



**Home of Daniel Saunders, Sr.**, one of the founders of Lawrence, situated at the corner of Turnpike and Lowell Road, now South Broadway and Andover Street, Lawrence, Massachusetts

"The old brick house... still stands, the last vestige of the cross-roads settlement beyond the south end of the Andover Bridge. The original owner was one Richardson. It was said that was one of the stations of the 'underground railroad', which, for a quarter of a century before the Civil War, aided in freeing many negro slaves. Daniel Saunders was one of the leaders in the anti-slavery movement."

Museum of American Textile History



**Newman House** on the campus of Phillips Academy Andover, Massachusetts

Newman House was completed on 1811. During the Civil War Professor Ralph Emerson harbored here many a fugitive slave escaping by the "underground route" to Canada.

B. Goldsmith, The Townsman, Andover



From *Story of a Pioneer* by Anna Howard Shaw, Residence, near High Street, Lawrence, MA, 1857  
"...in visiting our cellar, I heard a noise in the road... I investigated and discovered a negro woman... I was well situated over the negro... and she kept her mother's wisely kept slave my father was hiding was safely out of the..."

Immigrant City Archives

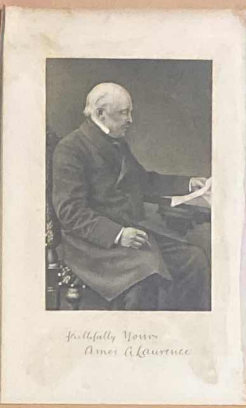
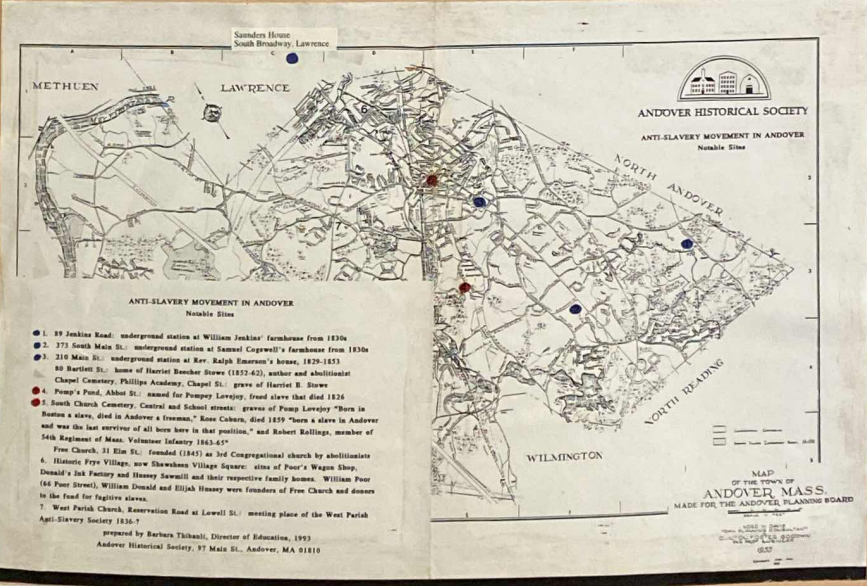
From the *Methuen Traveller's Guide* Edition 1894  
A group of the members of the First Baptist Church in Methuen, Mass., in the session of the First Baptist Church

The Church of "American History" was a branch of the Baptist Church and had in the Methuen...  
"We hope to have another meeting in a few days... and we hope to have it in the Methuen..."  
"I am glad to hear that you are all well... and we hope to have you all in the Methuen..."

In 1879 the First Congregational Church of Methuen had a new pastor, Mr. John Phillips...  
"The church of 'American History' was a branch of the Baptist Church and had in the Methuen..."

Methuen  
Anti-Slavery  
Activities

# Andover Lawrence - Methuen Anti - Slavery Activities



**Amos A. Lawrence**  
Amos A. Lawrence was the nephew of Abner Lawrence, a co-founder of the city of Lawrence, MA. Amos A. was significantly responsible for financing Free Soil settlers in Kansas, supplying both money and guns to the Free Soilers. The city of Lawrence, Kansas is named after him.

**Free Christian Church**  
Andover, Massachusetts

"This building which we rear is a memorial to what they were and what they did for human freedom and righteousness. Many of them lived to see the downfall of slavery and a widespread interest against intemperance. The special evils against which they fought have come under universal ban and no longer make the work of this church distinctive from that of others."

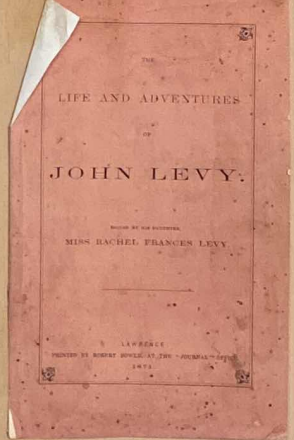
"No statement of the controlling motives in the lives of our church founders would be just without mention of the Brotherhood of Man, irrespective of nation, color or condition in life as they expressed in their covenant."

"They gave their hard earnings to the anti-slavery societies of the day. They did courageous service in assisting runaway slaves to escape to Canada. There are cherished memories in some of the Andover homes of the active part taken by their members in consulting fugitives and in sending them safely on to the next station of the underground railway. They prayed and labored earnestly to prevent the riotous spread of intemperance. Such brotherly kindness was the natural result of their belief that God made all men in His image and that Christ died for all."

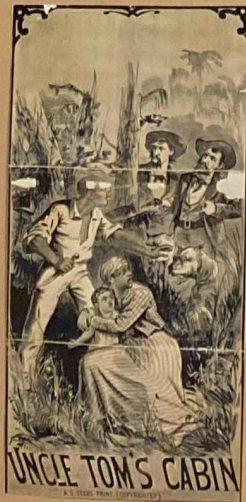
"The human slavery of 1846 has gone forever from our land, but the principle of brotherly love has still abundant opportunity for application in Andover and in every community."

from the Address of the Rev. Frederick A. Wilson, 1907 on the occasion of the laying of the corner stone for the New Free Christian Church on Elm Street, Andover, Massachusetts

Archives of the Free Christian Church



**The Life and Adventures of John Levy**  
The autobiography of John Levy, edited by his daughter, Miss Rachel Frances Levy. John Levy was the first black barber in the city of Lawrence and is buried in North Andover, MA. When the Civil War broke out, Levy endeavored to enlist at sixty-four years of age. Among his various activities he sold subscriptions to William Lloyd Garrison's abolitionist newspaper, *The Liberator*.



**Harriet Beecher Stowe**  
C. Pusey, Andover, Symbol of New England



**Stowe House**  
The Residence on Chapel Avenue, 1890 (now on Hartlett Street) Andover, Massachusetts  
In 1852 the residence on Chapel Avenue became the home of Professor Calvin Stowe and his wife Harriet Beecher Stowe. It was here in Andover that Mrs. Stowe wrote the key to her novel *UNCLE TOM'S CABIN*. Later the house became a student boarding house and inn.  
B. Goldsmith, The Townsman, Andover



Around the time of Mr. Frederick Douglass's visit, other anti-slavery activities were also taking place in Lawrence.

