

Karin Wulf, Omohundro Institute

Primary Source Packet

Erica Armstrong Dunbar, *Never Caught: The Washingtons' Relentless Pursuit of their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge* (2017)

1. Pennsylvania, *An Act for the Gradual Emancipation of Slavery* (1780)
Source: The Avalon Project, Yale University: Documents in Law, History and Diplomacy
<http://avalon.law.yale.edu>
2. Tobias Lear to George Washington, Philadelphia, April 5, 1791.
Source: Founders Online and the Papers of George Washington
<https://founders.archives.gov>
3. George Washington to Tobias Lear, Richmond, April 12, 1791.
Source: Founders Online and the Papers of George Washington
<https://founders.archives.gov>
4. Fugitive Slave Act of 1793
Source: George Washington Teacher Institute, Mount Vernon
<http://www.mountvernon.org/education/primary-sources-2/>
5. Advertisement for Reward of information and capture of Ona Judge, *Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser* May 25, 1796, page 3.
Source: America's Historical Newspapers, Readex database, accessed through William & Mary's Swem library.
6. "The Granite Freeman," account of Rev. T. H. Adams from interview with Ona Judge Staines, May 22, 1845,
Source: Martha Washington, A Life, a collaboration of the RR Center for History and New Media at George Mason University and Mount Vernon.
<http://marthawashington.us/items/show/4>



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Pennsylvania - An Act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery, 1780

SECTION 1. WHEN we contemplate our abhorrence of that condition to which the arms and tyranny of Great Britain were exerted to reduce us; when we look back on the variety of dangers to which we have been expofed, and how miraculously our wants in many instances have been fupplied, and our deliverances wrought, when even hope and human fortitude have become unequal to the conflict; we are unavoidably led to a ferious and grateful fence of the manifold bleffings which we have undeservedly received from the hand of that Being from whom every good and perfect gift cometh. Impreffed with there ideas, we conceive that it is our duty, and we rejoice that it is in our power to extend a portion of that freedom to others, which hath been extended to us; and a releafe from that state of thraldom to which we ourfelves were tyrannically doomed, and from which we have now every profpect of being delivered. It is not for us to enquire why, in the creation of mankind, the inhabitants of the feveral parts of the earth were diftinguifhed by a difference in feature or complexion. It is fufficient to know that all are the work of an Almighty Hand. We find in the distribution of the human fpecies, that the moft fertile as well as the moft barren parts of the earth are inhabited by men of complexions different from ours, and from each other; from whence we may reasonably, as well as religiously, infer, that He who placed them in their various fituations, hath extended equally his care and protection to all, and that it becometh not us to counteract his mercies. We efteem it a peculiar bleffing granted to us, that we are enabled this day to add one more ftep to univerfal civilization, by removing as much as poffible the forrows of thofe w ho have lived in undeferved bondage, and from which, by the assumed authority of the kings of Great Britain, no effectual, legal relief could be obtained. Weaned by a long courfe of experience from thofe narrower prejudices and partialities we had imbibed, we find our hearts enlarged with kindness and benevolence towards men of all conditions and nations; and we conceive ourfelves at this particular period extraordinarily called upon, by the bleffings which we have received, to manifelt the fincerity of our profefion, and to give a Subftantial proof of our gratitude.

SECT. 2. And whereas the condition of thofe perfons who have heretofore been denominated Negro and Mulatto flaves, has been attended with circumftances which not only deprived them of the common bleffings that they were by nature entitled to, but has caft them into the deepeft afflictions, by an unnatural feparation and fale of hufband and wife from each other and from their children; an injury, the greatnefs of which can only be conceived by fuppoing that we were in the fame unhappy cafe. In juftice therefore to perfons So unhappily circumftanced, and who, having no profpect before them whereon they may reft their forrows and their hopes, have no reasonable inducement to render their fervice to fociety, which they otherwise might; and alfo in grateful commemoration of our own happy deliverance from that ftate of unconditional fubmiffion to which we were doomed by the tyranny of Britain.

