



"Slaves Waiting for Sale" by Eyre Crowe, 1861

Slavery in Early Onslow

Transactions involving slaves occurred as early as 1730 in colonial Onslow. Although not as significant in number as in the Lower Cape Fear, Onslow still counted blacks as thirty-six percent of the taxable population by 1754. Post American Revolution and up to the Civil War, the percentage of slaves ranged from thirty-two to forty percent with the number of free blacks never exceeding two percent of the population. The typical white Onslow citizen was not a slave holder. A major percentage of slaves were owned by a few large landowners engaged in either agriculture or manufacturing, such as cotton planter David W. Sanders, who owned 188 slaves in 1860. The lot of the slave was miserable, particularly for those working in agriculture, which required long hours in any kind of weather and varying degrees of "discipline" meted out by overseers and owners. Some slave owners provided moderately acceptable housing such as Sanders, who had thirty-two cabins for his slaves, while others such as Owen Huggins of Half Moon, provided only four cabins for his more than one hundred slaves.

Sale of Valuable Property.
ON FRIDAY, 13th. February next, will be sold at the Plantation of the late Jag. Giles, in Onslow County:
FORTY LIKELY NEGRO SLAVES,
 Among whom are two Blacksmiths, two Coopers, and several valuable House Servants. They will be sold on a credit of six months. Bonds with good and sufficient security, payable to the different Banks.
ALSO—At the same time and place, will be sold the remaining Stock of Horses, &c. consisting of seven head—among which are three valuable Mules, one valuable Yoke of Oxen and two Ox-Carts, one four Horse Waggon, and a full set of Harness, together with a variety of Plantation Utensils, too tedious to mention. For these Bonds with approved security, payable six months after date, will be required. Should the Sale not be completed on the first day, it will be continued from day to day until the whole is sold.
 JOHN A. AVERETT, Adm^r.
 January 21st, 1829.

North Carolina Sentinel, 31 Jan 1829

SHERIFF'S SALE.
WILL be sold, for cash, at the Court House in Onslow, on the first Monday in February next,
NINETEEN OR TWENTY LIKELY NEGROES,
 levied on to satisfy sundry executions in my hands.
 B. FONVIELLE, Shff.
 January 5th, 1829—62 64 \$1 50