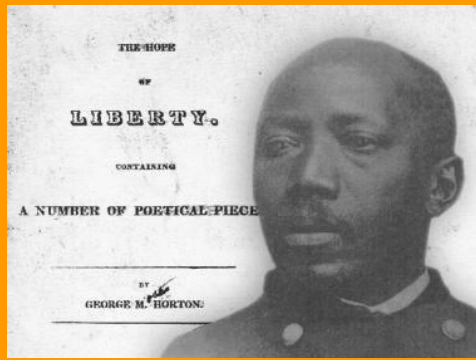


SOME FACTS
YOU MAY
KNOW!



SOME FACTS
DIDN'T KNOW!

George Moses Horton

BUT NOWWWW YOU KNOW!

Genesis Crooks

INTERESTING FACT #1



GEORGE MOSES HORTON WAS BORN IN NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, AROUND 1798. HORTON WAS AUTOMATICALLY PLACED INTO SLAVERY. HORTON WAS ENSLAVED BY WILLIAM HORTON, LATER INHERITED BY WILLIAM'S SON, WHO GOES BY THE NAME JAMES HORTON, AND THEN LATER ON IN THE YEARS HE WAS HANDED DOWN TO WILLIAM'S GRANDSON, HALL HORTON. DURING HIS CHILDHOOD, GEORGE MOSES HORTON WAS MOVED TO CHATHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, TO WORK DAILY ON A FARM AS A FARM HAND.



INTERESTING FACT #2

- WHILE BEING A SLAVE WORKING ON THE FARM, HORTON BEGAN TO TEACH HIMSELF HOW TO READ AND COMPOSE HIS OWN POETRY. HE COULDN'T WRITE AT ALL. BY THE AGE 20 GEORGE WAS ABLE TO DELIVER CROPS FROM THE FARM TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, WHICH WAS ONLY LESS THAN 10 MILES AWAY FROM THE FARM. THE STUDENTS AND FACULTY MEMBERS THERE QUICKLY REALIZED HOW SMART AND INTELLIGENT HORTON WAS. THEY EVEN GAVE HIM NUMEROUS BOOKS TO LOOK OVER TO BETTER HIS EDUCATION THEY EVEN BOUGHT SOME OF HIS POEMS.



INTERESTING FACT #3

HE FIGURED OUT HOW TO WRITE IN 1832. IN THE MID 1830S, WITH A BI-WEEKLY PAY HORTON WAS ONLY MAKING A HIGH \$3. HORTON CAME UP WITH THE IDEA TO BUY HIS TIME FROM HIS SLAVE-OWNER, AND TURNED INTO A FULL-TIME WRITER, JACK OF ALL TRADES, AND HUSTLER AT THE UNIVERSITY. HE KEPT ON PURCHASING HIS OWN TIME FOR OVER 30 YEARS WHILE DISTRIBUTING A SECOND ASSORTMENT OF VERSE, THE POETICAL WORKS (1845), AND PROCEEDING TO REQUEST FOR HIS OPPORTUNITY.



INTERESTING FACT #4

HE CREATED MORE WRITING WHILE LEAVING HIS LORD'S RANCH AND JOINING THE UNION ARMED FORCE IN 1865. AFTER THE CIVIL WAR, HORTON MOVED TO PHILADELPHIA, WHERE HE KEPT WRITING POETRY.



INTERESTING FACT #5



THE DETAILS OF THE PASSING OF GEORGE MOSES HORTON ARE UNKNOWN. NOBODY ACTUALLY KNOWS WHY/ HOW HE PASSED OR THE ACTUAL DATE OF HIS PASSING. IN 1999 NORTH CAROLINA PLACED A HISTORIC MARKER, NAMING HIM "HISTORIC POET LAUREATE" WHICH WAS THE FIRST IN THE STATE FOR AN AFRICAN AMERICAN, NEAR THE FARM WHERE HORTON HAD LIVED.

"OH! THAT MY SOUL HAD
WINGED ITS FLIGHT, WHEN FIRST
I SAW THE MORNING LIGHT, TO
WORLDS OF LIBERTY!"

QUOTES !

"MY GENIUS FROM A BOY
HAS FLUTTERED LIKE A BIRD
WITHIN MY HEART;
BUT COULD NOT THUS
CONFINED HER POWER
EMPLOY,
IMPATIENT TO DEPART."

"I LEAVE MY PARENTS
HERE BEHIND

AND ALL MY FRIENDS TO
LOVE RESIGNED

'TIS GRIEF TO GO, BUT
DEATH TO STAY

FAREWELL -- I'M GONE
WITH LOVE AWAY".

HOW HE CONNECTED TO OUR COURSE MATERIAL...

I CHOSE GEORGE MOSES HORTON BECAUSE HE WROTE THE POEM THAT WE READ IN CLASS THAT IS CALLED "ON LIBERTY AND SLAVERY". THIS POEM WAS ABOUT HOW HE WAS BORN INTO SLAVERY AND HOW HE HAD TO WORK FOR EVERYTHING THAT HE HAD GOING FOR HIMSELF.

HE REPEATS THE WORD "LIBERTY" TO HIGHLIGHT THE FACTS THAT THE SLAVES WANT TO HAVE LIBERTY BUT HOW IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM. HORTON'S AGONY AND SUFFERING ARE CLEARLY INDICATED THROUGHOUT THE POEM, WHICH MAKES THIS POEM EMOTIONAL AND VERY POWERFUL.

SITES !!

Works Cited: Larson, Jennifer, "George Moses Horton: Slave Poet from North Carolina," *Documenting the American South*, accessed 14 March 2012; Sherman, Joan R., *The Black Bard of North Carolina: George Moses Horton and His Poetry*, Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1997; Walser, Richard, "George Moses Horton, 1798?-ca.1880," *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography*, ed. William S. Powell, accessed via *Documenting the American South* 14 March 2012

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/george-moses-horton>

<https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1244153>