1. Francis Cameron (1848): To Hon. Duncan Cameron-Letter
2. Doc Edwards (Ex-slave) 84 yrs. (1937)-Interview

Summarizing

1. What type of historical document is the source?
   1. Letter
   2. Interview
2. What specific information, details and/or perspectives does the source provide?
   1. The first is by a [white] female, very humble and apologetic. She has a request to be loaned money for the purchase of a slave to help her run a boarding house because she is in need of affordable male specific labor. She is will to put her mortgage as collateral for the loan.
   2. This is an interview with an ex-slave
3. What is the subject and/or purpose of the source?
   1. She is requesting/entreating a loan.
   2. He is recalling his time on the plantation with Marse Paul.
4. Who was the author and/or audience of the source?
   1. [White] Female writing to Male [likely white]
   2. African American elderly (ex) slave retelling his history on Marse Paul’s plantation/Audience whoever hears/reads it

Contextualizing

1. When and where was the source produced?
   1. 1848
   2. 1937
2. Why was the source produced?
   1. Needed money to get help to maintain a source of income to support her family
   2. Retelling his experiences, expressing something of acceptance and maybe even contentment as Marse Paul’s slave.
3. What was happening within the immediate and broader context at the time the source was produced?
   1. Cities were building up post civil war, industry picking up, women owning a little more, working more…
   2. 30 years before the civil rights movement
4. What summarizing information can place the source in time and place?
   1. Post-Civil War and pre-19th amendment
   2. Just into the 20th century and approximately 30 years before the civil rights (a recounting his experience of slavery during the late 1700’s

Inferring

1. What is suggested by the source?
   1. Women were running business, doing trade, handling money. Seemed very humble and apologetic, perhaps a tactic?
   2. Doc seemed content with his life with Marse Paul as his owner
2. What interpretations may be drawn from the source?
   1. Family was just as important to discuss as business matters and were written in one letter. People were easily bought and traded.
   2. Life as a slave wasn’t so bad.
3. What perspectives or points of view are indicated in the source?
   1. White female post-civil war
   2. African American (ex-slave)
4. What inferences may be drawn from absences or omissions in the source?
   1. Perhaps she didn’t sound to business focused because then she’d be equal with the man. So, she played down the business and seemed apologetic and pleading. Maybe the way to get best results.
   2. His life as a slave was comfortable enough. He worked in wheat so he might have been from a middle colony (Heavy Quaker Influence)

Corroborating

1. What similarities and differences between the sources exist?
   1. They are written from opposing sides (white-female and black-male) in two ways. Both offering perspectives of slave owner-slave.
2. What factors could account for these similarities and differences?
   1. One is the owner and the other the object. Their social value is what makes the pieces different.
   2. But they are the same in that they are both minorities really.
3. What conclusions can be drawn from the accumulated interpretations?
   1. Slaves were easy to come by and it was considered normal to own one. It appears that some slave may have been content, but that may have to do with their location.
4. What additional information or sources are necessary to answer more fully the guiding historical question?
   1. It would be nice to hear an account of how the woman treated her slave or something else like it. I feel like I need something more revealing.