

Coastwise Routes: Forced Migration & Regional Slavery

RESEARCH BY SHARECE BLAKNEY

MORVEN

MUSEUM & GARDEN



John Potter (1765-1849):

- ❖ Born in Ireland, arrives in America after American Revolution.
- ❖ Owned several “merchant” ships: Frances, Wanton, Hetty Jane, and Rolla.
- ❖ Purchased his first plantation right before importation of enslaved Africans was outlawed.



MARINE LIST.

PORT OF CHARLESTON.

ARRIVED.

Ship Frances, Soutar, Angola, 80 days. John Potter. 185 *New Negroes.*

Sloop Betsey, Cowing, Bristol, R. I. 14 days. Malter. *Produce.*

Sloop Mary & Hannah, Johnston, Alexandria, 7 days. Puppo & Baker. *Flour and Corn.*

DEPARTED.

Brig Experiment, Palmer, Africa.

The schooner Washington, from this port for Philadelphia, has put into Norfolk, and failed again for Philadelphia on the 16th inst.

CARGO SHIP FRANCES.

THE SALE of 185 PRIME YOUNG HEALTHY AFRICANS, from ANGOLA, will commence on THURSDAY next, the 30th instant, on board of the above Ship, at Geyer's Wharf, precisely at 11 o'clock, and will be continued from day to day, (Sundays excepted) until all are sold. For terms, apply to Captain JAMES SOUTAR, or

John Potter.

N. B. Merchantable Produce will be taken in payment, at market price.

August 27.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That I John Potter, of the City of Charleston in the State aforesaid a Merchant for and in consideration of the sum of six hundred & fifty dollars

to me in hand paid, at and before the sealing and delivery of these Presents, by Henry Bailey of the same Place Attorney at Law

the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge to have bargained and sold, and by these Presents do bargain, sell, and deliver to the said Henry Bailey three negro slaves viz. John an African known by the Country name of Wook, Leah an African known by the Country name of Gaumba, & Isaac an African known by the Country name of Beta TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said negro slaves John, Leah, & Isaac together with the issue & increase of the female slave unto the said Henry Bailey his

Executors, use and behoof for ever. And my

Executors, and Administrators, to his

Executors, Administrators and Assigns ever defend, by these presents. Witness my hand and seal at Charleston in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty six the 26th day of the month of October

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of

Geo. Robt. Loya of Charleston do hereby certify that I delivered these presents to the said John Potter on the 26th Octo

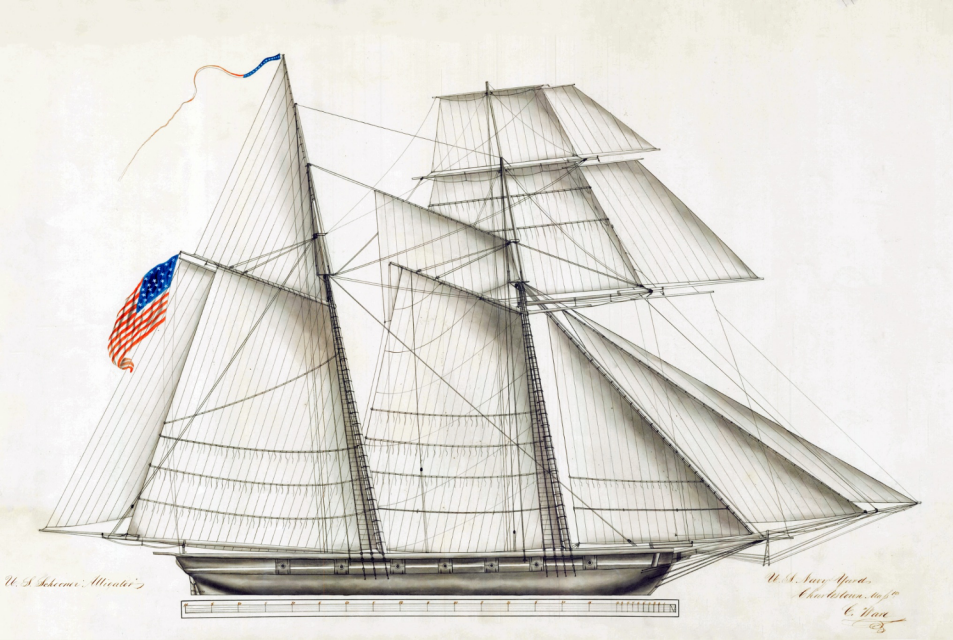
Recorded 26th Octo. 1826.

