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Entry Nr. 236 María de los Dolores Frías

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Aaron Spencer Fogleman and Robert Hanserd (eds.), *Five Hundred African Voices: A Catalog of Published Accounts by Africans Enslaved in the Transatlantic Slave Trade, 1586-1936* (Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 2022).

Catalog number: **236**
Name(s) of African providing account: **María de los Dolores Frías**
Date account recorded: 1837
Date account first published: 1996
Date of entry creation: 20 September 2021

Source: English translation of her statement printed on p. 90 in VOICES OF THE ENSLAVED IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY CUBA: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY, edited by Gloria García Rodríguez. Translated by Nancy L. Westrate. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2011. Copyright © 2011 by the University of North Carolina Press. Used by permission of the publisher. www.uncpress.org.

Comments: None

Text of Account:

English translation –

p. 90:

“Havana, September 11, 1837

. . . She says that, some fifteen days ago, her daughter Ana Maria, a slave belonging to Don Marcos Padron, appeared before Your Excellency and accused her master of mistreatment, requesting the intervention of the syndic in order to seek out a new master. Your Excellency assented and ordered the aforementioned Padron to hand her over within three days. Excellency, the petitioner’s daughter tarried but little in her purpose, and by the end of the second day she had located a buyer. But Don Marcos Padron was determined to seek vengeance on his unfortunate and wretched slave for lodging her just charge against him. He told the buyer that she was a runaway . . . and was otherwise defective, in order to dissuade the new owner . . . and proved so successful in his endeavor that the sale fell through.

His scheme realized, and without waiting for the expiration of the short and limited time period granted for said slave to locate a buyer, he proceeded to take her to his farm, in the town

or district of Alquizar, where he subjected her to precisely the same abuse of which she had complained. Excellency, the petitioner is the mother of that wretched slave. She finds herself very distressed by the harsh treatment of her daughter, who has been coartado at 350 pesos . . . [For this reason she is requesting to be transported to the city in order to locate a new master there] . . .”

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