

BLACK CHRONICLE



U.S. BLACK HISTORY
IN NEWSPAPER FORMAT

1778-1956

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR/ CHATTELL SLAVERY
TO THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN AMERICA



BLACK LIVES MATTER

MALOYD BEN WILSON

BLACK CHRONICLE

FROM THE SLAVERY ERA (1778

TO THE BEGINNING OF '

CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT USA (1956)

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BLACK CHRONICLE

The Amistad Mutiny



Joseph Cinque

KING: Non-Violent Adversary



Rev. Martin Luther King speaks with young supporters.

MASS. 54th FROM FT. WAGNER TO GLORY



Massachusetts 54th Colored Regiment storming Ft. Wagner.

GARVEY DEPORTED STRESSED BLACK/AFRICA TIES



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Maloyd Ben Wilson Jr.

BLACK CHRONICLE PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Anyone who has ever studied history knows that there is much truth to the saying "History is written by the victors and heeded by the vanquished" And it is equally true that no people have ever won as much as European Colonizers in their virtual annihilation of the American Indian and enslavement of the African. The prize the richest continent on Earth and all the free labor that could be ferried across the Atlantic. Of course part of the prize was the right and ability to write the history of this grand conquest of other human beings as Manifest Destiny, God's Will.

The natural corollary to the aforementioned situation is that the enslaved Africans and their descendants in the Americas have had little opportunity to have their side of the story told or heard. Just like Plato's Allegory of the Cave, the slaves and their descendants existed in an artificially manufactured world of shadows and half truths, brainwashed to believe servitude was their natural state. This in a nation (USA) conceived in Liberty (1787) while imposing White superiority and racial injustices against the life, liberty and pursuit of happiness of its Black population. A people whose resilience and physical, mental and spiritual contributions to the country has been a major factor in transforming it into the economic powerhouse known today. A worldwide leader in industry, invention, art, agriculture and finance. Initially established on the backs and souls of those Africans who arrived over 400 years ago at Jamestown, Virginia in 1619.

In 1787 and the following decades, the fact that it was illegal for Blacks to congregate or learn to read or write, made the independent investigation into the truth of their cause (or plight) somewhat difficult. Needless to say, these deceptive and oppressive measures placed a low premium on critical thinking within the slave population. Other skills such as putting on a happy face, grinning and bearing it scratching your head when it wasn't itching, sweating when it wasn't warm, walking backwards when they weren't shuffling forwards, were more important to survival and pain avoidance.

Historic Newspapers

Not every Black person in America bought into this deception. During the earlier days of capture and enslavement strong minded and stout hearted rebels such as Nat Turner, Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth and Samuel Eli Cornish have advocated believed in and fought for the freedom of Black people. Mr. Cornish a Presbyterian minister and John Brown Russworm, abolitionist were the editors of *Freedom's Journal*. The first African American owned and controlled newspaper in America. Founded by these gentlemen in 1827 and published in New York City. *Freedom's Journal* reported the news relevant to the Black experience in America, providing a vital communication link for both the survival and morale of Blacks above the Mason Dixon line. *Freedom's Journal* was followed by other African American owned newspapers, including but not limited to the *Colored American* (1847-1842) in New York City and the *North Star* (1847-1851) in Rochester NY. Although short lived, these papers played a crucial and lasting role as a first hand history of the social development of African American Slaves and their quest for freedom in America.

Through the publication and distribution of these newspapers, the events and sentiments which marked the violent times of this not so bygone era were communicated to Blacks from all sectors of America. Published from the perspective of the down but not so quite out segment of Black America, the Black papers were a beacon of hope in the wilderness, urging the brethren to keep on pushing. Whether publishing articles about the Dred Scott case, births, deaths abolition, political commentary, places to avoid, code for conductors on the underground Railroad, folksy humor or commercial space advertising business opportunities for Black men, these historically rich newspapers represent a unique insight into both the horrors and heroism associated with the enslavement and emancipation of Black people in the land of proposed Liberty and Justice for all.

The *Black Chronicle* is a compilation of news articles documenting the evolution of Blacks from slave ships to the battle fields of the eighteenth nineteenth and twentieth Centuries. Compiled by the late historian Henry Hampton from articles culled from over two dozen African-American newspapers, these Black Chronicles provide a most revealing and insightful panorama of events which shaped the Black experience in America. Reading these Black perspectives of events makes much of the traditional views handed down to blacks by many mis-educators seem more like a bizarre version of reality from an alternative universe These absorbing stories illuminate much of what has been a black hole in the Black experience. The truth of their own own narratives. Thought provoking, soul stirring, The Black Chronicle stories should be read by every American and every person regardless of ethnicity seeking to know America's true, full and complete history. Because they are so eye-opening, I have little doubt that most people will.

We would like to thank posthumously, **Mr. Henry Hampton**, one of the most knowledgeable historians in this era for contributing *Black Chronicle*. Without his efforts this project could not be possible. He will be greatly missed

Respectfully yours,

Maloyd Ben Wilson Jr.
Owner/CEO/Publisher

Recorded Black History —

Presented in book form from the Revolutionary War
to the Civil Rights Movement.

"Right is of no sex—

Truth is of no color—

God is the Father of us all, and

we are all Brethren."

— Frederick Douglass, North Star masthead

14 Issues in the book

WEATHER

The thunder storm of last evening was one of the most dreadful we ever witnessed. Three officers belonging to Colonel M'Dougal's regiment, were struck instantly dead. The points of their swords were belted, with a few silver dollars they had in their pockets, they (the persons) were seemingly roasted. When God speaks who can but fear?

Issue 1

"Zachery Prince now Dead, Rec'd his freedom" - Connecticut Revolutionary Lists

February 28, 1778

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French-American Treaty is Signed!

from New York Journal

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 6 Word has been joyfully received here that Congress has concluded a treaty of alliance with the King of France. The treaty has raised strong hopes that French warships will soon be supporting patriot land and sea forces against the English.

BLACKS Win Glory At Brandywine, Great Bridge

CHESTER, Pa., Sept. 1777. A free Negro in the Third Pennsylvania Artillery has reportedly accomplished an extraordinary feat of arms in the bloody engagement at Brandywine Creek. After his entire regiment had fled, Edward Hector held off the enemy with guns left by his comrades.

The battle occurred when a large force of redcoats approached the Shad's Ford Crossing at Brandywine Creek.

The redcoats marched in two columns, one of them, commanded by Cornwallis, crossed the river some miles above the spot and descended on our main force, attacking them from the rear.

Immediately, the Americans were thrown into confusion and began a general retreat.

Hector was driving a wagon filled with ammunition when the abandon and retreat order came. For the first time since he joined the Artillery, the black soldier disobeyed. Grabbing several muskets dropped by his fleeing comrades, Hector drove the redcoats from the immediate vicinity of his horses and wagon with several furious volleys.

The next day, his comrades and officers were amazed to see him drive his wagon into their camp at nearby Chester.

The "Last Sentinel"

Hector's bravery reminds us of William Flora, a free black in the Virginia militia. Flora has become famous for his brave actions at Great Bridge, where an engagement was fought against Dunmore's black regiment. (See p. 2 col. 1)

Flora and several others were standing guard on the patriot held side when Dunmore's troops opened fire and attacked. As the enemy charged across the bridge, the sentinels fired at least three rounds and then hastily retreated. But the black soldier, posted behind a large pile of shingles, held his ground till he had fired no fewer than eight times.

He finally made his escape amid a shower of musket balls to join his company, which routed the black unit after a fierce engagement.

From the beginning of the attack till the enemy was repulsed might have been about 14 or 15 minutes, till the total defeat, upwards of half an hour.

NOTICE

The British Occupation of Philadelphia has compelled Black Chronicle to move its offices to Boston. We regret delays in delivery or other inconvenience resulting from the shift.

The Editor

RHODE ISLAND SLAVES TO FIGHT REDCOATS

Washington Reverses Policy, Endorses R.I. Bill

PROVIDENCE, R.I., Feb. 14, 1778—Starting today, Rhode Island slaves will be fighting the redcoats in return for their freedom. The R.I. Assembly has passed a bill allowing slaves to enlist in the state forces without permission from their masters.



Unidentified patriots firing at Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. R.I.'s recent bill marks a wider acceptance of black soldiers.

"History affords us frequent examples," states the bill's opening "of the wisest, the freest, and bravest nations having liberated their slaves, and enlisted them as soldiers to fight in defense of their country."

R.I.'s action marks a complete reversal of the policy set down by His Excellency General Washington three years ago, excluding all blacks from the war. Since that time, General Washington himself has changed his attitude on slave enlistment. It was he who urged the bill's passage on R.I. Governor Cooke. The bill's urgency was increased by the enemy's recent takeover of the capital, Newport, and a large part of the countryside. Also a sharp decline in enlistments and a rise in desertions, typical of these bitter winter months, has created severe manpower shortages in the R.I. militia. This problem is common to the other patriot forces as well.

In creating the new "Black Regiment," the state bill declares that "A slave who passes muster shall be immediately discharged from the service of his master or mistress and be ABSOLUTELY FREE."

After he has been appraised by a commission of five R.I. officials his master will receive a sum of money not to exceed 120 pounds. The owner must also deliver up the clothes of the slave or he shall not be entitled to the money.

First Black Unit

The "Black Regiment" will be the first all-black unit to fight in the American armies. Approximately 3,000 free blacks are already serving with the patriots, but they are scattered throughout predominately white units.

Despite the hostility shown to black soldiers by many whites, men of color have consistently shown themselves to be brave and hardy fellows and their contributions have not been overlooked by their officers. General John Thomas, commander of a Boston regiment, wrote, "In the Regiments at Roxbury, we have some Negroes, many of them have proved themselves brave."

The "Black Regiment" was originated by R.I.'s General Varnum, who was distressed by the under-manned R.I. Brigades now at Valley Forge and by recent redcoat attacks in the state. The R.I. officer suggested to General Washington that his two brigades be combined and their extra officers be returned to R.I. to train a regiment recruited from slaves. General Washington approved the proposal. The rest is now history.

The bill was not passed without a fight, however. Six R.I. Assemblymen felt the world would think "that the state had purchased a band of slaves to defend the rights and liberties of

Back-To-AFRICA Plan Stalled by WAR

PROVIDENCE, R.I.—The war with Britain has forced two Rhode Island ministers to stop training black men for missionary work in Africa. Reverends Samuel Hopkins and Ezra Siles decided five years ago to send 30 or 40 blacks to colonize the Guinea Coast of Africa and teach the gospel.

The ministers first requested the aid of freeman John Quannimo and Bristol Yamma, a slave. Quannimo and Yamma were sent for instruction to Princeton College. Hopkins reports that by November of '76, the two "had made such proficiency that they would enter upon it directly were there opportunity to send them to Africa."

Black Poet arrives In Hartford

HARTFORD, Conn.—Jupiter Hammon, the first black man to publish poetry in these colonies, recently arrived in this literary capital with his master, Joseph Lloyd. They fled Long Island shortly before it was taken by the enemy.

Hammon is a man of rare talent, completely uneducated and self-taught in the art of writing. His most famous piece, published in 1760, is entitled *An Evening Thought; Salvation By Christ, with Penitential Cries*.

We can assure our readers that Mr. Hammon is presently composing a new work, to be entitled *An Essay on the Ten Virgins*. It will soon be available for purchase at the Printing Office in Hartford.

Washington Excludes, then Admits Black Soldiers

British Call To American Slaves, Manpower Shortage Seen Crucial In Shift

ANALYSIS

When the redcoats stormed Bunker Hill three years ago, in 1775, several gallant soldiers were among the patriots facing them.

In the bitter and bloody fighting, black militiaman Peter Salem is reported to have slain British Major John Pitcairn. Cuff Whiteamore, said an officer, "fought to the last," taking a British officer's sword—and a

ball through his hat!

Top honors, however, went to Salem Poor, a black militiaman in Captain Ames' Company. His gallantry earned him a petition, signed by 14 Massachusetts officers. "Poor," it said in part, behaved like an experienced officer, as well as an excellent soldier. (Full text of petition, this page, col. 2)

Five months after Bunker Hill, on Nov. 12, 1775, His Excellency General Washington

banned these and all other black soldiers from American armies.

Seeks Southern Support

Many correspondents feel that Washington's proclamation was designed to win Southern support for the Continental Army. South Carolina and Georgia, in particular, absolutely refused to send men to an army which put muskets in the hands of blacks. "Lest our slaves when armed might become our masters."

Northern state militias, on the other hand, had been accepting blacks pretty regularly. In a Black Chronicle interview, General John Thomas, commander of a Boston regiment said, "In the Regiments at Roxbury we have some Negroes, but I look on them, in general, equally Serviceable with other men, many of them have proved themselves brave."

Washington's proclamation ended the common-sense of that previous policy.

Continued on page 2, col. 1

Black Hero at Bunker Hill

For exceptional bravery shown by SALEM POOR in the fighting at Breed's and at Bunker Hill, the following petition was presented to the Massachusetts General Court and signed by 14 patriot officers.

A negro called SALEM POOR, of Colonel Frye's Regiment, Captain Ames' Company, in the late BATTLE at Charlestown, behaved like an experienced officer, as well as an excellent soldier. It would be tedious to go into detail concerning his conduct. We only beg leave to say, in the person of this said negro, centens a BRAVE and GALLANT soldier. The reward due to so great and distinguished a character, we submit to Congress. * 5 December 1775.

Ed. note: Salem Poor is presently enduring a rugged winter with patriot forces at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

BLACK CHRONICLE

**PATRIOT Idealism Deepens
Slaves Hope To Win Freedom**

Today's action by the Rhode Island legislature is a heartening and long delayed step. The state of Rhode Island, by allowing slaves to fight for their freedom, will first serve the IDEAL upon which the present war is based, and second, provide the Rhode Island state forces with the manpower they desperately need.

We hope the move in Rhode Island will be observed and acted upon by other colonies. In Massachusetts and Connecticut, sentiment in favor of similar action already runs high.

But today's move, although a step in the right direction, is still not enough. There is URGENT need for white patriots to give the most SERIOUS CONSIDERATION to the existence in their own land of human slavery.

This vile institution keeps over 500,000 Africans in the CRUELEST BONDAGE. Although attacks on the slave trade have at last led to its suspension (See *The Slave Trade, Is It Dying?*) slave owning is still accepted as the normal "way of life" by most white Americans. James Otis, a true son of Liberty, has said:

"Does it follow that it is right to enslave a man because he is black? Will short curled hair, like wool, instead of Christian hair, as it is called... help the argument? Can any logical inference in favor of slavery, be drawn from a flat nose, a long or short face?"

Mr. Otis spoke those words in a speech calling for an end to British oppression, and for American liberty. Can anyone dispute his oft-repeated argument that all men whatever their color have NATURAL RIGHTS?

And to those who say the "times are not convenient for freeing our slaves," we can only agree with Reverend Samuel Hopkins of R.I., that the times demand it. Slave owning is now unprofitable because of lack of business due to the War, and can more easily be dispensed with.

And may we humbly remind those patriots so horrified because their slaves are leaving to fight for the redcoats, that those slaves are deserting to achieve that SAME FREEDOM for which they themselves struggle?

No plea for freedom has been more moving than last year's petition by Massachusetts slaves. "WE HAVE LONG AWAITED A FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO ENTREATY AFTER ENTREATY. EVERY PRINCIPLE WHICH IMPELLED AMERICA TO BREAK WITH ENGLAND, PLEADS STRONGER THAN A THOUSAND ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF YOUR HUMBLE PETITIONERS."

**DUNMORE'S
Ethiopian Regiment**

The editors of Black Chronicle, loyal to the patriot cause, cannot support Lord Dunmore's Proclamation, described herein. But as men of color, we do understand the enthusiastic response of black slaves who desire freedom as much as their patriot masters.

"Liberty to Slaves! Liberty to Slaves!" These words echoed in the hearts of Virginia bondsmen in the late fall of 1775 and rang through the colonies like a fire bell. Within two months, they were emblazoned in red and gold on the uniforms of the escaped slaves who made up Lord John Dunmore's Ethiopian Regiment. The Regiment's history was short and unsuccessful, but the policy which it created caused terror throughout these American colonies.

Dunmore, the British governor of Virginia, had a bold and simple plan: offer freedom to American slaves who ran away to join the Crown's forces. If many slaves answered Dunmore's call, his small army would be greatly strengthened and thousands of slave owning American soldiers would be forced to return to their unloved lands.

Readers will recall Dunmore's Proclamation, announced on November 12, 1775. "I Do Further Declare All Indented Servants, NEGROES, Or Others (Appertaining To Rebels) FREE, That Are Able And Willing To Bear Arms, They Joining His Majesty's Troops. The More Speedily Reducing The Colony To A Proper Sense Of Their Duty To His Majesty's Crown And Dignity."

Those words horrified the patriots (who, by the way, do not care to be called "Rebels") and were greeted with joy by many black slaves. In an interview, Mr. Rutledge of South

Carolina insisted the proclamation would "work an eternal separation between Great Britain and the Colonies," more than "anything which could possibly be thought of." Worst of all, he felt, it might bring about the most dreaded possibility in the land: Slave revolt.

Although there was no revolt, slaves flocked to Dunmore in abundance—200 almost immediately, and 300 more within a week. By early December, Lord Dunmore had been able to arm and uniform about 300 ex-slaves.

Only two months before, a small black and white troop under Dunmore's command had beaten a patriot militia force at Kemps Landing, Virginia. The redcoat leader was hoping for another rout, this time at the Great Bridge, 12 miles below Norfolk.

But a black patriot spy, posing as an escaped slave, convinced him that the fort at Great Bridge was undermined, and the few patriots there were in poor spirits.

Listening excitedly, the English officers made their decision. Despite the Regiment's inexperience, they would attack. The battle began when Dunmore's black soldiers charged across the bridge, routing the patriot sentinels with heavy musket fire (See p. 1 col. 1 for a moving description.) The patriots, returning the fire, threw them into confusion.

The blacks advanced again with great resolution. Their brave British Captain, reminding

Now raising under GENERAL WASHINGTON, THE LIBERTY AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

TAKE NOTICE,



**QUEBEC
14th Colony?**

Many patriots believe Quebec will soon be the 14th colony. The citizens of that fair city have contributed importantly to the patriot cause. Recently, an intelligent gentleman returned from there bringing promises of financial aid, arms, and clothing for our local armies.

Patriots have not forgotten the kind welcome Quebec gave General Montgomery and Benedict Arnold when they pushed northward to attack the British in Canada late in 1775. The citizens of Quebec have stood firm in their support and have caused many Americans to believe they will soon join the struggle as the 14th American Colony.

**Kidnappers Menace
Free Blacks!**

PENNSYLVANIA - Kidnappers are at work among us! They are STEALING black people who have been freed and selling them back into slavery.

A free black community has been growing in recent years, due largely to Quaker emancipation efforts. But almost simultaneously, SCAVENGERS have begun their vile kidnapping.

They have no respect for HUMANITY or FREEDOM and would have continued unchecked until concerned Quakers organized the Pennsylvania Abolition Society to protect free blacks and attempt to save those unlawfully held in bondage. The society began its work in 1775, but present hostilities have forced a suspension of its activities and our people are once again in danger.



**CRISPUS: 1ST
KILLED**

The first man killed was Crispus Attacks, black merchant seaman and an escaped slave. He was at the front of the crowd that taunted the redcoat barbarians, calling them "lobsters" and "bloody backs."

According to an eyewitness, Crispus "threw himself in and made a blow at the officer," with a long cordwood stick. After that, he "turned around and struck the grenadier's gun at the captain's right hand, and immediately fell in with his club and knocked the gun away."

It was shortly after that that the grenadier shot & killed Crispus.

**Be It
Forever
Remembered**

That on Tuesday next, the fifth of March, is the Anniversary of Preston's Massacre, in King Street, Boston, New England, 1770. That day five of his Majesty's Subjects were slain, and six wounded by the Discharge of a Number of Muskets from a Party of Soldiers under the Command of Capt. Thomas Preston.

GOD Save the PEOPLE!

them of their ancient glory, said the day was their own. But the fire of the defenders worked terrible damage on them, and they had to retreat.

The Ethiopian Regiment's history ended that foggy morning.

Soon after, Dunmore and his regiment boarded the warship *Fowey*, and, with many black soldiers suffering from the dreaded Small-pox, sailed north to join Gen. Harry Clinton in New York. Dunmore's bold plan had failed.

Today, the remainder of the Ethiopian Regiment serves with northern British forces as soldiers, military carpenters, sawyers, hostlers, and quartermasters.

"If the Small-pox hadn't ravaged the poor wretches," Dunmore says to this day, "we might have had over 2000 blacks!" Many observers feel that if Lord Dunmore himself hadn't been over-hasty in attacking the Great Bridge, he might today be in command of Virginia.

The spirit Dunmore's black patriots showed, escaping from their masters and fighting them in exchange for the promise of freedom, is an example that might well be observed by all patriots. The editors are certain that same enthusiastic spirit can be evoked for the patriot cause by a similar promise of freedom.

HOWE To Resign

Reliable sources assure us that General William Howe is resigning as HEAD OF BRITISH ARMIES in these colonies. Although he captured Philadelphia, Howe was UNABLE to crush His Excellency General Washington's army, now camped only twenty miles from him at Valley Forge.

NOTICE

Today's bill has been amended to halt slave enlistments after June or July. THEREFORE, black slaves interested in joining the Black Regiment should do so IMMEDIATELY!

**Northern
QUAKERS
End Slavery**

FEBRUARY, 1778 Northern Quakers have eliminated slave-owning in their ranks.

Like many colonists, Quakers interpreted the French and Indian conflict 18 years ago as a warning by the Almighty against the sin of slave owning.

Led by the dedicated Pennsylvania chapter, Quaker groups throughout the colonies began to attack that sin in their midst. At national meetings local Societies were questioned about their progress in the matter. Committees visited slave owning Quakers. With gentle but firm persuasion, they attempted to convince their brothers to free their slaves.

The Unyielding Slaveowner

A slaveowner who did not yield was testified against at open meeting and partially expelled. If he persisted in refusing to free his "property" he was permanently expelled from the Society of Friends. Two years ago, in '76, the Philadelphia Chapter became the first Quaker group to officially expel all its members still owning slaves.

Using such methods, Quakers in New England and the middle colonies (N.Y., N.J., Pa.) have become the first organizations in the colonies to wipe out slave owning. But kidnappers have moved in. (See *Kidnappers Menace*, this page, col. 4.)

Free African School

The Free African School is another Quaker success, established in 1750 by Anthony Benezet, one of slavery's firmest opponents. Benezet began holding classes for free children of color in his Philadelphia home 28 years ago in 1750. His achievements of his black pupils have proved false the popular argument that blacks should remain enslaved because they are inferior to the white race.

MERCENARIES

At the opening of every campaign in the spring, the British plunderers announce their total destruction of America before the winter. The lie for next summer is that we are to be devoured, bones and all, by thirty-six thousand Russians, besides something or other that is to be done to us by the King of Prussia. What this is, is still a great secret. It will doubtless be something extraordinary, it being impossible to imagine what else he can do to us after we are swallowed by the Russians. - "Horrentus"

Rhode Island Slaves

Continued from page 1
our country" and warned that the move will be "looked upon by the neighboring states from a contemptible point of view." They also warned that the British would think "we are not able to procure our own people to oppose them... and might possibly suggest to them the idea of employing black regiments against us."

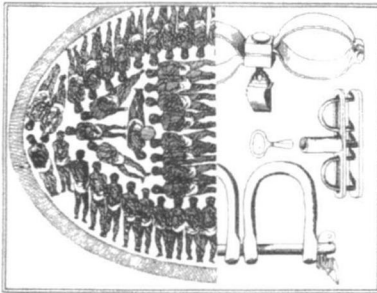
White Commander

Christopher Greene, a white colonel, will command the regiment. He arrived with Lt. Col. Olney also white, last week to prepare for the new unit.

Shortly after the bill's passage this morning, Cuff Freeman (who changed his name for the occasion) arrived at the state house to enlist. He was accepted by Colonel Greene, and his master, James Greene, received 120 pounds, the highest price allowed by the bill.

Sentiment against the use of black soldiers is still going on in this state, and the *Providence Gazette* may not ever print a report of the bill's passage.

THE SLAVE TRADE IS IT DYING?



Section of a slave ship's hold. Africans are tightly packed for the Atlantic crossing to maximize profit for the traders in human cargo. Also shown are shackles used to bind the captives.

Washington Admits Soldiers
Continued from page 1

Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New Jersey soon followed suit. The war had become "white."

But not for long. Two weeks after Washington excluded blacks, Lord John Dunmore stunned the colonies by proclaiming "all Negroes free that are able and willing to bear (British) arms."

White reaction was swift and extreme. "Be not then ye Negroes, tempted by this proclamation to run your selves," cried the *Virginia Gazette*.

"Hell itself," cried a Virginia man, "could not have vomited anything more black than this design of emancipating our slaves."

But black men's reaction was just the opposite. Within two weeks, 500 slaves who wanted to fight for their freedom joined Dunmore on his ship the *Fower*, and hundreds more were captured in the attempt.

Several weeks later, General Washington announced he had "reconsidered" his policy. "Free Negroes... are very much dissatisfied at being discarded," he wrote to the Continental Congress on December 31st. "I have given (permission) for their being reinstated."

This reversal, although it applied only to black men already under arms, signalled a change in attitude and policy which was to result finally in today's radical Rhode Island bill.

Draft Evaders, Desertion
Before long, acceptance of blacks as soldiers was spurred by another consideration, manpower. In the winter of '76, patriot army recruiters discovered that filling quotas would not be easy. Men avoided service and many deserted. (3,000 patriot troops are believed to have walked off from Valley Forge this winter alone.) Aides say General Washington has been furious over this.

Blacks, however, free and enslaved, often desired to enlist. Recruiters, who receive \$10 a man, did not long ignore them as a ready source of manpower. Barrington, N.H., for example, recently enlisted five men of color, giving each a bounty of 20 pounds and a mileage allowance of 16 shillings. Virginia is even drafting free black men.

Men of color have also proved less likely to desert. Cato Freeman joined the army in Andover, Massachusetts last fall. His enlistment bounty, "freedom in three years," assures his loyalty.

"Substitution," in which a slave is freed to fight in his master's place, has also become common.

Today, scarcely two years after General Washington first denied them, allowed black men to join the patriots, more than 3,000 serve in both the Continental Army and the state

forces. Black men have fought in nearly every battle of the war. In the capture of the British General Prescott, the black New Englander, Tack Sisson, is famous throughout the colonies for having knocked down the general's door with his head.

Far South Refuses
Only in the far South has the fear of arming blacks prevented their use for anything but military labor. Slaves built the fortress guarding Charlestown, South Carolina, that stood firm last June against a brutal 11-hour bombardment.

A crusade to raise a black regiment in South Carolina has won support from some influential men. Violent public opinion in S.C., however, seems to have doomed this crusade.

But the tide has changed. Rhode Island's bill allowing the enlistment of slaves marks a high point in the acceptance of black soldiers. When the present troubles are ended, many blacks who have been set free to fight will have earned a growing black community. They will have earned a stake in the new nation, because they have risked death and maiming in the fight for its freedom.

Blacks Win Legal Actions Against Slavery

MASSACHUSETTS, Feb. 7, 1778. In recent years, slaves have been fighting their bondage in court and winning. Several recent victories indicate the courts may be more responsive than the legislature to actions against HUMAN SLAVERY.

Jenny Slew, a mulatto woman, lived in Ipswich with her "owner." Today, she is free, declared so by a Salem Superior Court Jury which also awarded her over 13 pounds in damages and court costs.

At least two other blacks have also been freed through court appeals.

White Blood Wins Connecticut Case

Perhaps the earliest court case occurred 75 years ago in Connecticut. A mulatto slave, Abda, citing his white blood, charged his master with "unjust holding and detaining of said Abda in his service, for the space of one year last past." The court freed Abda, making his master pay 12 pounds in damages.

Court Victories Mean Little For Most Slaves

For most slaves, such legal successes are useless. They apply only to the slave who has brought suit. Not so in England.

Five years ago, a slave named James Somerset won a case that freed all the slaves in England. Threatened with deportation for having tried to escape, Somerset asked famed abolitionist Granville Sharp to

represent him in England's High Court. "The air of freedom," Sharp pleaded, "is too free for a slave to breathe in."

The Court freed Somerset. England's enslaved blacks were joyous because this declaration applied to them all!

The High Cost Of Freedom

Winning freedom through the Massachusetts courts is made even more difficult by the high cost of bringing legal suit. Miss Slew, for instance, could only afford her case because other slaves and friends pooled their slim savings to help her.

Slave petitions to the state legislature have increased sharply, in part because of the difficulties in bringing legal suit through the courts. So far, the legislature has written only one bill in response, but it was not approved by Governor Hutchinson.

Recently, freedom suits have been brought by aging slaves. In several cases, their masters purposely offered a feeble defense, hoping to lose their old, now "worthless property."

The slaves, however, have been willing to surrender the "protection" offered by slavery for the sweet fruits of freedom.



The following ads for escaped slaves are being printed by newspapers throughout the colonies.

\$500 Reward for SLAVE DIAMOND

Has been heard to say he was going to Newport, presently held by His Majesty's ships. Took with him a violin of which he is fond, although he is a miserable performer. *Boston Gazette*

Slave MOSES. Escaped on Tuesday last. Every American should be on the lookout for him as he has been trying to induce other blacks to join him in fleeing to the British Army. *Pennsylvania Gazette*

DISPATCH—Saulsbury, Maryland. "A number of Negroes have gone on board the enemy boats here. If a stop is not put to these Cruisers, I am Convinced all our most Valuable Negroes will run away."

Slaves Steal Boat ESCAPE

BALTIMORE, Md., Jan. 15, 1777. Although a slavemaster on the Potomac carefully locked up his boat in a barn last month, 10 of his slaves forced open the door, carried it to the water and sailed away.

They are believed heading for a British warship lying anchored in nearby Chesapeake Bay. Hundreds of slaves have attempted to reach the British since Dunmore's Proclamation, which offered freedom to those who joined the Royal armies. But many have unfortunately drowned or been captured in the attempt. The belief is widespread among black people that a British victory will mean freedom for all slaves.

ESCAPE PLOT Uncovered by Commission

ALBANY, New York. Six slaves were arrested here yesterday after planning an escape. Their plan was uncovered by the New York State Commission for Detecting and Defeating Conspiracies in the State of New York.

The Commission was formed several years ago to capture blacks who were trying to reach British lines.

"Restless Property" Not Very Valuable

The following ad, placed in the *Maryland Gazette*, indicates that "restless" slaves are not such valuable property.

FOR SALE. Healthy young Negro. Has worked twelve years in a merchant mill, and is complete in that business. No other motive than his having attempted to escape to the enemy induces the proprietor to dispose of him.

- Answers**
from page 4
1. Rhode Island
 2. Burgoyne
 3. Jupiter Hammon
 4. Quakers
 5. Ethiopian
 6. Quebec
 7. Crapsus Attacks

Classifieds

Want

SAWYERS, ROPE MAKERS and SHIP CARPENTERS for Heaving down the Schooner Harrison, from one to three days. Pay 3 pence.

The COMMISSIONERS of the NAVY are in want of a Number of Negro ship Carpenters or Caulkers; any such slave or freeman, are desired to apply to BOSTON SHIPYARD.

Eight good Negro Boatmen. Wages: 11 pounds a month. Apply to McCalliey, Righton, boat-keeper, Charleston, S.C.

A NUMBER OF SLAVES or FREEMEN laborers for the purpose of carrying on a cannon foundry at Annetam in Frederick County, Md.

Workers Will be Given Good Encouragement.

DEATH NOTICE
MINNY, black pilot of a Virginia Warship on the Rappahannock.

Met his death while attempting to board a British pirate vessel that was raiding river ports.

