



Phillis Wheatley

(1753-1784)

On being brought from Africa to America (1773)

Twas mercy brought me from my Pagan land,
Taught my benighted soul to understand
That there's a God, that there's a Savior too:
Once I redemption neither sought nor knew.
Some view our sable race with scornful eye,
Their colour is a diabolic dye.
Remember, Christians, Negroes, black as Cain,
May be refin'd, and join the angelic train.