

Clergy who worked with Freedom Schools

Compiled by Mary S. Donovan

To compile this list, I searched through issues of The Spirit of Missions from 1865 through 1874 [identified in source as Spirit] for names of teachers working with the freedmen. I added teachers listed in the Protestant Episcopal Almanac & Church Directory, (New York: T. Whittaker, 1875 & 1876) [identified here as Episcopal Almanac].

Atkinson, Thomas Bishop & Mrs.

Spirit 1866: 51 – Bishop of NC urged his diocese to be active in this regard – committee on his bishop’s address on Sept. 15, 1865 – urged clergy to seek suitable “colored men for catechists and Sunday-school teachers, “ and to give them instruction. also invite colored clergymen of the Church to com to work with their own people, and steps taken to educate young colored men for ministry.

Miss Hesketh says only whites at their services are Mrs. Atkinson & her sister Miss Sproat. “We expect to see Bishop Atkinson and his wife the last of next week, and you cannot realize how much we anticipate their coming. We need them here; we want their advice, their words of encouragement, and their friendship.” *Spirit* 67: 161. B writes “the Bishop’s whole soul is in this workand his earnest personal encouragement of your teachers, and his bold and noble advocacy of the cause in all parts of the diocese” p. 388.

Atwell, The Rev. Joseph S. (Colored) Savannah, GA

Home: Brought up in the English Church in Barbados

Director of St. Mark’s Episcopal School, Louisville, KY 1867-68.

Married Cornelia A. Jennings & moved to VA - Lucas, 238.

Still in Petersburg, Gives children a Service and teaching the Catechism *Spirit* 1870: 254. Spoke at Board of Missions - School has appropriation of \$425 for 3 teachers. I receive from American Church Missionary Society \$400. 70 communicants, 80 children in my school *Spirit* 70: 643.

Sponsors Sunday School. *Spirit* 74: 317-9; List of colored clergy sponsored by the Commission, *Spirit* 1874: 586.

Brady, The Rev. C. O. (Colored) St. Paul’s Church, Wilmington, NC

Spirit 70: 319 - Buying land for new chapel, Mr. Brady is soon to go North for assistance. Parishioners now worshipping at St. Paul’s Church; Bishop confirmed 16 candidates.daily MP & EP, Sunday morning and eve. services; school still has about 55 students.

Spirit 71: 95, 301.

Spirit 72: 312 - First Easter in St. Mark’s; Parish organized with consent of bishop and rector of parish within whose limits we are, according to the diocesan canons, St. Maark’s Parish with wardens and vestry. Brady raised fruns from --friends in Boston.

List of colored clergy sponsored by the Commission, *Spirit* 1874: 586.

Clark, The Rev. John T. Talcott, VA Charlotte Co.

“Teachers” *Spirit* 1866: 728.

Sunday School of 85; school begins about nine am. Many walk several miles to get there.

By 12 congregation has assembledand service begins. In dayschool there are 22 children. needs 1 or 2 asistants and a good house--school is now in house he furnishes. 313.

Spirit 1867: 399

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Spirit 1867: 399.

Cooke, The Rev. Giles B. St. Stephen's, Petersburg, VA (Last name sometimes spelled Cook)

Spirit 1874: 187- Bishop Whipple preached. 8 confirmed. Second confirmation since Christmas. *Spirit* 1874: 319; 7/12/74 - ordained to the Priesthood at St. Paul's Church, Richmond by Bishop Whipple - returns to his work at St. Stephen's. *Spirit* 1874: 585. In connection with the work of Rev. Giles B. Cooke, a former staff officer of General Robert E. Lee, as rector of St. Stephen's Church, Petersburg and principal of St. Stephens Normal School, were associated as teachers a number of white ladies of the best families of Virginia, such as the Misses Beckwith (sisters of the Bishop of Alabama), Misses Weddell, Mrs. Giles B. Cooke and others. There was also in or near Gordonsville, Va., a Mrs. Brent who also maintained in those days a most interesting work on behalf of Negroes. Any number of colored Sunday Schools in divers parts of Virginia were taught by native white teachers. Source: George Freeman Bragg, *History of the Afro-American Group of the Episcopal Church*, (Baltimore, Maryland:Church Advocate Press,1922), 133. Electronic Book Scanned from the Rare Book Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. p. 134
Principal St. Stephen's - Petersburg - Episcopal Almanac, 1876: 201.

Crummell, The Rev. Alexander (Colored) Washington, DC

List of colored clergy sponsored by the Commission, *Spirit* 1874: 586.

Dashiell, Rev. Mr. St. Philip's Church, Richmond, VA

Spirit 1866: 227 - "I consider them [the women teachers] admirably gifted for the work, and cannot commend them too highly. They seem earnest, and have made a good impression upon those of our church people who have seen them."

Floyd, The Rev. W. T. Raleigh, NC

Spirit 1871: 246.

Forrest, The Rev. D. F. Wytheville, VA

school operating for 5 months. *Spirit* 1874: 255.

