

# THE SLAVE WHO FREED HAITI

by KATHARINE SCHERMAN

In the years just after the American Revolution, the tiny mountainous island of Haiti was seething with unrest. A colony of France in those days, it had half a million Negro slaves and fewer than 40,000 whites.

Brutally the French planters beat their black slaves, forcing them to work from dawn to dusk in the cane fields, driving them to starvation and utter misery.

Then into the foreground came a small misshapen figure of a man wearing a yellow turban — Toussaint Louverture, the grandson of an African chieftain. Among the oppressed and tortured mass he was one of the few slaves of Haiti who was acquainted with the affairs of history and dedicated to the rights of man. At first the French ridiculed him as "the monkey in the yellow turban," but soon they realized this little man was in reality a giant of intellect and leadership.

Vividly and dramatically, Katharine Scherman tells the story in *The Slave Who Freed Haiti*.

**KATHARINE SCHERMAN** is a born and bred New Yorker who has worked as a writer and editor for the *Saturday Review*, *Life Magazine* and the Book-of-the-Month Club. Although she has been writing ever since she learned how to hold a pencil, this is her first book. The inspiration for it came from two visits to Haiti, where she and her husband, Axel Rosin, were entranced by the beauty of the country and the love and pride the Haitians had for it.

Miss Scherman's other interests include chamber music playing and mountain climbing. She also finds time to raise two little girls and run a house perched high above the Hudson River on the northern edge of New York City.