Mr. John Levy, the first African American Barber and Caterer in Lawrence, was selling subscriptions to the Garrison paper, *The Liberator*.

At least two *Anti-Slavery Conventions* were held in Lawrence. On August 26, 1848 a two-day convention was held, presided over by Mr. Buffam of Lynn along with Mr. Pillsbury and S.S. Foster. Later in the same year on December 15 another *Anti-Slavery Convention* was held at the Odd Fellow's Hall on Hampshire Street.

Also in 1848 the *Free Soil Party* held a convention at the *Free Will Baptist Church* with 137 members attending. The meeting was called to order by church Deacon Daniel Saunders. Saunders' home is considered a stop on the Underground Railroad.

The *Free Will Baptist Church* was one of the earliest churches organized in Lawrence. In 1844 the *Free Will Baptist Anti-Slavery Society* held its first annual meeting in Great Falls, New Hampshire, insisting on the exclusion of slave holders from all Christian fellowship.

In 1847, 619 *Free Will Baptist* ministers signed a "Protest and Declaration" on slavery, refusing to support slavery or its advocates.

LAWRENCE COURIER, LAWRENCE GAZETTEER, WILLEY'S ANTI-SLAVERY HISTORY  
IMMIGRANT CITY ARCHIVES COLLECTION

## THE COURIER

Lawrence, Mass., July 1, 1848.

It is further announced that we are prepared to receive and admit, and were invited to do so, at the meeting of the

### Anti Slavery Convention.

The Anti-Slavery Convention was held in this town on Saturday and Sunday last. Some copies of the following signed list of names were presented over the declaration of the assembly, and Messrs S. S. Foster, F. A. F. Foster, and Mr. Wilson, of this town, offered an address of several hundred persons with numerous speeches, which would do the Anti-Slavery Society, and their cause at the same time.

### Free Soil Meeting.

The Free Soil party, to the number of 137, including Whigs, Democrats and others, assembled at the Free Will Baptist Church on this town on Friday Evening week to be called to order by Dea. Daniel Saunders, and to listen, with becoming deference, to an address from the Hon. HENRY WILSON, some what renowned as the Natick Collier. Mr. Wilson is by no means a good speaker, as we expected, notwithstanding

## THE COURIER

Lawrence, Mass., July 10, 1847.

### Tomlinson's Celebrations.

On Thursday evening following, Mr. FRANKLIN TOMLINSON, the celebrated negro, lectured at the City Hall. He had a large and attentive audience. Never having heard him before, I went and listened, with both ears, to his remarks. He is certainly a man of much more than common abilities, a good speaker and with a plentiful supply of thoughts and language. Unfortunately for his influence, he is said to be a Garrisonian, and it is certain that he is too bitter in his feelings against our American institutions, and too partial towards those of Great Britain. All this, however, is perfectly natural. Almost any man, placed in his circumstances, with his intellect, abused by American citizens and careened by the British, would arrive at his conclusions. If any man is to be pardoned for ultrarism in relation to slavery, it is he who has been compelled to drink of the "bitter cup." Mr. Douglas took occasion to allude to President Polk, and of his visit to this city, and unless I was very much deceived in his remarks, he does not entertain a very high opinion of the gentleman's patriotism, or of his statesmanship. He would, probably, however, condemn almost any other statesman with as much severity as he did him. Be this as it may, I am certainly of the opinion that Mr. Douglas is a man deserving of as much respect as James K. Polk, and although I should be very unwilling to follow him as a leader, I should feel as proud of his dictation, and believe myself as safe under his control, as I should do under the guidance and direction of "Young Hickory."

Excerpts from  
The Lawrence Courier  
July 10, 1847

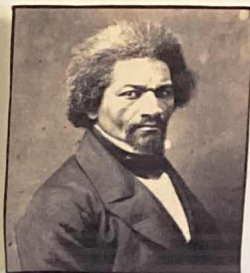
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FREDERICK DOUGLASS CLUB  
THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH  
LAWRENCE, MA

As part of the Third Baptist Church community in Lawrence there were both men's and women's groups, organized for prayer, financial support, as well as for fellowship. The women's group was called the *Willing Workers* and the men's group was initially called the *William Lloyd Garrison Lodge*.  
On June 26, 1934  
(almost 100 years after Frederick Douglass's visit to Lawrence, MA)  
the Garrison Lodge listened to a motion made by Brother Isaac Allston saying that:

" Hoping it would be for the better of all concerned, the committee report was read and accepted motion was made and seconded that this club be named Frederick Douglass Club. "

The Club approved the motion and set the second Tuesday of each month as the meeting time.

IMMIGRANT CITY ARCHIVES COLLECTION

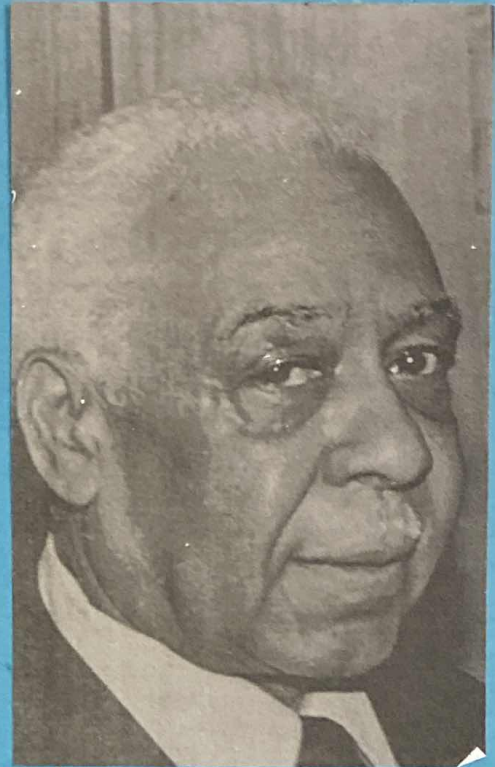








Glendora Mellwain Putnam  
Luther Mellwain  
Mellwain Family photo



# Community Spirit



Debra Riddick Purdy  
Artist, LHS 1983

**Contest winner**  
Lisa Riddick, 11, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Riddick, 73 Oxford St., Lawrence, and student at the Bruce School, is congratulated by Lawrence Mayor LeFebvre for being chosen as the winner of a citywide contest for sixth graders. Lisa's essay, "The City That Wouldn't Die," was chosen from among nearly 200 entrants. Lisa received a plate embossed with the city seal and will go to lunch with the mayor. Runners-up were Mark Beaudin and Sharon Hassey of the Tarbox School, Debby Daly of Holy Trinity and Patty McCarthy of St. Patrick's School.



Unsung heroes honored were (from left) Thomas F. Caffrey of Lawrence; Peggy Duddy of Lawrence; Mary Marra of Lawrence; Luz C. Paulino of Lawrence; Rose Fowler of Methuen; Robin C. Munroe of Salisbury and Yadira A. Betances of Methuen.



Article from *Boston Globe*, July 1995

Photos of Salem Willows  
from the Fowler family album

# Salem Willows Salem, Massachusetts



## History is marked in Salem with picnic

By Anne Martinez  
SOUTH BRITAIN REPORTER

SALEM - Many call it the tradition that survived slavery. So when gusty winds and piercing rain tore through the annual Black Picnic here early yesterday, no one left.

"Even during the storms where it rained all day and even during the war years when the turnout was really low," said Virginia Burton, 67, and a veteran participant of the 24-year-old picnic. "I have always been here."

According to Salem records, the first African-American picnic took place in Salem in 1741. Twenty-six slaves from Lynn spent their one day off during the year to gather along a riverbank, Salem historian Jim McAllister said.

The Black Picnic, referred to in the past as the "Colored People's Picnic" or as the "Union of Colored Peoples", evolved into a church event in the 1920s. Churches from Lynn, Malden, Everett and other areas would charter trolley cars and buses to take thousands of children and parents to Salem Willows.

The picnic's purpose, however, has never changed.

"You come here to see old friends and make new ones," said Rod Chavous, 30, of Lynn. "Friends you haven't seen in years, you'll see here today."

Organizers dedicated yesterday's picnic to Gladys Haywood of Lynn, a loyal picnic-goer for 60 years, who passed away this year.

"She just loved coming and seeing all of the family," said Haywood's son-in-law, Howard Jackson of Lynn. "The event is just something special for everyone here."

So, yesterday, more than 1,000 people from the northeast gathered at Salem Willows Park for music, games and lots of food.

As the skies cleared and the



Stephen Dikerson, from the Imani Temple in Malden, serves burgers yesterday at the annual Black Picnic in Salem.

sun's rays soaked through the clouds, families and friends from all walks of life arrived by the dozens for the daylong event.

"Despite its name, it's a time for everybody to get together no matter what nationality or color," said Ronald Smith, 24, of Lynn.

Scattered along the park overlooking the bay were hundreds of tables, topped with fried chicken, ribs, hamburgers and more. Children pebbled their tricycles as teens-agers played football and adults chatted on their lawn chairs.

Amelia Sparrow, 65, of Everett, arrived at the park just before 6 a.m. to claim her traditional spot under a particular tree.

"When I was a child, my dad would load up the car and we'd head out to this exact same spot under this tree," Sparrow proudly said.

Time has passed and so has

Sparrow's father, but she said the once-a-year tradition endures generation after generation.

"The grandchildren will be able to carry on this tradition for as long as we're gone," Sparrow said.

Sparrow was not alone when she arrived just before sunrise. Burton's family staked its claim at 4 a.m. "This day, in this park, in this spot is one of the highlights of my year," Burton said. "I feel the same about the picnic as I do Thanksgiving."

The picnic, sponsored in part by Common Sense Enterprises and the NAACP's North Shore branch, featured gospel singers and poetry readings.

"For the North Shore, there is no community that is dominantly of color," said singer Evelyn McDonald of Marshfield. "For this picnic to happen here is just fantastic."





**Celebrating American History:  
The Black Presence in Greater Lawrence...1790 - 1998**

*Narrators in the Video - Oral History Project*

**Olivia Philson**  
Lawrence, MA

**Varneta Allston**  
Lawrence, MA

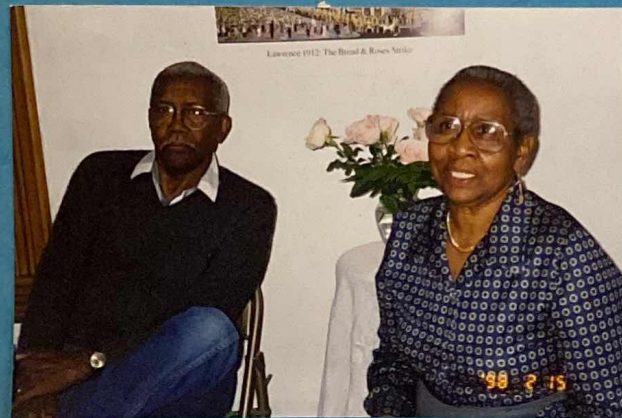
**Luther McIlwain**  
Methuen, MA

**Evelyn Mitchell Green**  
Lawrence, MA

**Elijah Paul Harris**  
**Laverne Harris**  
Dracut, MA

**Claude Brown**  
Lawrence, MA

*Please ask at the front desk for video and using the VCR. Thank You*



## *Lawrence, Massachusetts*

**The** founding of the city of Lawrence happened at a time of intense abolitionist activity and furor in the Merrimack Valley. This activity was encouraged as well as financially supported by one of the city's founding fathers, Amos A. Lawrence.

The evidence of various Underground Railroad stations, the existence of a William Lloyd Garrison Society, John Levy's subscription-selling activities to *The Liberator*, as well as the participation of many Lawrencians, both black and white, in the Civil War indicate how widespread anti-slavery sentiments were held in the community.

The Slavery pamphlet shown here was distributed in-town to teach the evils of slavery. Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, the anti-slavery novel, lived in Andover.

Lawrence City Hall was also host to performers from the *Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute*, a school "devoted to the preparation of Colored Teachers for the Colored Race..."

This travelling troupe of former slaves travelled to the city performing "Genuine Negro Minstrelsy" in order to raise money for their school in the south. Henry Ward Beecher, brother of Harriet, and Henry C. Potter of Grace Church Rectory were some of the sponsors of this performance.



## *Lawrence Military History*

**Many** black men and some women from the Greater Lawrence area served in American military conflicts.

*Brazilia Lew* of Dracut participated in the Revolutionary War with Captain Varnum's company of Dracut. One of his descendants, *Arthur Lew*, is seen on the Lawrence High School panel with the basketball team photo.

*Arthur Schuyler*, son of Lucy Schuyler Thompson and J. James Thompson, of Lawrence served in the Massachusetts 54th Regiment.

*Luther McIlwain* of Lawrence and Methuen was a *Tuskegee Airman*, the elite all-black company of flyers during the World War II.

The panel shows only a very few of the many African-Americans of the Lawrence area who fought for the establishment, betterment and defense of this country in all periods of American conflict.



## **Celebrating American History**

**The Black Presence in Greater Lawrence  
...1790-1998**

**Exhibit Co-Sponsored by**

**Immigrant City Archives**

**United Cultures Club  
of  
Lawrence High School**

**Third Baptist Church**

**Lawrence Heritage State Park**

## **Celebrating American History**

**The Black Presence in Greater Lawrence  
...1790-1998**

*Funding Provided by*

**Teaching Tolerance Grants  
White Fund, Incorporated**

*Exhibit Material on Loan From*

Immigrant City Archives  
Third Baptist Church  
Andover Historical Society  
Lawrence Civil War Memorial Guard

*Additional materials provided by*

Allston Family  
Fowler Family  
Harris Family  
McIlwaine Family  
Mr. Frank Weston



