

# Arkansas African American History Makers Civil War and Reconstruction Era



A Project Coordinated by the  
**Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission**

501 Woodlane Drive, Suite 122 South  
Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 683-1300 or (888) 290-KING

[www.arkingdream.org](http://www.arkingdream.org)



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Volume IV - Civil War and Reconstruction Era  
2012



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It is my honor to present to you the *Arkansas African American History Makers Coloring Book, Volume IV - Civil War and Reconstruction Era*.

Arkansas children will benefit from this edition of the coloring book by receiving knowledge of African Americans who have bravely served Arkansas and the United States during the Civil War and Reconstruction Era, yet lie in relative obscurity. Our children will learn of these individuals, many of whom paid the ultimate price to fight for and protect the freedoms they were denied before the war, often fighting battles while ill equipped, with little food and inadequate clothing, and yet they bravely forged ahead. They will also learn of those that paved the way for civil rights after the Civil War, many becoming prominent leaders in government, educators, businessmen, doctors, and community leaders during the Reconstruction Era. These individuals overcame many obstacles, including being newly freed citizens who were now granted equal rights under the law, but were still treated as second class citizens. Our children will learn of the selfless sacrifices of these men and women who helped mold Arkansas and United States history.

While there are many history makers not included in this volume, your thoughts and ideas for future volumes are always welcome.

We hope you will visit our website, join our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter, or call our office to learn how you may assist in the effort to live the dream and make change happen.

Lastly, we would like to give a special thank you to the Arkansas Humanities Council and the Arkansas Department of Education for financial assistance with this project. We could not produce the coloring book without partnerships such as theirs.

Sincerely,

*DuShun Scarbrough*

DuShun Scarbrough, Executive Director  
Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission



# Programs



Young people across Arkansas join Dream Keepers sponsored by local community-based organizations. They perform community service projects and pledge to a nonviolent lifestyle.

Community by community, they build - Arkansas youth united to make their community, state, and world a better place. That is the spirit and goal of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission Dream Keepers Program. Youth from throughout the state are joining with their peers to build up their neighborhoods. The program gives youth an alternative to gang affiliation.

The Dream Keepers Program helps empower youth to gain an appreciation for community service through teamwork. Dream Keepers involvement helps youth make choices that will have a positive impact on their lives. Service projects are a reflection of the talents and dedication of the team members. Tutorial programs, neighborhood clean-up, and feeding the hungry are examples of some of the projects. Regardless of the type of project, the central theme of the program always shines through-join together to build up the community.

The Dream Keepers' community service work can build the bridges of unity and understanding between races and cultures and stimulate interracial cooperation. Each team must analyze its resources to determine what they can do in their community.



The L.E.A.D. Program has three platforms: learn, educate, and acceptance of diversity. The mission is to identify and nurture leaders, promote education, and promote acceptance of diversity within the communities throughout the state of Arkansas. Our vision is to foster partnerships, contribute resources, and enhance the lives of all Arkansans. Our goal is to establish a base of leaders by a comprehensive approach, targeting schools, churches and communities.

We have prioritized our efforts based on these identified needs. The first of the programs we are in the process of launching is a multi-level Mentorship Program, L.E.A.D. The program has three components:

- Career Mentorship
- Academic Mentorship
- Social Mentorship

An important part of the King Commission's L.E.A.D. program is the fostering of better relations between the races. The Commission's image is enhanced; the Commission has a greater visibility in the community; individuals and businesses can observe how tax dollars prepare students for the future; individual participants within the Commission derive personal satisfaction from assisting in the development of productive citizens; and the relationship helps prepare future employees and community leaders.



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### Arkansas US Colored Troops

**2nd Regiment Light Artillery** - Organized from the 1st AR Battery of African Descent, on 12/13/1864. They were attached to the Post of Pine Bluff. The regiment served garrison duty at Pine Bluff the entire term and participated in one expedition to Mount Elba, AR and a skirmish at Saline River, 1/22 to 2/4, 1865. They mustered out 9/15/1865.

**11th US Colored Infantry** - Organized at Fort Smith, AR from 12/19/1863. This regiment served post and garrison duty at Fort Smith, AR, until 11/1864 and saw combat action at Fort Smith 8/24/1864. The regiment moved to Little Rock in 11/1864 and saw action at Boggs' Mill on 1/24/1865. The regiment served at Little Rock and at Lewisburg until 4/1865. They consolidated with 112th and 113th to form new 113th U.S. Colored Troop 4/22/1865.

**46th Regiment Infantry** - Organized from 1st AR Infantry, African Descent on 5/11/1864. This Regiment was attached to the post of Milliken's Bend, LA, then District of Vicksburg, MS until 1/18/1865, where they served post and garrison duty, and saw combat at Mound Plantation, MS, 6/24 to 6/29, 1864. They were then ordered to 2nd Brigade, Post and Defenses of Memphis, TN until 2/1865 for garrison duty, then to New Orleans, LA, Dept. of the Gulf, until 5/1865. On 5/4/1865 they were ordered to the Dept. of TX, in Brazos Santiago for duty at Clarksville and Brownsville on the Rio Grande River until 1/1866. They mustered out 1/30/1866.

**54th US Colored Infantry** - Organized 3/11/1864 from the 2nd Arkansas Infantry (African Descent). Attached to the Dept. of AR until 12/1866. This regiment served at Helena, AR, until 5/1864 and was ordered to Fort Smith, AR for duty until 1/1865. The regiment saw combat at Fort Gibson on 9/16/1864, Cabin Creek on 9/19, Cow Creek, KS, on 11/14 and 11/28. They were ordered to Little Rock in Jan of 1865 where they saw combat on the AR River on 1/18. They served at Little Rock and other points in Dept. of AR until 12/1866. They mustered out between 8/8 to 12/31/1866.

**56th US Colored Infantry** - Organized March 11, 1864, from 3rd AL Infantry (African Descent). This regiment was attached to the Dept. of AR, until 9/1866 where they served post and garrison duty at Helena and other points in AR. They saw combat at Indian Bay on 4/13/1864, at Muffleton Lodge on 6/29/1864 and they conducted operations in AR, July 1-31, fighting at Wallace's Ferry and Big Creek on 7/26. They carried out expeditions from Helena and up White River 8/29-9/3 1864 and from Helena to Friar's Point, MS on 2/19-22/1865. They mustered out 9/15/1866.

**57th US Colored Infantry** - Organized 3/11/1864, from the 4th AR Infantry (African Descent). This regiment was attached to the Dept. of AR until 12/1866 serving garrison duty and guarding property on post at Helena and Little Rock. They participated in a skirmish near Little Rock on 4/26, 5/24 and 5/28, 1864 and in operations against Shelby, north of AR River, from 5/13-31, 1864. They marched to Brownsville, 8/23 and to Duvall's Bluff 8/29. Troops mustered out between 10/18 to 12/31/1866.

