

Lesson 15, Worksheet 1

Two Fugitive Slave Acts



The Fugitive Slave Act of 1793:

And it is further agreed that [no state] will protect...criminal fugitives, servants, or slaves...but apprehend and deliver to the state or states, to which such...slaves, respectively belong.

The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850:

And be it further enacted, That when a person held to service or labor...shall hereafter escape into another State or territory of the United States...that person so arrested does in fact owe service or labor to the person or persons claiming him or her...In no trial or hearing under this act shall the testimony of such alleged fugitive be admitted in evidence...and it shall be the duty of the officer making the arrest to retain such fugitive in his custody, and to remove him to the State whence he fled.

Fugitive Slave as Advertised for Capture, Photographs and Prints Division, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations.