

WHEN FREEDOM CAME ...

(a poem for Juneteenth) by k.h.burton, 2004



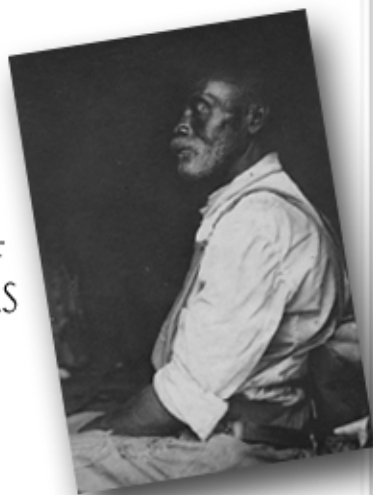
WHEN FREEDOM CAME
SHE CAME WITHOUT DELIBERATE SPEED
BUT SHE CAME IN THE BOSOM OF HOPE

FREEDOM HAD BEEN CONCEIVED,
AND BIRTHED
BY THE BARREN
BY THOSE WHO HAD LABORED
FOR ANOTHER



AND FREEDOM HAD BEEN
NURTURED, AND REARED,
BY THE CHILDLESS
BY THOSE WHO HAD SUCKLED ANOTHER'S

WHEN FREEDOM CAME...
SHE CAME WITHOUT
DELIBERATE SPEED
BUT SHE CAME IN THE
COURAGE OF
SURVIVORS



FREEDOM HAD BEEN SOUGHT FOR,
AND FOUGHT FOR
BY THE CAPTIVE
WHO KNEW A BETTER DAY WOULD
SPRING FORTH.

AND FREEDOM HAD BEEN DREAMT OF, AND PLANNED FOR, BY THE PATIENT
WHO NOW REJOICE, THAT HER DAY IS HERE

Happy Juneteenth from Kenneth Burton and

THE USE
Africana Heritage
PROJECT