

**New York Run Away Wife Advertisements  
1754-1774**

Below are all the Run Away Wife Ads for the period January 1754 to April 1760  
published in New York newspapers.

After that date the ads are only those that contain some additional information beyond the  
standard template.

New-York Mercury,  
February 11, 1754

Whereas Anne, the wife of Alexander Ross, of this city, hath eloped from her said husband, and run him considerably in debt; these are therefore to warn all persons from trusting her on my account, as I will not pay any debt she shall contract from she date hereof. February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1754.

Alexander Ross.

New York Mercury,  
October 14, 1754

From London, August 22

The perfect state of matrimony in South-Britain.

Wives eloped from their husbands—1362

Husbands runaway from their wives—2361

Married pairs in the state of separation from each other—4120

Married pairs living in a state of open war, under the same roof—191023

Married pairs living in a state of inward hatred for each other tho' conceal'd from the world---162320

Married pairs living in a state of coldness and indifference for each other—510132

Married pairs reputed happy in the esteem of the world—1102

Married pairs comparatively happy---134

Married absolutely and entirely happy—9

Married pairs in South-Britain in all---872564

The perfect state of single persons in South-Britain.

Young ladies that would be glad to tie the Gordian Knot---50410

Antique old maids who have overstayed their markets---71059

Miserable old bachelors---42010

Young bachelors past the age of twenty one who are desirous no to continue to...-45205

Widowers whom from their esteem and regard to their late wives, design to end their days as such----3005

Widowers that would be glad to tie the knot once more---39002

Widows that would be glad to engage the widowers---40007

Single persons in South-Britain in all ----290691

New York Mercury,  
March 3, 1755  
New York, May 20

Last week Aminadab Touchy procured a bill of divorce at our superior-court against his wife Deborah by reason of her having for some time eloped: it appeared upon the trial, that the occasion of her eloping was, that he had long miserably abused her, and at last cruelly beat her, for persisting in going to the *Church of England*, which, yet through many tribulations, obstinately continued their assembling for public worship.

New York Mercury,  
October 20, 1755

Whereas Anne, the wife of Ebenezer Hulse, has eloped from her husband's bed and board, and is endeavoring to rum him in debt & therefore all persons are forbid to credit her on his account, for he will pay no debts of her contracting from the date hereof.

Ebenezer Hulse. New-York, October 20, 1755.

New York Mercury  
December 13, 1756

Thomas Fullerd, hereby forbids all persons whatsoever, from crediting his wife Margaret Fullerd, on his account, for he will pay no debts she will contract from the date hereof, she having eloped from his bed, without any reasonable cause. Thomas Fullerd.

New York Mercury  
January 24, 1757

Whereas Martha Woodhull, wife to the subscriber, of *Brookhaven on Long-Island*, has eloped from her husband's bed and board, without any reasonable cause, and has threatened to run him in debt: these are therefore to forewarn all persons whatsoever, not to credit that said Martha Woodhull, from the date hereof, of they need not expect to be paid by her husband; but he will prosecute all persons that will harbor or entertain her. As witness my hand, the 24th day of January 1757. Henry Woodhull.

New York Mercury  
March 21, 1757

Public notice is hereby given, not to trust Nancy, the wife of the subscriber, on his account, or to entertain her at any rate; she having eloped from her bed and board, and behaved dissolutely for some time past, withal striving to run him in debt, he being determined to pay no debts contracted by her from the date hereof. Joseph Wilcocks.

New York Mercury  
April 11, 1757

Whereas Isabella Maginis, wife of me the subscriber, hath eloped from my bed and board, without any lawful cause: these are therefore to forbid all persons whatsoever from trusting her on my account, as I will pay no debts contracted by her from the date hereof.

April 11, 1757. Paul Maginis

New York Mercury  
May 9, 1757

Whereas Nancy, the wife of Francis Ellit, of Wallkill, in the county of Ulster, and province of New York, has eloped from her said husband: these are therefore to forbid all

persons from crediting the said Nancy, from the date hereof, or they need not expect to be paid by Francis Ellit.

