

BLACK TUDORS

JOHN BLANKE ROYAL TRUMPETER



John Blanke was a trumpeter in England in the early 16th Century who played for two Tudor Kings. Blanke's life is poorly documented so not much is known about him, however the information available does show he was a highly respected musician. Blanke is thought to have migrated to England from Spain with Kathrine of Aragon in 1501 who came to marry Henry VIII's older brother Prince Arthur. He played at Henry VIII's funeral and Henry VIII's coronation and is the first black Briton to have an image of him recorded. As well as Blanke being respected by the royal family he was also a free man. Blanke was initially paid the equivalent of £22

in today's money per day, he later successfully petitioned to have a pay raise, raising his wages to the equivalent of £44 in today's money per day, this shows he was a confident member of society. After he was married and he received a wedding gift from Henry VIII, John Blanke disappeared from the records. The records of John Blanke are significant because it shows the existence of free Africans in England up to 500 years ago, Blanke also shows us that even though there were few black Tudors some had greater privilege than white Tudors.

CATTELENA OF ALMONDSBURY INDEPENDANT SINGLE WOMAN

Catteleena was a single woman living in the small Gloucestershire village of Almondsbury, not far from Bristol in Tudor England until her death in 1625. Not much is known about Catteleena, there is no known record of her place of origin or family history. Things that are known about Catteleena are that she



provided her with milk and but allowed her to sell the produce to neighbours, this provided an income for her to support her lifestyle.

The fact we know Catteleena owned these items shows her life was important enough to be recorded, she could provide the necessities for herself and was not enslaved.



owned a cow, had her own dishes, clothing, tablecloth and other small possessions, there is evidence Catteleena owned her own furniture which could suggest she shared her home. The fact she owned a cow shows her place in society; she was given or earned enough money to buy a cow an animal which in turn could earn her more money. Owning a cow ~~was~~ not only



DEDERI JAQUOAH THE PRINCE OF RIVER CESTOS

Prince Dederi Jaquoah was born in modern-day Liberia around 1591 and was the son of King Caddi-biah. King Caddi-biah was used to trading with Europeans, Dederi Jaquoah's kingdom was known for melegueta pepper which was uncommon in Europe, in England the pepper was thought to have medicinal properties. The people of the River Cestos also regularly traded in ivory. In 1588 Queen Elizabeth granted the Grand Company exclusive trade rights with West Africa for ten years. Around the time Jaquoah was 16 John Davies arrived on the River Cestos aboard the abigail in 1607; when the ship departed in 1610 Jaquoah was a passenger. On New Year's Day 1611 Nedon was colonised at

St Mildred Poutrey at the age of 20, at the time of his baptism Jaquoah had only been in London for a few months. Jaquoah was in London for two years before he traveled home to Liberia in 1612. In 1615 a delegation of East Indian company merchants reported that Dederi Jaquoah spoke good English and made 'great prayers and promises of trade: Dederi Jaquoah's life in England shows that in the early Modern period there were Africans migrating to and from England for trade.



ARCHIVE 05/06/22
76-07-021

Edward Swarthe

BACKGROUND

Edward Swarthe was, along with
John Gray a central worker Edward Swarthe
He is the partner and most likely brought
here in the Francis Lombard Expedition,
one of the many by which the Spanish

As for slaves
and bordering
we have no
the positions of his business
and more



into the
be pos.
to only

the position of his business
and more
the position of his business
and more

Edward Swarthe was a partner
in the Francis Lombard Expedition
and was the most likely brought
here in the Francis Lombard Expedition,
one of the many by which the Spanish

Q
E
A

What was his life like? - Francis being enslaved in the Spanish Colonies,
as well as the slave of Edward Swarthe and having being forced to work,
he was a partner. He had a partner, a partner with him, who was highly
reputed as he had shipped a whole man. We don't know much more
about him, or his business, from the records. He was named usually as the