SECT. 3. Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted, by the reprentatives of the freeman of the commonwealth of Pennfylvania, in general affembly met, and by the authority of the fame, That all perfons, as well Negroes and Mulattoes as others, who fhall be born within this ftate from and after the paffing of this act, fhall not be deemed and confidered as fervants for life, or flaves; and that all fervitude for life, or flavery of children, in confequence of the flavery of their mothers, in the cafe of all children born within this ftate, from and after the paffing of this act as aforefaid, fhall be, and hereby is utterly taken away, extinguihed and for ever abolifhed.

SECT. 4. Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforefaid, That every Negro and Mulatto child born within this ftate after the paffing of this act as aforefaid (who would, in cafe this act had not been made, have been born a fervant for years, or life, or a flave) fhall be deemed to be and fhall be by virtue of this act the fervant of fuch perfon or his or her affigns, who would in fuch cafe have been entitled to the fervice of fuch child, until fuch child fhall attain unto the age of twenty eight years, in the manner and on the conditions whereon fervants bound by indenture for four years are or may be retained and holder; and fhall be liable to like correction and punifhment, and entitled to like relief in cafe he or fhe be evilly treated by his or her mafter or miftrefs, and to like freedom dues and other privileges as fervants bound by indenture for four years are or may be entitled, unlefs the perfon to whom the fervice of any fuch child fhall belong fhall abandon his or her claim to the fame; in which cafe the overfeers of the poor of the city, township or diftrict refpectively, where fuch child fhall be So abandoned, fhall by indenture bind out every child fo abandoned, as an apprentice for a time not exceeding the age herein before limited for the fervice of fuch children.

SECT. 5. And be it further enacted by the authority aforefaid, That every person, who is or fhall be the owner of any Negro or Mulatto flave or fervant for life or till the age of thirty one years, now within this ftate, or his lawful attorney, fhall on or before the faid firft day of November next deliver or calm to be delivered in writing to the clerk of the peace of the county, or to the clerk of the court of record of the city of Philadelphia, in which he or fhe fhall refpectively inhabit, the name and furname and occupation or profefion of fuch owner, and the name of the county and township, diftrict or ward wherein he or fhe refideth; and alfo the name and names of any fuch flave and flaves, and fervant and fervants for life or till the age of thirty one years, together with their ages and fexes feverally and refpectively fet forth and annexed, by fuch perfon owned or ftatedly employed and then being within this ftate, in order to afcertain and diftinguifh the flaves and fervants for life, and till the age of thirty one years, within this ftate, who fhall be fuch on the faid firft day of November next, from all other perfons; which particulars fhall by faid clerk of the feffions asked clerk of the faid city court be entered in books to be provided for that purpofe by the faid clerks; and that no Negro or Mulatto, now within this ftate, fhall from and after the faid firft day of November, be deemed a flave or fervant for life, or till the age of thirty one years, unlefs his or her name fhall be entered as aforefaid on fuch record, except fuch Negro and Mulatto flaves and fervants as are herein after excepted; the faid clerk to be entitled to a fee of two dollars for each flave or fervant fo entered as aforefaid from the treafurer of the county, to be allowed to him in his accounts.

SECT. 6. Provided always, That any perfon, in whom the ownerfhip or right to the fervice of any Negro or Mulatto fhall be vefted at the paffing of this act, other than fuch as are herein before excepted, his or her heirs, executors, adminiftrators and affigns, and all and every of them feverally fhall be liable to the overfeers of the poor of the city, township or diftrict to which any fuch Negro or Mulatto fhall become chargeable, for fuch neceffary expence, with cofts of fuit thereon, as fuch overfeers may be put to, through the neglect of the owner, mafter or miftrefs of fuch Negro or Mulatto; notwithstanding the name and other defcriptions of fuch Negro or Mulatto fhall not be entered and recorded as aforefaid; unlefs his or her mafter or owner fhall before fuch flave or fervant attain his or her twenty eighth year execute and record in the proper county a deed or inftrumcnt, fecuring to fuch flave or or fervant his or her freedom.

