

# FREEDOM'S JOURNAL.

DEVOTED TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE COLOURED POPULATION.

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## AFRICA

*Extracts from Baron De Vastee...*

Africa likewise produces animals far more formidable than those of Europe; they do not even admit of any degree of comparison. What animal, for instance, can be compared with the Royal Tiger, and Lion of the torrid zone? Is it the white Bear or the Wolf of the arctic circle; Mazeres, who judges of men by analogy with horses, had better enquire whether the horses of Europe can sustain a parallel with those of Africa. Hear what Bruce says on the subject in his journey to Abyssinia.

"It was at Hafsain and Agerri," says he, "that we first met that noble race of horses so justly celebrated throughout the world. They appeared of a species totally different from the Arabian breed which we had seen in the plains of Arabia Petraea. If beauty, the most perfect symmetry of form, size, strength, activity, suppleness of motion, capability of enduring fatigue, docility, and attachment to their masters, constitute the merits of horses, the Abyssinian breed is without exception superior to all others. The most beautiful I ever beheld," says he, "was that upon which the Sheik Adelan was mounted; this horse was not quite four years old, yet he was sixteen hands high; he was accustomed to kneel down to let his master mount or dismount in full armour."

The ex-colonists say, we are inferior to the Whites, because we have, according to them, features less agreeable, a black skin and curly hair. I will observe in answer that the same prejudice with respect to the Whites prevails among the Blacks, who think themselves infinitely handsomer, and far more favoured by nature; a prejudice this which is strengthened by frequent instances which fall under their own observation. The Europeans who visit the Tropics, at first display the vermeil glow of health and strength; but in a few months, the roses wither in their cheeks, and their place is supplied by the ghastly paleness disease. The complexion, so late the pride becomes haggard, wan, and discoloured; their watery and tender eyes are unable to bear the solar rays; their bodies become feeble and emaciated, and their moral and physical powers destroyed; so that the White man appears in the eyes of the Black a mere walking skeleton, disgraced by nature, unable to resist, either the influence of his climate, or inhabit his happy land.

"All those," says the virtuous Gregoire, "who have endeavoured to disinherit the Negro of his rights, have called in the aid of anatomy, and have commenced with observations upon the disparity of colour. But if it appear that Black "prevails within the tropic, and that its shades vary with the gradation of temperature; if it be shown that the White is as unable to bear the

heat of the torrid, as the Black is to sustain the cold of the frigid zone, what superior advantage will be found to result from black, yellow, or white complexion.

"The women of Abyssinia," says Bruce, "on beholding the whiteness of my skin, uttered an exclamation of horror, and seemed to regard it as the affect of disease, rather than my natural colour." Other women laughed at the length and sharpness of his nose. No people are without their prejudices.—We esteem a black skin more beautiful than a white one. Our Haytian Painters depict the Deity and Angels black, while they represent the Devils white. As to beauty, it consists in elegance of form, and regularity of features, and in these respects, we think ourselves as much favoured as the whites. On this subject their own testimony must be allowed some weight, I shall therefore cite several.

Bosman extols the beauty of the Negresses of Juuda; Ledyard and Lucas that of the Jalof, Negroes; Lobo that of the Abyssinian. Those of Senegal," says Adanson, "are the handsomest men of Nigritia; their form is without blemish, and I never observed an ill-made person among them." Cossigny saw at Goree Negresses of great beauty, of imposing aspect, and with Roman features; Ligon speaks of a Negress of the island of St. Yago, in whom so much beauty and dignity were combined that he never saw any comparable to her. Chasle, author of a Journal of Admiral Dugué's Voyage, extends this eulogy to the Negro and Mulatto Girls of the Cape Verd Islands Legual, Uloa, and Isert gives the same testimony respecting the Negresses they saw, the first in Batavia, the second in the West Indies, and the third in Guinea. (4.)

