



Turner's "The Slave Ship" (1840)



Detail from
Turner's painting,
which is based on
1781 event: Capt.
Luke Collingwood
threw "132 plague
infected Africans
to the sharks in
order to collect
insurance on this
jettisoned 'cargo'"
(Mellor & Matlak
54).

[from a [speech in parliament](#) by George Canning, 16 March 1824]

[On the topic of the abolition of slavery:] . . . In dealing with the negro, Sir, we must remember that we are dealing with a being possessing the form and strength of a man, but the intellect only of a child. To turn him loose in the manhood of his physical strength, in the maturity of his physical passions, but in the infancy of his uninstructed reason, would be to raise up a creature resembling [the splendid fiction of a recent romance](#) [reference to Mary Shelley's *Last Man*]; the hero of which constructs a human form, with all the corporeal capabilities of man, and with the thews and sinews of a giant; but being unable to impart to the work of his hands a perception of right and wrong, he finds too late that he has only created a more than mortal power of doing mischief, and himself recoils from the monster which he has made.

Such would be the effect of a sudden emancipation, before the negro was prepared for the enjoyment of well-regulated liberty. I, therefore, Sir, would proceed gradually, because I would proceed safely. . . .

Figure 4.32

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A TRUE STORY.

Cried Case, with anger's tinge upon his yellow,—
Pompey, for answer, pointing in a mirror
The Colonel's saffron, and his own japan,—
“ Well, what has that to do—quick—speak outright,
boy?”

“ O Massa”—(so the explanation ran)
“ Massa be killed—'cause Massa *Orange Man*,
And Pompey killed—'cause Pompey not a *White
Boy!*”



“ SHE WALKS IN BEAUTY, LIKE THE NIGHT.”

from 1830 *Comic Annual*
Parody of Byron's "She Walks in Beauty"

Used for John
Stedman's
*Narrative of a five
years expedition
against the
revolted Negroes
of Surinam, from
the year 1772 to
1777*



Stedman witnessed this punishment in 1774. The woman being whipped was an eighteen-year old girl who was given 200 lashes for having refused to have intercourse with an overseer. She was "lacerated in such a shocking manner by the whips of two negro-drivers, that she was from her neck to her ancles literally dyed with blood."

"Flagellation of a Female
Samboe Slave," 1796
William Blake



The Official Medallion of the
British Anti-Slavery Society,
1795 Josiah Wed



Olaudah Equiano (engraving
commissioned for *Interesting Narrative*)



Not Equiano
(possibly from 1760s)

This Day is published,
The interesting Narrative of the Life of
OLAUDA EQUIANO;

OR,
GUSTAVUS VASSA, THE AFRICAN,
Written by himself.

THIS Work is neatly printed on a good paper, in a duodecimo, or pocket size, and comprised in two handsome volumes. Price 7s: unbound.

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The Narrative contains the following articles:

The Author's observations on his country, and the different nations in Africa; with an account of their manners and customs, religion, marriages, agriculture, buildings, &c. his birth, the manner how he and his sister were kidnapped, and of their accidentally meeting again in Africa. His astonishment at the sight of the sea, the vessel, white men, men on horseback, and the various objects he beheld on his first arrival in England; particularly a fall of snow. An account of five years transactions in the wars, under Admiral Boscawen, &c. from 1757 to the peace in December, 1762. Of his being immediately after sent into slavery in the West Indies. Of the treatment, and the cruel scenes of punishing the negroes; the manner of obtaining his freedom; the verification of five remarkable dreams or visions; particularly in being shipwrecked in 1767, and picking up eleven miserable men at sea, in 1775; &c. The wonderful manner of his conversion to the Faith of Christ Jesus, and his attempt to convert an Indian Prince. Various actions at sea and land, from 1777, to the present time.

The books are sold by the Author, No. 10, Union-street, Middlesex Hospital; and by the following Booksellers:

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Interesting
Narrative



Masculine Romanticism

"The Little Black Boy,"
Songs of Innocence
(Blake)

The Little Black Boy

My mother bore me in the southern wild,
And I am black, but O! my soul is white:
White as an angel is the English child:
But I am black as if bereav'd of light.

My mother taught me underneath a tree
And sitting down before the heat of day,
She took me on her lap and kiss'd me,
And pointing to the east began to say,

Look on the rising sun: there God does live,
And gives his light, and gives his heat away,
And flowers and trees and beasts and men receive
Comfort in morning, joy in the noon day.

And we are put on earth a little space,
That we may learn to bear the beams of love,
And these black bodies and this sun-burnt face
Is but a cloud, and like a shady grove.

For

Figure 8.6



**“Reading the News”
from 1830 *Friendship’s Offering***

From New York
Public Library
Exhibit, *Before
Victoria*

Cheap Repository.
—
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HISTORY
OF
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The House-Maid ;
OR,
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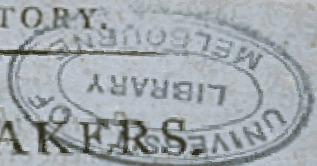
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