Gadsden, The Rev. C. P. High School, Charleston, SC

Local clergyman who teaches Bible Class *Spirit* 1870: 613.

Gibson, The Rev. C. J. Peersburg, VA

Spirit 1872: 651, took Cook's place for school opening. School is excellent.

Gray, The Rev. W. C. School & Church, Bolivar, TN

Spirit 1871: 301 - has had several teachers

Harris, John Henry (Colored) Raleigh, NC

Spirit 1866:728.

Helm, The Rev. J. T. Our Merciful Saviour Parish School, Louisville, KY

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Principal, *Episcopal Almanac*, 1876: 202.

Jackson, The Rev. George H. colored Church of the Holy Comforter, Dry Grove, Mississippi

Home: b. in DE; lived in Hartford CT.

Rector, late John Garfield, recognized his ability. Went to Lincoln U. in PA. , grad. came to Miss. to teach; ordained to deaconate on May 14, 1874. *Spirit* 1874:313;Sponsors Sunday School. *Spirit* 1874: 317-9; List of colored clergy sponsored by the Commission, *Spirit* 1874: 586.

Jones, The Rev. Richard H. Wilmington, DE

Spirit 1866: 728.

Lee, Alfred, Bishop of Delaware

“Bishop Lee has offered to do all in his power to further the design of this Commission [PA Branch], if we will enter upon the work.” *Spirit* 1867: 385-6.

Love, The Rev. J. R. (Colored) Savannah, GA

Sponsors Sunday School. *Spirit* 74: 317-9; List of colored clergy sponsored by the Commission, *Spirit* 1874: 586.

Principal, St. Augustine’s School, Savannah, *Episcopal Almanac*, 1876: 202.

McConnell, The Rev. J. B. Canfield School, Memphis, TN

Principal, *Episcopal Almanac*, 1876: 202.

McKinney, The Rev. W. G.

List of colored clergy sponsored by the Commission, *Spirit* 1874: 586.

Prentiss, The Rev. High School, Charleston, SC

Local clergyman who teaches a girls Bible class. *Spirit* 1870: 613.

Quintard, Charles T. , Bishop of Tennessee

Mrs. W. B. Downey at Orphan Asylum, Memphis “Thursday, Bishop Quintard, of Tennessee and Dr. Knight, spent two hours in school; they expressed much interest in the exercises.” *Spirit* 1867: 163.

Rogers, The Rev. P. T. (Colored) St. Joseph’s School, Fayetteville, NC

List of colored clergy sponsored by the Commission, *Spirit* 1874: 586.

Principal, St. Josephs 1876, *Episcopal Almanac*, 1876: 202.

Renouf, The Rev. E. A.

Home: New Hampshire

Member of Freedman’s Department - made tour of the South & reported on it.
Spirit 1872: 247.

Scull, The Rev.W.D. Tallahassee, FL

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Spirit 1867: 399; 316. Building progressing, erected by the Freedmen's Bureau.

Skinner, The Rev. Henry A. Newbern, NC

"Teachers", *Spirit* 1866: 728.

Spirit 1867: 398-9; building getting ready, plastered, warmed by three stoves, ventilators in the ceiling; partitions that can be folded back for congregation. p 247 - Three Misses Smith arrived just before Christmas & as soon as a separate building can be obtained we can turn over 100 children as a nucleus for new school

Smedes, The Rev. J. E. C.

St. Augustine's Normal School, Raleigh, NC

Principal, St. Augustine's, 1876 – *Episcopal Almanac*, 1876: 202.

Smith, The Rev. J. Brinton St. Augustin's Normal School, Raleigh, NC

Spirit 1869: 190 - Building finished in Dec. 2 stories, basement & tower; erected and furnished by the Bureau; can accommodate 60 pupils now, final capacity 150. will add farm & stock; Church doing well, Sunday School 120 pupils.

Thompson, The Rev. James E. colored St. Louis, MO

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teacher in St. Louis, *Episcopal Almanac*, 1876: 202.

Welsh, The Rev. J.V Sumter, SC

Spirit 1867: 399.

Spirit 1868: 728.

Willing, The Rev. M. E. Norfolk, VA

1866:229 - day school for 150 children and night school of 50 adults organized. Day-school is arranged in three grades, 10 classes boys and 10 girls. Teach English grammar, Geography, Arithmetic, Reading Writing and spelling. About half are now reading.

Opening service of day school includes singing by the whole school, chapter from NT, one of the Epistles or Gospels, using Lord's Prayer, collect for the day, collect for grace and short benediction.

Bishop of VA & wife, Mrs. Johns, and the Rev Rector Bartine visited the school. On Sun, the Deacon White of the Catharine St Colored Baptist church asked him to preach for them.

Spirit 1867: 166.

Wilson, The Rev. W. H. col Nebraska City, NE

Spirit 74: 187; annual picnic in June-worried for farmers whose entire crops were destroyed by grasshoppers. Many of the freedmen who had taken up land are coming into the city. *Spirit* 1874: 585-6.

32 clergy listed

