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978-1-108-02000-8 - The Abolition of the African Slave-Trade, Volume 1

Thomas Clarkson

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### **The History of the Rise, Progress, and Accomplishment of the Abolition of the African Slave-Trade by the British Parliament**

Thomas Clarkson (1760–1846) was a leading campaigner against slavery and the African slave trade. After graduating from St. John's College, Cambridge in 1783, Clarkson with Granville Sharp (1735–1813) founded the Committee for the Abolition of the African Slave Trade in 1787, which increased popular support for abolition and was the main campaigner behind the abolition of the slave trade. These volumes, first published in 1808, contain a unique contemporary account of the abolition movement from one of its major leaders. Clarkson describes in great detail the Quaker background to the abolitionist movement and the parliamentary debates leading to the Slave Trade Act of 1807. The contemporary arguments both in support and in opposition to abolition and the researches and actions of the abolition movement's members are described, creating an important historical record of the movement. Volume 1 contains the early history of the abolition movement until July 1788.

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*The History of the Rise,  
Progress, and Accomplishment of*

# The Abolition of the African Slave-Trade

*by the British Parliament*

VOLUME 1

THOMAS CLARKSON



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OF THE  
Rise, Progress, and Accomplishment  
OF  
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OF  
THE AFRICAN SLAVE-TRADE

BY THE  
BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

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*BY THOMAS CLARKSON, M. A.*

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IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

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TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE WILLIAM, LORD GRENVILLE,  
 THE RIGHT HONOURABLE CHARLES, EARL GREY,  
 (LATE VISCOUNT HOWICK),  
 THE RIGHT HONOURABLE FRANCIS, EARL MOIRA,  
 THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE JOHN, EARL SPENCER,  
 THE RIGHT HONOURABLE HENRY RICHARD, LORD HOLLAND,  
 THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THOMAS, LORD ERSKINE,  
 THE RIGHT HONOURABLE EDWARD, LORD ELLENBOROUGH,  
 THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD HENRY PETTY,  
 THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THOMAS GRENVILLE,

NINE OUT OF TWELVE OF HIS MAJESTY'S LATE CABINET MINISTERS,  
 TO WHOSE WISE AND VIRTUOUS ADMINISTRATION BELONGS  
 THE UNPARALLELED AND ETERNAL GLORY  
 OF THE ANNIHILATION  
 (AS FAR AS THEIR POWER EXTENDED)  
 OF ONE OF THE GREATEST SOURCES OF CRIMES AND SUFFERINGS,  
 EVER RECORDED IN THE ANNALS OF MANKIND;

AND TO THE MEMORIES  
 OF  
 THE RIGHT HONOURABLE WILLIAM PITT,  
 AND OF  
 THE RIGHT HONOURABLE CHARLES JAMES FOX,  
 UNDER WHOSE FOSTERING INFLUENCE  
 THE GREAT WORK WAS BEGUN AND PROMOTED,  
 THIS HISTORY OF THE RISE, PROGRESS, AND ACCOMPLISHMENT  
 OF THE ABOLITION OF THE SLAVE-TRADE  
 IS RESPECTFULLY AND GRATEFULLY INSCRIBED.