

Chapter 1 : The African slave trade and American courts : the pamphlet literature - ECU Libraries Catalog

*The African Slave Trade and American Courts: The Pamphlet Literature. 2 Vols. (Slavery, Race, and the American Legal System) [Paul Finkelman] on theinnatdunvilla.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

Crops such as sugar cane, tobacco and cotton required an unlimited and inexpensive supply of strong backs to assure timely production for the European market. Slaves from Africa offered the solution. Young boys wait to be loaded aboard a slave ship It was a lucrative business. A slave purchased on the African coast for the equivalent of 14 English pounds in bartered goods in could sell for 45 pounds in the American market. The African interior was riddled with disease, the natives were often hostile and the land uncharted. The Europeans preferred to stay in the coastal region and have the natives bring the slaves to them. Alexander Falconbridge served as the surgeon aboard a number of slave ships that plied their trade between the West African coast and the Caribbean in the late s. He described his experiences in a popular book published in He became active in the Anti-Slavery Society and was appointed Governor of a colony established for freed slaves on the coast of modern-day Sierra Leone. His service was brief as he died in shortly after his appointment. We join his story as he describes the process through which the native African loses his freedom: But the extreme care taken by the black traders to prevent the Europeans from gaining any intelligence of their modes of proceeding; the great distance inland from whence the Negroes are brought; and our ignorance of their language with which, very frequently, the black traders themselves are equally unacquainted , prevent our obtaining such information on this head as we could wish. I have, however, by means of occasional inquiries, made through interpreters, procured some intelligence relative to the point. From these I shall select the following striking instances: While I was in employ on board one of the slave ships, a Negro informed me that being one evening invited to drink with some of the black traders, upon his going away, they attempted to seize him. As he was very active, he evaded their design, and got out of their hands. He was, however, prevented from effecting his escape by a large dog, which laid hold of him, and compelled him to submit. These creatures are kept by many of the traders for that purpose; and being trained to the inhuman sport, they appear to be much pleased with it. I was likewise told by a Negro woman that as she was on her return home, one evening, from some neighbors, to whom she had been making a visit by invitation, she was kidnapped; and, notwithstanding she was big with child, sold for a slave. This transaction happened a considerable way up the country, and she had passed through the hands of several purchasers before she reached the ship. A man and his son, according to their own information, were seized by professed kidnappers, while they were planting yams, and sold for slaves. It frequently happens that those who kidnap others are themselves, in their turns, seized and sold. During my stay on the coast of Africa, I was an eye-witness of the following transaction: After the entertainment was over, the trader proposed to his guest, to treat him with a sight of one of the ships lying in the river. While he was thus employed, some black traders on board, who appeared to be in the secret, leaped into the canoe, seized the unfortunate man, and dragging him into the ship, immediately sold him. From twenty to thirty canoes, capable of containing thirty or forty Negroes each, are assembled for this purpose; and such goods put on board them as they expect will be wanted for the purchase of the number of slaves they intend to buy. They then minutely inspect their persons, and inquire into the state of their health, if they are afflicted with any infirmity, or are deformed, or have bad eyes or teeth; if they are lame, or weak in their joints, or distorted in the back, or of a slender make, or are narrow in the chest; in short, if they have been, or are afflicted in any manner, so as to render them incapable of much labor; if any of the foregoing defects are discovered in them, they are rejected. But if approved of, they are generally taken on board the ship the same evening. The purchaser has liberty to return on the following morning, but not afterwards, such as upon re-examination are found exceptionable. The traders frequently beat those Negroes which are objected to by the captains, and use them with great severity. It matters not whether they are refused on account of age, illness, deformity, or for any other reason. At New Calabar, in particular. As soon as the wretched Africans, purchased at the fairs, fall into the hands of the black traders, they experience an earnest of those dreadful sufferings which they are doomed in future to undergo. Their usage in other respects, during the time of the passage, which generally

lasts several days, is equally cruel. Their allowance of food is so scanty, that it is barely sufficient to support nature. They are, besides, much exposed to the violent rains which frequently fall here, being covered only with mats that afford but a slight defense; and as there is usually water at the bottom of the canoes, from their leaking, they are scarcely ever dry. How To Cite This Article:

Chapter 2 : Slavery in Africa - Wikipedia

The African slave trade and American courts: the pamphlet literature / edited with an introduction by Paul Finkelman.