MINNY bravely and successfully exerted himself until he was unfortunately killed.

Ed note: Minny's master received \$100 from Virginia in gratitude for the services of his slave.

Black Soldier's Head Vital In Capture

RHODE ISLAND, July 10, 1777—A black man, Tack Sisson, played a key role in the capture of General Prescott, Supreme Commander of the British forces in Rhode Island. For the stout black patriot beat down the General's door with his head!

Tack and about forty others sailed on a secret expedition by water. They learned the location of the General's headquarters from a British deserter.

They approached the headquarters cautiously, avoiding the main guard, which was at some distance. Colonel Barton went first, choosing Tack for his courage and reliability to follow close behind. When the sentinel called for the password, Colonel Barton said he had not the password, but amused the sentry by talking about rebel prisoners. Advancing till he came within reach of the bayonet, the Colonel suddenly struck it aside and seized him.

The sentry was ordered to be silent, on pain of instant death. The men surrounded the house and Tack Sisson, with two strokes of his head, butted down the door. Terrified, the landlord pointed to the General's door, which was also instantly opened by Tack's head.

Calling the General by name, the Colonel told him he was a prisoner. He replied he knew it, and requested time to put on his clothes. The Colonel told him to put on only his breeches.

With a stout man taking each of the General's arms, they ran through a field of barley. The stalks very much annoyed the General's naked legs, and he cried, "Gentlemen, do you mean to kill me?" One replied, "No, to exchange you for General Lee. After that we do not care how you get the devil has you."

They embarked in their boats, and rowing back, passed all the enemy's ships and forts undiscovered. From a Warwick Neck, a messenger with a flag of truce was sent for the rest of the general's clothes.

This was the British general, in the midst of the British army, and navy, made prisoner together with his aide-de-camp and the sentinel that guarded his door, by the bravery and judicious conduct of a young Colonel and Tack Sisson and all of the other gallant soldiers.

BLACK DETACHMENT OVERRULED

The Massachusetts Legislature has refused Captain Thomas Kench's request for a black regiment. Kench had said the unit's officers and orderly sergeant would be white, while three sergeants, four corporals, two drum & fife, and 82 rank and file would be black. Such an arrangement, he had argued, would encourage the blacks to "hate" the white men in every measure that the fortune of war calls a soldier to endure. Perhaps that is why the legislature refused.

for the Regiment's Benefit

CONNECTICUT In one of its recent reads, a Connecticut Regiment seized a slave from his Tory master. After some deliberation, it was decided to sell him for the benefit of the regiment.



Lexington April 19, 1775. Peter Salem and Prince Estabrook were among the black patriots in the fight.

BLACK CHRONICLE ROLL CALL

Black Soldiers in the Early Engagements

PETER SALEM, when the redcoats, under Smith and Pitcairn, marched to Concord to destroy patriot arms and ammunition, Peter Salem was among the minutemen who exchanged shots with them. Peter was freed to enlist by his owners, the Belknap of Framingham. He was in the fray at Breed's Hill, and is believed to have killed redcoat Major John Pitcairn.

SEASOR and PHAROAH, enlisted May 3 in Colonel James Scammon's York County "Regiment of Foot." Both saw action at Bunker Hill.

PRINCE, listed in rolls as "Joshua Boylston's Prince," fought in Thomas White's Brookline Company of Minutemen in the battle of Lexington.

BARZILLAI LEW, of Chelmsford, fifer, also fought at Bunker Hill. In 1760, only a lad, he served nine months in Thomas Farrington's Massachusetts Company in the fight against the French and Indians.

CUFF WHITEMORE, CATO WOOD, both fought at Lincoln, Mass., on April 19, 1775 while in Capt. Benjamin Locke's Arlington Company. Participating in the Bunker Hill fray, he also received a plumed hat. "He fought to the last," says one of Cuff's officers. Cuff profited more than some comrades. He picked up a British officer's sword, which he has since disposed of for a pretty penny.

PRINCE ESTABROOK, of West Lexington, Mass., was wounded in the battle at Lincoln while fighting in Captain John Parker's Company.

THE "TWO CATOS," CATO STEDMAN & CATO BORDMAN, served with Captain Sam Thatcher's Cambridge Company, also in the fighting at Lincoln.

SALEM POOR. (See p. 1)

EPHERAM BLACKMAN, PRIMUS BLACK, both fought at Concord and today serve with Erihan Allen's Green Mountain Boys.

PRINCE HALL, faced the redcoats on the battleground at Breed's Hill. A property owner and voter, Mr. Hall is considered the leader of Boston's small free black community.

THE BLACK SAILOR

FEBRUARY, 1778 On a clear night two years ago, a black man named Sampson steered the British frigate *Acteon* up the treacherous channel towards Charleston, S.C. Gliding close behind were the *Syren* and the *Spinon*, also piloted by Negroes. Suddenly the whizz of a cannon ball broke the silence and there began a violent battle with Charleston's patriot defenders.

Within five minutes the *Acteon's* captain sent Sampson below decks and out of harm's way. After all, without him, the *Acteon* might never make it back down the treacherous channel to the sea.

Not too long ago, Jerry a ship's pilot was expecting a paragon from a jail sentence on the special request of his Captain, who assured the judge that although he was "a very great scoundrel, he is also a fellow we can't do very well without, being an Excellent pilot."

Many of these black pilots have grown up along the waterways of America and know it well. Their efforts are gaining them freedom and respect.

Other Duties Negroes in other positions in the two navies also deserve mention.

Caesar Fairweather and Scipio Brown are powder handlers on the American frigate, *Boston*. Cato Austin operates its number one gun, and Cuff Freeman stands the larboard watch.

A gentleman in Maryland reports that two black-piloted vessels were sent by Steven Steward of West River to the Maryland Council last year. Steward wrote the Council to take good care of the black men, his "sailor negroes," as he called them, since they were "as fine fellows as ever crost the sea."

Another reason for their acceptance might be that black pilots are the best in many of the coastal areas; black pilots are considered so valuable in South Carolina that they are the only

THE PORCH RAIL

SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD IDEA DEPARTMENT BLACK CHURCH-GOERS in Silver Bluff, S.C. don't sit in the rear galleries of white churches anymore. Five years ago, eight slaves in Silver Bluff formed the African Baptist Church of Savannah, first all-black church in the American colonies. Under the pastorate of ANDREW BRYAN, also a slave, they have a fast-growing congregation.

DR. BENJAMIN RUSH has lost part of his medical practice after accepting a pew in a largely black Church in Philadelphia. May we suggest that you see him to cure your ills. Doing so will be of double benefit, for you will most certainly improve, and at the same time you will be helping a sincere friend of our people.

FIGURE THIS ONE OUT Patriot forces, fighting for their freedom, return patriot property recaptured from the British. That "property," however, often takes the form of our slave-brothers who have joined the British to fight for their freedom.

RUMOR HAS IT that our dear PHILLIS WHEATLEY is seeing a lot of a handsome young shopkeeper, John Peters. Mr. Peters wears a wig, carries a cane, and is quite the gentleman.

Most of the drivers in the NYC Quartermaster department are runaway slaves.

Remember the BOSTON TEA PARTY?

Only five years ago, about 50 men, including several blacks, paid a visit to some English ships in Boston Harbor.

They were there because England had taxed the tea on board to pay the salaries of British authorities here.

The men, dressed as Indians, DUMPED EVERY CHEST OF TEA into the Harbor. Quite a visit!

"CIVILIZED" REDCOATS

When the redcoats departed in some haste two years ago, they attempted to persuade free black Scipio Fayerweather to join them. But he considers himself a true patriot and refused, whereupon those "civilized" soldiers of the British Empire tore down his house and destroyed 30 pounds worth of furniture.



Perhaps the most famous black sailor is Mark Starlin. He was named as a pilot and proved a skillful one and a devoted patriot. "Captain Starlin," as he fondly calls himself, pilots his own vessel off the coast of Virginia and causes great damage and distress to the British vessels he encounters.

White naval officers claim that because Captain Starlin is honored throughout the state, he does not mind being a slave.

Privateers

Privateers offer perhaps the best opportunity for black men who want to go to sea. As we all know, they are privately owned ships commissioned by the Continental Congress as ships of war.

Their "no questions asked" enlistment policies are very attractive to black sailors who often prefer out to reveal a background which may include a desperate escape.

Crispus Attucks, an escaped slave from Framingham, Mass., sailed ten years on a privateer before being gunned down by murdering redcoats on a Boston street eight years ago. He was one of the revolution's first casualties.

War Protester Jailed

From A Gentleman in London

John Tooke has been thrown in prison for having taken up a collection for Americans murdered by the King's troops in the colonies. But although petitions to end the war are gaining support throughout England, His Majesty's policies remain unchanged.

the "MASON DIXON" LINE

MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA Border—12 years ago, in 1766, Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon established an imaginary line here which has become known locally as the Mason-Dixon line. The boundary was drawn to settle a bitter quarrel between two families in Pennsylvania and Maryland.

PUBLISHED THIS DAY

Dissuasion from The SLAVE TRADE

by James Swan

"No Country can be called Free where There is one Slave"

"This Special Edition is published at the Earnest Desire of the Negroes at Boston."

"African Poetess of the REVOLUTION"

POEMS ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS RELIGIOUS AND MORAL

by PHILLIS WHEATLEY

With an Introductory LETTER by the Author's Master

SOLD by Messrs. CUS and BERRY at their store in KING STREET BOSTON

Current Events Quiz

1. The first colony to enlist slaves is _____
 2. The patriot victory at Saratoga, N.Y., came when British General "Gentleman Johnny" _____ found himself surrounded.
 3. The first black man to publish poetry in these colonies is _____
 4. The _____ have eliminated slave owning among their members.
 5. A group of blacks that fought for the redcoats was called Dunmore's _____ Regiment.
 6. Some patriots think _____ may become the 14th Colony.
 7. The first patriot to die in the War for Independence was a black named _____
- Answers page 3 col. 3

**PARTIAL RESULTS
OF RECENT
CENSUS (1790)**

Free Men
of Color Slaves Whites
Boston 781 None 17,277
N. Y. 1,078 2,184 29,083
Phila. 1,420 210 26,043
Bostn. 323 1,255 11,925

BLACK CHRONICLE

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Issue 2,

"Oh Africa, land of My Fathers, my heart bleeds for thy children" An African Free School pupil

January 1, 1794

FRUSTRATION IN BLACK COMMUNITY

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 12, 1793 - At dusk, Colonel Middleton sits remembering. He recalls the days of battle, his wartime service with the revolutionary armies.

ANALYSIS

Noises of a fight suddenly disrupt his thoughts. The old Negro opens his door. He sees several local whites, their faces filled with scorn and hatred, attacking his black neighbors.

The aging soldier thrusts his musket out the door, threatening to kill the first attacker who approaches. A white friend prevails upon the cowards to leave and, approaching Col. Middleton, has him put away his gun.

There have been changes here. The praise and promise of the war years have been replaced by hard looks and blows. Free black citizens of Boston and other cities almost daily suffer insults on the streets, most often on public days of recreation. We in the free black community have witnessed with despair unmistakable signs of conservatism and selfishness in white Americans since the war's end.

Neighborhood Stays White

In Salem, Massachusetts, recently a man of color attempted to settle in a white neighborhood. A white minister complained that his moving in would "depreciate property, drive out decent residents, and generally injure the welfare of the neighborhood."

Such incidents of white prejudice have caused Masonic leader Prince Hall to say "He that despises a black man for the sake of his color reproacheth his Maker."

Although black men fought and died for American freedom 13 years ago, today we are prohibited from joining state militias and from carrying the musket, we cannot vote and rarely receive public education (despite several petitions to state legislatures). We are shamefully abused and insulted to such a degree that we may truly be said to carry out lives in our hands. "Surely this was not (the) conduct in the last war," said Prince Hall in an address to his brethren, "for then they marched shoulder to shoulder, brother soldier and brother soldier to the field of battle."

Continued on page 2 col. 3

Your petitioners are justly alarmed at the INHUMAN AND CRUEL Treatment That three of our Brethren, FREE CITIZENS Of the town of Boston, have received. A Captain, under Pretence that his Vessel was in Distress, On an Island below in this Harbour Having got them On board, PUT THEM IN IRONS, And carried them off From their wives and Children, to be sold For SLAVES What shall our lives be Worth, If they may be taken Away in such a Cruel And Unjust manner As this?

Above is the 1788 petition of freedom which led to the anti-slavery bill in Massachusetts.

New York Abolition Society Calls National Meeting

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 1793 - Angered by the failure of Congress to fulfill its 1790 promise to end the foreign slave trade, the New York Society has called for the formation of a national Abolition Society.

The new American Convention of Abolition Societies will pressure Congress to outlaw America's trade to foreign ports and her outfitting of foreign slave ships.

Pressure on Congress

Three years ago, under public pressure, Congress declared it had the constitutional power to prohibit American activities in the foreign slave trade.

Although action based on its resolution would not affect the importing of kidnapped Africans to this country, it would mark the first time Congress has in any way limited the trade. (The 1787 Federal Convention ruled that Congress shall have no power over the American trade until 1808.)

Since the recent resolution, however, no legislation on the matter has been issued by Congress despite frequent petitions by the Societies.

Because Americans generally accept slavery as part of everyday living, abolition societies have directed most of their attacks against the slave trade. To overcome American indifference toward slavery itself, they have attempted to educate citizens.

Until today, abolition efforts by the 13 state societies have occurred at local levels. But the move by the N. Y. organization to form a national society seems to promise a more coordinated attack.

THOMAS PETERS DIES

Ex-Sergeant Went To England

FEBRUARY 12, 1793 - We announce with sorrow the death of Thomas Peters, black sergeant in the British Army during the Revolutionary War. Peters, who fought for himself and his people, died last June of illness incurred during a hazardous sea journey from Nova Scotia to Sierra Leone, Africa. Wind has just been received here by boat from that place.

Peters' bravery and persistence (and the help of English abolitionists) were in large part responsible for an English donation of African land to 1,100 American slaves who had fled to Canada during the late war.

In 1776, Peters escaped from his patriot "owner" to find freedom with the British Army.

As an indentured bounty, Peters (and many black soldiers like him) had been promised freedom and land to farm in Canada. When Cornwallis was defeated in '81, Peters was among hundreds who traveled to Canada to await their "land grants."

For six long years they

FUGITIVE SLAVE BILL PASSED

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 12, 1793 - A bill for catching criminals and fugitive slaves has been passed today by the Congress. The bill allows a slaveholder to seize his prey without a warrant of any kind.



Yale Graduate Develops "GIN" for Cotton

A gentleman, having just returned from South Carolina, tells us of the development of an engine that will increase greatly the rate that cotton can be picked and processed.

The "gin" as it is called, has been developed by a young graduate of Yale University, Mr. Eli Whitney.

According to our correspondent, Mr. Whitney was visiting the Mulberry Bush Plantation in Virginia, after graduating from the University in New Haven, when he overheard two gentlemen talking about the problems involved in picking cotton.



Young Whitney, an enterprising sort, spent two days sketching a gadget. The raw cotton is thrust in the machine's opening, the handle is turned, and the "gin" separates the fiber from the seeds at a remarkable rate.

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For six long years they

WASHINGTON'S SLAVE Eludes Capture

FEBRUARY, 1793 - A female slave of President Washington's has escaped to New Hampshire and it does not seem likely that she will be returned to her ill-treatment.

The President's messenger, sent a messenger to New Hampshire's Governor Gilman requesting her capture. But the Governor neglected a fair opportunity to arrest her, and even put her out of reach of her pursuers.

This account was taken from the lips of the slave woman herself, who is now living in New Hampshire.

Other sources reveal that His Excellency sent a letter to Mr. Whipple, the Collector of Portsmouth, describing the fugitive and particularly expressing the desire of "her Mistress," Mrs. Washington, for her return.

Fearing a public outcry, however, he cautioned the Collector:

"I do not mean, however, by this request that such violent measures should be used as would excite a mob or riot, which might be the case if she has adherents, or even uneasy sensations in the minds of well-disposed citizens. Rather than either of these should

EXTRA

FUGITIVE FLEES!

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 20, 1793 - The first attempt to enforce the new odious Fugitive Slave Bill here has met with failure!

A fugitive slave, grabbed by his master on the streets of Boston and taken to court under the new law, fled from the courtroom, leaving the constables sprawled on the floor.

As he left, cries of "Run! Run!" "Quick!" "Get Away!" were shouted by citizens of Boston watching the spectacle.

The crowd, rather than attempting to apprehend him, in fact did everything but detain his master to prevent him pursuing the slave. This incident signals the attitude of many in the state regarding the new law.

It was passed in the House of Representatives after only scattered debate. (Yeas 48, Nays 7)

With its passage, southern slaveholders have won a victory in their struggle to recover their escaping slaves. For now they can legally seize a slave anywhere in the nation. According to the bill, "When a person held to labour shall escape, the person to whom such labour or service due is hereby empowered to seize or arrest such a fugitive."

The vague term "fugitive from labour" refers to escaped slaves, whose numbers are increasing daily, partly because of Quaker encouragement and assistance. (See Fugitive Slaves, page 3 col. 1)

Slave Owners' Anger

Slave owners have been particularly enraged by a Massachusetts law which requires a jury trial for any black man accused of being a fugitive. Today's legislation, however, wipes away that provision, for now the captured man cannot even testify in his own behalf.

As it relates to a criminal, the bill assures the serving of Justice by requiring specific legal procedures in accordance with this nation's Bill of Rights, approved only two years ago. These include an indictment or affidavit signed by the state governor or chief magistrate.

But only the word of the slave owner is required for retrieving any black man accused of being a runaway. In addition,

Continued on page 4 col. 2

BANNEKER Proposes Department of PEACE

JANUARY, 1793 - Black scientist Benjamin Banneker has proposed a Department of Peace for this nation.

The plan, recently published in his celebrated *Almanac*, laments the constitution's total silence upon "the subject of an office for promoting and preserving perpetual peace in our country."

In his "point proposal, Banneker asks that:

1. A Secretary of Peace be appointed.
2. The Secretary have power to establish free schools everywhere in the United States.
3. Every family be furnished with a Bible.
4. The following be inscribed over the door of every home: "The Son Of Man Came Into The World, Not To Destroy Men's Lives, But To Save Them."

5. All those laws be repealed which authorize judges, sheriffs, or hangmen to commit murder in cold blood in any case whatever. (This suggestion would do away with the death penalty for crimes - Ed.)

6. A familiarity with weapons, military dress and titles should be carefully avoided.

Continued on page 4 col. 1

BLACK CHRONICLE

PRIVATE PROPERTY VERSUS HUMAN FREEDOM

America's love of freedom has been in deep conflict with her underlying defense of property rights.

But the conflict seems to have been settled today - at the expense of human freedom.

Southern slave owners, whose estates are composed of human "property," can now reach anywhere in the nation to snatch a black man who devalues his rightful property - FREEDOM.

For FREEDOM is a man's most valuable property. In the words of Messrs. Voltaire, Rousseau, and Locke, it is every man's NATURAL RIGHT.

Today, murder and chaos in the French rebellion have brought devastation on the expression NATURAL RIGHT.

But can we Americans condemn the black slaves of St. Domingue who, having suffered torture, crucifixion, and miserable DEATH for hundreds of years, battle for their NATURAL RIGHTS this very day under the great Louisiana?

Since the days of war, white Americans have been building up their shops, settling land, raising crops, and buying and selling cargoes. But today, Americans buy and sell MEN, WOMEN and CHILDREN. They raise crops with the help of SLAVES. Do not AFRICANS deserve the same Natural Rights for which AMERICANS struggled to the late war?

How can men sail to Africa, steal our brothers and sisters, fill their ship's holds, sell them like sheep for the slaughter, and then return here and still call themselves Christians?

Recent experience leads us to believe that many states will do little in their own to end slavery and its trade. We believe the task may one day fall to the central government.

We, the free blacks of the eastern states, are treated at times with humanity. But we are not given the financial credit by white merchants which would enable us to undertake extensive commerce. We are confined to menial trades, not because we lack capacity, but because the Prejudices of Whites lay obstacles in our way.

And although we are of a strong physical character, most of our children die. This owes less to Nature than to a lack of physicians and surgeons.

We submit these serious complaints to the government, knowing by experience that its honorable representatives will do us the JUSTICE that our present condition requires, according to the LAWS of GOD and this nation.

Abolitionist's Secret Mission Disclosed

A confidential source has disclosed that Mr. John Jay, President of the N. Y. State Abolitionist Society and Chief Justice of the United States, was secretly carrying guns for the patriots in the spring of 1778.

Black Frustration Growing

The angle most important indication of America's growing conservatism came in 1787. Behind doors that were closed to the scrutiny, delegates from the several states drafted a Federal Constitution that permits Americans to kidnap and import our African brothers for 15 years more, until 1803.

Black leaders have very regretfully pointed out the injustices we suffer to the state legislatures and aware of our small numbers, have requested our people's patience.

But the law of the land still PERMITS SLAVERY. Until the SLAVE CANNOT fear, hopelessness, and a growing bitterness will mark our stay in this land of liberty.

We submit these serious complaints to the government, knowing by experience that its honorable representatives will do us the JUSTICE that our present condition requires, according to the LAWS of GOD and this nation.

Congress "Forgets" Bill to Tax Slave Imports

New England Profits From Trade

FEBRUARY, 1793 - Congress seems to have totally "forgotten" a proposed bill to tax slave traders on the kidnapped Africans they import.

Congressional silence on his second bill may be related to the substantial profits the trade brings to merchants from New England to Georgia. Mr. Parker, a dedicated enemy of slavery, proposed the tax four years ago.

First Proposal

Mr. Parker's proposal was immediately attacked by representatives from South Carolina and Georgia. One suggested that "Gentlemen ought to let their neighbors get supplied before they impose such a burden upon importation."

But some observers were surprised when congressmen from Massachusetts and Connecticut joined the attack. Connecticut's Mr. Sherman said he could not reconcile himself to the invasion of human beings as articles of duty among goods, wares, and merchandise.

There is some reason to believe that the northerners objected not for humanitarian reasons, but because Mr. Parker's law would imperil the great



profits brought by the slave trade to New England. In Mr. Sherman's state, Connecticut, slaves are advertised regularly, along with other "merchandise."

Parker Disagrees

Mr. Parker pressed his argument. "It is degrading to the human species to enumerate them with goods, wares, and merchandise," he said, "but I would rather do that than continue the actual evil of importing slaves a minute longer."

Mr. Jackson of Georgia, heatedly insisted, "Our slaves are not in a worse situation than they were on the coast of Africa. Are they not better here, we asked, where they have a market found by law to provide for their support in the state of Georgia," he concluded, "we are oppressed by the tax."

When the resolution was brought to a vote, New England representatives sided with their southern allies to defeat it. Mr. Parker was asked to write another bill on the matter. He did so, but it was postponed and has not been mentioned since.

*New England ports also outfit the huge slave ships with food, water, and blankets of various sizes for men, women and children. - E.T.

Letters to the Editor

Twelve years have passed since this nation won its freedom. It, Knox Reeves, a soldier in the American army for Freedom, wrote the following letter.

I took a walk to the town in order to refresh myself, and when I drew near I heard a man crying out "one hundred pounds who bids any more?" I drew near the noise, there stood a mulatto slave for sale, he was about forty years of age. One hundred and five pounds! God help those "thought" I one hundred and ten pounds! What nobody will give any more for this man who was free these twenty years. God knows, he looked much more likely to die in five. He seemed to have a feeling for his own situation. The tears ran trickling down his cheeks.

Heaven is this liberty? Of the heavens, I believe, I've been fighting for these six years. To hear the agent, when so many thousands are held in perpetual slavery. And what measure no measures taken to alter it. The slaves are sold in total ignorance. They didn't know they were sold in a country so ungrateful as ours. But I say to the opinion that it would be somewhat difficult to alter it at present. - Knox Reeves

Dear editor: Although this letter is a regard to an incident that occurred 15 years ago, I would like to take the opportunity to praise a slave by the name of Litchum for saving the life of my friend, General John Cropper of Accomack County, Virginia.

The incident of which I speak occurred during the battle of Henry's Point in 1781. The General ordered his men to retreat and gallantly stayed to fire the last shots himself. As he began his own retreat he stuck fast in a boggy marsh.

At this critical juncture the faithful colored man fired and killed the foremost redcoat, a squad leader who was preparing to bayonet the General. He then dragged my friend by pure strength out of the mud and taking him on his back carried him safely to dry land.

Litchum, at that time a slave, was later purchased and set free by the General.

Thanks and congratulations to Litchum and all other colored men who have proved themselves to be true patriots.

James A. Jettison, patriot

Can it be that a difference of color alone can constitute a difference of species?

To attempt to escape from the crucible exercised over us, I punished ourselves with death. And yet I learn from articles that "master" and "slave" are in a state of war.

Do the rights of nature cease to be when a Negro feels the wrongs of his brothers and attempts to revenge them. I see him treated as the most horrible of mankind.

Do the rights of nature cease to be when a Negro is to enjoy them? Why is patriotism in the heart of an African called treason? From a free Negro



Black Harry - "The Preacher" - who is said by many to be the greatest public speaker in America

BLACK CHURCH GROWS FROM EXCLUSION

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 1791 - Two highly respected Philadelphia men of color, Richard Allen and Absalom Jones, have announced plans to establish separate black churches here.

Despite strong opposition from white Methodists, they have purchased and broken ground on two lots.

Several years ago, Allen and Jones established the first organization for free blacks in the United States, the renowned Free African Society. Their action was closely related to racial exclusion they and their followers experienced at the magnificent St. George's Methodist Church.

For several years after the late war with Britain, black Methodists worshipped harmoniously with whites in Philadelphia's leading Methodist church. But they found themselves increasingly scorned and isolated. First required to sit around the outer walls of the church they had helped build, they were one day expelled to the upper gallery.

"Kneelin"

Discussing the racial separation, Allen says that he, Jones, and a small number of blacks knelt during prayer near the gallery seats.

"Shortly thereafter," said Allen, "I saw a trustee seize brother Jones and attempt to pull him from his knees, saying he could not kneel there - after a brief consultation, we all went out of the church in a body and the

Indian News

CUMBERLAND, North Carolina, April, 1787 - Indians killed old Mr. Buchanan at his own door. They killed William Mulkrain as he attempted to run across the yard to another hut. One other man who thought to break through the Indians has not been heard of. The rest, who shut themselves up in their huts, are safe.

Troubles in Pa.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., 1793 - The friendly disposition of the Indians in favor of the first settlers here has been very much changed. This is principally owing to the great influx of people of the various of whom are to amass wealth. They have now reversed the system of happiness so long and successfully pursued. Pennsylvania has enjoyed an uninterrupted peace for more than 60 years. Now, like the other colonies, she is suffering severely from the attacks of the natives.

DO NOT USE SUGAR OR OTHER PRODUCTS OF SLAVE LABOR

Jefferson Calls Negroes Inferior

"Comparing them (Negroes) by their faculties of memory, reason, and imagination, it appears to me that in memory they are equal to the whites, in reason much inferior, as I think one could be scarcely found to be capable of tracing and comprehending the investigations of Euclid; and that in imagination they are dull, (and) tasteless. Religion, indeed, has produced a Phyllis Wheatley; but it could not produce a poet. The compositions published under her name are below the dignity of criticism. I advance it, therefore, as a suspicion only, that the blacks, whether originally a distinct race, or made distinct by time and circumstances, are inferior to the whites in the endowments both of body and mind."

Banneker Replies

"Now Sir, I apprehend you will embrace every opportunity to eradicate that train of absurd and false ideas and opinions which so generally prevails with respect to us, and that your sentiments are concurrent with mine, which are, that one universal Father hath given being to us all, and that he hath not only made us all of one flesh, but that he hath also, without partiality, afforded us all the same sensations and endowed us all with the same faculties, and that however variable we may be in society or religion, however diversified in situation or colour, we are all of the same family and stand in the same relation to Him."

"Sir, suffer me to recall to your mind that time, in which the arms and tyranny of the British crown were exerted with every powerful effort, in order to reduce you to a state of servitude. This, Sir, was a time when you clearly saw the injustice of a state of slavery and in which you had just apprehensions of the honors of its condition you publicly held forth this true and invaluable doctrine, which is worthy to be recorded and remembered in all succeeding ages. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights and that among these are, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Thomas Peters Dies

Continued from page 1 col. 3
the plight of the 102 black families in Canada. The petition stated they would stay in Canada if provisions could be made. Otherwise, they would travel to Africa for their land.
Public sentiment favored the black families and brought about the consent of Parliament. Peters and his people would be given up to 50 acres of land per family in Sierra Leone on the west coast of Africa.



Not only Jefferson but also President Washington, himself, own slaves. (See above.)

Sailing Home

Peters returned to Canada and owned 1190 of his people for the voyage to Africa.
Many died at sea and during the last months of settlement. Peters himself was among these. His efforts in behalf of his people are being rewarded.
Although his friends work long hours and live in dwellings that are often inadequate, they now none still bear the sweet sounding name: FREETOWN.



Fugitive Slaves A Growing Class

A growing class of fugitives is forming in the North.
Slave owners have begun offering large rewards for their "property" and promoting anti-fugitive legislation.

So common are newspaper advertisements for fugitive slaves that the *New London Gazette* has designed a standard picture for the ads. A fugitive black is pictured carrying a bundle on his head and a stick in his hand.
In several states, if free blacks are not carrying papers they may be arrested as fugitives and sold.

Rhode Island Quakers have been bitterly accused of encouraging slaves to escape to Massachusetts.

Referring to formation of the Union, South Carolina Congressman Smith said, "We took each other with our mutual bad habits and respective evils, for better, for worse the Northern states adopted as with our slaves and we adopted them with their Quakers."

Black Sail Maker Promoted

FEBRUARY, 1793 - James Forten, a courageous young black man loyal to his country, has been promoted to *Foreman* in the salinaking business of Mr. Robert Bridges of Philadelphia.

Having returned from London, where he watched the struggle between liberty and slavery with great excitement, he obtained an apprenticeship with Mr. Bridges. Young Forten was not long at his trade; when his great skill, energy, diligence, and good conduct prompted his master to promote him.

Mr. Bridges, who neither discriminates against nor appreciates a man for the mere color of his skin, served his own interest by rewarding Forten.

Forten was born in Philadelphia on the 2nd day of September, 1766. His father, Thomas Forten, died when he was but seven years old. His mother filled young James' heart with the feeling of a patriot.

In the year of 1775 he left school and five years later, a mere 14 years old, he embarked on the ship *Royal Louis* as a powder-boy. During a severe battle the gun-ship was captured. He was well aware that blacks were usually excluded from the list of prisoners to be exchanged. They were usually doomed to a slave's life in the West Indies.

To his day Forten enjoys telling the story of how he escaped this fate. Taken aboard the ship *Amphion*, he was allowed to play with the captain's son, whom he soundly beat at a game of marbles. Acquainted by the black youth's skill, the child called his father, who also marveled at the feat.

A fresh and deeper interest

was from that moment taken in young Forten. The captain offered him a passage to England, the allurements of wealth, a good education, equality, and happiness.

Having failed to convince him, the Captain ordered him to that floating hell, the frigate *Old Jersey*, but requested that Forten not be forgotten on the prisoner exchange list.

Yet another incident proves his generous and benevolent heart. An officer of the American Navy was about to be exchanged for a British prisoner when Forten conceived the idea of escaping in the officer's chest. Before putting his plan into action, however, he thought about a young prisoner who was suffering from a disease and in much worse condition than he. Instead of escaping himself, Forten allowed his prisoner to climb into the chest and greatly enjoyed carrying it to the dock.

After remaining a prisoner on board the *Old Jersey* for seven months, he was released without a shoe upon his feet. When he reached Trenton, he was generously supplied with clothes, but still reached home in wretched condition, having among other evidences of great hardships endured, his hair nearly worn from his head.

