

African American Civil War Museum

Meet **John Sharper**,

I enlisted in the 14th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery (Colored). You will find a banner with my picture on it as you walk up the promenade into the museum. Join me as I show how and why I became a soldier in the United States Colored Troops. **Can you find my picture inside the museum?**

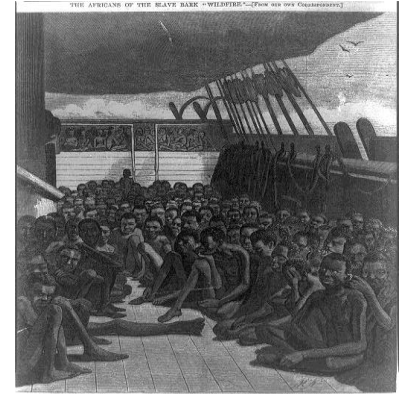


Look for this under **“Building a Nation”** →

Africans were crowded onto slave ships to maximize profits.

When did the first Africans arrive at Jamestown, Virginia?

Why were they brought here?



Go to **“A Military Necessity”**

Thousands of African Americans earned their freedom fighting in the American Revolution. Yet Congress passed a Militia Act banning African Americans from joining the army.

What year was this Militia Act passed?



Go to **“Crimes Against God and Man”** →

Men women and children escaped the bondage of slavery via the Underground Railroad. People who worked on the Underground Railroad to help people to freedom where called conductors.

Who was one of the most well known conductors on the Underground Railroad?



Bonus

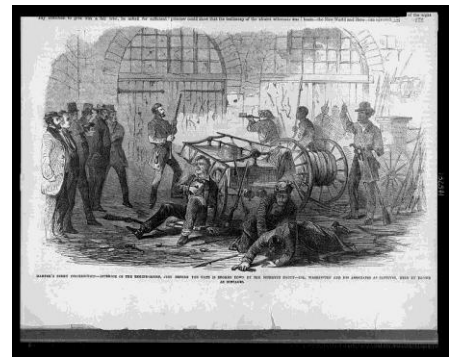
This act was passed by Congress in 1850 and declared that all runaway slaves be brought back to their masters. What is the name of this act?

*Hint find **“Fugitives for Freedom”**

Go to “In League with the Constitution”

“Captain Brown has initiated a new mode of carrying on the **crusade of freedom**, and his blow has sent dread and terror throughout the entire ranks of the piratical army of slavery. His daring deeds may cost him his life, but priceless as is the value of that life, the blow he has struck, will, in the end, prove worth its mighty cost.” Frederick Douglass, November 1859

Frederick Douglass was referring to John Brown in this quote, what blow did John Brown strike and how did it help the cause for abolitionism?



Go to “The Union & Emancipation”

In the Summer of 1862 after McClellan’s army suffered a humiliating defeat, Congress gave the President the authority to employ men of African descent in the army and to declare free persons claimed as property by supporters of the rebellion. Lincoln was advised to wait for a military success to issue an Emancipation Proclamation.

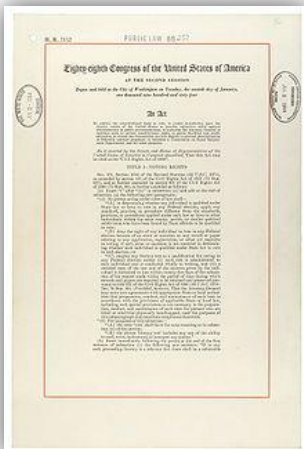
Which military success did the Union claim?

*Hint , find the answer under “A Bloody Victory”

Go to “Temporarily in the Halls of Government”

Between 1868 and 1900 more than 20 African American men served in the US Congress, many of them heroes from the Civil War. From 1901 to 1929 not a single African American was elected to the House or Senate.

Why were there no African Americans serving in Congress or the Senate in the early 1900’s?



Bonus, Go To “Civil Rights”

Toward the beginning of the 1900’s life grew more difficult for African Americans and society more segregated. The 1950’s brought a renewal in protest and demonstrations for equality and rights granted by the Constitution. Which Act signed by President Lyndon B Johnson protects your right to vote from discrimination?



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