

I Can Read!

READING

3

ALONE

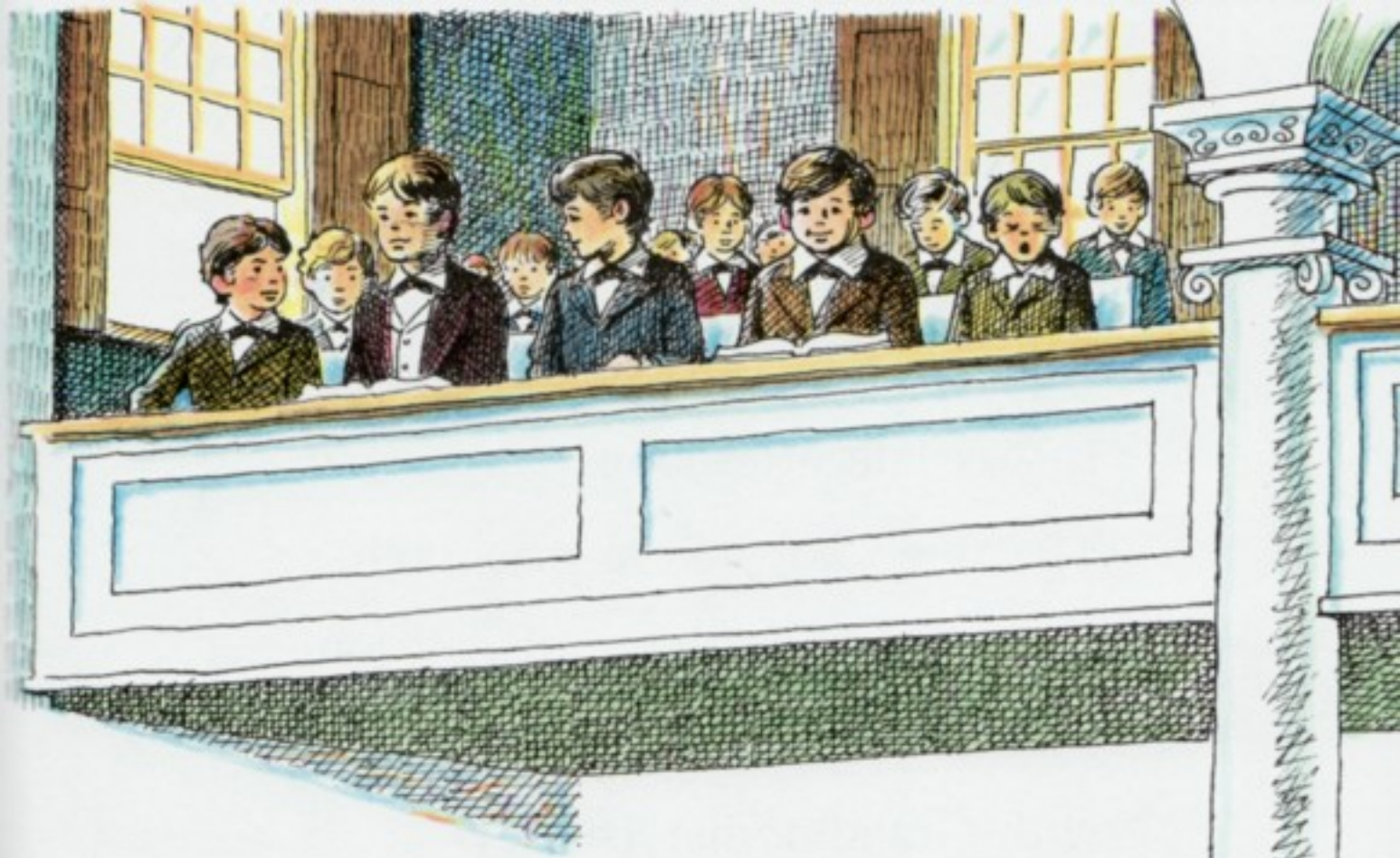
THE DRINKING GOURD

A Story of the Underground Railroad

by **F. N. Monjo**

Pictures by **Fred Brenner**





Chapter One

FISHING IN CHURCH

Tommy Fuller put his right hand
in his pocket.

There was his apple.

Then he put his left hand
in his other pocket.

There was his ball of fishing line.

“Quit wiggling!”

whispered his brother Sam.

“Sit up straight!”

whispered his brother Andy.

