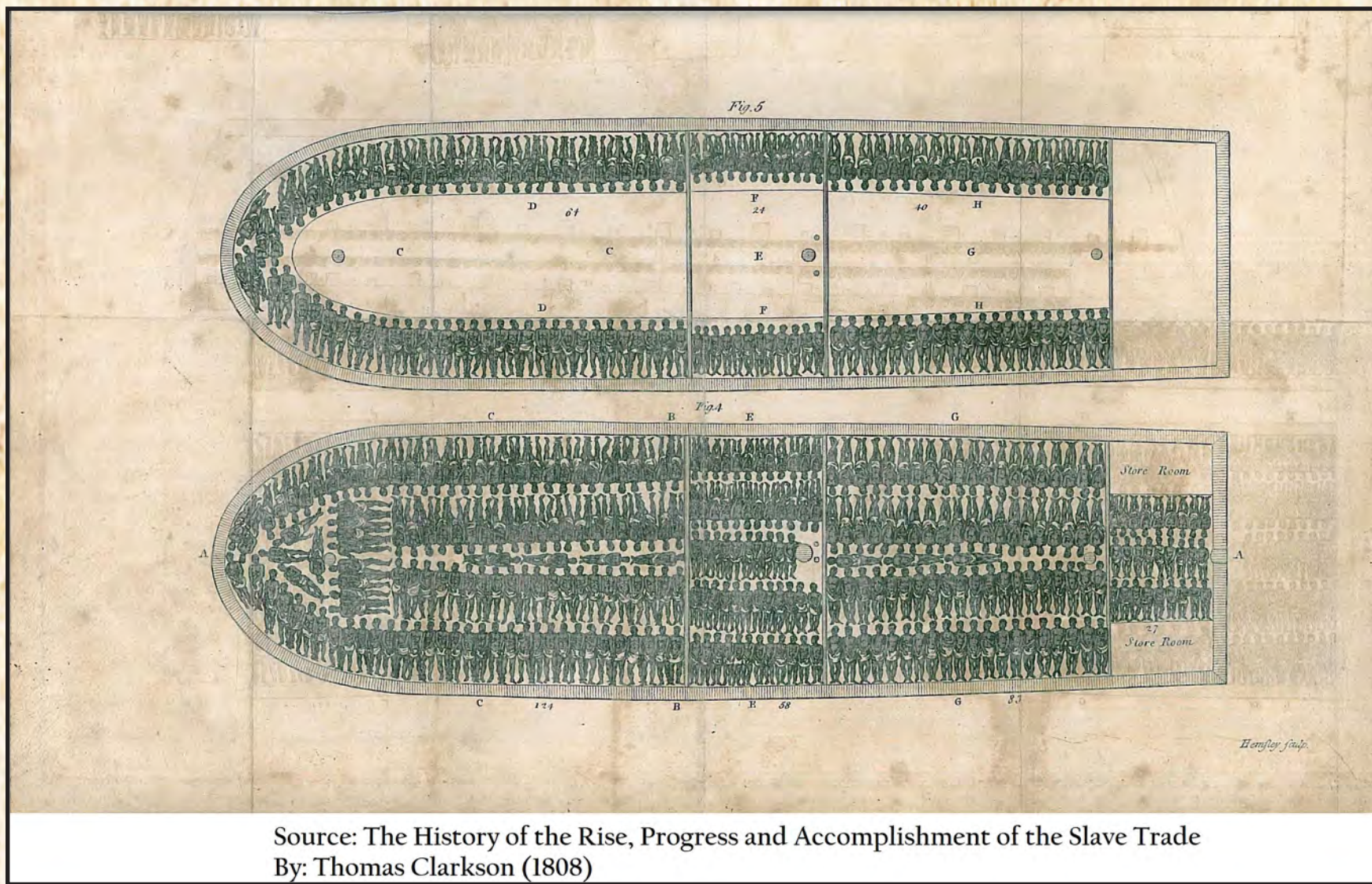


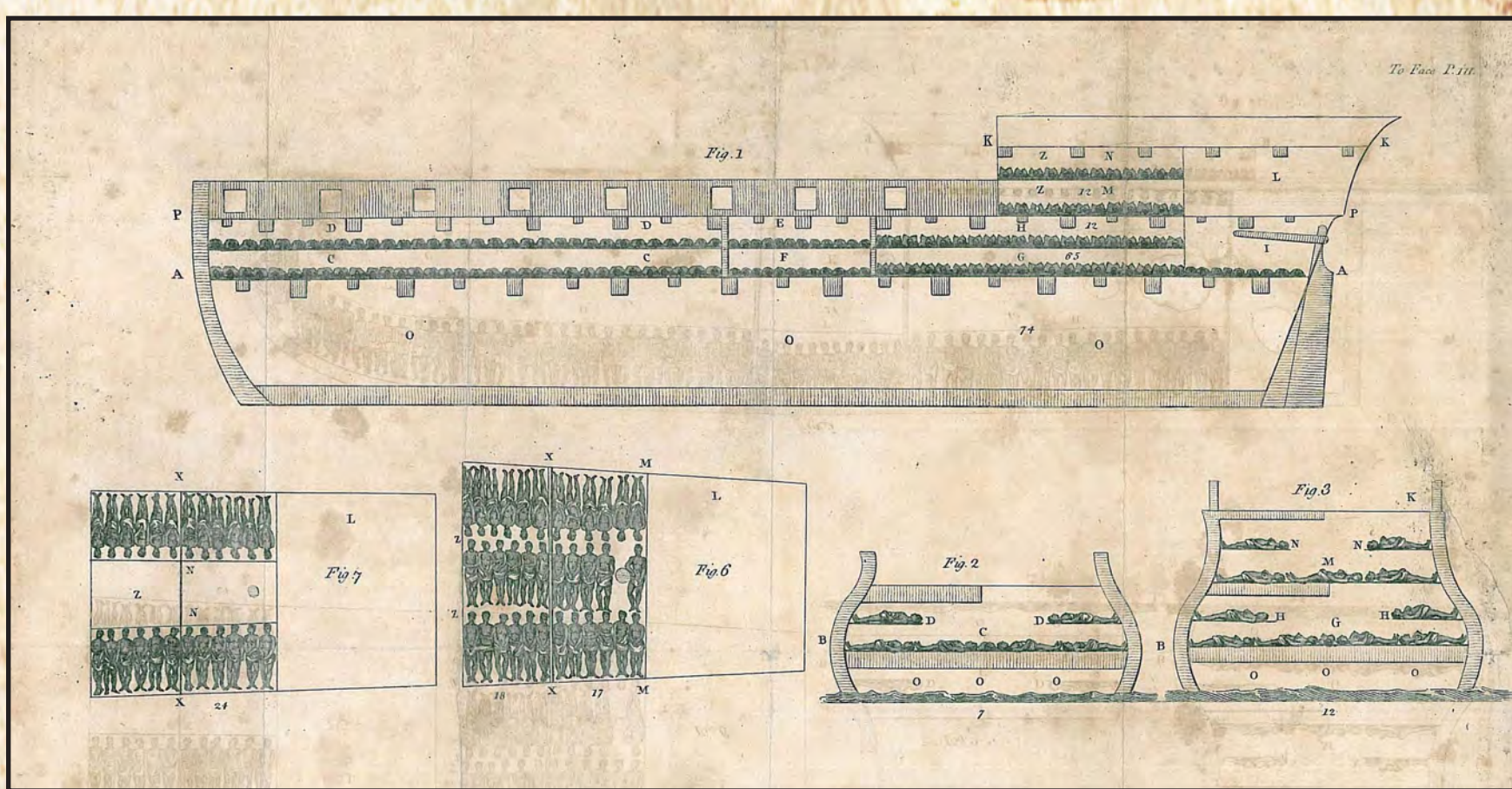
# SOLD INTO SLAVERY



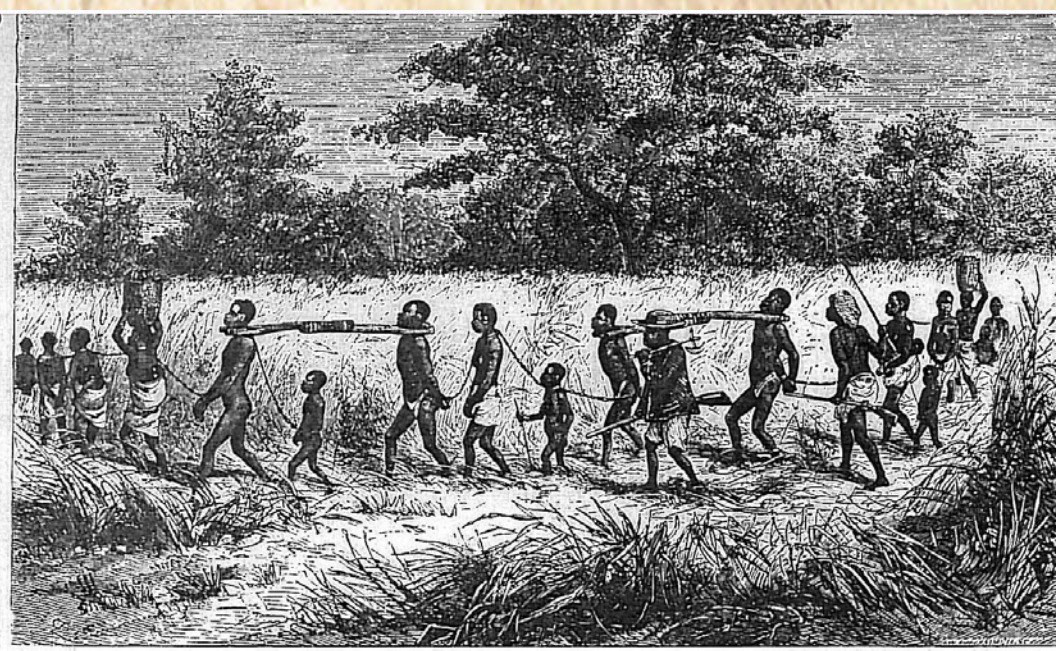
During the three hundred years of its existence, the Transatlantic Slave Trade brought an estimated 6.5 million enslaved Africans to the Caribbean, of this number 44, 002 enslaved Africans were brought to Trinidad and Tobago.



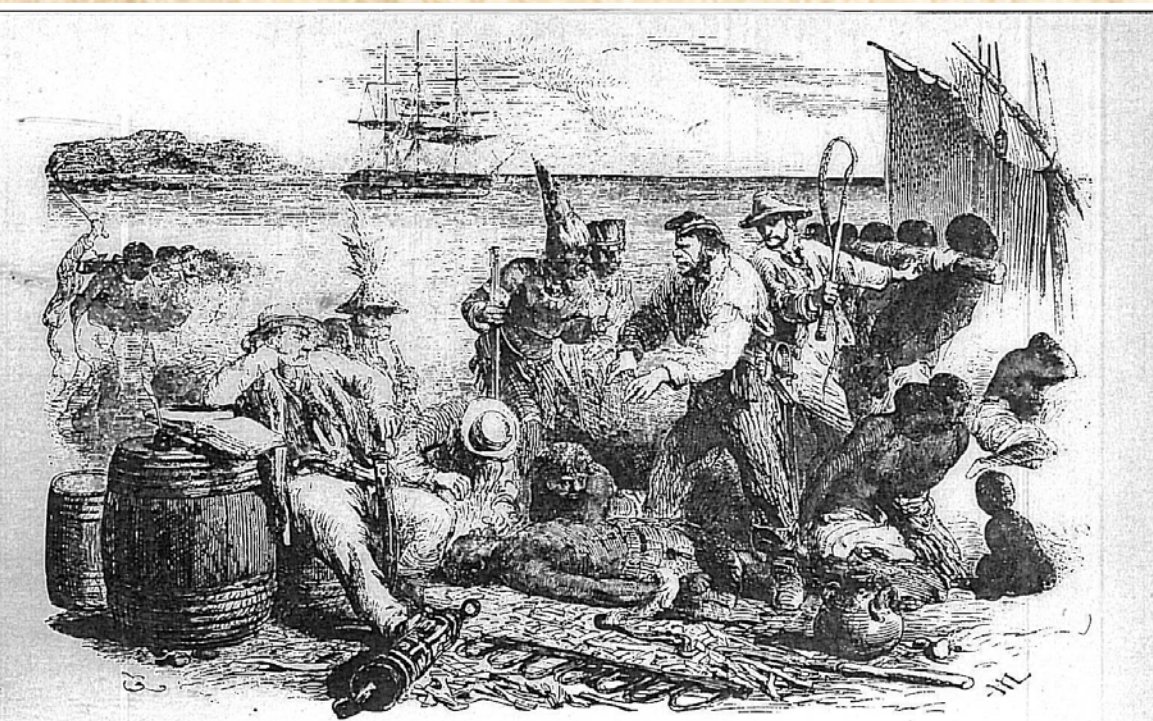
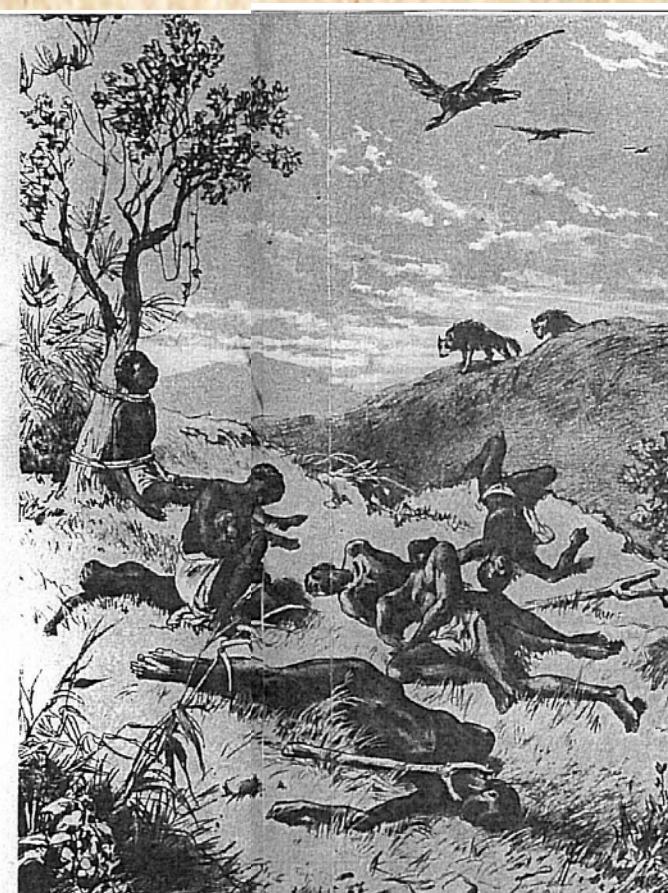
This journey to the Caribbean and other parts of the New World is known as the Middle Passage.