Although now a freed man of some means, Forten has not forgotten the wretched condition of his African brethren here, and has expressed support for the growing number of anti-slavery societies in the north.

President's Slave Escapes

Continued from page 1 col. 4
happen, I would forego her services altogether, and the example, also, which is of infinite more importance.
In his reply, Mr. Whipple recognized the President's request.

"I will now, Sir, agreeably to your desires, send her to Alexandria, Virginia, if it be acceptable, without the consequence which you expect, that of exciting a riot or mob, or creating uneasy sensations in the minds of well-disposed persons."
"So far as I have had opportunity to perceive that Jefferson's sentiments are entertained on this subject."

So far no actions have been taken to return the woman and local abolitionists have hinted that she will not be given up without great embarrassment to the President, who at times expresses himself with various degrees of force against slavery.

- Answers from page 4
- 1 Boston
 - 2 New Hampshire
 - 3 Sierra Leone
 - 4 Peace
 - 5 Churches
 - 6 Prince Hall
 - 7 Poll Tax

SHEEP

It is often said that American sheep yield less wool than European sheep. This is due to the long winters here and the constant snow which prevents their picking up as much nourishment as the sheep in Europe. Hence they drop their wool from weakness during winter and spring.

To prevent this, a farmer has found that half a gill of Indian corn every day will strengthen the sheep, and increase the quantity of wool. Also it will help the sheep retain the wool until time for shearing.

SOUTH CAROLINA BLACKS PROTEST POLL-TAX

DECEMBER 1793

Twenty-eight freemen petitioned South Carolina recently for relief from a 25 cent tax levied against every free black in the state. Although the state ignored their appeal, the men vowed to continue the struggle.

Black landowners and tradesmen must pay the new tax as well as their property tax. One group, planning a second petition, told a *Black Chronicle* reporter that, while it pained him to trouble the legislature, they were forced to it by so truly mortifying an act.

In addition, widows with large families and women scarcely able to support themselves are being followed and payment extorted from them by state tax collectors.

According to the State, the tax is for "funding and ultimately discharging the foreign debt incurred during the war."

A new petition by protesters, now numbering 34 blacks and 44 of their white friends is being drawn up. It is said to be more forceful than the last which pleaded:

"Your Petitioners are generally a poor needy people, just a small remove from Slavery. They are likely to suffer continued inconvenience and disadvantages and in the end to be reduced to poverty and want relief."
Use of a poll or head tax against free blacks is not new in South Carolina, but the harassing of women and the inclusion of property owners has made it even more burdensome. Hopefully the vigorous struggle by South Carolanians of colour will have some effect in bringing some redress by that state.

SIX POUNDS REWARD

The following ad was printed yesterday by the Federal Gazette.
RAN-AWAY on the sixth of September last a FRENCH NEGRO LAD, about eighteen years of age, about five feet high, has a mark on his left cheek.

MASONS

Attend a Meeting on Thursday Next, Mar 7, 1793.
To be discussed.

WHAT SHOULD BE THE ATTITUDE OF BLACK MASONS towards WHITE AMERICAN MASONS?

Any Black man wishing to join the AFRICAN GRAND LODGE is WELCOME TO ATTEND PRINCE HALL.

FOR THE TEETH SCURVEY IN THE GUMS & TOOTH ACHE



Two Tinctures of known and established Reputation long successfully used by the Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom and of Ireland are sold by James Greenough, Apothecary, at the Patriot Arms and Pot & Mortar in Ludgate Street over against the North Door of the Church.

The Tincture for preserving the Teeth cleanses and takes off all their Foulness, and renders them white and beautiful, fastens such as are loose, prevents their decay and entirely cures the Scurvy in the Gums.

INHUMAN BRITISHER!

A *Black Chronicle* staff member has uncovered a letter revealing the most horrible use of our people by that British tool of a wretched tyrant, redcoat General Leslie.

In 1781, every day General Leslie received scores of blacks, many of whom had risked their lives to come right with the British in return for their freedom. But because many were stricken with Smallpox, General Leslie resolved to use the poor wretches to his advantage. He wrote fair contracts that had distribute them about the Rebel Plantation.

Ohio Company

ADVENTURERS in the Ohio Company are hereby notified to meet at the BUNCH OF GRAPES TAVERN, at State Street on Wed the 28th current at TEN O'CLOCK in the Morning. This Company has purchased LANDS from Congress, and Matters of Importance are to be discussed. A GENERAL AND PERPETUAL INVITATION. JOSEPH MAY, Secy.

DESTROYING CATERPILLARS upon Trees

TAKE LIGHTED charcoal in a chaffing dish throw therein some pinches of brimstone in powder, place the same under the branches that are loaded with caterpillars. The vapour of the sulphur which is mortal to these insects, will not only destroy all that are on the tree but prevent its being infected by them afterwards. A pound of sulphur will clear 40 or 50 trees at grass on several acres!

SLAVE BECOMES DOCTOR

The Penn. Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery and the Relief of Free Negroes Unlawfully Held in Bondage has released the following communication:

NEW ORLEANS, La., Feb. 1793 - There is now in the city a black man of the name of James Derham, a practitioner of medicine. This man was born a slave into a family which taught him reading, writing and the principles of Christianity. When a boy he was transferred by his master to the late Dr. John Kearny, Jr., who employed him occasionally to compound medicines and to perform other humble acts.

After passing through several hands, Derham became the property of Dr. George West, a British surgeon under whom, during the late war in America, he performed many minor medical duties.

At the war's end, he was sold to Dr. Robert Dove, of New Orleans, who employed him as an assistant. His ability gained him so much confidence and friendship, that Dr. Dove consented to liberate him after two or three years.

Dr. Derham had become so well acquainted with the healing art, as to commence practice at New Orleans under the patronage of his last master. He is now about 26 years of age, has a wife but no children, and does business to the amount of \$3,000 a year.

Doctors have conversed with him upon most of the acute and epidemic diseases of the country where he lives, and were pleased to find him perfectly acquainted with the modern simple modes of treating those diseases. "I had expected to have suggested some new medicines to him," said Dr. Benjamin Rush, "but he suggested more to me."

By some accident, although born in a religious family belonging to the Church of England, he was not baptized in his infancy. Consequently he recently applied to Bishop White, to be received into the Episcopal Church. The Bishop found him qualified and performed the ceremony in one of the churches in this city.

Banneker Proposes Peace Dept

Continued from page 1 col. 5

7. Over the door of his office there be painted a Lamb, a Dove, and an Olive Branch.

Banneker claims the Department of Peace should be established despite the current war with the Indians. "As the War Office of the United States was established in time of peace, (during the convention of 1787)," he writes, "it is equally reasonable that a Peace Office should be established in time of war."

It seems unlikely that Banneker's Department of Peace will be accepted, but perhaps government policy-makers will heed the words he asks be inscribed over the Secretary's Office "Ah! Why Will Men Forget That They Are Brethren?"

FOR SALE A Handsome Chariot

As GOOD as NEW with a pair of steady family horses, the owner going away, will be sold VERY CHEAP INDEED.

SUGAR MAPLE



KILLER OF SLAVERY?

Lately, many friends of the oppressed have been viewing the sugar maple tree as a savior that will end slavery. They see it as a source of sugar that may make sugar cane and the slave labor required to produce it totally unnecessary. "I cannot help contemplating," says Dr. Benjamin Rush, "each sugar maple tree with affection, because I see in it the happy means of making slavery as unnecessary as it has always been inhuman and unjust."

Thomas Jefferson himself has planted an orchard of sugar maples and is said to have no other sugar on his family table. These men are among many who believe that once sugar cane is unnecessary, slave labor will no longer be needed and Congress will have no other course but to free the slaves.

Fugitive Slave Bill Passed

Continued from page 1 col. 5

while no punishment is specified in the bill for harboring a criminal, aiding a runaway carries a \$500 fine.

After seizing the fugitive, a slave owner can at his leisure drag him before a judge of his own choice. (No time limit is specified as it is in the case of a criminal.)

If the slaveholder satisfies the judge of his claim, says John Jay, of the New York Abolitionist Society, "the wretched prisoner is surrendered to him, a slave for life..."

Kidnapping Leads to Bill

Ironically, the kidnapping of a free Pennsylvania black man named John brought about today's legislation. He had been seized and taken to Virginia by two native Virginians. Pennsylvania authorities requested that the kidnappers be captured and returned. (The whereabouts of the kidnapped man are still unknown.) But the Governor of Virginia refused, asserting that federal legislation had not yet been written for interstate return of fugitives.

Realizing the need for legislation, members of Congress soon after drew up today's bill for the extradition of criminals. Southern members, however, refused to support the bill unless it also applied to fugitive slaves. After sharp debate in the Senate, a compromise bill was finally passed and sent on to the House, where it met almost no opposition.

Today's bill is not the first attempt by Congress to recover fugitive slaves. Two years ago, a treaty with the Creek Indians provided that "...the Creek Nation shall deliver ... any such prisoners or negroes on or before the first day of June next ensuing."

The Will

Among the Bequests of George Fox, Who Died Last Year, are mentioned, I Negro Man, I warming Pan, I old looking-glass, & I gun.

Wins Lottery, Buys Freedom

Newport Gardner, a slave in Rhode Island, recently won \$2,000 in a lottery. The next day Mr Gardner bought himself and most of his family.

Benjamin Franklin Stuns Congress Anti-Slavery Petition Attacked

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 12, 1793 - Today's passage of the Fugitive Slave Bill is a tragic moment in our short history. It is difficult to believe that only three years ago our cause received the support of one of this nation's greatest men - Benjamin Franklin.

On Feb. 3, 1790, as President of Philadelphia's Abolition Society, he stunned members of Congress by presenting a petition for "restoration of liberty to those unhappy men, who alone, in this land of freedom, are degraded to perpetual bondage. Slavery," he added, was an "inconsistency in the character of the American people."

His petition was immediately attacked on the floor of the House. "I am surprised," declared Mr. Tucker of South Carolina, "to see another memorial on the same subject signed by a man who ought to have known the Constitution better."

"We would never have entered the Confederation," Mr. Smith of South Carolina added angrily, "unless our property had been guaranteed to us. I don't think my constituents want to learn morals from the petitioners." He continued, "If they do, they can learn it at home." President Washington was not available for comment.

Mr. Franklin's reactions to his opponents were made clear in a humorous letter, sent soon after to the *Federal Gazette*.

Franklin described an imaginary situation, in which an Arab legislator defended the enslavement of Christians. In his speech the Arab attacked a group, the *Erika*, petitioning to end Christian slavery (just as Franklin had done). "If we forbear," the Arab began, "to

make slaves of these people, who in this hot climate will cultivate our lands? Must we not then be our own slaves? And is there not more favor due us as Mussulmen than to these Christian dogs?"

Everyone recognized these as the very arguments advanced by the slave powers in defense of black slavery. The Arab concluded: "Let us, then, hear no more of this detestable proposition - the freeing of Christian slaves. I have, therefore, no doubt but this wise council will prefer the comfort and happiness of a whole nation to the whim of a few *Erika* and dismiss their petition." The conclusion of the Arab legislator, says Mr. Franklin, was that it is in the "interest of the State to continue the practice of Christian slavery, and therefore, let the petition be rejected. And it was rejected."

Although Mr. Franklin's letter brilliantly ridiculed pro-slavery arguments, slavery still haunts black people. The legislature, rather than heeding men such as Franklin, has passed the fugitive slave law, leaving no safe place in this nation for blacks who escape the *ILLEGAL* hands of *SLAVERY*.

Ed. note: Benjamin Franklin died only 20 days after writing his humorous attack. We know he would stand alongside us today in our unswerving opposition to the fugitive slave bill. We can only hope that today's new outrage will spur more like him to join our cause.

IN MEMORIAM 12 YEARS AFTER

NEW LONDON, Conn., Sept., 1793 - In the fall, this small fishing town is one of New England's most beautiful spots. It is hard to imagine that only 12 years ago this was the site of the tragic battle of Groton Heights. Here, a force of bitter redcoats murdered scores of defenders, among them two brave black soldiers, JORDAN FREEMAN and LAMBO LATHAM.

The war was in its final days. General Washington's forces were closing in on Gen. Cornwallis in Yorktown. To turn attention from the certain southern defeat, the British command sent a force led by Benedict Arnold to capture this Connecticut port.

The British landed on Sept. 6 and met fierce resistance. The patriots, commanded by Col. William Ledyard, fired with deadly accuracy from sandy trenches. JORDAN FREEMAN was Ledyard's orderly, and LAMBO LATHAM was a slave who insisted on joining the fight. After four hours of battle, the outnumbered patriots took cover in Fort Griswold on Groton Heights.

JORDAN FREEMAN and another man fatally spared a British Officer, LATHAM, according to a survivor, fought "manfully" alongside the others.

Finally, the heavily outnumbered patriots surrendered. But when Colonel Ledyard handed his sword to the British officer, the heartless Redcoat stabbed him with it. The British murderers then massacred nearly all the remaining patriots.

On 43 days later at Yorktown the Commander of British Forces, Lord Cornwallis, surrendered. He was allowed to return to Britain, defeated, but alive.

NOTICE



Board of Health

The season has now arrived for emptying the contents of Privys. It is earnestly recommended that the inhabitants immediately empty all Privys. Notice is hereby given that suitable carts for the purpose have been purchased by this Board at the expense of the Town.

By order of the Board - Paul Revere, President, J. W. Folson, Sec'y

WEBSTER'S BOOK

Economic Attack On Slavery

In his new book *EFFECTS OF SLAVERY ON MORALS AND INDUSTRY*, Mr. Noah Webster proves that a land which employs slaves will become impoverished.

He offers facts and calculations proving that the labor of freemen is much more productive than that of slaves. When laboring people enjoy the fruits of their labor," he writes, "their countries tend to become rich and powerful. Slaves, however, are unable to work for themselves and become mere machines, moving only when compelled." Mr. Webster's conclusions have been supported recently by the observations of travelers.

Mr. Webster's theme was broadened recently by Kentucky's abolitionist Minister, David Rice. "When slavery becomes common," he said, "industry sinks into disgrace. To labor is to slave, to work is to work like a Negro."

Discouraged by general indifference to slavery, Mr. Webster and other abolitionists have begun making strong appeals to economic self-interest. Ninety years ago, in 1703, Mr. Samuel Sewall made similar observations. Slaveryholding, he said, was unprofitable not only because of importation costs but also because "their continual aspiring after their forbidden freedom renders them Unwilling Servants."

Rev. Samuel Hopkins thinks that blacks who work the land have more right, to it than their white "masters."

"The lands are theirs by rights," he says, "and they ought to be allowed to possess them as free men, and enjoy the fruits of their labor."

Mr. Webster is not hopeful about the future. After studying villenage (the European system in which peasants labored for their lords) he feels slavery may remain in the U.S. for another 200 years.



THE COMMITTEE OF GUARDIANS Of The Philadelphia Abolition Society

It Now
Placing Free
BLACK CHILDREN
With HONEST TRADESMEN
To Help Them Acquire Trades!
Other Society Committees
Designed to Aid the Black Man
Education, Inspection of Morals
and Employment

QUIZ

1. The first attempt to enforce the Fugitive Slave Law, in the City of _____ failed.
2. A female slave who escaped from President Washington is now living in the State of _____.
3. A group of blacks who fought for the British were eventually re-settled in _____ on the west coast of Africa.
4. The black astronomer, Benjamin Banneker, recently proposed a Department of _____ for this nation.
5. Richard Allen and Abolition Jones plan to establish two all-black _____ in Philadelphia.
6. The first black Masonic Lodge was established recently in Boston by _____.
7. A _____ of 25 cents has been levied against every free black in South Carolina. Answers page 3 Col. 3



BLACK CHRONICLE

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Issue 3

"Americans" unless you speedily alter your course, you and your Country are gone!!!"

September 1, 1831

Insurrection In Virginia!!!



Nat Turner (center, pointing) plots the revolt with followers.

CINCINNATI Ousts Her Black Population

AUGUST 23, 1831—Of all the prejudices, assaults, and confining laws directed at free blacks in the Northern states, none have been more vicious than those in Cincinnati. Recent events there have prompted half the black population to move to Upper Canada.

Last year, a delegation to Philadelphia's National Negro Convention declared that similar treatment may cause black populations in several Northern states to emigrate to Canada. Our people there say they are "as free as the air we breathe."

Troubles in Cincinnati began two years ago with the following outrageous proclamation: "The trustees of Cincinnati, hereby give notice, that all black persons who have emigrated to Cincinnati (must pay a) bond of \$500 (within thirty days from this date.

After years of building a peaceful community, blacks were being forced to leave. The proclamation was based on Ohio's infamous "black laws" of 1807. Although never enforced, they required any free black entering Ohio to post a \$500 bond. They also provided fines for any white employing a black who had no certificate of freedom.

Freemen, Fugitives Bring On Enforcement

Two years ago, however, the growing numbers of free blacks and escaped slaves entering Cincinnati brought white demands for immediate enforcement of the 1807 law. At the same time, local whites went on a violent three-day rampage, which we remember as the "Riot of 1829." Without official protection, local men of color armed themselves and one white trader was killed.

Cincinnati blacks petitioned for repeal of these "obnoxious black laws." Two Negroes, Israel Lewis and Thomas Cressap, traveled to Canada, seeking aid for resettlement. "If the act is enforced," said the petitioners, "we, the poor sons of Aethiopia, must take shelter where we can find it."

Their answer from the North was not long in coming. "Tell the Republicans on your side of the line," said the Governor of Upper Canada, "that we royals do not know men by their color. Should you come to us you will be entitled to all the privileges of His Majesty's subjects.

Within months, more than

1100 blacks traveled to Canada, where they have established the town of Wilberforce.

Black Laws Throughout Northern States

The Cincinnati "black laws" are, in the words of one well-known lawyer (who has asked to remain anonymous), an attempt to "discourage them (blacks) in every possible way to annoy them in a thousand ways."

Similar treatment of blacks is common throughout many Northern states. Free blacks have been discouraged by law from entering Illinois, Indiana (this year) and the Michigan Territory. Two years ago, in 1829, the Pennsylvania legislature declared that removal of blacks would be "in the best interests of our country."

Several Northern "free states" have even prohibited our people from testifying in court cases involving whites. If a white man murders a Negro in the midst of black witnesses, he can escape prosecution unless there is a white witness willing to testify.

Continued on page 2 col. 4

Negro Convention Plans College

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., June, 1831. The first annual Negro Convention has called for the establishment of a black college in New Haven, Conn. The 15 delegates, from New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia, also attacked efforts by the white American Colonization Society to export blacks.

Calling America the "birthplace of our fathers" and the land where "our blood and sweat have been shed," the delegates urged black men to stay in America to help prepare the way for future black prosperity. They issued the following statement:

"The Convention is not unmindful of the operations of the Society and it respectfully suggests . . . they are pursuing the direct road to perpetuate slavery, in this boasted land of freedom."

Plan College

As part of its dream of black progress, the Convention made plans for a college to instruct children of color in the art of manual labor.

The plan is for the black people to raise \$10,000 and the whites to raise a similar amount. "All who wish to see our colored population more prudent, virtuous and useful will lend us their patronage both in money and prayers," stated the Convention's school committee, chaired by sailmaker James Forten.

Although it is well-known

Opening of Ohio Canal



DISTANCE 309 MILES—THROUGH IN 80 HOURS.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Aug. 1831. The mail from the West describes the opening at Columbus of the Ohio Canal, and the introduction of the first boats within the limits of that city. The canal is now open from Lake Erie to Chillicothe. The event was celebrated with great joyousness on Saturday, the 22nd day of last month.

The Governor of Ohio attended, and was heartily welcomed. The ladies, taking part in the pleasures and duties of the day, marched in procession to the first packet boat built at Columbus, and presented it with a flag.

After this happy omen for the Canal's navigation, eight boats made their first and triumphal entry into the very heart of the town, amidst the thunder of artillery and the loud, long, and enthusiastic cheerings of 8,000 people. They lined the banks of the Canal, covered the roofs of

the houses, and crowded the doors and windows. The editor of the *Scoto Gazette* says it was "fiction realized, the anticipation of the most wild and extravagant theorist reduced to fact."

The other great work in the West is the start of construction on the Lexington and Ohio Railroad, the cornerstone of which (by a remarkable coincidence) was laid on the very day on which the above named Canal opened.

The whole affair went off very well, and we have high hopes for the undertaking. A public spirit as shown here which puts to shame the older States that stand still with folded arms whilst their younger sisters, the emigrant States, are setting such glorious examples of what can be accomplished by energy, industry, and intelligence combined.

Continued on page 4 col. 1

SOUTH CAROLINA LAW UPHELD

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 1831. A South Carolina law requiring the imprisonment of free black sailors has been called constitutional by the U. S. Attorney General John Berrien. (In 1823, this same law was declared unconstitutional by a federal court.)

In reply to questions raised by President Jackson, the Attorney General calls the law a "necessary exercise of police power."

Mr. Jackson's query was raised after British authorities protested the arrest of Daniel Fraser, black cook on a British vessel. Fraser was released when his ship left Charleston, but by law he could have been sold if his captain had not paid confinement costs.

South Carolina's law was passed ten years ago, after the discovery of a conspiracy led by Denmark Vesey, a freeman. Although the law has not been enforced for several years, the recent appearance of revolutionary pamphlets has caused Charleston authorities again to clamp down on free Negroes entering port.

Under the law, several black British sailors were imprisoned in the early '20's. In 1822, the British Ambassador demanded that the U. S. act "to prevent the recurrence of any such outrage in the future."

South Carolina flatly refused to heed either a request from the then Secretary of State, John Q. Adams, or the federal court decision of 1823.

Continued on page 2 col. 5

BULLETIN: Contrary to exaggerated reports only 60 to 80 blacks are believed involved. They have had only a brief encounter with the militia.

The rebel slaves are armed with muskets, scythes, axes, etc. White troops are marching to the scene of action. The Fayette Artillery and the Light Dragoons will leave this evening for Southampton. The artillery will go in a steamboat, and the troops by land.

An express states that several families have been killed. The names and precise numbers are not mentioned. (Another letter to the *Post Master* supports this intelligence—Ed.) Prompt measures are being taken by Virginia's Governor John Floyd to call out a force large enough to put down the insurrection.

The following letters have been received from Virginia.

Letter from Beffield, Greenville Co. Va. 24 Aug. 1831

In the greatest haste I write you a few lines. I can merely say that we are all in arms and in great excitement on account of the insurrection which broke out on Sunday night. Those fellows begin by murdering a family, taking their arms and horses, and pushing on to the next house with all possible speed, where they massacre every white.

Continued on page 3 col. 1

Family Reads Own Death Notice

Rumormongers, who spread panic and terror through the South, have amazed one family, who recently read an account of their own death in the newspaper.

EXTRA! REVOLT CRUSHED

SOUTHAMPTON, Va., Aug. 31, 1831—The killing of the whites is over. By now, nearly 30 Negroes have been killed, and the jail at Jerusalem is overflowing.

The revolt is believed entirely suppressed and the blacks all killed or taken. The dead bodies of white and black lay just as they were slain, unburied.

Passengers on the Fayetteville stage say that by the latest account 120 Negroes have been killed throughout the state.

At Cross Keys, the people are wound up to such a high pitch of rage that precautions are necessary to protect the lives of the captives. Scouting parties are out, and the insurrection may be considered already suppressed.

Several prisoners have been taken, and in one or two instances, put to death by the enraged inhabitants (111). All the leaders, except Nat Turner, the prophet, have been shot or taken prisoner. Several have confessed assisting in the murders.

PARTIAL LIST OF REBELS CAPTURED: SLAVES: Daniel, Moses, Jacob, Jack, Lucy, Nathan, Tom and Davy (boys). **FREE:** Arnold (artist); Exum Artes.

Nat Turner

Reports indicate that a slave, Nat Turner, is the leader of the insurrection in Virginia. He is said to be a Baptist preacher, held in high esteem by slaves throughout Southampton. Nat is reported to have been deeply impressed by the Bible verses "Seek ye the kingdom of Heaven and all things shall be added unto you." Other stories tell of a vision Nat had several years ago, in which "White spirits and black spirits engaged in battle and the sun was darkened, the thunder rolled in the Heavens, and blood flowed in streams."

It would seem that Christianity, introduced by slave owners to pacify their slaves, may become a justification for revolt.—Ed.

BLACK CHRONICLE

THE INSURRECTION

Two years ago, David Walker called on oppressed bondsmen to rise and strike for freedom. Last year Mr. Walker was found dead in the doorway of his shop. (Many friends believe he was poisoned.)

Today, in a terrible answer to Walker's Appeal, an insurrection in Virginia is bringing death to hundreds. Most of the killed are black victims of revengeful slave owners.

All reports (even half-truths from Southern newspapers) describe widespread slaughter of Negroes who took no part in the actual insurrection. In many cases, black suspects are shot dead rather than taken as prisoners. Some stories tell of severed heads being displayed in towns.

Have the righteous Southern murderers considered the desperation behind this and other slave revolts? Whether or not the slaves have been "well-treated" makes no difference. MEN will not be held in bondage!

We pray slave owners will finally thrust the poison of slavery from their breasts, having witnessed its inevitable results. But we fear they will take the opposite path by tightening the chains on our African brothers with stern legislation and punishments.

Free Negroes, too, will surely suffer the terror and abuse. We urge them to come North. Together we can try to halt the atrocities committed against all black men.

For even here, in the so-called free states, black people are denied the rights and privileges of citizenship. Foreigners, within a few years, receive these, but we native-born black Americans, sons of the soil, are (most of us) shut out.

But with increased numbers, however, we can work both for ourselves and for those enslaved. We must petition Congress, join with the growing number of abolitionists, and do all that is in our power to help those in bondage.

Unless we act now, the obstacles in the pathway of all men of color are likely to remain.

At the same time, we must work to improve ourselves, multiplying the number of our schools and sending our children regularly. For in our youth rests the departed glory of ancient Africa. It is in them that all our hopes for the future are fixed.

But if, after banding together to work for our own betterment, one section is still enslaved and the other treated like slaves, then, we fear, the future may rest with men like David Walker and Nat Turner.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir, The unfortunate individual who has the stamp of darkness impressed upon his complexion is never free from contempt and insult. Virginia is considering action to expel the free blacks from her territory, and Ohio has already prohibited them. Now Pennsylvania is planning to adopt similar measures. When all the states in the Union have passed statutes to prevent an influx of the free colored race, where shall the liberated black go? Nothing but extermination, total and entire, can result from such strange legislative proceedings. *Northampton Courier*

Sir, The Colonization Society is trying to effect their unhallowed object. It seems their motto is "Onward to the work of oppression." They may gild their arguments with the high sounding phrases of justice, humanity, and what-not, but their intentions are as easily seen through as gauze held up to the light. Their cause is one of oppression, cruelty and injustice, and as such it must perish. When I think on this subject, I am worked up to such a pitch of excitement that I must either speak or write my sentiments. *A Friend*

WE ANNOUNCE WITH REGRET THE SUSPENSION OF FREEDOM'S JOURNAL.

(First Black Weekly Newspaper in America)

We shall always agree with its sentiments. Too long have others spoken for us. Too long has the public been deceived by misrepresentations. Daily slandered, we think that there ought to be some channel of communication in defense of 500,000 free people of color.

Ed. Note: Freedom's Journal appeared from 1827 to 1829. Its editors, Mr. Samuel Cornish and Mr. John H. Russwurm (presently in Liberia), are among our most respected black men of letters.

Our Free Country!

AUGUST, 1831 Several free Negroes were recently brought before the County Court of Jefferson County, Ky., under a law of 1803 which forbids any free Negro from entering the State. Punishment consists of being "sold by the Sheriff to the highest bidder" for one year's duration, unless they pay a large bond and promise to depart and never more return. Surely this is a FREE country—where a man who happens to have a dark skin is deprived of his liberty (one of those "unalienable rights" which our Declaration of Independence says is common to all mankind) and converted into a slave, for no other crime than having moved from one state into another.

Negro Convention Plans College. Continued from page 1 col. 3. that the city of New Haven opposes the proposal, city officials have not been available for comment.

Discussing the Convention in a letter to the Liberator, editor William L. Garrison said: "Great things are in embryo. The coloured people begin to feel their strength and to use it. The proceeding of the Convention will command the attention of the whole country, and operate upon the coloured population with the power of electricity." **Richard Allen Honored**

The Convention also paid its deepest respects to the late Bishop Richard Allen, founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the President of the founding Negro Convention. Black Bishop Morris Brown referred to him as "the greatest man of his race."

Incredible Rise Of The Slavocracy

ANALYSIS

BOSTON, Mass., Aug. 23, 1831—Today's insurrection of slaves (we still do not know how many) would never have occurred if the past years had not witnessed the incredible rise of the slave power, the Slavocracy.

Some of us remember that slavery was dying in the years during and after the War of Revolution. In 1807, Congress officially ended the trade in humans. Emancipation was proceeding slowly but surely in all the Northern states, many observers saw a death knell for Southern slavery in the shrinking demand for rice and tobacco.



DAVID WALKER'S CALL TO REVOLT

Excerpt from David Walker's APPEAL (Published Sept., 1829) And Some Responses

Are we men?—I ask you, O my brethren! Are we MEN? Did our Creator make us to be slaves to dust and ashes like ourselves? Are they not dying worms as well as we? Have they not to make their appearance before the tribunal of Heaven, to answer for the deeds done in the body, as well as we? How we could be so submissive to a gang of men, whom we cannot tell whether they are as good as ourselves or not, I never could conceive.

"Well done, David Walker! I like your spirit."—"V", The Liberator

Remember that unless you are united you will be afraid to trust your secrets to each other, and thus perpetuate our miseries under the Christians! Never make an attempt to gain our freedom or natural rights, from under our cruel oppressors and murderers, until you see your way clear when that hour arrives and you move, be not afraid or dismayed, for be you assured that Jesus Christ will surely go before you.

"Your people cannot hold in more absolute detestation, the sentiment of the writer (Walker) than do the people of this city."—Mayor Otis of Boston to the Mayor of Savannah, Ga.

Do they not institute laws to prohibit us from marrying among the whites? I would wish, candidly however, before the



Captured Africans being led off to a life of slavery.

Slave-Ship Captured

From London we have news about the British frigate Sybille, cruising upon the coast of Africa for suppressing the slave trade. Proceeding to the Nigerian coast, the Sybille searched for vessels which were known to be secretly engaged in that cruel trade.

Commander Turner has returned to England with 40 of these pirates, whose atrocities it is hoped will bring them to punishment. This deserving young white officer has rescued from slavery upwards of 2,000 of his fellow men.

Lord, to be understood that I would not give a pinch of snuff to be married to any white person I ever saw in all the days of my life.

"He revolts at the prohibitory law, concerning it to be a manifesto of the supposed inferiority of his people. This is the proper view of the subject."—"V", The Liberator

Let us review Mr. Jefferson's remarks (Notes From Virginia [1792]) respecting us. Comparing our miserable fathers with the learned philosophers of Greece, he says: "Yet notwithstanding these and other discouraging circumstances among the Romans, their (white) slaves were often their rarest artists. They excelled too, in sciences inasmuch as to be usually employed as tutors to their master's children. It is not their condition then but nature, which has produced the distinction."

See this, my brethren! Do you believe that this is swallowed by millions of the whites? Unless we try to refute Mr. Jefferson's arguments respecting us we will only establish them.

"I have reason to believe, that the book is disapproved of by the decent portion even of the free coloured population in this place."—Mayor Otis of Boston to the Governor of Virginia.

The man who would not fight under our Lord and Master Jesus Christ, in the glorious and heavenly cause of freedom and of God ought to be kept, with all his children or family, in slavery or in chains, to be butchered by his cruel enemies.

"The circulation of pamphlets of evil tendency among our domestics is punishable by death."—Georgia Legislature, 1829.

