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# Emancipation. Emancipation Ode.

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# Emancipation Ode.

FORWARD! Ye scattered sons of Africa  
Now freed from bondage in America,  
Forward! like Israel's host in swarming  
band,  
Forward to Glory! in a freedman's land.  
With a steady beat  
And with a joyful heart;  
March on to meet  
That which ye long have sought:  
Glory and Honor, Honor yet unbought.

2.

Let thoughts of servitude  
Be buried in the barren womb of nought,  
In stately plentitude,  
March bravely on; the battle ye have fought  
Is won, won with all Honor pure,  
March! let not filthy gain allure  
Your beaming eye,  
To God on high  
Thy hope intrust, aim thou the vaulted sky.

3.

Within the foolish breast,  
Anger doth raving rest,  
Fit mate to Malice, friend to Prejudice,  
But in your bosoms deep,  
Let Understanding sleep  
With honest Wisdom, Truth, her stores  
increase  
O Afric Sons!  
Thy Glory now is won  
Thy praise resounds throughout from Sun  
to Sun.

4.

Forward! ye stalwart sons of Africa land,  
Once captive, scourged by cruel, devilish  
hand;  
Sold into slavery,  
And in base tyranny,  
Suffered and bled, yet still contentedly  
Ye bore your heavy yoke  
And 'neath the rooted oak,  
In solemn tears to God ye crying spoke.  
Now with a gladsome mind,  
"Let joy be unconfined,"  
March on, march on, march on to victory.

5.

What, though no guiding cloud  
Leads on the way,  
What! though no fiery shroud  
Doth bid ye stay,  
What! though the nations roar  
That ye be slaves no more,  
And like a madden beast paw Freedom's  
cage,  
Forward! to Wisdom's Rule,  
Let all your thoughts be schooled,  
Forward! let fools be fools and rant in rage.

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Freedom! O Afric Sons!  
Freedom! the day is won!  
Forward! to Glory true, and Wisdom free,  
Forward! with gladsome mind,  
"Let Joy be unconfined"  
March on, march on, march on to Victory.  
JNO. NATHL SAMUELS-BELBODER,  
1902.

Brit. Guiana.

Sojourning in Charleston, S. C.