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Entry Nr. 457 Carolina Conga

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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: **457**
Name(s) of African providing account: **Carolina Conga**
Date account recorded: 1857
Date account first published: 2009
Date of entry creation or last update: 6 October 2021

Source: Her account from Interrogation of the African Carolina Conga, November 24, 1857, Arquivo Nacional-Rio de Janeiro printed on p. 235 in Beatriz Gallotti Mamigonian, “Conflicts over the Meanings of Freedom: The Liberated Africans’ Struggle for Emancipation in Brazil, 1840s-1860s,” 235-264, in *Paths to Freedom: Manumission in the Atlantic World*, edited by Rosemary Brana-Shute and Randy J. Sparks. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2009.

Comments: None

Text of Account:

English translation –

p. 235:

“On November 24, 1857, at the police department of the city of Rio de Janeiro, the African Carolina Conga appeared before Dr. Izidro Borges Monteiro, the Chief of Police. Asked whether she had requested or asked someone to request her emancipation, she responded that when she was at the plantation she received from little mistress D. Amalia, the daughter of the late Mr. Aureliano, a letter hidden in a sugar tin brought to her by crioulo Jacintha, a slave of the plantation, and having it read by Antonio de tal, she realized the letter advised her to run away so that the little mistress could obtain her manumission, and that when she came to Niterió with her sick daughter, she received a message from the little mistress brought by one pardo man from D. Clara’s household where the little mistress lived, telling her to find a way to escape to her house so that she [the mistress] could arrange for her manumission and that she, in fact, ran away one night with her daughter Eva to D. Clara’s house, where the little mistress lived and from there they embarked on a boat at night that reached Santa Luzia beach [in Rio de Janeiro], from where

they went to rua das Marrecas to the house of Mr. Pedro de Alcantara, with the pardo Belmiro, who had been a servant of the late Mr. Aureliano and now lived at D. Clara's house; he had been waiting for her at Santa Luzia beach.”

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