# School Days



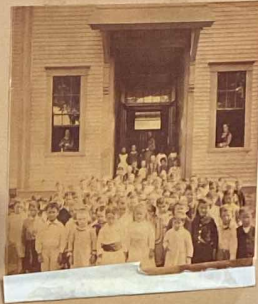
**Russell Blunt**  
 student of Pynchard High School, Andover  
 the time Russell Blunt reached high school level in Andover  
 the mid 1920s he was indeed a superior athlete, starting on  
 football, baseball and basketball teams. He was especially  
 adept in baseball. "If he were coming up today, he could  
 make the majors," said Ralph Murphy, an Andover team mate.  
 It could be the ball's mile and was a great catcher.  
 if there is such a thing as a living legend, Russell Blunt is it,"  
 said Dr. Leroy Walker, Chancellor at North Carolina Central  
 one of the nation's most respected coaches.  
 by M. Brown



**Thelma 'Tippy' Allston**  
 8th Grade Graduation  
 1938 Warner Theater  
 Allston Family Collection  
 Immigrant City Archives



**Vanetta Allston**  
 8th Grade Graduation  
 1936 Warner Theater  
 Allston Family Collection  
 Immigrant City Archives



**Claude Brown**  
 son of Myrta and John Brown  
 grandson of Rev. Julius Mitchell  
 Brown Mitchell Collection  
 Immigrant City Archives



**Warren Street School c. 1890**  
 Immigrant City Archives

**Warren Street School  
 c. 1911**  
 Photo from ICA collection

**Glendon McLain Putnam**  
 Melham High School '40  
 McLain family photo



**Bruce School Grade 7**  
 Rose Fowler, Teacher, in 1920  
 photo from Fowler Family

**Bruce School  
 c. 1920**  
 Photo from ICA collection



**Fred Douglas Lane, 1887**  
 Lawrence High School  
 Immigrant City Archives



**Isaac E. Allston**  
 Allston Family Collection  
 Immigrant City Archives



**Fannie Murphy Leighton**  
 Allston Family Collection  
 Immigrant City Archives



**Anna K. Webster**  
 Class of 1927, Lawrence High School  
 daughter of Dennis and Mary Webster



**Peerless Bill Perry**  
 Two No-Hit Wins At

**Billy Perry 13 years old**  
 Bruce School baseball player  
 Church Scrapbook

**W. BILL PRINCE**  
 Peerless Bill Perry, 13 years old, pitched 13 no-hit games for the Bruce School baseball team last season. He was the only pitcher to do so in the history of the school. Perry is a native of the city and is a member of the local baseball club. He is a very promising player and is expected to be a star in the future. He is also a member of the local church and is a very active member. He is a very kind and helpful person and is a very popular member of the school. He is a very good student and is a very good player. He is a very good person and is a very good player. He is a very good person and is a very good player. He is a very good person and is a very good player.

**Bruce School's Park/Squad Satchi Fudge**  
 Parfed Club in Grammar-Crown with  
 Several Bullfinch Mound Performances



# Andover Black Experience



ALLEN HINTON AT HIS FARM  
REARVIEW OF DAYS GONE BY  
1874



Allen Hinton



Ben Lawrence  
Andover Black Strikers Football  
1901  
Courtesy of Andover Historical Society



Robert E. Hunt  
Andover  
Native  
Retiring

A 1901 graduate of Pynchard High School, who served four years of prison for teaching, but returned from his exile with a reputation for teaching hundreds of high school students in the South.

Robert Hunt, who had served four years of prison for teaching and teaching hundreds of high school students in the South, returned from his exile with a reputation for teaching hundreds of high school students in the South.

Russell Hunt article  
from Third Baptist Church Scrapbook

Pynchard High Sports  
1909

Pynchard High Sports  
1901

Photos courtesy of Andover Historical Society



Hinton Family Photos  
Edward Hinton  
Son of Allen and Mary Hinton  
Waiter at Phillips Andover Academy

Allen Hinton  
Owner of Hinton's Ice Cream Stand

Allen Hinton At His Farm  
1874

Alice Hinton  
Daughter of Mary and Allen Hinton

Photos courtesy of Andover Historical Society



1838-45  
Hinton's Farm  
Hinton's Farm  
Hinton's Farm  
Hinton's Farm

"...Although the date of this near disaster is unknown, it took place sometime after 1798, when a violin was persisted during services...Cato Freeman was an ex-slave, who played the bass violin at North Parish services. After slavery was outlawed by the Massachusetts Constitution of 1790, he had chosen to remain with his former masters, Samuel Phillips, Esq and his son, Judge Phillips, in their employ. In 1789, at the age of 21, Cato wrote them a letter expressing ' hearty and unfixed Thanks for your care over me and your kindness to me.' Also for your timely Checks, your faithful reprovals, necessary Correction, your wise counsel, Seasonable advice, for your early endeavors being yet young, and your tender mind, to frame it in such a manner, as to lay a foundation for my Present and Future happiness..." The Black musician and ex-slave died August 9, 1853 at the age of 85.

How even now before my eyes  
I will can see that Choir artist!  
The pitch is first and strongly set  
By Farshaw's clear-toned clarinet;

Then Cato's fiddle-Tyler's violin  
Of double bass can pouring in,  
With Flander's full and deep bassoon  
To add the singers through the tune  
The latter pouring full and strong  
The tide of its immortal song  
Till roof and walls with rapture ring  
Praise to Heaven's eternal King!

From Andover, Mass. Andover, Mass. Johnathan Maffett



Pump's Pond  
Andover, Massachusetts

"More than a hundred years ago in a little cabin close to the road which now leads past the Spring Grove cemetery (in Andover) lived an old Negro, Pompey Lovejoy, and his wife Rose. In those days, a dense pine forest covered the hill surrounding the pond, casting their reflections into the water and giving a dark and sinister appearance. Pompey was a former Negro servant of Captain William Lovejoy and in December of 1781 married Rose, the servant of John Foster. In their cabins by the pond, they made election cake and root beer for the voters on law-making days. In 1824 Pompey was still alive and was said to be over a hundred years old."

"Strangely enough the name of this old Negro has through all these years been associated with the neighborhood, though few who speak familiarly of the Pompey's realize how it came by its name."

[From The Woman's Andover by Bessie P. Goldsmith, Andover, Mass.: Andover Historical Society, 1964.

## Sojourner Truth Visited Stowe In Andover In 1853

By Julia Hayes Maffett

That of the most famous and remarkable women in America was in Andover in the autumn of 1853, one was a great and noble, who after all had been a slave, but whose noble character and noble spirit were not only a great blessing to the world, but a great blessing to the world.

Sojourner Truth visited in Andover for the first time in 1853. She was a former slave and a powerful orator. She was a great blessing to the world.

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Sojourner Truth

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# Military History

Courtney Allston  
second from left  
Browns-Mitchell Collection  
Immigrant City Archives

## 'Glory' resides in a humble Andover grave

The tourists stop by to stare and snap pictures. No flags fly. No flowers decorate the grave.

But a small inscription to Andover's South Church Cemetery memorializes grand mother, like history and courage, as much as any monument in a public park. It is the granite monument of Robert Rollings, an Andover resident who served with the all-black 54th Regiment celebrated in the Civil War movie "Glory."

Joan Frazzetta, a volunteer researcher for the Andover Historical Society, brought it to my attention after a recent column about "Glory" and about the monument on the Ipswich Common honoring the 54th's members. She wanted me to know there was another monument — "humble and small" — much closer to home.

