

*Libertas jam vocata*  
TO a people whose characteristic virtues are justice and fortitude, in the exercise of which they have become the wonder and astonishment of the universe, We, the black inhabitants of these United States, humbly submit the following address.

When Great-Britain essayed to make her first unjust and wicked attempt to forge chains to enslave America, the noble spirit of liberty and freedom uttered her voice, the meekness of a lamb, remonstrated against the wickedness of the attempt; but Britain, lost to every sentiment of justice and virtue, and sunk in every vice, obstinately persisted in the rash attempt. America then, nobly animated with the love of liberty, assuming the fortitude of a lion, stepped forth, and proclaimed the fortune of a lion, stepped forth, and proclaimed, "WE WILL BE FREE." The world beheld with admiration mingled with applause, and heaven with admiration mingled with applause, and heaven with admiration mingled with applause.

Determined in her resolutions, America has borne the storms and complicated pressures of an eight years war; purchased at the price of her blood and treasure, and even at the risk of her existence, she has at length obtained her liberty, the darling object of her soul; universal joy has diffused itself through all her borders; acclamations of gratitude on this occasion, from the lips of her every free-born son have ascended to the throne on high; the glorious deeds of America are recorded in the court of heaven.

When an address is made to men, who have been born free—to Americans, who have been alarmed, and nobly roused into virtuous activity at the first dawnings of slavery—to men whose hearts are warm—whose minds are expanded with the recent acquisition of their own liberty and freedom—to men whose actions and whose sufferings have been unparalleled in the annals of mankind, during a conflict of many years, to retain, and to transmit, without diminution, the rights of humanity and blessing of liberty to their posterity—When an address, I say, is made to such men, by fellow creatures groaning under the chains of slavery and oppression, can we doubt of their becoming the friends and advocates of the enslaved and oppressed? Can we doubt of touching their feelings, and exciting their attention?—No—to doubt would be wickedness in the abstract—it would be sinning against the solemn declarations of a brave and virtuous people.

We have lately beheld, with anxious concern, your infant struggles in the glorious cause of liberty—We attended to your solemn declaration of the rights of mankind—to your appeals, for the rectitude of your principles, to the Almighty, who regards men of every condition, and admits them to a participation of his benefits—We admired your wisdom, justice, piety, and fortitude.

To that wisdom, justice, piety, and fortitude, which has led you to freedom and true greatness, we now appeal. Freedom is the object of our humble address.

Our abject state of slavery, a state of all others the most degrading to human nature, is known to every American: We shall not, therefore, descend to the disagreeable task of wounding the feelings of any by a description. In the language of your humble address to the inexorable throne of Britain, permit us humbly to address you: Liberty is our claim. Reverence for our Great Creator, principles of humanity, and the dictates of common sense, all convince us, that we have an indubitable right to liberty. Has not the wisdom of America solemnly declared it? Attend to your own declarations—These truths are self-evident—all men are created equal; they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We shall offer no arguments—nay, it would be insulting to the understanding of America at this enlightened period, to suppose the need of arguments to prove our right to liberty. It would be to suppose she has already forgot those exalted principles she has so lately asserted with her blood.

Though our bodies differ in colour from yours; yet our souls are similar in a desire for freedom. Disparity in colour, we conceive, can never constitute a disparity in rights. Reason is shocked at the absurdity! Humanity revolts at the idea!

Let America cease to exult—she has yet obtained but partial freedom. Thousands are yet groaning under their chains; slavery and oppression are not yet banished from this land; the appellation of master and slave, an appellation of all others the most degrading to humanity, have still an existence. We are slaves! To whom? Is it to abandoned Britons?—Permit us to refer you to facts; let them make the reply. A people who have fought—who have bled—who have purchased their own freedom by a sacrifice of their choicest heroes—will never continue the advocates for slavery.

