

## CASH FOR NEGROES.

The following advertisement reads very curiously on this 1st day of October, 1896. But for all that, it is a genuine advertisement, and the man over whose name it appears, to use expressive language, was in "dead earnest"—he "meant business." We find this appeal for patronage among the regular advertisements on the first page of *The Democratic Herald*, a paper published in Baltimore, Maryland, July 21, 1836. Our Historical Department owns a file of this ancient journal from July 20th until October 16th of that year. Whether it was continued after the last date we are unable to state. It is a curious relic of the old days of slavery—when that "peculiar institution" had a feeble existence even in our own State:

CASH FOR NEGROES.—The subscriber has built a large and extensive establishment and private jail, for the keeping of slaves, in Pratt street, one door from Howard street, opposite the Circus or Repository.

The building having been erected under his own inspection, without regard to price; planned and arranged upon the most approved principle with an eye to comfort and convenience, not surpassed by any establishment of the kind in the United States, is now ready to receive slaves. The male and female apartments are completely separate—the rooms for both are large, light and airy, and all above ground, with a fine large yard for exercise, with pure delightful water within doors. In erecting and planning this edifice the subscriber had an eye to the health and cleanliness of the slaves, as well as the many other necessary conveniences. Having a wish to accommodate my Southern friends and others in the trade, I am determined to keep them on the lowest possible terms, at twenty-five cents per head a day and furnish them with plenty of good and wholesome provisions. Such security and confidence I have in my building that I hold myself bound to make good all jail-breaking or escapes from my establishment. I also will receive, ship, or forward to any place, at the request of the owner, and give it my personal attention.

N. B.—Cash and the highest prices will at all times be given for likely slaves of both sexes, with good and sufficient titles. Persons having such property to dispose of would do well to see me before they sell, as I am always purchasing for the New Orleans market. I, or my agent, can at all times be found at my office in the basement story of my new building.

HOPE H. SLATTER.

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.