Cincinnati Ousts Blacks Continued from page 1 col. 2

The Spread of White Democracy

President Andrew Jackson has often spoken of the "new" democracy in our nation. But state laws which are said to permit "universal" suffrage have maintained severe property qualifications for black people in order to restrict the vote to white males. One legislator has claimed our people "a peculiar people" unable to vote intelligently.

And when such oppressive laws have not discouraged our settling in a Northern state, whites become violent. On Black Friday, January 1, 1830, 80 of our brethren were driven out of Portsmouth, Ohio. And in Cincinnati, of course, there was the Riot of 1829.

Industry and Slaves

The invention in 1788 of the power loom in England started it. The loom revolutionized textile manufacturing and brought the use of raw cotton in England from 13,000 bales in 1781 to 871,000 today. Then, in 1793, Eli Whitney designed the cotton gin, which produced usable cotton fibers at an unheard-of rate. Within months, American planters wanted all the raw cotton they could get, and they wanted it cheap.

To buyers and sellers of humanity, the answer was simple—slave labor. One of the first mechanical devices in this nation had assured the growth of slavery.

By 1806, Americans were kidnapping 15,000 Africans every year. By 1819, 15,000 slaves were carried to Virginia alone. Today "business" is even better. As many as 150,000 slaves are smuggled every year into North and South America.

Galveston, Texas, has become a "market-place" where plantation owners from all Southern states buy their black laborers. (Black women are often sold there for breeding, another reliable method slave owners use to increase their "property-holdings.")

And the production of cotton still increases. Prices seldom fall below 15¢ a pound and this year the South is expected to produce 1,000,000 bales. Huge plantations are growing up in the south-land of Alabama and Mississippi. To obtain most fertile land for planting, American slave holders have settled the Louisiana Territory, and Texas.

Where Is Prohibition?

Men are making fortunes growing cotton. Perhaps for this reason, the American prohibition of the slave trade in 1807 was ignored by our government, and of course by the traders.

Occasionally an armed U.S. vessel patrols American and West African waters (Governor McCarthy of Sierra Leone, Africa, reports the rivers there are filled with American slave ships). To avoid even minor harassment, most American slave traders simply fly Spanish flags. Slave trading between states is carried on by crooks and "gentlemen" alike. The vilest traders of all obtain their Africans from thieves and kidnapers. The notorious Murrell gang, for one, roams the woods, kidnapping slaves and free men.

Riches and Slaves

Currently, Southern states, recovering from an agricultural depression of half a century, are planting more cotton than ever before. Slaves work in gangs, gathering huge profits for their "masters." Carolinians and Georgians feed cotton to English mills in Manchester and Lowell. "Cotton fever" has infected Mississippi and Louisiana as well.

Today, in this nation, there are 2,000,000 slaves.

South Carolina Law Upheld

Continued from page 1 col. 4. Because of such problems, British Minister William Ogilby has simply asked South Carolina to be more careful and not arrest British black sailors.

Challenging a similar law in North Carolina, a British diplomat recently took two black sailors into his home, determined to protect them "from oppression."

The conflict has raised many problems both in Washington and Britain. "These Yankees may kidnap one another," said a British official in the Department of Labor, "but they must not kidnap British subjects."

The Growing Split

The Black Chronicle is privileged to print the following edited excerpts from a forthcoming book by M. Alexis de Toqueville. The French engineer-philosopher has been traveling through America.

I have observed in my travels that the North is superior to the South in both commerce and manufactures.

Slavery, which has been abolished in the North, is fatal to the prosperity of the Southern states. The immigrants from Europe, just beginning to enter the country, are settling in the free states, primarily because they refuse to work the black slaves. Another reason is that most of the land in the South is held by big landowners, making settling difficult.

Sailors are usually obtained from the lowest rank of the population in the South, that would mean slaves. But it is very difficult to employ slaves at sea, for fear of them mutinying. (Blacks worked and fought on ships during the War of Revolution when there was hope of Freedom. Ed.)

The population of a country is the first element of its wealth and power. (People not only serve as a work force, but also determine the number of representatives in the federal government. Ed.) The states

which increase less rapidly tend to look upon those more fortunate ones with envy and suspicion.

Virginia's number of representatives continued to increase until 1813 when it began to decrease. During the same period, New York's (number) had increased to 27 and was still increasing in 1823 with 34.

I am inclined to think that the hostile attitude taken by the South recently is attributable to no other cause. The inhabitants of the Southern states would assuredly suffer most from being left to themselves, and yet they are the only ones who threaten to break the tie of confidence.

The South is induced to support the Union in order to avoid themselves of its protection against the blacks (our italics).

It is easy to perceive that the South is becoming more and more irritated. If the changes which I have described were gradual, the danger would be less, but the progress of society in America is most revolutionary.

Insurrection in Virginia

Continued from page 1 col. 5

They continue in this manner until they are intrapped and they escape and skulk about the woods. When another favorable opportunity occurs they collect together and repeat their horrible massacres. Between 25 and 30 [sic] families have already been entirely destroyed.

Letter from Norfolk, Va., 24 Aug. 1831.

It is now five o'clock. Thompson's Stage has just arrived - reports of the rebellion are confirmed, adding still more to the number of the slain. We are encouraged however, by the Richmond Whig, which says the following: "Serious danger of course there is none. The deluded wretches have rushed on a certain destruction." The rebels have had an encounter with a small number of militia, who killed six and took eight of them prisoners. They are headed for the Dismal Swamp, a huge stretch of marsh.

According to a Southern gentleman at the battle scene, there is little chance that the revolt will spread. "There is very little dissatisfaction in the slaves generally," he says, "and they cannot muster a force sufficient to effect any object of importance. The few who have thus rushed headlong into the arena will be shut down like crows, or captured, and made examples of."

Later Details

A letter from North Carolina states that the insurrection had its origin with the trial of a white man in Southampton. After he was sentenced by the Courts to pay a fine of \$1,000, his sons were so exasperated that they resolved to have revenge upon the whole country. They inducted ten or a dozen Negroes to join them, and immediately commenced the work of destruction by cutting off the heads of all the whites and killing all the blacks who refused to unite with them. from Lowell Journal.

(We cannot place much confidence in the above account of the origin of the revolt. It appears that freedom, not plunder, was the motive of the black rebels and that no whites were involved. Nor has there been evidence to support the argument that any blacks were forced to join the revolt. Ed.)

There was a mob in Paris on the 9th which attacked the hotel of the Russian Ambassador, amid cries of "Down with the Russians!" and "The Poles forever!"

The price of a prime field hand is \$460.

SLAVES AS SKILLED LABOR

By Our Correspondent

CHARLESTON, Aug. 1831. The large plantation houses and the iron grillwork on gates and balconies throughout the South have been fashioned by skilled slaves.

Unlike most enslaved blacks, who labor either as field hands or house servants, these black men have been taught trades and special skills.

Slaves Rented

They serve as double assets for their "masters," for they are not only used on the plantation, but also "let out" (rented) for money.

"Letting out" has greatly extended the traditional use of black slave labor. Slaves now work as blacksmiths and weavers and are employed in foundries and factories throughout the South. The most delicate Southern wrought iron is fashioned by blacks. Jacob, a slave, is a master silversmith, whose work is so exquisite that his services are demanded throughout Louisiana. Under this system, whites too poor to own slaves rent them.



Slaves working as printers.

Industrial firms with steady crews take on additional "hands" at the busy seasons. Cities themselves hire slaves for grading, paving, and cleaning streets. They also build bridges, collect garbage, and dig canal-type sewers.

The most unusual public use of slaves, however, is as firemen. In Savannah, they compose the crack fire engine teams as well as the axe and bucket brigades, and are the pride of the town.

With the introduction of the railroad in the South thousands of slaves are laying railroads. A slave shoveled coal last year into the "Best Friend," first locomotive built for service in the United States.

Proud Workers

Although slave artisans are usually treated better than field hands, they have not lost contact with their brothers, often sharing the same quarters. Unlike house servants, who "gratefully" accept old clothes from their masters, they are not submissive.

When they are bonded to an unusually cruel white man, skilled slaves often hide in the swamps, returning only after the bond period is over. Their masters, having already received money for their service and not anxious to have their servants run away again, may not even punish them.

Swamp Hideaway

For a runaway, life in the swamps is not as difficult as one might suppose. Other slaves, who feel any act against the master is unjustified, provide them with food. According to one slave, some runaways even slip into the slave cabins to sleep.

One white man, who lives near a swamp, has said he sees fires at night as the slaves cook sheep, pigs, calves and other livestock taken from the white people.

NOTICE

The subscriber would inform the coloured Ladies and Gentlemen of Boston, that his School for Instruction in Sacred Music will be held, for the present, every Sunday evening in the African School House, Belknap Street Terms for twenty six lessons - for a lady, \$1.00; for a gentleman, \$2.00. Those who wish to attend are requested to apply immediately. Pulaski W. Flanders

Slaves Resist

Slaves are not happy, docile servants. In the manner of *inveterate* they are usually worked unmercifully, then kept in huts or shackles until their service is required again.

But despite their suffering and deprivation these *human beings* resist and resist daily.

Rebellious acts have been largely suppressed by the news. Both slave owners and, to some degree, white abolitionists are responsible.

Slaves With False Image

To win public sympathy, abolitionists have tried to project an image of the "wretched, faithful worker," beaten and abused by his master. Slave holders, on the other hand, desiring to maintain the fiction that they "protect dumb, helpless creatures" cannot reveal serious dissatisfaction among their slaves.

Black Chronicle is fortunate to have spoken with several escaped slaves. They expressed deep resentment for their "masters," the men who reaped the benefits of their work.

To resist, we were told, slaves will do almost anything. Planters have reported losing over half their tobacco crops because their slaves slow down during the best picking seasons. When worked beyond endurance, slaves often flee to the swamps, returning when their demands for better conditions are met. Occasionally, they simply refuse to work.

"In working niggers," one plantation owner has said, "we always calculate that they will never labor at all, except to avoid punishment, and they will never do more than 'just enough' to save themselves from being punished."

Eye Servants

Because slaves must always be watched, annoyed plantation owners call them "eye servants" and employ hated white overseers to keep them working. When, as sometimes happens, a slave is made overseer, he is often sympathetic to his brothers and sisters. One black overseer has said:

"I learned to handle the whip with precision, throwing the lash within a hair of the back. If the master is watching, they squirm in speech as if in agony, although not one of them has, in fact, been grazed."

We were told that black overseers do not even attempt to stop slaves from destroying their "master's" property. They let cattle wander in fields of ripe crops, leave gates open so animals can escape, and destroy tools as rapidly as they are replaced.

Illness

Slaves pretend illness to avoid forced labor, to prevent being purchased by a mean master, and even to revenge themselves on a former owner by lowering their "value" on the auction block.

Black women claim pregnancy not only to avoid work, but also to get extra food rations for their families.

Slaves sometimes injure themselves rather than obey the man who calls himself their owner.



This colored woman killed her children to prevent their sale into slavery.

General Leslie Combs of Lexington, Ky. tells of bargaining to sell his slave, Ennis, down the river. But, he angrily reports, Ennis took a broadaxe and cut off one hand. He then lifted the axe under his arm and let it fall on the other hand, cutting off the ends of his fingers.

In the greatest act of resistance, some slaves commit suicide and others kill members of their family. "I had 13 children," boasted one black woman, "Every one I destroyed with my own hands rather than have them suffer slavery."

Slaveholders know that such frustration could lead to their destruction. "The least unusual noise at night alarms them greatly," said one slave. "They cry out, 'What is that? Are the boys all in?'"

Lost of Lives. It is said that between 70 and 80 lives were lost on board the steamboat *Profic*, which was recently cast away near Cowbridge, England, in fact, been grazed."

CLASSIFIEDS



NEW YORK, LEXINGTON, PROCESSION, No. 2

Imagined from a drawing taken of 7. Boston, a page after 1830.

THE HISTORY OF THE NEW YORK AFRICAN FREE-SCHOOLS From Their Establishment In 1787 to the Present Time With An Appendix

BY CHARLES C. ANDREWS teacher of the male school.

We have a map of the United States, drawn and lettered by a lad ten years old. It can be examined at this office. By order of the Board of Trustees.

Peter S. Titus Richard Field



None else can be accommodated At "The House of Peter Gardner No. 8 Powell Street Philadelphia.

School Wanted

A respectable coloured gentleman, teacher of youth for the last three years, wishes to obtain a school for the instruction of young ladies and gentlemen of colour. He teaches Spelling, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, English Grammar, Mathematics, etc. References respecting his qualifications may be made to the Editor, or to George Hogarth, 140 Jay Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

MEXICO TEXAS FIGHTING

NAUOGDOCHES, Texas, August, 1831—The long simmering friction here between American settlers and the Mexican government has developed into open riots and gun battles.

Mexican authorities may even be encouraging insurrections among Texas slaves. In any event, American slaves know of Mexico's sympathy.

Slave owners, in turn, have responded by setting dogs on slaves for the slightest offense.

When the new Mexican Republic first provided for the gradual extinction of slavery, in 1824, some Americans revolted and declared Texas independent. They were soon put down, however.

Finally, in what was possibly an attempt to discourage other Americans from entering Texas, Mexico in 1829 emancipated all the slaves in her lands.

American settlers responded by sending to the United States for arms. Mexico then decided to permit a modified "apprenticeship" of slaves, but for no more than ten years.

Now the peace has ended. American settlers in Texas are determined to keep perpetual slavery, and last year the Mexicans prohibited further American settlement in Texas. Open skirmishes occur frequently between the two sides.

The anti-slavery attitude of Mexico and the spirit of revolution among American settlers in Texas reminds us somewhat of the Revolutionary War. Again, our enslaved people are suffering, caught in a white struggle for rights.

DAY Makes A Deal

MILTON, N. C.—Thomas Day, famous free black furniture-maker, has made another of his remarkable deals.

Mr. Day, whose mahogany tables and chairs grace the wealthiest Southern homes, has taken the Presbyterian church into giving him a pew on the ground floor. For this privilege, Day will build mahogany pews for the church.

This feat does not top Day's heroic persistence two years ago, however, when he was denied to leave Milton if he was not legally allowed to bring his wife, a free Negro from Virginia, into the state.

Not wanting to lose the skilled carpenter, 60 white citizens wrote to the state capital, asking the black man a "first class workman and remarkably skillful, steady and industrious."

Day owns a mahogany furniture store in the converted Yellow Tavern. He employs both white and black workers.

Or. (Continued from page 1, col. 3)

Other News From The West

A friend of Stephen Austin has kindly shown us a letter sent by Austin from the troubled Mexican Territory of Texas.

Young Austin, leader of American immigrants to that territory, has had an ever-widening interest in his native country and intends to fulfill his duty to his states and obligations to his Mexican citizens.

Married settlers in Texas are said to have 4,428 acres from Mexico for less than \$200.



Word has arrived from Oregon Territory that the American Fur Company's steamboat has proceeded as far up the Missouri River as Cannon Bluffs! No one would have believed such a thing possible 20 years ago, when the first steamboat struck viewers as a "boat moving without appearance of sail, pole, or any manual labor moving with the secrets of her own mechanism and propelled by power undiscoverable."

SLAVE REVOLTS

Be not misled. Today's insurrection is not the first. For two hundred years, our people have fought for their freedom. A partial list follows:

1672—VIRGINIA. Fugitive slaves in small armed bands raided nearby towns hoping to convince others to join them. The Assembly urged their capture dead or alive, saying "very dangerous consequences may arise if other Negroes fly forth and joyne them."

1712—NEW YORK CITY. A group of slaves plotting rebellion bound themselves to secrecy by "sucking ye blood of each Others hand." Several months later, they set fire to a building and attacked approaching whites, killing nine. Eventually, 10 Negroes were taken. Six were pardoned and 27 condemned, one being hung alive in chains so, stated the Governor, "there has been the most exemplary punishment inflicted that could be possibly thought of."

1729—STONO, SOUTH CAROLINA. Twelve slaves rebelled and attempted to fight their way to Florida. Soon, about 75 had gathered. An eyewitness wrote "They called out Liberty, marched on with Colours displayed, and two Drums beating." When pursued by militia, the blacks fought boldly, but were defeated. About 25 whites and 50 blacks were killed.

1740—NEW YORK. Slaves were accused of planning to poison their masters' water supply. Most New Yorkers began buying spring water from vendors who carried it about the streets. The next year, 31 slaves and four poor whites were executed for setting the city afire.

1800—HENRICO COUNTY, VA. Gabriel Prosser led a conspiracy that involved at least 1,000 slaves. Other leaders included Jack Bowler, 28 years old, 6 feet 5, who said that "we had as much right to fight for our liberty as any men."

The plot was kept with incredible secrecy for several months. Two slaves, however, informed on the plotters and the capital was posted with cannon and men.

About 1,000 armed slaves gathered six miles outside the capital, Richmond. But that very evening, there came the most terrible thunder accompanied with an enormous rain, making the passage to Richmond impossible.

The slaves dishanded, scores were later arrested. Gabriel was betrayed by two slaves in Norfolk. His execution was postponed by Governor James Monroe in the hope he would inform on others. After interviewing Prosser, the Governor announced, "He seemed to have made up his mind to die, and to say but little on the subject."

1822—CHARLESTON, S. C. Denmark Vesey, a free black artisan in his late fifties, planned a revolt involving thousands of slaves. Leaders observed great caution, never mentioning it to "those waiting men who receive presents of old coats from their masters, or they'll betray us." Someone, however, did speak to a "house slave," who informed his master. Thirty-seven were hanged, the informer was given a pension of \$50.

1829—VANCEBURG, Ky. Two slaves in a coffin (a line of chained slaves) of 96 persons fled through their shackles and escaped, killing two guards. They were captured when a black slave trader summoned the militia. Of the six executed, one was a pregnant woman who was not hanged until her "valuable" child was born.

1829—AUGUSTA, Ga. A slave-set fire swept the city. Governor Forsyth appealed to U. S. Secretary of War, for "arms to protect the people of the state in case of slave revolt."

1831—DELAWARE JAN. 7. Report "There has been much shooting of Negroes in this neighborhood recently, consequence of the symptoms of liberty having been discovered among them."



FROM THE "CHARLESTON MERCURY"

"FOR SALE, a girl very profane, in her generating qualities. A rare opportunity to any person who wishes to raise a family of strong and healthy servants for their own use."

QUIZ

1. The "Riot of 1829" took place in the City of _____.
 2. The leader of the Virginia slave revolt is _____.
 3. The all-white American Society wants to resettle Freedmen outside the country.
 4. The strongest anti-slavery statement yet published is David Walker's _____.
 5. The rise of the slavocracy was stimulated by Eli Whitney's invention, the _____.
 6. The first black newspaper was called _____.
 7. Highly skilled black slaves are often _____ for money by their masters.
 8. The great bare-knuckle fighter, Bill Richmond, became known as _____.
- Answers page 3 col. 2

Revolt Follows 3 Years Repressive Legislation

The result in Virginia has occurred despite three years of oppressive Southern legislation.

Virginia in April of 1829, made all meetings of free Negroes or meetings for teaching reading or writing unlawful. This crime may be punished by 20 lashes for a black and a \$50 fine for any white involved.

Georgia lawmakers in 1829 prohibited the circulation of pamphlets of "evil tendency" and punished those teaching any blacks to read or write.

In 1829, North Carolina made illegal the sale of firearms, gun powder, or lead to any slave who did not have the written consent of his master. Penalties include three months imprisonment for whites and 39 lashes for Negroes.

In 1830, a North Carolina law provided that anyone circulating literature intended to "excite insurrection, conspiracy or resistance in the slaves or free Negroes was for a first offense to

be pined, whipped and imprisoned for one year." A second offense is punishable by death without clergy. The law also makes teaching slaves to read or write illegal (Counting, however, is permitted).

The North Carolina law requires that all Negroes emancipated after 1830 leave the state within 90 days. A Negro resident who remains out of the state for 90 days is not permitted to return. This prevents free blacks educated elsewhere from returning to teach others.

In 1820, Louisiana lawmakers compelled all free blacks who entered the state since 1820 to leave.

In Mississippi since 1829 any slave who strikes a white man with an intent to kill is to be lashed 100 times a day for three days.



HEROIC BLACKS In The War of 1812

AUG. 23, 1831—President Jackson seems to have turned his back upon a people whose help he once sought in waging war.

Black Chronicle has learned that Jackson has instructed Martin Van Buren to question the British minister on the possibility of establishing a treaty to allow slave owners to reclaim slaves from Canada.

This seems something of a turnabout for Jackson, the Hero of New Orleans, who appealed to coloured freemen in 1814 to fight the British with these words:

Adopted Children

"As sons of freedom you are now called upon to defend our greatest blessing. As Americans, our country looks upon her adopted children for heroic support."

Responding to Jackson's appeal, two battalions of blacks were quickly formed, one of which covered itself with glory at the Battle of Chalmette Plains.

And in the Battle of New Orleans, where the two coloured battalions fought hard by the side of Jackson himself, blacks helped win the day. In fact, the killing of the British commander has been attributed by Jackson to a black man.

Jackson said of the battle "The two corps of coloured volunteers have not disappointed the hopes that were formed of their courage—in the performance of duty."

Such bravery was matched time and again in the war.

Instances of Bravery

In his report of the Battle of Lake Erie, Capt. O. H. Perry spoke most highly of the conductor of the black seamen. "They seemed to be absolutely insensible to danger," he said.

Earlier in the war, the captain of the American privateer Governor Tomkins saw blacks fight with such bravery he concluded that "While America has such sailors as these, she has little to fear from the tyrants of the ocean."

Coloured freemen's bravery seemed only to be matched by their loyalty. One such patriot was Charles Black. He lost \$900 owed him by England when he refused to fight in their service. Thrown in prison and surrounded by five walls (the outermost was a mile from the prison), he managed to escape. He made his way to his country in time to fight the British on Lake Champlain. Black's father, by the way, fought for the colonies at Bunker Hill and his grandfather was in the French and Indian War!

Heroism Forgotten

It is this legacy of bravery and loyalty which white America—even the President—seems to have forgotten. Now that the threat of war has subsided, the heroic deeds of America's Negroes have been forgotten.

It would be far wiser for the whites who treat us now so oppressively to take heed of the words of New York's Doctor Clarke: "On Lake Erie and Champlain, where I found triumphed over a foe superior in numbers and engines of death, (your fleets) were manned in large proportion by men of colour. These were times when a man who shouldered his musket bared his bosom to the enemy, and in those times these people were found as ready and as willing to volunteer in your service as any other. They were not compelled to go, they were not drafted. They were volunteers."

THE BLACK TERROR

OBITUARY
Born: ? Died: Dec. 28, 1829

We say farewell to Bill Richmond, the world's great black bare-knuckle fighter. He died two years ago in England where he won fame as one of the greatest pugilists of all time.

Richmond had been a slave in Staten Island, New York, and belonged to the Duke of Northumberland. At the outbreak of the great war with Britain he returned there with his master and received in his words, a "tolerably good education" in an English school.

At the age of 42, Bill Richmond entered the boxing ring. He thrashed every opponent who faced him, earning the title "The Black Terror." In October, 1805, he finally met his match in Tom Cribb, who beat him after a battle that lasted one hour and 30 minutes. That was the end of Bill's career in the ring. But he soon opened an inn, *The Horse and Dolphin*, and a boxing academy for English nobility and gentry.

BENNETT,
Bookseller, Publisher, Stationer,
AND
BOOKBINDER,
No. 5, Cornhill Street,
FLEET STREET.

HEALTH ALMANAC
This valuable work, for 1831, has been published by Key, Meike & Biddle, and should be read. The numerous recommendations, respecting food, exercise, and the regulation of the passions, entitle it to the attention of all.

To The Free Colored Population of America
THE PUREST PRINCIPLES OF RELIGION and the most exalted patriotism, have ever motivated THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY in our efforts to aid the degraded and long-suffering AFRICANS in this country.

WITH OUR RESOURCES, & the cheering encouragement and partial aid of the Government, we appeal to be assisting our goal—
THE TRANSPORTATION OF THE ENTIRE FREE NEGRO POPULATION TO LIBERIA!

ALL THAT IS NEEDED is the support of our associated friends and their earnest and full participation in helping us achieve our happy goal, the return of free Africans to THE LAND OF THEIR FOREFATHERS!

For further information, please contact: H. A. S. DEARBORN
Contributions Gratefully Accepted

HEREDITARY
BONDSMAN
Know ye not,
that HE who
WOULD BE FREE
himself must
STRIKE THE BLOW
—*United American*
1857

BLACK CHRONICLE

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Issue 4 "Negroes are a subordinate class of beings with no rights which the white man is bound to respect." — Chief Justice Taney March 7, 1857

ANTI-SLAVERY ACTIVITY INCREASING AMONG FREE BLACKS

By our Correspondent

A recent *Black Chronicle* survey has indicated that a wave of anti-slavery activity among free blacks is sweeping the free states. With a growing number of societies, conventions, publications, and a dedicated band of agitators, our people are helping to keep slavery the hottest issue in the country.

A Dangerous Game

In St. Louis, I spoke with a black minister who runs the Knights of Liberty, a secret organization that travels deep into the South, convincing slaves to escape and sometimes freeing them by force. "We are only the beginning," said the minister, who remains unidentified for obvious reasons. "I can promise you that in three or four years what we are doing will seem like child's play."

But the Knights are engaged in risky work. Most of the active blacks I spoke with belong to the many less militant abolitionist societies. They help fleeing slaves, distribute anti-slavery literature, and gather regularly to hear such respected black speakers as Frederick Douglass, Henry H. Garnett, and Sojourner Truth. While whites as well as blacks belong to these groups, our people—William Still in Philadelphia and Theodore Wright in New York City—head two of the major branches.

Calls for Unity

"We need a press of our own," says the *Weekly Anglo-African*, a black-owned newspaper published in New York City. "We need to know something of ourselves through the press other than the lies made up to suit the interests of our enemies." Pretty strong language, but it accurately reflects a drive for unity and identity in the black anti-slavery movement.

That drive is evident everywhere. Its most recent appearance was in Philadelphia last

Escaped Slaves Fight Pursuers

CHESTER, Penn., March 5, 1857—Violence broke out in this quiet Pennsylvania town yesterday as 12 fleeing slaves were overtaken by slave catchers. The fugitives surprised their pursuers by turning on them and a furious battle ensued.

The leader of the slave catchers, Colonel Armstrong of West Virginia, would himself have surely been killed by a man with a corn knife, but his own slave, Ben Thompson, stepped between him and the angry runaway.

While the slave hunters retreated to plan another attack, the slaves ran into Knowles pine forest and have not been seen since. They are believed to be fleeing toward Philadelphia where they are assured aid.

This is the third such confrontation to take place in Chester in recent months. Known for its abolitionist sentiments, it is often the first stop for runaway slaves.

Conditions grow worse daily. We all know how important assistance is, so if you can offer your home or shop to those who have the greatest need, that of the hunted, do not hesitate. For any further information, feel free to contact the *Black Chronicle* editors.

ANALYSIS

Not as the *Weekly Anglo-African* alone in its call for an independent black press, Frederick Douglass' *Paper* in Rochester and the *Mirror of the Times* in San Francisco are two strong black voices proclaiming that we as a people must unite in the struggle against slavery.

The Front Line Fighters

The gospel is also being spread by a band of dedicated and often eloquent black orators—many of them ex-slaves. We know their names well: Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, Henry H. Garnett, William Wells Brown, and countless others who travel from town to town and city to city, often risking their lives to awaken people to our common struggle and urging them to join the fight.

Charles Redmond, even journeyed to Ireland, where he collected 60,000 signatures on anti-slavery petitions.

Continued on page 3 col. 5

BLACK CONVENTION IN OHIO

Black Chronicle News Service
CAMP CHASE, Ohio, Nov. 9, 1855—With a fiery resolution that dismayed some of its more moderate members, the Ohio Convention of Free Men of Color today established itself as the Ohio Anti-Slavery Society. The resolution declared in part:

"We regard slavery as the sum of all villainies. We concur with David Walker that we would rather be killed than be slaves to tyrants. And, as 3,000,000 of our brothers and sisters are enslaved, we agree to form ourselves into a society called the OHIO ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY." Amos Sherwood, a tailor from Dunkirk, Ohio, was one of those dismayed by the fervor of the delegates. "People in these parts has been good to us," he said. "I wouldn't want anything to turn them agin' us."



A CENTRAL PARK FOR MANHATTAN

Frederick Law Olmstead, the distinguished architect, has unveiled plans for a central park on Manhattan Island in accord with the romantic styles of our era; the park will honor the designs of Nature herself. It will have wandering carriage paths, patches of huckleberry, and foundations of jagged rock upon the edge of the sailing pond.

Erza Livingston, an aged farmer of Jamesville, Wis., who never did such a thing before, committed suicide on August 10th.

HIGH COURT RULES SCOTT STILL A SLAVE!!

SUPREME COURT SAYS NO NEGRO A CITIZEN; ANGRY CROWDS PROTEST DECISION

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1857—Dred Scott is still a slave. In a decision that crushed Scott's hopes for freedom, the Supreme Court today threw out his case and ruled that no Negro, enslaved or free, is a citizen of the United States. Speaking for the Court's majority, Chief Justice Taney declared "the people of the Negro race are not included, and were not intended to be included, under the word 'citizens' in the Constitution, and can therefore claim none of the rights and privileges which that instrument provides and secures to citizens of the United States."



LOSES SUIT—Dred Scott attempted to buy his freedom before bringing suit. (See page 3 col. 5)

Opinions Range From Outrage To Grim Determination

When the Supreme Court announced its decision in denying Dred Scott's bid for freedom, a *Black Chronicle* reporter at the scene asked the "men on the street" for his opinion.

A 50-year-old black woman who had waited five hours outside the Court building.

"Don't make no difference. We gonna free our brethren one way or another."

A white businessman from Ohio.

"Outragous! There's no telling what this will do. It will probably divide the country even further."

A black man of about 30 who walked away quickly when approached by reporters.

"There's nothin' I can do."

A black woman of about 30 with three children.

"That poor man. He tried so hard and now he's down there in that hell. We got out there three years ago and it's terrible, terrible." (She broke down.)

A white carriage driver waiting for his employer, who was in court.

"Well, I tell ya, a lot of these coloroids are akin' for too much anyway."

A white mother of two children.

"Terrible, terrible. Why don't they realize that these are human beings!"

[See remarks of Frederick Douglass, page 3, col. 4.]

THE HISTORY OF "BLOODY KANSAS"

The following series of news releases traces the development of the Kansas border war, which only recently has been brought to an uneasy truce by Governor Geary.

LAWRENCE, Kansas, March 7, 1855—Anti-slavery forces are bitterly contesting today's election of a pro-slavery legislature. There is evidence that thousands of pro-slavery Missourians crossed the border and stuffed ballot boxes with false names.

Today's election may well determine the future of slavery in this territory. In its Kansas-Nebraska Act of last year, Congress gave today's elected legislature the power to choose or reject slavery for Kansas.

It recently became apparent that Missouri slave owners were determined to prevent the establishment of a free Kansas on their border. They may have succeeded by swaying today's election. But outraged Kansans, declaring the elected body a "Bogus Legislature" are re-



portedly planning to hold another election in Topeka.

Dispatch From Kansas

NOVEMBER 27, 1855—Charles Dow, a Kansas free-stater, was shot in cold blood yesterday by Arnold Coleman, a pro-slavery man from Missouri. As Dow returned home from the Lawrence general store yesterday afternoon, he heard the ex-

Continued on page 3 col. 3

In its sweeping decision, the Court struck down as unconstitutional the Missouri Compromise, which excluded slavery in territories north of Missouri. Scott had maintained that under the terms of the Compromise he was automatically freed once his master brought him to the free sector of the Louisiana Territory.