Pride, insolence, interest, avarice, and maxims of false policy, have marked the conduct of Britain—but still pride, insolence, considerations of interest, avarice, of maxims of false policy, lead America to a conduct inconsistent with her principles?—Forbid it justice—forbid it Wisdom—forbid it sound Policy—Every principle which has led America to freedom and greatness forbid it. Has the laws of Nature doomed us to this abject state—shut out, as it were, from the benign influences of religion, knowledge, arts and science—excluded from every refinement which renders human nature happy! Reverence to our God forbids the impious thought! Why then are we held in slavery? Is it by any municipal laws? If so, YE fathers of your country; treads of liberty and of mankind, behold our chains! lend an ear to the voice of oppression—commiserate the afflictions of a helpless and abused part of the human species. To you we look up for justice—deny it not—it is our right.

VOX AFRICANORUM.

May 9, 1783.

ALL persons having claims against the estate of John Amery, late of Charles county, deceased, by bond, are requested to bring them in properly authenticated, that they may be adjusted as far forth as may be. SAMUEL AMERY, administrator.

Annapolis, May 14, 1783.  
WALLACE, JOHNSON, & MUIR,  
Have for SALE,

At their store on the Head of the Dock,  
CHOICE Madeira wine, pipes,  
bogsheads, and quarter casks, a few  
cases of excellent claret, sail cloth, and  
sundry other articles; which they will  
sell low, for cash, or on short credit.

May 8, 1783.

Will be SOLD, to the highest bidder,  
at George-town, on Thursday the 22d  
inst. if fair, if not the next fair day,  
ABOUT twenty likely negroes, con-  
sisting of men, women, boys, and  
girls. Three months credit will be  
given.  
BARNARD NEILL,  
WILLIAM DEAKIN, jun.

May 7, 1783.

To be SOLD for cash or tobacco,  
AN elegant PHAETON, on a  
new construction, very light and  
airy, crane-neck'd. &c. with complete  
harness for four horses, travelling trunk,  
&c. Also four beautiful bay horses,  
rising seven years old, two of them full  
blooded, the others two thirds blood; they  
go remarkably well in harness. The  
carriage and horses will be sold together  
or separate, as may suit the purchaser.  
Enquire of the printer.

Prince-George's county, May 7.

BLACK PRINCE,  
STANDS at Schoolfield, and will  
cover for two pistoles, and 2/6 the  
groom, the money to be sent with the  
mares. Pasturage at 3/9 per week,  
care will be taken, but accidents or es-  
capes at the risque of the owners.  
N.B. Goals dress to him for reason  
be covered here, are much approved of.

May 7, 1783.

EIGHT DOLLARS REWARD.  
RAN away, about thirteen months ago, from  
the subscriber, living in Annapolis, a negro  
woman named JENNY, about forty years of age,  
but does not look so old, is well made, and rather  
tall, her dress cannot be described as she has a vari-  
ety; she has been frequently seen in the neigh-  
bourhood of West river, where she lived some time  
in the late Mr. Pemberton's family, and on the  
plantations of the widow Pindell, Mr. Harwood,  
and Jere. Magruder, Esq; She was in company with  
a man of Mr. Gaffaway Rawlings, who was lately  
taken and told those who took him that she was a  
free woman, and had been formerly the property of  
Mr. Pemberton, who set her free. Who ever secures  
and delivers her to me in Annapolis, shall receive  
the above reward, besides what the law allows.  
6w W. BROWN.

April 21, 1783.

NOTICE is hereby given, that I intend to  
prefer a petition to the general assembly of  
Maryland, for an act to empower me to sell as much  
of the real estate of John Malcolm, late of Caroline  
county, deceased, as will enable me to pay and dis-  
charge the just debts of the aforesaid John Malcolm,  
of which intention all persons interested are desired  
to take notice.  
B. SYLVESTER, administrator  
of John Malcolm.