This was an inhumane process which included capture and enslavement in Africa, the journey to the coast and other departure points, storage and packaging for shipment, the Transatlantic crossing, the sale and distribution in the Americas and finally adjustment to the Americas.



Tribal prisoner of war, a masterpiece of the community or a victim of slave raiders, the slave was chained or yoked with his neck in the cleft of a forked branch and marched to the trading stations on the coast.



Those who collapsed from hunger, sickness or exhaustion and who could not be whipped or goaded into continuing were abandoned to the elements and wild animals.

FOR SALE, A YOUNG healthy MAN, a good Domestic, and who can make himself serviceable in many capacities.—For particulars enquire at this office. 19th September, 1829.

Source: Port of Spain Gazette 1829

## SOLD INTO SLAVERY

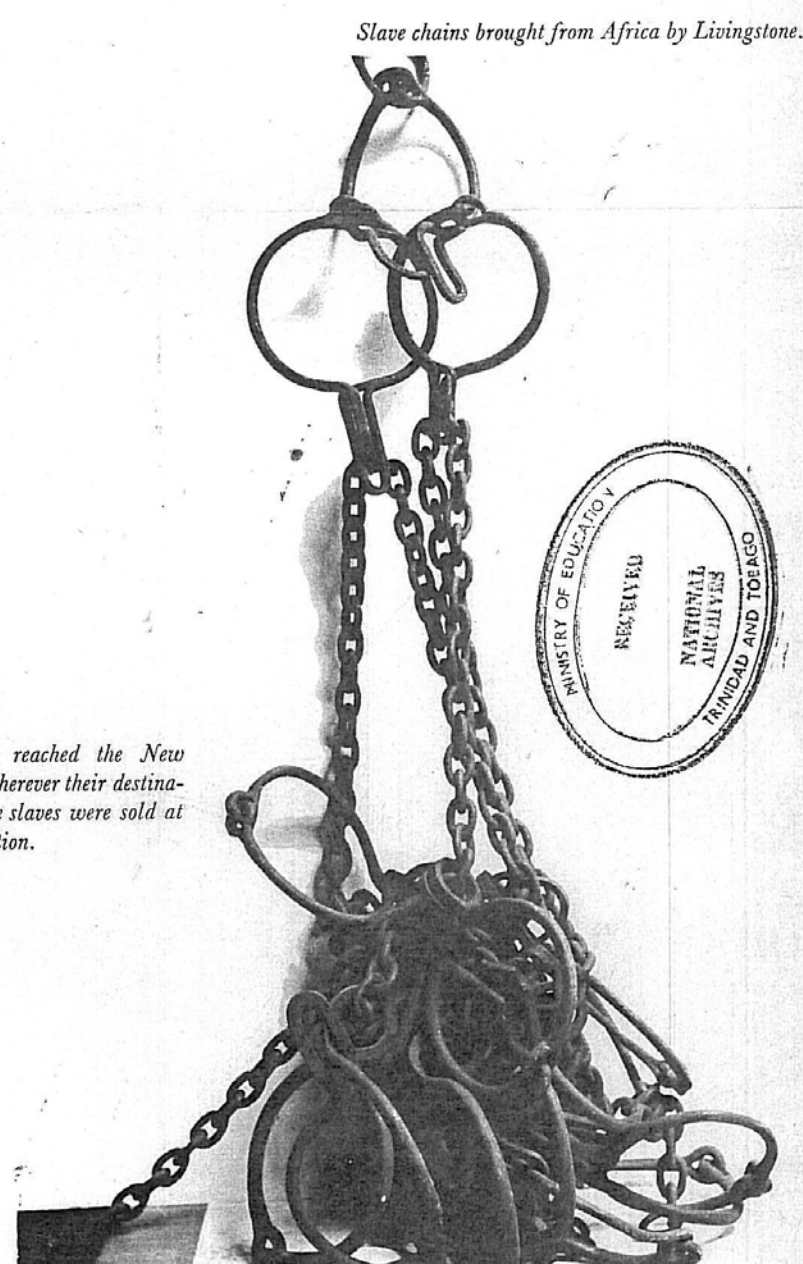
Some of these scenes show slaves well after the trade had been banned by the British Parliament for it was still many years before slavery was abolished in the United States and, despite the United Nations Charter, slavery exists in some parts of the world today...



Metal letters which were heated red hot and used to brand the owner's mark on to the slave's flesh.



When they reached the New World, or whenever their destination was, the slaves were sold at a public auction.



Slave chains brought from Africa by Livingstone.

**TO BE SOLD & LET BY PUBLIC AUCTION, On MONDAY the 18th of MAY, 1829, UNDER THE TREES.**

**FOR SALE, THE THREE FOLLOWING SLAVES,**

**TO BE LET,**

**MALE and FEMALE SLAVES,**

**BLUCHER,**

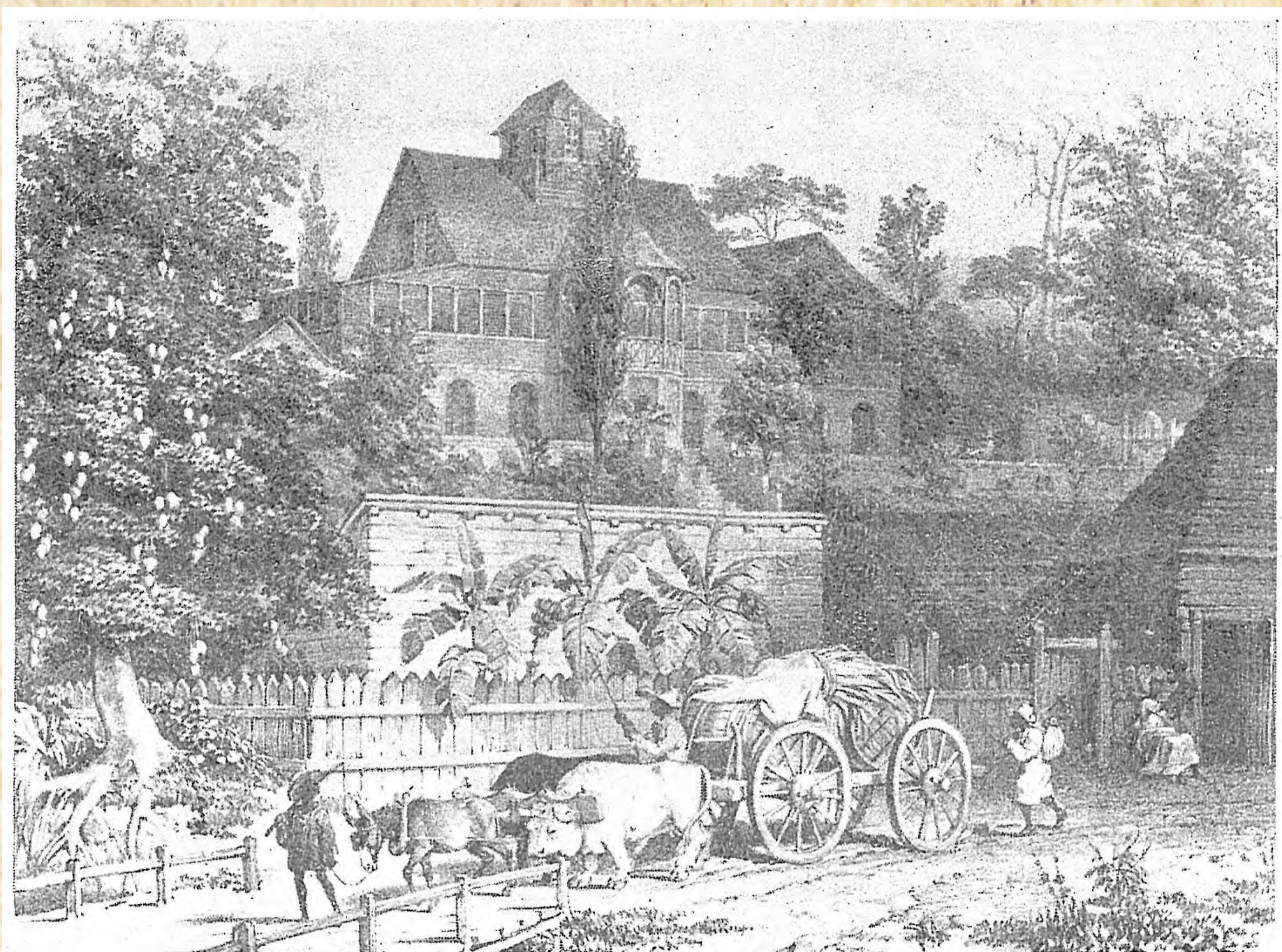
Also for Sale, at Eleven o'clock, Fine Rice, Gram, Paddy, Books, Muslins, Needles, Pins, Ribbons, &c. &c. AT ONE O'CLOCK, THAT CELEBRATED ENGLISH HORSE

# THE LIFE OF THE ENSLAVED ON THE PLANTATION

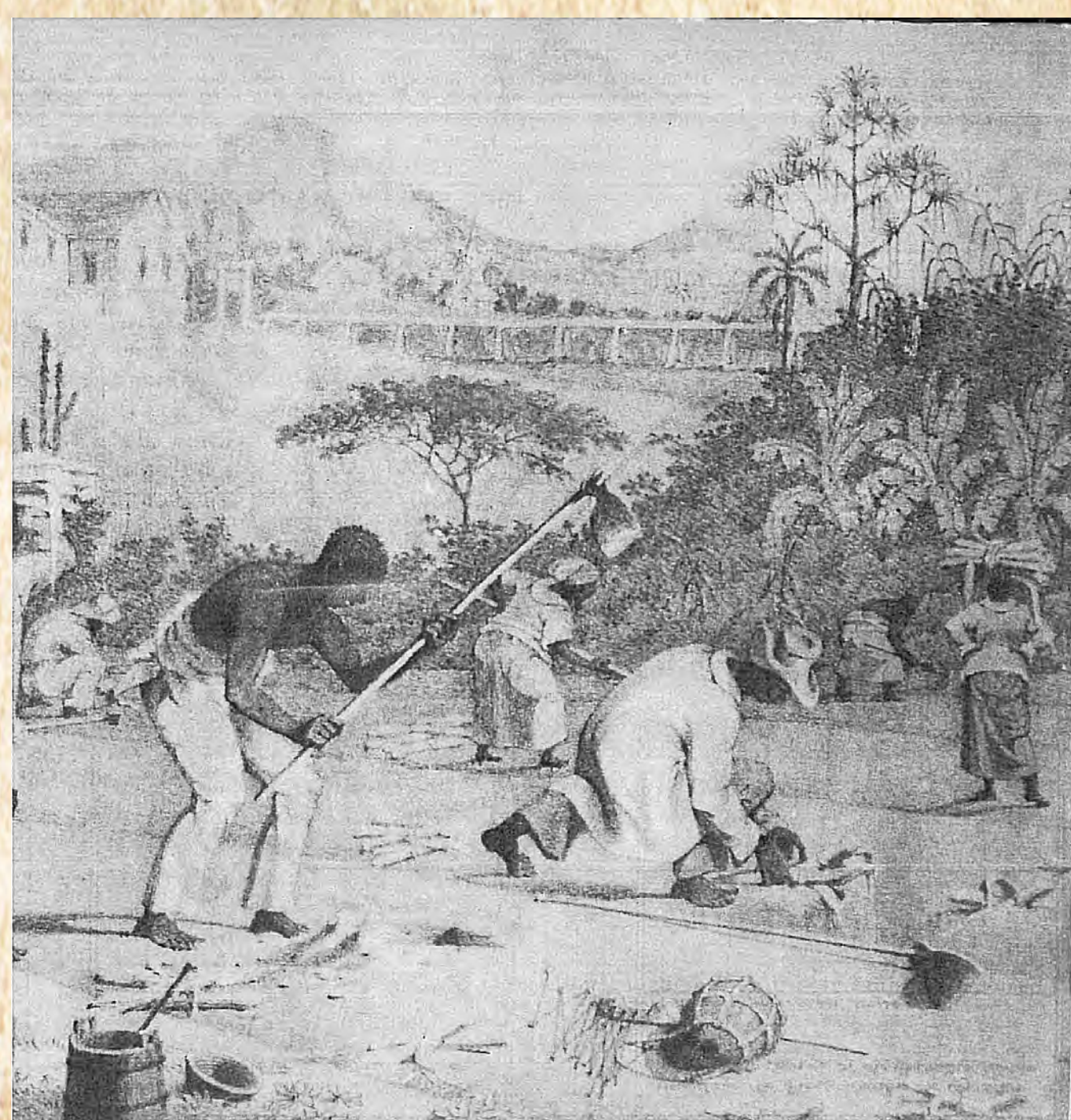
Plantation life in the Caribbean duplicated the social hierarchy in the region. Developed as an economic initiative, plantation society and slave labour became the core of Caribbean society. The majority of the enslaved worked in the agricultural sector, particularly on sugar plantations.

On the sugar plantation children, men, women and the elderly all had their functions to ensure the production of sugar. Some of the enslaved held skilled jobs on the plantation such as distillers, mechanics and overseer. Women by the end of the eighteenth century made up the majority of gangs, thus showing they worked just as hard as men.