According to the Court, however, Congress had no right

Court Decision

In Brief

1. All Negroes are denied citizenship.
2. Congress does not have power to prohibit slavery in Federal territory. This ruling opens all northern territories to slavery.
3. The Missouri Compromise of 1820 is unconstitutional.
4. The Ordinance of 1787 is unconstitutional.

to outlaw slavery in any U.S. territory (A territory, such as Kansas or Nevada, is a region that has not yet been given statehood. Territories do have their own legislatures and governors, though, appointed by the President and approved by the Senate).

Worst Setback

The verdict comes as the worst blow to anti-slavery forces since the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, which permitted slavery in those territories.

Continued on page 3 col. 4

GOLD IN OREGON

Indian Attacks Halt Operation

INLAND EMPIRE, Oregon, Aug. 21, 1851—Gold mines here are making men rich, paying from \$10-\$20 a day. This correspondent has seen miner's wagons overflowing with ore rolling through Kelyville, one of the territory's gold centers. Local experts are confident that the mines will yield paydirt for the next 50 years.

Indian Attacks

But there is tension here as each day brings new reports of Indian attacks. The most recent occurred two days ago. Two local miners, Arthur Deke and Ralph Peters, were seriously wounded when surprised at their camp four miles north of town by a small band of Shoshones.

Peters, who had been refilling his canteen, ran for the bushes but was struck twice in the back by arrows. Deke was slashed severely and is given little chance to survive. Repeated calls by authorities for assistance from nearby Ft. Nisqually have failed to bring any response from the cavalry stationed there.

But every day, hundreds of settlers pour into the Northwest. We are witnessing nothing less than an economic revolution, and no Indian attack, however large or sustained seems capable of turning back that revolution.

BLACK CHRONICLE

MILESTONE OF INHUMANITY

The Supreme Court's Dred Scott decision is an outrage to every black man, woman, and child in this nation. We are all threatened, we are all enslaved. The Court denies citizenship not only to Dred Scott, but to all our people, North and South, enslaved or free.

The black man has proved himself as dedicated an American as the white man—nay, more dedicated, for shouldering burdens no human being should. Black men have overcome tremendous barriers to become inventors, scholars, businessmen and priests. Frederick Douglass, Samuel Ward, and Henry H. Garnett could find fortune and fame in almost any country of the world, but they choose to remain here, leaders in the struggle against the greatest of all evils, human slavery.

And yet, a handful of men in Washington have sat in judgment and "officially" condemned all black men to chains. By denying Dred Scott the rights given every human being by God, the Court denies its own humanity.

The Court, President Buchanan, and other "practical" politicians who support the decision feel it was necessary for the maintenance of "peace and harmony" between the slave states and the free.

How wrong they are!

And how tragic, that these men—misguided or simply callous—have chosen to ignore such "minor" issues as humanity and justice.

We believe the Supreme Court mistakes the temper of this Republic. We know it mistakes the temper of African-Americans.

And as for the decision's effectiveness in preventing further conflict, the bloody battles of the past few years in Kansas between free settlers and Missouri border ruffians (See page 1, col. 3) make it quite clear that peace is beyond any political or judicial compromise.

The effect of the Court's decision undoubtedly will be to further polarize the forces of slavery and anti-slavery. In its shortsightedness, it only brings us closer to a time when the voices of reasonable men are lost in the cries of battle.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir Slavery puts man "For Sale" like potatoes, a crime against human rights. No matter how well the human being is fed, clothed, no matter how little he works or how "contented" he is—all are unimportant. And if the law says my brother is "For Sale," then I will fight that law at every moment and everywhere, and I will not call it LAW in the high sense of that word.

A Friend



Sir As a slave owner who has always treated his slaves in a humanitarian manner, I find myself hurt and bewildered by the recent escape of my best man, Ben. He never complained or had reason to. This kind of thing shows me just how ungrateful the colored race can be.

John Riley, Baltimore



BARBARISM IN MASSACHUSETTS

The Luca family was refused accommodation at a hotel in Westfield last week on account of their colour.

The hotel-keeper's name, Arthur Rayfield, should be "passed around" in the papers so our white friends will avoid stopping at his house for entertainment.

FUGITIVES WELCOME



The state of slavery is not recognized by law of Canada. Nor does the law admit that any man can own another.

Every slave therefore who comes into this province is immediately free whether he has been brought in by violence or entered it of his own accord.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF LOWER CANADA

SPECIAL NOTICE

"Who Should Teach Our Children?"

The YOUNG MEN'S LITERARY ASSOCIATION of New York will discuss, next Wednesday evening, March 11th, the following question:

WHICH WOULD PROVE MOST BENEFICIAL TO THE NEGRO CHILDREN OF THIS CITY, TO BE TAUGHT BY NEGRO TEACHERS OR BY WHITE TEACHERS?

The public is cordially invited



Slaves hastily pack a few belongings before fleeing north.

ESCAPE STILL BEST METHOD

Underground Railroad, Lone Fugitives Continue Secret Exodus

Special to Black Chronicle

Eight black men crawl along the deck of an old tug-boat. It is night. Ashore, their captain drinks in a brightly lit tavern. They are slaves, brought to Chesapeake Bay only a week before to haul coal. One quietly pulls up the anchor, another takes the wheel. Intense joy grips them as they drift into the deep water. They fight it, knowing the next few hours hold great danger.

Two days later, after twice narrowly escaping capture they arrive in Chester, Pennsylvania, where they receive food and passage to Philadelphia. Arriving by coach in the City of Brotherly Love the next morning, they are warmly greeted by black brothers and sisters at Allen's Church, famous as a "way-station" for runaways. From now on, their lives are their own.

Fugitives Risk Everything

Hundreds of our people embark on such desperate treks every week. What awaits them on the wild, dangerous road to freedom? Vicious dogs, trained to bite and tear, slave patrols in every Southern town, and the detested professional slave catchers, human bloodhounds who will track a man for years.

If they are caught, they may be flogged, caged, or taken from their families to be sold in the Deep South where there is almost no chance for another try. And yet, with the last legal road to freedom closed by today's Supreme Court ruling on Dred Scott (see story, page 1, col. 5), escape has become a slave's only hope.

Escape Routes

An escaping slave can risk travel by day and even on public transportation if he has been lucky enough to forge or buy a false pass asserting he is free. (That was Frederick Douglass' trick sixteen years ago, when he "left" Maryland to become one of our greatest fighters.) Otherwise, he must route through forests and swamps, wading in streams to confuse bloodhounds, and of course, traveling only at night.

The early escapees, traveling alone and on foot, found their way north by following

the North Star. Today, however, our enslaved brethren are blessed with the Underground Railroad. It would be stupid to reveal how this network operates. But, in broad terms, the Railroad has two major "tracks." One goes through Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania; the other winds through towns in Ohio and Indiana. Along the routes are "way-stations," hiding places in barns, cellars, and caves, and homes that offer a fugitive food and shelter until nightfall and the continuation of his trek.



Escapes

Most important is a slave's desire to escape. One man traveled 1,200 miles from Alabama, living on roots and wild berries. He swam every river between Tuscaloosa and Pennsylvania. Another clever fellow packed himself in a box and shipped it to Philadelphia. A Mississippi slave carpenter forged his papers so well, rubbing them between his dusty hands, that a Virginia judge immediately freed him from a slave catcher who swore he had escaped.

Escape From the Deep South

Although the border areas of Kentucky, Maryland, and Western Virginia offer the best opportunities for escape, people have been known to reach freedom from the Deep South. Some, in Texas, swim the Rio Grande to Mexico, where they are well treated. And a few years ago, eight slaves stole a boat and rowed into the ocean from Florida. After three weeks they were picked up by a British vessel and deposited in the Bahamas—exhausted but free.

Slaves have even found escape within the Seminoles in Florida, or forming communities in wild swamps. These fugitive bands grow their own crops.

Continued on page 4, col. 1

FREDERICK DOUGLASS SPEAKS HERE

By a Staff Writer

NEW YORK, March 6—Frederick Douglass overwhelmed a large crowd here last night with a brilliant address on the evils of slavery and the colonization movement. His tall, powerful frame ramrod straight, his dark eyes flashing, the famed black orator brought tears from the audience as he eloquently recounted the cruelty he experienced as a Maryland slave; and moments later listeners burst into laughter at his description of the way he and his companions outwitted their masters.

To a man, the audience rose and cheered when he ridiculed the important clergymen in the North and South who defend slavery with God's word. "Could that be the same word," he asked, "as the one which taught men to break the yoke of the bondsman and let the oppressed go free?"



Explains Abolitionist Beliefs

One of the nation's leading abolitionists, Mr. Douglass said that according to their creed every person born on this earth has the "right to him or herself" and that to deprive a man of his liberty and make him a slave when he has not committed a crime is a terrible wrong.

He warned that the "Slave Power" would try to discourage all discussion of slavery by spreading lies about the inferiority of the Negro people and that the white Southern press has for many years censored all news in any way beneficial to the anti-slavery cause. Southern whites, he continued, are even fighting in the courts for the right to bring their "property" North—and successfully. (See today's Court Decision, page 1, col. 5.)

As he spoke, Douglass occasionally turned to William Lloyd Garrison, white abolitionist editor of *The Liberator*, who helped him when he escaped from slavery 16 years ago. (See "Douglass-Garrison Split" below.)

Return to Africa Intolerable

In the last part of his address, Mr. Douglass attacked the colonization movement, which seeks to persuade our free brothers and sisters to return to Africa. "If there is one movement which will retard our fight for equality in this country," he said, "it is the one which convinces the white establishment

Continued on page 4, col. 2

Douglass-Garrison Split

Despite the appearance of William Lloyd Garrison at Frederick Douglass' speech last night, the two men are still far apart on the role of our people in the abolitionist movement. Their disagreement broke out in 1851, when Douglass demanded greater leadership for blacks. He was rebuffed by Garrison, who felt the black race should play a more passive role, exerting only a moral force.

Today, Garrison, supported by Charles Redmond, continues to believe that the black role should be one of speechmaking and fund raising, while Douglass and others, such as Henry H. Garnett, believe that only by developing political strength and using it can we achieve full citizenship.

APPEAL TO THE BENEVOLENT

Woman desperately needs \$500 to buy her son and two sons-in-law. Contact: Editor Black Chronicle

MAKING THE BEST OF IT

J. W. C. Pennington, well known minister and author of *A Textbook of the Origin & History of the Colored People*, received his Doctor of Divinity degree from the University of Heidelberg while still a fugitive slave!

Washington Report

The Senate today passed the bill prohibiting the importation of obscene prints, statuettes, and other offensive items.

CAUTION!!
COLORED PEOPLE
OF BOSTON, ONE & ALL,
 You are hereby respectfully CAUTIONED and advised, to avoid conversing with the Watchmen and Police Officers of Boston.
 For since the recent ORDER OF THE MAYOR & ALDERMEN, they are empowered to act as **KIDNAPPERS AND Slave Catchers,**
 And they have already been actually employed in **LIBERTY BELL, CATHERINE, and KEENE, SLAVES. Therefore, if you value your LIBERTY, and the Welfare of the fugitives among you, show them in every possible manner, as to many of them on the track of the most unscrupulous of your race.**
Keep a Sharp Look Out for KIDNAPPERS, and have TOP EYE open.
 APRIL 24, 1855.



Slave Ann Wood drives off pose while escaping to North - 1855

History of Bloody Kansas
 Continued from page 1 col. 4
 platoon of a percussion cap, upon around, and was struck in the chest by a rifle ball from Coleman's gun. Authorities, who have been ignoring pro-slavery violence, are making no attempt to arrest the killer.

LAWRENCE, Kansas, May 21, 1856—This anti-slavery stronghold was ransacked today by a band of Missouri border ruffians and pro-slavery Kansans. A posse of several hundred, led by a U. S. Marshal, rode into Lawrence this morning to "arrest certain citizens for treason." No arrests were made, however, and when the group was disbanded, it became a lawless mob. The well-known Free State Hotel was burned down, two newspaper printing presses were destroyed, and a number of homes were damaged. Jon Simson was killed. Tempers are near the boiling point at this latest provocation by pro-slavery forces.

POTTAWATOMIE CREEK, Kansas, May 24, 1856—A band of abolitionists, led by John Brown, murdered five pro-slavery men today in a surprise attack on this slave owning community. The attack is said to be in retaliation for the ransacking of Lawrence by a pro-slavery mob three days ago.

The abolitionists, including Brown's three sons, are believed to be heading for their base in Canada.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1, 1856—"Bloody Kansas" is still without a settled government. The U. S. House of Representatives today refused to seat either free-state or pro-slavery delegates from Kansas. After the controversial 1855 election, in which a pro-slavery legislature was chosen, free-staters established their own territorial government in Topeka.

By refusing to seat either of the rival delegations, the House is further postponing a decision on slavery in Kansas. (The recognized Kansas legislature is requested to submit a Constitution that permits or outlaws slavery.)

For the past two years, pro- and anti-slavery forces have struggled for Kansas, which they believe to be a test ground for slavery in the other territories. Their hostilities have left 200 men dead and more than \$200 million lost in property damage.

VICTOR HUGO CONDEMNS SLAVERY

The following letter from the famous French orator, statesman, and writer (The Hunchback of Notre Dame) will be read with a thrill of pleasure by any friend of freedom.

You desire me to lift up my voice I will do it at once and will do it on all occasions.

I agree with you that within a definite time - that within a time not distant - the United States will repudiate slavery with horror.

Slavery in such a country! Liberty bearing a chain, blasphemy echoing from the altar; the collar of the Negro chained to the pedestal of Washington; it is a thing unheard of I say more; it is impossible.

Such a spectacle would destroy itself. The light of the 19th Century alone is enough to destroy it. What! Slavery sanctioned by law among that illustrious people who for seventy years have measured the progress of civilization by their march, demonstrated democracy by their power, and liberty by their prosperity!

Let all great souls who love the United States as a country be reassured. The United States must renounce slavery or they must renounce liberty. They must renounce slavery or renounce the gospel. They will never renounce the gospel!

Accept with my devotion to the cause you advocate the homage of my respect.

Victor Hugo

Scott Still a Slave

Continued from page 1 col. 5

While the ruling may be aimed at ending further controversy over the territorial question, it will surely inflame Northern abolitionists to even more radical opposition. Already angry crowds are gathering in New York, Philadelphia, and Cleveland, and Northern statesmen are denouncing the Court's decision.

Douglass Comments

Commenting on today's decision, Frederick Douglass, the famed black writer and orator, said, "The Supreme Court is not the only power in this world. We, the abolitionists and colored people, shudder meet this decision, unlooked for and monstrous as it appears, in a cheerful spirit. This very attempt to blot out forever the hopes of an enslaved people may be one necessary link in the chain of events preparatory to the complete overthrow of the whole slave system."

The historic decision was read to a crowded courtroom by Chief Justice Taney. Listening intently were some of the country's most eminent legal minds and a number of ladies.

DRED SCOTT

Dred Scott is 61 years old. He is married and has two daughters. Scott's first wife was sold away from him. He once escaped from his master and lived for a time in a nearby swamp. Before suing for his freedom he attempted to buy his family from his mistress, but she refused him.

Anti-Slavery Activists

Continued from page 1 col. 2

A Brave Woman

Then there are the heroes and heroines. The mysterious Harriet Tubman, for instance, travels secretly into the South to lead slaves North to freedom. Miss Tubman, a tiny black woman of about 45, has a price of \$40,000 on her head in the South. In an exclusive interview, she pointed to the pistol she always carries. "It's not just to defend myself from slave hunters. I use it to tell my passengers to get along on their journeys. I never lost a passenger," she smiled, "and I never ran my train off the track."

Miss Tubman, known as "Moses" by our people throughout the country, has already led 200 slaves to freedom.

A Fight to the End

To a significant degree, then, our brothers and sisters are fighting slavery in many areas of the country and in many different ways. They have proved themselves effective opponents, and seem determined to press the struggle until slavery is wiped out. In doing so, they are winning the respect of white citizens throughout the free states and preparing for a time in the future - a time we all are convinced will come - when we take our rightful place as full citizens in the Union.

WHITE SOUTHERN PRESS: "Runaway Slaves Sorry"

Letters like the following are being printed by white Southern newspapers. They are said to be from repentant runaway slaves:

Dear Master, as I must call you, after seeing my mistake in leaving you, my wife and I have decided to return to you. We sincerely hope that you and the rest of the family will take us back and forgive us for what we have done.

We are in good health, but my wife is a torment to me day and night, she thinks only of the child she left in the cradle, little Willie.

We always tried to act as faithful servants in the family and we will try to prove the same when we come home. Best love to all and send us aid for God's sake as we have no money to pay our way back. We throw ourselves at the feet of your mercy to send us each 39 or 40 dollars.

Please, sir, write to us immediately. We remain yours and let us come home.

John and Lucy



GREAT ESCAPE

HENRY BROWN, a slave in Richmond, Va., hid in a trunk, supplied himself with biscuits and water, and mailed himself to an agent of the Underground Railroad in Philadelphia. Ever since reaching freedom, he has been called Henry "Box" Brown.

A Texas murderer refused to eat a plate of beans for his breakfast, saying that they always made him feel bad for three or four days after.

Escaped Slave Writes to His Old "MASSA"

Mr. William Riley I am happy to inform you that I am in Canada & in good health. Perhaps you have decided by this time that robbing a woman of her husband and children of their father does not pay. I thought while lying in jail by your order that if you had no remorse and would not do as you promised you would - which was to let me go with my family for \$800 - but instead would lie to me and try to sell me, then I would make my feet feel for Canada and let your conscience feel in your pocket.

Now you must admit that I did all that was honorable and right while I was a slave. I pretended that you or someone else had a better right to me than I had to myself, which you know, is rather hard thinking. You know, too, that you were a traitor.

I am comfortably situated in Canada, working for George Harris. He was a slave a few years ago in Kentucky, but now owns a farm so level that there are not hills enough on it to hide a dog, yet so large that I got lost on it the other day.

But there is only one thing to prevent me being entirely happy and that is the want of my dear wife and children. So if you want to go to the next world and meet in peace a God of love, mercy and justice, you had better send my wife and children to me. For if God don't punish you for inflicting such distress on the poorest of His poor, then there is no use of having any God or talking about one.

I hope you will think about this honestly and see if the nature of the case does not justify every word I have said. You must not consider that it is a slave talking to "massa" now, but one as free as yourself.

Jackson Whitney

GALE NEWS

Two more vessels, wrecked by the recent gale, have been towed into Portland, Maine.

Swedish & Hungarian Beeches
 TIME HONORED REMEDY
 Can supply druggists by the hundreds or thousands
 Also Sold Retail:
 James Syne, Druggist, Corner Canal & Conduit St., New Orleans La.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

MALE PRINCIPAL, for the Institute of Colored Youth, Philadelphia. Must be able to teach the English Branches & Mathematics. A knowledge of Classics also desirable. Duties to commence on the 1st of November. Salary, \$500 a year. Apply Charles L. Reason, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

TEACHER, a colored man, competent to teach a Grammar School. Salary, \$400 a year. Apply J. Harrison, Troy, New York.



BOARDING HOUSE Delegates and all others visiting Philadelphia to attend the National Negro Convention will find warm, friendly lodgings at Mrs. L. Reddin's Boarding House, 1975 6th St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

APPRENTICE CARPENTER, for a Negro lad, aged 14, is stout and active. Has a good common school education. A New England town preferred. Apply J. McCune Smith, 55 West Broadway, New York City.



A novel establishment, at which dogs are to be washed and thoroughly freed from fleas at 50 cents each, has been opened in New York.

BLACK MEN OF BUSINESS
 A rare chance for a man with capital of \$300-\$600 to join the wholesale and retail clothing trade.
 A business of years standing.
 A large and rapidly increasing number of cash customers.
 Contact:
 J. N. STILL & CO., Atlantic St., Brooklyn, L. I.

"TEMPLE'S TOGGLE?"

That's right, old salt, Lewis Temple, a Negro blacksmith, invented the toggle harpoon nine years ago. Today, "Temple's Toggle" is well on its way to becoming the whaling industry's standard harpoon.

Convention Blasts Use of "Colored"

PHILADELPHIA, 1848—A Negro convention in Philadelphia has urged Negroes to abandon the word "colored" and especially the words "African" and "African." Philadelphia leaders recommend use of the phrase "Oppressed American."

Escape Still Best Method
Continued from page 2 col. 3
steal animals from whites, and have even waged guerrilla warfare on slave owning communities.

Kindness and Revenge
Most slaves left their feet feel for freedom after having been cruelly treated, sometimes killing their masters or overseers in revenge. This correspondent spoke with an ex-slave who watched his sister stripped and whipped by an overseer. He waited for the man that night, killed him with a club, and made a successful run for freedom.

On the other hand, Southern newspapers occasionally report the escape of a quiet, humble slave who had been well-treated. Some men cannot live in bondage and a "good slave" may simply have been waiting for the right moment to run.

80,000 slaves have already reached freedom. More will follow. In truth, escape can free only a small percentage of our 3,000,000 cruelly enslaved brothers and sisters. For the rest, there is only the hope that one day a deluded nation will realize the horror it has nurtured at its breast.

Until then the runaway-abolitionists who preach with their feet—will continue to bring their heroic and desperate tales North.

EXTRA Black Tailor Nabbed By Slave-Catchers

Special to Black Chronicle

POUGHKEEPSIE, March 6—Another of our people has been kidnapped! John Bolding, who operates a tailor shop on Main Street, was overpowered by a U. S. Marshal and two slave catchers as he walked home late last night.

The Marshal later displayed a warrant for an escaped slave named Jones, who, he alleges, is the tailor. Tomorrow morning a federal commissioner will decide if Bolding actually is the escaped slave.

Bolding's chances for justice are slim. The Fugitive Slave Law, part of the Compromise of 1850, provides that the slave catcher's testimony alone is considered by the court. In addition, the commissioner will receive a fee of \$10 if he finds the man to be an escaped slave, and only \$5 if he sets the man free!



Bolding has built a respectable trade here in the past several years. He was married only five months ago. At this moment, he is being kept under heavy guard in the city courthouse. His captors obviously fear a rescue attempt, such as those that have been occurring throughout the North since the passage of the Fugitive Act.

Frederick Douglass Speaks

Continued from page 2 col. 3

that we do not want full participation as citizens. We cannot return to a land which is no longer ours. Like it or not, we must fight here for our birthright! Thunderous applause greeted these final words.

Since his return from England, where he won thousands of people to our cause, Mr. Douglass has kept an exhausting schedule of speaking dates in the North and Midwest. He seemed in fine health however—his voice was strong, his delivery eloquent and marked by that brilliant wit for which he is famous.



NEW RULE FOR THE GAME OF BASEBALL

The length of a baseball game was fixed today at nine innings. An interrupted game will be legal after five. No reason was given for the change.

THE PORCH RAIL

JOHN BROWN, that fiery-eyed white abolitionist of the Kansas border war, passed through town recently, probably on his way to see Frederick Douglass. Rumors are flying about that he's organizing a secret meeting of militant black and white abolitionists to be held somewhere in Canada next year.

MY FRIENDS in the theater tell me that William Wells Brown is finishing a hard-hitting play, *Escape*, based on his own experiences as a slave. If what they say is true, *Escape* should make quite a hit! It will be another "first," the first play published by a black author. Keep it up, brothers.

JOHN V. DE GRASSE, a Negro who was admitted to the Massachusetts Medical Society in 1854, is doing a very respectable business in Boston. He recently removed a gall stone from this correspondent, who will be eternally grateful. Stop up there and see him if you need some reconstruction.

REMEMBER THE ABOLISHMENT of "separate but equal" schools by the Massachusetts legislature two years ago? Well, don't accuse me of being an optimist, but seeing black and white studying and playing together makes me think that one of these days people might get some sense and see that "folks a folks"...

PRO-SLAVERY people don't understand that every act of violence against Negroes or white abolitionists creates more abolitionists. Decent people tend to get outraged by villainy in their own backyard.

THE BLACK ODD-FELLOWS LODGE is sponsoring this year's Anti-Slavery Fair and Peter Ogden, founder, is asking for all the help he can get. My wife has been baking pies for weeks, leaving me with hardtack for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Donate whatever you can—it's for a worthy cause.

This news item appeared in the New Orleans Picayune. We wonder if a black father would have been treated with equal justice.

Tragedy in Louisiana THREE CHILDREN EATEN BY BLOODHOUNDS

PORT ALLEN, La.—Three children were reported killed in front of their home recently by a pack of bloodhounds pursuing runaway slaves.

The children, Patrick, Samuel and William Walker, were returning from school when they were attacked by the eight dogs of Arthur Hawkins, overseer of a nearby plantation. Hawkins had set the vicious dogs after four runaway slaves—a woman and three men—who had escaped that morning.

Samuel Walker, a poor white farmer, heard his children's cries and the barking of the dogs. He shot two of the animals but he was too late. His children lay dead at his feet. At that moment, Hawkins rode, yelling, to the scene and threatened to shoot Walker if he killed any more dogs. The frantic father reloaded and shot Hawkins through the heart. Walker turned himself in, was tried the next day, and set free.

PROFILE FROM THE PAST TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE

The Black Chronicle editorial staff is happy to present this profile of Toussaint L'Ouverture, one of history's greatest black freedom fighters and the man responsible for the independence of Haiti.

The time is 1801. The name is Toussaint, Toussaint the black general who defeated the French, the English, the Spanish. Toussaint, who outwitted the craftiest diplomats of the day—sent by Napoleon to unseat him. And Toussaint, who taught Haiti's people the meaning of freedom.

Toussaint L'Ouverture was born a slave in Haiti's French colony, St. Dominique. He studied history's great generals while tending cattle as a boy and, until he was almost 50, lived quietly as a plantation coachman.

But, in 1789 the French Revolution cried out to the world that slaves could take their freedom and the blacks of St. Dominique responded. Although their French masters had brutally crushed their attempted revolts in the past, they again began meeting and planning by torchlight.

Revolt!
In 1791, slaves in the northern province began walking off their plantations. Soon fires broke out, shooting started, and a disorganized black army camped in the mountains. When Toussaint saw the revolt succeeding, he joined the rebels.

Toussaint Commands
It seemed unlikely that a man who had led such an uneventful life would become one of this century's most brilliant generals and statesmen. But the black coachman possessed the mind, the spirit and the courage of greatness.

Toussaint soon commanded part of the rebel force. His ex-slaves became a fast moving, deadly army. They struck without warning and reappeared where least expected.

France, under Napoleon, was warring with Spain and England for control of the island. Toussaint allied first with Spain

and the black army, to send Toussaint back to France a prisoner and to restore slavery. Toussaint is not fooled. He orders that cities invaded by the French be burned to the ground and retreats into the mountains to wage bitter guerrilla warfare.

Black Guerrillas
Toussaint's men, fighting as they have been trained, are deadly and silent. Columns of French fall into cleverly designed pits, boulders crash down on them as they march through mountain valleys, they die by the hundreds from yellow fever.

And now, seemingly without reason, Toussaint asks for peace negotiations. He reasons the yellow fever will all but wipe out the whites, and plans to then step in and simply take command. But he never has the chance. One day, while waiting to meet a French General, he is trapped by French soldiers. A week later he and his family are on a prison ship. Without a trial, he is put in a stone fortress in the mountains of France. Within nine months he is dead.

For a time, the island was quiet under French rule. But it was only the quiet before a storm. When the French started collecting rifles, the people of Haiti became suspicious; when the French restored slavery to nearby Guadeloupe, they burst into revolt.

Haitian Independence
A massive army of blacks gathered under Toussaint's ex-general, Dessalines. They were merciless. General LeClerc, two months before he himself died of the fever, wrote to Napoleon, "I do not have 200 men fit for service." Napoleon had had enough. He sold the island of Haiti to the United States. When the French surrendered Jean Jacques Dessalines declared independence for the island. Even in death, Toussaint had won.

And now it is 1801. Toussaint has cleared the island of its European adventurers. But France will invade as soon as her war with England is over, of this he is certain. He establishes a military-like system of farming and uses the profits to arm the entire population. "This is your freedom," he shouts to a group of farmers, holding one of their muskets high over his head.

In the following months, the island flourishes under the black general's rule. He introduces a new Constitution that outlawed slavery, permits anyone, regardless of color, to run for office, and sets up an elected lawmaking assembly. And one day, sails appear on the horizon. The French have returned.

French Trickery
General LeClerc, commanding 20,000 French troops, carries a warm letter from Napoleon to Toussaint. It praises the ex-slave, urges him to remain a part of the French Empire, calls him a brother. But the French General has secret instructions. He is told to promise the blacks anything, but as soon as chance permits, to hand

WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY
An Institution of Higher Learning for Black Students
Founded August 30, 1850
FUNDED BY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BOOK CORNER

The Great Plea for Freedom
"Read it and you can't resist it!"
My Bondage And My Freedom
by Frederick Douglass
75 cents

William Wells Brown
SERVICES OF COLORED AMERICANS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR
75 cents

"The most exciting work of the American Press since Uncle Tom's Cabin"
— Detroit Tribune
Twelve Years A Slave
An Autobiography by Solomon Northrup
60 cents

QUIZ
1. Name the secret black organization that travels South to free slaves.
2. For what reason did the Supreme Court declare the Missouri Compromise of 1820 unconstitutional?
3. What Pennsylvania town is famous for helping escaped slaves?
4. What, according to Frederick Douglass, is the abolitionist's Supreme creed?
5. Who was Toussaint L'Ouverture?
6. What is "Temple's Toggie"?
7. What phrase has been suggested to replace the use of the word "colored"?
Answers page 3 col. 4

WE URGE OUR NINE
FREED BRETHREN TO
REMAIN IN THIS COUN-
TRY AND FIGHT FOR
TOTAL FREEDOM

BLACK CHRONICLE

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Issue 5 "Let the slaves and free colored people be formed into a liberating army" — Frederick Douglass, May 1861 August 25, 1862

D.C. SLAVES FREED!

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 16, 1862—Let joy and happiness ring from the land. The stain of slavery has been cleaned from our nation's capital!

President Lincoln today signed a bill freeing all slaves in the District of Columbia. By the bill, Washington slave owners will be compensated from the National Treasury up to \$300 for each piece of their "property" freed.

The measure has put Washington, D.C., in harmony with Northern states, but is causing great uneasiness among slave owners in the loyal border states (Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, and the western part of Virginia, and Delaware).

Abolitionists Rejoice
"I hope I am not dreaming, but the events taking place seem like a dream," said Frederick Douglass. "White abolitionists are also delighted. Well, it is something to get slavery abolished in ten miles square after thirty years of arguing and petitioning," said Lydia Maria Child, a fiery abolitionist. "The effect it will produce is of more importance than the act itself. I am inclined to think that 'Old Abe' means about right, only he has a hide-bound soul."

Earlier this month, Congress endorsed President Lincoln's plan to free the slaves and pay their owners. The move was sharply criticized, however, by the slaveholding border states. Delaware Representative George Taylor called it an "abolition bribe."
Today's action seems to hold the promise of more immediate emancipation. Although fewer than 2,000 slaves will be freed by the bill, it brings hope to our 4,000,000 brothers and sisters enslaved in the South. New York's *Anti-Slavery Standard* calls the measure "the beginning of the end of slavery."

D.C. Blacks Joyous
Negroes in the District of Columbia are making no effort to conceal their joy. One woman slave, a chambermaid, took off her apron and dashed into the street shouting, "Let me go! Let my husband that Jesus has done."

MILITARY NEWS

The fortunes of war have undergone an amazing reversal. Union General McClellan's attempt to capture Richmond, Virginia, has met with disaster. His armies are in retreat after suffering serious damage at the hands of General Robert E. Lee.
Lee was aided by General Stonewall Jackson, who lured thousands of McClellan's reinforcements north to the Shenandoah Valley with a series of brilliant and confusing attacks.
An attempt by Federal troops to trap Lee has also met failure. General Pope, who marched south to coordinate with McClellan, has instead been pushed back to the Potomac and is suffering repeated attacks near the site of last year's Union disaster at Bull Run.