New York Gazette or weekly post-boy

July 4, 1757

Whereas Jane McMaster, wife of William McMaster, of Schenectady, in the county of Albany, has lately eloped from her said husband's bed and board, All persons are defied not to credit or entertain the said Jane on his account, as he will pay no debts contracted by her from the date hereof. William McMaster.

New York Gazette or weekly post-boy

July 25, 1757

Whereas Thomas Johnson, of the city of New-York, Mariner, hath been pleased very scandalously to advertise me, his wife, as having eloped from his bed and board without any provocation, and that I was endeavoring to run him in debt:-----be it known, that on Monday evening last, without any least provocation, he basely, cruelly, and inhumanly barred his doors against me, forced me to take refuge in a neighbor's house, and other ways so basely carried himself towards me, that I was obliged on Thursday last to have him bound over before authority: in consequence of which he issued advertisements against me without any regard to truth or decency, as I did not elope from his bed nor board (other than obliged to by him) nor never attempted to run him in debt, since his ill-treatment: I therefore hope my friends will regard the advertisement as false and scandalous in itself, and him as a base and cruel man. Ruth Johnson.

New York Gazette or weekly post boy

August 1, 1757

Whereas Mary, the wife of Peter Railey, of the city of New-York, Mariner, hath, within ten days past, eloped from his bed and board, and in all probability will endeavor to run him in debt, These are therefore strictly to forbid all persons whatsoever from trusting the said Mary on my account, nor to deliver into her hands any one thing they know, or have reason to know, is my property, nor even to harbor her on my account, being determined not to answer any debt contracted by her after this date; but on the contrary to put the law in execution against those who act otherwise.

New York Mercury

January 2, 1758

Whereas Sarah, the wife of Thomas Davis, of the city of New York, Mariner, has eloped from her said husband, without any reason, on the least provocation: These are therefore to forbid any person or persons to trust the said Sarah, on the said Thomas Davis's account, for he will pay no debts of her contracting. Decem. 26, 1757.

New York Gazette or weekly post-boy

January 30, 1758

Whereas Margaret, the wife of Elias Chadeayne, of this city, Mariner, has lately eloped from his bed and board; and he imagines she will endeavor to run him in debt; He

therefore forbids any one to trust her on his account, as he is determined not to pay any debts she shall contract from the date hereof. New York, January 21, 1758.

New York Gazette or weekly post-boy  
May 15, 1758

Whereas Rachael, the wife of Arie King, of this city, Hatter, hath eloped from his bed and board, and its feared that she will attempt to run him in debt: These are therefore to caution and forewarn all persons whatsoever no to credit her on my account, as I will pay no debts contracted by her from the date hereof. New York, May 9, 1758. Arie King.

New York Gazette or weekly post-boy  
June 5, 1758

Whereas Anne, the wife of John Ray, of Ulster county, province of New York, has lately eloped from his bed and board; and lest she should attempt to run him in debt after this date, he takes this method to forbid any person or persons whatsoever to trust her on his account, as he will pay none contracted by her after this day. June 5, 1758. Thomas Ray.

New York Gazette or weekly post-boy  
June 19, 1758

Whereas Jane, the wife of John Miller, of this city, Mariner, has eloped from his bed and board; and least she should endeavor to run him in debt, he hereby forewarns all persons from trusting her on his account, as he will pay no debts contracted by her, from this date: New York, June 19, 1758. John Miller.

New York Mercury  
June 19, 1758

Whereas Juliana, the wife of Henry Smith, of Ulster County, Farmer, hath eloped from her said husband: These are therefore to forewarn all persons from giving her any credit in her said husband's name, for that he will pay no debts by her contracted, from this date. June 12, 1758. Henry Smith.

New York Mercury  
July 17, 1758

This is to inform the public, that Catherine Eustace, has eloped from me the subscriber, without any just cause or reason, and also has kept bad company in the block-houses, and sundry other places, to my great damage: so this is to inform the public no to trust her upon my account, for I will not pay any debts for her contracting. Charles Eustace.

New York Gazette or weekly post boy  
August 28, 1758

Whereas Margaret, the wife of Michael Morris, of this city, Breeches-Maker, has eloped fro him bed and board with out the least provocation, (this being not the first time) he therefore, in justice to himself, is under the disagreeable necessity of giving public notice,

that no person whatsoever may trust her on his account, as he is determined to answer no debts of her contracting, from the date hereof; Michael Morris.