One of the first martyrs to the cause of American patriotism was Crispus Attucks, a former slave who was killed by British soldiers during the Boston Massacre of 1770. Some 5, black soldiers and sailors fought on the American side during the Revolutionary War. But after the Revolutionary War, the new U. Cotton Gin In the late 18th century, with the land used to grow tobacco nearly exhausted, the South faced an economic crisis, and the continued growth of slavery in America seemed in doubt. Around the same time, the mechanization of the textile industry in England led to a huge demand for American cotton, a southern crop whose production was unfortunately limited by the difficulty of removing the seeds from raw cotton fibers by hand. But in 1793, a young Yankee schoolteacher named Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin, a simple mechanized device that efficiently removed the seeds. Congress outlawed the African slave trade in 1807, the domestic trade flourished, and the slave population in the U. By 1860 it had reached nearly 4 million, with more than half living in the cotton-producing states of the South. History of Slavery Slaves in the antebellum South constituted about one-third of the southern population. Most slaves lived on large plantations or small farms; many masters owned fewer than 50 slaves. Slave owners sought to make their slaves completely dependent on them, and a system of restrictive codes governed life among slaves. They were usually prohibited from learning to read and write, and their behavior and movement was restricted. Many masters took sexual liberties with slave women, and rewarded obedient slave behavior with favors, while rebellious slaves were brutally punished. A strict hierarchy among slaves from privileged house slaves and skilled artisans down to lowly field hands helped keep them divided and less likely to organize against their masters. Slave marriages had no legal basis, but slaves did marry and raise large families; most slave owners encouraged this practice, but nonetheless did not usually hesitate to divide slave families by sale or removal. Slave Rebellions Slave rebellions did occur within the system— notably ones led by Gabriel Prosser in Richmond in 1800 and by Denmark Vesey in Charleston in 1822—but few were successful. The slave revolt that most terrified white slaveholders was that led by Nat Turner in Southampton County, Virginia, in August 1831. Abolitionist Movement In the North, the increased repression of southern blacks only fanned the flames of the growing abolitionist movement. Free blacks and other antislavery northerners had begun helping fugitive slaves escape from southern plantations to the North via a loose network of safe houses as early as the 1780s. This practice, known as the Underground Railroad, gained real momentum in the 1830s and although estimates vary widely, it may have helped anywhere from 40,000 to 100,000 slaves reach freedom. Although the Missouri Compromise was designed to maintain an even balance between slave and free states, it was able to help quell the forces of sectionalism only temporarily. Kansas-Nebraska Act In 1854, another tenuous compromise was negotiated to resolve the question of slavery in territories won during the Mexican-American War. Four years later, however, the Kansas-Nebraska Act opened all new territories to slavery by asserting the rule of popular sovereignty over congressional edict, leading pro- and anti-slavery forces to battle it out—with considerable bloodshed—in the new state of Kansas. In 1857, the Dred Scott decision by the Supreme Court involving a slave who sued for his freedom on the grounds that his master had taken him into free territory effectively repealed the Missouri Compromise by ruling that all territories were open to slavery. The insurrection exposed the growing national rift over slavery: Brown was hailed as a martyred hero by northern abolitionists, but was vilified as a mass murderer in the South. Civil War The South would reach the breaking point the following year, when Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln was elected as president. Within three months, seven southern states had seceded to form the Confederate States of America; four more would follow after the Civil War began. Abolition became a goal only later, due to military necessity, growing anti-slavery sentiment in the North and the self-emancipation of many African Americans who fled enslavement as Union troops swept through the South. When Did Slavery End? Despite seeing an unprecedented degree of black participation in American political life, Reconstruction was ultimately frustrating for African Americans, and the rebirth of white supremacy—including the rise of racist organizations such as the Ku Klux Klan KKK—had triumphed in

the South by Almost a century later, resistance to the lingering racism and discrimination in America that began during the slavery era would lead to the civil rights movement of the s, which would achieve the greatest political and social gains for blacks since Reconstruction.

