

## Rosanna Patterson searching for her unnamed mother, as well as Sarah Paterson and Henry and George Holiday

Rosanna Patterson placed this ad in *The Christian Recorder* in 1878, thirteen years after emancipation. Published by the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, *The Christian Recorder* is the oldest continuously published African American newspaper in the United States. Although the AME church published the newspaper, much of its content focused on secular issues that affected the African American community.

In her brief ad, Patterson describes the multiple sales that broke her family apart. Able to trace her mother's path from Maryland to New Orleans, the string of transactions, any one of which might result in the changing of her mother's name, indicates how difficult it was for formerly enslaved people to find one another after emancipation.

**INFORMATION WANTED OF SARAH Paterson, who was sold from Capt. Williams to a man in Washington, D. C., named Haden, and from him to Jacob Huting, in Prince Williams County, Va. Also of my mother, who was sold by Mr. Wilkins to a lady in Baltimore, named Phillips, and by her to Mr. Slater and from him to New Orleans. She was married to a man named Fleman. Also of George Holliday who was sold by Mr. Wilkins to a trader, and Henry Holiday who was sold by Capt. Williams to Mr. Slater. Please address, Rosanna Patterson, Arlington Post Office, Baltimore Co. Md.**

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