**69th US Colored Infantry** - Organized at Pine Bluff on 12/14/1864. This regiment served in Pine Bluff, Duvall's Bluff, Helena, AR, and Memphis, TN, in various capacities until 9/20/1865, when their service was discontinued.

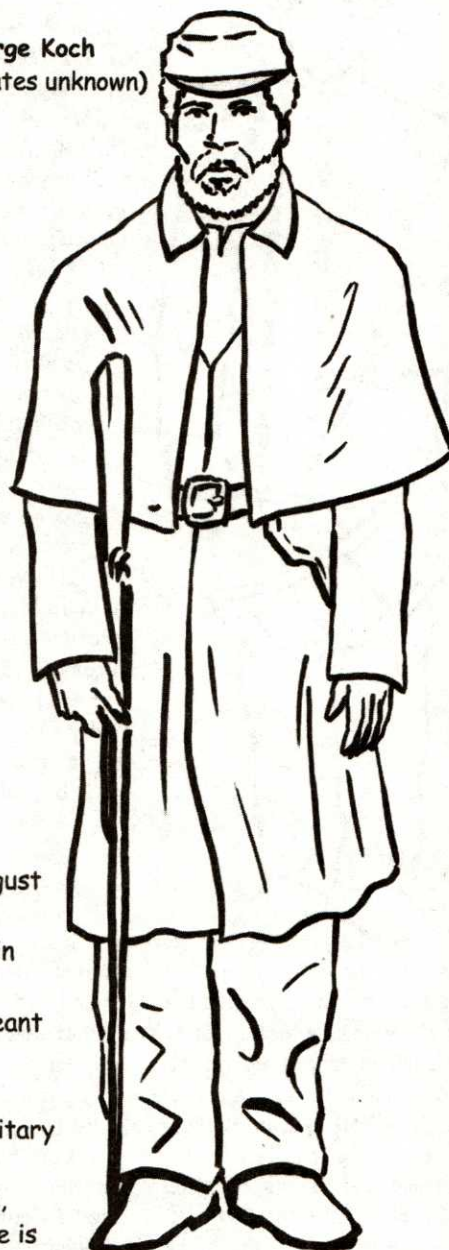
**112th and 113th US Colored Infantry (Old)** - Organized at Little Rock, AR, from 5th and 6th Arkansas Colored Infantry in 1864 where they served post and garrison duty at Little Rock until 4/1866. Both regiments combined with the 11th United States Colored Troops to create the **113th U.S. Colored Infantry (New)** until they mustered out on 4/9/1866.



**Sergeant James Baldwin**  
(October 10, 1835 to February 19, 1922)



**Sergeant George Koch**  
(Birth and death dates unknown)



**James Baldwin** was born enslaved in Mississippi on October 10, 1835. On August 25, 1863, he enlisted in the 3rd Arkansas Infantry, becoming one of about 179,000 African Americans who would serve in the Union army. James Baldwin served with the 3rd U.S. Arkansas Volunteer Infantry Regiment of African Descent, later known as the 56th United States Colored Infantry, as a sergeant in Company G where he participated in military maneuvers and chased Confederate guerillas. He survived a Cholera attack and was wounded at Wallace's Ferry in a battle at Big Creek, AR in 1865. He mustered out of military service in September of 1865. Baldwin worked as a farmer and drayman in Arkansas, married twice, raised a family and, for the last 18 years of his life, lived in the National Home for Disabled Soldiers in Danville, Illinois, where he is buried.

Little is known about **George Koch's** early life or his life after his service to the military. Sergeant George Koch served with the 69<sup>th</sup> United States Colored Troops, composed of five companies. The 69<sup>th</sup> was organized at Pine Bluff, DeValls Bluff, Little Rock, and Helena, Arkansas. In 1865, the regiment was discontinued and the commissioned officers and enlisted men were transferred to the 63<sup>rd</sup> and 64<sup>th</sup> regiments of the United States Colored Troops. Regiments such as the 69<sup>th</sup> formed after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863. With the declaration that slaves were free, the Union Army began actively recruiting black men into service. Helena, Arkansas, was a recruiting ground and station for black troops. 85 percent of the 5,526 African American men Arkansas contributed to the Union effort between 1864 and 1865 were from the Delta region.







**Private Aaron Hurvey**  
(about 1838 to April 8, 1934)

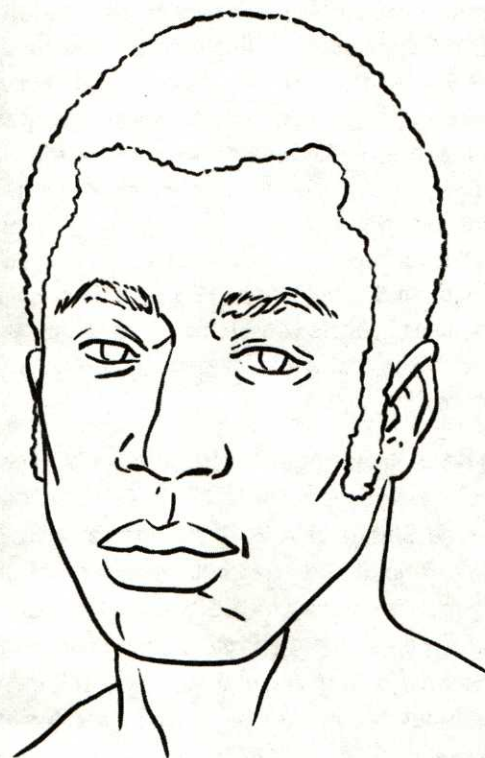
Aaron Hurvey was born enslaved in Montgomery County, South Carolina, on or about 3/15/1838. On 4/15/1864, Aaron Hurvey escaped from Mississippi to Helena, AR. Helena was a U.S. Fortified city and the first place in Arkansas to raise Black troops for the Federal army in April 1863. On 4/06/1864, Hurvey enlisted in the 4<sup>th</sup> Arkansas Volunteer Infantry of African Descent at Helena. The following excerpt is taken from an affidavit Hurvey filed on 5/03/1909, at the age of 70, for a military pension. It sheds some light on the motivation of one ex-slave who donned the blue uniform during the Civil War and explains why so few African Americans of that generation were able to preserve their memories on paper:

*"I have no record of my age and know of none either public, baptism, family or Bible records. I was a slave and my parents before me slaves without the knowledge to keep or appreciate records or to read or write. What little I can do I learned since slavery. As slaves were punished [if] found trying to read and those who aided in the study of slaves were in danger of life; therefore I know nothing of my age save what my mother and old mistress later [sic] told me in March 15, 1854 and she died in May 1854; she told me I was 16 years of age as I was the house boy [she] my old mistress always told me on the 15 day of March that I was a year older; she died with cancer in, Sandy Run District South Carolina. I was sold with the whole plantation and everything in 1858 and I was knocked down for \$1500.00 and since then I was with the speculators [slave traders] and know nothing until I joined the U. S. Army."*

Aaron Hurvey and the 57<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry would serve entirely in Arkansas at: Helena, Du Vall's Bluff, Little Rock, Brownsville, and Fort Smith. In 1866, the 57<sup>th</sup> U.S.C.I. was placed on a forced march from Fort Smith to New Mexico and on their return were mustered out of service in December 1866. In January 1867, Hurvey arrived in Little Rock, Arkansas, which became his home. He began the trade of lathing and earned enough money to build two houses. In 1894 he wed Maria Taylor and they had two children. Hurvey was also a Master of the Masonic Lodge, Richmond No. 2 and he became a Baptist Minister. Aaron Hurvey died April 8, 1934 at the age of approximately 95 and is buried at the National Cemetery in Little Rock, Arkansas.