It was late afternoon.

The three boys were in church.

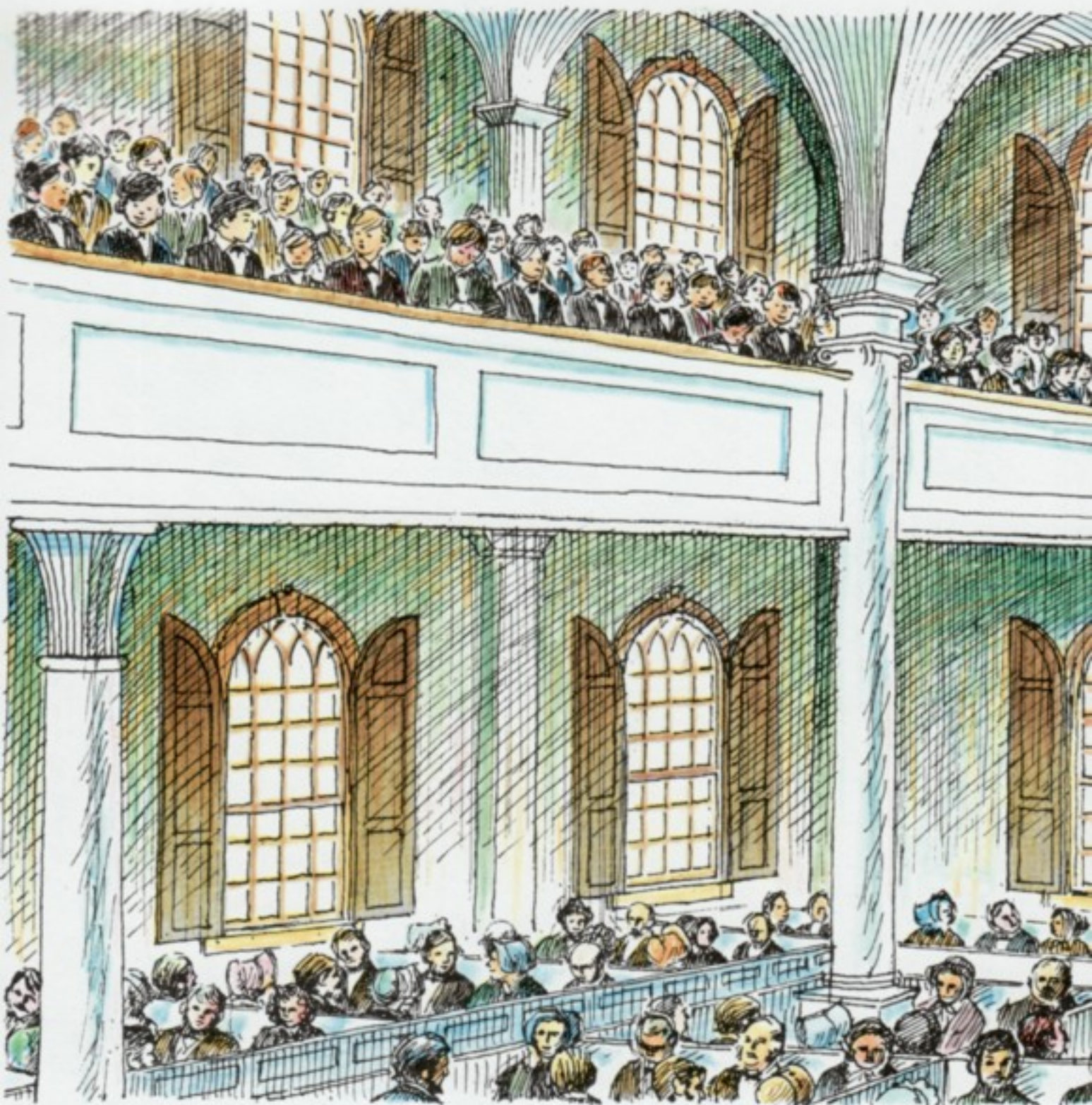
They had been there all day long.

Mother and Father were downstairs

with Grandmother Dudley

and the rest of the grown-ups.





All the children sat upstairs
in the gallery.

The girls were on one side.
The boys were on the other.

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A runaway slave family escapes to Deacon Fuller's house, a stop on the underground railroad. Will Tommy Fuller be able to hide the runaways, or will they be discovered?



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1

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