New York Mercury

April 16, 1759

Whereas Elizabeth Pinkny, wife of Israel Pinkny, of East-Chester, in the county of West-Chester, and province of New York, currier and tanner, has lately eloped from her said husband, without any reasonable provocation fro so doing; this is therefore to forewarn all persons whatsoever, from harboring or entertaining the said Elizabeth Pinkny, as they will answer it at their peril in the law; and all persons are hereby forewarned not to trust her on his account, as he will pay no debts she shall contract from the date hereof: and if she will return again to her family, she shall be kindly received and all differences forgot and made easy. As witness my hand this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1759. Israel Pinkny.

New York Gazette

August 27, 1759

Whereas Catherine, the wife of Thomas Johnson, School master, in the city of New York has eloped from my bed and board, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of this instant, without any sufficient cause. This is to caution all persons from crediting the said Catherine, for I will not pay any debts that she may contract after this date. Given under my hand, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1759. Thomas Johnson.

New York Gazette

September 10, 1759

Whereas Ann, the wife of the subscriber, has of late behaved very unbecoming, and lately eloped from me bed and board;...and lest she should attempt to run me in debt, I hereby give this public notice, that I will pay no debt she shall contract from this date; and all persons are desired, to observe this declaration. Matthias Bensinger.

New York Mercury

July 14, 1760

Whereas Isabellah Bryan, wife of John Bryan, school master on Golden-Hill, hath eloped and absented from his and board; he is determined to pay no debts that she doth or shall contract. Therefore all persons are hereby desired not to credit her on his account. John Bryan.

New York Gazette

April 28, 1760

Whereas Maria, the wife of Rev. John Martin Shaffar, of this city, on the 19<sup>th</sup> instant, eloped from his bed and board, and it's likely she will run him in debt. Public notice is hereby given to all persons no to trust the said Maria on her husband's account, he being determined not to pay any debt by her contracted after this date. New York, April 25, 1760. John Martin Shaffar.

New York Mercury, June 20, 1760

WHEREAS Hannah the Wife of Stephen Prior, at the White Plains, County of Westchester, and Province of New-York, has lately eloped from her said Husband, run him in Debt, taken away all his Money, great Part of his Goods, and will give him no Account of either; he also fears she will still run him farther in Debt: Therefore public Notice is hereby given to all Persons not to credit her on his Account, as he will pay no Debts of her contracting from the Date hereof,  
June 30 1760                      STEPHEN PRIOR

New York Mercury, July 14 1760

WHEREAS Isabella Bryan, wife of John Bryan, schoolmaster on Golden-Hill, hath eloped and absented from his bed and board; he is determined to pay no debts that she doth contract. Therefore all persons are hereby desired not to credit her on his account.  
JOHN BRYAN

New York Gazette, September 8, 1760

Scarsdale; in Westchester County, and New York Province.

This is to give Notice to all Persons, that my Wife, Sarah Roads, hath eloped from my Bed and Board above a Fortnight, and that if any Person shall Credit her for any Thing, I shall for which not be answerable. In Witness whereof, I hereunto set my Name, this 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of August 1760.                      John Roads

New York Mercury

October 20, 1760

Whereas Helena, late Helena Wall, now wife of John Henry Ganter, of the city of New-York, has eloped from his bed and board without any provocation; these are therefore to warn and forbid all manner of persons whatsoever, either to conceal, harbor or entertain the said Helena; and also, that no person whatsoever do trade, deal with or credit the said Helena in nay wife howsoever upon my account or credit at their peril, as I will pay no person any such demands to be made. Given under my hand this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October 1760. John Henry Ganter.