"Robert Rollings, Co. A, 54th Mass Inf" is all the inscription marker says.

But the inscription could suggest exactly what it meant to belong to the 54th Regiment at the height of the Civil War: not only the small agencies and losses of battle, but discrimination in pay and supplies, contempt by some white regiments, and almost certain death if captured.

Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, had proclaimed that any black soldiers captured in Union uniform by his men would be summarily executed.

There were the conditions Robert Rollings faced when, the year after he brought his wife and daughter to Andover from Maryland, he was mustered in the 54th Nov. 20, 1862.

Mr. Rollings saw action at Otusset, Fla., and at James Island and Honey Hill, S.C., according to Mrs. Frazzetta's research. A private in Company A, he was discharged (disabled) in the spring of 1863 because of "chronic rheumatism."



Kathie Neff  
a local columnist



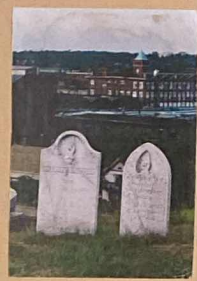
Historic grave: Stone of Robert Rollings, black civil war soldier, in Andover.

his daughter, Hannah, graduated from Fitchard Free School then, originally a lawyer, Mr. Rollings later moved to Lawrence, where he worked as a watchman in the Peabody Mill before his death, of pneumonia, in 1877. He was 51.

But he was not the only black man from Andover to serve in the Union Army. Charles Brown was also mustered in August of 1861 and later transferred to Co. I of the 50th Massachusetts Regiment Infantry. Born in Florida, he was 30 when he enlisted.

"I'm not sure what because of him," said Mrs. Frazzetta, "but his name does not appear in the Andover census of 1870, so I'm not sure that he survived the war or came back to Andover right after it."

Robert Rollings, a veteran of the Civil War, fought with the Massachusetts 54th Co. along with Arthur Schuyler. After the war he moved to Lawrence, where he lived and worked until his death in 1879.



TO THE APPLICABLE:  
A Notice that the Rev. J. J. ...  
N. H. THOMPSON,  
INDIAN DOCTRINE,  
...  
LAWRENCE, MASS.

**Bellevue Cemetery**  
Lucy Schuyler Thompson is buried next to her son, Arthur Schuyler. Lucy was a physician in Lawrence during the late nineteenth century with an office on Essex Street, later on Common Street. She is the first Black woman listed in the national census in Lawrence. Her husband, James G. Thompson, was a barber. Arthur Schuyler fought with the Mass 54th Co. C. He mustered in at age 15 years on March 4, 1863 and out on August 20, 1865.  
Photo from Lawrence Civil War Memorial Guard  
Advertisement from Lawrence American and Lawrence Advertiser, 12/6/1867

## Twins, Uncle and Nephew In Board 80 Contingent Sent Today For Service



BOARD 80 WAS SENT FOR SERVICE TODAY UNDER PRESENT TRAINING. BOARD 80.

Lawrence Evening Tribune  
September 21, 1945  
Immigrant City Archives

## Third Baptist Church's Pioneer Young Men Who Have Answered Nation's Call



The Third Baptist Church has sent the following young men to the front lines of the great struggle for freedom and peace. They are: Private William B. Allison, Private George L. New, and two others. They are all members of the church and have answered the nation's call to serve.

Military Newspaper articles from Third Baptist Church Scrapbook

## Enlisted In WAVES On Tenth Anniversary



Miss Gloria B. McWhorter, 1st Lt. and Miss Mary B. McWhorter, 2nd Lt., celebrated the tenth anniversary of the WAVES by holding the first luncheon of the month. The luncheon was held at the home of Miss McWhorter and was attended by many guests.

Other Afro-American Civil War Soldiers of Lawrence, Massachusetts 1861-1865, included:

- Pvt. George Washington, 5th Massachusetts Volunteer Cavalry
- Pvt. James Firman, 23rd United States Colored Troops
- Pvt. Henry Gillum, 23rd United States Colored Troops
- Pvt. John W. Brown, 43rd United States Colored Troops
- Pvt. George Hasbrouck, 43rd United States Colored Troops
- Pvt. Aleck Jackson, 71st United States Colored Troops

Over 190,000 Afro-Americans served in the Union Army during the Civil War. Black regiments took part in some 400 battles, incurring a loss of 2,750 men killed, and an undid number wounded. Several black soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor for valor in battle. An estimated 29,000 members of the U.S. Colored Troops died of disease. President Lincoln gave credit to the Black American troops for turning the tide of war against the Confederate Armies.

Courtesy of the Lawrence Civil War Memorial Guard



Herbert Wendell Mitchell  
son of Rev. James Mitchell  
Browns-Mitchell Collection  
Immigrant City Archives



Courtney Allston  
front row; 4th from left  
Allston Family Albums  
Immigrant City Archives



Tuskegee Army Airfield contingent. Names: ...



Donald Perry  
Military Police - Korean Conflict  
Browns-Mitchell Collection  
Immigrant City Archives



# Early Images



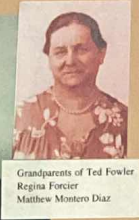
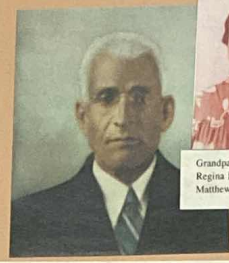
Gladys Allston  
Allston Family album  
ICA collection



Miss Mabel Hall at the home of  
P. M. Hall



Evelyn Green  
Allston Family album  
ICA collection

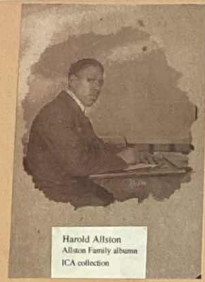


Grandparents of Ted Fowler  
Regina Forcier  
Matthew Monero Diaz



Matilda Johnson Wood  
Allston Family album  
ICA collection

These photographs were brought forward by Greater Lawrence residents from their own family albums and archives. Shown together the portraits of relatives and friends form a larger family album depicting the Black History of our community. The photographs are now in the collection of the Immigrant City Archives, Lawrence, Massachusetts.



Harold Allston  
Allston Family album  
ICA collection



Emily Johnston  
Allston Family album  
ICA collection



Mildred Johnson Smith  
Allston Family album  
ICA collection



Isaac Edward Allston  
Sergeant in the  
Franklin Hotel on Broadway, Lawrence  
Allston Family Album, ICA



Maud and Grace Yancy  
family of Alexander Yancy of Methuen



Gladys Allston Perry  
Allston Family album  
ICA collection



A group of well-known employees from the Ayer Mill's  
T-Labeling Department, all of whom are classed as veteran  
workers in that department and in the service of the com-  
pany.





**THE STORY OF OUR CHURCH**  
 Organized, February 7, 1878.

Organized by the Merrimack River Baptist Association, Rev. Johnson W. Hill, First Pastor.

For several years worshipped in various homes and halls.

After several brief pastorates, Rev. Henry Foran Clark became pastor in 1882 and continued until 1928, winning the respect and confidence of the whole community.