Though sugar was the dominant crop, the enslaved also worked on cocoa, cotton and coffee plantations as well as tended to cattle for husbandry purposes. Those who resided in towns worked as porters, domestics, prostitutes, market vendors and casual labourers and some men worked as enslaved seamen. In Trinidad by 1800 about 4000 enslaved persons made up the populace of Port of Spain. They were skilled workers who were hired out by their owners for various jobs which included seamstresses, washers, masons, carpenters, goldsmiths and blacksmiths.



*The Great House on the St Ann's Estate*  
Source: *The Story of Port of Spain*  
By: Robert R. Ottley

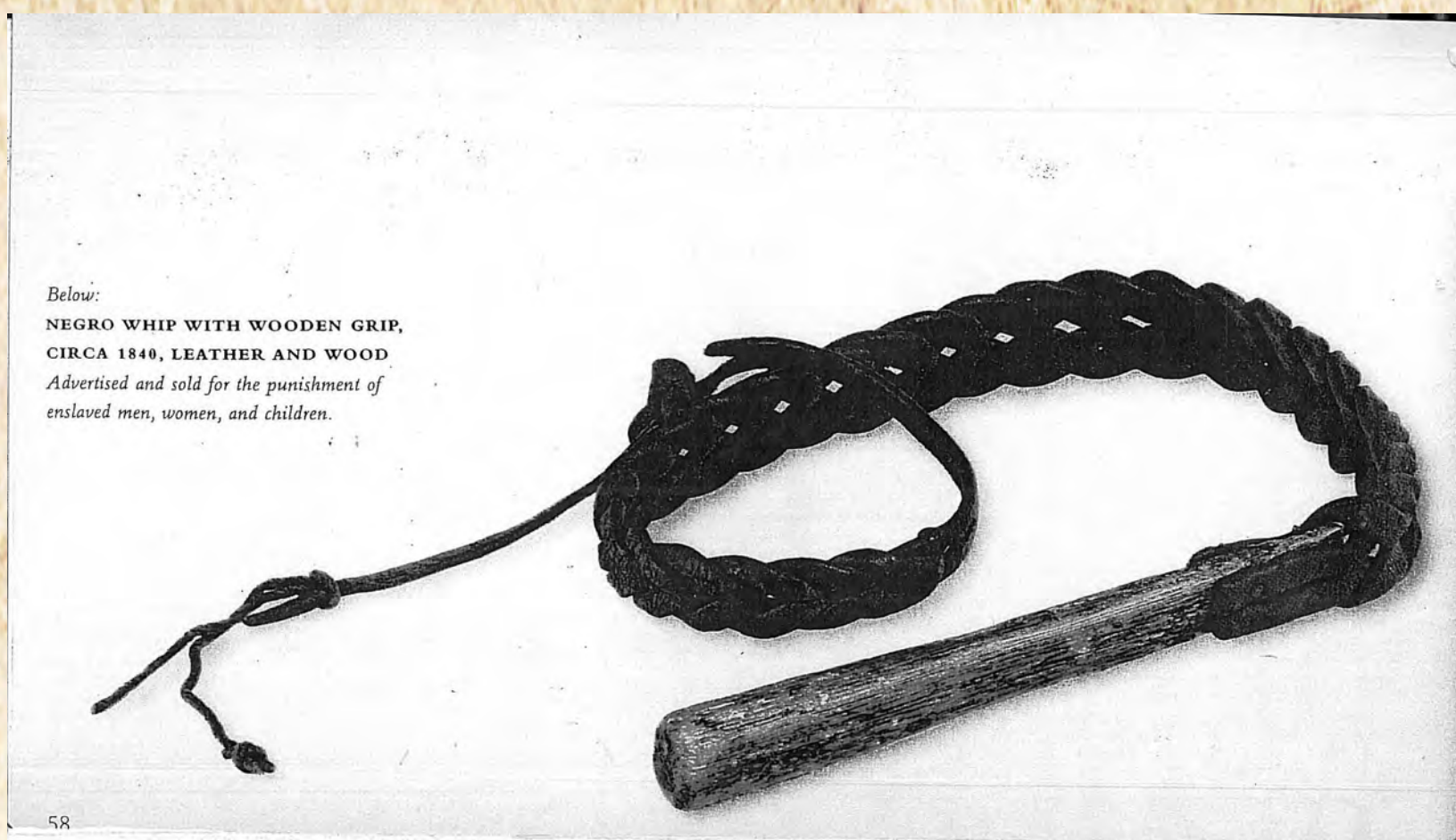


Source: *The Book of Trinidad*  
By: Bridget Bererton and Gerard Besson



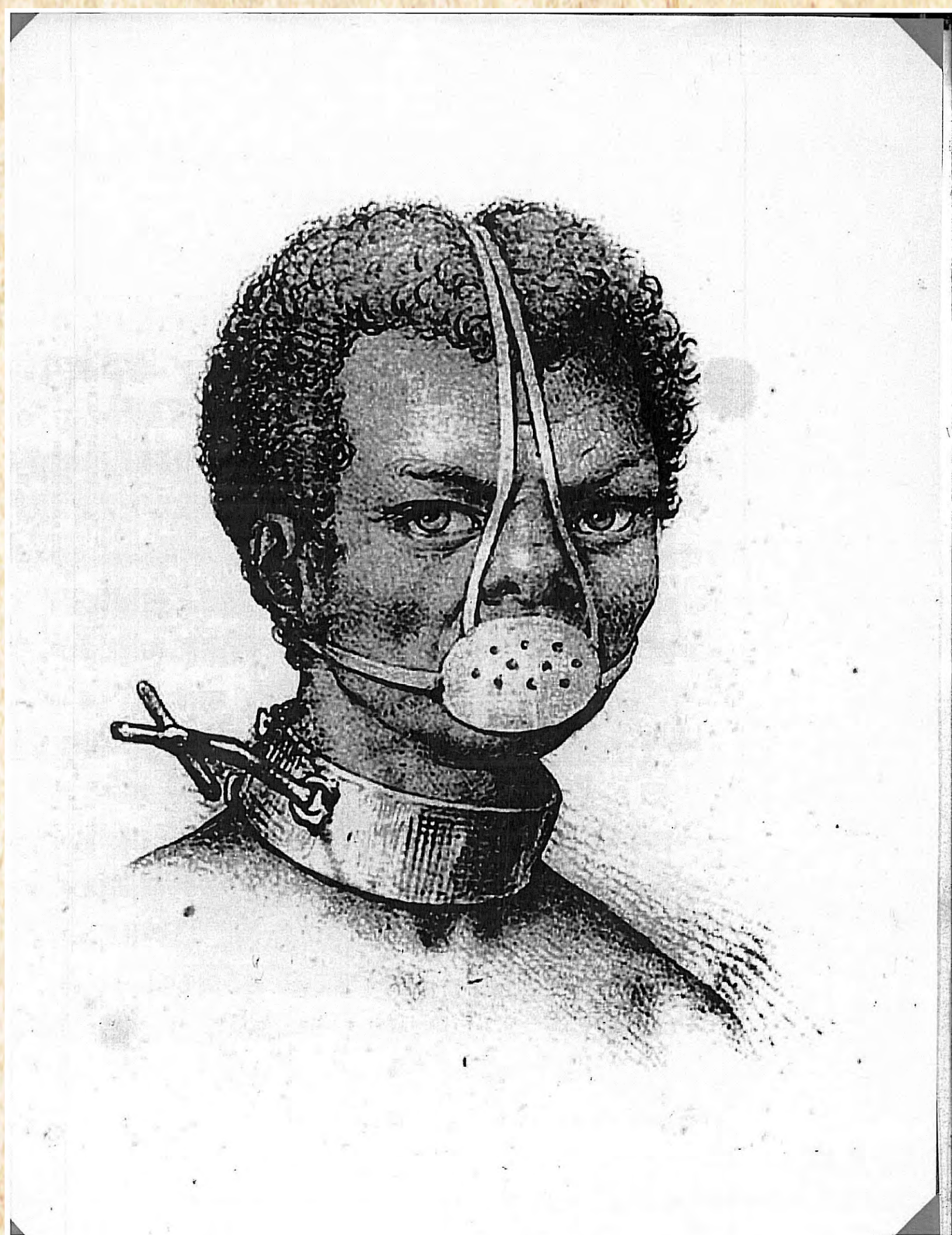
Source: *Jubilee: The Emergence of African-American Culture*  
By: Howard Dodson

# CONTROL AND PUNISHMENT

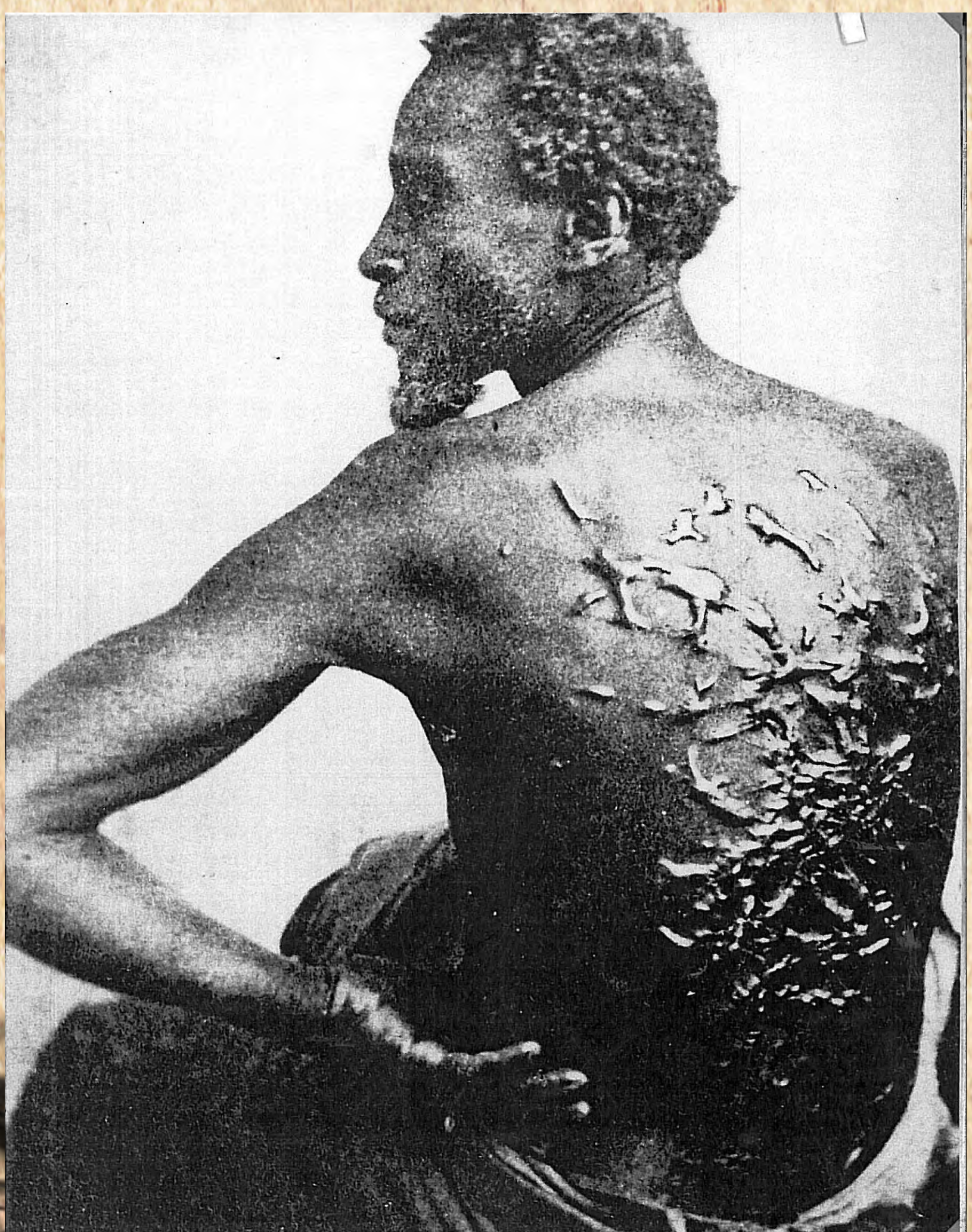


Below:  
NEGRO WHIP WITH WOODEN GRIP,  
CIRCA 1848, LEATHER AND WOOD  
Advertised and sold for the punishment of  
enslaved men, women, and children.