New York Mercury, December 1, 1760

WHEREAS Phebe Harris, the Wife of Nathaniel Harris, of this City, Mariner, has eloped from his Bed and Board, and run him in Debt; This is to forwarn all Persons from trusting her on his Account, For he will pay no Debts of her contracting from the Date hereof,  
NATHANIEL HARRIS

New York Gazette, March 2, 1761

WHEREAS Martha Willson, (formerly passing by the Name of Martha Adair) the Wife of the Subscriber, hath eloped form his Bed and Board, on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> Instant. These are to forwarn all Persons not to give here Credit on my Account, as I am determined not to pay any Debts of her contracting, after the Date hereof.  
JOHN WILLSON

New York Mercury, March 16, 1761

WHEREAS, Mary the Wife of Bernhard Power, of the City of Albany, Baker, has eloped from her said Husband, gone off with George Gaub, and taken a Child of 8 Years old with her, a Girl, named Catharine. All Persons whatsoever are forbid to trust her on his Account, for he will pay no Debts of her contracting from the Date hereof. Should the Child be left with any Person, 'tis hoped they will acquaint him by a Letter.

BERNHARD POWER

NOTE Below are **select ads** from the Period September 1760 through July 1774

\*New York Gazette

September 8, 1760

Scarsdale; in Westchester county, and New York Province. This is to give notice to all persons, that my wife, Sarah Roads, hath eloped from my bed and board above fortnight, and that if any person shall credit her for any thing, I shall for which not be answerable. In witness whereof, I hereunto set my name, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 1760. John Roads. TWENTY POUNDS REWARD, runaway the 28<sup>th</sup> of July last, from the subscriber, living in Alexandria, Fairfax County, Virginia, a convict servant man, named John Murphy, born in Ireland, about 28 years old, by trade a joiner, a low well felt fellow, about 5 feet 4 inches high, struts in his walk, of pale complexion, large black beard and eye brows, wide mouth, and pleasant countenance, sings extraordinarily well, having followed it in the play houses, London, talks proper English, and that in a polite manner.

New York Mercury

December 1, 1760

Whereas Phebe Harris, the wife of Nathaniel Harris, of this city, Mariner, has eloped from his bed and board, and run him in debt: this is to forewarn all persons from trusting her on his account, for he will pay no debts of her contracting from the date hereof, Nathaniel Harris.

New York Gazette

March 2, 1761

Whereas Martha Willson (formerly passing by the name of Martha Adair) the wife of the subscriber, hath eloped from his bed and board, on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> instant. These are to forewarn all not to giver her credit on my account as I am determind to not pay any debts of her contracting, after the date hereof. New York, February 23, 1760. John Willson.

New York Mercury

March 16, 1761

Whereas, Mary, the wife of Bernard Power, of the city of Albany, Baker, has eloped from her said husband, gone off with George Gaub, and taken a child of 8 years old with her, a girl name Catherine. All persons whatsoever are forbid to trust her on his account, for he will pay no debts of her contracting from the date hereof, should the child be left with any person, tis hoped they will acquaint by a letter. Bernard Power.

\*New York Gazette

June 22, 1761

Whereas Anne McKim, wife of John McKim, now resident in New York, hath eloped from his bed and board, ever since February one thousand seven hundred and sixty, and likewise made away with all his household furniture and went into some part of the country, and there passed for the said John McKim's widow, at Poghkeepsie, and is now in this city, and is likely to run me in debt: I do therefore forewarn all manner of persons not to credit her on my account; and likewise any person or persons indebted to me note or bond, or any ways else, not to pay the same to her; as I am now in being. John McKim.

New York Gazette

October 19, 1761

Whereas Rebeccah Johns; the wife of me the subscriber, on Wednesday last, eloped from me and board, and it is apprehended will try to run me in debt:---Notice by advertisement is given to all persons, not to credit her on my account; as they may rest assured I shall pay no debts of her contracting after this day. Witness my hand this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1761. John Johns.

And whereas on Friday last, one Joseph Hallstock, by trade a blacksmith, robbed my house, and has since absconded:---He is about 5 feet 6 inches, Pock-marked, wears a small curled wig, is of a fair complexion, and had on a blue surtout coat, with a velvet cape; wore a round carved pair of silver buckles, and blue broadcloth pair of breeches, with a black Manchester velvet jacket. Whoever apprehends the said Joseph Hallstock, so that he may be brought to justice shall have three pounds reward, if taken in this city, and five pounds, if taken out of it; paid by me, John Johns.

