

Dear friends Washington City 26th March 1830

*A. Matthews
John*

We feel under many obligations to you for the direct Interest you have taken in behalf of our Colored people, and there is two things we sincerely hope you and the rest of our friends will not lose sight of when you come to see us here, that is to make a provision ^{for a few months} for us ^{until} we can get on to the east and get work, ^{for we know the white people will not} and the next is to let us marry and intermarry with the white folks, otherwise it will not be carrying out our Abolition and free Soil principles of right and equality and without this we will very soon be in a worse Condition than we are now, nay as bad a work than the Indians, and their Condition is bad enough, I understand that they were never Slaves but the original owners of this large and rich Country, and without we can marry and intermarry with the white men fear that we will soon go down into our natural Savage state again, if you have any sons or daughters do urge them to marry with Colored gentlemen and ladies, and encourage as many of our friends as you possibly can to do so, that would be a true plan our principles upon its proper basis of right and equality, without this you had as well let us remain as we are, for fear our situation might be worse instead of being better as good many of our Colored friends who run away, ^{to their masters} return and other routes that they would return if they were not afraid, for they say that they fare worse, than they did when they were here, in fact the Slave owners say if it had not have been for them, we would not have been civilized moralized or Christianized, that ^{we} would be in a

Worse Condition than the Indians, that is to say that
we would get in our natural Savage State
they sometimes ^{say} as you did nothing for the Indians but
kill them out, drive them out and now send them
beyond the Rocky Mountain to starve out, what
have we Colored people to expect from you, we shall
be glad to hear from you —

Your friend
W. G. Foster

P. S. The slave holders, say it is no sin to hold us
in bondage, they say they have made our condition much
better than it was, or would have been if we had remained
in Africa, they therefore contend, that it cannot be a
sin to do a good act or deed,

W. G. Foster

in fact they say that they have done more for our race, than
all of the preachers and abolitionists that ever did
or ever will do —

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