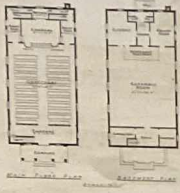
Under his pastorate the church purchased a site 182 1/2 x 53 1/2 on Warren Street, which was consecrated in a house of worship. The church has continued to work here during the past sixty years.

In 1888 Rev. Louis E. Ford became pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. Julius S. Mitchell in August, 1921, who has led his people in the movement for a new building.

The Third Baptist Church is the only church ministering to the colored people of Greater Lawrence. It has 60 members, a Sunday School enrollment of 95, with classes for all ages and an active Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor of 20 members. The church continues to be a center of spiritual life.

During the Second World War, 16 of its members and 22 others from its congregation entered the service of their country.

The church belongs to the Merrimack River Baptist Association, the Massachusetts Baptist Convention, and the Northern Baptist Convention.



**THE NEED OF A NEW BUILDING**

**MAKING OUR DREAM COME TRUE**

"There's love worth more than all the riches we have."  
 "And when their dream is done to die."

When we have already done—  
 We've done our utmost building and for love and cheer,  
 We've done our utmost to build and have others for  
 \$2,000.00 more, a year, at \$2.00 in a year.

What we are planning to do—  
 To secure an even additional design and construction  
 from our own community. All the church  
 representatives are working continuously for the  
 building fund.

What you can do to help—  
 Estimated cost of the new building \$30,000.00  
 Estimated cost of equipment and furnishings \$4,000.00  
 Estimated total cost \$34,000.00  
 Total raised and in sight \$3,000.00  
 Amount needed to build and furnish the church \$31,000.00

We need the help of the people of all of our churches and of all public-spirited citizens who believe in the work we are doing for the colored people of Greater Lawrence.

Please make 25 checks and money orders payable to "Edward W. Clark, Treasurer, 100 West Street, Box 444, Essex Street, Lawrence, Massachusetts."

**THE CHURCH OF OUR DREAMS**

**PROPOSED NEW EDIFICE**

**Third Baptist Church**  
 LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

*I love Thy Kingdom, Lord,  
 The house of Thine abode.  
 The church our first Redeemer found  
 With His own precious blood.*

*The Children For Whom*

THE CHURCH WILL BE ERRECTED

Our young people are marrying and starting families that must be provided for.

—Rev. JAMES S. MITCHELL, Pastor

GENERAL COMMITTEE FOR THE RAISING OF FUNDS FOR A NEW THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH

Members and Officers of the Third Baptist Church  
 THE REVEREND JULIUS S. MITCHELL, M. ALBERT MULLER, M. JAMES H. WARD, MRS. CHARLES BAYLES

THE REVEREND HERMAN L. HAYDEN, Pastor, First Calvary Baptist Church, Lawrence  
 DR. GEORGE S. BROWN, Pastor, South Congregational Church, Lawrence  
 SAMUEL BISHOP, Pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Lawrence  
 THE REVEREND A. DEWARDA BALDWIN, Pastor, Mount of Pleasant Baptist Church, Lawrence  
 DR. J. JERRY WOOD, Pastor, Mt. Zion Methodist Episcopal Church, Lawrence  
 MRS. BEVERLY G. WOOD, Pastor, Mt. Zion Methodist Episcopal Church, Lawrence  
 MRS. J. A. THORNTON, Pastor, 18 Essex Street, Lawrence  
 MRS. DAVID L. BROWN, Pastor, 301 Essex Street, Lawrence  
 MRS. ARTHUR B. BROWN, Pastor, Bay Street Methodist Episcopal Church, Lawrence  
 MRS. WALTER H. LEWIS, Pastor, 201 Essex Street, Lawrence  
 MRS. WILLIAM H. LEWIS, Pastor, Central Baptist Church, Young Men's Christian Association, Lawrence  
 DR. GEORGE F. BEECHER, Pastor, Eastern Park Calvary Baptist Church, Lawrence

**CHURCH HISTORY**

In 1871, the Second Baptist Church of Lawrence voted approval of the establishment of a church for the "colored people of our city." With a letter of dismissal and a gift of \$150.00, six gentlemen whose identities we do not know, left the Second Baptist Church to establish Olive Baptist Church the first minister of which was Reverend William Garrett. This congregation met in various places around the city, in different homes and rented halls.

In 1904 on February 7, recognized by the Merrimack River Baptist Association, the Third Baptist Church was organized. Its first minister was Reverend Johnson W. Hill. In its early years, this congregation also met in various homes and halls.

During the pastorate of Reverend Henry Forest Clark, 1912-1928, the church purchased a cottage at 15 Margin Street, which was converted into a place of worship. This house was to become the home of Reverend Julius S. Mitchell, who assumed the pastorate in 1933, following Reverend Louis E. Ford.

Reverend Mitchell led his people in the movement for a new building. Eventually land was purchased on Warren Street in 1946, the site of the former Warren Street School. Finally a new church building was constructed at 22 Warren Street and dedicated on October 1950. It remains the home of the Third Baptist Church today.

From "History of First Calvary Baptist Church, 1847-1947"  
 Pamphlet of Third Baptist Church, "The Church of Our Dreams"



PHILLIPS ACADEMY  
 LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

August 9, 1949

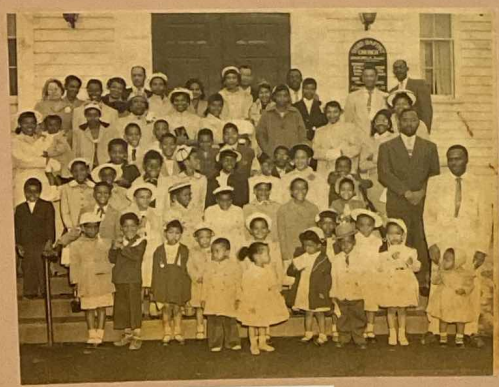
My dear Mr. Mitchell,

Harold Sellman told me the day of your very generous contribution to our Third Baptist Church Building Fund. I want to add my personal thanks to the acknowledged amount you may have received from the treasurer. We are indeed grateful to you and to the many others who have made possible the realization of a hope.

Very sincerely yours,  
 Graham Baldwin

On the advice of then Phillips Andover Academy minister Rev. A. Graham Baldwin, a donation was made to the building fund of the Third Baptist Church of Lawrence.

Photo courtesy of L. Harris  
 Letter from ICA collection



1962 Third Baptist Church Congregation  
 Photo from Church Scrapbook

**Church of Our Dreams**

**Service Of Dedication**  
 Of The Organ  
 Third Baptist Church

SUNDAY, AFTERNOON, MAY 31, 1959  
 AT 4:00 P. M.