**Private Lewis Martin**  
(about 1840 to about 1892 )

Lewis Martin was born enslaved in Independence, Arkansas in about 1840. His face is one of the most famous in Civil War history and yet sadly, little is known about his story. His service records show that was a freed man prior to enlisting in the US colored troops. Born a slave in Arkansas who somehow became free and was living in Illinois, Lewis Martin could have avoided the Civil War altogether as there was little enthusiasm for black soldiers to enlist until 1863. He could have lived his life as a free man in the free north, but chose to join in the battle to free his brothers and sisters, enlisting in the Union Army in February, 1864. He was placed in Company E of the 29th US Colored Infantry and joined his regiment in Alton, Illinois. His unit was dispatched to Annapolis, Maryland, and then again to Virginia, directly into the heart of the Civil War. On July 30, 1864, approximately 3,800 Union soldiers were killed, wounded or captured at the Battle of the Crater, 1,327 of those members of the USCT. Private Martin was one of the wounded. Shell fragments and bullets mangled his left leg and right arm so badly that they were amputated. Buckshot wounds in the head and left shoulder resulted in painful scars. However, Lewis Martin was back with his regiment at Appomattox when General Lee surrendered. On December 6, 1865, Private Martin was discharged as totally disabled and was given a pension of \$20 per month. In 1872, this was increased to \$24. He later requested an increase because of shoulder pain, but in spite of the scar clearly visible in his famed disability photograph, the existence of such a wound was denied. In 1869 he was wed to Mary Jones. In 1895 he was dropped from the pension rolls for failure to claim his check since 1892. However, no widow's claim was filed and Private Martin and his wife were assumed deceased.





**Willoughby Hall (date of birth and death unknown)**

**Willoughby Hall** was born a free citizen to David Hall and his wife, one of the families of the founding settlers of what is now Marion County, Arkansas. This area may have been the largest rural free black community in the South prior to the Civil War. Willoughby Hall served as a scout serving under the Union Army during the Civil War. During one of his daily patrols, he came across Bean's Cave and discovered that rebel troops were mining salt peter and producing black powder for their troops. Located just above the White River, Bean's Cave held a large deposit of saltpeter, a key ingredient of black powder, which was used during the Civil War as ammunition for fire arms. Due to Bean cave's proximity to the White River, it proved to be an ideal place for the rebel troops to produce and transport black powder across Arkansas. Hall reported this information to his leading commanding officer. Because of Hall's knowledge of the area near the White River, he was able to successfully lead the raid on the troop of Confederate soldiers producing black powder at Bean's Cave. The rebel troops surrendered before a single shot was made. Willoughby Hall was later killed and scalped by a rebel guerrilla as an act of revenge.





**Carrie Lena Fambro Still Shepperson**  
(1872 - May 18, 1927)

**Carrie Fambro** was born in 1872, near Milledgeville, Georgia. In 1893, while teaching at Alabama State Agricultural and Mechanical College, she met William Grant Still. Still's husband died on September 26, 1895. After her husband's death, Still moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, then in 1896, she secured a position teaching English at Union School, which was built as Little Rock's first school for black children. In 1904, she married Charles B. Shepperson. Their marriage lasted until his accidental drowning in 1922. Shepperson's teaching career was characteristic of educated black women in the reconstruction era. Her paid public work included her position as an English teacher at Union School, Capitol Hill, and at M. W. Gibbs High School, respectively. When the city school system replaced Union School with Capitol Hill in 1902, the new school lacked a library. In an effort to supplement the school's inadequate funding, Shepperson organized and staged a school-sponsored and student-performed public program in 1916. The proceeds were donated to the school to establish a library at the new site. The benefit production was so successful that Shepperson began a series of annual productions at Capitol Hill and later at Gibbs High School. Shepperson died on May 18, 1927, and she is buried in Little Rock's Fraternal Cemetery.





**Charlotte "Lottie" Andrews Stephens  
(1854 - December 17, 1951)**

Charlotte "Lottie" Andrews Stephens was born in 1854 in Little Rock, Arkansas. She was the first African-American teacher in the Little Rock, Arkansas school district. Stephens worked as a teacher in Little Rock for seventy consecutive years before her retirement in 1939. Her career included thirty years as an elementary school teacher, thirty as a high school teacher, and ten as a teaching librarian in a high school and junior college. In 1910, Stephens Elementary School, currently located at 3700 West 18th Street, was named for her. It remained the only school in Little Rock for the next fifty years named for a woman. In 1950, a modern building replaced the original; a third structure opened in January 2001 and continues to honor her name. At a public ceremony in 1950, the all-white Little Rock School Board honored Stephens for her teaching career. In addition, she was the first African American to be accredited by the North Central Association and was a charter member of the National Association of Colored Women (NACW) federated club in Little Rock. Stephens died on December 17, 1951. Her funeral was held at Wesley Chapel Methodist Church, the same church founded by her father, and she is buried at Oakland Cemetery in Little Rock.