Bruce on seeing a young girl of Abyssinia, expresses himself thus, "I was struck with her extreme beauty. Her whole dress consisted of a blue robe; reaching to her feet. Although not more than fifteen, her stature was little below the ordinary; and her whole figure was such as a painter would have desired for a model. The women (continues Bruce) soon perceived how much I was taken with her; and the daughter of Adelan said to me, have you lived so long in Abyssinia as to admire the Beauties of Athara, when they say that the Ladies of Europe are so fair as to excel those of all the rest of the world." Never replied Bruce, "was I less of that opinion than at the present moment." He boasts likewise of the beauty of the African princess; "Amba Yasoua," says he, "appeared to be from twenty-six to twenty-eight years of age, tall and perfectly well made; her figure was elegant, although her features were small, and her manners were singularly captivating." Bruce saw the prince with the King and Engedan. I think I beheld three of the handsomest men I ever met with.

The Yolofs, says Park, are active, strong, and warlike. Their noses are less

dilated; and their lips less thick than usual; their skin is of the deepest black, and the Whites who trade with them for slaves, look upon them as the handsomest Negroes of this part of the continent.

"The Foulahs are of a lighter hue than hair is silky, and their features agreeable; they love a pastoral and agricultural life, and spread themselves over the neighbouring kingdoms as shepherds and laborers. In this respect they are superior to the Savoyards who swarm in France in the deplorable occupations of pedlars and shop-blacks.

Peterson and Vaillant have found in the savage Hottentots, virtues which they sought in vain among civilized nations. On the evening of the seventh of February," says Peterson, "we discovered a fire on the side of a mountain; and about eight o'clock we fell in with a party of Caffres who seemed greatly surprised at our appearance, for we were certainly the first white men they ever beheld. They fled instantly and alarmed the village. Nevertheless, true to the laws of hospitality, they came and offered us milk and a fat ox as soon as we arrived."

The Caffres," says the same traveller, "are in general five feet ten inches high, and well proportioned; their manner of engaging the lion, and other wild beasts, proves their courage. Their colour is jet black, their teeth white as ivory, and their eyes large."

Do you want authorities in support of my opinion; respecting the inferiority of the Negroes? says Mazeres, the ex-colonist in his general Thesis, Fontenelle will tell you that the inhabitants of several very hot or very cold countries, are incapable of works of genius. The Abbe Dubos (says he) in his remarks upon Poetry and Painting; will explain and prove to you the truth of this assertion.

Mazeres should explain upon his own principles, how it happens that the Swedes, Norwegians, and Russians, who inhabit the coldest, as well as the people of Senegal who inhabit the hottest regions of the globe, furnish examples of men not only formed with the most exact symmetry, but also capable of the most sublime works of genius. The Abbe Dubos proves nothing he has drawn his proof from bad sources; Historians, Poets, and Orators. I never observed Montesquieu, upon works of imagination that systems should be founded. And I will venture to say, that the same thing is to be said of the works of the poets, and painters of the same nations.

It is not the colour of the skin, but the situation of the organs, and the nature of the fluids, which determine the complexion. The Whites are not more beautiful than the Blacks, because they are not more healthy than they. The Whites are not more active than the Blacks, because they are not more vigorous than they. The Whites are not more warlike than the Blacks, because they are not more brave than they. The Whites are not more intelligent than the Blacks, because they are not more reasoning than they. The Whites are not more virtuous than the Blacks, because they are not more honest than they. The Whites are not more generous than the Blacks, because they are not more magnanimous than they. The Whites are not more courageous than the Blacks, because they are not more intrepid than they. The Whites are not more brave than the Blacks, because they are not more valiant than they. The Whites are not more noble than the Blacks, because they are not more heroic than they. The Whites are not more great than the Blacks, because they are not more illustrious than they. The Whites are not more famous than the Blacks, because they are not more renowned than they. The Whites are not more glorious than the Blacks, because they are not more celebrated than they. The Whites are not more happy than the Blacks, because they are not more contented than they. The Whites are not more peaceful than the Blacks, because they are not more amiable than they. The Whites are not more virtuous than the Blacks, because they are not more honest than they. The Whites are not more courageous than the Blacks, because they are not more intrepid than they. The Whites are not more brave than the Blacks, because they are not more valiant than they. The Whites are not more noble than the Blacks, because they are not more heroic than they. The Whites are not more great than the Blacks, because they are not more illustrious than they. The Whites are not more famous than the Blacks, because they are not more renowned than they. The Whites are not more glorious than the Blacks, because they are not more celebrated than they. The Whites are not more happy than the Blacks, because they are not more contented than they. The Whites are not more peaceful than the Blacks, because they are not more amiable than they.