SECT. 7. And be it further enacted by the authority aforefaid, That the offences and crimes of Negroes and Mulattoes, as well flaves and fervants as

freemen, shall be enquired of, adjudged, corrected and punished in like manner as the offences and crimes of the other inhabitants of this state are and shall be enquired of, adjudged, corrected and punished, and not otherwise; except that a slave shall not be admitted to bear witness against a freeman.

SECT. 8. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in all cases wherein sentence of death shall be pronounced against a slave, the jury before whom he or she shall be tried, shall appraise and declare the value of such slave; and in case such sentence be executed, the court shall make an order on the state treasurer, payable to the owner for the same and for the costs of prosecution; but case of remission or mitigation, for the costs only.

SECT. 9. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the reward for taking up runaway and absconding Negro and Mulatto slaves and servants, and the penalties for enticing away, dealing with, or harbouring, concealing or employing Negro and Mulatto slaves and servants, shall be the same, and shall be recovered in like manner as in case of servants bound for four years.

SECT. 10. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no man or woman of any nation or colour, except the Negroes or Mulattoes who shall be registered as aforesaid, shall at any time hereafter be deemed, adjudged, or holden within the territories of this commonwealth as slaves or servants for life, but as free men and free women; except the domestic slaves attending upon delegates in congress from the other American states, foreign ministers and consuls, and persons passing through or sojourning in this state, and not becoming resident therein; and seamen employed in ships not belonging to any inhabitant of this state, nor employed in any ship owned by any such inhabitant. Provided such domestic slaves be not aliened or sold to any inhabitants nor (except in the case of members of congress, foreign ministers and consuls) retained in this state longer than six months.

SECT. 11. Provided always; And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this act or any thing in it contained shall not give any relief or shelter to any absconding or runaway Negro or Mulatto slave or servant, who has absented himself or shall absent himself from his or her owner, master or mistress residing in any other state or country, but such owner, master or mistress shall have like right and aid to demand, claim and take away his slave or servant, as he might have had in case this act had not been made: And that all Negro and Mulatto slaves now owned and heretofore resident in this state, who have absented themselves, or been clandestinely carried away, or who may be employed abroad as seamen and have not returned or been brought back to their owners, masters or mistresses, before the passing of this act, may within five years be registered as effectually as is ordered by this act concerning those who are now within the state, on producing such slave before any two justices of the peace, and satisfying the said justices by due proof of the former residence, absconding, taking away, or absence of such slaves as aforesaid; who thereupon shall direct and order the said slave to be entered on the record as aforesaid.

SECT. 12. And whereas attempts maybe made to evade this act, by introducing into this state Negroes and Mulattoes bound by covenant to serve for long and unreasonable terms of years, if the same be not prevented:

SECT. 13. Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no covenant of personal servitude or apprenticeship whatsoever shall be valid or binding on a Negro or Mulatto for a longer time than seven years, unless such servant or apprentice were at the commencement of such servitude or apprenticeship under the age of twenty one years; in which case such Negro or Mulatto may be holden as a servant or apprentice respectively, according to the covenant, as the case shall be, until he or she shall attain the age of twenty eight years, but no longer.

SECT. 14. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That an act of assembly of the province of Pennsylvania, passed in the year one thousand Seven hundred and five, intitled, "an Act for the trial of Negroes;" and another act of assembly of the said province, passed in the year one thousand seven hundred and twenty five, intitled, "An Act for the better regulating of Negroes in this province;" and another act of assembly of the said province, passed in the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty one, intitled, .. An Act for laying a duty on Negro and Mulatto slaves imported into this province;" and also another act of assembly of the said province, passed in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy three, intituled, "An Act making perpetual an Act laying a duty on Negro and Mulatto slaves imported into this province, and for laying an additional duty said slaves," shall be and are hereby repealed, annulled and made void.