Meanwhile, Union General Henry Halleck has been brought to Washington to take over as General-in-Chief. He seems to have left the situation in the West to take care of itself. Union armies there have divided and are now totally inactive. General Ulysses S. Grant holds western Tennessee and General Buell is moving very slowly toward Chattanooga, as he has been instructed to repair the railroad as he goes.

all things well."
A great day of celebration is being planned this Sunday in
Continued on page 2 col. 3

BLACKS DENOUNCE LINCOLN COLONIZATION PLAN

WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 18, 1862—President Lincoln has urged blacks to consider a plan to colonize Central America. Black response has been immediate. Excerpts from the proposal and several responses follow.

"You and we are different races," said Mr. Lincoln. "I think your race suffers very greatly by being among us, while ours suffers from your presence. But for your race among us there would be no war."
"There is an unwillingness on the part of our people for you free, colored people to remain with us," he said. "This place I am thinking about having a colony is a very excellent one for any people and with great material resources, and especially because of the similarity of the climate to your native land."

"If you will engage in the enterprise, I will spend some of the money entrusted to me."

The President's statement blaming our people for the war has roused the greatest outcry among blacks.

"The Negro may be the bone of contention in our present civil war, but he has not been its cause," says black writer George B. Vashon. "That cause must be sought in the wrong inflicted upon him by the white man. The Negro may be the iron-clad warship the Illinois law forbids blacks to teach."

JULY 1862—Union officers of the iron-clad warship the *Monitor* have stated that with the improvement of her smoke-stack she is ready to go to sea.

BLACKS FIGHT TO FIGHT ANALYSIS

WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 18, 1862—Shortly after Rebel guns bombarded Fort Sumter, Dr. G. P. Miller offered to raise from 5,000 to 10,000 freemen to serve in the Union Army. In a letter to William Scranton, U.S. Secretary of War, he said he and his men would "take any position that might be assigned to us (sharpshooters preferred)."

Within several days, he received a reply. "The War Department fully appreciates the patriotic spirit and intelligence your letter displays, [but] has no doubt that you will perceive that there are sufficient reasons to follow the course thus far pursued." "The course thus far pursued" has been to deny blacks any part in the fighting. E.D.

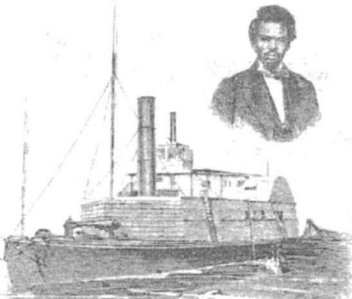
Immediate Response
Within 72 hours after the Fort Sumter attack, black volunteers held a giant recruitment rally at the Twelfth Baptist Church in Boston. Women too, they declared, "could go as nurses, seamstresses, and waitresses, if need be."

In New York City, black men hired a hall and began military drills. They were forced to disband, however, when the city's police chief warned he would not protect them from angry white citizens who feared armed blacks. Last summer, the state's black population offered to fully equip three black regiments, and pay them for the entire length of the war! Still, they were refused. New York's governor claimed he had "no authority to enroll colored men."

SLAVE STEALS CONFEDERATE GUNBOAT! DELIVERS TO AMAZED UNION NAVY

BEAUFORT, S.C., June 1, 1862—In an act of extraordinary heroism, a black slave has liberated a Confederate warship and handed it over to the astonished Union Navy.

Twenty-three year old Robert Smalls, with his wife, children, and 14 other slaves, steamed safely under the guns of Rebel-controlled Fort Sumter on the morning of May 13th. Later that day Smalls piloted the 147-foot warship, the *Planter*, into Union hands at Hilton Head, S.C.



"The Planter" and its captor, Robert Smalls.

CHICAGO WHITES PROTEST BLACK STUDENT

CHICAGO, Ill., Aug. 18, 1862—White parents are threatening to remove their children from a school unless a black girl who was admitted is turned away. The unidentified girl, who entered the Department of Teacher Training in a Chicago High School, will leave in any case as Illinois law forbids blacks to teach.

JULY 1862—Union officers of the iron-clad warship the *Monitor* have stated that with the improvement of her smoke-stack she is ready to go to sea.

BLACKS FORCED TO AID REBELS Some Volunteer

AUGUST, 1862—Slaves escaping to Union lines report that blacks are being forced to help the Rebels.

John Parker, a contraband from Virginia, told a *Black Chronical* reporter. "We washed our hearts that the Yankees would win, and would have run over to their side, but our officers would have shot us."

Six escaped slaves told Union officer Kenneth Williams that they operated a Rebel battery at Bull Run. They said thousands of slaves are forced to build entrenchments, work in hospitals, and serve the Confederate soldiers.

One contraband said a white soldier must watch each slave to keep him at work. The slaves, he said, don't believe Rebel lies that Union men delight in cutting black throats. They have, he reports, "a fair idea of the purpose of the war and believe that their condition has something to do with it."

Free blacks also have been forced to work with the "Rebs." Several black families recently arrived in Cincinnati, barely escaping Confederate service in Virginia.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Aug. 18, 1862—Frederick Douglass, Editor of *Douglass' Monthly*, was attacked last evening as he awaited a train at the railroad station in Springfield, Massachusetts.

While Douglass awaited the train, he was approached by a ruffian who demanded two cents for a worthless stamp. When Douglass refused, the culprit grabbed his throat. The attack was ended only when Douglass knocked the fellow to the ground.

Competition with whites for jobs has been offered as the reason for the attacks. But Douglass says, "The pretense that colored men are sowing white men out of employment cannot be offered as explanation. Work for all classes is abundant, and only few whites wish to compete with the Negro in those few departments open to him."

Smalls' account of the capture revealed months of careful planning. Hired out by his master as a deckhand on the *Planter* for \$18 per month, Smalls began to calculate the possibility of escape.

On the night chosen the Captain and his officers were all ashore. At about 2 a.m., Smalls ordered the boilers fired while Lebel Turner cut the moorings using string to drop them noiselessly, so as not to arouse the sentry. Smalls first steered the *Planter* to the nearby Atlantic Wharf to pick up his wife, four other women, and three children who were hiding there.

Wearing the Captain's gold-braided coat and huge straw hat to conceal his face, Smalls stood on the bridge with his arms crossed and head bowed. As Sam Chisholm guided the ship under Fort Sumter's heavy guns, Smalls gave the proper departure signal to Sumter's sentry.

The *Planter* moved slowly past the Fort, but once out of artillery range, changed direction with a burst of speed. When a Northern ship nearly fired on them, Smalls' wife provided a sheet as a flag of truce.

Challenged to "State your business," Smalls replied, "The *Planter* out of Charleston, come to join the Union Fleet."

The commander of the Union Fleet was most impressed with Smalls. "The bringing out of the steamer, under all the circumstances, he said, "would have done credit to anyone." Smalls' information has been most interesting and portions of it of the utmost importance. I do not know whether, in the views of the Government, the vessel will be considered a prize, but if so, I respectfully submit to the [Navy] Department the claims of this man Smalls and his associates." (Under Union policy, Smalls may be granted one half the ship's value.)

The military information Smalls gave the Union is classified. But one of his fellow slaves told this correspondent something that might have been "of the utmost importance" to the Union.

Ships like the *Planter* capable of carrying as many as 1,000 troops, could sail through the shallowest of Charleston's inland waterways, bypassing the harbor's defenses altogether!

This correspondent had the opportunity to tour the *Planter* and speak with the "slave" crew. None are yet technically "free," legally they remain "displaced slaves." However, their spirits remain high.
Smalls, meanwhile, as piloting the Union command vessel, *Crusader*, and scouting Confederate weaknesses in the river defenses of Charleston.

CONFEDERATE WEAKNESSES

Salmon Brown, son of John Brown, has been recruited as a Union officer. Brown's commission has been set aside by the colonial of the regiment who received earnest objections from pro-slavery officers unwilling to serve with the young lieutenant.

Miss Florence Nightingale is so seriously ill as to preclude all hope of her recovery.

BLACK CHRONICLE

HOW TO END THE WAR

We proudly publish excerpts from an editorial by the brilliant editor and former slave, Frederick Douglass. Published one year ago in Douglass' Monthly, his sentiments unfortunately, are still timely.

To our mind, there is but one easy and effectual way to end the War the slaveholders are now waging. War for the destruction of liberty must be met with war for the destruction of slavery.

The simple way to put an end to the savage and desolating war is to strike down slavery itself, the primal cause of that war. Freedom to the slave should now be proclaimed from the Capitol, and should be seen above the smoke and fire of every battlefield, waving from every loyal flag!

The time for mild measures is past. A lenient war is a lengthy war, and therefore the worst kind of war. Let us stop it, effectually. This can be done at once. LET THE SLAVES AND FREE COLORED PEOPLE BE CALLED INTO SERVICE AND FORMED INTO A LIBERATING ARMY, to march into the South and raise the banner of Emancipation.

The slaveholders have not hesitated to employ the sable arms of the Negroes in erecting fortifications. They often boast, and not without cause, that their Negroes will fight for them against the North. They have neither pride, prejudice nor pity to restrain them from employing Negroes against white men where slavery is to be protected and made secure.

Oh! that this Government would now be as true to liberty as the Rebels are true to slavery. Ten thousand black soldiers might be raised in the next 30 days. One black regiment would be, in such a war, the equal to two white ones.

The very fact of color in this case would be more terrible than any weapon.

We are ready and would go. But you won't let us go. There is, even now, weak and contemptible tenderness toward the bloodthirsty, slaveholding traitors. Until this nation shall repent of its weakness and folly, until it shall make the cause of this country the cause of freedom, until it shall strike down slavery, the source and centre of this gigantic rebellion, this nation does not deserve the support of a single sable arm, nor will it succeed in crushing the cause of its present troubles.

Lincoln's Position

When President Lincoln said he would preserve slavery if that would preserve the Union, abolitionists responded angrily. These critics, however, ignore his recent mortal blow against the slave trade.

In May of '61, Lincoln authorized Interior Secretary Caleb Smith to fully enforce federal slave trade laws. He appropriated \$300,000 for the effort.

Since the enforcement order, five slave ships have been seized and their human cargo returned to Africa. In addition, President Lincoln's refusal to pardon convicted slaver Captain Nathaniel Gordon, who was hung February 21, 1861, marks the first time the death penalty has been enforced against a convicted slave-smuggler.

The President has also established the long-sought Foreign Slave Trade Treaty. Warships today search the seas for slave ships, an action certain to kill the trade within a year.

Admittedly, Mr. Lincoln has not dealt with the slavery question. However, a declaration from him can not, in practical terms, free Rebel-held slaves. Moreover, an abolition decree at this time would only lose the support of loyal border states. And, given the Union's recent military disasters, freeing the slaves might appear as an act of desperation, something which Lincoln must avoid.

We do feel, however, that the time is rapidly approaching when our government will be in a position to make such a decree effective. When that time comes, Lincoln will act—and not before.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Sir: To many citizens in loyal Kentucky, the idea of armed contrabands could mean nothing less than a determination to exterminate the white population of the South. Southerners might submit to Union rule, but to ask them to yield to their own slaves, armed by our government and quartered in their midst, is treacherous folly.

Dear Sir: The prime argument in some circles for employing our people as soldiers is that blacks can endure the Southern yellow fever country better than whites. This is obviously a malicious falsehood, but let them believe it if that will be enough to bring us into the glow of battle!

An active agent of the Underground Railroad informs us that the stock of that company is now almost worthless, owing to the fact that nearly every Northern citizen has become an agent and the passengers all go free.

The defeat and capture of Garibaldi undoubtedly puts an end, for a time, to his movement. The New York Tribune comments that his defeat is "a terrible blow to the democracy of Italy as well as that of the other European countries."

SHOULD WE FIGHT?

YES: NO:

The following sentiments (edited) are from the pen of Alfred M. Green, a black abolitionist. Green has long supported the recruitment of black soldiers. The debate (see comments at right) has been appearing in New York's Weekly Anglo-African.

No nation has ever freed itself of slavery without force of arms. We should grasp the sword and use this most favorable opportunity to burst the bonds of our enslaved Southern brethren.

We admit the meanness of our government towards us. We realize there is no more soul in the present administration on the slavery issue than in previous administrations.

The prejudiced white men will never respect us until we force them to by our actions. As for unprejudiced whites, let us show them we are united on the side of freedom. We will show them nothing if we sit still at a time like this. The world must know we are here, and that we have aims, objects, and interests in the present struggle.

Let us say to those in the North who prevent us now from proving our manhood that we will be armed. We will be schooled in military service. If our fathers were cheated and denied the vote after nobly defending the country, we, their sons, have the manhood to defend the right and to end the wrong.

Below are the statements (edited) of R. H. Vason, a black man who opposes black recruitment. Vason's family has long been active in the struggle against slavery.

Have not two centuries of slavery entitled us to the rights of men and citizens? Have we not done our share toward creating a national existence for those who now enjoy it at our expense?

Let your heart answer these questions, and no black troops will die to win a peace that will preserve slavery. I claim raising black regiments would be uncalled for, knowing the government policy toward colored men!

That death should be the greatest sacrifice patriotic citizens could offer no one should deny. But what should inspire us with those feelings toward the government? It would sooner sentence 4,000,000 human beings to never-ending slavery than offend one slave master.

I maintain that the principle of neutrality is the only safe one to govern us at this time. Our work for the present lies in quite a different direction from assuming war responsibilities, with no benefits in store for us.

*Ed. Note: Until our slow-moving President wages this war to end slavery, not just to "save the Union," many black people will support these sentiments.

Blacks Forced to Aid Rebels

Tennessee. The order was so sudden, states the Cincinnati Gazette, that "those who came here had to abandon everything, some of them considerable property."

Reportedly, some Southern blacks have joined the Rebels, claiming loyalty to their community. Seventy free Negroes in Lynchburg, Kentucky, are said to have volunteered shortly after secession was declared. One aged Negro in Vicksburg, Virginia, reportedly gave a horse to the Confederate cavalry.

Frederick Douglass, leading black spokesman, has said "It is now pretty well established that there are many colored men in the Confederate army doing duty as real soldiers ready to shoot down loyal troops..." (And still the Federal Government hesitates to wage bias in Northern armies! Ed.)

One reason may be, as contraband John Parker states: "They promised to give us our freedom and money besides. But," he added, "none of us believed them, we only fought because we had to."

Other "black Rebels," however, surely feel that if they prove themselves loyal to the Southern states, there will be no more hostile legislation against them.

A black man from New Orleans has said he doesn't care where he fights, "if only my boy may stand in the street equal to a white boy when the war is over."

Liberals Want Reorganized

WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 1862—Upon the recommendation of President Lincoln, Congress has adopted a bill recognizing Liberia and Hayti as independent and sovereign nations.

Maryland and Virginia slave owners. But their actions are in harmony with the plans of the white Colonization Society. Douglass' Monthly hints the petition may even have been set in motion by those opposed to total emancipation.

It is only to be hoped that the liberated will now work toward the liberation of others and not be persuaded by pro-slavery forces, who are attacking the Negro's demand for liberation—Ed.

BLACK EDUCATION SPREADS SOUTH



FORTRESS MONROE, Va., Aug. 20, 1862—Black children in the South are finally learning to read and write. Slaves who flee to captured Southern areas find themselves enjoying liberties previously restricted to whites.

Since General Benjamin F. Butler took command of this fort last year, hundreds of escaping slaves have sought refuge here.

Although these "contrabands" have not been formally freed, they live more freely than ever before. Paid for their labor, they are permitted both to save their earnings and, most important for many, to "get some education."

In slavery, these people were whipped for being found with a book. But today, young and old learn eagerly.

"Children love the school as white children love a holiday," one observer has remarked. Many slaves are anxious to learn because they associate "book learning" with the wealth they have seen on the plantations.

For the first time, contrabands are forming their own schools, often only shade trees surrounded by eager black pupils.

In the North, private agencies and individuals are contributing generously to the education of contrabands. Early last year, Lewis Tappan, treasurer of the white American Missionary Association, offered General Butler the services of his organization. When Butler accepted, the Rev. L. C. Lockwood was sent to develop a school program at Fortress Monroe.

Similar Union programs are being established in the South Carolina sea-islands of St. Helena, Hilton Head, Edisto and Port Royal. With 1,300 contrabands, Port Royal is one of the South's largest havens for escaped slaves.

Freedman's Aid Societies, growing up in Northern cities, have sent money, clothes, books and nearly 100 teachers to assist these programs.

Public sentiment in the North has generally favored black education. The recent closing of a contraband school in North Carolina was met with such an outcry that the school is now open again.

The Lord Is A Yankee

BEAUFORT, Ga.—An entire black church group has been arrested here for singing the hymn, "Yes, we all shall be free, when the Lord shall appear." It was assumed that "Lord" was a code for "Union men."

BAD NEWS

PRINCE GEORGE CO., Md.—Mr. Thomas G. Perry received an unfriendly welcome at the army camp here when he came to reclaim four slaves. He was informed that they were better than he, that he was a nigger thief and received other unenviable personal news. Mr. Garrison himself could not have outdone these bold-colored Irish democrats.

From the ANTI-SLAVERY STANDARD



John Brown

THE "OLD MAN"

Some call the late John Brown a hero, some call him a murderer. But the man captured at Harper's Ferry, Va., in October, 1859, made the following prophetic statement in an interview.

I have nothing to say, except that I claim to be herein carrying out a measure I believe to be perfectly justifiable, and not to act the part of incendiary or ruffian, but to aid those suffering great wrong. I wish to say, furthermore, that you had better all you people of the South—prepare yourselves for a settlement of that question that must come up for settlement sooner than you are prepared for it. The sooner you are prepared the better. You may dispose of me very easily I am nearly disposed of now, but this question is still to be settled—the Negro question, I mean, the end of that is not yet.

D.C. Slaves Freed

Continued from page 1 col 1

Move for Colonization

News of the glorious emancipation is somewhat dimmed, however, by the petition of a few Washington blacks requesting land for a settlement in Central America or Africa.

The petitioners are reportedly frightened that, now freed, they will be kidnapped by

WHY NOT COLONIZE SLAVE OWNERS?

Some very simple-minded individuals have proposed the colonization of the slaves. Aside from the fact that by colonizing the blacks we would be transporting millions of our most faithful citizens and leaving their lands to traitors, how are we to pay for the emigration of 4,000,000 human beings?

If it cost on an average \$50 each to transport them and 500 could be put in each vessel, it would require then \$200,000,000 for the cost of this wise measure and at least 8,000 ships, whereas the masters—supposing them to number 350,000—could be exported for \$17,500,000 and could be stowed in 700 ships.

At this time a slave master can hardly be worth his "keep." He is heavily in debt to the Northern merchants and he has cost the North millions more than he will ever produce—and he is likely to cost millions more!

SAVE THE BORDER STATES!

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 18, 1862—President Lincoln has acted firmly to keep Maryland, Western Virginia, Missouri and Kentucky from joining the rebellion.

Maryland: Governor Augustus W. Bradford is pro-union but the state seems split. Gov Bradford declared he would send troops to defend Washington but not to fight the Rebels. Last April, pro-Rebel rioters in Baltimore killed several Massachusetts soldiers. Immediately, Mr. Lincoln ordered south-bound troops to bypass Baltimore, impose military rule and he ordered some Rebel sympathizers arrested.

Western Virginia: Six months ago, the western counties of Virginia separated from Rebel Virginia and declared their loyalty to the Union. For years, they had bitterly opposed being controlled by eastern Virginia's plantation owners.

Missouri: Governor Charlesorne Jackson is a strong Rebel sympathizer, the legislature is pro-Union, and sentiment in the state seems equally divided.

Last year, Lincoln formed a "home guard" from loyal St. Louis citizens to meet a threat from Governor Jackson's pro-Rebel state militia. On May 10, 1861, they captured Jackson's militia. Later, pro-Rebel mobs prompted Mr. Lincoln to order the seizure of the state capital, Governor Jackson fled south.

Today, Missouri is a "Union" state, but expresses much bitterness towards the North.

Kentucky: Governor James F. Robinson supports the Rebels. The legislature is pro-Union and popular sentiment is believed divided.

Both Abe Lincoln and Jeff Davis kept their "hands off" Kentucky. Last September, however, when Columbus, Kentucky, was occupied by Confederates, the state legislature declared itself in the Union.

To gain the support of these slaveholding states Mr. Lincoln has had to ignore slavery. But the question keeps raising its ugly head. It will not be ignored. No matter what Mr. Lincoln says, this rebellion, as Frederick Douglass says, "has its root and its sap, its trunk and its branches, and the bloody fruit it bears, only from one source—and that is slavery"—Ed



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Henry Highland Garnett

GARNETT ATTACKS PRESS

NEW YORK, N.Y., Aug. 1862—Reverend Henry H. Garnett, black abolitionist minister of Shiloh Presbyterian Church, spoke here last evening on the growing persecution of black citizens in the Free States. The black abolitionist accused a limited number of newspaper publishers of working along with the "slave-holding traitors."

"Brethren," he said, "I call you to bear witness that this crusade was commenced against us simultaneously with the beginning of the rebellion." Foremost in the bloody crusade against black people, he said, are the *New York Herald* and *New York Express*. He appealed for calm, caution, and manliness among blacks in whatever they do.

The Connecticut Legislature has defeated 44 to 18 the amendment to the state constitution that would have allowed black men in Connecticut to vote.

ANSWERS

from page 4

1. Robert Smalls
2. Contraband
3. General James H. Lane
4. George Scott
5. William Still
6. Frederick Douglass
7. General John C. Fremont

OFFICIAL MAP OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA

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CONTRABANDS NUMBERS OR PEOPLE?

AUGUST, 1862—Who are the contrabands? They are slaves who have at great risk fled to Union army camps hoping to find *Freedom* for the first time in their lives. Many Northern whites consider these refugees a burden on the Union Army, occupying too much room and eating too much food. (!) *Contraband family coming into Union lines.*

The *New York Times* says: "A mass of contrabands can hardly be put to valuable use" (!!!) To the contrary, contrabands contribute notably to the Union effort and for the first time are using recent lives.

Contraband Scout

A contraband, George Scott, employed as a scout at "Freedom Fort" (Fortress Monroe, Virginia), concealed himself in high grass for 24 hours observing a battery of Rebels near the Big Bethel Church. As he escaped, one musket ball ripped through his sleeve, another destroyed a pistol in his belt. Scott now boasts: "I can smell a Rebel farther than I can smell a skunk."

General Ormsby M. Mitchell, Commander of Union forces near Hilton Head, S.C., reports: "The Negroes are our only friends in two instances, I owe my own safety to their faithfulness. I shall soon have watchful guards among the slaves on the plantations."

Another Union officer at Newbern, North Carolina, said: "I have found information obtained from the Negroes to be most trustworthy. There is a ready wit and quickness of observation about them which many of their masters seem to lack."

The runaway slave problem was forced upon the army last spring, when General Benjamin F. Butler took command of the troops in Virginia. While the President and Congress were carefully avoiding the problem, several escaping slaves sought refuge in Butler's camp. He had to act at once.

He did not want to return them, nor did he want to risk "Ole Abe's" anger by emancipating them. So, declaring their Rebel property, he confiscated them for the Union army, calling them "contraband." When angry slave owners arrived, demanding their human property, General Butler simply gave them receipts listing their slaves along with all other confiscated items!



Protected from the human bloodhounds, more than 1,000 "contrabands" at Ft. Monroe today work for the Union. Paid by the Federal Government, black men build roads and fortifications and do farm work; black women often do domestic work for army wives. While families live in overcrowded conditions, there appears to be little despair as they sense a new freedom.

Black couples are also legally marrying a privilege forbidden them on the plantation. One minister tells of marrying 119 couples in an hour. At Vicksburg, Virginia, more than 3,000 marriages have been performed. 150 of them to re-establish relationships between couples separated at the auction block.

Free Blacks Help

Free blacks in the North are making tremendous efforts to help the contrabands. New York's Shiloh Church collected \$61.50 and a huge box of clothes. Over the collection box streamed an embroidered banner: "The Glory of a United People."

The colored citizens of Washington have organized the *Contraband Relief Association*. Elizabeth Keckley, dressmaker for Mrs. Lincoln, is President of

the Association. Her first contribution was a \$200 donation from Mrs. Lincoln. Mrs. Keckley has organized huge fund-raising meetings in Boston and New York and has collected over \$400 from societies in Great Britain.

Contraband Policy Uncertain

Despite the success of Butler's contraband policy, it has not been adopted throughout the Union Army. Instead, policy toward fugitives varies among Union generals. In one instance, two fugitive slaves seeking refuge with New York's 18th Regiment were returned when Commanding General Mansfield decided their owner was a "good Union man." (!!) Two soldiers involved in the affair indignantly refused any reward money, declaring they "would never again engage in Negro catching."

Major General John A. Dix and Commander-in-Chief Henry E. Halleck have not allowed a single slave to enter their lines. General John C. Fremont, on the other hand, declared the slaves of Rebels free last year and was fired!

Despite a recent law forbidding the return of fugitives, their welfare still depends on the doubtful charity of Union generals.

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Let the President declare that the principles of the immortal Declaration of Independence shall be carried out in practice throughout the United States.
Get free, by a dash of your pen, FOUR MILLIONS OF HELPLESS BEINGS, guilty of no crime, yet held in a state of bondage.
At once and forever, a joyous nation, relieved from the shame and disgrace of slavery, will reap from the bloody field of war a harvest of prosperity and peace.
Sponsored by the people of Sandwich, Mass.

Pennsylvania Blacks Struggle To Ride Rail-Cars

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., June 14 1862—William Still has petitioned the City Board of Managers to allow black seating on the City's horse-drawn cars (omnibuses).

"Colored people pay more taxes here than in any other Northern city," his petition declares. "In all the principal Northern cities except Philadelphia they ride why then should they be excluded from the city of brotherly love?" The document was signed, at Mr. Still's request, by hundreds of white citizens.

The black leader said later: "Colored people are unceremoniously excluded except if they choose to stand on the front platform with the driver."

Blacks have long deplored the Philadelphia situation. In the early 1850's, author William Wells Brown was not allowed to ride the omnibus on Chestnut Street.

"The omnibuses of Paris, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Liverpool had stopped to take me up," he said angrily, "but what mattered that? My face was not white and my hair was not straight, and therefore I must be excluded from a seat in a third-rate American omnibus."

Frederick Douglass, a frequent visitor to Philadelphia, has said, "Colored persons no matter how well dressed or well behaved, ladies or gentlemen, rich or poor, are not even permitted to ride on any of the many railways throughout that Christian City."

Today's petition is not Mr. Still's first attack on white prejudice on Philadelphia omnibuses. "My direct connection with the advocacy of the rights of colored people to ride on the public cars commenced in 1859," he said in a *Black Chronicle* interview.

He reports spending the past two years looking for people who have been badly treated and bringing them to the notice of the public through



the papers "I would also try and prevail on those outraged to bring their complaints before the courts," he said.

Mr. Still feels these indignities are unequalled in other Northern cities. Even New Orleans colored people, slaves as well as free, ride in all the city cars," he explained.

"In Chicago, not the slightest restriction exists in the public conveyances in New York and Brooklyn (except on one or two lines) there is not the slightest barrier to any persons riding on account of complexion." Concluding his remarks, Mr. Still vowed to fight until Philadelphia blacks are permitted to ride the omnibuses. (As an active agent of the Underground Railroad, he was highly successful in helping thousands escape from "Egypt.")

Blacks Fight to Fight
Continued from page 1 col. 3
changed when the battle became desperate—Ed.)

Lincoln Avoids Abolition
Some observers feel Mr. Lincoln refuses to recruit black soldiers for fear of making this a war of abolition.

The President has insisted he is pursuing the war to save the Union, not to free the slaves. Mr. Douglass does not agree. "This war," he says, "is a war between slavery and freedom. Whether our rulers know it or not, they are striking a blow for the destruction of slavery."

Free blacks have been further infuriated by the spectacle this year of Union generals (including Halleck and Mansfield) returning fugitives to local slaveholders.

Some Exceptions
Despite overall refusals, however, some blacks have been enlisted. In Kansas, General James H. Lane has organized the proud 1st Regiment of Kansas Colored Volunteers, despite War Department demands he desist.

As early as last fall, in Hilton Head, South Carolina, General David Hunter began to arm fugitive slaves without War Department consent. According to a *New York Times* correspondent, Hunter's troops "present an efficiency in the manual of arms such as I have never seen." Moreover, when Congressman Wycliff of Kentucky wrote to Hunter demanding the facts, the General replied: "No regiment of fugitive slaves is being organized in this Department. There is, however, a fine regiment of persons whose late masters are fugitive Rebels. Hunter was soon dismissed, his men disbanded.

We Fight to Fight
Today, blacks plead to fight. "Would to God you would let us do something," wrote Mr. Douglass recently. "We lack nothing but your consent."

Slaves Permitted To Take Last Names

MITCHELLVILLE, S.C., Aug. 20. Slaves in occupied towns are being permitted to take last names.

Before the Federal Army took control of territory near Hilton Head, South Carolina, blacks there were flogged for using their owner's last name or even for making up their own.

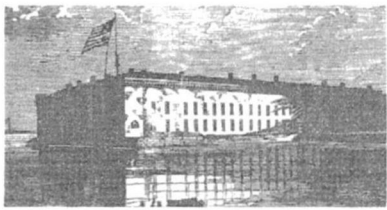
But Major General Ormsby M. Mitchell's announcement at his Union Army camp that heads of the 70 black families in Mitchellville (the settlement named after him) were entitled to two names has begun a new trend. He advised them to take the name of their former master.

The suggestion, however, has caused controversy among both former slaves and former masters.

"I used to be proud of my name," said Carolina R. Revenal of the Seneca plantation in South Carolina, "but I have ceased to be so since the so-called Negroes on the place have taken it."

Not all slaves are eager to take their master's names, however. A Negro contraband in Tennessee gave his full name as "Dick" and was told that everyone must have two names. When asked if he wanted his master's name, he replied: "No, sir, I don't. I've had enough of old master."

Although local whites are beginning to accept the blacks' use of surnames, they are still reluctant to call them "Mister" or "Miss."



Fort Sumter Where It All Began

AUGUST 31, 1862—Last April, the nation watched Fort Sumter, South Carolina. Fort Sumter, in Charleston Harbor, was one of the few Federal forts not yet seized by the Rebels.

Who can forget those months? When Mr. Lincoln was elected, South Carolina was convinced he would prohibit the expansion of slavery into the territories. Thus, within two months, it broke all ties with the Union.

Although outgoing President Buchanan and President-elect Lincoln insisted the Union could not "be split," both stood idle as 11 Southern states joined South Carolina.

Lincoln told the Rebel states: "The government will not assault you. You have no oath to destroy the government, while I... have the most solemn one to 'preserve, protect, and defend' it. We must not be enemies."

Fort Sumter's commander refused to surrender. But supplies were running low, and in January a supply ship had been driven away by Confederate shore guns. Now President Lincoln would have to reinforce Sumter, or give it over to a "new," traitorous nation, admitting their right to break the Union.

Mr. Lincoln wrote Governor Pickens of South Carolina that "an attempt will be made to supply Fort Sumter with provisions only" (our italics).

But Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, immediately told Pickens to "reduce" the Fort if Major Anderson refused to evacuate.

Major Anderson refused. On April 13, the Fort was reduced.

TWO UNION GENERALS

Halleck: Aide To Slave Catchers

One year ago, Henry Halleck, Commander of the Union's Military Department in the West, shocked friends of freedom with his General Order No. 3.

No fugitive slaves, the order read, would "be hereafter permitted to enter the lines of any camp... or any now within such lines were to be immediately excluded therefrom."