Source: Jubilee: The Emergency of African-American Culture  
By: Howard Dodson



Source: Jubilee: The Emergency of African-American Culture  
By: Howard Dodson

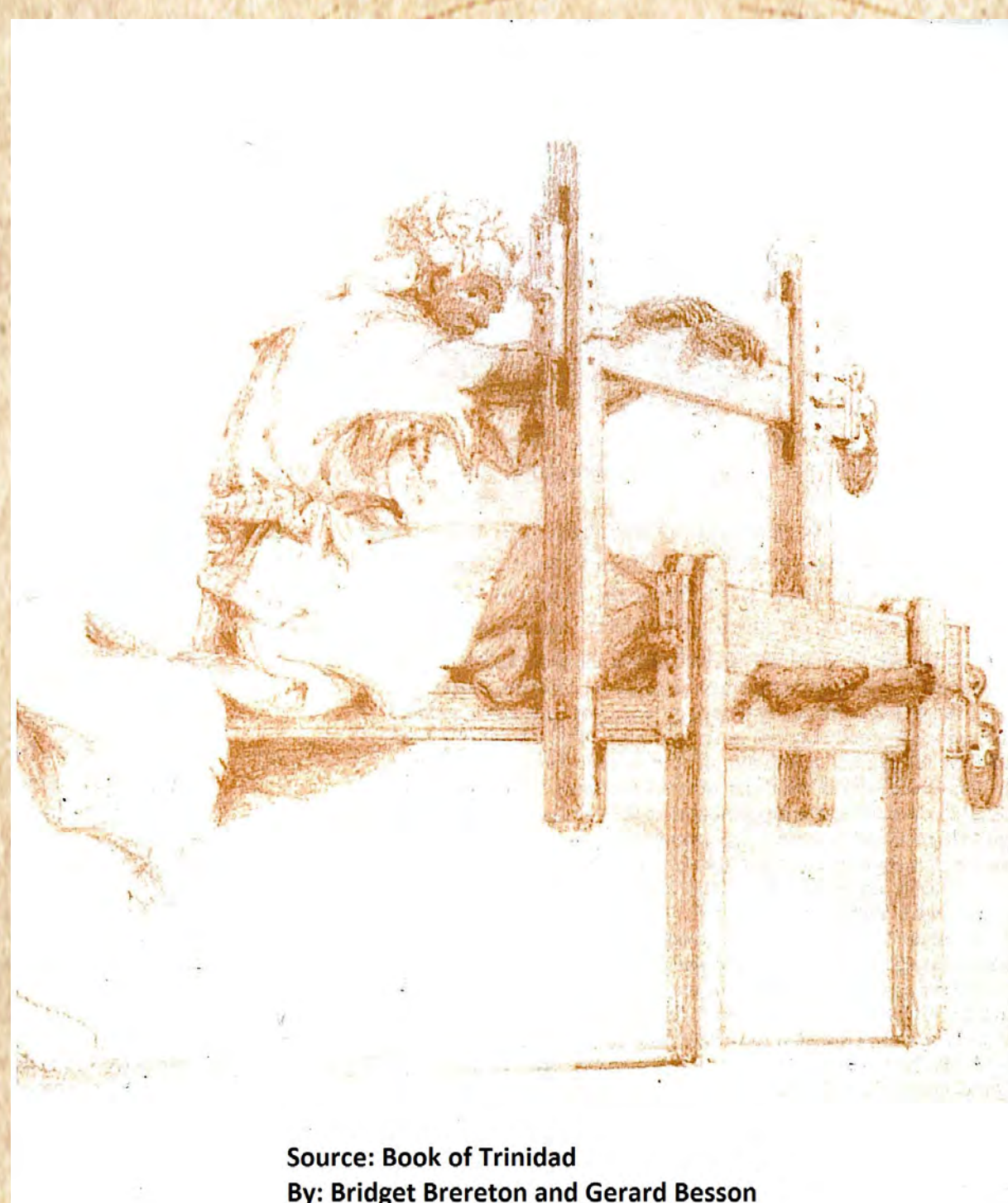


Source: Jubilee: The Emergency of African-American Culture  
By: Howard Dodson

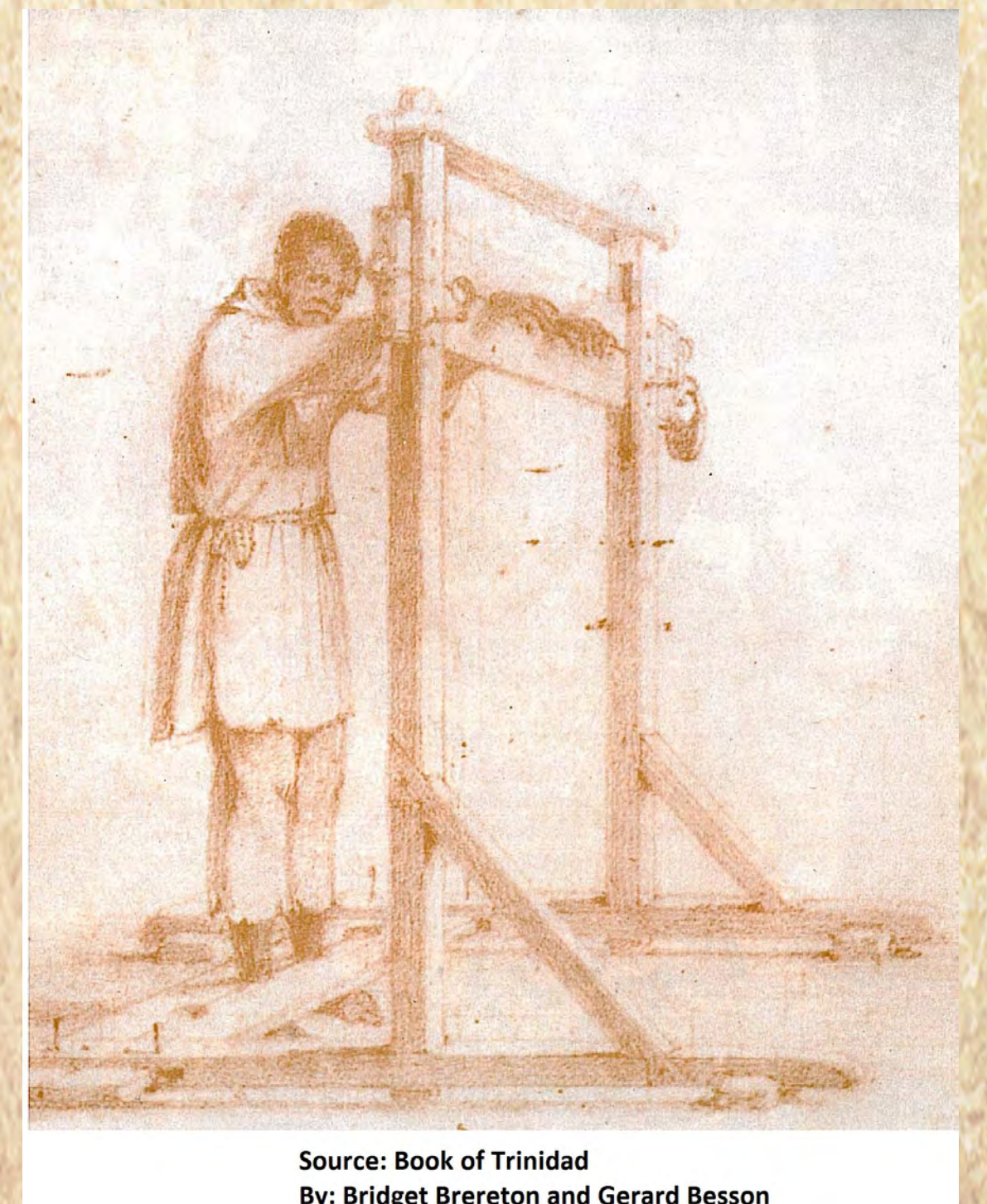
Punishment during slavery took on many forms and varied in severity depending on the crime. Planters perceived the enslaved as dangerous and as such implemented punishments designed to torture and deter other potential offenders. The enslaved were castrated, branded with hot irons, dismembered and locked in prisons/dungeons for infinite periods of time.

Floggings were used for various offences while the stocks were used for less significant crimes. In 1801, large numbers of enslaved persons died mysteriously in Trinidad at the Montalambert estate. After the establishment of a poisoning commission, numerous persons were tortured and confined to the Port of Spain jail where they were chained flat to the floor in dark, airless cells.

Pierre Francois during this commission protested his innocence but was still sentenced to be burnt alive. The sentencing was carried out and he was burnt alive along with the corpse of a headless slave who was hanged and decapitated earlier.



Source: Book of Trinidad  
By: Bridget Brereton and Gerard Besson



Source: Book of Trinidad  
By: Bridget Brereton and Gerard Besson

# ORDINANCE ON RUNAWAY SLAVES

TRINIDAD.

## AN ORDINANCE.

*Enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor of Trinidad with the Advice and Consent of the Council of Government thereof.*

To induce Runaway Slaves to return to their Owners or Employers on or before the Thirty-first day of July instant, and to relieve them from Punishment.

(L. S.) G. F. HILL.

Whereas there are many runaway slaves who are now absent from the service of their masters; and, for the purpose of inducing such runaway slaves to return to their masters, it is expedient that all such runaways who may voluntarily return to the service of their respective masters before the first day of August next should be relieved and discharged from all punishment for or on account of their having so absented themselves as aforesaid—

Now, therefore, be it enacted by His Excellency The Right Honorable Sir GEORGE FITZGERALD HILL, Baronet, Colonel of the Londonderry Regiment of Militia, Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the said Island and its Dependencies, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government thereof, and by the authority of the same, that from and after the promulgation of this Ordinance it shall not be lawful for any master or employer or other person having authority over any slave in this colony who is now a runaway or absent from the service of his or her master or employer or other person having authority over him or her, to inflict any punishment on such slave by reason of or by way of punishment for such his or her running away or absence from the service of his or her master or employer or other person aforesaid: Provided such slave shall, of his or her own free will and without compulsion, return to the estate or plantation to which he or she may belong, or to the house or residence of such his or her master, employer, or other person aforesaid, and shall deliver himself or herself up, and place himself or herself under the direction or controul of such his or her master or employer or other person having authority over him or her as aforesaid, at any time on or before the thirty-first day of July now instant.

Passed in Council this Tenth day of July, One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four.

PHILIP D. SOUPER,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

## NOTICE.

**R**UNAWAY from the Sainte Marie Estate, Quarter of Cedros, the following Slaves, whose names and descriptions are as follows:

**HYPOLITE BALATTA**, Field Negro, native of Guadeloupe, brown black, 32 years of age, about 5 feet 8 inches high, speaks negro French and Spanish, and understands English; suspected of being about the Districts of St Joseph or Arima.

**MARIE JOSEPH LAURENCIA**, Field Negress, brownish complexion, about 5 feet 1 inch in stature, creole of Trinidad, speaks negro French; supposed to be harbored either about Town, Orange Grove, or in the Quarters of Carenage or Diego Martin.

Whoever will give such information to the Subscribers as may lead to their apprehension, or lodge them or either of them in the Royal Gaol, will be handsomely rewarded. And if any person or persons are found harboring the above-mentioned Slaves after this notice, they will be prosecuted according to law.

ADOLPHE DANGAUD.  
ANTOINE VASSAL.

Port of Spain, Oct. 8, 1833.

Port of Spain Gazette 1833

## RUNAWAY

**F**ROM the the *Maria Estate*, a Mulatto girl about 18 years of age, named **AGATE**. She has absented herself from her owner about two weeks since, and has been frequently seen about Town with a Tray selling; about five feet five inches in height, proportionably stout, has a scar above one of her eyes, and loia spats about her neck.—Any person delivering her to her owner will be handsomely rewarded, and those found harbouring her will be dealt with according to law.

P GUISEPPI.

St. Joseph, 6th March, 1829.

Port of Spain Gazette 1829

## NOTICE.

**R**UNAWAY from the Milton Estate, Four NEGROES, whose names and descriptions are as follows:—

**LEWIS**,—a stout-made Negro, native of Tortola, 30 years of age, about 5 feet 9 inches high; subject to mal-d'estomac.

**POLIT**,—a clever-looking jet black Negro, 35 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches high, speaks negro French as fluently as English, but generally uses the former.

**GEORGE**,—a stout-made active-looking Negro, black, 41 years of age, 5 feet 7 inches, native of Tobago, and has lost one of his front teeth.

**CHARLEY**,—a healthy-looking Negro, 18 years of age, 5 feet 4 inches, native of Tortola, and has a stooping gait.

The two last have been seen this week at Tacarigua and Arouca, and the two former are suspected of being in the same Districts.

If any person is found harboring the above-mentioned Slaves after this notice, they will be prosecuted as the Law directs, as the frequent running away of Slaves lately, under various and generally frivolous pretences, has become an intolerable grievance.

GRAY, LOSH, & Co.

13th Sept. 1833.

Port of Spain Gazette 1829

**R**UNAWAY from *Philippine Estate*, Two Negroes, one called *Sanco*, the other called *Cudjoe*, (black) both speak English and French, Cudjoe can read and write, about 5 feet 3 inches.—Lodging them in Goal or to the Subscriber will receive a handsome reward.

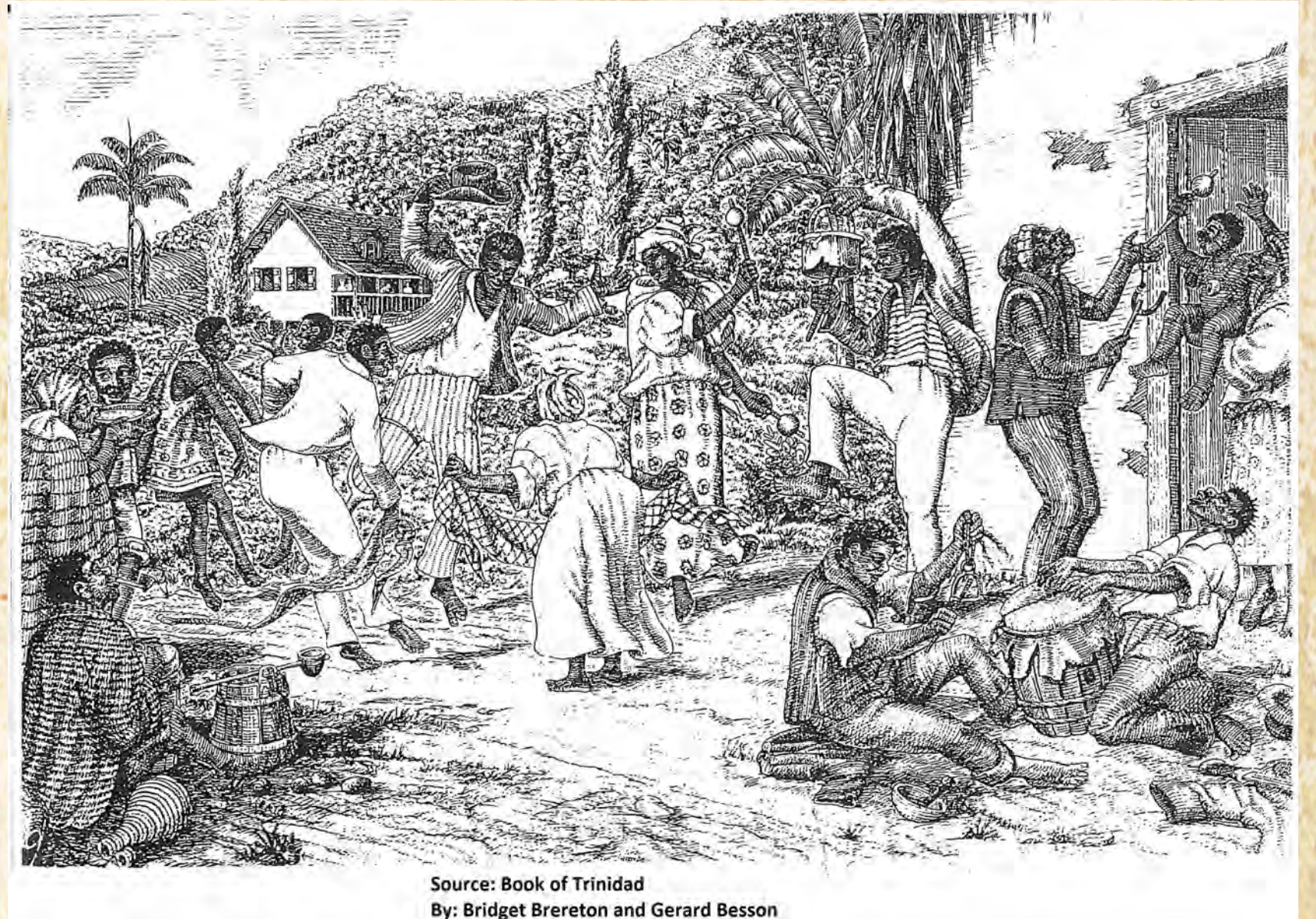
T. R. CORSBIE.

