

“Scufflin”

by

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For those of us old enough to remember Count Dante and his famous “death matches” in Taunton, New Jersey, refereed by Kareem Allah by the way, many believed that this was the first of its kind; but that is far from the truth. I remember the case of a young boy who, in 1965, without a father or older brother, growing up on the mean streets of Brooklyn, asked his uncle C. Y. Williams to show him how to protect himself. Subsequently, he was told stories of a time on the plantations of Virginia how captive Afrikans were made to fight like dogs and cocks – many times to the death – where they suffered severe maiming. Indeed, he was also told that his grandfather (D. D. Williams) was a master scuffler and had shown him many moves.

That boy eventually became a man and studied with a half dozen other great martial arts teachers. He fought in bare knuckle full contact matches – not the Asian kind with no head punches (smile). He traced *scufflin* back to the Kongo and reclaimed both his and Scufflin’s Afrikan name. For those interested in learning more about Scufflin and Afrikan Martial Arts, I recommend the following sources:

1. The African Origin of Martial Arts by Wayne Chandler;
2. African Origins of the Martial Arts by Nijel Binns www.nijart.com;
3. Black Martial Arts III: Combat Games of the African Indian Ocean (mMadagascar, Comoros, Reunion) (2003 / 2006) Edward L. Powe;
4. The Ancient Martial Arts of Egypt by Sheng Chi Kung Fu in Northern California;
5. Urban Self Defense by Mahaliel Bethea;
6. Nubian Black African Boxers or Gladiator – www.ezbord.com;
7. Broken Glass film by Daniel Marks;
8. Slavery: The Burden of Slavery – NI 337;
9. ERBmania! Nkima Speaks / The Real Leopard Men – www.erblast.com;
10. All Tom Molineaux articles;
11. Absolom, Absolom by William Faulkner;
12. Weld’s American Slavery TOC (S. C. Macy 1839);
13. Roll Jordan Roll by Genovese;
14. Life Under the Peculiar Institution by Norman Yetman;
15. Weevils in the Wheat by Perdue, Barden & Philipps;
16. Coming of the Hurricane a drama by Alvin Klein;
17. Fifty Years in Chains by Charles Ball 1859;
18. Narrative of the Life of Henry Bibb (1815-1854);
19. Life of William Grimes, The Runaway Slave (1784-1865);
20. Street Kingdom: 5 Years Inside the Franklyn Ave Posse;
21. What Happened to Victor Belfort: www.ourhutch.com;
22. Alabama Supreme Court on Slaves. State –v- Abrams 10 Alabama 928 (1847);
23. Africans in America Part III / Narrative Conspiracy & Rebellions by Gabriel (1799);
24. Memories of Childhood’s Slavery Days (1909) Annie L. Burton;

25. Finding A Way Out: An Autobiography (1921) by Robert Russa Moton;
26. Uh Knock em ef uh Dead. ejmas.com;
27. African Americans (1753) Gideon Carr;
28. Ears Used to be Fair Game in the Ring; www.lasvegassun.com;
29. I was Violently Assaulted by Another African American: (3/19/05) Musician Forums;
30. Mandingo; a film
31. Drums; a film

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