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SWORDS, CUTTEAUX PISTOL

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LIVERPOOL,

European Intelligence.

Will fail the

For Sale,

Runaway slave" ad in The Royal Gazette of August 22, 1778

Two Guineas REWARD.

D UN away from the fubfcriber the 20th inflant, a Mulatio Negro Boy, named PRIAM, years old, about five feet five or fix inches high, his hair of a remarkable light coloured woolly kind. Whoever fecures faid Boy! and will inform, or deliver him to the subscriber at Flatbush, Long-Island, or to Mr. John Taylor, in Queen Street, No. 15, shall be entitled to the above reward. All musters of veffels and inhabitants are forwarned to carry him off, or conceal him, as they will answer the confequences. A. BAINBRIDGE, Surgeon, N. J. V.

TOBESOLD,

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Kingthon, Mac 11, 1482

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and then we shall know positively what part our fovereign, will act on the great theatre ready to be opened in Europe. The report

Society www.pbs1777.org

## Prime Dr. Bainbridge's enslaved man



At the time of the Battle of Princeton, I was one of the many enslaved persons living in the village. My owner was Dr. Absalom Bainbridge who lived on the town's main street. At the time of the battle, he was about 34 years old and he and his wife, Mary, had a three-year-old son named William. Among my many duties for Dr. Bainbridge was going to local merchants to make purchases for him. Sometimes when I went to Thomas Patterson's store to buy thread or textiles, he actually recorded my name when noting Dr. Bainbridge's man made a purchase. Usually, he just used the term "Negro" without a name. Dr. Bainbridge also owned a woman who was merely noted in the store records as his "wench."

When the British army fled from Princeton after the battle on January 3, 1777, my master and his family also fled with them because Dr. Bainbridge had decided to help the British. He left me behind in Princeton for a while, and then I was sent to live with Mrs. Bainbridge's parents in Monmouth County. They were Loyalists just like the doctor. In April that year, Mrs. Bainbridge sold me to her father, John Taylor, for £70, along with a horse and a riding chair at £15 each for a total of £100. By that time, General Israel Putnam commanded the Americans in Princeton and he had to approve this sale because I was considered the property of a Loyalist. I was then taken to Long Island in 1778, where the Bainbridges lived while Dr. Bainbridge served as a doctor with the British. I ran way in August and Dr. Bainbridge put a notice in the paper that described me as 23 years old, five and a half feet tall, and with hair "of a remarkable light colored woolly kind." I returned to Princeton and became a "slave of the State of New Jersey" as confiscated Loyalist property. The local man who became responsible for my fate, Jacob Bergen, believed it would be against what the patriots were fighting for to keep me in bondage and sell me, and he recommended I serve the army as a wagoner for the rest of the war to gain freedom. I did this but still had to make continuous efforts in court to eventually win my freedom. - Text by Larry Kidder