22 WARREN STREET  
 LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

REV. ALFRED W. JONES, Jr., Minister  
 MISS EVELYN GREEN, Organist



Reverend and Mrs. Walter Green  
 Church photos



Evelyn Beatrice Green  
 Church Organist  
 Church photos



Amanda Blunt Mitchell  
 wife of Rev. Julius Mitchell  
 far right in photo  
 Church Scrapbook

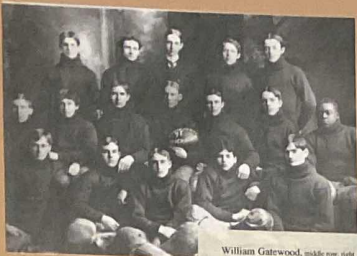


"Willing Worker"  
 Vernetta Allston



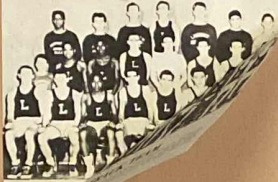
Third Baptist Church  
 22 Warren Street





William Gatewood, middle row, right  
Lawrence High Football, 1898  
LHS Athletic Department

Lawrence Track Team '57  
r. Ralph Murphy  
m. James Murphy, Arthur Moore  
f. John Brown, Charles Walker



Lawrence Baseball Club  
Champions New England League  
1912  
Immigrant City Archives



Lawrence High School Band '45  
Walter Brown, middle row

# Lawrence High School

Bradley D. Smith '52  
Vice-President



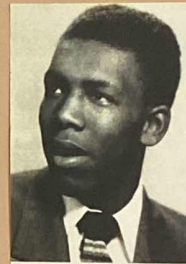
William Gatewood, front row  
Lawrence High Football, 1902  
LHS Athletic Department



Guy Smith '51  
Vice-President  
Lawrence High School



Jacqueline Moore '56  
Chemistry, Biology, French Clubs  
Lawrence High School



BRADLEY D. SMITH  
Vice-President



CANDIDATES for TRACK TEAM



Back row: Andrew Davis, Philip Hagan, Robert Hennessey, Paul Higgins, Edward Chavakis. Middle row: Eugene Smith, Alexander Eastman, Raymond Stone, John Bateman, Arthur Bateman, David Pope, Martin DeFazio, Arthur Moore. Front row: Nathaniel Bateman, William Duffin, Joseph Bateman, Captain George Rukel, John Quinlan, Barry Close, Samuel Carr.

Track Team '56  
Eugene Smith, middle left  
Arthur Moore, middle right



Louisa McGigan '45  
Lawrence High School



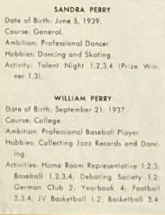
Courtney Allston '45  
Lawrence High School



ERNESTINE MURPHY



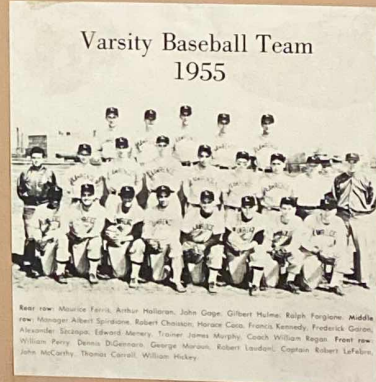
Walter H. Brown, Jr. '47  
Lawrence High School



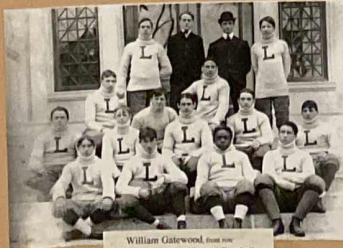
SANDRA PERRY  
Date of Birth: June 5, 1935  
Course: General  
Ambition: Professional Dancer  
Hobbies: Dancing and Skating  
Activity: Talent Night 1,2,3,4 (Prize Winner 1,3)



WILLIAM PERRY  
Date of Birth: September 21, 1937  
Course: College  
Ambition: Professional Baseball Player  
Hobbies: Collecting Jazz Records and Dancing  
Activities: Home Room Representative 1,2,3, Baseball 1,2,3,4, Debating Society 1,2, German Club 2, Yearbook 4, Football 2,3,4, JV Basketball 1,2, Basketball 3,4



Back row: Maurice Farris, Arthur Malloran, John Gage, Gilbert Malone, Ralph Ferguson, Middle row: Manager Albert Spillatore, Robert Chisano, Horace Cato, Francis Kennedy, Frederick Corbin, Alexander Scappis, Edward Newmy, Trainer James Murphy, Coach William Regan, Front row: William Perry, Dennis D'Genaro, George Marston, Robert Landon, Captain Robert Larkin, John McCarthy, Thomas Carroll, William Hickey



William Gatewood, front row  
Lawrence High School Football  
LHS Athletic Department



Donald Perry '51  
Lawrence High School



Christine Allston '46  
Lawrence High School



Rose Pugh "Dolly" '48  
Lawrence High School



Lillian Francis Allston '44  
Lawrence High School



John Brown '57  
Lawrence High School



Arthur Lett, front row, far right  
Lawrence High School Basketball  
Essex County Champs 1929  
LHS Athletic Department

## Athletic Hall of Fame

**Edward "Eddie" Medley '41**  
Eddie Medley turned to track at Lawrence High School from 1937 through 1941. He competed in the 100 and 200 yard dashes, the high jump, the running broad jump, and the relay. A copy of a 1941 "Lawrence Telegram" noted that Eddie Medley was the first black athlete to captain a Lawrence High School athletic team. The 1939, 1940, and 1941 teams in which Eddie competed captured the Essex County and Merrimack Valley track championships in each of those years. His relay team was undefeated in that meet for two years. On a cinder track, Eddie was a ten second 100 yard dash and held the record in the 100 yard dash as the winner of the Worcester Interscholastic Meet. Another 1940 "Lawrence Telegram" article opened an area website director noting that Eddie Medley was one of the area's greatest runners, comparing him to the legendary Ralph Hewitt, a fellow Lawrence High School Hall of Famer.

**Ray Preston '71**  
Ray Preston competed on the football, basketball, track, and baseball at Lawrence High School. His football prowess earned him a spot in the Harry Agganis All-Star game, and also a selection to the Lawrence Eagle Tribune All-Star team as both an offensive and defensive player.  
Ray earned a football scholarship to Syracuse University where he went on to a stellar career as a linebacker. He was Syracuse University's Most Valuable Player in 1975, and was selected to the Korda All-American team and to the United Press International and Associated Press All-American second team. Ray was voted All Big East and participated in the East-West Shrine game, the Heisman and the Super Bowl.  
Ray was drafted by the National Football League's San Diego Chargers with whom he enjoyed a productive nine year professional career—leading the Chargers in tackles and interceptions in 1980 and being selected as Special Teams Player of the Year in 1981.



Lawrence High Football, 1953  
LHS Yearbook



# FREEDMEN FUNDRAISING

**HAMPTON**  
Normal and Agricultural Institute.



Designed for the preparation of Colored Teachers for the Colored Race and for Industrial Education.

DR. A. C. SPRAGUE, President. JOHN B. LANEY, Department of Mechanics.  
A. R. B. WILKINS, Vice and Art Director. GEORGE W. W. FINE, Manager.

Wm. B. Whittier, Treasurer, James F. Smith, Cashier, George W. W. Fine, Librarian.

**Slave Songs of the South**

HAMPTON  
**COLORED STUDENTS**

CITY HALL, LAWRENCE,  
**Monday Even'g, Apr. 27.**

PLANTATION MELODIES,  
PLANTATION DIALECT

By the Colored Students of Hampton Institute,  
Virginia, most of whom were formerly Slaves.