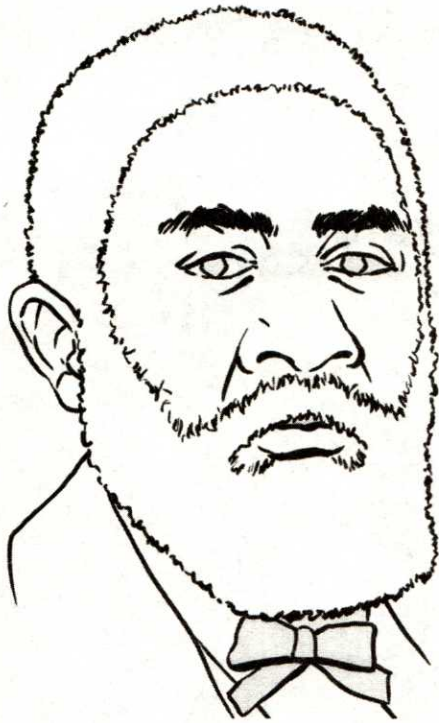




**Reverend Joseph A. Booker**  
(December 26, 1859 - September 9, 1926)

Joseph Booker was born enslaved on December 26, 1859, in Old Portland, AR. According to one source, when Booker was three, his father, a man with "some knowledge of books," died when his slave master whipped him to death for urging his fellow slaves to revolt by teaching them to read. Raised by his grandmother who nurtured his love of learning, Booker became a teacher around age sixteen on the nearby Harris plantation, in Ashley County. Around the same time, he began his life-long interest in religion and became a licensed Baptist minister. From 1878 until 1881, Booker attended Arkansas Agricultural, Mechanical, and Normal College, now the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. In 1881, Booker moved to Nashville, Tennessee, to attend what would become Roger Williams University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1886. Afterwards, Booker returned to his home in south Arkansas and turned his attention to full-time preaching. Within the year, he was chosen as the first president of the newly established Arkansas Baptist College in Little Rock, a position he would hold until his death. In 1891, he was one of the leaders in the black community's opposition to the "separate coach" law, a law enacted by Jim Crow, requiring separate coaches on railway trains for white and black passengers. Throughout his life, Reverend Booker was one of the state's strongest advocates for black citizens' self help education. At the same time, he worked tirelessly to foster a spirit of good will within the black community toward the white establishment. In September of 1926, Booker left Little Rock to attend the National Baptist Convention in Fort Worth, TX, where he died of a heart attack on September 9. He is buried in Haven of Rest Cemetery in Little Rock.





**William Henry Grey**  
(December 22, 1829 - November 8, 1887)

**Abraham Miller**  
(1851 - 1913)

**Ferdinand (Ferd) Havis**  
(November 15, 1846 - August 25, 1918)

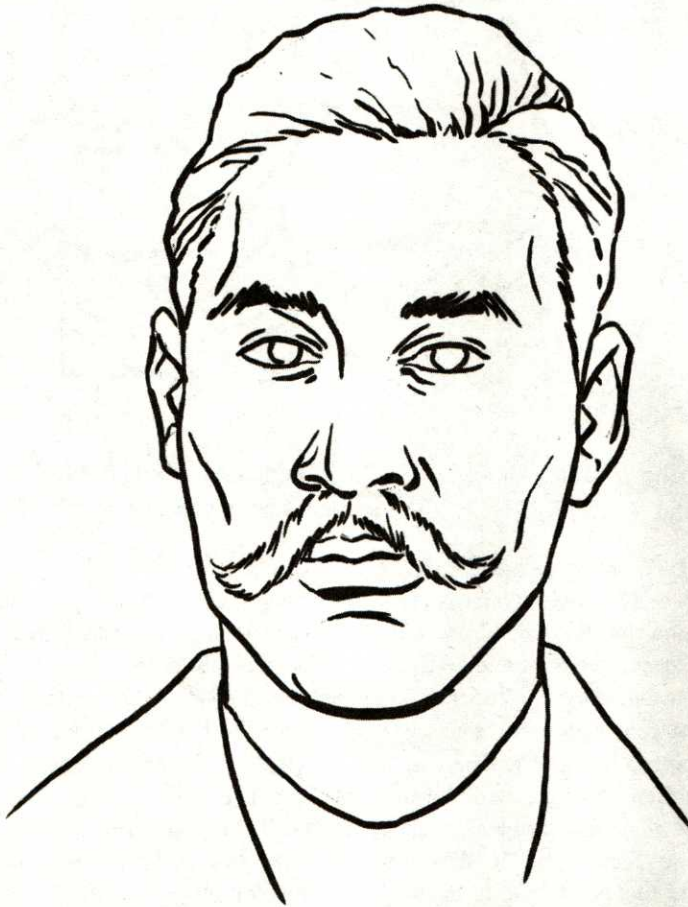
**William Henry Grey** was born to free parents in Washington, D.C., on December 22, 1829. Grey worked for a time for Henry A. Wise, congressman, and later governor of Virginia. As a result, Grey attended many sessions of Congress. At the age of twelve, Grey's family moved to Pittsburgh and then to Cincinnati. Following the death of his parents, Grey moved to Saint Louis in 1852. In 1863, Grey, his wife Henrietta, and their children came to Arkansas. Grey was in Helena by the end of 1865 and opened a food service business. He was a member of the House of Representatives during the 1868 - 1869 legislative sessions. At the same time, he held the position of Assistant United States Assessor. The following term, Grey was re-elected to the legislature. He was unable to serve this term because Governor Powell Clayton appointed him as Clerk of the Circuit Court and Ex-officio Recorder of Deeds. In 1872, Grey attended the Republican National Convention and seconded the nomination of Ulysses S. Grant, becoming the first black to address a national political convention. Grey was the only black member of the 20th Assembly following the election of Augustus Garland in 1874 and the restoration of the Democrats. In 1876, Grey returned to Helena. He was elected Clerk of the County and Probate Court of Phillips County. He held this position until 1878. He died on November 8, 1887.

**Abraham Miller** was born enslaved in St. Francis County, Arkansas, in 1851. He moved with his mother to Helena sometime during the Civil War. After the war, he drove a delivery cart (called a dray), working hard until he had enough money to buy his own horse and cart. Soon, he had enough to buy two more drays. When one of his horses died, he decided to spend his money on land instead. He bought a piece of land, built a house on it, and rented it. Miller continued to invest in real estate, saving half of his profits and he was soon a wealthy man. Miller had no childhood education, but eventually went to the public school in Helena for one session when he was 21 years old. The next year he went to Southland College. Miller recognized Southland as the place where he learned five principles by which he lived: not to drink whiskey, not to use tobacco in any form, not to belong to any secret societies, not to run about at night, and not to waste his money. After returning from school, he was elected to the Arkansas state legislature and was the first black to serve as a state representative. He served one term and succeeded in getting several bills passed to benefit the Delta region. Miller married Eliza Ann Ross in 1887. He died in 1913 at the age of 62.

**Ferdinand (Ferd) Havis** was born enslaved in Desha County on November 15, 1846. Havis received a little common school education and learned the barbering trade. Later, he owned a profitable barbershop in Pine Bluff. Havis began his political career in the 1870's. He was elected as a Third Ward alderman in 1872, serving five terms total. He served in the state House of Representatives in 1873 but resigned to accept the post of Jefferson County assessor in 1873. Governor Elisha Baxter commissioned him a colonel in the Arkansas Militia in April 1874. For twenty years, Havis served as chairman of the Jefferson County Republican Party. He served as a delegate to the National Republican Convention in 1880, which met in Chicago, Illinois. During that convention, he was one of the 306 delegates who supported Ulysses S. Grant in his bid for the presidential nomination. Havis became the vice president of the Arkansas Republican Party in 1888. In 1882, he was elected Jefferson County circuit clerk and held this position for five terms. Havis died on August 25, 1918 and is buried in Bellwood Cemetery in Pine Bluff.



