

Letter from "Aethiopianus," *The Public Advertiser*, 13 February 1788

To the Senate of GREAT BRITAIN.

Gentlemen,

May Heaven make you what you should be, the dispensers of light, liberty and science to the uttermost parts of the earth; then will be glory to God on the highest—on earth peace and goodwill to man:—Glory, honour, peace, &c. To every soul of man that worketh good; to the Britons first (because of them the Gospel is preached) and also to the nations: To that truly immortal and illustrious advocate of our liberty, Granville Sharp, Esq., the philanthropist and justly Reverend James Ramsay, and the much to be honoured body of gentlemen called *Friends*, who have exerted every endeavour to break the accursed York of Slavery, and ease the heavy burthens of the oppressed Negroes. "Those that honour their Maker have mercy on the Poor";—and many blessing are upon the heads of the just.—May the fear of the Lord prolong their days, and cause their memory to be blessed, and may their numbers be increased, and their expectations filled with gladness, for commiserating the poor Africans, who are counted as beasts of burthen by base-minded men. May God ever open the mouths of these worthies to judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and the needy—for the liberal devise liberal things, and by liberal things shall stand; and they can say with the pious Job "Did I not weep for him that was in trouble? Was not my soul grieved for the Poor?"

It is this righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.—Destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity—and the wicked shall perish by their own wickedness.—May the worthy Lord Bishop of London be blessed for his pathetic and human sermon on behalf of the Africans, and all the benevolent gentlemen who are engaged in the laudable attempt to abolish Slavery, and thereby prevent many savage barbarities from being daily committed by the enslavers of men, to whom the Lord has pronounced wrath, anguish, and tribulation, &. To the sons of Britain first (as having the Gospel preached against them) and also to the nations—.

AETHIOPIANUS