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Commodore Robert F. Stockton (1795-1866):

- ❖ Grandson of Richard Stockton, signer of the Declaration of Independence.
- ❖ Successful naval career sailing high seas patrolling for illegal slave ships. Sailed to Liberia in 1821.
- ❖ Married MONEY in 1823.
- ❖ Inherited Signer's home, Morven after his father's death in 1828.





Drawings of Naval Vessels and Equipment. The U.S.S. Alligator. Ware Collection, National Archives

Map of the West Coast of Africa from Sierra Leone to Cape Palmas, including the colony of Liberia, 1830. Surveyed and compiled by J. Ashmun, engraved by J.H. Young, published by A. Finley. Collection of the Library of Congress.



Coastwise Manifests & Interstate Movement of Enslaved

- ❖ Congress outlawed the importation of African slaves in 1808. Affidavit on reserve side.
- ❖ Potters & Stockton shuttled between Charleston, Savannah, Philadelphia, and New York.
- ❖ Enslaved people owned by both families were shipped domestically at least 70 times.

Slave Manifest—Sold by W. T. Williams

MANIFEST of Slaves, Passengers on board the *Ship Macon*
D. L. Potter Master, burthen Tons, bound from *Savannah* for *New York*

NAMES.	SEX.	AGE.	HEIGHT.		CLASS.	OWNERS OR SHIPPERS.	RESIDENCE.
			FEET.	INCHES.			
<i>Lucy</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>00</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>Robert Stockton</i>	<i>Princeton</i>
<i>James</i>	<i>Boy</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Yellow</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>Maria</i>	<i>Girl</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>

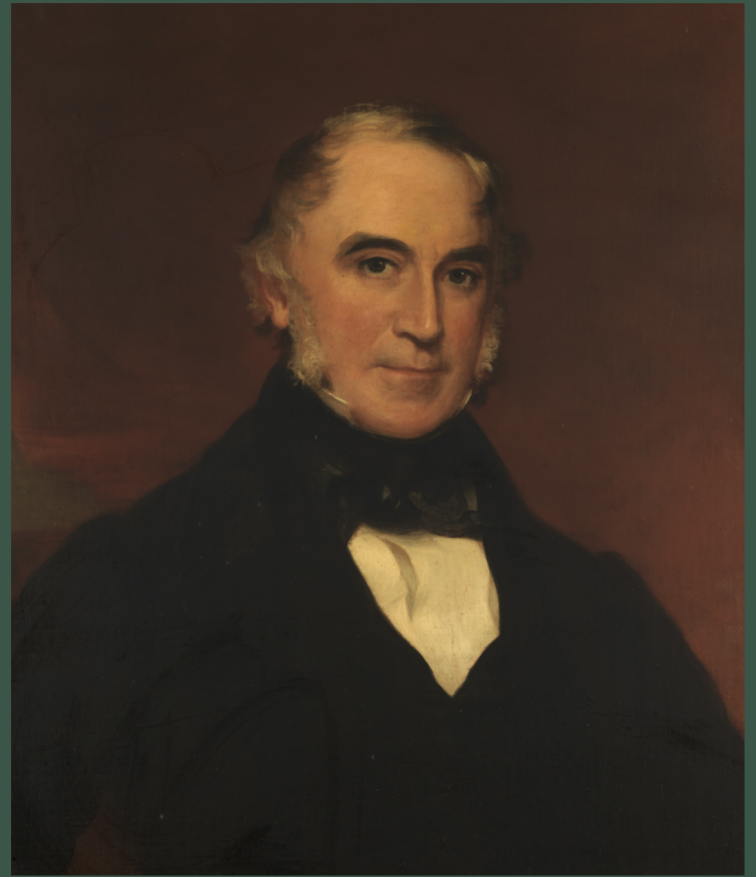
Manifest for slaves aboard ship Macon, 1833. National Archives and Records Administration.

