

Ben and Flora East seeking information about their daughter Polly and son George Washington

Ben and Flora East placed this ad in *The Colored Tennessean*, a weekly African American newspaper started in April 1865. It shortened its name to *The Tennessean* in 1866 and published for another year before closing.

The East's ad, placed just six months after the end of the Civil War, shows the desperation many formerly enslaved parents felt in trying to locate their children who enslavers sold away from them. The \$200 reward was a sizable amount of money in 1865, equivalent to over \$3,500 today.

\$200 REWARD.
DURING the year 1849, Thomas Sample carried away from this city, all his slaves, our daughter, Polly, and son, Geo Washington, to the State of Mississippi and subsequently, to Texas, and when last heard from they were in Lagrange, Texas. We will give \$100 each for them to any person who will assist them, or either of them, to get to Nashville, or get word to us of their whereabouts, if they are alive. Any information concerning them left in this city, at our place, so that we can get it, will be liberally rewarded.
BEN. EAST,
FLORA EAST.
sept16

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