Chapter 3 : Slavery reparations lawsuit (re USA) | Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

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About Indians died during the Atlantic crossing and were thrown into the sea. The Spanish failed in their experiment to make American Indians into slaves. When forced to work on sugar plantations in Cuba and the West Indies islands, they died by the hundreds. Small numbers of black African slaves were introduced into Spanish America as early as 1492. Since the Africans seemed to survive longer than the native Indians, the Spanish began to look eastward for a new source of slave labor. The West African slave trade had begun. This building on the coast of Africa once was a headquarters for the British slave trade. At first, white slave traders simply went on kidnapping raids, but this proved too dangerous for the Europeans. Local African rulers and black merchants delivered captured people to these trading posts to sell as slaves to European ship captains. About 50 percent of the slaves were taken as prisoners during the frequent tribal wars occurring among the West African kingdoms. Another 30 percent became slaves as punishment for crimes or indebtedness. The remainder were kidnapped by black slave traders. An African trader usually transported his slaves to a coastal trading station by binding them around the neck with leather thongs, each slave about a yard distance from each other. There were often 30 or 40 in a string. The factor living at the trading station negotiated a price between the African slave trader and the slave ship captain. After making a deal with the factor, the traders transported the slaves in large canoes to the ship, riding at anchor just beyond the thundering surf. The factor supervised the branding and loading of the slaves onto the ship. For land-bound Africans who had never seen it before, the ocean was a terrifying sight. Some slaves tried to escape by jumping into the sea, only to be devoured by sharks. Gustavus Vassa, an African slave who later gained his freedom and wrote an account of his life, described his experience boarding a slave ship: I was immediately handled and tossed up to see if I were sound by some of the crew and I was now persuaded that I had gotten into a world of bad spirits and that they were going to kill me. When I recovered, I found some black people about me. I asked if we were to be eaten by these men with horrible looks, red faces and long hair. This diagram shows how slave ships were packed. It was presented to a committee of the British House of Commons in 1789. They were then prodded into the dark, unsanitary hold of the ship. Alexander Falconbridge, an English slave ship doctor, wrote this description of typical slave quarters: They are frequently stowed so close, as to admit of no other posture than lying on their sides. Neither will the height between decks. These platforms are a kind of shelf, about eight feet in breadth, extending from the side of the ship towards the center. They are placed nearly midway between the decks, at the distance of two or three feet from each deck. Upon these the negroes are stowed in the same manner as they are on the deck [floor] underneath. Women and children remained unchained and spent the voyage in separate quarters. All slaves slept on bare, rough wood. This, combined with the turbulent motions of the ship, often caused the skin on their elbows to wear down to the bone. Two different loading philosophies were popular among slave ship captains. In good weather, and only during the day, the crew allowed the slaves on deck. Sometimes a slave could be subjected to force feedings by having his jaws separated for him by a device. Members of the crew entertained themselves by whipping the slaves to make them sing and dance. Slave captains encouraged this activity under the premise that it prevented suicidal thoughts and even scurvy among the slaves. After all, in order to maximize his profit, the captain needed live and healthy Africans at the end of the middle passage. Many Africans died during the middle passage due to smallpox, measles, malaria, and dysentery. During shipboard revolts, some slaves were killed. Those who went insane were thrown overboard. Others took their own lives or surrendered their will to live. On a typical voyage to America, about 15 percent of the Africans died; the longer the voyage lasted, the higher the death rate. Estimates vary, but up to 2 million died. Selling Slaves in America Before selling his slaves, a captain did everything he could to improve the price he would get for them. The Africans received increased food and water rations, and their skins were rubbed with palm oil to give them a healthy appearance. There were two

