

1751- 1805. News Items Relating to Slave Trade

Source: E. Donnan (1932/1969). *Documents Illustrative of the History of the Slave Trade to America*. NY: Octagon, v. III.

May 13, 1751

To be sold at public Vendue, on Friday the 17th Instant, at 10 o'clock in the Morning, at the Meal Market.

A number of likely Negro Slaves, lately imported in the Sloop *Wolf* directly from Africa. Those that are not disposed of on that Day, will be sold at public Vendue the Friday following.

August 19, 1751

Likely, Negroes Men and Women, imported from the Coast of Africa, also the Brigantine *Warren*, with her Apparel, etc. to be sold by Thomas Greenell.

New York, November 25 1751

We hear Capt. Amory a few days ago, spoke with Capt. Miller in the Ship *Hawke*, of this Port, from the coast of Guinea; who had been several weeks on our coast, and were very short of provisions. The Privateer Sloop had 10 guns with a gilt stern, and belonged to Martinico, commanded by one Semina, who was so base as to strip him, and the passengers of every thing worth notice: The Privateer had been out 21 days, in which she had taken size prizes, two of them Guinea Men; and that she intended to go off the coast immediately, having met with bad weather just before, in which he lost his boat and some guns.

On Tuesday morning last arrived the Sloop *Sally*, Michal Molton, Master of this port. On the 2nd of July last he sailed from Annamabo on the coast of Africa, with 128 slaves: and on the 1st instant in Lat. 28, 24 N Long. 38, 27 W. from London, he was taken by a French Privateer Sloop belonging to Martinico, of 10 four-pounders and 110 men, called the *Phenix*, Monsieur Mouchell, commander: and after taking out all the slaves and plundering the sloop, they permitted him to proceed in her (being a dull sailor) to New York. The Privateer had before taken 4 other vessels, and then made the best of their way to Martinico.

NEW YORK, May 4, 1752.

To be Sold by Abraham Pereira Mendes, a Parcel of Likely young Negroes, Piemento, Old Copper, Coffee, etc. at the House in Smith's Fly, lately in the Occupation of Roger Pell, Inn keeper. N.B. If any Person has a Mind to purchase any of the Goods mentioned, they may enquire of Mr. Daniel Gomez.

ANTIGUA, March 14 [1761].

On Thursday was brought into the Road of Bassatterre, a Sloop bound from New York for the Coast of Africa.

NEW YORK, May 25 [1761].

By a Letter from the Coast of Africa, dated 27th of February, we learn of the Arrival on that Coast, of the Schooner *Little Betsey* Capt, Richards, Brig *Polly*, Aaront King, a Schooner, Capt. Shaw; Sloop, Capt. Molton; Brig, Capt. Nicholls, all of New York Capt. Shaw was taken, and ransomed for 100 Guineas.

NEW YORK, August 10 [1761]

By Capt. Lyell from the Coast of Africa, we have advice, that Capt. Nicoll, of this port, was not cut off by the Negroes, as was some time ago published; but that he lost 40 of his slaves by an insurrection and saved his vessel.

NEW YORK, October 5 [1761].

Sunday last Capt. Nicoll, whom we lately mentioned to be taken on the Coast coming from Guinea, came to Town from Rhode Island, where he arrived in a Sloop of Capt. Turrel's [Tuell?] given him by the Captain of the French Privateer. It was on the 8th of September, in Lat. 35 20; Long. 67 00, That Capt. Nicoll was taken, the Privateer Sloop had 10 Guns, with a gilt Stern, and belonged to Martinico, commanded by one Semina, who was so base as to strip him, and the Passengers of every Thing worth Notice: The Privateer had been out 21 Days, in which she had taken six Prizes, two of them Guinea Men; and that she intended to go off the Coast immediately, having met with bad Weather just before, in which he lost his Boat and Some Guns.

