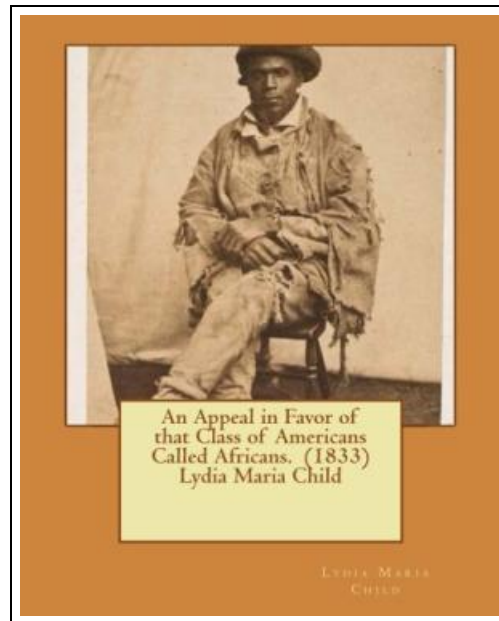


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Publication of *An Appeal in Favor of that Class of Americans Called Africans*, 1833 marked a turning point in Child's career. Outspoken in her condemnation of slavery, she pointed out its contradiction with Christian teachings, described the moral and physical degradation it brought upon slaves and owners alike, not omitting the issue of miscegenation, and not excepting the North from its share of responsibility for the system. "The Appeal was one of the most important early manifestoes of the militant phase of Garrisonian abolitionism. It is also an important event in the history of feminism, because it helped launch women into the public sphere." "The Appeal is literature of high quality and stands as a classic of American reform." "The Appeal was one of the most important early manifestoes of the militant phase of Garrisonian abolitionism. It is also an important event in the history of feminism, because it helped launch women into the public sphere. Carolyn Karcher is the ideal scholar to write the introduction". - - James M. McPherson, Princeton University. Excerpt. Let me say, then, that -- taking her for all in all -- she is the first woman in the republic. THIS encomium appeared in an article of 20 November 1829, headlined MRS. CHILD in bold capitals and featured prominently in the editorial column of the *The African American* David Walker's fiery Appeal (1829) and Garrison's *Thoughts on African Colonization* (1832), which together inspired Child's fifth chapter, presented thoroughgoing critiques of the scheme to send the free black population back to Africa, touted as a means of gradually ending slavery. More ambitious in scope than either its predecessors or its successors, Child's Appeal also differs strikingly in style and substance from other white American abolitionist tracts, including the many that bear witness to its influence. Child, Lydia Maria. *An Appeal in Favor of That Class of Americans Called Africans*. 1833. Edited by Carolyn L. Karcher. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1996. Child, Lydia Maria.