

Raleigh Register  
October 6, 1801

FREE NEGRO STEALERS.

ON the 29<sup>th</sup> Instant, about Mid'

Night, four Men came to the Houfe of VALENTINE LOCUST, an aged Free Negro, who resides on Leek Creek, in Wake County, and calling at the Door to gain Admittance, as soon as the Door was opened, Two of them entered with Clubs, and instantaneously knocked down the old Man and his Wife, and beat them to such a Degree as scarcely to leave Life; and whilst they were in that Situation, the Robbers carried off two of their Children, a Boy named Abfalom, aged about twelve Years, of a yellowish Complexion, who is just able to read and write; a Girl, named Polly, age about five Years, of a Complexion more yellow than her Brother.

The Father of these Children is a respectable and industrious old Man, who has hitherto made ample Provisions for himself and Family; and it is hoped, from the peculiar Circumstances of his Case, arising from his Incapacity to bear Witnesses, except against his own Colour, added to the distressed Situation he must be placed in after the Loss of his two Children, will awaken the Feelings of the Humane, and that they will contribute every Thing in their Power they may tend to the detecting and punishing such vile Offenders.

It is supposed the Perpetrators of this Offence, will endeavor to convey their Prey to the State of Georgia, in the Character of Slaves, for the Purpose of Traffic.

*Wake County, N. Carolina,*  
*Sep. 30, 1801*

The Printers in the U. States who are desirous of detecting the Offenders, will give this a Place in their Papers.