**John Gray Lucas**  
(March 11, 1864 - October 27, 1944)

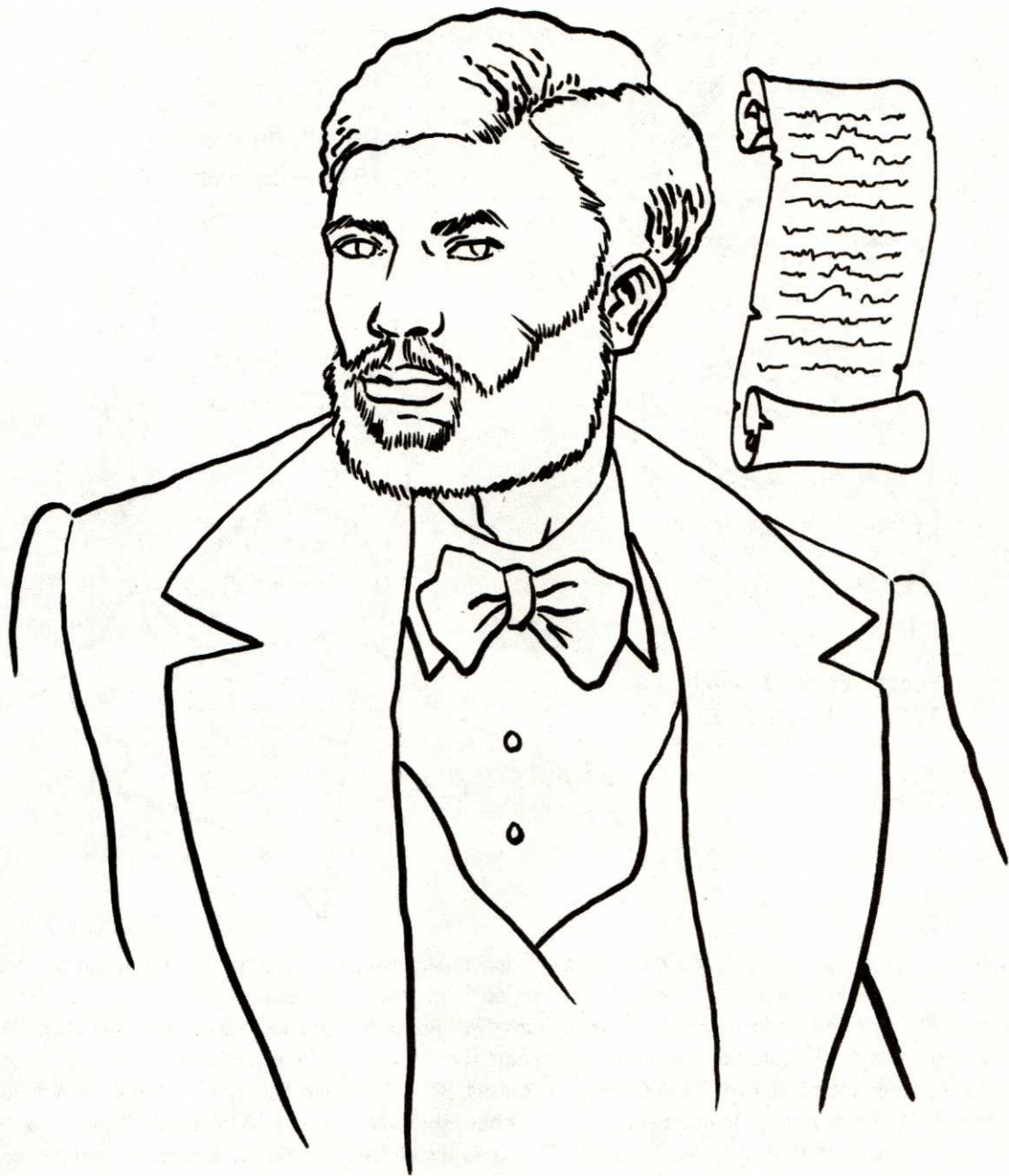


**Reverend James T. White**  
(1831 - Mid 1890s)

**John Gray Lucas** was born on March 11, 1864, in Marshall, Texas. Lucas moved to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, where he attended public schools and later earned a degree from Branch Normal College of Arkansas Industrial University (now the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff). In October 1884, he entered the Boston University School of Law and graduated in 1887, the only African American in a class of fifty-two students and only one of seven students graduating with honors. After law school, he returned to Arkansas, where he was admitted to the state bar. Soon afterward, he was named assistant prosecuting attorney for Pine Bluff and Jefferson County, and then he was appointed commissioner for the U.S. Circuit Court, Eastern District of Arkansas. In the fall of 1890, he was elected as a state representative from Jefferson County. By 1893, Lucas had left Arkansas and relocated to Chicago, Illinois, where he established a lucrative law practice. He died on October 27, 1944, in Chicago, and is buried in the Lincoln Cemetery.

The principal organizer of the Little Rock Convention of Colored Citizens in November 1865 was **Reverend James T. White**, a 34 year-old freeborn Baptist minister from New Providence, Indiana. He had only arrived in Helena only a few months earlier. Reverend White was supposedly attached to one of the black Union regiments, possibly as a chaplain, but he does not appear in military service records. Reverend James T. White went on to have a distinguished political career in Arkansas, both during Reconstruction and afterwards. Reverend White represented Phillips County in the Arkansas House of Representatives. He was elected to the State Senate in 1871 and 1873. He served as Commissioner of Public Works under Gov. Elisha Baxter from 1873 to 1874. Reverend White was one of only two black delegates to attend both the 1868 and 1874 constitutional conventions. In 1875, he was elected sheriff of Phillips County. From that time until his death in the mid-1890s, he devoted himself to religious and educational work.





**William Hines Furbush**  
(1839 - September 3, 1902)

**William Hines Furbush** was born in Carroll County Kentucky, in 1839 and was often described as a mulatto. Nothing is known of his parents or childhood, but it is clear that he received formal education. In 1862 he began working as a photographer. In February 1865, he joined the Forty-second Colored Infantry at Columbus, Ohio at the rank of Commissary Sergeant. He was honorably discharged in January 1866. By 1870, Furbush was back in Arkansas, living in Phillips County. In 1872, he was elected a Republican representative to the General Assembly for the eleventh district. While in the legislature, Furbush became involved in civil rights issues. Furbush's main accomplishment was the establishment of Lee County, with Marianna as the county seat. Furbush served as the first sheriff of Lee County from 1873 to 1879, winning re-election twice. The 1878 election season sent Furbush to the General Assembly as a Democrat; perhaps the first African-American Democrat to serve in the General Assembly. In December 1889, he and E. A. Fulton announced the publication of the National Democrat, a Democratic paper for "colored citizens of Arkansas." He died on September 3, 1902. He is buried at the Marion National Cemetery.