**BOOTS AND SHOES,  
CHARLES MORTIMER,**

No. 107 Church-street, New-York,  
Respectfully informs his friends and the  
public generally that he still continues  
manufacture *Boots and Shoes* of a superi-  
or quality, at reduced prices.  
As a generous public by their patronage  
hitherto have given him hopes that the  
work manufactured by him was of a *superi-  
or quality*, he hopes by more continued  
exertions, and the employment of none but  
first rate workmen, to merit a continuance  
of the same.

**BOOTS and SHOES** repaired at the  
shortest notice.  
New-York, September 9, 1828.

Economy is the Road  
to wealth—And a  
penny saved is as  
good as two pennys  
earned. Then call  
at the United States  
CLOTHES DRESSING  
Establishment,



**JAMES GILBERT,**

Who has removed from 411 to 422 Broadway,  
and continues as usual to carry on the Clothes  
Dressing in correct and systematic style; hav-  
ing perfect knowledge of the business, having  
been legally bred to it, his mode of cleaning  
and Dressing COATS, PANTALOONS, &c. is by  
STEAM SPONGING, which is the only correct  
system of CLEANING, which he will warranted  
extract all kinds of STAINS, GREASE, &c. from  
Tar, Paint &c. or no pay will be taken.

N B The public are cautioned against the  
imposture of those who attempt the Dressing  
of clothes, by STEAM SPONGING, who  
are totally unacquainted with the business as  
there are many Establishments which have  
recently been opened in this city.

All kinds of Tailoring Work done at  
the above place.

All clothes left to be cleaned or repaired  
will be good for one year and one day—if not  
claimed in that time, they will be sold at pub-  
lic auction.

**AFRICAN FREE SCHOOLS.**

NOTICE.—Parents and Guardians of  
Coloured Children, are hereby informed, that a  
Male and Female School has long been estab-  
lished for coloured children, by the Manumission  
Society of this city—where the pupils re-  
ceive such an education as is calculated to fit  
them for usefulness and respectability. The  
male school is situated in Mulberry-street, near  
Grand-street, to which is attached, a female  
school, and another female school in William-  
st., near Duane-st.; all under the manage-  
ment of experienced teachers. The Boys are  
taught Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Geog-  
raphy and English Grammar—and the Girls, in  
addition to those branches, are taught Sewing,  
Marking, and Knitting, &c.

**TERMS OF ADMISSION.**

Pupils of 5 to fifteen years of age are admitted  
by the Teachers at the Schools, at the rate of  
twenty-five cents to one dollar per quarter, ac-  
cording to the circumstances of the parents;  
and the children of such as cannot afford to pay  
any thing are admitted free of expense, and en-  
joy the same advantages as those who pay.

Each school is visited weekly by a commit-  
tee of the trustees, in addition to which a com-  
mittee of Ladies pay regular visits to the Fe-  
male schools. Care is taken to impart moral  
instruction, and such have been the happy ef-  
fects of the system pursued in these schools,  
that although several thousand have been  
taught in them since their establishment (now  
more than thirty years) there has never been  
an instance known to the trustees where a pupil  
having received a regular education has been  
convicted of any crime in our Courts of Justice.

