

Resource Sheet #6

# **Runaway Slaves: From the Revolution to the New Republic**

## ***The Maryland Gazette: Transcriptions***

**Fugitive slave advertisement for BILLY placed by John Horrell.**

May 14, 1785

RAN away from the subscriber, living in St. Mary's county, near the Queen-tree, a negro man slave named BILLY, about five feet ten inches high, a lusty well made fellow, when he walks his right knee bends pretty much towards his left, and his wool grows very low down on his temples; about twenty three years of age; had on when he went away, a striped country cloth jacket and breeches, but as he has been absent from August last, probably he may have got other cloaths; he has frequented the Head of Clement's bay, in St. Mary's county, and was seen last fall in Calvert county, in the neighbourhood of Leonard's creek, he has acquaintances all along up Patuxent river, and a father living at captain William Bowie's, in Prince George's county, where he has been heard today he would go; he has a mother living in Alexandria, in Virginia, with a Mr. Wilton, who formerly kept tavern in Piscataway, where he may possibly endeavour to harbour. Whoever will secure the said fellow, in any goal in this state, so that I get him again, shall receive a reward of eight dollars, and if out of state five pounds, including what the law allows, and reasonable charges if brought home, paid by

JOHN HORRELL

<http://teachingamericanhistorymd.net/000001/000000/000101/html/t101.html>

**1. Fugitive slave advertisement for WILL placed by Henry Plummer.**

August 25, 1786.

RAN away from the subscriber, on Saturday the 12th instant, a negro man named WILL, about twenty-five years old, four feet nine or ten inches high, he is well made for his height, is bow legged, and very hollow-backed, has a smiling countenance; had on when he went away, an osnabrig shirt and trousers, a blue and white mixed country cloth jacket, and a felt hat; he was taken up on Saturday last and made his escape, and was seen to pass through Bladensburg on Sunday as a free man. Whoever takes up said negro, and secures him so that the owner may get him again, shall receive six dollars reward, and if brought home eight dollars, besides what the law allows, and reasonable charges, paid by

HENRY PLUMMER, near  
Mount-Pleasant ferry,  
in Anne-Arundel county.

**2. Fugitive slave advertisement for BET placed by James Disney.**

West River, May 2, 1790.

RAN away last night, from the subscriber, living in Anne Arundel county, near Annapolis, a mulatto woman slave named BET, alias BET COOK, about twenty-eight years of age; she is a tall wench, and has a long visage, and down look; her apparel I cannot describe, as she has with her several suits, and them very good. The above woman went off in company with a mulatto free fellow named Tom Turner, who follows the water for a living, and calls her his wife. I will give ONE GUINEA for taking up the said woman and securing her so that her owner may get her again, or FIVE POUNDS for them both, provided she is under the free fellow's protection when taken.

JAMES DISNEY

**3. Fugitive slave advertisement for JACK placed by John Crisall.**

August 25, 1785

ONE GUINEA REWARD

RAN away, about the 3d of july last, from Mr. Joseph Dowson, in Annapolis, a negro man slave named JACK, about twenty years old, six feet high, well made, can do all manner of plantation work, and can make and mend negro shoes; he is the property of Miss Alice Nicholson, over South river, and is supposed to be lurking about in that neighbourhood, or West river; his cloathing consists mostly of soldiers apparel. Whoever takes him up, and delivers him to me at Annapolis, shall receive the above reward, and reasonable charges, paid by

JOHN CRISALL.