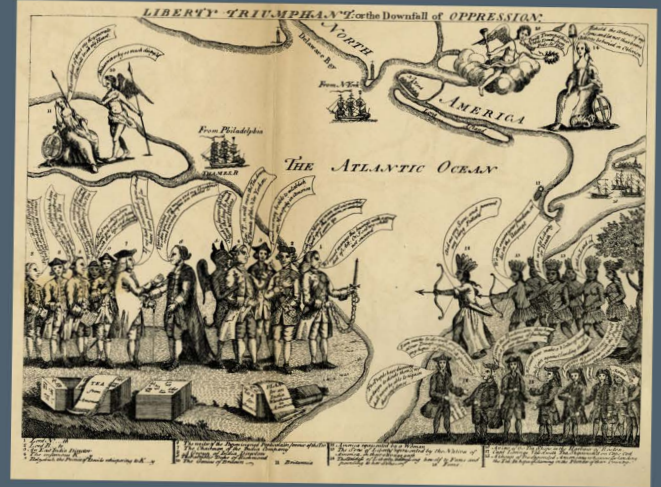


Gender and Violence

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An Apology
of the Boston Unitarians
addressed to the candid & impartial World.

It is our interest at the present time to reflect on the manner in which our country has conducted its foreign relations, & a good degree of attention in the foregoing history of our government, was necessarily bestowed on the subject of the African trade, & the manner in which it was conducted. It is the duty of the Unitarians to state the manner in which they have conducted it, & to offer an apology for it, as far as it is in their power to do so.

Case Text

The Able Doctor



[66]

Strangers here, with Kindness and Hospitality, Behold the Return we have made them!—When we grew more numerous and powerful, they put themselves under our Protection. See, in the smouldering Corvée of the East, Remains of the Trade, how effectually we have afforded it to them!

Unhappy People! to have lived in such Tribes, and by such Neighbours!—We have seen, that they would have been safer among the ancient Heathens, with whom the Rites of Hospitality were sacred.—They would have been considered as Guests of the Patriarchs, and the Religion of the Country would have operated in their Favour.—But our Frontier People call themselves Christians!—They would have been safer, if they had submitted to the Flocks, than ever lived in the Desert, never kill Prisoners in cold Blood. Theirs were not even Pillages.—But what the Example of Trade to Scripture Christians?—They would have been safer, though they had been seized in actual War against the Caravans, if they had once drunk Water with them. They were us, and we with them, for Fourteen Years.—But had we compare Saracens to Christians?—They would have been safer among the Moors in Spain, though they had been Abductees of Slaves; if such had once been pledged to them, and a Promise of Protection given. But these have had the Faith of the English given to them many Times by the Government, and, in Reliance on that

[67]

that Faith, they lived among us, and gave us the Opportunity of murdering them.—However, what was honorable in Slavery, may not be a Rule to us; for we are Christians.—They would have been safer if taken among Pagan Spaniards, even if Eaten up, and delivered into their Hands by a Tempest. These were not Enemies, they were born among us, and yet we have killed them all.—But still we imitate idolatrous Egypt, we that are civilized Christians?—They would even have been safer among the Negroes of Africa, where at least one many Soul would have been found, with Sense, Spirit and Humanity enough, to stand in their Defence.—But still the Slaves and Christians are like a Pagan Negro?—In fact it appears, that they would have been safe in any Part of the known World, except in the Neighbourhood of the QUAKERS, who are SAVAGES of England and America!—O ye unhappy Perpetrators of this horrid Wickedness! Reflect a Moment on the Misery chief ye have done, the Disgrace ye have brought on your Country, on your Religion, and your Name, on your Families and Children! Think on the Destruction of your superstitious Country-folks, (now among the wild Indians) which probably may follow, in Reckonment of your Barbarity! Think on the Wrath of the Great Creator, hitherto our Friends, but now provoked by your murdering one of their Tribes, in Danger of becoming our bitter Enemies.—Think of the mild and good Government you have so unaccountably inflicted, the Lives of your King, your Country,