A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Black People During the Late Awful Calamity in Philadelphia

Richard Allen and Absalom Jones · *1794 · English original (1794 pamphlet), as hosted*

A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Black People, during the Late Awful Calamity in Philadelphia, in the Year 1793. So this 1794 pamphlet is titled, by Absalom Jones and Richard Allen, written after the yellow fever in answer to censures, including those of Mathew Carey. The hosted text is Internet Archive OCR; quote only clean sentences (the long s is often read as "f"). Complete as hosted. For grades 9–12. Gravity; a defense of character, not a medical treatise and not a spectacle of the sick.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

How should a school read this file as Jones and Allen's 1794 defense of the Black people of Philadelphia, quoting only clean sentences from a broken OCR, rather than as a medical treatise or as Carey's accusation?

"A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Black People, during the Late Awful Calamity in Philadelphia, in the Year 1793 (Philadelphia: printed"

Title

Richard Allen and Absalom Jones, 1794, A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Black People, during the Late Awful Calamity in Philadelphia, in the Year 1793. It answers censures, including those of Mathew Carey. The hosted text is OCR, and many words are garbled; quote only clean sentences, such as the title, and: The black people were looked to. For grades 9–12. Gravity; a defense of character, not a medical treatise and not a spectacle. Name both authors. Quote this file.

KEY CHARACTERS

Absalom Jones and Richard Allen
The two authors of the 1794 narrative; name both

Mathew Carey
Named in the file as a writer of censures the narrative answers; teach the answer

HOW TO BEGIN THIS NARRATIVE

> *"A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Black People, during the Late Awful Calamity in Philadelphia, in the Year 1793 (Philadelphia: printed"*
>
> Title

> *"The black people were looked to. We then"*
>
> The narrative

Grades 9–12
Read the full text free at classicslaunch.org.

01

The Title, Cleanly Printed

TITLE

A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Black People, during the Late Awful Calamity in Philadelphia, in the Year 1793. The title itself is a clean sentence in this file, and should be taught first.

- Keep the full title, and the year 1793.
- 9–12. Gravity.
- A defense, not a medical treatise.
- Quote only a clean sentence.

> *"A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Black People, during the Late Awful Calamity in Philadelphia, in the Year 1793 (Philadelphia: printed"*
>
> Title

02

The Black People Were Looked To

THE NARRATIVE

The black people were looked to. A clean short sentence, later in the narrative, names who was looked to when help was needed.

- Keep this wording exactly.
- 9–12.
- Stop; nearby OCR is broken.
- Quote Allen and Jones.

> *"The black people were looked to. We then"*
>
> The narrative

03

Absalom Jones

THE AUTHORS

Absalom Jones is named in this file as one of the two authors. Name him, with Richard Allen. Do not collapse the two into one voice without cause.

- Name both authors.
- 9–12.
- A defense of character.
- Quote a clean occurrence of the name.

> *"Absalom Jones and"*
>
> The authors

04

Mathew Carey, Answered

THE OCCASION

Mathew Carey is named in this file as a writer whose censures the narrative answers. Teach the answer, not a repetition of the charge as if it were proved.

- Keep the file's "Mathew Carey."
- 9–12. Gravity, and fairness.
- The pamphlet is a refutation, not Carey's book.
- Quote only a clean occurrence.

> *"Mathew Carey, the"*
>
> The occasion

05

A 1794 Pamphlet, with Broken OCR

THE EDITION

The 1794 pamphlet, complete as hosted, including later addresses. Internet Archive OCR: the long s is often read as "f," and some words are garbled. Quote only clean sentences. For grades 9–12. Gravity; a defense of character, not a medical treatise and not a spectacle of the sick. Name Allen and Jones. One map cannot teach every page.

- Name the 1794 pamphlet, and both authors.
- Quote only clean sentences; name the OCR.
- 9–12. Gravity, no spectacle.
- A defense, not Carey's accusation as if it were the last word.

> *"A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Black People, during the Late Awful Calamity in Philadelphia, in the Year 1793 (Philadelphia: printed"*
>
> Title

A title that can be quoted cleanly | A people looked to in calamity | Two authors, named together | Censures, answered | Gravity, and no spectacle

What to watch for as you read

GRADES 9–12

1. The title is a clean sentence: "A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Black People, during the Late Awful Calamity in Philadelphia, in the Year 1793."
2. A later clean sentence: "The black people were looked to." Nearby OCR is often broken; quote only clean sentences.
3. Written by Absalom Jones and Richard Allen in 1794, in answer to censures, including those of Mathew Carey. Name both authors.
4. For grades 9–12. Gravity; a defense of character, not a medical treatise and not a spectacle of the sick. Complete as hosted, including later addresses.

Quotations are verbatim from the English original (1794 pamphlet), as hosted, Internet Archive 2559020R.nlm.nih.gov, the public-domain text hosted at classicslaunch.org/works/narrative-of-yellow-fever-1793/. Citations give book and chapter (or canto and line) so every line can be checked.