main methods of selling slaves in the West Indies. These slaves were then assembled in a large yard. On a signal, the buyers burst into this yard to grab the best slaves. Most of the convention delegates, including slave owners like George Washington, wanted a provision in the Constitution prohibiting the importation of slaves. Representatives from slave-importing Georgia and South Carolina, however, threatened to leave the union if prohibition was included. To solve this dilemma, delegates put a compromise in the Constitution that prevented Congress from passing any law against slave trading for 20 years. After , the slave trade came under increasing attack in Europe and the United States. In , President Thomas Jefferson signed a law outlawing the importation of slaves for the purpose of selling them in the United States. A few weeks later, the English Parliament followed our example and passed a similar law. By , most other European nations had banned slave trading. Illegal slaving went on for about 50 years. In , Nathaniel Gordon, one of the last American slave ship captains, made a voyage to West Africa and loaded his ship, the Erie, with Africans, of whom were children. As the Erie left Africa to begin its long homeward trek, an American warship intercepted it about 50 miles from the African coast. Captain Gordon was arrested and taken to New York for trial. The court found Gordon guilty of breaking the U. The infamous Captain Gordon remains the only American slave trader ever to be executed by the United States. The West African slave trade, with its tortuous middle passage, lasted nearly years. During this time, more than 11 million Africans found themselves sold into slavery. Of this number, about 5 percent or , ended up in the United States. Most of the rest ended up in the West Indies or the Caribbean Islands. Looking back on this period, it is difficult to believe, and even harder to admit, that people could be so cruel as to trade human lives for profit. This despicable business meant a loss of some humanity to everyone involved. Write a diary describing one day of your experience. Luke Collingwood and Nathaniel Gordon were both slave ship captains. How were their experiences similar to one another? How were they different? In your opinion, was either man really a criminal? Why or why not? Assume you are a member of the English Parliament in Write a speech giving your reasons why slave trading should be outlawed. The Transatlantic Slave Trade: A History, Revised Edition.

Chapter 4 : Africans in America | Part 1 | Narrative | The African Slave Trade and the Middle Passage

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They claim no reward for their services except food and clothing, and are treated with kindness or severity, according to the good or bad disposition of their masters. Custom, however, has established certain rules with regard to the treatment of slaves, which it is thought dishonourable to violate. But these restrictions on the power of the master extend not to the care of prisoners taken in war, nor to that of slaves purchased with money. All these unfortunate beings are considered as strangers and foreigners, who have no right to the protection of the law, and may be treated with severity, or sold to a stranger, according to the pleasure of their owners. The forms of slavery in Africa were closely related to kinship structures. In many African communities, where land could not be owned, enslavement of individuals was used as a means to increase the influence a person had and expand connections. As such, the owner is free to sell, trade, or treat the slave as he would other pieces of property and the children of the slave often are retained as the property of the master. Domestic service[edit] Many slave relationships in Africa revolved around domestic slavery, where slaves would work primarily in the house of the master but retain some freedoms. The slaves could own the profits from their labour whether in land or in products , and could marry and pass the land on to their children in many cases. Slave labor is performed by the debtor , or a relative of the debtor usually a child. Pawnship was a common form of collateral in West Africa. Pawnship was related to, yet distinct from, slavery in most conceptualizations, because the arrangement could include limited, specific terms of service to be provided and because kinship ties would protect the person from being sold into slavery. Pawnship was a common practice throughout West Africa prior to European contact, including amongst the Akan people , the Ewe people , the Ga people , the Yoruba people , and the Edo people in modified forms, it also existed amongst the Efik people , the Igbo people , the Ijaw people , and the Fon people. Military slavery involved the acquisition and training of conscripted military units which would retain the identity of military slaves even after their service. Although archaeological evidence is not clear on the issue prior to European contact, in those societies that practiced human sacrifice, slaves became the most prominent victims. Sacrifices were carried out all along the West African coast and further inland. Sacrifices were common in the Benin Empire , in what is now Ghana , and in the small independent states in what is now southern Nigeria. In the Ashanti Region , human sacrifice was often combined with capital punishment. Groups such as the Imbangala of Angola and the Nyamwezi of Tanzania would serve as intermediaries or roving bands, waging war on African states to capture people for export as slaves. Redemption of Christian slaves by Catholic monks in Algiers in Burning of a Village in Africa, and Capture of its Inhabitants p. A slave trade bringing Saharans through the desert to North Africa, which existed in Roman times, continued and documentary evidence in the Nile Valley shows it to have been regulated there by treaty. After the Islamic expansion into most of the region, the practices continued and eventually, the chattel form of slavery spread to major societies on the southern end of the Sahara such as Mali, Songhai, and Ghana. Because of religious constraints, the slave trade was carried out in parts of Europe by Iberian Jews known as Radhanites who were able to transfer slaves from pagan Central Europe through Christian Western Europe to Muslim countries in Al-Andalus and Africa. The first Mamluks served the Abbasid caliphs in 9th century Baghdad. Over time, they became a powerful military caste , and on more than one occasion they seized power for themselves, for example, ruling Egypt from 1171 From Egypt had been ruled by the Bahri dynasty of Kipchak Turk origin. White enslaved people from the Caucasus served in the army and formed an elite corps of troops eventually revolting in Egypt to form the Burji dynasty. On this basis it is thought that around 8, new slaves were needed annually to replenish numbers - about , captives over the century from to By extension, for the years between and , the figure could easily have been as high as 1,, Hence, there were wide fluctuations year-to-year, particularly in the 18th and 19th centuries, given slave imports, and also given the fact that, prior to the s, there are no consistent records. Middle East expert, John Wright, cautions that modern estimates are based on back-calculations from human observation. The majority were sailors particularly those who were English , taken with their ships, but others were fishermen and