San Fernando, Sept. 16, 1829.

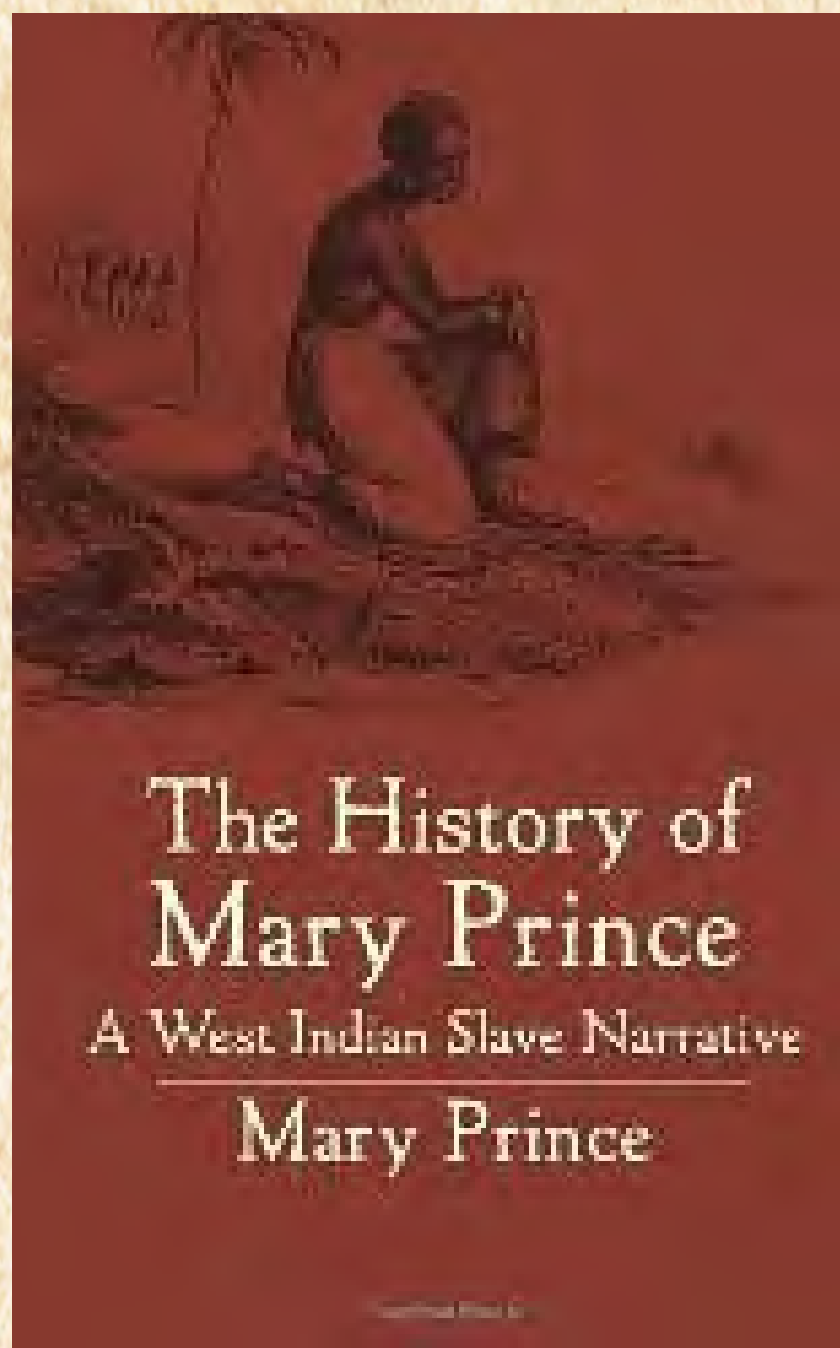
Port of Spain Gazette 1829

# RESISTANCE TO SLAVERY

Resistance to slavery was endemic amongst the enslaved population in the Caribbean. The methods through which the enslaved Africans resisted slavery included Grand and Petit Maroonage, armed revolt and rebellion, gynaecological resistance, feigning illnesses and laziness, damaging property, poisoning both the master and themselves, retaining their African religion and cultural practices, writing letters and memoirs as well as giving oral testimonies to Commissions of Inquiry. The enslaved Africans were crucial in the fight for Emancipation as they played a large role in freeing themselves.



Source: Book of Trinidad  
By: Bridget Brereton and Gerard Besson



**H**YPOLYTE from the Sainte Marie Estate, Quarter of Cedros, the following Slaves, whose names and descriptions are as follows :  
**HYPOLITE BALATTA**, Field Negro, native of Guadaloupe, brown black, 32 years of age, about 5 feet 8 inches high, speaks negro French and Spanish, and understands English; suspected of being about the Districts of St Joseph or Arima.  
**MARIE JOSEPH LAURENCIA**, Field Negress, brownish complexion, about 5 feet 1 inch in stature, creole of Trinidad, speaks negro French; supposed to be harbored either about Town, Orange Grove, or in the Quarters of Carenage or Diego Martin.  
Whoever will give such information to the Subscribers as may lead to their apprehension, or lodge them or either of them in the Royal Gaol, will be handsomely rewarded. And if any person or persons are found harboring the above-mentioned Slaves after this notice, they will be prosecuted according to law.  
**ADOLPHE DANGAUD.**  
**ANTOINE VASSAL.**  
Port of Spain, Oct. 8, 1833.  
Port of Spain Gazette 1833

19/12/1805  
**THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.**  
Publication No. 890.  
General Hislop to the Secretary of State.  
Source: Public Record Office, State Papers Colonial, C. O. 295/11.  
Published by the courtesy of the Master of the Rolls and the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records.  
Summary. Trinidad. 19th December 1805.  
My Lord  
The dispatch vessel for want of wind, being delayed I am able now to inform Your Lordship that the Council sat on till ten o'clock last night on the trial of four of the negroes who have been chief instigators of the intended insurrection.  
All were found guilty, and three of them (two styling themselves Kings and one a General in Chief), were condemned to be hanged this day at twelve o'clock. Their heads are to be exposed after death on poles erected for the purpose, and their bodies to be hanged in chains on the sea side near the district where they resided.  
The Council continues to sit daily for the examination of others implicated in this diabolical plot.  
I have the honour to be, My Lord,  
Your Lordship's  
Most obedient and most humble servant  
T. Hislop.  
The Right Honourable  
Lord Castlereagh.

## ARMED REVOLT AND REBELLION

### TRINIDAD

The revolt at St. Joseph in 1837 was led by Daaga (Donald Stewart) a former African chief in Guinea and the leader of the first British West India Regiment. In the early morning of June 18th 1837, the revolt broke out when approximately 250 of Daaga's men assaulted the barracks of the white officers. By daybreak however, many of the mutineers surrendered and Daaga himself was taken into custody. Daaga and his remaining compatriots were sentenced to death by firing squad on August 16th 1837.

### TOBAGO

The year 1770 marked the beginning of an eleven year period in the history of Tobago which is characterised by numerous armed revolts by the enslaved Africans. From 1770 to 1801, six armed revolts took place on the island. One revolt led by an enslaved named Sandy in 1770, two armed revolts in 1771, one in June and the other in August, one revolt in 1773, 1774 and 1801. These revolts were not concentrated in one specific area on the island and in some instances such as the 1773 revolt; it was an island wide event.



# FREE BLACK AMERICANS - THE MERIKINS 1815 to 1816

During the War of 1812 between the British and Americans, the British made promises of freedom to slaves who joined their naval or military forces. These soldiers were told that they would remain free and obtain 16 acres of land per head of family. The first Merikins settled in Company Villages around Princes Town. Some of these villages are now known as New Grant, Hindustan, Indian Walk, Sherring Place and Hardbargain. Some Merikins also settled in Caroni and Laventille but unlike their compatriots in the south they did not stay long on their land and instead undertook casual labour in the towns.

## MANUMISSION

Enslaved persons also attained freedom through manumission. Many skilled enslaved persons would be loaned to other plantations for the purpose of small jobs such as blacksmiths and coopers. The money they gained from these jobs would be saved and after negotiations between the planter and the enslaved, a sum of money would be offered in exchange for their freedom as well as their family. This process bolstered the creation of free communities in different areas of Trinidad and Tobago

Free black American settlers in Trinidad 1815-16 45

### 5 Land-grant plot locations

Location of the American Settlements around Savannah Grande/Princes Town

\*The areas of Gilmore Hill and Mission Village are marked FREE SETTLERS on a map of 1835 in the British Museum, possibly the American refugees other than the Colonial Marines

Source: Free Black American Settlers in Trinidad 1815-16. By: John Weiss

Free black American settlers in Trinidad 1815-16 47

### Numerical list of plots

- Names of divisions are the earliest found in reports or on plans.
- Settlers' names shown here are the earliest names inscribed on a plot on cadastral plans or other documents.
- Following each name is either the Company or the year of settlement if family to the Colonial Marines (1816) or a refugee group (1815 or 1821).
- As in the main lists, names in Blackshaw's lists are started thus\*.
- A name identified with a plot bearing a slightly different name shows the latter [thus].
- Where identification carries some doubt, the name is followed by a question mark THUS?
- A name identified with several plots is cross-referenced, as is a plot identified with several names.
- 'unknown' = the earliest proprietor noted was not one of the original settlers.

Guayacana Division

- WEBB, Samuel 2Co
- MAIDEN\*, Daniel 4Co
- PATTERSON, William 4Co [William Patterson]
- BUTLER, Lucy [1816 child]
- unknown
- SYM, John [1821 group] [John Simms]
- JACKSON, Lewis 4Co
- unknown
- GRIMES, Robert 4Co
- CURRY, Simon 4Co
- SMITH, Ben 4Co
- TURNER, Adam 4Co
- BAKER, George 4Co
- unknown
- RANDALL, Edmund 4Co [also 25]
- SMITH, Jacob 4Co
- STEWART, Charles 4Co
- LEE, Moses 4Co
- unknown
- JACKSON, Solomon 4Co
- unknown
- TEAGLE, John? 6Co
- PENDELETON, Harry 4Co
- RANDALL, Edmund 4Co [also 16]
- THOMPSON, Vincent 4Co [V. Thompson]
- unknown
- MILLER, Lewis 4Co
- FLOOD, Anthony 2Co
- unknown
- BRAXTON\*, Isaac 4Co
- BROOK, William 4Co
- unknown
- IVERSON, Emmanuel\* 4Co [Emmanuel Jesson]
- GOLD\*, Jesse 4Co
- unknown
- 60 [uncaptured in 1847?]

Monkey Town Division

- HAMILTON, Pompey 6Co [P. Hamilton]
- WILEY, Charles 6Co
- unknown
- JACKSON, Aaron 1Co [A. Jackson]
- unknown
- FLOYD, William 5Co [377]
- DOWNING, Leven? 6Co [A1? L. Down]

Source: Free Black American Settlers in Trinidad 1815-16. By John McNish Weiss



TRINIDAD. 95

Appendix G.

Return of Slaves manumitted by Private Contract, from 20th December 1826, to 24th June 1827, inclusive.

Ninety-seven in Number.