MANIFEST of Slaves, Passengers on board the *Sloop Othello* *W. Canby*
 Master, burthen *54 5/95* Tons, bound from *Savannah* for *New York*

NAMES.	SEX.	AGE.	HEIGHT.		CLASS.	OWNERS OR SHIPPERS.	RESIDENCE.
			FEET.	INCHES.			
<i>John</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Fourteen</i>	<i>4.</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>Stockton</i>	<i>Princeton</i>
				<i>17</i>			

James Potter (1793-1862):

- ❖ Owned 8 miles of plantation land and over 400 people in Savannah, GA
- ❖ Purchases Palmer House from Commodore Stockton, uses it as Summer home.
- ❖ 19th cent. Loan shark? Kinda.



Potters Travels...

<u>Name</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Height</u>	<u>"Class"</u>	<u>Onwer/Shipper</u>	<u>"Residence"</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>(Departure) Date</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Clara	Female	55	5 ft.	Black	James Potter	Savannah	Charleston	Savannah	December 26, 1829	
Harriet	Female	35	4 ft. 5 in.	Black	James Potter	Savannah	Philadelphia	Savannah	October 1830	The affidavit signed by James Potter states that the enslaved person he's shipping was not brought into the country after January 1, 1808. This is the date when Congress outlawed the importation of enslaved Africans.
Georgiana	Female	9	3 ft. 6 in.	Yellow	James Potter	Savannah	Philadelphia	Savannah	October 1830	The affidavit signed by James Potter states that the enslaved person he's shipping was not brought into the country after January 1, 1808. This is the date when Congress outlawed the importation of enslaved Africans.
Clance	Female	60	5 ft.		James Potter	Savannah	New York	Savannah	November 30, 1850	
Clara	Female	55	5 ft. 2 in.	Brown	James Potter	Georgia	Charleston	Savannah	November 16, 1847	
Bina	Female	28	5 ft. 2 in.	Mulatto	James Potter	Savannah	Savannah	Philadelphia	May 15, 1827	James Potter is listed as the shipper, but the document notes that the enslaved ppl being shipped are owned by John Potter.
Sally	Female	16	4 ft. 10 in.	Mulatto	James Potter	Savannah	Savannah	Philadelphia	May 15, 1827	James Potter is listed as the shipper, but the document notes that the enslaved ppl being shipped are owned by John Potter.
Georgiana	Female	7	3 ft. 8 in.	Mulatto	James Potter	Savannah	Savannah	Philadelphia	May 15, 1827	James Potter is listed as the shipper, but the document notes that the enslaved ppl being shipped are owned by John Potter.

Data Modified by W. T. Wilson.

MANIFEST of Slaves, Passengers on board the *Key Francis Moore* left
Master, barthen Tons bound from Savannah for Philadelphia

NAMES	SEX	AGE	HEIGHT		CLASS	OWNERS OR SHIPPERS	RESIDENCE
			FEET.	INCHES.			
Bernal	Female	32	3	2	Mutual	James Potter	Savannah
Lynton	Male	10	4	2	Black		Savannah
Lucy	Female	30	5	2	Black	Elias Reed	Savannah
Rebel	Female	15	5	4			
Henri	Male	14	5	3			
			23.	Charms 100			

SAVANNAH,

FRIDAY MORNING, FEB. 11, 1825.