coastal villagers. However, most of these captives were people from lands close to Africa, particularly Spain and Italy. When pirates sacked Vieste in southern Italy in they took an estimated 7, slaves. In , Turgut Reis sailed to Corsica and ransacked Bastia , taking prisoners. In Barbary corsairs captured the town of Ciutadella , destroyed it, slaughtered the inhabitants and carried off 3, survivors to Istanbul as slaves. Barbary pirates frequently attacked the Balearic islands , resulting in many coastal watchtowers and fortified churches being erected. The threat was so severe that Formentera became uninhabited. Those who have not seen a galley at sea, especially in chasing or being chased, cannot well conceive the shock such a spectacle must give to a heart capable of the least tincture of commiseration. To behold ranks and files of half-naked, half-starved, half-tanned meagre wretches, chained to a plank, from whence they remove not for months together commonly half a year , urged on, even beyond human strength, with cruel and repeated blows on their bare flesh Sahrawi-Moorish society in Northwest Africa was traditionally and still is, to some extent stratified into several tribal castes, with the Hassane warrior tribes ruling and extracting tribute " horma " from the subservient Berber -descended znaga tribes. Below them ranked servile groups known as Haratin , a black population. In the Horn of Africa , the Christian kings of the Ethiopian Empire often exported pagan Nilotic slaves from their western borderlands, or from newly conquered or reconquered lowland territories. Slavery as practiced in Ethiopia was essentially domestic. Slaves thus served in the houses of their masters or mistresses, and were not employed to any significant extent for productive purpose. In terms of legal considerations, the customs regarding the treatment of Bantu slaves were established by the decree of Sultans and local administrative legates. Additionally Freedom for these plantation slaves was also often acquired through eventual emancipation, escape, and ransom. When the Atlantic trade came to an end, the prices of slaves dropped dramatically, and the regional slave trade grew, dominated by Bobangi traders. The Bobangi also purchased a large number of slaves with profits from selling ivory, who they used to populate their villages. A distinction was made between two different types of slaves in this region; slaves who had been sold by their kin group, typically as a result of undesirable behavior such as adultery, were unlikely to attempt to flee. In addition to those considered socially undesirable, the sale of children was also common in times of famine. Slaves who were captured, however, were likely to attempt to escape and had to be moved hundreds of kilometers from their homes as a safeguard against this. For instance, the slave trade helped to create a robust regional trade network for the foodstuffs and crafted goods of small producers along the river. As the transport of only a few slaves in a canoe was sufficient to cover the cost of a trip and still make a profit, traders could fill any unused space on their canoes with other goods and transport them long distances without a significant markup on price. While the large profits from the Congo River slave trade only went to a small number of traders, this aspect of the trade provided some benefit to local producers and consumers. Various forms of slavery were practiced in diverse ways in different communities of West Africa prior to European trade. The Mossi Kingdoms tried to take over key sites in the trans-Saharan trade and, when these efforts failed, the Mossi became defenders against slave raiding by the powerful states of the western Sahel. The Mossi would eventually enter the slave trade in the s with the Atlantic slave trade being the main market. Akinjogbin contends that European accounts reveal that the slave trade was not a major activity along the coast controlled by the Yoruba people and Aja people before Europeans arrived. Upon slavery Mr Robins remarked that it was not what people in England thought it to be. It means, as continually found in this part of Africa, belonging to a family group-there is no compulsory labour, the owner and the slave work together, eat the like food, wear the like clothing and sleep in the same huts. Some slaves have more wives than their masters. It gives protection to the slaves and everything necessary for their subsistence- food and clothing. A free man is worse off than a slave; he cannot claim his food from anyone. In early Islamic states of the western Sahel, including Ghana " , Mali " , Segou " , and Songhai " , about a third of the population were enslaved. In Sierra Leone in the 19th century about half of the population consisted of enslaved people. Among the Vai people, during the 19th century, three quarters of people were slaves. In the 19th century at least half the population was enslaved among the Duala of the Cameroon and other peoples of the lower Niger , the Kongo , and the Kasanje kingdom and Chokwe of Angola. Among the Ashanti and Yoruba a third of the population consisted of enslaved people. The population of the Kanem " was about a third-enslaved. Between and from one- to