New York Gazette

December 21, 1761

Whereas Hannah, the wife of John Yourix, of Philipsburg, in Westchester County, hath eloped from his bed and board; and went away with a certain, John Storm, Jun. of said county.---All persons are hereby forbid to give her credit on my account, as I shall pay no debts of her contracting, from the date hereof. Westchester County, December 14, 1761. John Li Yourix.

New York Gazette

April 12, 1762

Whereas Mary, the wife of Charles Prosser, of this city, has eloped from his bed and board, and since had been found naked in bed with one Edward Painter, who was immediately confined in gaol: He therefore gives public notice that no person shall credit the said Mary, as he is determined to pay no debts of her contracting from this date. April 5, 1762 Charles Prosser.

New York Mercury

September 6, 1762

Whereas John Quackinbush, late of the city of New Brunswick, Cooper, hath eloped from his wife, and left his bed and Board, and contrary to all reason and Christianity, hath contrary to the laws of nature and justice, to stroll about, keeping bad company, striped her of her goods and bedding, that she has nothing left to subsist upon: therefore these

are to inform the public, that the said Mary, forewarns any person or persons whatever trusting him, for she will pay no debts he shall contract, from the day of the date hereof, as witness my hand, the 31<sup>st</sup> day of August 1762. Mary Quackinbush.

New York Mercury  
September 12, 1763

Whereas, Mary McCew, has eloped from her bed and board, and had taken with her cash and goods to a considerable value; these are to desire all persons whatsoever not to credit the said Mary on my account, as I will pay no debts she shall or may contract from the date here of. Given under my hand at Albany, the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 1763. William Mc.Cew.

New York Mercury  
September 12, 1763

Whereas Eleanor, the wife of John Van Derhoof, of the county of Morris, hath, without reason, eloped from her said husband, and continues strolling about with a base collier. For this and other reasons, I hereby forewarn all persons from trusting her on my account, for I will pay no debts of her contracting from the date hereof. John Van Derhoof.

New York Mercury  
December 12, 1763

My perfidious wife Catherine, by her disobedient and incontinent behavior towards me, hath obliged me in justice to my honor and fortune, to publish her as a disobedient and scandalous person, both in the New York papers, and on the most noted places of the town where I dwell, prohibiting all persons to trust her on my account, or to conceal or harbor her at their peril; yet she hath still persisted (in spite of age and infirmity) in the most shameful manner, to prostitute herself and my estate to the rapaciousness of those as infamously scandalous as herself; and hath eloped once, and again, robbing me of some hundred pounds worth in goods from my shop, which she hath prodigally dissipated to the ruin fully of my quiet, and almost of my fortune: and that this Catherine of Pollution, may be no longer seen than detested, I hereby specify her to be a thin spare small woman, having lost partly the use of her left arm, and before finger of the same, is dead; usually wears a black patch under he left eye, to conceal a fistula, and is in the 53<sup>rd</sup> year of her age; and that she may carry her extravagance to the highest pitch, some times assumes the name of Catherine Fowler, and practices that art of peddling, selling partly the goods she hath thus robbed me of. These are therefore to assure any perform a reasonable reward that shall seize the goods she may be possessed as on my account, hereby warranting any lawful proceedings thereof. New-Branford, September 20, 1763. Patrick Hayes

New York Gazette  
February 13, 1764

Whereas Oliver Loshier, on Friday last the 10<sup>th</sup> instant, very falsely advertised me as having eloped from his bed and board; that I had not only run him in debt, but was continuing to do so; and afterwards forewarns all persons either to credit or harbor me.— The public may be assured, that he very shamefully and abusively turned me out of his house on occasion of only a single and most trifling family occurrence which his impatience, (through liquor) could not overlook, when a more considerate person

would.—I also declare, I have neither run him, or attempted to run him in debt: nor do I intend it: --It is therefore a false and malicious advertisement. Elizabeth Loshier.

New York Gazette

September 8, 1766

Elizabeth, the wife of doctor Austin Munson, having eloped from her husband's bed, and turned very loose in conduct; all persons are desired no to trust her, for I will not pay her debts, or ever cohabit with her. The 29<sup>th</sup> of August, 1766. Austin Munson.