Abolitionists, and even many uncommitted citizens, exploded in wrath. Representative Owen Lovejoy introduced a bill making it an offense "for any officer or private to aid in the capture or return of fugitive slaves."

Congressional anger was such that "Old Brains" Halleck barely escaped an official reprimand for his act. Ninety-three members of the House accused Halleck of violating their resolve of five months before: "It is no part of the duty of the soldiers of the United States" they had maintained, "to capture and return fugitive slaves."

"Old Brains" Halleck claimed his order was for defense; fugitives, he said, would be "unauthorized persons" in camp, perhaps even spies.

Horace Greeley, editor of *New York's Herald Tribune*, replied the order would return "all slaves to their masters—seven-eighths of whom are most venomously implacable Rebels."

Halleck's order indicates the contradictory policies followed by Union Generals on the "contraband" policy established by General Benjamin Butler. Butler defined fugitive slaves as "contraband" of war.

Unknown to Halleck, his order would solidify growing Northern support for protection of fugitives. Congressional forces have taken the hint and recently passed a law prohibiting Army officers from returning fugitive slaves.

Fremont: Emancipator

One year ago, August 1861, General John C. Fremont freed the slaves in Missouri. By taking this action, he stepped far ahead of the Lincoln Administration, and was punished.

Last summer after the Rebels defeated his troops at Wilson's Creek, Missouri, Fremont declared martial law throughout the state. His proclamation, dated August 31, confiscated the property of all persons who had "taken arms against the United States." Their slaves, "if any they have," the order concluded, "are hereby declared freemen."

Abolitionists were jubilant. They felt a significant step had finally been made, after having waited in vain for action from the Lincoln government. It seems certain that Fremont received advice from his friend Gerrit Smith, the abolitionist congressman from Massachusetts.

But the triumph was short-lived. Almost immediately, President Lincoln wrote Fremont a personal note asking him to withdraw the proclamation. Fremont, a stubborn man, replied he would not do so unless he received a direct Presidential order. Lincoln then officially overruled Fremont.

Black people and white abolitionists despaired. Editor William Lloyd Garrison printed the Presidential order in black bands of mourning. The President, he said, committed a serious breach of duty.

Several weeks later, John C. Fremont was relieved of his command by regular army officer David Hunter. Hunter recently surprised the President and Congress by forming a Union regiment made up of fugitive slaves.

MY BONDAGE AND MY FREEDOM
by Frederick Douglass

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Ohio State Journal

Men have even pretended to be white in order to defend their country. Newspapers report the discovery of a light-skinned black in Company G, 1st Kansas Volunteers. "We have no objections to enduring privations," wrote the angry soldiers to their commanding officer. "But to have one of the Company pointed out as a 'nigger' while on dress parade is more than we like to bear."

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COLORED PATRIOTS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
By William C. Nell
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An Introduction by Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe

Engravings of Crispus Attucks, first martyr in the Boston Massacre of March 6th, 1770; Peter Salem, on Bunker Hill. The increasing interest on the general subject of slavery makes this book a rare attraction at the present time.

QUIZ

- _____ stole a Confederate warship and delivered it to the Union.
 - Slaves who escaped to Union camps seeking for freedom are called _____.
 - The first regiment of Kansas Colored Volunteers was organized by _____.
 - "I can smell a rebel farther than I can smell a skunk," boasted the scout contraband, _____.
 - _____ petitioned the Philadelphia City Board of Managers to allow blacks to sit in the city's horse-drawn cars.
 - _____ a black abolitionist, urged the President to let blacks fight on the side of the Union.
 - _____ declared all the slaves of captured Rebels free.
- Answers page 3 col. 2

Colonization Plan Denounced
Continued from page 1 col. 2

be the scab indicative of the disease but his removal, even if possible, will not effect a cure.

Frederick Douglass, editor of *Douglas' Monthly* writes: "Mr. Lincoln affirms that our presence in the country is the real first cause of the war."

"No, Mr. President," he continues, "it is not the innocent horse that makes the horse thief, not the traveler's purse that makes the highway robber, and it is not the presence of the Negro that causes the foul and unnatural war, but the cruel and brutal stupidity of those who wish to possess horses, money and Negroes by means of theft, robbery and rebellion."

The colored community of Queens, N.Y. has also responded: "Why not declare slavery abolished, and favor our peaceful colonization in the Rebel states, or some portion of them?"

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CONTRABAND'S GIFT



JULY 30, 1862—A freedman, Jack Flowers, recently gave his only possession to Governor Andrew of Pennsylvania. It was the hand-made boat he used to escape from slavery.

Made of a rice basket the bottom of which was tarred over, the boat had earned Flowers three miles past Rebel lines. It is a very good-looking, but rather delicate, boat to put to sea in.

The slaves of James Mason (now in England), have escaped from Winchester together and made their way to Philadelphia. Meanwhile, one of Mr. Mason's daughters has become hopelessly insane because of family misfortunes.

Sellers will find it profitable to advertise in the CHRONICLE, as it has a very large circulation in the army.

BLACK CHRONICLE

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Massachusetts 54th Colored Regiment storming Ft. Wagner.

MASS. 54th FROM FT. WAGNER TO GLORY

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 20, 1864—One year ago, the Massachusetts 54th (colored) Regiment, under Colonel Robert Shaw, defeated the Rebel Guard on James Island, S. C. This action saved the 10th Connecticut Infantry from certain disaster and allowed for their safe retreat.

"Your troops saved mine," wrote the 10th Infantry's commander to Colonel Shaw. "Tell your splendid black soldiers that we are proud to call them comrades."

Despite such courageous service, however, black Union soldiers received pay only about half that of whites. Not until June of this year did Congress finally raise the pay of Negro troops to the same level as that of whites.

In the year it took Congress to correct this injustice black troops were not idle.

Angered by Congress' lower pay scale for Negroes, the Massachusetts 54th, for instance, continued to fight but refused all pay! Even an offer by the Massachusetts legislature to make up the difference was turned down. Not until black soldiers were paid equally to whites by the federal government, did the 54th again accept a salary.

Courage at Ft. Wagner

On the evening of July 18, 1863, the Massachusetts 54th Regiment led the attack at the battle of Fort Wagner, S. C.

At Colonel Shaw's command the men began the half mile walk through the sand of Morris Island to Fort Wagner. Thinking the Union Navy had destroyed the heavy artillery they tried to get within 200 feet of the Fort. But as the 54th approached, the still-intact Confederate artillery opened fire.

"As the enemy advanced," reported Confederate General Talcott later, "they were met with a shower from our guns and a terrific fire of musketry."

Weakened by this unexpected barrage, with the wounded falling at their feet, the 54th doubled their effort. Moving rapidly, stepping over dead bodies and stumbling across holes dug by shells from the fort, the soldiers quickly reached their second surprise—a ditch.

They plunged down the slope as exploding shells ripped into their ranks. "I had my sword-sheath blown away whilst on the parapet of the Fort," wrote Lewis Douglass to his father, Frederick. "Swept down like chaff, still our men went on and on."

Hints to Scouts In Service

A black Union scout in Newbern, N. C., was discovered by Rebels and chased by dogs. He escaped by bathing his feet in turpentine. It is said to destroy the scent and prevents the dogs from following the trail.

REBELS ROUTED AT NASHVILLE

13th COLORED DECOYED REBELS

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 17, 1864—Half the Rebel fighting force has been crushed and routed here in what may be the decisive battle of the war.

Dispatches indicate the Union's margin of victory was gained by the courageous efforts of eight black regiments commanded by General James Steedman.

Only two days ago, the South's crack 44,000-man Army of Tennessee began advancing on Nashville. Spies report that Confederate General John Bell Hood intended

BLACK SCOUTS ESCAPE DEATH

NEW BERN, N. C.—Two black scouts narrowly escaped death last week after traveling 30 miles into Rebel territory. They were observing the Confederate headquarters at Kingston, North Carolina, when they were spotted by a rider with a pack of bloodhounds. Firing revolvers, they wounded his horse and two dogs.

Still 25 miles from Union forces, the scouts ran, resting at intervals as they made their way back towards camp. When they were 12 miles from Union lines, they again heard the baying of dogs and men urging them on.

The scouts ran as fast as they could, hiding their scent by wading in the swamp whenever possible. But the hated dogs began to lose in.

Bracing themselves against a tree to steady their aim, they wounded three of the animals. As the Rebels rode after them, the black scouts raced through the woods, throwing away everything but their shirts, drawers, and pistols.

Finally, they reached the Union camp and stumbled in, soaking wet and exhausted.



Pride in Camp

A proud unit, the 54th will not take abuse in the camps. While Southern black troops will generally clean the quarters of white soldiers, the fighting 54th absolutely refuses the job. (A group of them arrested for refusing had to be released when their comrades threatened trouble.)

Once, after army barbers

Continued on page 2 col. 3

FREEDMEN FARM JEFF DAVIS' LAND

VICKSBURG, Miss. 1864—Black cultivators today work Jeff Davis' plantation for their own benefit, while the President of the Confederacy fights for a system that would keep them slaves.

Davis Bend, the plantation, was formerly the property of Jefferson Davis and his brother Joseph. Today the stretch of fertile land is farmed by 75 Negro families.

When Union General Ulysses S. Grant spotted the pear-shaped strip of land last spring, some 25 miles below Vicksburg on the Mississippi River, he immediately declared it could be leased to former slaves for their own profit. The Union commander named it the "Negro Paradise."

Today more than 500 blacks occupy the land. Families work plots of five to 100 acres in some cases making more than \$1,000 a year.

The new tenants receive rations and horse teams from the government, then pay for them when their crops are marketed. They plant and harvest their crops and sell them to army cooks and sometimes to individual soldiers in nearby Union camps.

Continued on page 2 col. 3

Black Artillery Unit

LEAVENWORTH, Kansas, July 30, 1864—General Curtis, commanding at Fort Leavenworth, has obtained permission from the Secretary of War to raise colored troops for heavy artillery. They will have the privilege of having colored officers.

BEN FRANKLIN

Benjamin Franklin sent a kite skyward and brought down lightning. General Benjamin Franklin Butler sends kites skyward and drops copies of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation among the Rebels.

Thousands of copies of the proclamation, which grants protection to Rebels who surrender voluntarily, have been dropped from the huge kites.

The device seems to work. A number of Rebel deserters were convinced by a whole lot from o' big kite."

Butler, a former lawyer, questioned the men himself. One, a man named Jeffers, told an incredible story.

Drafted a dozen times, he had braved himself out each time. But he said his last attempt to evade service failed. The Rebels are so short of men not even 1,000 Confederate dollars can buy a man off now, he said.

EMANCIPATION: WHY?

ANALYSIS

"All persons held as slaves within any State in rebellion against the United States, shall be thenceforward and forever free."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

January 1, 1863

With the Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863, President Lincoln legally freed Rebel slaves and brought black troops into the war.

Only six months earlier, he had written: "If I could save the Union without freeing a single slave, I would do it."

With the Emancipation Proclamation, Mr. Lincoln hoped to mobilize Union sentiment around a new war objective—freedom for the slaves. His proclamation would serve also to punish the rebel states because it freed only their slaves. Finally, proclaiming freedom would win full support of the abolitionists and would bring the free blacks and contrabands into the fight. It would, he hoped, enable him to win the war.

There is no question that the proclamation has brought about a change. New black troops have aided the Union greatly, especially in victories at Port Hudson, Milliken's Bend, and today, at Nashville.

But neither the President nor those who demand total abolition have seen their hopes



realized. The Union still wars with the rebelling states; and slaves in the loyal border states are still enchained. Although the President calls emancipation "an act of justice," abolitionists have asked how an act of justice can be applied to one section and not another.

At the war's beginning, Mr. Lincoln did not wish to anger the border states or moderate elements in the North who might have withdrawn their support from a crusade against slavery. But one year ago, in January, 1863, Abraham Lincoln felt the time was right.

Mr. Lincoln's hopes for freed blacks are unclear. He seems, certainly, to have dropped his call for black colonization in another country.

SHERMAN'S ARMY HEARD FROM

SWEEPING EVERYTHING BEFORE IT DESTROYING EVERYTHING BEHIND IT

NOVEMBER 18, 1864—With the nearest Rebels 200 miles to the rear, and, as he states, "the whole Southern States open to him," General William Tecumseh Sherman left Atlanta several days ago heading toward the Atlantic seaboard.

Moving through the heart of the Confederacy with the irresistible power of a tornado, Sherman's army is destroying the roads and bridges to their rear, gathering supplies and receiving the fugitives, black and white, by the thousands.

Everything of military value to the Confederacy is being demolished: depots, mills, factories, machine shops, stores and railroad track. Yesterday, this correspondent saw two cotton gins burning by the roadside. This march is now about 60 miles southeast of Atlanta, camped near "Murder Creek."

Never during the war has

Continued on page 3 col. 1

BLACK CHRONICLE FULL JUSTICE

Today at Nashville, black men have proven their valor on the field of battle once more. Hundreds of black soldiers were shot down performing a mission that meant almost certain death. Our black troops again have carried the heaviest burden of battle, and we are proud. We will not allow their contribution to be forgotten.

In the words of one black spokesman, "The blood of the Negro, shed upon the fields of the rebellion, will prove sufficient to wash away the obstacles which prevent us from the enjoyment of our rights."

After 200 years, we will receive justice—full justice. Black soldiers share equally the perils of the battlefield; we will not rest until they share equal treatment with the whites. We demand for blacks a fair chance for promotion to all positions and ranks, according to their merit and valor.

We will not rest until black laborers are as free as white to contract for their labor, go from place to place, and enjoy the earnings from their toils.

We will not rest until black ministers receive the same respect accorded white clergymen. We want them sitting side by side with the white ministers, preaching from the same pulpits.

We will not rest until black children are received in the public schools, as in Massachusetts. We want our children seated on the same benches with the whites, so that every prejudice of color may disappear from childhood.

We demand that black women, our mothers, sisters, wives, and daughters, receive the same respect as do the whites.

As men and American citizens, we claim the right of suffrage. These are our principles. We do not care for the obstacles we may find in our way, or the enemies who may line up against us.

Do not say that we are going too fast or going too far. Have we not died in all American wars for the freedom of whites? Yet is our freedom complete?

White fellow citizens. Act as though you believe in your own Declaration of Independence, especially its assertion that ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Excerpts from a letter by Miss Charlotte Forten, a black volunteer teacher on the Union-occupied island of Port Royal, S.C.

There are no white soldiers on this island. It is protected by gunboats and by Negro pickets. These men attacked and drove back a boat-load of Rebels who tried to land here one night, several weeks ago.

The Negroes here seem to be a honest, industrious and sensible people.

My school meets in a little Baptist church. Nearly all (the children) are eager to learn, and many of them make most rapid improvement. I wish some of those persons at the North, who say the race is hopelessly and naturally inferior, could see the readiness with which these children so long oppressed and deprived of every privilege learn and understand.

I have some grown pupils. One is named Cupid. He told me he was "feared" he was almost too old to learn, but I assured him that was not the case, and now he is working diligently at the alphabet. One of my people, Harry—is a scholar to be proud of. I enjoy having him and Cupid talk about the time that the Rebels had to flee from this place. The remembrance is evidently a source of the most exquisite happiness and amusement.



Schools Flourish

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 30, 1864. The Negro schools in Nashville are flourishing although efforts were made to crush them when they first began. Protected by Governor Johnson, the schools have so many pupils that all local opposition to them has ceased.

Many black women attend the schools. Most of the men labor to support their families, however, and are unable to attend.



There are several families living here. They are very happy now. They work for the Government, and receive wages and rations in return. The children have just learned the John Brown song, and next week they are going to learn the song of the "Negro Boatmen." They sing with the greatest enthusiasm. I wish you could hear them.

Charlotte Forten

Dear Sir, If we hadn't become sojers, all might have gone back as it was before; our freedom might have slipped through de two houses of Congress and President Linkum's four years might have passed by and notin' been done for us. But now tings can never go back because we have showed our energy and our courage, and our natural manhood.

Pvt. Thomas Long (ex-slave)
1st South Carolina Volunteers

COLONIZATION MAY LEAD TO "WAR OF RACES"

BOSTON, Mass., Sept. 22.—A Negro-owned New Orleans newspaper has warned there may be a "war of races" if the "proud Anglo-Saxons" attempt to deceive blacks into any scheme of colonization.

"Do they suppose," the *New Orleans Tribune* asks, "that the Negroes could be treated like the Indians that five million could be gathered into any section of the country without preparing troubles for a future generation—a war of races?"

The *Tribune* article also condemns New Orleans Negroes who want a land grant from Congress for colonization. These men, the paper says, are incapable of representing the black population of New Orleans.

"The colored people," the *Tribune* continues, "have formed the foundation of the country, have contributed to her prosperity, and have defended her on every occasion; hence, they have as much right to live in the country as other men."

BLACK CHURCH REACHES SOUTH



NEW YORK, N. Y., July 21, 1864—Long banned from preaching in the South, ministers of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church are making up for lost time. Throughout the war, this church has sent missionaries into various parts of the South, carrying on the work of Christian education wherever the Union Army has made it possible.

To many African Methodists in the North, Jeff Davis is doing God's work by waging the war of rebellion. For, without the war and increasing Union control of the South, churchmen would not have been able to bring the Word of God to the Cotton Kingdom's black people.

As early as April of last year, plans were being made to send traveling AME preachers to care for the moral and religious interests of freedmen in South Carolina.

When Union troops occupied Savannah earlier this month, the Rev. James Lynch of AME Church followed in their footsteps. One admirer said that Rev. Lynch could "do more good among the freedmen than a regiment of white preachers."

"Colored people are flocking to the colored churches by the thousands," said *New York's Weekly Anglo-African*. "We cannot forget," the paper declared,

that "the white ministers have been nothing more than watchdogs for slave masters. . . Separation in the church is the very best thing . . . under the circumstances."

New York's AME Church has sent seven preachers to Hilton Head, South Carolina. The preachers have been teaching emancipated slaves reading, writing, geography, grammar and history.

Black people of the St. James AME Church in New Orleans have founded the National Union Brotherhood Association. This is, according to Rev. W. A. Dove, an "institution under God that is adapted to accomplish . . . the elevation of the African race, the education of the rising generation and the laying of the principles of self-government and self-protection among blacks."

SMALLS WINS UNION CONTRACT Will Transport Freedmen

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 15th.—Robert Smalls is transporting hundreds of freedmen to the South Carolina sea islands. There they will get the 40-acre farms promised to them by Union General William T. Sherman. Smalls will take them on his ship, the *Planter*, which he liberated from the Confederate Navy over two years ago. A Union army contract guarantees him nearly \$2,000 per month for the operation. The ex-slaves will receive the farms under a policy in which captured Rebel lands are distributed to loyal Union men.

Smalls was given command of the *Planter* in 1863, a year and a half after he steered her safely under the Rebel guns of Fort Sumter. After presenting her to the Union Navy, he received prize money of \$1,500. The government claimed that was half the ship's value.

Because Negroes are rarely given rank above pilot in the Union Navy, Smalls was first made pilot of the *Planter*. In November, 1863, the ship came under Rebel fire while on river patrol. When her Captain panicked and attempted to surrender, Smalls pushed the man aside and ordered her gunner to return the fire. Amidst exploding shells he steered her back to the safety of wide water. For him, capture would have meant certain death.

The Navy then gave command of the ship to Smalls.

The new captain of the *Planter* learned to read and write while his ship was being repaired in Philadelphia.

Once, five Southerners from Charleston (Smalls's home) attempted to kidnap him for a \$4,000 reward, but were plans before carrying out their plan. Smalls later promised to return to Charleston, "bringing the entire Union Navy" with him. He has said the first thing he plans to do when Charleston falls is to buy his ex-master's house there.

Black Women Aid Union Troops

BEAUFORT, S. C., Dec. 17, 1864.—The grapevine reports that Harriet Tubman is scouting for Union forces again. Last year she guided Union raiding parties into South Carolina and convinced frightened slaves to join them. (For such activities before the war, Southern governors put a \$40,000 reward on her head.)

After one of these raids, commanding officer Colonel James Montgomery wrote General Quincy Gilmore: "I wish to commend your attention to Mrs. Harriet Tubman, a most remarkable woman, and invaluable as a scout."

More recently, Mrs. Tubman has been serving as a nurse. Last May, at the Union fort in Beaufort, South Carolina, Acting Assistant Surgeon Henry K. Durrant formally thanked her for her "kindness and attention to the sick and suffering."

Mrs. Tubman often uses root and herb remedies that are unfamiliar to army doctors. Many, however, insist that her cures work. It is said wounded men instantly cheer up when this spirited black woman enters their sick tent. With her bandanna wrapped around her head, she is a familiar figure in the Union camps.

So valuable is her service that she has been given permission to enter all Union army posts. She carries the following note from Major General David Hunter: "Pass the bearer, Harriet Tubman (colored) wherever she wishes to go and give her free passage at all times on all government transportation."

Charlotte Forten teaches contrabands on the South Carolina sea island of St. Helena. The granddaughter of Negro ship-builder James Forten, she has vowed to do all she can for "my oppressed and suffering fellow-creatures." She spends most days teaching reading to young and old alike.



Harriet Tubman

Suzie King Taylor, a laundress in a Union camp, spends her free hours teaching black soldiers to read. Often she reads and answers letters for the men. She also volunteers as a nurse in the sick tents.

When asked by a *Black Chronicle* reporter what the Negro wanted, she quickly replied: "Justice. We ask to be citizens of these United States, where so many of our people have shed their blood with their white comrades."

Another black woman contributing her time and effort in Union camps is the famous Southerner Truth, who believes she is 84 years old. (*Rebels are rarely kept of slave births.*—Ed.)

Although too advanced in years for much travel, she frequently visits Northern camps, bringing soldiers gifts and motherly advice. She purchases the gifts with funds she has raised from singing and speaking at abolitionist meetings.

Many other Negro women serve for much travel, as nurses, scouts and, rumor says, as spies.

The Governor of Wisconsin objects to the organization of an army regiment to be composed exclusively of Methodists. He does not wish to deter all of them from enlisting, if they desire to do so.

Continued on page 3 col. 3

Colored Correspondent At Union Camp

The following is a dispatch from our correspondent, Mr. Chester, detailing his first day in General Butler's camp near Petersburg, Virginia.

I arrived in camp on the 7th and rode directly to the commanding general's tent. Dis-mounting, I entered and announced my business to General Butler.

He asked me to be seated. Upon doing so, I presented him with my letter of introduction and my credentials as an authorized field reporter from the *Chronicle*.

The good General endorsed

the letter, directing that I be allowed passage everywhere within Union lines. He suggested that I take up quarters with General Payne's (colored) division.

After he outlined my duties as a military correspondent, I asked him to furnish me with a fresh horse. He replied that his supply officer was not responsible for mounting newspaper correspondents.

I took his leave with my spirits soaring. Horse or no horse, a colored correspondent had been accepted and treated like any other.

Sherman's Army Heard From

Continued from page 1 col. 5

either party held the other at such a disadvantage as Sherman now holds his opponents. Rebel Generals Hood and Johnston have committed serious blunders, sending their armies to Sherman's rear, leaving him



107 U.S. Colored

access to Charleston and Savannah. Barring unforeseen possibilities, the game now seems to be wholly in Sherman's hands.

Can He Release Our Prisoners?
DECEMBER 1, 1864.—The hoped-for rescue attempt of Yankee prisoners at Andersonville prison seems abandoned.

Union prisoners have been moved southeast, to the railway junction near Millen, Ga. Sending a detachment there would only delay the main force on its way to the sea.

FURTHER DISPATCH—Eighty-five miles of track on the Georgia Central Railroad have been torn up under the watchful eye of Chief Engineer Colonel Orville M. Poe. Poe insists that each rail be both bent and twisted.

These efforts and the work of our force in Macon will cut the only remaining railroad communication between the eastern and western parts of the Confederacy. Divided in half, the Rebels will be easier to defeat.

In addition to the positive military results of this march, imagine its effect upon the Rebel troops whose homes are in Georgia. The United States Army moves unopposed here, invading and over-running homes in the very heart of Rebelldom.

Near Savannah
December 16. We are five and a half miles from Savannah. The 2nd Division, 15th Army Corps, attacked and captured Fort McAllister three days ago.

A powerful fortress on the Ogeechee River. McAllister was the last Rebel stronghold between Sherman's Army and the Union fleet.

Now much-needed supplies will be available. (Sherman's troops have ceased their march and can no longer live off the land.)

It may be days, even weeks, before Sherman's troops can actually enter Savannah.

He Enters Savannah!
December 20.—General Sherman's troops marched triumphantly into Savannah, Georgia today.

Accompanied by a corps of Negro laborers, guides, foragers, and 10,000 straggling contrabands, Sherman's army occupied the city peacefully. The rebels have evacuated the city without giving battle.

Savannah is ours!
Now, northward through the Carolinas!

SOJOURNER TRUTH TESTS D.C. LAW

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18, 1864.—In 1863, Massachusetts Senator Charles Sumner introduced a motion prohibiting segregation on all District of Columbia street cars. Now, after one year of debate and hesitation, Congress has passed the law, finally allowing Washington Negroes free access to the cars.

An aging abolitionist, Sojourner Truth has tested the new transportation law by riding several of the city's street cars.

On one train, the elderly black woman was told to ride outside on the platform. The driver did not persist when she threatened to sue the company.

On another train, her shoulder was injured when she was pushed roughly against the door. The driver was later arrested and fined.

Following her example, other black women have ridden the cars, and have reported no trouble.

Black seating in street cars has met resistance in other Northern cities. Last year the issue received great public notice in New York when policemen and a conductor forcibly removed from the white section a widow of a Negro sergeant recently killed in battle.

Angry public reaction forced the line to change its policy, and the officer was reprimanded by his superiors.

In Philadelphia, Negroes and their white friends have fought unsuccessfully since 1859 for equal seating privileges.

Rebels Routed at Nashville

Continued from page 1 col. 5

ring musket fire opened huge holes in their ranks. Running and stumbling uphill, they had to thread their way through the Confederate's abatis (barricades of fallen trees with sharpened branches).

The 13th Infantry is believed to have lost a fourth of its men in that one half-hour. The canister and musketry were murderous. An eyewitness said he had "never seen dead men thicker" than the blacks who crumbled before the Rebel defenses. The most battle-hardened veterans would have fled but the black soldiers pressed on.

These heroes reached the Rebel earthen-works, but had lost too many men to hold them.

After regrouping, the Colored Infantry prepared to charge once more. This proved unnecessary. The defenders had abandoned not only Overton Hill, but all their other defenses.

Battlefield reports indicate that the black soldiers had attacked with such force that the Confederates again believed they faced the main Union thrust. When they weakened their other defenses to reinforce Overton Hill, the remaining Union armies broke through.

General Hood is reported to have said this was the first time he saw "a Confederate army abandon the field in confusion."

As *Black Chronicle* goes to press, the once-proud Army of Tennessee is still running before General Thomas's Union men.

BLACK TROOPS IN BATTLE

The Union Army's 175,000 black soldiers are organized into 166 regiments. They have fought in over 400 battles, 40 of them major engagements.—Ed.

PORT HUDSON, La., May 27, 1863—The 1st and 3rd Louisiana Native Guards assaulted enemy forts perched on an 80 foot bluff.

The black troops had to charge across half a mile of fields covered with gullies and strewn with felled trees and brush.

General Daniel Ullman wrote that the black troops made six or seven charges, exposed to a terrible fire and were dreadfully slaughtered. "This battle 'settles the question,'" said *The New York Times*, "that the Negro race can fight with great prowess."

MILLIKEN'S BEND, La., June 7, 1863—The inexperienced 9th and 11th Regiments of Louisiana Volunteers of African Descent turned back a Rebel attack on their camp. At first, the black troops retreated. But learning that their comrades who were captured had been killed, they came back with great fury and routed the enemy.

Charles Dana said, "The bravery of the blacks completely revolutionized the settlement of the Army with regard to the employment of Negro troops."

POISON SPRING, Ark., Apr. 18, 1864—Six days after the massacre at Fort Pillow, Kentucky, (see page 4, col. 1) a large foraging party was trapped by Confederates. The 1st Kansas Colored lost 117 dead. Many were murdered after being captured.

JENKINS FERRY, Ark., Apr. 30, 1864—The 2nd Kansas Colored was pinned down by Rebel gun batteries. With the



The 1st South Carolina Colored Regiment fighting off Confederate attack dogs at Pocotaligo Bridge, October 1862.

massacre of the 1st Kansas Colored at Poison Spring still in their minds, they overran the batteries, shouting "Remember Poison Spring!"

BRICE'S CROSS ROADS, Miss., June 10, 1864—A Confederate rout of General Sturgis' Union forces was kept from becoming a disaster by the 59th Colored Brigade. Lt. John Merritts wrote: "The Colored Brigade checked the onward rush of the enemy till the artillery had passed and then covered the rear of that and the ammunition train."

PETERSBURG, Va., June 15, 1864—General Charles Paine's black division stormed Confederate forts outside the city. They knocked a mile-wide hole in Rebel lines, and captured 200 enemy troops.

PETERSBURG, Va., July 30, 1864—After setting off a mine under Rebel lines, Union forces became trapped in the crater produced by the explosion. The

black 9th Corps sustained many casualties. The 43rd Colored Troops, however, captured 200 rebels. Decatur Dorsey, black sergeant in the 39th Colored, won the Congressional Medal of Honor.

NEW MARKET HEIGHTS, Va., Sept. 30, 1864—Under General B. F. Butler, the 18th Corps, Negro Division, stormed New Market Heights. They moved up the slope under heavy fire, backed through two barnyards and stormed the Rebel fortifications. The Confederates fled. The Heights were taken at a cost of 1,000 Union dead. Twelve black men have received Medals of Honor for the engagement.

SALTVILLE, Va., Oct. 2, 1864—The 5th and 6th Colored Cavalry were part of a mixed Union force which invaded southwest Virginia and destroyed the salt works at Saltville.

CLASSIFIEDS



BULBS for FALL PLANTING
MADE IN PORTLAND, AT CELESTINE FRANKS.
B. K. ELLIS & SON,



MAJ. MARTIN R. DELANY, U. S. A.

This beautifully executed picture of the distinguished officer, taken in full uniform by the celebrated artist, Bogardus of Broadway, is now ready. Price per copy, 25 cents. Address R. Hamilton, 184 Church St., New York.

THREE APPRENTICES WANTED
to learn Waxwork Embroidery. Apply to Mrs. Sara A. Powell, 2 Dover Street.

OH YES! OH YES!
Colored help of every capacity, wanted at Titus' Agency for Servants.

No. 147 Thompson, corner of 4th St. Office hours from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Copies of *Anglo-African* and *Chronicle* always on hand.

TURNING THE TABLES ON THE OVERSEER
Copies of this humorous engraving, for framing, will be sent to any address on the receipt of 20 cents, by sending to R. and T. Hamilton, 184 Church St., New York.

PERSONAL—A young man just out of his "teens" feeling himself worthy of some little notice from the fair sex wishes all young ladies between the ages of 16 and 21, who are neither very handsome nor very homely, and who do not wear false waterfalls and curls, to address him an interesting letter now and then. Please address and send picture to Pea Jacket and Peg Topp, care *Black Chronicle* office.

Correspondence is requested by one of Uncle Sam's heroes. I am not particular about riches or beauty, all I wish is a good warm heart to sympathize with. Please address, Alonzo Prime, Co. G, 2nd U.S.C.I., Key West, Fla.

The ex-slaves described below will be difficult for relatives to find. Please pay careful heed, for the sake of their loved ones.

INFORMATION WANTED of Wesley Brooks, youngest son of Isaac and Silvia Brooks. He was sold 30 years ago somewhere near the Mississippi River. His father and mother, brother Sampson and sister Mary, are dead. His brother John D. and his sister Barbara are alive. Reply to J. D. Brooks through the columns of the *Chronicle*.