two-thirds of the entire population of the Fulani jihad states consisted of enslaved people. The population of the Sokoto caliphate formed by Hausas in the northern Nigeria and Cameroon was half-enslaved in the 19th century. Slavery was widespread among Taureg peoples and lasted until at least Among the Adrar 15 percent of people were enslaved, and 75 percent of the Gurma were enslaved. When mentioned, the slave trade appears to be of a small-scale and mostly involve slave raiding of women and children along the islands of Kilwa Kisiwani , Madagascar and Pemba. However, slavery never became a significant part of the domestic economies except in Sultanate of Zanzibar where plantations and agricultural slavery were maintained. Along the Kenya coast, 90 percent of the population was enslaved, while half of Madagscars population was enslaved. Memorial to the slave trade through the port of Ouidah. Slave relationships in Africa have been transformed through three large-scale processes: Each of these processes significantly changed the forms, level, and economics of slavery in Africa. Eighteenth century writers in Europe claimed that slavery in Africa was quite brutal in order to justify the Atlantic slave trade. Later writers used similar arguments to justify intervention and eventual colonization by European powers to end slavery in Africa. Many elite Africans visited Europe on slave ships following the prevailing winds through the New World. African monarchs also sent their children along these same slave routes to be educated in Europe, and thousands of former slaves eventually returned to settle Liberia and Sierra Leone. Arab slave trade Nineteenth-century engraving of Arab slave-trading caravan transporting African slaves across the Sahara. The Arab slave trade, established in the eighth and ninth centuries AD, began with small-scale movement of people largely from the eastern Great Lakes region and the Sahel. Islamic law allowed slavery but prohibited slavery involving other pre-existing Muslims; as a result, the main target for slavery were the people who lived in the frontier areas of Islam in Africa. It is estimated that, at that time, a few thousand enslaved people were taken each year from the Red Sea and Indian Ocean coast. They were sold throughout the Middle East. This trade accelerated as superior ships led to more trade and greater demand for labour on plantations in the region. Eventually, tens of thousands per year were being taken.

Chapter 5 : Slavery in America - HISTORY

The African Slave Trade District Courts in the states of Alabama, Georgia, as well as making it illegal for American citizens to engage in the slave trade between.

