

For release, February 2007

PATRIOT'S REWARD

By Stephen Clarkson

- Detailed research of author's ancestors and their slaves
- Revolutionary War era historical fiction
- 2 full color maps

Author Steve Clarkson has artfully cloaked the true tale of his own ancestors and their slave, in a gripping, colonial-era novel!

From the author: "In 2002, I discovered that my ancestors in America had owned a slave named Will Clarkson. Will was born about 1739 in Africa, probably in what is now Senegal. He was captured by slave traders when he was sixteen and brought to Portsmouth, NH, where he was sold at auction to a local white tanner, James Clarkson, and acquired his English name. This fictional tale takes place between the years 1755 and 1789, woven through actual historical events of those years of the American Revolution and the lives of the real people, both black and white, who made it happen."

Contrary to widespread belief, at least a few slaves in the eighteenth century were educated and astute observers of the radical events and thoughts boiling in the colonies where they were captive. Will Clarkson is one of these and also an active player for himself and his brethren on the new American stage.

"Patriot's Reward is a compelling and well-written saga of an African-American slave who becomes a hero in the Revolutionary War. Deeply researched and full of action, it carries the reader from colonial New Hampshire to the siege of Quebec and the great battle at Saratoga...a reading treat for enthusiasts of African-American history and Revolutionary War history alike."

—Allen Ballard, Professor of History and African Studies, SUNY-Albany, Author, *Where I'm Bound* (Simon & Schuster)

"Steve Clarkson has thoughtfully recreated a world that has long been ignored. He uses historically accurate descriptions of a New Hampshire seaport community to enrich and highlight little-known personal stories of men and women who were enslaved in northern New England. **Patriot's Reward reminds us that 'Black History' is, indeed, American history.**"

—Valerie Cunningham, co-author of *Black Portsmouth* and President of Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail, Inc.

STEPHEN CLARKSON is a direct descendant of Will's original owner in America. He graduated from Yale College and the University of Virginia School of Law. He practiced law in New York City and Washington, D.C., and was Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary of Newport News Shipbuilding in Virginia. Now retired, he and his wife, Mary Claire, make their home in Rye, New Hampshire, where he lived as a boy. *Patriot's Reward* is his first novel.

Media inquiries please contact: Deidre Randall, Blueline Publicity, Peter E. Randall Publisher LLC.
Phone: (603) 205-0552, (603) 431-5667, FAX: (603) 431-3566, E-mail: drandall@bluelinepublicity.com
Web Sites: www.patriotsreward.com — www.perpublisher.com — www.bluelinepublicity.com
Distribution: Biblio Distribution/NBN, 4501 Forbes Blvd., Suite 200, Lanham, MD 20706
Tel: 800-462-6420 / <http://www.bibliodistribution.com>

Peter E. Randall Publisher LLC
Blueline Publicity: Literary marketing solutions
PO Box 4726, Portsmouth, NH 03802

Publication date — May 2007
\$24.95, 320 pgs, cloth, 6" x 9"

ISBN# 978-1-931807-56-2
<http://www.patriotsreward.com>