INFORMATION WANTED of Judy Stevens who was sold from Newbern, N. C. by her sister, J. C. Stevens to a man named Bagan, who sold her again. Her mother's name was Muldy Stevens and her sister's name is Sally Stevens, who may be addressed at No. 6 Clark St., New York City.

PERSONAL—A young soldier wishes to correspond with some of the lady readers of the *Chronicle* or *Anglo-African*. Object—pure fun. Address: Robert H. Sharpe, c/o 55th Mass. Volunteers, Orangeburg, S. C.



Freemen Farm Davis' Land

Continued from page 2 col. 3

over 3200 acres. Minor also harvested 40 acres of corn.

Not all of the freedmen are farmers, moreover. Many prosper in small businesses. The wealthiest marketmen in Hilton Head, South Carolina, is an ex-slave who trades horses and plants cotton. He owns guns, dogs, boats, and seines (nets for catching fish).

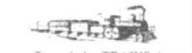
There are some rumors that contrabands are speculating in land. But this has not been proven. "Some are becoming rich," wrote the Superintendent of Contrabands at New Bern, N. C. "They conduct their business," he says, "successfully on principles of honor that would do credit to any man."

ANSWERS

- from page 4
1. General William T. Sherman
 2. Harriet Tubman
 3. Jefferson Davis
 4. Robert Smalls
 5. New York
 6. Massachusetts 54th (Colored) Regiment
 7. Charlotte Forten

Letter from the 54th

Colored Sergeant J. H. Harris of the Mass. 54th writes to a friend that he has had some tough times, but thanks God that he has got through them safe and sound. He says if he lives to get home, "I shall have the pleasure and the great satisfaction of knowing I was one of that noble band which has helped to save this glorious country from destruction."



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NEW YORK FORGETS VIOLENCE "DRAFT RIOTS" KILLED MANY

By Our Correspondent

NEW YORK, N. Y., March 3, 1864—Today, New York City's first Negro unit, the 20th Regiment, United States Colored Troops, proudly paraded down the streets of Manhattan, enjoying tremendous ovations from white and black citizens. At Union Square, the troops accepted a flag donated by prominent whites.

As the soldiers marched on, they passed trees and lamp posts from which their brothers and friends were hanged eight months before. Some of the whites who cheered them today may have shouted "catch the nigger and hang him" during the brutal riots here last July. Today's events were indeed drastically different from those bloody days.

On a sullen Saturday eight months ago, crowds of white men waited in the streets for news of the city's first draft call. They did not cheer the Negroes that day. Rather, they demanded their death.

White workers were angry at being forced to fight a war to free more Negroes, who they felt threatened their jobs. A month before in June, striking longshoremen had watched police escort Negroes through their picket lines to work. Similar incidents had led to violence in other Northern cities. Now they were called to risk their lives to free these people who themselves were not being drafted!

Poor whites were further angered because the draft law favored the rich, anyone who could pay \$300 was exempt.

On Monday, July 13, 1863, the bitter crowds roted. Surging into the poverty-stricken colored sections, they burned buildings to the ground, beating and hanging any Negroes they caught. Police were forced to aim 400 Negroes against a mob that was attacking the precinct where they had taken refuge.

The Colored Orphan Asylum on Fifth Avenue was the



New Yorkers during the 1863 riots.

scene of last July's worst violence. Angry whites destroyed furniture, looted the building, and set it afire. The children and matrons barely escaped before the mob broke in.

Today, Negro troops marched past it proudly.

There were some whites, however, who did not join the mob in those terrible four days. A white butcher saved the lives of two Negroes pursued by the rioters. He hid them in the loft of his slaughter pen.

A fireman, John J. McGovern, rescued a crippled boy from the gutter and carried him to a home, where the boy died a few days later.

Today, whites and blacks line the streets and cheer as colored soldiers prepare for battle. Indeed, we witness signs of the changing times.



Massacre at Ft. Pillow

REMEMBER FORT PILLOW!

Black Soldiers: Remember the Fort Pillow Massacre. For you may at any time receive such treatment at the hands of our enemies.

On the 12th of April, 1864, Rebel forces under the command of General Nathan Bedford Forrest suddenly appeared before the Union defenses at Fort Pillow, Kentucky. They demanded that the undermanned garrison surrender, but the defending 13th Tennessee Cavalry and 6th coloreds Battery refused.

The Rebel victory the next morning was held off for eight hours by the garrison's steady fire. After a short truce, however, General Forrest's men overran the fort.

One survivor, Henry Christian, said soldiers were shot "after they threw down their arms." Black soldier Jacob Thompson was shot through the hand and head as he threw up his arms and surrendered!

That day, 300 black and 250 white Union soldiers were butchered, as were an unknown number of men, women and children who lived within the fort.

The massacre infuriated colored Union troops everywhere. Black troops in Memphis, Tenn., swore on their knees to avenge Fort Pillow, to give no quarter and ask none.

The massacre was, no

doubt, related to Confederate President Jeff Davis's proclamation of December 1862, which stated all slaves captured carrying arms would be guilty of insurrection and subject to death. Davis also condemned the white officers of black troops, calling them "robbers and criminals."

This last statement prompted David Hunter, fiery white commander of the 1st South Carolina Colored Volunteers, to write Davis a proclamation of his own. Hunter's proclamation was never mailed, but a copy has become available to Black Chronicle.

Hunter's letter promised death for all captured Rebel officers (a threat he never carried out). The rebellion, he said, had "the plunder of the black race and the reopening of the African slave trade for its object."

"If all the innocent blood which you have spilled," he wrote to Davis, "could be collected in one pool, the whole government of your Confederacy might swim in it."

Rebel brutality towards black Union soldiers finally forced President Lincoln to proclaim his "eye-for-an-eye" policy.

DOUGLASS DESCRIBES White House Visit

In July of 1863, President Lincoln announced his policy of retaliation. For every captured Negro soldier murdered by the Rebels, a Confederate soldier would be executed.

Frederick Douglass had long demanded that the President take such a step. A month after the President's proclamation, Lincoln invited Mr. Douglass to the White House.

In a recent address, the black leader described what passed between them. Some of his remarks follow:

"He (Lincoln) impressed me as being an honest man (Applause).

"He reminded me that I made a little speech saying that I regarded as the most sad and the most disheartening failure the tardy, hesitating, vacillating policy of the President of the United States.

"The President said to me, 'Mr. Douglass, I am charged with vacillating, but, I do not think that charge can be sustained; I think it cannot be shown that when I have once taken a position, I have ever retreated from it.' (Applause)

"That statement I regarded as the most significant point in our interview. I told him that he had been somewhat slow in proclaiming equal protection to our colored soldiers and prisoners, and he said the country needed talking up to that point.

"He hesitated in regard to it, when we felt that the country was not ready for it... if he at first came out with such a proclamation, all the hatred which is poured on the head of the Negro race would be visited on his administration.

"And he said, 'Remember that Milliken's Bend, Port Hudson, Fort Wagner are recent events, and that these were necessary to prepare the way for this very proclamation of mine.'

"I thought it was reasonable, and came to the conclusion that while he is wise, great and eloquent, he will go down to posterity if the country is saved, as Honest Abraham." (Applause)

QUIZ

- _____ was followed on his march across the South by 10,000 contrabands.
- _____ is considered an invaluable scout and a remarkable woman by the Union generals.
- Davis Bend, now farmed by contrabands, was once the home of _____ pilot of the Planter.
- is now transporting blacks who have been promised farms to the South Carolina Sea Islands.
- The 20th Regiment, United States Colored Troops came from the State of _____.
- The _____ was seriously defeated in the battle at Fort Wagner.
- _____ teaches contrabands on the South Carolina Sea Islands of St. Helena.

Answers page 3 col. 3

one year ago last June, Lincoln warned the Confederates that the U.S. will shoot a Rebel Prisoner of War for every Negro POW shot, and will condemn a Rebel POW to life at hard labor for every Negro sold back into slavery.

Lincoln's retaliation order is believed to have subdued many Confederate generals. Local Rebel commanders, however, are still accused of murdering black prisoners. Union commanders have retaliated in several cases by shooting Rebel prisoners.

One white officer observed: "It has been said that the Negroes take no prisoners. It is not so. On the contrary, General Banks informed me that he saw two wounded black soldiers helping a wounded rebel to the hospital."

But in battle, black soldiers and the Rebels they face remember the Fort Pillow massacre.



Joseph Cinque

The Amistad Mutiny

With the gallantry of eight black regiments at Nashville, we are reminded of another group of Negroes who 25 years ago triumphed against OPPRESSION—the Amistad mutineers. Under the leadership of Cinque, a prince of the Mendi people of Sierra Leone, these men refused to be enslaved!

In 1839, they were aboard the Spanish schooner Amistad, enroute to a life of slavery, cutting cane in Honduras. Cinque plotted mutiny with the strongest of his fellow captives.

"We will kill them all," he said, producing a nail to pick the locks that held them prisoner. Cinque led a swift attack which left the Spanish captain dead, the white sailors adrift, the slave dealers in chains and the Amistad in black hands.

Cinque promised to spare his captives if they would steer the ship back to Africa. They agreed, but tricked the black prince by altering the course at night. After 63 days at sea, the Amistad arrived off Long Island, New York.

Officers from the U. S. brig Washington boarded the Amistad and charged the Negroes with murder and mutiny.

Cinque Creates Controversy

Imprisoned in New Haven, Conn., the mutineers drew world attention and left the nation sharply divided.

Abolitionists flocked to their defense. Joshua Levitt, the editor of the Emancipator, wrote, "Cinque killed for freedom and should be free. That is his right... in a free country."

Meanwhile, W. S. Holabird, the U. S. Attorney prosecuting the case, said, "Any excitement over niggers is unwarranted."

Southern politicians, of course, were determined that the mutineers should be hanged, because of the obvious encouragement their release would give other slaves. President Martin Van Buren made no secret of his desire to send them back into slavery.

Trial Opens

The trial began in Hartford, Conn., District Court in January 1840, before Judge Andrew T. Judson. Prosecutor Holabird argued that, because the ship was Spanish "This is a problem of international diplomacy to be handled only by the President of the United States." (Holabird would not have mentioned the President without word from the Administration. Ed.)

On the witness stand, Cinque made an impassioned defense in his native tongue. He ended by shouting, in English, "Give us free!"

Mutineers Freed, Rewarded

The judge, long considered pro-administration and anti-Negro, seemed moved. After some deliberation he ruled, "These Africans... are to be transported back to Africa."

The decision was based, in part, on the fact that both Spain and the United States had outlawed the African slave trade.

Judge Judson not only freed the mutineers, but ruled that the Amistad, an illegal slave ship, had been legally "taken possession of on the high seas" and therefore the Africans were "entitled to salvage," one-third of the ship's value!

Lewis Tappan, a noted abolitionist, rushed to Cinque, "You're free! You're free!" Tappan cried, grasping the African's hand, "Free to go back to Africa once more." Cinque wept for joy.

But the situation was not yet settled. Angered by the decision, President Van Buren ordered the case appealed to a higher court. Nine months later, Circuit Chief Judge Smith Thompson also ordered the Africans freed. But again, the central government in this "land of the free" appealed the decision—to the Supreme Court.

Adams Intervenes

Cinque's Supreme Court lawyer was no less a legal figure than John Quincy Adams, sixth President of the United States.

Moved by the captives' plight, the 73-year-old Adams, though weak and almost blind, offered to plead their case.

On March 9th, 1841, 30 years since he had last practiced law, Adams delivered an eight-and-a-half hour defense before the Supreme Court. The Court ordered the African prince and his people released.

Cinque and the others were returned to their native Sierra Leone in 1842—once again free.

POLICE CASES

Richard Thum had in his possession a sack of onions that he could not account for. He was dispatched to Captain Gross' jail for the term of 30 days.

Ann Kreeley was charged by Sergeant Graham with throwing bricks at and insulting persons on the public streets. She was fined \$2.50.

Warren Holmes was asked by the Court why he had been drunk and lying on the sidewalk. "That is my residence," he replied. He was sent to the Work-house for 10 days.

Bounty-jumpers are despicable. They enlist, draw the generous bounty offered in the North (as high as \$1,050 in parts of Ill.), then desert, and reenlist under different names. This is a traitorous practice, and thankfully, we do not know of a colored man who has done it.



The General Trans-atlantic Company has a new line of first-rate wheel steamships between New York and Havre, France.



BLACK CHRONICLE

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"All I ask is, give him a chance to stand on his own legs!" Frederick Douglass

April 19, 1870

15th AMENDMENT RATIFIED PROTECTS BLACK VOTE

WASHINGTON, D. C., Apr. 16, 1870—Under the eyes of a waiting nation, the 15th Amendment has been ratified. With Iowa's vote, the necessary three quarters of the states have approved the measure. No longer can anyone be deprived of his vote "by the United States or by any state on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude."

In a special message to Congress, President Ulysses S. Grant has called the Amendment "a measure of grander importance than any other one act of the kind from the foundation of our free government to the present time."

Pro-Amendment Activity
Ratification comes after months of frenzied abolitionist activity. The nation's foremost black and white abolitionists toured the nation urging its support.

An unfortunate effect was Frederick Douglass' split with the women in the Equal Rights Association. A disagreement broke out when the women refused to support the Amendment because it does not apply to discrimination in voting on account of sex. Mr. Douglass may have regained their support, however, in his first speech after the Amendment's passage, he called for a new campaign to win women the vote.

Black Celebrations

Throughout the nation, black communities are celebrating. (See box.) At a huge Albany, N. Y., gathering on April 15, Mr. James C. Matthews made these remarks: "Out of the depths have we come. We have been brought to stand up as citizens of this great republic, men and women, thank God; no longer chattels, no longer things."

Joint Committee

First Called For Amendment
The question of an amendment for Negro suffrage was first raised four years ago in Congress. Joint Committee for Reconstruction. It was not acted upon, however, due to the opposition of Northern states, many of whom had long denied the vote to black people. The Civil Rights Act of 1866 had given Southern blacks the vote.

Continued on page 3 col. 1

BLACK UNION LEADER REBUFFED

CINCINNATI, O., Jan. 1870—John M. Langston of the Colored National Labor Union, has been barred from addressing the white National Labor Union. This is said to be a reaction to his political views, not his color. Langston, a strong supporter of the Republicans, has been accused of trying to make the C. N. L. U. a tail of the Republican Party's kite.

White union leaders see the Republicans as oppressive employers and want unions to support third-party labor-reform tickets. Blacks feel otherwise. "The Republicans" and one C. N. L. U. member "are responsible for our liberation and represent a major hope for our future."

In race matters, white union leaders Alexander Troup and Samuel Cummings are known for their support of blacks. But white workers have kept blacks out of skilled trades, refused to work with them in shops and barred them from local unions.

Last year, for instance, Lewis H. Douglas, war veteran and son of Frederick Douglass, was refused membership in the

Celebration In New York

The procession was long and imposing. Forming at Fifth Avenue and Eighth Street, at 12 o'clock, the column started along the Avenue. A platoon of Broadway Police headed the procession, followed by a company of infantry in Union Army uniforms, numbering about 50, and six carriages drawn by four black horses each. A large wagon containing 37 young colored girls dressed in red, white and blue, representing the 37 states, followed, leading the Coachman's Society and the Saloon Men's Protective Union, the Organization of Odd Fellows followed. At the head of the Eighth Ward Legion was a small cannon bearing the inscription "Pough-keepsie Gun Guard," drawn by ten colored boys in red shirts, blue pantaloons and caps. A platoon of policemen brought up the rear. Reaching Union Square, the column marched around the statue of Washington, all uncovering their heads.

Letters were read from President Grant and Senator Conkling, expressing sympathy with the demonstration and regretting they could not attend. Speeches were made by Rev. H. H. Garnett, Wendell Phillips, Charles S. Spencer and others.

Senator Reveals Attacks Georgia Bill

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 16, 1870. In his first speech, Senator Hiram R. Revels (R. Miss.) has attacked an amendment that would give all state power in Georgia to the planters.

"I protest against any and every attempt to fetter the



Jefferson Davis and his replacement.

hands of 100,000 citizens of the State of Georgia," said the black senator, recently appointed to complete the term of ex-Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

Revels concluded his argument by saying that the Union owes its very existence to the black Southerner. "When the Federal armies were thinned by death and disaster, it was the noble sons of the South that valiantly rushed to the rescue."

Revels was a minister in Baltimore, Maryland, when the war broke out. He helped organize two colored regiments there, then went to Vicksburg, Mississippi, to help the freedmen. The senator is preaching elder of his church for the Southern portion of Mississippi.

Revels is the first Negro in the Senate. Although he is a man of intelligence, the Congress debated three days on his credentials. Finally after a speech by Senator Charles Sumner (R. Mass.) ardent friend of the blacks, Revels was seated.

Black men are gaining prominence in many state and local governments. Two others recently received important federal appointments: E. F. Joubert is Assessor of Internal Revenue in Louisiana. Charles M. Wilder (a former slave) is Postmaster at Columbia, South Carolina. Since Wilder's emancipation he has been a Deputy Marshal and a member of the State Legislature.

Printer's Union because, allegedly, he had once worked for less than union scale. Douglass insists he was excluded because of his color.

Colored Union Formed

The Colored National Labor Union was established last.

Continued on page 2 col. 3

What Will It Mean?

The Amendment does not give black people the vote that was an implied benefit of citizenship afforded two years ago by the 14th Amendment.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN? Now, black people can less easily be prevented from voting. Also, and very important, the federal government, rather than the states, is responsible for enforcing the measure.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN? The "black vote" will probably continue to influence Southern state politics and perhaps have a major impact in national elections. But keep alert: terrorizing blacks to keep them from voting will continue. Also, actual enforcement of the Amendment may prove difficult. Several states ratified under pressure, they may attempt evasive tactics.

OUR PREDICTION With firm enforcement by President Grant and subsequent administrations, Southern blacks will use the vote not to take control but to unite with educated planters, and, perhaps, white workers who see a common cause. Federal enforcement, however, will be critical.



Freedmen voting in the South.

BLACK MD'S TO FORM SOCIETY

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 27, 1870—Another case of discrimination in Washington, D. C., has been brought to light. Black doctors have been refused admission to the District Medical Society, merely on account of their color.

Early this month the white society voted down a resolution stating: "No physician should be excluded from membership in this society on account of his race or color." At the same time the society ousted its chairman and others who voted for the resolution replacing them with men who openly oppose the admission of blacks.

The black doctors issued an immediate response. "This is the only country and the only profession in which such a distinction is now made. Science knows no race, color or condition and we protest against the Medical Society of the District of Columbia maintaining such a relic of barbarism."

They have, in addition, asked Congress to grant them a charter for a new society, to be called the National Medical Society, which will accept any physician of good standing regardless of his color.

To the black doctors, membership in a medical society, with its weekly professional discussions, is vital for continuing their education. Meanwhile, Massachusetts Senator Charles Sumner (R. Mass.) ardent friend of the blacks, Revels was seated.

Black men are gaining prominence in many state and local governments. Two others recently received important federal appointments: E. F. Joubert is Assessor of Internal Revenue in Louisiana. Charles M. Wilder (a former slave) is Postmaster at Columbia, South Carolina. Since Wilder's emancipation he has been a Deputy Marshal and a member of the State Legislature.

Final Anti-Slavery Meeting At NYC's Apollo

NEW YORK, N. Y., Apr. 19, 1870—The American Anti-Slavery Society has formally disbanded. A huge crowd greeted the greatest anti-slavery fighters of the age at New York City's Apollo Hall. Lucretia Mott, Robert Purvis, Julia Ward Howe, Henry H. Garnett, Frederick Douglass, and many others were in attendance. Mr. Douglass gave a brief address. "I don't want to part from you at all," he said, "and I am glad to know that we are to unite... for the Indian whose condition today is the saddest chapter of our history and... women, free, for whose cause we can now labor upon a common platform."

Wendell Phillips, president of the society, made the closing remarks: "We will not say Farewell! We sheathe no sword. We only turn upon a new foe."

RAILROAD SPANS NATION

BOSTON, Mass., Apr. 15, 1870—The transcontinental railroad, completed in May, 1869, now carries a traveler from New York to San Francisco in one week's time. Previously, a trip to California took from three weeks to three months.

The most remarkable work of the age began with two armies of workmen, one in San Francisco, California, the other in Omaha, Nebraska, racing toward one another over a distance of 1,850 miles. They laid some six miles of track a day, some days covering more miles than an oxen team could travel in the same period!

As the work progressed, numerous small towns were built. Some of these have become cities with thousands of inhabitants; others are ghost towns.

From rail for the California side was shipped from the East around the tip of South America. At one time, 30 vessels were simultaneously en route to California from New York, carrying rails and cars for the road.

Chinese Labor

Laying the section of track between Dulax and Cisco, California, proved to be one of the greatest obstacles, an less than 40 miles the elevation soared 1,463 feet! About 6,000 laborers were employed in this effort, most of them Chinese. Without their aid, the California end of the railroad could not have been built. (Although their contribution is widely recognized, the Chinese were nonetheless excluded from participating in completion celebrations last May. Ed.)

A railroad across the continent has long been a dream of many. But money shortages and rivalry over track routes long prevented Congress from agreeing upon a plan. By 1862, when Congress did act, many Congressmen had become concerned that California the Union's "gold vault"—might be invaded by a foreign power. Legislation passed gave investors rights to land alongside the railroad's path in return for their financial support.

Many observers feel certain that the new railroad is destined to change the face of the nation. Widely separated states are now linked and sectional divisions spanned.

Hand-Shaking

The practice of widespread hand shaking is going out of fashion. Hereafter, it will probably be confined to intimate friends or those who desire to express a cordial respect and regard for one another.

BLACK CHRONICLE

AMERICA FOR ALL

The United States has at last taken the great step toward democracy. With passage of the 15th Amendment, the citizenship of our people is secured.

From this day on, the black man is an American. But our struggle is not ended. We must now fight to exercise our newly granted freedom. The responsibility lies with each and every black man in the country. We must use our talents, education, strength and courage to make our freedom real.

White Southerners have made it clear that they will not abide by proportional representation and will attempt to stop us from exerting our rightful political power at the polls. Neither the deceitful words of the Democrats nor the cowardly night attacks of the Ku Klux Klan shall stop us from electing our representatives. The law of the land calls for equal representation for all citizens and, where we are the majority, we shall make that majority felt in Congress.

Not will we sit back and watch our schools destroyed and our teachers harassed and sometimes murdered.

We call upon the federal government to pass legislation to stop the Ku Klux Klan or any group attempting to deny us political power in an effort to bring control as physically and economically. And we call for land.

Conveniently forgotten is the question of land for freedmen. Land was given to contrabands during the war. Then five years ago, General Oliver O. Howard, head of the Freedmen's Bureau, was forced to announce to stunned freedmen that President Andrew Johnson was restoring their lands to the enemy who had sought to destroy our country.

But our people helped to build this country. We have toiled on her rich earth and in her cities for 200 years. America: Give each freedman a plot of earth so he can toil for himself!

We have learned that only by unending agitation and struggle can we achieve our ends. In the words of Frederick Douglass: "A people too spiritless to defend themselves are not worthy of being defended and are not worthy to defend anything else."

LETTERS FROM FREEDMEN'S BUREAU

J. W. Alvord, Freedmen's Bureau Superintendent of Education, has kindly permitted the Black Chronicle to print these edited reports of his recent tour of freedmen's schools.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 11, 1870. The "Freedmen's Day School" with colored teachers and 150 pupils is a landmark. All its expenses are met by the freedmen.

The progress in our educational work is seen in the elevation of the whole colored population. We notice the change from ragged garments and bare feet to modern apparel. From the shops, or skillfully hand-made, these are the costumes of freedom.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Jan. 17, 1870. Just out of the city is a settlement of about 100 colored families who have purchased homesteads valued from \$100 to \$500. The families are joyously cultivating their own gardens and also finding work in the city. The Bureau has erected a building used as a school and chapel.

MACON, Ga., Jan. 18, 1870. The authorities and police in Savannah are of the Old Rebel class; thus the colored race suffers in court. A Negro with firearms or any considerable sum of money is liable to arrest on suspicion. Not so with white men. When intoxicated, they are often conveyed home, blacks are sure to be held for trial.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 20, 1870. The most important institution here is the new (colored) Atlanta University, overlooking the city on the very ground where the Rebels resisted Sherman's approach. There are about 140 pupils. Teachers are interspersed at tables with the students, and all seem one well-bred and happy family.

In a few years, freedmen who are saving money and buying land will be able to whool their own children. Their continued eagerness for learning is our guarantee that they will do this.

RICHMOND, Ky., Jan. 29, 1870. We are at a small hotel not far from headquarters of the Ku Klux Klan. People seemed excited that we were from Washington. "Is Congress to set the niggers to voting?" harshly inquired one.

January 31, 1870. The Ku Klux Klan were out in force on the road as we returned from Berea to Richmond. Three colored men were taken from their beds and dragged over the flinty road. It is doubtful that they will recover. These were leading men, and the outrage evidently was to deter them and friends from any attempt at political effort.

Later, a crowd of whites questioned us as to our mission. We inquired that the government would have to suppress these atrocities. At this moment a "Rebel yell" directly in my ear, wheeled me half round with its stunning force. I looked the fellow quietly in the face and continued my conversation with bystanders. If it was a signal it had no effect. Soon I had numerous apologies for such rudeness.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Feb. 2, 1870. My inspection tour is now finished.

Some general observations: Emancipation has been safe; freedmen exhibit good conduct, save their earnings, are not dying out, and are being educated.

At the same time, the freedmen are still, in some quarters, oppressed and ill-treated, a majority are poor and ignorant, teachers are needed on all subjects and help from all quarters. But the 2,571 day and night schools, the 1,456 Sabbath schools, the 18 high schools, the 6,000 pupils in higher branches, give promise of the future. All show the importance of our work and that much more should be done for its full accomplishment.

Yours, &c. very respectfully,
J. W. ALVORD
General Superintendent of Education



SOUTH CAROLINA POLITICS

Experiment in Black And White

The *Fairfield Herald* writes that black participation in government is "the maddest, most unscrupulous and infamous revolution in history." The *Charleston News*, on the other hand, says, "They have displayed... moderation and dignity... They have assembled to legislate for the welfare of their race."

Which are we to believe? We present the case of South Carolina, where black lawmakers helped compose the constitution and today play a major role in the legislature.

Of 124 delegates elected to the South Carolina Constitutional Convention in 1868, 76 were black. Over 80,000 blacks and 46,000 whites had been permitted by the Reconstruction Act of 1867 to register in South Carolina. The constitution created is considered one of the South's best. It established free public schools, reformed the judicial system, enlarged women's rights, and extended suffrage.

Local Attacks, Ridicule

The constitution's actual writing was carried on despite vicious attacks. "The power," said one local newspaper, "has been snatched from the hands of the race which settled the country and transferred to its former slaves, an ignorant and feeble race."

The convention was, in actuality, composed of ex-slaves, Northern freedmen, white Southerners and Northern abolitionists. Convention President A. G. Mackey, a white tool of the Ku Klux Klan, certainly there was controversy, as there was bound to be. But in general, the delegates carried themselves like gentlemen.

Calls For Education

The Convention made public education a major goal. Many local whites bitterly opposed any such plan. "You might as well try to teach your horse or mule to read as these niggers," said one woman.

Such attitudes prompted black delegate F. L. Cardozo to say, "Colored people will prefer separate schools, particularly until some of the present prejudice against their race is removed."

After serious debate, the Convention established the

Union Leader Rebutted

Continued from page 1, col. 2

year in Washington. D. C. Blacksmiths, longshoremen, bricklayers and all manner of craftsmen attended.

Immediate Goals

Convention demands included 40 acres of land and a mule to be given by the government to every black man, an eight-hour day, and voting rights for women. Throughout the convention colored workers called for cooperation from white workers to prevent blacks from being squeezed out of industry.

Members feel their most important tasks include pressing for Federal action against Ku Klux Klan terrorism, protecting the Negro vote and pressing Congress to enact Senator Charles Sumner's Supplementary Civil Rights Bill, which would open

state's first free school system.

The Convention also established major court reforms, including a Supreme Court composed of a white Southerner, a Negro and a Northerner.

Corruption Charged

Charges of corruption have been made in South Carolina, as in other reconstruction states. The creation of new political structures has undoubtedly led to some bribery and graft. White property owners are believed to have bribed poverty-stricken blacks for their votes, while Northerners in government, often called carpetbaggers, are accused of self-interest, as are some lawmakers. Negro legislator R. H. Cain is currently forming a black reform movement named in his words, "oustering the carpetbaggers in the coming election."

Some problems have resulted from the inexperience of black lawmakers, but they are struggling to improve. "I believe we are not prepared for the suffrage," said legislator Beverly Nash in exasperation. "But we can learn. Give a man tools, let him commence to use them, and in time he will learn a trade." Two years ago, two-fifths of the ex-slaves in Congress could neither write nor read. Today, almost all report they have mastered these skills.

Clearly, the mixed legislature in South Carolina has made advances. It has begun land distribution, removed racial barriers in the state university, and provided some financial protection for the poor. But its continued success depends on the support of the government and the nation. Ex-slave Beverly Nash's words apply not only to South Carolina, but to us all. "We must unite with our white fellow citizens. We want in charge of our interests only our best and ablest men. And then with a strong pull, and a long pull and a pull together, up goes South Carolina."

The Colored National Labor Union does not intend to rival the white organization. Many freedmen feel that only black institutions can solve the problems of black workers.

Negro agricultural workers, for example, earn on the average of \$60 a year or less to feed, clothe and house their families.



Some corn recently shipped to Arkansas from St. Louis has been sent back. Arkansians has the corn she wants.

NEGRO METHODISTS FORM CHURCH

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Apr. 15, 1870. Negro members of the white-dominated Methodist Episcopal Church, South, announced today their decision to form a separate church, the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church.

Two years ago, in 1868, the blacks received official permission from the parent church to make the break. The parent church itself had broken from its Northern branch shortly before the Civil War.

During the War, slaves were forced by their masters to remain in the Southern Methodist Episcopal Church. Traditionality, slave owners used religion to justify slavery and black efforts to end it. Ed. But today, many Methodist ex-slave owners no longer want black members in their church. Others feel the freedman is better off on his own.

Now that Southern law no longer silences Negro preachers, separate black churches are rapidly growing. The Colored Methodist Episcopal Church is certain to win over many freedmen. The black Baptist Church, however, with its free style of worship is likely to continue attracting the greatest number of blacks. *Their numbers have grown from 150,000 in 1850 to 500,000 today!*—Ed.

As the only institutions completely controlled by blacks, churches are likely to assume strong leadership roles in the struggle for black equality.

Four South Carolina Legislators

Joseph H. Rainey, age 38, born Charleston, S. C. Uneducated, Charleston barber who when forced to build Confederate fortifications escaped to the West Indies. First Negro to serve in the U. S. House of Representatives.

Robert Brown Elliott, age 28, born Boston, Mass. Graduate of Eaton College, England. Delegate, State Convention, 1868. Currently a State Representative.

Alonzo J. Ransier, age 36, born Charleston, S. C. Delegate, State Convention, 1868. A leading merchant who once employed Ransier was tried in court for "having a colored clerk." Currently, Lieutenant-Governor.

Rev. R. H. Cain, age 45, born Greenbrier County, Va. Delegate, State Convention, 1868. Served New York church as a missionary to the Freedmen. Currently a State Senator.



J.J. Wright Elected To The South Carolina Court

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 30, 1870. Jonathan J. Wright, a black lawyer, has been elected Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of South Carolina.

Justice-elect Wright is a former member of the South Carolina Constitutional Convention and the State Senate. His influence among South Carolina's black people is said to be very great and is generally exercised in favor of moderate measures.

He is said to be the best educated Negro in the state, a great talker, and always in good humor. Justice Wright, now 40 years old, is nearly six feet in height.