JOHN BAYARD, SPEAKER

Enabled into a law at Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the first day of March, A.D. 1780

[18th Century Documents](#)

Avalon Home	Document Collections	Ancient 4000bce - 399	Medieval 400 - 1399	15th Century 1400 - 1499	16th Century 1500 - 1599	17th Century 1600 - 1699	18th Century 1700 - 1799	19th Century 1800 - 1899	20th Century 1900 - 1999	21st Century 2000 -
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Founders Online

TO GEORGE WASHINGTON FROM TOBIAS LEAR, 5 APRIL 1791

From Tobias Lear

Sir,

Philadelphia April 5th 1791.

The enclosed letter from Mr G. Morris, was yesterday put into my hands by Mr R. Morris, having come under cover to him.¹

I was yesterday asked by the Vice-President if it was true that information had been received of Count Andriani's having written things to Europe unfavourable to and disrespectful of this Country.² I told him that such information had been received—repeating the purport of that contained in Colo. H.'s Letter. He appeared extremely vexed at the Count, and spoke of him in very harsh terms. He said that the Count had brot a letter to him from Dr Price recommending him to his notice, but not having formed a very good opinion of him, he had paid him but little Attention. In future he should make it a point to deny himself if the Count should call upon him, and should he meet him elsewhere he should treat him with a marked contempt. He further added that he should let Dr Price know what an unworthy Character he had introduced to him—and beg in future that he would be more cautious in his recommendations. I relate this conversation, because it struck me as being pointedly introduced.

The Attorney General called upon Mrs Washington today, and informed her that three of his Negroes had given him notice that they should tomorrow take advantage of a law of this State, and claim their freedom—and that he had mentioned it to her from an idea that those who were of age in this family might follow the example, after a residence of six months should put it in their power. I have therefore communicated it to you that you might, if you thought best, give directions in the matter respecting the blacks in this family.³

Mrs Washington has just now received your letter from Mount Vernon, where we are happy to hear that you arrived well.⁴ She does not write at this time, but desires to be remembered. The family continue in good health. Mrs Lear unites with me in best respects. I have the honor to be with the highest respect & warmest attachment—Sir—Your most Obedt Servt

Tobias Lear.

ALS, PHI: Gratz Collection.

¹. The enclosure was probably the letter of Gouverneur Morris to GW dated 19 Nov. 1790, which was transmitted under cover to Robert Morris (see [Gouverneur Morris to GW, 22 Nov. 1790, n.1](#)).

². For Count Paolo Andreani's disparaging comments on the United States, see [David Humphreys to GW, 31 Oct. 1790](#) and [note 6](#), and [GW to Humphreys, 16 Mar. 1791](#). Tobias Lear wrote to Humphreys on 12 April 1791: "The Account which you gave the President of certain things which Count Andriani had written to Europe respecting this Country—has been handed abroad (with the President's permission) in order that he might be treated in the way that he ought. It has operated much against him in general. He does not shew himself in this house—and whenever he is met by the family a pointed contempt is shewn him: He is, however, still carressed by some—particularly by Mr & Mrs Bingham & others who are fond of everything that does not belong to their own Country" (PPRF).

³. The Pennsylvania act of 1780 providing for the gradual abolition of slavery automatically freed any slaves brought into the state after an uninterrupted residence of six months. GW sent Lear directions concerning the Philadelphia household slaves on 12 April.

⁴. The letter to Martha Washington has not been found.

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SOURCE PROJECT	Washington Papers
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FROM GEORGE WASHINGTON TO TOBIAS LEAR, 12 APRIL 1791

To Tobias Lear

Dear Sir,

RICHMOND [Va.], April 12th. 1791.