March 21, 1783.  
The beautiful well bred horse  
ROEBUCK,

STANDS this season at the subscriber's dwell-  
ing plantation, in Charles county, about six miles  
from Benedict, and will cover at three guineas, if  
the money is paid by the first of October, or five  
hundred pounds of crop tobacco, if the money is not  
paid as above mentioned.

Roebuck is five years old next April, and was  
bred by Mr. Overton Carr, of Prince-George's  
county; he is a beautiful bay, highly formed, and  
full fifteen hands three inches high. Roebuck was  
got by Benjamin Dulany, Esquire, Othello, who  
was bred by col. Fitzhugh, of Chatham, and was  
got by Old Fearnought upon a thorough bred Mor-  
ton's Traveller mare. Roebuck's dam was got by  
col. Tasker's Othello, who was got by Crab, his  
grand-dam by Morton's Traveller; his great-grand-  
dam was col. Tasker's famous Selima, who was got  
by the Godolphin Arabian.

Good pasturage will be found for mares gratis,  
but will not be answerable for accidents or escapes.

WILLIAM M. WILKINSON.

I HEREBY certify, that the bay horse Roe-  
buck, which I sold to Mr. William Wilkinson, of  
Charles county, is five years old this spring, and  
was got by Benjamin Dulany, Esquire's, Othello,  
who was bred by William Fitzhugh, Esq; of Chat-  
ham, and got by Old Fearnought upon a thorough  
bred Morton's Traveller mare. Roebuck's dam was  
got by col. Tasker's Othello, who was got by Crab,  
his grand-dam by Morton's Traveller; his great-  
grand-dam was col. Tasker's Selima, who was got  
by the Godolphin Arabian.

May 2, 1783. OVERTON CARR  
THIS is to certify, that the above certificate  
given by Overton Carr, Esq; of Othello's blood, is  
just.

May 2, 1783. BENJAMIN DULANY.

Maryland, Cecil county, April 29, 1783.

COMMITTED to my custody on suspicion  
of being a runaway, a young negro fellow,  
about 25 years of age, of a yellowish complexion,  
pitted with the small pox, about 5 feet 6 inches  
high, he calls himself CHARLES SMITH, and says  
he is a free man and came into Virginia with lord  
Dunmore. His master, if any, is desired to come,  
prove property, pay charges, and take him away.  
RICHARD BOND, sheriff of Cecil county.

THERE is at the plantation of Joachim  
Braickly, living in West-Nottingham hun-  
dred, Cecil county, Maryland, a horse,  
four years old, about 14 hands high, a small star in  
his forehead, his hind feet white up to the pattern  
joint, his back much hurt with the saddle, branded  
S. G. on the near buttock, has no shoes. The  
owner may have him again on proving property and  
paying charges.

To be sold on Tuesday the 27th of May, if fair, if not  
the next fair day, at Newington rope-walk,  
NUMBER of valuable negroes, viz. rope-  
makers and plantation men; the utensils belong-  
ing to the rope-walk; large scales and weights, such  
as are made use of in warehouses, and a few articles  
of household furniture. Twelve months credit will be  
given upon bond and security.

MARY McCULLOCH, executrix,  
CHARLES STEUART, executor,  
JAMES McCULLOCH, executor,  
of James Dick, deceased.

ALL persons indebted to any of the  
late, or present, Publishers of this  
paper, are earnestly requested to settle  
their accounts, by bond, note, or pay-  
ment.  
FREDERICK GREEN.

A few Copies of the  
LAW S,  
Passed Last Session of Assembly, may be  
had at the Printing Office.

WANTED,  
A PERSON to attend in a Bil-  
liard Room. Any one, well recom-  
mended, will meet with Encouragement,  
by applying at the Coffee-house.

April 8, 1783.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a pe-  
tition will be preferred to the gene-  
ral assembly, at their next session, on  
behalf of the subscriber, and his brothers  
Elias and William Harbin, for a law to  
make good and valid the will of our late  
father, relative to land bequeathed us.  
GERARD HARBIN.