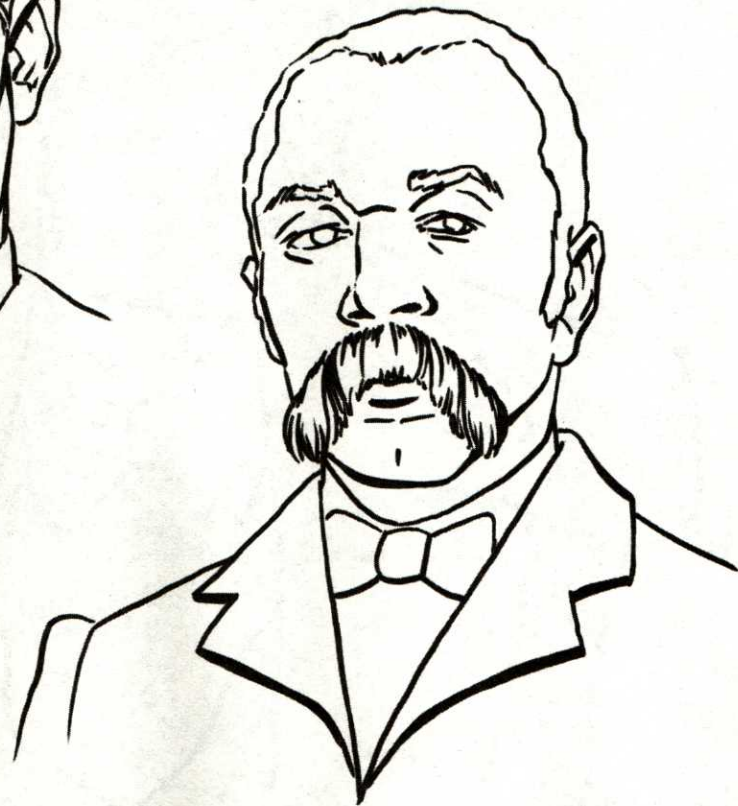






**Scott Winfield Bond**  
(1852 - March 1933)

**Walter "Wiley" Jones**  
(July 14, 1848 - December 7, 1904)



**Scott Winfield Bond** was a successful landowner, farmer, and businessman at a time when the total number of African American farm owners and their average acreage declined both in the state and in the nation. He was among the few wealthy Arkansans in the period before the New Deal. Scott W. Bond was born enslaved in Livingston, Mississippi, near Canton. On the eve of the Civil War, the white Maben-Bond family moved their enslaved property from Mississippi to Fayette County, Tennessee, and finally to Cross County, Arkansas. Bond's mother died during the Civil War, and Bond moved with his stepfather to Madison, Arkansas and remained in his household until about 1875. By 1915, he owned five cotton gin plants, a sawmill, and a gravel pit that supplied the Rock Island Railroad. The number of his farms had increased to twenty-one, with a total of 5,000 acres. The farm on which the Bond family resided was called "The Cedars." Bond was a member of the National Negro Business League (NNBL) established by Booker T. Washington in 1900. Bond addressed the annual meeting of the organization in New York City in 1902 and secured Washington's pledge to visit St. Francis County. The following year, the NNBL held its annual meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas. After the conference, Bond was Washington's host on a visit to Madison. The occasion included a public address by Washington and a barbecue in his honor at Bond's home farm. Bond died in March of 1933 and he is buried at Madison.

**Walter "Wiley" Jones** was born on July 14, 1848, in Madison County, Georgia. In 1853, Jones moved with his family to Arkansas. They settled on the former acting governor Richard Byrd's plantation in Jefferson County, twelve miles north of Pine Bluff, AR on the Arkansas River. In August 1886, Jones became one of the first African Americans in the nation to receive a franchise to operate a mule-drawn streetcar system, which he established in Pine Bluff. It was named Wiley Jones Street Car Lines and merged with the Citizens Street Railway around December 1890. This later became the electric railway, which the city bought. Now known as the Pine Bluff Transit, it is still owned by the city of Pine Bluff. Jones never ran for office, but he was one of Jefferson County's most influential political citizens in the 1880s and 1890s. Walter "Wiley" Jones died on December 7, 1904. He was the richest black person in the state at the time of his death, with an estate worth more than \$300,000. He was buried in his own cemetery west of Bellwood Cemetery, now known as Miller Cemetery, in Pine Bluff.





Henry Jackson Lewis  
(Around 1837 - April 9, 1891)

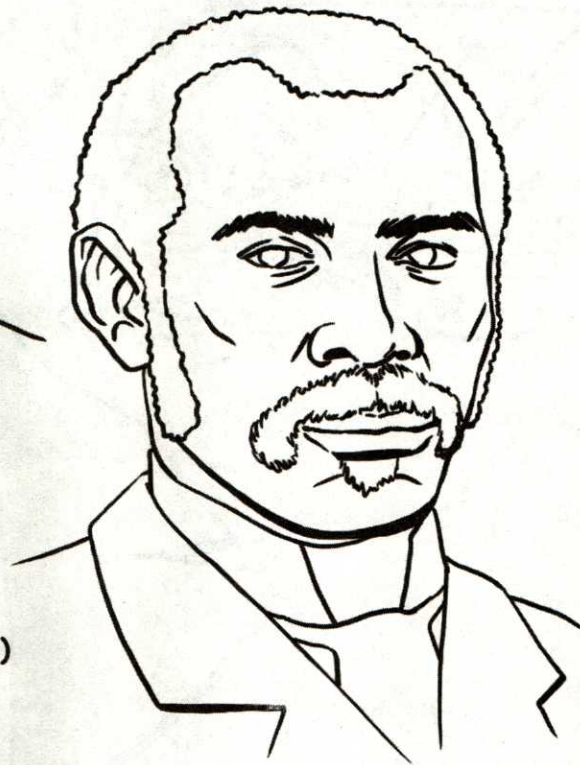
**Henry Jackson Lewis** was born enslaved in Water Valley, Mississippi, in 1837 or 1838. As an infant, he fell in to a fire and lost sight in his left eye and his left hand was crippled. Despite these hardships, he learned to read and write and develop his artistic abilities. By 1872, he was living in Pine Bluff, Arkansas where he married Lavinia Dixon and worked as a laborer while they started a family. By 1878 Lewis was a freelance artist. He worked with Dr. Edward Palmer of the Smithsonian Institute from late 1882 to 1883 drawing prehistoric Indian mounds in the Delta Region and Eastern Arkansas. On October 25, 1882, a Pine Bluff Commercial article referred to him as a "caricaturist and pencil artist" whose sketches "of both imaginary and real scenes are wonderfully correct," and concluded, "We bespeak for him a brilliant and successful future." Lewis moved to Indianapolis in 1889 and became chief artist for *The Freeman*. Lewis was known as the first black political cartoonist for his Freeman work. During a time when most images of African Americans were stereotyped to show white supremacy, Lewis' cartoons attacked racism and offered insight into African Americans living in a world of racism. His last published work, a drawing of a new church in St. Louis, appeared in the Freeman on March 28, 1891. By then, his health had declined, reportedly aggravated by the harsh Midwest winters, and he died of a respiratory disease on April 9, 1891. Obituary notices concluded with a wish that he had lived "a completer life, where conditions may not interfere, or man's narrowness or unfair hatred prevents the full expression of his unique and striking gifts."