No.	Name of Slave	Probable Year Man.	Personal Freedom.	Name of Owner.	Date when Manumitted.	Age at Manumission.	Sex.	Particulars.	Remarks.
1	Desire Marie	30	Personal	Ignace Dubois	1808 08 Dec.	18 05 Jan.	F	00 15 00000	Delivered to Desire Marie on the 23 Feb. 1827. She had a child by Mr. Dubois in the Valley of St. Ann's.
2	Marie Elise	45	Plantation	Marie Madeline Achet 27 Dec.	1808 08 Dec.	18 05 Jan.	F	00 15 00000	The date of her manumission is not given. She was manumitted by the Hon. the Attorney General on the 23 Feb. 1827. She had a child by Mr. C. Scherer, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. She is a free woman, and resides at the house of Mr. Scherer.
3	Marie Marie	45	Plantation	Marie Madeline Achet 27 Dec.	1808 08 Dec.	18 05 Jan.	F	00 15 00000	Delivered to Marie Marie on the 23 Feb. 1827. She had a child by Mr. C. Scherer, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. She is a free woman, and resides at the house of Mr. Scherer.
4	Julie Simon	45	Plantation	Simon 27 Dec.	1808 08 Dec.	18 05 Jan.	F	00 15 00000	Delivered to Julie Simon, a free woman, on the 23 Feb. 1827. She had a child by Mr. C. Scherer, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. She is a free woman, and resides at the house of Mr. Scherer.
5	Simon	45	Plantation	Simon 27 Dec.	1808 08 Dec.	18 05 Jan.	M	00 15 00000	Delivered to Simon, a free man, on the 23 Feb. 1827. He had a child by Mrs. Simon, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. He is a free man, and resides at the house of Mr. Simon.
6	Harry Marie	45	Plantation	Marie Madeline Achet 27 Dec.	1808 08 Dec.	18 05 Jan.	M	00 15 00000	Delivered to Harry Marie, a free man, on the 23 Feb. 1827. He had a child by Mrs. Marie, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. He is a free man, and resides at the house of Mr. Marie.
7	Raymond Baptiste	40	Plantation	Mrs. Littlepage	1808 08 Dec.	18 05 Jan.	M	00 15 00000	Delivered to Raymond Baptiste, a free man, on the 23 Feb. 1827. He had a child by Mrs. Littlepage, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. He is a free man, and resides at the house of Mrs. Littlepage.
8	Michel Marie	44	Plantation	Francis Howard and Seller Vauvour	1807 17 Jan.	18 05 Jan.	M	00 15 00000	This manumission has not yet been called for by the law.
9	Marie Zep	14	Plantation	Charles Rousseau	19 Jan.	18 05 Jan.	F	00 0 00000	Delivered to Marie Zep, a free woman, on the 19 Jan. 1827. She had a child by Mr. Rousseau, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. She is a free woman, and resides at the house of Mr. Rousseau.
10	Ann Josephine Joseph	17	Plantation	Ann Josephine Joseph	19 Jan.	18 05 Jan.	F	00 0 00000	Delivered to Ann Josephine Joseph, a free woman, on the 19 Jan. 1827. She had a child by Mr. Josephine, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. She is a free woman, and resides at the house of Mr. Josephine.
11	Andrienne Rose	40	Plantation	Rose Dupere	18 Jan.	18 05 Jan.	F	00 15 00000	Delivered to Andrienne Rose, a free woman, on the 18 Jan. 1827. She had a child by Mr. Dupere, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. She is a free woman, and resides at the house of Mr. Dupere.
12	Esther Louise	23	Plantation	Jane Merrifield	10 Jan.	18 05 Jan.	F	00 0 00000	Delivered to Esther Louise, a free woman, on the 10 Jan. 1827. She had a child by Mr. Merrifield, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. She is a free woman, and resides at the house of Mr. Merrifield.
13	John Littlepage	26	Plantation	William Bayley	08 Jan.	18 05 Jan.	M	00 0 00000	Delivered to John Littlepage, a free man, on the 8 Jan. 1827. He had a child by Mrs. Littlepage, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. He is a free man, and resides at the house of Mrs. Littlepage.
14	Alfred Walker	47	Plantation	Anthony Vagar	04 Jan.	18 05 Jan.	M	00 0 00000	Delivered to Alfred Walker, a free man, on the 4 Jan. 1827. He had a child by Mrs. Walker, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. He is a free man, and resides at the house of Mrs. Walker.
15	Elizabeth Felice	25	Plantation	Simon Felice	15 Jan.	18 05 Jan.	F	00 0 00000	Delivered to Elizabeth Felice, a free woman, on the 15 Jan. 1827. She had a child by Mr. Felice, in the Valley of St. Ann's, in the month of March 1827. She is a free woman, and resides at the house of Mr. Felice.

Signed by Henry Glister, Guardian of Slaves

Source: Colonial Office and Protector of Slaves, Trinidad Original Correspondence. Dispatches: Report of the Protector of Slaves, of the Island of Trinidad: Report of the Protector of Slaves for the Half Year ending 24th June 1827.

The founder of the Compound was Abojevi Záhwenú,<sup>2</sup> who in Trinidad adopted the French name of Robert Antoine, and was more popularly known as Papa Nance. He was a Rada—the term used to denote a native of the French West African Protectorate of Dahomey. According to Professor Herskovits, the term itself derives from Allada, an early capital of the Dahomean Kingdom. The old Kingdom was built up by conquest, and in 1724 it embraced the Kingdom of Ardra, the capital of which was what is now known as Allada. Ardra itself seems to have enjoyed some power and prestige, for it is recorded<sup>3</sup> that an ambassador from that Kingdom was received at the Court of King Louis XIV in 1670.

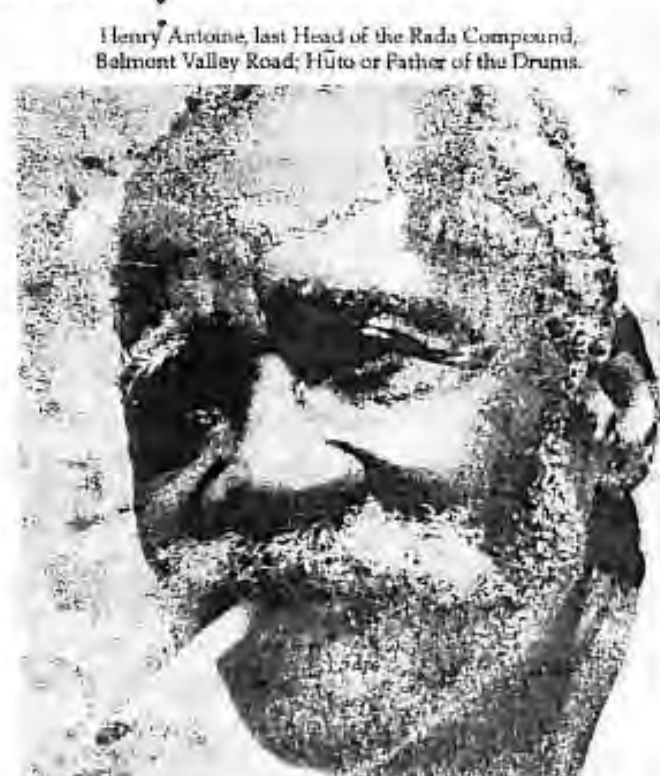
Abojevi was born in Hweda<sup>4</sup> in Dahomey about the year 1800 and was a child when wicked King Adanzan<sup>5</sup> sat on the throne, having usurped power from his minor brother Ghezo who was named to succeed to the kingship.

He was a youth of about 18 years when Ghezo ascended the throne; he saw service under this monarch in the Dahomean Army, and narrowly escaped death or capture when his people raided the Adja territory to the north-west.

It is said that very many years after the abolition of negro slavery in the West Indies in 1833 and the abolition of the apprenticeship system which followed it in 1838, Abojevi was among the last group of African immigrants who came to settle in Trinidad. About 5 ft. 10 ins. in height and well built, he arrived here a full-grown man leaving a wife and children in Dahomey. This group arrived shortly after the great Cholera epidemic which swept the island in 1854. It is

presumed therefore, that he came about 1855 at the approximate age of 55. He worked for some time on an estate near Champ Fleurs close to the town of St. Joseph about 6 miles from the city, and after this period he took up residence in Belmont Valley Road some distance farther up the valley from the site of the compound he subsequently founded.

Abojevi was not a hubonò, or member of the priestly caste. He was a bokonò or diviner in his native land and practised the art of reading the future in the manner of the astrologer. He was held in great respect by those around him, and was credited with a great store of knowledge concerning herbs and things supernatural.<sup>6</sup> Abojevi was sometimes referred to as Dokpwegā, who in his native land is the officiating head of a group in the community having to do with burial ceremonies and funeral rites.



Source: A Rada Community By Andrew Carr



## RECALLING THE ROAD TO FREEDOM

The road to freedom for the enslaved was prolonged but the nineteenth century brought with it change and the end to enslavement. The first half of this century saw the passing of three major Acts that led to the end of slavery in 1838 in the British Caribbean. Towards the end of the eighteenth century, formal campaigns against the Slave Trade were formed. After gaining momentum in the British parliament through abolitionists such as William Wilberforce, Granville Sharp and Thomas Clarkson, The Act to Abolish the Slave Trade was passed on March 25th 1806 and came into effect on January 1st 1807. Trinidadian planters feared that this Act would hinder their economic profits and as such petitioned against it but were unsuccessful. Subsequently, the planters continued to trade in slaves but this was done through illegal means.

## Amelioration Act

The Amelioration Act as passed as abolitionists sought to improve the conditions in which the enslaved lived. Under this act, pregnant women and infants were to receive a better diet and nutrition and females slaves were no longer to be flogged. This Act also proposed that all lashes given to enslaved men should be recorded and all punishments should be administered 24 hours after the crime took place when tempers were cooled.

## Emancipation Act

The Act for the Abolition of Slavery was passed by the British Parliament on August 28th 1833 and came into effect on the 1st of August 1834. Under this act, slavery was abolished and declared unlawful throughout British colonies. Though this act ended enslavement on paper, the formerly enslaved had to serve various periods of apprenticeship before they were freed. Plantation and owners of the enslaved were also to receive compensation under the Emancipation Act. It is believed that owners in Trinidad received 1,033,992 pounds sterling compensation for the 20,657 slaves (though certain sources say 24,000 Trinidadian slaves were set free) while those in Tobago received 233,875 pounds sterling for their 11,599 slaves.

## Apprenticeship

Under this system of Apprenticeship the formerly enslaved were neither fully enslaved nor fully freed. Apprenticeship came into place with three proposed main objectives; to provide an easy and peaceful transition from slavery to freedom; to guarantee the planters an adequate supply of labour during this period and to train the apprentices for the responsibilities of freedom. Under this system of apprenticeship praedials (field slaves) were to be apprentices until 1840 and non-praedials (non-field slaves) until the 1st of August 1838. Various reasons including protest by the praedial workers caused this system to end prematurely. In Trinidad on August 2nd 1838, the militia had to suppress a protesting crowd of about 200 people, mostly women demanding their full freedom. Similar protests took place throughout the region and as such the system of apprenticeship ended in 1838.



William Wilberforce by Sir Thomas Lawrence  
JACKDAW NO. 12 THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION

TRINIDAD.

By His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir GEORGE FITZGERALD HILL, Baronet, Colonel of the Londonderry Regiment of Militia, Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the said Island and its Dependencies, Vice-Admiral thereof &c. &c. &c.

(L. S.) G. F. HILL.

### A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS on the 25th day of July, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, His Excellency having recommended to the Council of Government that the Prædial Apprenticeship in this Colony should be abrogated, upon and from the first day of August, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and the Council having taken the said recommendation into their serious consideration have, with the consent of His Excellency, passed an Ordinance on that subject, of which the following is a transcript:

WHEREAS, by the Act passed by his late Majesty King William the Fourth, with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland assembled for the Abolition of Slavery throughout the British Colonies, for promoting the industry of the Manumitted Slaves and for compensating the persons hitherto entitled to the services of such Slaves it is provided that no person who by virtue of the said Act or of any Act of Assembly Ordinance, or Order in Council as therein before mentioned, should become a Prædial Apprenticed Labourer whether attached or not attached to the soil shall continue in such Apprenticeship beyond the first day of August 1840. And whereas it is expedient that the Apprenticeship of such Apprenticed Labourers shall cease and determine upon the first day of August 1838.

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir GEORGE FITZGERALD HILL, Baronet, Colonel of the Londonderry Regiment of Militia, Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the said Island and its Dependencies, vice-Admiral thereof, &c., &c., by and with the advice of the Council of Government, thereof, and by the authority of the same, that all Persons who, on the first day of August 1838, shall be in a state of Apprenticeship as Prædial Apprenticed Labourers, under the said Act, within this Island and its Dependencies, shall, upon and from and after the first day of August, 1838, become, and be to all intents and purposes whatsoever, absolutely and for ever manumitted and set free, and the Apprenticeship of such Prædial Apprenticed Labourers under the said Act, shall, upon and from and after the said first day of August, 1838, utterly cease and determine within this Island and its Dependencies.

And be it enacted, that this Ordinance shall take effect upon and from and after the first day of August, One thousand Eight hundred and thirty-eight.

Port of Spain Gazette 1838

His Excellency has heartfelt satisfaction in congratulating not only the Prædial Apprentices themselves, but all classes within the Colony of Trinidad, on the adoption of this important measure, and anxiously desires to impress upon those Prædial Apprentices the great gratitude they owe to Her Majesty's Council of Government for this generous boon, which, His Excellency assures them, their past orderly conduct had much influence in procuring them. His Excellency therefore relies with confidence that they will continue to yield obedience to the Law, and that when they thus become perfectly free, they will work honestly and industriously for their livelihood, and thereby ensure for themselves the approbation of Her Majesty the Queen, and full protection in all their worldly concerns as being her faithful subjects.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Island, at Government House, in the Town of Port of Spain, this Twenty-sixth day of July, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Eight.

By His Excellency's Command,  
THORNTON WARNER,  
Acting Colonial Secretary.

I certify that the foregoing Proclamation was duly proclaimed by me this day.

CHARLES FRED. KNOX,  
Acting Marshal.

26th July, 1838.

Port of Spain Gazette 1838

# PROCLAMATION ON THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY

## THE PORT OF SPAIN GAZETTE.

### TRINIDAD.

By His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir GEORGE FITZGERALD HILL, Baronet, Colonel of the Londonderry Regiment of Militia, Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the said Island and its Dependencies, Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.

G. F. HILL.

### A. PROCLAMATION.

His Majesty the King, the Lords and the Commons, in the British Parliament assembled, have determined that slavery shall be abolished throughout the British Colonies, on, from, and after the First of August, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four.

Those who are in the state of slavery must, in the mean time, distinctly understand, and by careful explanation be made to know, that the abolition of slavery does not discharge them from all kind of labor or from the performance of work and duties to those

who are to be their employers, and that they are not to quit the estates of their present masters, who are to become their employers, without permission, except to go to church or market as by law allowed.

To prevent ignorance or misapprehension of the new state in which the slaves are soon to be placed, and the evil consequences that might arise therefrom, it is necessary, in justice to themselves, that they should be accurately informed of the terms and conditions of the law by which the King and his Parliament have abolished slavery.

Therefore be it known, That on and after the First of August, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, all those who now are in a state of slavery are to become and be called apprenticed laborers, with the following rights and privileges secured to them.

Those who have been heretofore slaves for life usually employed in agriculture or in the manufacture of colonial produce, or otherwise upon lands, and registered as prædial apprentices, are to serve their employers six years as apprentices, and then to be entirely free. During these six years, however, they are only to work forty-five hours in each week for their employers, with food, clothing, medicine, and hospital care, as heretofore.

If the employers require their apprentices to work during more hours than are herein specified, they must pay them for it upon bargain to be made. The extra hours beyond forty-five in the week belong to the apprentices, which they may employ for their own benefit and profit.