**ADMISSION**

RESERVED SEATS. 60 CENTS.  
ADMISSION. 35 CENTS.

Seats reserved in advance at Lawr. Democrat's Store.

This panel includes two very different examples of freedmen's fundraising activities in Lawrence.

Students from Hampton Institute travelled along the northeast seaboard to raise funds for their Hampton Normal and Agricultural School.

In 1873, Lawrence, Andover and many towns in Massachusetts, hosted at least two concerts by the Hampton School Student Singers. An example of what music was performed as well as a list of their supporters can be seen in the program, "Slave Songs of the South, Hampton Colored Students."

**The Genuine Negro Minstrelsy.**  
It found in the entertainment given by Daniel Colored Students, and affords a reproduction of songs as the habits, the character and the every manner, illustrating upon Plantation life in the South, that is purely unimpaired by "Negro Minstrelsy."

**PROGRAMME**

PART FIRST

1. HEAR DE ARIE'S SINGING
2. MY BROTHEREN DON'T GET WEARY
3. OH SWING LOW, SWEET CHERRY
4. THE ZION WEEP A LOP
5. OLD BLAZE JOE - BASS SOLO AND CHORUS
6. MY LORD DELIVERED BATHEL

PART SECOND

1. BRIGHT SPARKLES IN DE CHERYARD
2. I WANT TO GO IN HEAVEN IN DE TIME
3. GO DOWN MOSES
4. OLD FIDEL AT HOME
5. ALL DEEM A LYON GETTIN' UP
6. OH, DE WINTER 'L SOON BE OVER

**The Colored Students.**  
Greeted with Crowded Houses

And songs presented in such rare harmony and grand style, that the LOUDEST APPLAUSE follows the conclusion of each selection, and the audience parallels of the music which reaches to the Students in their numbering.

**THE HAMPTON SINGERS**

The names and friends of the individuals of the Hampton Singers.

The subscribers, many of whom hadly visited Hampton, and attended the entertainment of the Institute for the education of colored teachers, under the Presidency of Gen. Armstrong, desire to express their great interest in this School, and their high satisfaction with the Christian and thorough character of the instruction given there. They are confident that a better opportunity never presents itself for bestowing the commendation of the music, and of adding the President to one in the level of their own hearts, than the support of the Institute.

The names and more minutely practical way of helping the Hampton Institute, seems to be the encouragement of the Center which a band of the students are now giving in our midst and abroad. These supports are mostly named, and we sincerely hope, the assistance of those individuals, and the sympathy of our churches. They are every instance, whether considered as moral encouragement, or as commendation of the support which the negro derived from his religious singing on the days of their Sings.

We warmly commend the Hampton Singers to the notice and aid of all persons of education and piety.

Wm. W. Hooper, W. E. Drown, E. N. Brown, James B. Clarke, Wm. Fisk, Boston, A. Jackson, Falmouth, John Hall, Henry M. Fitch, Henry W. Bellows, Boston, D. Hittopson, Thos. Adams, Haver, C. Farnes, Great Church, Bayley.

## POST CIVIL WAR FUNDRAISING FOR FREEDMEN

Freedmen's Bureau was established by an Act of Congress in March, 1865. Its principal aim was to provide assistance to the newly emancipated blacks of the South after the Civil War. Most activities of the Bureau ended in 1869, except for the educational program which continued until 1872. This included the establishment of a system of free public schools (between three and four thousand schools) and of such higher educational institutions such as Howard, Fisk and Atlanta universities and the Hampton Institute.

With the demise of the Freedmen's Bureau, fund raising was a key element of the post Civil War period. Music became an effective tool for fund raising. African American singers of Fisk and Hampton schools traveled and performed as fund raising events for their schools.

Another important fund raiser were the publications of *Slave Narratives*. In antebellum (prior to the Civil War) America these stories were published to describe the plight of the slave. After the war, narratives were published as a means of financially assisting the Freedpeople to pursue their education and other endeavors.

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## MUSICAL PROGRAM

One reason for publishing this slave music is that it is rapidly passing away... At present the freedmen have an unfortunate inclination to despise it, as a vestige of slavery; those who learned it in old time when it was the natural outpouring of their sorrows and longings... if efforts are not made for its preservation the country will soon have lost this wonderful music of bondage.

Thomas P. Fenner, Director, Hampton Student Singers  
January 1, 1874.

In January, 1865 the Fisk Free Colored School opened with 600 students in Nashville. The Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute opened its doors to future African American teachers in 1868. Both schools were sponsored by the American Missionary Association, later the United Church of Christ. Sadly, by 1872 it was clear that the government support for these schools was disappearing.

In 1872 Fisk's Jubilee Singers began the first of their world tours to raise money to keep the doors open. The Jubilee Singers introduced to much of the world to the spiritual as a musical genre as well as raising the money to keep the doors open and to construct the Jubilee Hall.

The Hampton Student Singers were seventeen in number, all but four having been former slaves. In February, 1873 they began a tedious ten month tour of eastern United States, performing almost daily, sometimes twice a day. President Grant invited them to perform privately in the East Parlor of the White House.

In March, 1873 they performed at Steinway Hall in New York City with the Jubilee Singers in attendance. Two days later they enjoyed a "social sing" between the two groups prior to the Jubilee Singers' departure for a European tour.

The Hampton Colored Students arrived in New England for several months. They performed throughout Massachusetts including two concerts in Lawrence City Hall, one on April 27 and the other on June 30th.

In the first six months of performances the Hampton Student Singers raised ten thousand dollars. The world famous Fisk Jubilee Singers raised more than ninety thousand dollars in three years.

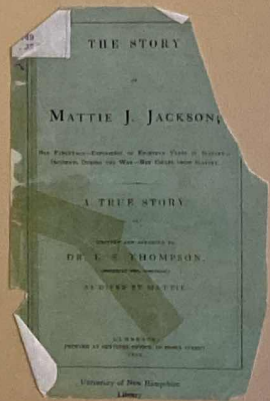
PANELS COURTESY OF IMMIGRANT CITY ARCHIVES, LAWRENCE, MA

# SLAVE NARRATIVES

## The Story of Mattie Jackson - A True Story

was a slave narrative written and arranged in 1866 by Dr. Lucy Schuyler Thompson. Dr. Thompson, the step-mother of Ms. Jackson, was a practicing African American doctor in Lawrence in the 1850's and 1860's. An active abolitionist in Lawrence during the Civil War, Dr. Thompson was involved in at least one lawsuit concerning a runaway slave and the writ of habeas corpus.

Her son, Arthur Schuyler, enlisted in the Massachusetts 54th Colored Regiment during the Civil War. Both mother and son are buried in Bellevue Cemetery in Lawrence.



In the preface to *The Story of Mattie Jackson*, Dr. Thompson wrote of her stepdaughter,

She was in the same condition of all neglected and oppressed. Her personal requirements are amply supplied. She now only craves the means to clothe and qualify the intellect.

"Slave Songs of the South." IMMIGRANT CITY ARCHIVES  
Thompson, L.S. *The Story of Mattie Jackson*. URL: <https://mesab.usc.edu/digital/items/show/16>  
(Original published in Lawrence, 1866.)