**John Edward Bush**  
(November 14, 1856 - December 11, 1916)

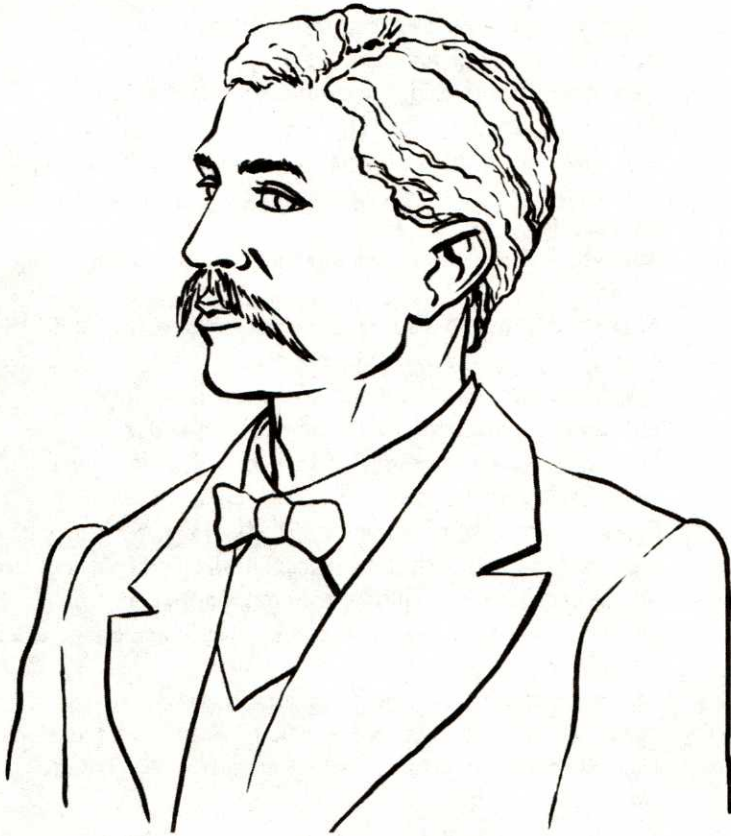
**Mifflin Wistar Gibbs**  
(April 17, 1823 - July 11, 1915)



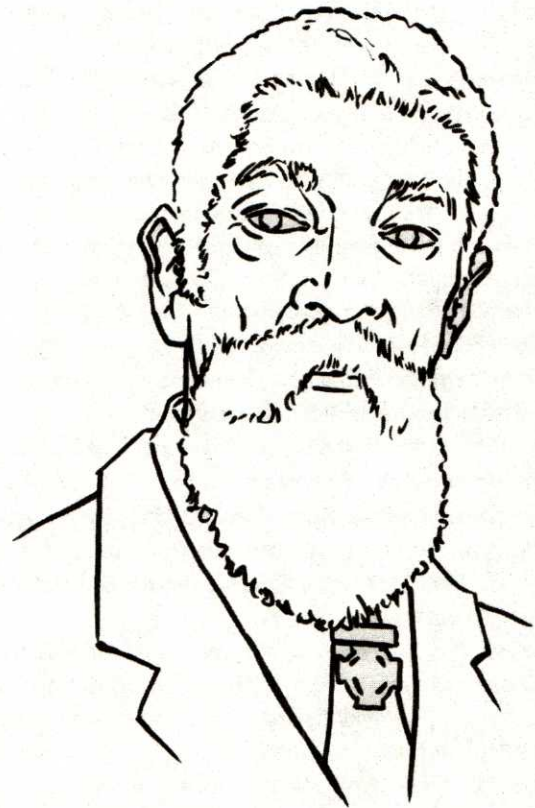
**John Edward Bush** was born enslaved on November 14, 1856, in Moscow, Tennessee. In 1862, Bush and his mother and sister were brought to Arkansas by their owner, who was trying to stay ahead of Union troops. Bush and his family were free at the end of the Civil War, but his mother died shortly after their arrival in Little Rock. Bush rose from poverty to national prominence when he co-founded the Mosaic Templars of America (MTA), an African-American fraternal organization of international scope. Headquartered in Little Rock, AR, MTA became one of the largest and most successful black-owned business enterprises in the nation and the world. Bush was widely acknowledged as one of the wealthiest black men in Arkansas and a pioneer of the economic development and progress of black American entrepreneurs. In 1875, Bush worked as a postal clerk for the Railway Mail Service and became the first black person to be recommended for the chief clerkship of the division. Bush graduated with honors from the Capital Hill City School of Little Rock in 1876 and served as its principal for two years immediately following graduation. Bush served as an executive committee member of Booker T. Washington's National Negro Business League, and Bush was a dues-paying member of the Mosaic Templars. President William McKinley appointed Bush as the receiver of the U.S. Land Office at Little Rock in 1898. He was subsequently reappointed for four additional terms by Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft. Bush died on December 11, 1916. After Bush's death, his son Chester succeeded him as the national grand secretary of the Mosaic Templars of America, while Aldridge served as secretary and treasurer of its monument department.

**Mifflin Wistar Gibbs** was a Little Rock, Arkansas businessman, a politician, and the first elected African American municipal judge in the United States. Mifflin Gibbs was born on April 17, 1823, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was well educated and attended debates at the Philadelphia Library Company of Colored Persons. He had a chance to practice his own speechmaking skills in the 1840s when Frederick Douglass invited him to help conduct an abolitionist lecture tour. In 1871, he headed south to aid Reconstruction in Florida. He then attended a freedmen's convention in Charleston, South Carolina, where he met William H. Grey, Arkansas's state commissioner of immigration and lands. At Grey's urging, Gibbs set off for Arkansas and arrived in Little Rock in May of 1871. He liked the city and settled in quickly. He studied law with some local white Republican lawyers, and as soon as he had passed the bar examination in 1872, he opened a partnership with Lloyd G. Wheeler, a well-known black attorney and leader in the Pulaski County Republican Committee. In 1877, President Rutherford B. Hayes named Gibbs registrar of the Little Rock district land office; President Benjamin Harrison named him receiver of public monies in Little Rock in 1889. Finally, President William McKinley named him U.S. consul to Tamatave, Madagascar, in 1897. After a prolonged period of declining health, Gibbs died on July 11, 1915 at his home in Little Rock. He is buried in the Fraternal Cemetery on Barber Street in Little Rock.