The apprentices are not to be punished by their employers or managers, nor otherwise than by the decision of magistrates whom the King has ordered the Governor to commission, and some of whom his Majesty has sent here expressly from England to reside in the different Districts of this Colony, with full authority and power to make the employers do justice to the apprentices; and to make the apprentices perform their work and duty to their employers.

These magistrates will hear all complaints of employers against apprentices and of apprentices against employers; and these magistrates have alone the authority to punish. They will explain and secure to the apprentices all the rights, privileges, and advantages the law has provided for them; and under the power and protection of the Governor and those magistrates, the apprentices may, by quiet and obedient conduct, ensure to themselves an easy and a happy time. But since His Majesty has been so indulgent to those who were until now slaves for life, He justly expects good conduct, submission, and contentment from them as Apprentices; and although he has appointed special Magistrates on purpose to protect the Apprentices, yet these Magistrates are at the same time ordered to do justice to the Employers, and in particular to punish those Apprentices who neglect or imperfectly perform their work, who are guilty of insolence or insubordination, or who quit or runaway from the service of their employers.

Those slaves, such as domestics, who have not before the Twenty-eighth of August, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-two, worked in the Field, or on Lands or Estates, are called Non-prædial, and are to serve their Employers as at present required, for only Four Years from the First of August, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-four.

All Children who shall be on the First of August, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-four, under six years of age, shall be absolutely and entirely free, and those also who shall be born after that day, to be maintained at the expense of their parents, or to be apprenticed in case of inability on the part of the parents to support them; and measures are to be adopted to afford sufficient instruction to all those whose condition is thus to be changed, to fitly qualify them for the enjoyment of it.

Having thus described and proclaimed what is to be the improved situation of those who are to become apprenticed labourers compared with their former state of slavery, it now only remains to exhort them in the name of their King and in the words His Royal Proclamation given out in this Colony on the eleventh of October last, to yield due obedience to this law, for his Majesty doth make known and declare his settled purpose and resolve to enforce obedience thereto by all the powers and authority in him vested, and to prevent, and if necessary to repress and punish, all contraventions of the said law.

Given under my Hand and the Great Seal of the Island at Government-House, in the Town of Port of Spain, this Twelfth day of July, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-four.

By His Excellency's Command,

PHILIP D. SOUPER.

Colonial Secretary.



# COMPENSATION CLAIMS

After emancipation, claims were submitted by owners of slaves. They were compensation for the loss of the services of the slaves.

TRINIDAD.

N<sup>o</sup> 1542  
(Same Number as Return)

Name of Estate, or Domicile of Slaves }  
*El Carmen Estate*  
Quarter of *Guarapo*

**THE CLAIM**

of *Doctor Francisco Llanos* ( )  
of the Town of *Peto* Spain as Owner in Fee

to the Compensation for *Nine*  
Slaves in the possession of the said *Doctor Francisco Llanos*


on the 1st day of August 1834, duly registered [except as undermentioned (\*)] and described in the Return made thereof, on the *fifth* day of *September* 1834.

*Francisco Llanos*  
20th January 1835

(\*) Character in which the Claim is made:—as  
Owner in Fee—Tenant in Tail, for Life, or Years—Mortgagee—Trustee—Receiver—Guardian—Sequestrator—Committee—Executor—Administrator—or otherwise.

(\*) In case any Children shall have been born between the last Registration, and the 1st August 1834, and included in the Return, their Names, Ages, and Names of Mothers to be stated at foot of the Claim.—And in case the Property in any Slave or Slaves shall have been changed between the last Registration, and the 1st of August 1834, the Claimant must briefly state his Title from the Person in whose Name the Slaves were last registered.

1836  
7



ANNO SEXTO  
**GULIELMI IV. REGIS.**

\*\*\*\*\*

C A P. V.

An Act for carrying into further Execution Two Acts of His present Majesty, relating to the Compensation for Slaves upon the Abolition of Slavery, and for facilitating the Distribution and Payment of such Compensation. [18th March 1836.]

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for the Abolition of Slavery throughout the British Colonies, for promoting the Industry of the manumitted Slaves, and for compensating the Persons hitherto entitled to the Services of such Slaves*, the Lords of the Treasury were empowered to raise a Sum of Twenty Million Pounds Sterling in manner therein mentioned; and it was enacted, that the Money so raised should be paid into the Bank of England, to the Account of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, under the Title of "The West India Compensation Account;" and certain Commissioners of Arbitration were thereby appointed to divide and apportion the said Money among the Owners of the Slaves to be manumitted under the Provisions of the said Act; and it was thereby enacted, that a Certificate containing a List of the Names and Designation of the several Persons in whose Favour any Sum or Sums of Money should be awarded by the said Commissioners of Arbitration should be signed by Three or more of the said Commissioners of Arbitration, who should transmit the same to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies; who should sign the same and transmit it to the Lords of the Treasury; and the Lords of the Treasury, or any Three of them, should thereupon, by Warrant under their Hands, authorize the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt to pay the said Sums out of the Monies standing upon their Account in the Books of the said Bank, under the Title of "The West India Compensation Account," to the Persons named in such Certificate: And whereas by another Act passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act to carry into further Execution the Provisions of an Act passed in the Third and Fourth Years of His present Majesty, for compensating Owners of Slaves upon the Abolition of Slavery*, after reciting that certain Claims for Compensation under the

3 & 4 W. 4. c. 73.  
5 & 6 W. 4. c. 45.

E

TRINIDAD.

N<sup>o</sup> 1542

THESE are to Certify that the Number of *Nine* Slaves mentioned in the Claim hereunto annexed are duly registered in the name of *Francisco Llanos*

as belonging to the Plantation called *El Carmen* in the Quarter of *Guarapo* and whereof the said *Francisco Llanos* is in possession as *Owner*

Dated the *Twentieth* day of *January* 1835.

*R. M. [Signature]*  
Registrar of Slaves.

# Pan Africanism

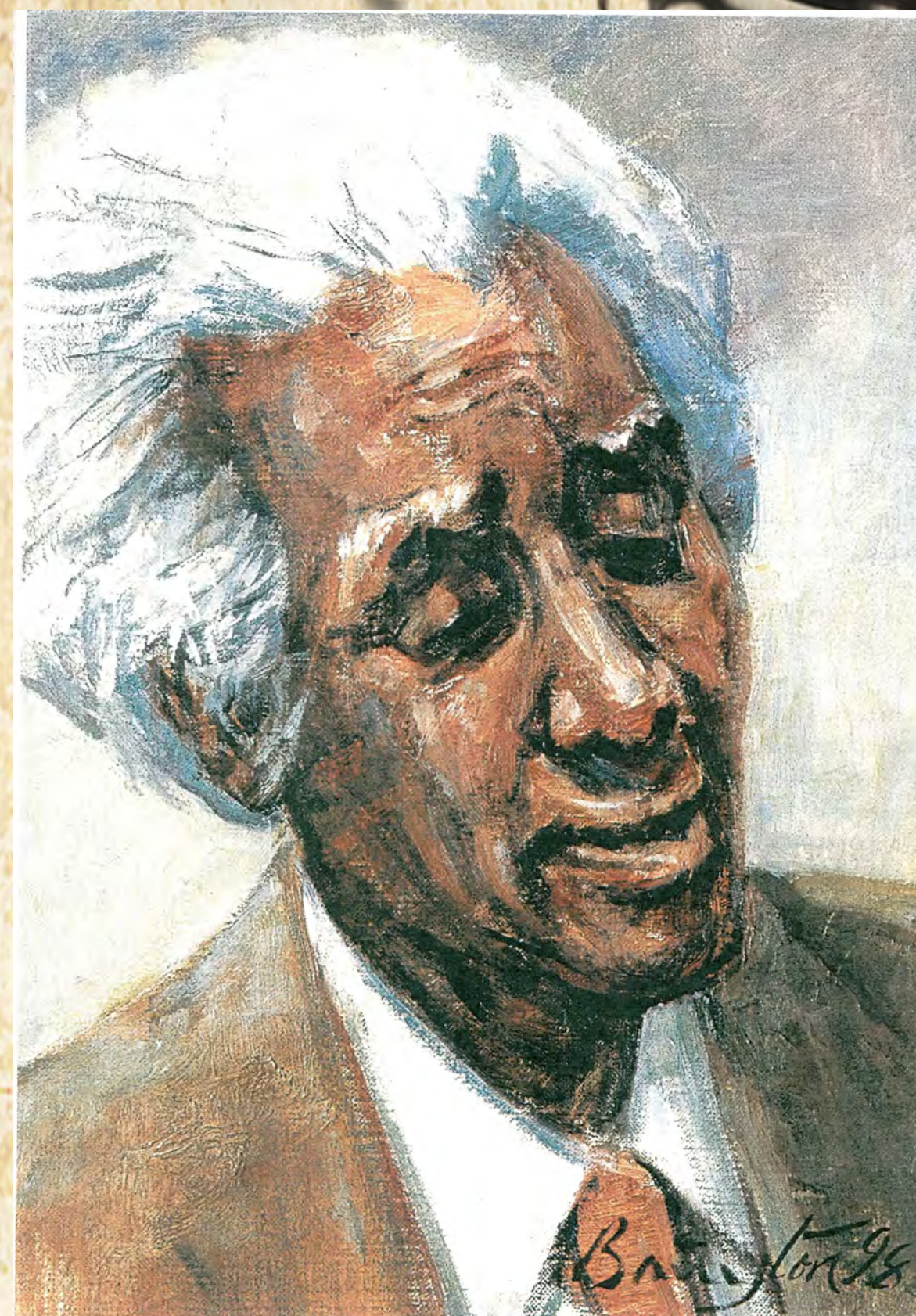
Modern pan-Africanism is about one hundred years old. It was in July 1900 that Henry Sylvester Williams, a Trinidad-born barrister, organised the first pan-African conference in London. He wanted, he stated, to 'bring into closer touch with each other the peoples of African descent throughout the world.' This gathering was a small affair - only four representatives from Africa itself attended - but it was the beginning of a movement that would grow in the course of the century, attracting men and women around the world to an ideal of justice and human rights.

Pan-Africanism can perhaps be best described through some of its strongest features:

- It is an association or a movement, aimed at giving Black people full participation in the political, social, cultural and economic dimensions of world affairs.
- It is unmistakably and emphatically Afrocentric, that is to say it takes Africa as its starting point for all its ideas and beliefs.
- It assumes that all Black people around the world constitute a single family, descended from a common African origin.
- It stands for the decolonization of Africa and the independence of all states. It is totally opposed to any form of racial injustice or discrimination.
- It is committed to the universal recognition of the full dignity of Black people and their equality as citizens of the world.

Source:

Watson, Barrington, and Dudley Johnson. *The Pan-Africanists*. Kingston: Ian Randle, 2000. Print.



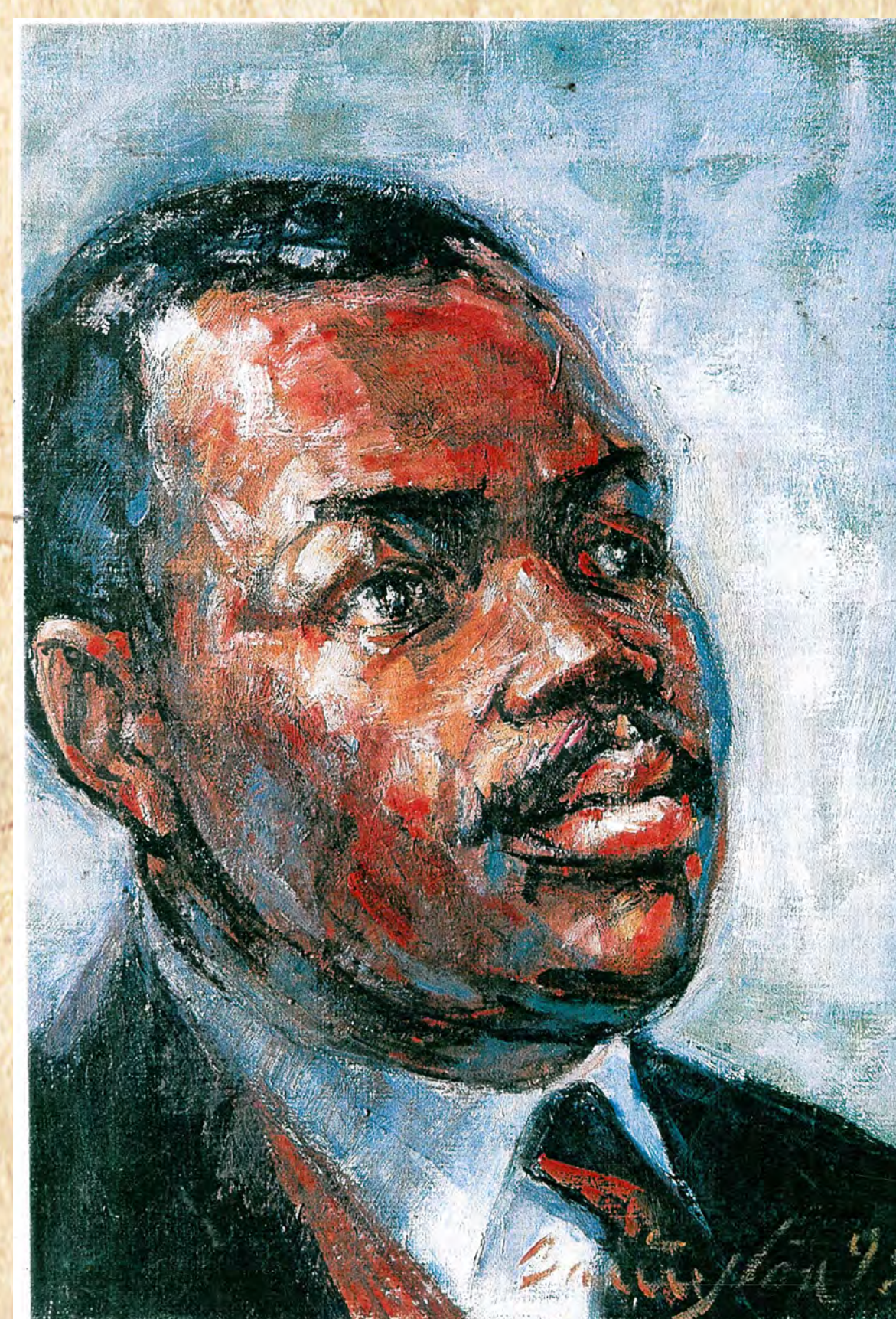
C.L. R. James  
1901-1989

Historian, novelist, critic, political activist and cricket enthusiast, Cyril Lionel Robert James was born in Tunapuna, near Port of Spain, Trinidad on 4 January 1901. The son of a schoolteacher and book-loving mother, he grew up surrounded by the works of Thackeray and Shakespeare. He did well at school, won a scholarship at the prestigious Queen's Royal College and became a teacher himself at the age of 19. He never lost his gift for teaching and was a sought-after lecturer and adviser for the whole of his life. Among his early pupils was the young Eric Williams, later to become independent Trinidad's first Prime Minister. James was also a keen cricketer and athlete, winning Trinidad's high jump championship. In 1938, C.L.R James published the *Black Jacobins*, probably his most important book and required reading for anyone interested in the history of Haiti and the Caribbean.