The Atlantic Slave Trade was likely the most costly in human life of all of long-distance global migrations. The first Africans forced to work in the New World left from Europe at the beginning of the sixteenth century, not from Africa. The first slave voyage direct from Africa to the Americas probably sailed in 1482. The volume of slaves carried off from Africa reached thirty thousand per year in the 1580s and eighty-five thousand per year a century later. More than eight out of ten Africans forced into the slave trade made their journeys in the century and a half after 1500. By 1600, nearly four Africans for every one European had crossed the Atlantic. About four out of every five females that traversed the Atlantic were from Africa. The majority of enslaved Africans were brought to British North America between 1600 and 1700. The decade to still saw over 80,000 people a year leaving Africa in slave ships. Well over a million more — one tenth of the volume carried off in the slave trade era — followed within the next twenty years. Africans carried to Brazil came overwhelmingly from Angola. Well over 90 percent of enslaved Africans were imported into the Caribbean and South America. Only about 6 percent of African captives were sent directly to British North America. Yet by 1700, the US had a quarter of blacks in the New World. The Middle Passage was dangerous and miserable for African slaves. The sexes were separated, kept naked, packed close together, and the men were chained for long periods. About twelve percent of those who embarked did not survive the voyage. In the Caribbean, slaves were held on much larger units, with many plantations holding slaves or more. In the American South, in contrast, only one slaveholder held as many as a thousand slaves, and just had over slaves. In the Caribbean, Dutch Guiana, and Brazil, the slave death rate was so high and the birth rate so low that they could not sustain their population without importations from Africa. Rates of natural decrease ran as high as 5 percent a year. While the death rate of US slaves was about the same as that of Jamaican slaves, the fertility rate was more than 80 percent higher in the United States. US slaves were more generations removed from Africa than those in the Caribbean. In the nineteenth century, the majority of slaves in the British Caribbean and Brazil were born in Africa. In contrast, by 1800, most US slaves were third-, fourth-, or fifth generation Americans. Slavery in the US was distinctive in the near balance of the sexes and the ability of the slave population to increase its numbers by natural reproduction. Unlike any other slave society, the US had a high and sustained natural increase in the slave population for a more than a century and a half. Even during the last week before childbirth, pregnant women on average picked three-quarters or more of the amount normal for women. Infant and child mortality rates were twice as high among slave children as among southern white children. Half of all slave infants died in their first year of life. A major contributor to the high infant and child death rate was chronic undernourishment. The average birth weight of slave infants was less than 5 pounds. Most infants of enslaved mothers were weaned within three or four months. Even in the eighteenth century, the earliest weaning age advised by doctors was eight months. After weaning, slave infants were fed a starch-based diet, consisting of foods such as gruel, which lacked sufficient nutrients for health and growth. Common symptoms among enslaved populations included: Diarrhea, dysentery, whooping cough, and respiratory diseases as well as worms pushed the infant and early childhood death rate of slaves to twice that experienced by white infants and children. Though Congress outlawed the African slave trade in 1808, domestic slave trade flourished, and the slave population in the US nearly tripled over the next 50 years. The domestic trade continued into the 1850s and displaced approximately 1 million. To be "sold down the river" was one of the most dreaded prospects of the enslaved population. Some destinations, particularly the Louisiana sugar plantations, had especially grim reputations. But it was the destruction of family that made the domestic slave trade so terrifying. Even considering the relative expense of owning and keeping a slave, slavery was profitable. In order to ensure the profitability of slaves, and to produce maximum "return on investment," slave owners generally supplied only the minimum food and shelter needed for survival, and forced their slaves to work from sunrise to sunset. Although young adult men had the highest expected levels of output, young adult

women had value over and above their ability to work in the fields; they were able to have children who by law were also slaves of the owner of the mother. Therefore, the average price of female slaves was higher than their male counterparts up to puberty age. Men around the age of years-old were the most "valuable. The fraction of households owning slaves fell from 36 percent in to 25 percent in During the Civil War, roughly , black men served in the Union Army, and another 29, served in the Navy. Three-fifths of all black troops were former slaves.

Chapter 6 : African Slave Trade,

The African slave trade and American courts: the pamphlets literature / a structural history of American constitutionalism from the colonial era to the beginning.

Chapter 7 : The Slave Trade - Constitutional Rights Foundation

Finkelman, Paul, Editor. The African Slave Trade and American Courts: The Pamphlet Literature. New York & London: Garland Publishing, Inc., 2 Vols. pp. With.

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The African Slave Trade and American Courts: The Pamphlet Literature. New York & London: Garland Publishing, Inc., 2 Vols. pp. With a New Introduction by Paul Finkelman.

Chapter 9 : African chiefs urged to apologise for slave trade | World news | The Guardian

The domestic slave trade in the US distributed the African American population throughout the South in a migration that greatly surpassed in volume the Atlantic Slave Trade to North America. Though Congress outlawed the African slave trade in , domestic slave trade flourished, and the slave population in the US nearly tripled over the next.