Since my last to you from Mount Vernon, your letters of the 3d. and 5th. Instant have been recd., the last at this place where I arrived yesterday to dinner.¹

If the case is as you suspect, it is expedient and proper to remove Washington to a School in which he will make some progress in his learning; and that it is so, I have had some suspicions for some time, principally on account of his fondness of going to the College. Boys of his age are better pleased with relaxed discipline—and the inattention of their tutors, than with conduct that brings them forward. It would have been highly pleasing to me (for the reasons, which I have often expressed) to have continued Washington at the College, but, if after the enquiries you have made, it should appear, that there is either incompetency in the masters from the number of boys in the School, or from other causes, I will not waste his time in compliment to that Seminary,—but before you finally decide on this matter, it is my wish as Colo. Hamilton, Genl. Knox and the Attorney-General have sons in the same predicament (if they are not removed) that you would consult and act in Concert with them; & I shall be satisfied in whatever is done in consequence of it. And should like to have him at the same School that Hamilton's son goes to.

The Attorney-General's case and mine I conceive, from a conversation I had with him respecting our Slaves, is some what different. He in order to qualify himself for practice in the Courts of Pennsylvania, was obliged to take the Oaths of Citizenship to that State; whilst my residence is incidental as an Officer of Government only, but whether among people who are in the practice of *enticing* slaves *even* where there is *no* colour of law for it, this distinction will avail, I know not, and therefore beg you will take the best advise you can on the subject, and in case it shall be found that any of my Slaves may, or any for them shall attempt their freedom at the expiration of six months, it is my wish and desire that you would send the whole, or such part of them as Mrs. Washington may not chuse to keep, home—for although I do not think they would be benefitted by the change, yet the idea of freedom might be too great a temptation for them to resist. At any rate it might, if they conceived they had a right to it, make them insolent in a State of Slavery. As all except Hercules and Paris are dower negroes, it behoves me to prevent the emancipation of them, otherwise I *shall* not only loose the use of them, but may have them to pay for. If upon taking good advise it is found expedient to send them back to Virginia, I wish to have it accomplished under pretext that may deceive both them and the Public;—and none I think would so effectually do this, as Mrs. Washington coming to Virginia next month (towards the middle or latter end of it, as she seemed to have a wish to do) if she can accomplish it by any convenient and agreeable means, with the assistance of the Stage Horses &c. This would naturally bring her maid and Austin—and Hercules under the idea of coming home to *Cook* whilst we remained there, might be sent on in the Stage. Whether there is occasion for this or not according to the result of your enquiries, or issue the thing as it may, I request that these Sentiments and this advise may be known to none but *yourself* & *Mrs. Washington*. From the following expression in your letter “that those who were of *age* might follow the example of his (the Attorney's people) after a residence of six months”—it would seem that *none* could apply before the end of May—& that the non age of Christopher, Richmond & Oney is a bar to them.²

I offer Mrs. Lear the child and yourself my best wishes—and with Sincere Esteem I am Your Affecte. friend

Letters and Recollections of George Washington, 37–39.

1. GW left Fredericksburg, Va., early on 10 April and arrived at Richmond the next afternoon (*Diaries*, 6:108).

2. For the background to the status on GW's slaves in Philadelphia, see [Lear to GW, 5 April](#) and [note 3](#). Tobias Lear corrected GW's mistaken assessment of the legal standing of his slaves in Philadelphia in a [letter to GW of 24 April](#).

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SOURCE PROJECT	Washington Papers
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AUTHOR	Washington, George
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12 April 1791

“From George Washington to Tobias Lear, 12 April 1791,” *Founders Online*, National Archives, last modified June 29, 2017, <http://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/05-08-02-0062>.
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1 An Act respecting fugitives from justice, and persons escaping from the service of their masters.

