

# Apprenticeship bond of Aaron Spellman

Craven County, NC - April 7, 1762

Although no last name is given and no month is given in this apprenticeship paper, research in the county court records for Craven County show that this is Aaron Spellman, son of Sarah Spellman, as he was the only "Aaron" to be apprenticed to Anna Bryan during the months of March-April of 1762. His siblings Asa, David, and Lydia were bound out the same day.

Note about font changes in the text:

- the *f* character signifies the "f" used in colonial text, usually in cases of a double "s" where the first "s" looks like an "f" (ex: "witnefseth" instead of "witnesseth"), but in some cases, all "s" looks like an "f" (ex: "witneffeth"), in which case there will be double "ff"
- This form was type-set with blanks for writing in names and dates. I have tried to duplicate that, but of course, without scanning I cannot duplicate the handwriting. I have changed the font to *16 point Monotype Corsiva* for all instances where something is written by hand, including the signatures.
- In many cases, apprentices were given to men, not usually women, so the form had male gendered words (he, him, master, etc.) in reference to the apprenticeship master. The person who filled out this form crossed out most of those male gendered words and replaced them by hand with female gendered. It looks a bit messy, I'm sorry, I just wanted to keep the text as close to the original as possible.

This Indenture, made the *Seventh* Day of [\*] in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred *sixty Two* Witneffeth, That *Jacob Blount Thomas Pollock and Christopher Dawson* Esqrs. Juftices of *Craven* County Court have put and placed *Aaron a free negroe Boy* an orphan of \_\_\_\_\_ deceased, aged *Nine Years* an Apprentice to *M<sup>rs</sup>. Anna Bryan* of the faid County, with ~~him~~ *her* to dwell, reside, and serve until *he* the faid Apprentice shall arrive at the Age of *Twentyone* Years, according to the Act of Affembly in that Cafe made and provided ; during all which Time the faid Apprentice ~~his~~ faid ~~Master~~ *Mrs.* shall faithfully serve in all lawful Buinefs, and orderly and obediently in all things behave ~~himself~~ towards ~~his~~ faid ~~Masters~~, for and during the faid Term, as an Apprentice ought to do. And the faid *Anna Bryan* doth covenant, promise and agree, to and with the faid Juftices, and their Successors, that (s)he the faid *Anna Bryan* will provide and allow him faid Apprentice convenient and sufficient Meat, Drink, Lodging, and Apparel, and use his best Endeavours to instruct ~~him~~ in ~~the Art and Calling of~~ *Plantation Business* and also teach h to read and write before the Expiration of his Apprenticeship. IN WITNESS whereof, the faid Juftices by the Clerk of their County Court, and the faid *Anna Bryan* hereunto Interchangeably set their Hands and Seals, the Day and Year first above written.

Signed, Sealed, and Delivered,  
in the Prefence of

*Jacob Blount*

*Lom Lane* [hard to read, fancy script that is illegible, surname could be "Land"]

*Thom<sup>s</sup>. Pollock*

*Stephen York*

*Chris<sup>t</sup>. Dawson*

*Anna Bryan*

\*=This was left blank, but from court records, the month was April

Source Citation: (use this information to request a photocopy from the [State Archives of North Carolina](#))

- Call number at the State Archives of North Carolina: C.R. 028.101.1
- Series: Craven County
- Box: Apprentice Bonds
- Folder: Apprentice Bonds and Records 1748, 1754, 1757, 1759, 1761-65, 1768-69
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