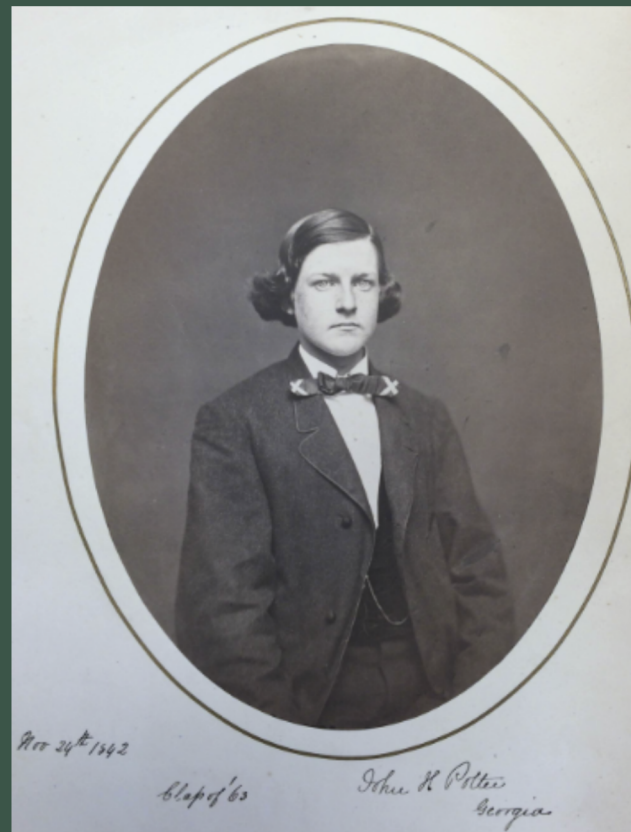
A Charity Sermon will be preached in the Lutheran Church, by the Rev. Mr. MEALY, on SUNDAY MORNING NEXT, and a collection taken up for the benefit of the Savannah Female Asylum.

No northern mail was received last night. We cannot account for the failure.

The following gentlemen were appointed by the Bank of the United States, Directors for their Office in this city, on the 28th of January:—

JOHN CUMMING,	W. I. HUNTER,
MOSES CLELAND,	*ELIAS REED
ROBERT CAMPBELL,	W. M. P. MARSHALL,
SAM'L. B. PARKMAN,	*GEORGE GORDON,
HEZEKIAH LORD,	*W. M. P. HUNTER.
JAMES POTTER	

*New Directors.



John Hamilton Potter, class of 1863. Princeton University.

Know all men by these presents that I, Robert S. Stockton of the Borough of Princeton in the State of New Jersey have made, constitute and appointed and by these presents do make, constitute and appoint my brother in law James Potter, my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name to sell, transfer and deliver all my right and title to my slaves now in the State of Georgia; namely, Alongo, his wife and family, to such persons as my said attorney may select, and upon such sale to execute for me and in my name the usual bill of sale to the purchaser, and to do any other act or thing necessary to complete the title hereby ratifying and confirming whatsoever my said attorney shall lawfully do or cause to be done in the premises.

Witness my hand and seal this Eighteenth day of November 1863, Eighteen hundred and thirty nine.

Signed, Sealed and delivered in the presence of
 James Green
 John Potter
 J. F. Stockton

23		1	72	"	"			
24	Robert S. Stockton	1	35	"	"			
25		1	30	"	"			
26		1	10	"	"			
27		1	2	"	"			
28		1	31	"	"			
29		1	30	"	"			
30	10	1	23	"	"			
31		1	27	"	"			
32		1	25	"	"			
33		1	25	"	"			
34		1	15	"	"			
35		1	39	"	"			
36		1	35	"	"			
37		1	30	"	"			
38		1	40	"	"			
39		1	45	"	"			
40		1	42	"	"			