New York Journal

December 24, 1767

Whereas Ann my wife, has in my absence on awful business, wasted and embezzled my goods, and has eloped from me, living in a lewd and scandalous manner with three men: and whereas I have reason to be apprehensive that so abandoned a woman, may endeavor further to injure my by running me in debt; ---These are therefore to desire that no person will trust, harbor, or entertain her on my account, as I will pay no debt of her contracting. Witness my hand, this ad of December, 1767. James Henderson.

\*New York Gazette and weekly Mercury

May 2, 1768

Whereas Tryntie, the wife of Calparus Conyn, jun. of Clavarack, hath eloped from his bed and board, and taken his child with her, These are to forewarn all persons from crediting her on his account, or harboring them, as he will pay no debts of her contracting from the date hereof, and will prosecute and person or persons harboring them, as the law directs, he being willing if she will return to her duty, to receive her, and behave to her as becometh a husband. C.C.

New York Journal

June 23, 1768

Whereas Mary the wife of Gareat Brinkerhoff, of Fish-Kills in Dutches County, has without any reason or difference with him, but through the influence of evil minded persons, eloped from her said husband: I therefore hereby forewarn all persons that I will pay no debt of her contracting since her elopement, and desire no person will harbor, entertain, or trust her on my account. If she gives me no further cause of displeasure, and will return, she will be kindly received and supported as before. Gareat Brinkerhoff.

New York Journal

December 29, 1768

Whereas Catherine, my wife has for some time behaved in a disorderly manner, has frequently eloped from me, and I am apprehensive may run me in debt. These are therefore to forewarn all persons not to trust, harbor or entertain her on my account, for that I will pay no debt of her contracting after the date hereof. Witness my hand, this 27<sup>th</sup> of December, 1768. Thomas Clemmons, rope-maker.

New York Gazette and weekly Mercury

August 7, 1769

Whereas my wife Anne Davis, alias Ward, of the Town of Newark, has eloped from my bed, and absented herself from cooking and eating with me: I forewarn all persons whatsoever to entertain or trust her in any shape on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting. Ebenezer Davis.

New York Chronicle

From Thursday August 24, to Thursday 31, 1769

Whereas Mary Douglas, lately Mary Shepherd, my wife, has without any just cause eloped from my bed, and has associated with a set of people was worthless as herself. This is therefore, to inform the public, that they are not to trust her upon my account, as I am resolved to have no connection with her nor pay any debts of her contracting after the date hereof. New York, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1769. Mathew Douglas.

New York Journal

April 19, 1770

Whereas Parnel my wife, hath three sundry times eloped from my bed and board, without any just reason; and whereas she was married and the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 1769, by the name of Parnel Butler, (which was her maiden name) to on Williams Sanders, Silver-Smith, now living in this city, as appears by a certificate, which I have from the Rev. Landbertas DeRonde: Therefore I would caution and warn every person from trusting her on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting; and would earnestly recommend it to all the modest and virtuous, to shun and avoid her as adulterous contemnor of the laws of God, government and society. New York, April 12, 1770. Daivd Humphrevil

New York Journal

June 6, 1771

Whereas Alley Sloan, wife of the subscriber, (house carpenter in New York) has in many respects misbehaved, and without any just cause eloped from me, wasting and embezzling my substance: and as I have just cause to apprehend she will endeavor to run me in debt, these are therefore to warn all persons not to trust or entertain her on my account, as I will pay no debt of her contracting since her elopement. This 6<sup>th</sup> of June 1771. James Sloan.

New York Journal

June 13, 1771

Whereas James Sloan, of this city, house carpenter by and with the advice of some dissolute persons like himself, hath thought proper to advertise me his wife for absconding from him, she takes this method to inform the public, that she neither has embezzled his substance, nor eloped from him, he having turned her out of the doors, and has beat and abused her often times, which she thinks is sufficient cause to abandon such an insolent person as he is, and that she will not run him in debt, nor pay any for him. Alyte Sloan.

New York Gazette

New York, July 20, 1774

Whereas PEGGY, wife of me George Draughtman, has eloped from my bed and board, and likewise robbed me, and gone off with a certain William Smith, an Englishman and a blacksmith: I therefore caution the public that I will pay no debts of his or her contracting, and desire that no body harbor her in their houses, &c. as they shall answer at their peril.

GEROGE DRAUGHTMAN