2 Be it enacted, &c., That, whenever the Executive authority of any State in the Union, or of either
3 of the Territories Northwest or South of the river Ohio, shall demand any person as a fugitive
4 from justice, of the Executive authority of any such State or Territory to which such person shall
5 have fled, and shall moreover produce the copy of an indictment found, or an affidavit made
6 before a magistrate of any State or Territory as aforesaid, charging the person so demanded with
7 having committed treason, felony, or other crime, certified as authentic by the Governor or Chief
8 Magistrate of the State or Territory from whence the person so charged fled, it shall be the duty
9 of the executive authority of the State or Territory to which such person shall have fled, to cause
10 him or her arrest to be given to the Executive authority making such demand, or to the agent
11 when he shall appear; but, if no such agent shall appear within six months from the time of the
12 arrest, the prisoner may be discharged: and all costs or expenses incurred in the apprehending,
13 securing, and transmitting such fugitive to the State or Territory making such demand, shall be
14 paid by such State or Territory.

15 SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That any agent appointed as aforesaid, who shall receive the
16 fugitive into his custody, shall be empowered to transport him or her to the State or Territory
17 from which he or she shall have fled. And if any person or persons shall, by force, set at liberty,
18 or rescue the fugitive from such agent while transporting, as aforesaid, the person or persons so
19 offending shall, on conviction, be fined not exceeding five hundred dollars, and be imprisoned
20 not exceeding one year

21 SEC. 3. And be it also enacted, That when a person held to labor in any of the United States, or
22 in either of the Territories on the Northwest or South of the river Ohio, under the laws thereof,
23 shall escape into any other part of the said States or Territory, the person to whom such labor or
24 service may be due, his agent or attorney, is hereby empowered to seize or arrest such fugitive
25 from labor, and to take him or her before any Judge of the Circuit or District Courts of the United
26 States, residing or being within the State, or before any magistrate of a county, city, or town

27 corporate, wherein such seizure or arrest shall be made, and upon proof to the satisfaction of
28 such Judge or magistrate, either by oral testimony or affidavit taken before and certified by a
29 magistrate of any such State or Territory, that the person so seized or arrested, doth, under the
30 laws of the State or Territory from which he or she fled, owe service or labor to the person
31 claiming him or her, it shall be the duty of such Judge or magistrate to give a certificate thereof
32 to such claimant, his agent, or attorney, which shall be sufficient warrant for removing the said
33 fugitive from labor to the State or Territory from which he or she fled.

34 SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That any person who shall knowingly and willingly obstruct
35 or hinder such claimant, his agent, or attorney, in so seizing or arresting such fugitive from labor,
36 or shall rescue such fugitive from such claimant, his agent or attorney, when so arrested pursuant
37 to the authority herein given and declared; or shall harbor or conceal such person after notice that
38 he or she was a fugitive from labor, as aforesaid, shall, for either of the said offences, forfeit and
39 pay the sum of five hundred dollars. Which penalty may be recovered by and for the benefit of
40 such claimant, by action of debt, in any Court proper to try the same, saving moreover to the
41 person claiming such labor or service his right of action for or on account of the said injuries, or
42 either of them.

43 Approved [signed into law by President George Washington], February 12, 1793.

May 24

For Sale,
COFFEE in hhds, bbls and bags, of an excellent quality landing out of the sloop Independence from Port au Prince—apply to

Conyngnam, Nesbitt & Co.
Said sloop carries about 30 barrels, Virginia, built, sails &c, and is in complete order.
May 24

Molasses,
FOR Sale on board the brigantine Gracy, at Jesse and Robert Walpo's wharf. Enquire of JAMES J. MAZURIE, No. 28, South Front Street, or on board said brig.
May 24

To morrow morning
Will be landed from on board the brig Sea Nymph, Capt. M D, ugall, from St. Vincent, at E. & J. Perots wharf.
32 bbls of prime St. Vincent's rum
For sale by JOHN B. EVENS,
May 24 No. 34, South Front Street.

Landing
A T South Street wharf, from the schooner Charming Betty, William Lark, master from St. Domingo, 60,000 wt Coffee in hhds and bags, 2000 wt Tea, 16 hhds Sugar, 21 hhds Molasses, of the first quality, 19 bales Cotton, 2 barrels Indigo.
For sale by GEORGE B. DAWSON.
Who has on hand, 10 per oneons high proof Antigua Rum—Also the above schooner, well found and fit for sea.
May 24

For Baltimore,
THE sloop MERRIMACK, John Carlton, master; to sail immediately. For freight apply to DAVY, ROBERTS & CO.
25th May 34 No 147, South Front Street
This Morning will begin to discharge at Market Street wharf.