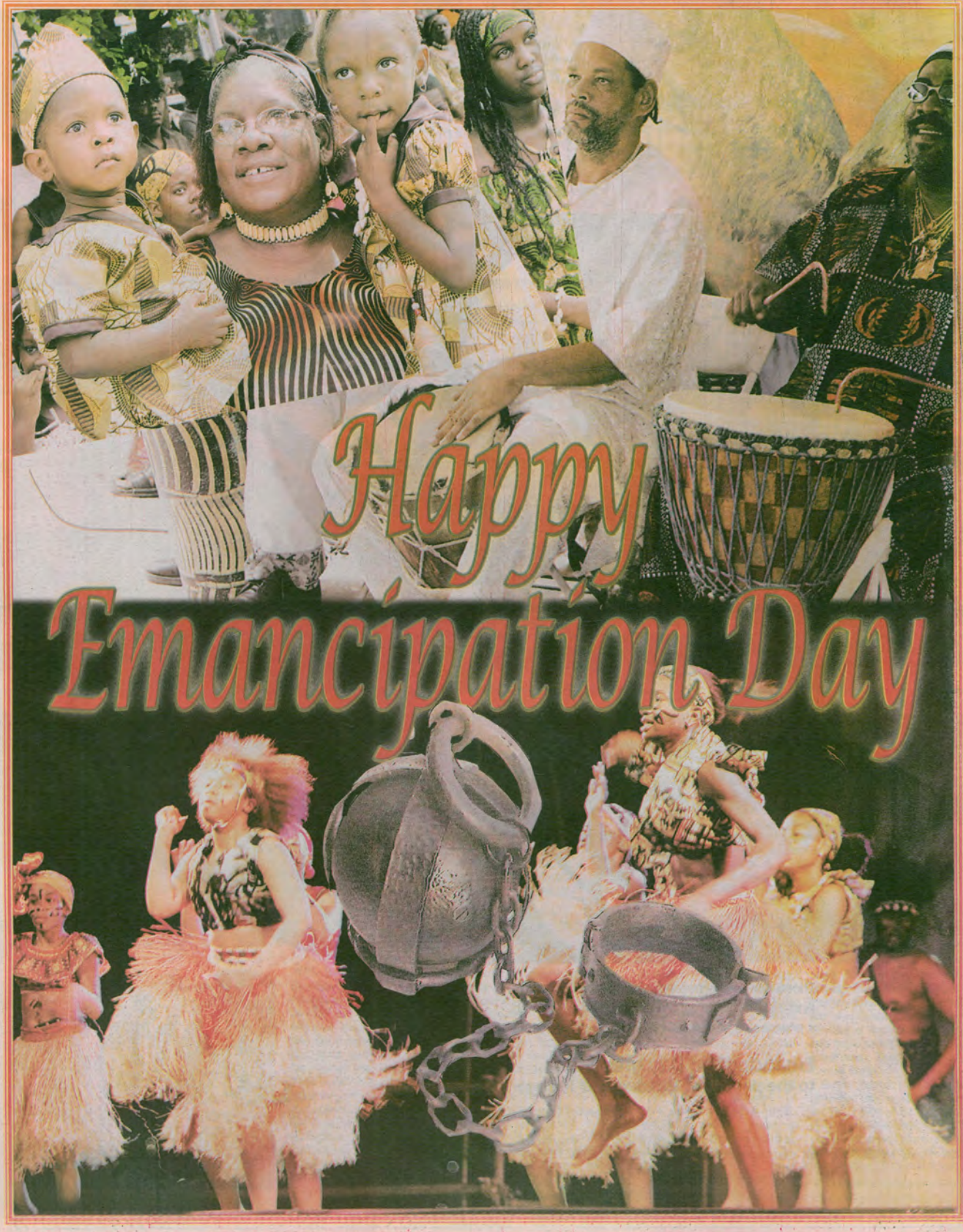
George Padmore  
1902-1959

Baptized 'the father of pan-Africanism', Padmore was one of the most influential of Black intellectuals and activists in the twentieth century. He acted as a catalyst, putting into contact leaders and thinkers from around the world. Although his political views and concept of strategy changed during his life, he remained totally committed to the vision of a free and independent Africa, liberated from European colonialism and internal divisions.



Marcus Garvey  
1887-1940

Marcus Mosiah Garvey probably had more worldwide impact than any other person from the Caribbean in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He was an inspirational leader, the founder of an organization with two million members across forty countries, and one of the first and greatest pan-Africanists. He is remembered as a man who tried to instill a sense of pride and purpose in Black people and as somebody who inspired following generations of civil rights activists and pan-Africanist politicians. Above all, he was responsible for creating an ideal and a dream shared by millions of people across the world.

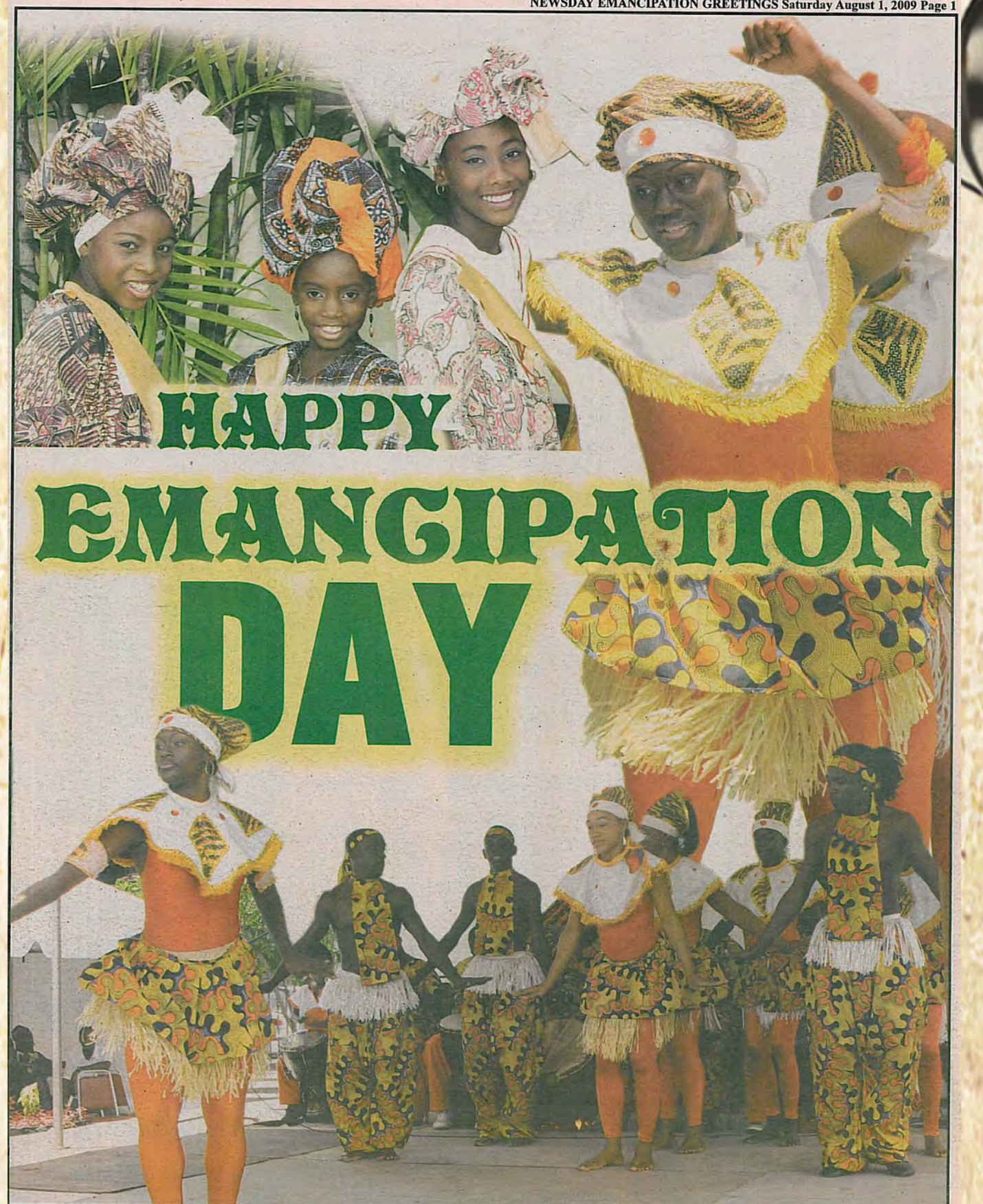


# Happy Emancipation Day



## EMANCIPATION VILLAGE IMPRESSES

**EMANCIPATION** from Page 1  
 The market made a great start, with a busy atmosphere. The stalls were well-stocked and the people were in high spirits. The market was a success and the people enjoyed the day. The stalls were well-stocked and the people were in high spirits. The market was a success and the people enjoyed the day.

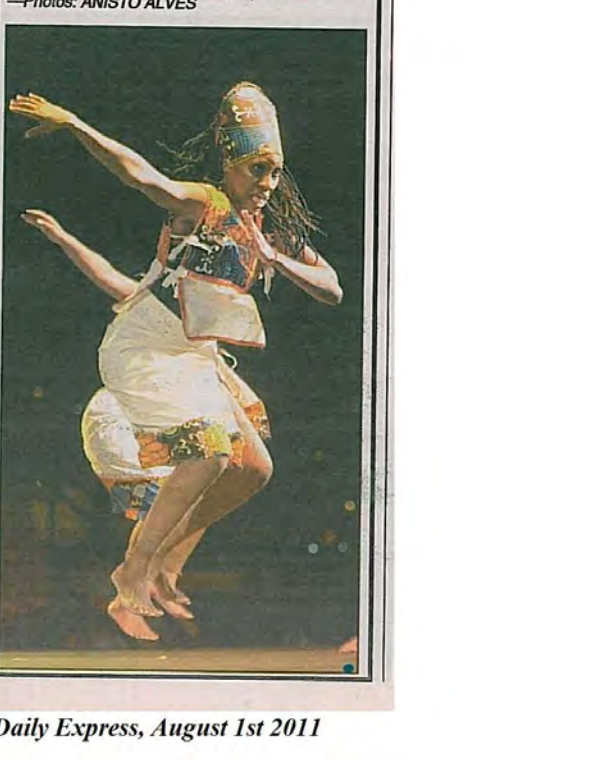


# HAPPY EMANCIPATION DAY



### For the love of Africa

EMANCIPATION WEEKEND KICKS OFF: Performing the most popular reggae 'Ragga The Best', Brother Resistance, right, entertains the audience during the Pan African Concert, Saturday at the Lidi Yasu Promenade, Port of Spain. Photo: STEPHEN DOBBAY



Daily Express, August 1st 2011



### Emancipation march



Guardian, August 2nd 2006

## Dancers celebrate Emancipation Day through streets of PoS



FREEDOM: A group of dancers go through their routine during the Kambule street procession as they celebrate Emancipation Day through Port of Spain yesterday.

The Daily Express, August 2nd 2007



### Emancipation re-enacted on Promenade...

# When freedom came

**Jensen LaVende**  
 jlavende@trinidadexpress.com

DRAPED in dashikis, kaftans and agbadas of all colours and sizes, men and women braved the early morning sun yesterday to witness the re-enactment of the declaration of Emancipation.

Spectators looked on intently as the declaration was re-enacted on the Brian Lara Promenade, Port of Spain, just opposite to the spot where the actual event took place over 176 years ago.

The play, entitled *Freedom Morning Come*, was written by Pearl Eintou Springer, director of culture of the Emancipation Support Committee, headed by Khafra Khambon.

The play depicted the morning of August 1, 1834, when the enslaved gathered to hear the governor, George Hill, read the Proclamation of Emancipation.

Before the re-enactment took place, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar, in her first Emancipation Day feature address, said she was "honoured and humbled" to celebrate the 172nd anniversary of Emancipation with those gathered.

Persad-Bissessar said the theme of the Emancipation celebrations, "Reawakening the Spirit of Liberty", was dedicated to Haiti, the country which was devastated in January by an earthquake.

She also paid tribute to the Black Power Movement and one of the many who were instrumental in 1970s, Makandal Daaga, Caricom Cultural Ambassador Extraordinaire.

Persad-Bissessar, along with Minister of Arts and Multiculturalism Winston Peters and Sports Minister Anil Roberts, returned to the Emancipation Village during the afternoon session.

Express, August 2nd 2012

LEGAL NOTICE No. 147

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND FESTIVALS ACT, CHAP. 19:05

ORDER

MADE BY THE PRESIDENT UNDER SECTION 4 OF THE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND FESTIVALS ACT

THE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND FESTIVALS (AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE) ORDER, 1984

- Citation 1. This Order may be cited as the Public Holidays and Festivals (Amendment to Schedule) Order, 1984.
- Schedule to Chap. 19:05 amended 2. The Schedule to the Public Holidays and Festivals Act is amended by substituting the words "Emancipation Day—1st August" for the words "Discovery Day—1st Monday in August".
- Made this 15th day of October, 1984.

K. BOSWELL-INNISS  
 Secretary to Cabinet