By order of the Board of Trustees,  
**PETER S. TITUS,  
RICHARD FIELD.**

**BOARDING  
LEWIS HARRISON,**

Respectfully informs the public in gener-  
al, that he has opened his House for the  
accommodation of genteel persons of Col-  
our, with *Boarding and Lodging*; at No  
90 Mulberry street.

There shall be no pains spared to ren-  
der their situation as agreeable as possible  
on his part.

New-York, July 25, 1825.

**THE FREEDOM'S JOURNAL**

is PRINTED & PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY,  
Jno. B. Russwurm, No. 149 Church-street,  
NEW-YORK.

The price is THREE DOLLARS A YEAR, pay-  
able half yearly in advance; If paid at the  
time of subscribing, \$2 50 will be received.  
No subscription will be received for a  
less term than one year.

Agents who procure and pay for five sub-  
scribers, are entitled to a sixth copy gratis, for  
one year.

No paper discontinued until all arrearages  
are paid, except at the discretion of the Editor.

All Communications, (except those of  
Agents) must be *post paid*.

**RATES OF ADVERTISING.**

For over 12 lines, and not exceeding  
22, 1st insertion, 75cts.  
" Each repetition of do. 50  
" 12 lines or under, 1st insertion, 50  
" Each repetition of do. 25  
Proportional price for advertisements  
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N. B. 15 per cent deduction for persons ad-  
vertising by the year; 12 for 6 months; and  
6 for 3 months.

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**NOTICE TO BOOT CLEANERS**

**SUPERIOR  
POLISHING BLACKING  
(FROM LONDON)**  
Which the subscriber offers for sale, whole-  
sale and retail, at the lowest cash prices, by  
N. VANLIEW, 630 Broome street.  
All orders thankfully received and  
punctually attended to.

**BOARDING & LODGING.  
DAVID SEAMAN**

Respectfully informs his friends and  
the public generally, that his HOUSE,  
No. 62 Leonard-street, (next door to Zion  
Church,) is still open for the accommodation  
of respectable persons of colour, with *Board-  
ing and Lodging*, on the most reasonable  
terms.

His House is in a pleasant part of the city,  
and no pains will be spared on his part to ren-  
der the situation of all who honour him with  
their custom, as comfortable as in any other  
house in the city, and at one half the ex-  
pense.

New-York, Sept. 2, 1828.

**BOARDING & LODGING**

The subscriber respectfully informs his  
FRIENDS, and the public in general, that  
his House No. 28 Elizabeth street, is still  
open for the accommodation of genteel  
persons of Colour, with *Boarding and  
Lodging*.

P. S. In addition to the above estab-  
lishment, the subscriber keeps on hand a  
quantity of the best Refreshments  
Oysters, &c. served up at the shortest no-  
tice. His house is in a healthy and plea-  
sant situation, and he hopes by the unre-  
sented attention that will be paid to all  
those who may favour him with their pat-  
ronage, to be entitled to public favour.

**DAVID JOHNSON.**

Philadelphia, June 2d, 1828. 64

**LEGHORN BONNETS.**

**MRS. SARAH JOHNSON,**

No. 531 PEARL-STREET, respectfully in-  
forms her Friends and the Public, that she  
has commenced BLEACHING, PRESSING,  
and BERRITING LEGHORN and STRAW  
HATS, in the best manner. LADIES dress-  
es made, and PLAIN Sewing done on the  
most reasonable terms.

Mrs. J. begs leave to assure her friends  
and the public, that those who patronize  
her may depend upon having their Wor-  
k done faithfully, and with punctuality and  
despatch.  
New-York, April 29, 1828

**WANTED IMMEDIATELY,**

ONE or TWO active BOYS, as Appren-  
tices to the Shoe-Making business. Good re-  
commendations will be required. Boys from  
the country would be preferred.—Require at  
No. 157 Bowery.  
Sept 25, 1828.