A FRESH Cargo of FINE APPLES just arrived in the sloop Planter, captain Hefz, from New Providence. They will be sold cheap wholesale and retail.
May 25 35

Stray Cow,
STRAYED about the 13th inst, a dark coloured COW, with a white face & had on a bell and chain. Four Dollars Reward will be given at No. 135, Market Street, for returning her.

3 humagers blue hdkfs
3 chests bandano hdkfs
3 do choypa romals
1 do fed bandanoes
3 do tassatles
1 do pulicat handkerchiefs, &c
The terms will be made known at the time of sale.
Footman & Co. auctioneers.

Ten Dollars Reward.
A BSCONDED from the household of the President of the United States, on Saturday afternoon, ONEY JUDON, a light Mulatto girl, much freckled, with very black eyes, and bushy black hair—She is of middle stature, but slender and delicately made, about 20 years of age. She has many changes of very good clothes of all sorts, but they are not sufficiently recollected to describe.

As there was no suspicion of her going off, and it happened without the least provocation, it is not easy to conjecture whether she is gone—or fully, what her design is; but as she may attempt to escape by water, all masters of vessels and others are cautioned against receiving her on board, altho' she may, and probably will endeavour to pass for a free woman, and it is said has, wherewithal to pay her passage.

Ten dollars will be paid to any person, (white or black) who will bring her home; if taken in the city, or on board any vessel in the harbour; and a further reasonable sum if apprehended and brought home, from a greater distance, and in proportion to the distance.
FRED. KITT, Steward.
May 24

Ten Dollars Reward.
A BSCONDED from his employ William Bouffaret, who attended the Snuff and Tobacco Shop at the sign of the King of Prussia in Market Street, and was sent on Saturday last, with an order for one hundred dollars to Mr. J. Vanuxem, which he received and, went off. The said Bouffaret is a Frenchman, but speaks pretty good English, is of a middle size, reddish hair, which he wears loose, and has a mark on one cheek—He had on and took with him a brown coat and pea green breeches, and other clothing not recollected. Whoever takes up the said William Bouffaret, and gives information thereof to Mr. J. VANUXEM, No. 73, north Water Street, shall have the above reward.
May 24

TO be disposed of—The time of a mulatto man, about 25, who has about 5 years to serve—he is well acquainted with the care of horses, having been for a number of years employed in a livery stable. Apply at No. 226 north Front Street.

For sale at 60 days, by
EDWARD FOX, auctioneer.
For Cork and Liverpool,
THE ship DELAWARE
proposes sailing the 15th June
For freight or passage apply to
SAMUEL HOWELL,
May 25 No. 34, Chestnut Street.

To be Sold,
A Large three story brick house, lately built in modern fashion. Also two farms at the distance of 5 miles from the city, on a good road, each containing about 75 acres, one third meadow. Enquire at the Printing office of the American Daily Advertiser.
May 24

For Sale,
A Complete two story brick stable and coach house, square on the south side of Taylor's alley, containing in front 22 feet, and in depth 22 feet. Also a lot of ground on the east side of Bank Street, a little above Kensington, containing in front 150 feet, and in depth 100 feet to low water mark of the river Delaware, with sundry buildings thereon, known by the name of the Glass house, &c. Enquire of EDWARD BONJALL & CO.
4th mo 25th 1796.

George Brinhurst,
Coach and Harness Maker,
RESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public, that he has removed from Arch Street, to No. 23, in north Fifth Street, adjoining the Episcopal burial ground, where he continues the business of Coach making in all its Branches.

