

Date: 1545, April, July and October

Theme: Slaves registered by passengers on a ship travelling from Seville to the Indies

Source: Archivo General de Indias, Contratación 1079. CUNY DSI Dominican Colonial Documents
Collection

[fo. 521v.]

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Andrés García, passenger, certified that he is carrying in this said vessel four /
pieces of black slaves authorized to himself and /
at his risk by virtue of a *cédula* from his highness /
the content of which is this that follows: /

The prince /

I hereby give license and authority to you Andres /
Garcia so that you may take and do travel /
from these kingdoms and lorchips to the Indies, islands and /
Tierra Firme of the Ocean Sea four black slaves /
for your personal and domestic service, you going in person /
to the said Indies and in no other manner, and having /
paid first to Ochoa de Luyando the two /
ducados of the license of each one of them, since /
he, as per our mandate, is in charge of collecting them. And we mandate /
that the officials of the island and province where the /
said slaves are taken to, must take under their power this /
original *cédula* and place them into the coffer of the three /
keys so that, by virtue of it, the four said slaves for which /
we hereby give you license may not be introduced /
more than once. Done in the village of Valladolid /
on the seventh day of the month of July of one thousand and five hundred and forty /
years. I the Prince. Per mandate of his highness,
Juan de Samano. And on the back of the said *cédula* /
there are five signs of signatures. And Ochoa de /
Luyando appears as receiver of the two ducados of the license of each of /
the said four slaves. /

License by his highness to the said Andres García. And /
he must carry it with him and deliver it to his majesty's officials that reside /
in the Indies, where the slave may be taken to, so they place it /
into the coffer of the three keys as his majesty orders it. /
[Rubric] [Rubric]

[fo. 522r.]

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Juan Astorga, in the name of Juan Valenciano and by virtue of the power of attorney /
he has from the latter, which was seen by Melchor de Portes, notary of Seville, /
on 23 of June of fifteen hundred and forty /
five, certified that he is carrying on this said vessel three pieces of black /
slaves authorized to the said Juan Valenciano, and at his risk /
by virtue of a *cédula* from his highness, the content of which /

is the following one:

The prince/

r I hereby issue license and power to you Juan Valenciano so that /
you may go and do go from these kingdoms and lordships to the /
Indies, Islands and Tierra Firme of the Ocean Sea six blacks slaves for /
the service of your person and house, you going in person to the said /
Indies and not in other manner, and having first paid /
to Ochoa de Luyando the two *ducados* of the license of each one of /
them, since he is in charge, as per our mandate, to collect /
them. And we mandate the officials of the island or province where /
the said slaves are taken to that they take under their custody this original /
cédula and place it into the [coffer?] of three keys so that by /
virtue of it the said six slaves for which we hereby give you license /
may not be introduced more than once. Done in the village of /
Valladolid on the seventh day of the month of July of the year one thousand /
and five hundred and forty five. I the Prince. Per mandate of his highness, /
Joan de Samano. And on the back of the said *cédula* there /
are five signs of signatures and it seems that Ochoa de /
Lugando received the two *ducados* of the license for each of the said six slaves / [...]

p And because with these slaves the six pieces contained in the said *cédula* /
are complied with, the original *cédula* from his highness was returned /
to the said Juan de Astorga in the name of the said Juan Valenciano so that it /
is taken with the said slaves and the officials of his majesty that /
reside in the Indies where they are taken to must take it /
under their power and place it in the [coffer?] of the three keys /
as his highness mandates it /
[*Rubric*] [*Rubric*]

[fo. 522v.]

Andrés de Narvaez certified that he is carrying on this said /
vessel one black slave authorized to himself by /
virtue of one *cédula* of his highness, whose content /
is the following:

The prince /

I hereby give license and authority to you Andrés de /
Narvaez so that you may carry forty black slaves /
from these kingdoms and lordships to the Indies, islands and Tierra Firme /
of the Ocean Sea for your personal and domestic service, /
you going in person to the said Indies and in no other manner, and having /
paid first to Pedro de Santander, banker in this court /
the two *ducados* of the license of each one of them /
since he, as per our mandate, is in charge of collecting them /
and we mandate that the officials of the island or province where /

the said slaves may be taken to must take under their power /
this original *cédula* and place it into the coffer of the three /
keys so that, by virtue of it, the said forty slaves for which hereby /
we give you license may not be introduced more than once. /
Done in the village of Valladolid on twenty /
four days of the month of April of one thousand five hundred and /
forty and five years. I the prince. Per mandate of his highness, /
Joan de Samano. And on the back of this said *cédula* are five /
signs of signature and [] /
[] received the two ducados [] pertaining to each of them /

The original *cédula* was returned to the said Andres de Narvaez because with this [*sic*] /
slave the [number] of slaves contained in it is completed. And the officials /
p of his majesty that reside in the Indies where they may be taken to must take it under /
their power and place it into the coffer of the three keys as his majesty orders it.
[*Rubric*] [*Rubric*]

[fo. 523r.]¹ The said *maestre* Juan de Astorga certified that he is carrying under his power /
and received from the officials of this Casa two boxes of /
shots that are the ones that Juan Rios Zarco brought from the /
province of [*scratched*: Tierra] Cartagena, which he took there /
the past year of one thousand and five hundred and forty and /
four, and because though he brought them back here /
they must be for the said province of Cartagean /
now the said Juan de Astorga, *maestre* , is taking them back /
to give them to the [treasury] officials or justice officials /
that reside in the said province [designated by] his majesty and /
he will bring certification within a year of how he delivers /
them, and so the said *maestre* obliged himself to /
comply with it, under penalty of twenty thousand *maravedis* and /
he signed it with his name. /
[*Rubric*] [*Signature*:] Juan de /
Astorga [*Rubric*]

[fo. 525v.]
[fo. 526r.]
[fo. 526v.]
[fo. 527r.]²

[...]
on 7 of October of 1545 /

Andrés Delantadilla certified that he is sending on this said vessel one /
female slave authorized to Juan Fernandez Polaino, and that if /
Juan Saoni may want to sell her on the way, that he /
may do so, and [she] goes at the risk of the said Andrés /
Delantadilla, as per the license for forty slaves /

¹ Folio number probably written-in y archivist.

² Idem.

that his highness granted to Luis de Ayora by a *cédula* /
done at El Abrojo on twenty four of July of /
one thousand and five hundred and forty five, which are exempt /
from all duties belonging to his majesty in the Indies, and nothing /
else, because so mandates his highness on the said *cédula* /
[*Rubric*]