



Item of the Week *from the Long Island Collection*

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EAST HAMPTON STAR ARCHIVE

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~~STOP THE RUNAWAY!~~ *Theif. Stole*

A bright Mulatto BOY, about 15 years of age, named *CHARLES KIP*, [calls himself *Charles Smith*,] left the service of the subscriber on the 1st July instant. Said boy is stout built, combs his hair back on the forehead, and is clumsy in his movements. *Took* ~~with him~~ *stole* a blue cloth roundabout coat, reddish vest, two pairs tow pantaloons. one dark cord do. one faded plaid cotton drilling do. new stout shoes, coarse palm-leaf hat with pink ribbon, black fur hat, and an old white wool hat.

A liberal reward will be paid to any person who will give information respecting him, either personally or by letter through the Post-office, directed to the subscriber at Manhasset, Queens Co. L. I.

MARIA HEGEMAN.

Manhasset, L. I. July 16, 1839.

1839 Broadside

One senses the anger and resentment of the owner of this broadside from 1839. Note the word "runaway" at the top has been crossed out in pencil and changed to "theif" (thief) and "took" is now "stole." It announces the disappearance of a young teenager named Charles Kip or Smith from the service of Maria Hegeman of Manhasset. You may wonder if Charles was a runaway slave, but that is not likely the case. Gradual emancipation of slaves took effect in New York State in 1827, so Charles may have been an indentured servant (someone placed under contract to work for another for a period of time, usually 7 years), an apprentice, or a freedman (someone previously freed from slavery). What eventually happened to Charles is, unfortunately, uncertain.

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[The East Hampton Star Archive](#) is a fully searchable, online digital archive of our local weekly newspaper, that features each complete issue of the paper from 1918-1968, exactly as it appeared in print. Visit the archive online, for a tour of our Town's history that will fascinate both the amateur and professional historian!



Welcome to the Long Island Collection's "Item of the Week." We are an archive dedicated to the history and people of Long Island, with a special interest in all things East Hampton and East End. Unlike some small local history rooms in other public libraries, we have over 100,000 items including, but not limited to, rare books, maps, photographs, deeds, postcards, letters, new papers, and whaling logs.

We also have a dedicated and hardworking staff ready to help you with any questions you may have. Unable to make it to the library? No problem! We upload images from the collection to **Digital Long Island** on a weekly basis, so there's always something new and interesting to behold.

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