He makes all kinds of carriage and perch Carriages, such as Coaches, Charlots, Phaetons, and Coaches; also, Chairs, Kittereens, Gigs, Sulkeys and all kinds of Harness, with plated or brass mounting. He hath a good supply of the best materials, and a stock of the best seasoned wood.
Orders from any part of the United States will be duly attended to with the greatest punctuality and dispatch.

His long experience in business, his care in the execution of his work, and an unremitting attention to the desires of his employers, he flatters himself will prove sufficient recommendations.
He has several second hand Carriages for sale, viz a complete Coach, with a coachman's seat and Venetian blinds all round; a Phaeton; a Chair; and a sulkey with a falling top.

All kinds of Carriages sold on Commission, and Carriages taken in to stand by the month or year.
Apprentices wanted to the Business.

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Text

There is now living in the borders of the town of Greenland, N.H., a runaway slave of Gen. Washington, at present supported by the County of Rockingham. Her name at the time of her elopement was ONA MARIA JUDGE. She is not able to give the year of her escape, but says that she came from Philadelphia just after the close of Washington's second term of the Presidency, which must fix it somewhere in the [early?] part of the year 1797.

Being a waiting maid of Mrs. Washington, she was not exposed to any peculiar hardships. If asked why she did not remain in his service, she gives two reasons, first, that she wanted to be free; secondly that she understood that after the decease of her master and mistress, she was to become the property of a granddaughter of theirs, by name of Custis, and that she was determined never to be her slave.

Being asked how she escaped, she replied substantially as follows, "Whilst they were packing up to go to Virginia, I was packing to go, I didn't know where; for I knew that if I went back to Virginia, I should never get my liberty. I had friends among the colored people of Philadelphia, had my things carried there beforehand, and left Washington's house while they were eating dinner."

She came on board a ship commanded by CAPT. JOHN BOLLES, and bound to Portsmouth, N.H. In relating

it, she added, "I never told his name till after he died, a few years since, lest they should punish him for bringing me away. ..."

Washington made two attempts to recover her. First, he sent a man by the name of Bassett to persuade her to return; but she resisted all the argument he employed for this end. He told her they would set her free when she arrived at Mount Vernon, to which she replied, "I am free now and choose to remain so."

Finding all attempts to seduce her to slavery again in this manner useless, Bassett was sent once more by Washington, with orders to bring her and her infant child by force. The messenger, being acquainted with Gov. [then Senator John] Langdon, then of Portsmouth, took up lodgings with him, and disclosed to him the object of his mission.

The good old Governor. (to his honor be it spoken), must have possessed something of the spirit of modern anti-slavery. He entertained Bassett very handsomely, and in the meantime sent word to Mrs. Staines, to leave town before twelve o'clock at night, which she did, retired to a place of concealment, and escaped the clutches of the oppressor.

Shortly after this, Washington died, and, said she, "they never troubled me any more after he was gone. ..."

The facts here related are known through this region, and may be relied on as substantially correct. Probably they were not for years given to the public, through fear of her recapture; but this reason no longer exists, since she is too old and infirm to be of sufficient value to repay the expense of search.

Though a house servant, she had no education, nor any valuable religious instruction; says she never heard Washington pray, and does not believe that he was accustomed to. "Mrs. Washington used to read prayers, but I don't call that praying.["] Since her escape she has learned to read, trusts she has been made "wise unto salvation," and is, I think, connected with a church in Portsmouth.

When asked if she is not sorry she left Washington, as she has labored so much harder since, than before, her reply is, "No, I am free, and have, I trust been made a child of God by the means.["]

Never shall I forget the fire that kindled in her age-bedimmed eye, or the smile that played upon her withered countenance, as I spake of the Redeemer in whom there is neither "bond nor free," bowed with her at the mercy seat and commended her to Him "who heareth prayer" and who regards "the poor and needy when they cry," I felt that were it mine to choose, I would not exchange her possessions, "rich in faith," and sustained, while tottering over the grave, by "a hope full of immortality," for all the glory and renown of him whose slave she was.

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