery lecture with Garrison and Henry C. Wright
6 October 1846 – anti-slavery lecture

12 December 1846 – women abolitionists in England, led by Anna Richardson, ‘purchased’ Frederick’s freedom for £150

RETURN TO THE U.S.

4 April 1846 – departed from Liverpool on board the Cambria.
15 May 1847 – death of Daniel O’Connell
Autumn 1847 – Frederick and his family move to Rochester

3 December 1847 – launched the *North Star*

1848 – signed the Declaration of Sentiments in favour of Women’s Rights

1850 – Fugitive Slave Act passed, and was more draconian than the first

March 1852 – *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* was published. By the end of the year, 300,000 copies sold in the U.S.

1855 – published second autobiography, *My Bondage and My Freedom*

1856 – the newly-formed Republican Party held its first convention in Philadelphia

1857 - Dred Scott decision rules that Black people were not citizens, whether they were free or enslaved

1859 – John Brown, a friend of Frederick, led an unsuccessful raid at Harper’s Ferry, Virginia, to free and arm slaves. Fearing arrest, Frederick fled to Canada and then to Britain. He returned to the U.S. when he heard of the death of his youngest daughter, Annie, in March 1860

1860 – Abraham Lincoln’s election as President proved to be a trigger for the commencement of the Civil War in the following year

1 January 1863 – the Emancipation Proclamation was issued, which freed slaves in all parts of the United States not then under Union control

10 August 1863 – invited to the White House to meet President Lincoln

1864 - attended the President’s second inauguration

1865 - Mrs. Lincoln gave Frederick her assassinated husband’s favourite walking cane

1867 - published appeal for ‘impartial suffrage’ for the Black man

1868 - Fourteenth Amendment was ratified making African American people citizens

1870 - Fifteenth Amendment was passed giving African American men the right to vote

1881 - *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass* was published. Frederick revised it in 1892

4 August 1882 – death of Anna Murray Douglass

1884 – marriage to Helen Pitts
RETURN TO EUROPE AND FINAL YEARS

1886 – **Frederick** and Helen travelled to Europe intending to stay for one year. Egypt was included in the itinerary.

1887 – summer: Frederick travelled to Dublin—Helen had already returned to the U.S. as her mother was ill. He stayed with the children of his friends from 40 years earlier

December: spoke in Washington in favour of Irish Home Rule

1889 – **appointed** Consul General to Haiti

1891 – resigned this position and returned to his home at Cedar Hill in Washington

20 February 1895 – died at his home near Washington. Earlier, Frederick had attended a meeting of Women’s National Council

1896 - the Supreme Court established a ‘separate but equal’ doctrine with *Plessy vs. Ferguson*. This law enabled the expansion of segregation or ‘Jim Crow’ practices across America

1 December 1903: death of Helen Pitts Douglass. She was buried alongside Frederick and Anna in Mount Hope Cemetery in Rochester.


Based on Christine Kinealy *Frederick Douglass and Ireland. In his own words* (Routledge, 2018, 2 vols).

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