**Elias Camp Morris**  
(May 7, 1855 - September 5, 1922)



**Joseph C. Corbin**  
(March 26, 1833 - January 9, 1911)

Elias Camp Morris was born a slave on May 7, 1855, in Murray County, Georgia. In 1874, he was licensed to preach in a Baptist church. In 1877, attracted by opportunities in the western states, he set out for Kansas but chose to settle in Helena, Arkansas instead. From 1880 to 1881, he served as the secretary of the black Arkansas Baptist State Convention (ABSC). In 1882, he became the convention's president, a post he held for thirty-five years. As president of the ABSC, he oversaw the establishment of a denominational newspaper, the *Arkansas Times*, later renamed the *Baptist Vanguard*. He assisted in the establishment of a black seminary in Little Rock in 1884, which became Arkansas Baptist College in 1886. In 1892, in recognition of his work, he received an honorary Doctorate of Divinity from State University of Kentucky in Louisville. In 1902 he received an honorary Doctorate of Philosophy degree from Agricultural and Mechanical College at Normal, Alabama. In 1902, he also founded the Helena Negro Business League. He joined the National Negro Business League and became a close associate of its head, Booker T. Washington, of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. After a lengthy illness, Morris died on September 5, 1922, at the home of his son in Little Rock. He was buried at Magnolia Cemetery in Helena.

Joseph C. Corbin was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, on March 26, 1833. In 1872, he and his family moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, where Corbin worked as a reporter for the *Arkansas Republican* and later as chief clerk in the Little Rock Post Office. From 1873 to 1875, Corbin served as Arkansas's superintendent of public instruction and, by virtue of holding that office, was president of the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees. As president, he signed the contract for the construction of University Hall (now called Old Main), which was the first building at the University of Arkansas (UA) in Fayetteville, Arkansas. It was very unusual for a black man to hold such a position during that time, but he was qualified and well connected with the Republican Party establishment in power in the South at that time. Corbin worked on legislation to create a college in Arkansas for black students and in 1873 his legislation was adopted, but there was no time to put it into operation because Reconstruction was overthrown with the Brooks-Baxter War of 1874 and Republican state officials lost their jobs. Corbin remained in Little Rock, and then-U.S. Attorney General Augustus H. Garland (later governor) encouraged him to open Branch Normal College of the Arkansas Industrial University. In 1875, Corbin was appointed principal of Branch Normal, a position he held until 1902. The school is now the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Corbin formed the Teachers of Negro Youth, the first state association for black teachers, in 1898. Corbin was the first president of that organization. Twenty years after his death, the organization became known as the Arkansas Teachers Association, which, after integration, merged with the Arkansas Education Association in 1969. Corbin died on January 9, 1911.



# GLOSSARY

**Artillery** - (1) mounted projectile-firing guns or missile launchers, mobile or stationary, light or heavy, as distinguished from small arms. (2) Troops or the branch of an army concerned with the use of such weapons.

**Amputation** - Surgical removal of all or part of a limb, an organ, or projecting part or process of the body.

**Cholera** - an acute intestinal infection that is often deadly characterized by severe diarrhea, cramping and loss of electrolytes caused by ingestion of water or food contaminated with the bacterium.

**Civil War (1861-1865)** - a civil war fought over the secession of the Confederacy. In response to the election of an anti-slavery Republican as President, and to preserve states rights, 11 southern slave states declared secession from the United States and formed the Confederate States of America (the Confederacy); the other 25 states supported the federal government (the Union). After four years of war the Confederacy surrendered and slavery was outlawed across the nation.

**Commission** - (1) to give a higher rank to an individual or to authorize an action. (2) To give the order that places a warship, military command, etc., in a state of complete readiness for active duty.

**Confederate Army** - the southern army during the American Civil War composed of 11 states that succeeded from the United States in a protest over ending slavery and the decrease of states' rights.

**Delegate** - a person chosen or elected to act for or represent another or others.

**Democratic Party** - one of the two major political parties in the United States evolving in the early 19th century from the anti-federalists and the Democratic-Republican party and associated in modern times with policies of broad social reform and internationalism, favoring social equality.

**Enlisted** - to enroll, usually voluntarily, for military service.

**Enslaved** - to make a slave of.

**Expedition** - a journey undertaken by a group of people with a definite objective: an expedition against the enemy stronghold; a scientific expedition to the South Pole.

**Freeborn** - Born as a free person, not as a slave or serf.

**Freedman** - a person freed from slavery.

**Garrison** - a body of troops stationed in a fortified place, such as a military base or fort.

**Guerrilla** - a member of a band of soldiers that uses guerrilla warfare (harassing the enemy by surprise raids, sabotaging communication and supply lines, etc).

**General Assembly** - the entire legislative body in some states in the U.S.

**Legislature** - a deliberative body of persons, usually elective, who are empowered to make, change, or repeal the laws of a country or state; the branch of government having

the power to make laws, as distinguished from the executive and judicial branches of government.

**Lucrative** - profitable, money making, remunerative.

**Infantry** - (1) soldiers or military units that fight on foot with small arms, such as guns, rifles and swords as weapons. (2) Troops or a branch of an army composed of such soldiers.

**Mulatto** - a person who has one black parent and one white parent.

**Mustered Out** - to discharge or be released from military service.

**Negro** - a term used to refer to a person of black appearance, whether of African descent or not.

**Plantation** - a large estate or farm on which crops are raised, often by resident workers such as slaves.

**Private** - the title of a soldier with the lowest military rank.

**Racism** - the belief that race accounts for differences in human character or ability and that a particular race is superior to others. Discrimination or prejudice based solely on race.

**Reconstruction Era** - the history of the U.S. from 1865-1877 following the Civil War including the reconstruction of the Southern United States to integrate newly freed slaves into society.

**Recruiting** - to engage in finding and attracting persons for service in the military.

**Regiment** - a unit of ground forces, consisting of two or more battalions or battle groups, a headquarters unit, and certain supporting units.

**Representative** - a person who represents a constituency or community in a legislative body, especially a member of the U.S. House of Representatives or a lower house in certain state legislatures.

**Republican Party** - one of the two primary political parties of the United States, organized in 1854 to oppose the extension of slavery

**Salt Peter** - potassium nitrate that is naturally occurring. Salt Peter is mined and used in the manufacturing of gunpowder, fireworks, etc. It is known as niter.

**Scout** - a person sent out to gain information.

**Secession** - the act of withdrawing from an organization, union or a political entity.

**Sergeant** - the title of a noncommissioned officer in the military, usually ranking above a corporal.

**Stereotype** - is a popular belief about specific types of individuals. Stereotypes are standardized and simplified conceptions of people based on some prior assumptions.

**Union Army** - the northern army during the American Civil War composed of 25 states that supported the federal government and the goal of ending slavery and imposing more federal control over the states.



# Arkansas African American History Makers Volume IV

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## Spanish Version

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