On Tuesday Morning last arrived the Sloop Sally, Michal Molton, Master, of this Port. On the 2d of July last he sailed from Annamabo on the Coast of Africa, with 128 Slaves: and on the 1st Instant in Lat. 28, 24, N. Long. 38, 27 W. from London, he was taken by a French Privateer Sloop belonging to Martinico, of 10 four-pounders and 110 Men, called the Phenix, Monsieur Mouchell, commander: and after taking out all the slaves and plundering the Sloop, they permitted him to proceed in her (being a dull sailer) to New-York. The Privateer had before taken 4 other Vessels, and then made the best of their Way to Martineco.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4, 1762.

A Schooner belonging to this Port, Lewis Master, we hear, was lately cut off by the Negroes, on the Coast of Africa. Capt. Lewis is arrived at St. Kitts, Master of a Sloop lately commended, by Capt. Handy, of this Place, who, with all his Crew, died on the Coast some time since.

New York, Feb. 4, 1762

A schooner belonging to this port, Lewis Master, we hear, was lately cut off by the negroes, on the coast of Africa. Capt. Lewis is arrived at St. Kitts, Master of a Sloop lately commended by Capt. Handy, of this place, who with all his crew, died on the coast some time since.

NEW YORK, July 25, 1763.

Saturday last Capt. Roger Richards arrived here from Africa, in 8 Weeks; where he left the Capts. Waterman and Easton of Connecticut; and Farmar from New Brunswick.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10, 1766.

Capt. Perry, in the snow Nancy, from Africa to Santa Croix, of this port, after sailing the second time from the island of St. Thomas, on that coast, being six days out, sprung a leak, which encreased on them so much, that they were glad to quit their vessel, taking with them all their slaves, in number 59, and went on board a Marblehead vessel, and arrived safe at Barbados.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 [1766].

The Captains Harrison and Arskine of this Port, are both dead on the coast of Africa.

LONDON [1767].

They write from Senegal, that the crew of the snow Juba, of New York, had mutinied against the captain and officers at Sierraleon, whom they sent on shore in the long boat, but the snow was three days after recovered by one of his Majesty's cruizers.

November 29 [1770]. Source: Elizabeth Donnan, Documents Illustrative Of The History Of The Slave Trade To America.

On Wednesday the 21st Inst. arrived here the Sloop Amity, Captain David Harrison, in 6 Weeks from the River Gambia. He brings Advice, that Captain Morrison, late of the Brig Elizabeth, (belonging to London, but which sailed from this Port about June last) together with his whole Crew, died in that River, where the Brig remained when Capt. Harrison left it.

PHILADELPHIA, February 23 [1797].

A cause of considerable interest, to the credit of our government, and to the credit of the Jurisprudence of this State, was tried in the district court on Monday; it appeared that the Lady Walterstorff, a ship belonging to New-York arrived in the Delaware a short time ago, and upon proper information, she was libelled with her tackle, cargo, etc. under a law of the United States prohibiting the traffic in-men.

Upon the seizure of the vessel, two of the unfortunate Africans, that had been stolen from their native country, were found on board, together with several suits of iron such as hand-cuffs, neck yokes, leg-bolts, etc. packed up carefully in casks, and written documents completely authenticating the detail of the voyage to Africa, from the first equipment at New-York to her coming into this port, after the sale of a cargo of one hundred and fifty men, it appeared that the ship after leaving New York, took a lading at St. Croix, where they obtained a set of Spanish papers, and under a foreign flag pursued the traffic along the coast of Africa, and returned with the slaves to the same port, where they were all sold, saving only the two persons found on board; one of whom a man nick named Bacchus was brought forward at the trial, he could speak no language but that of his native country, the other, a woman, is hired as a domestic in the Jerseys, both having been liberated. The ship is confiscated and the penalty incurred by the law will be levied on the owner, who is a man of opulance.

July 10, 1805.

The brig Washington, capt. Harner, from Philadelphia to the west coast of Africa, was cast away on a reef of rocks on Cape Vine, on the 10th day of May and the brig and cargo lost, but all hands saved and taken prisoners. Capt. Harner came passenger in the sloop Juliet, from Goree to Charleston.