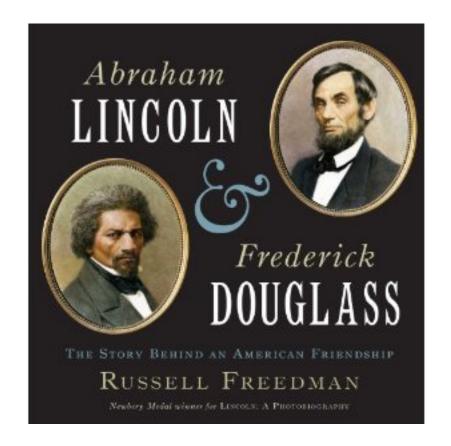
### A Living Schism- The Origins



#### The Foundation



 1863 After a division in policies Abraham Lincoln had summoned Fredrick Douglass to discuss the recruitment of African American men to join the USCT. The war was taking its toll on the Union and over the next two years because of the bravery displayed by those soldiers the tide began to turn and ultimately the war was won.

 Fredrick Douglass was giving speeches for the recruitment of African Americans for the USCT throughout Pennsylvania Ohio, and Virginia. In 1863 Abraham Grant, Tilman Valentine, John R. Scott, Rueben S. Mitchell, Josiah Armstrong and Josiah T Walls were all veterans of the Civil War

#### Harriet Tubman

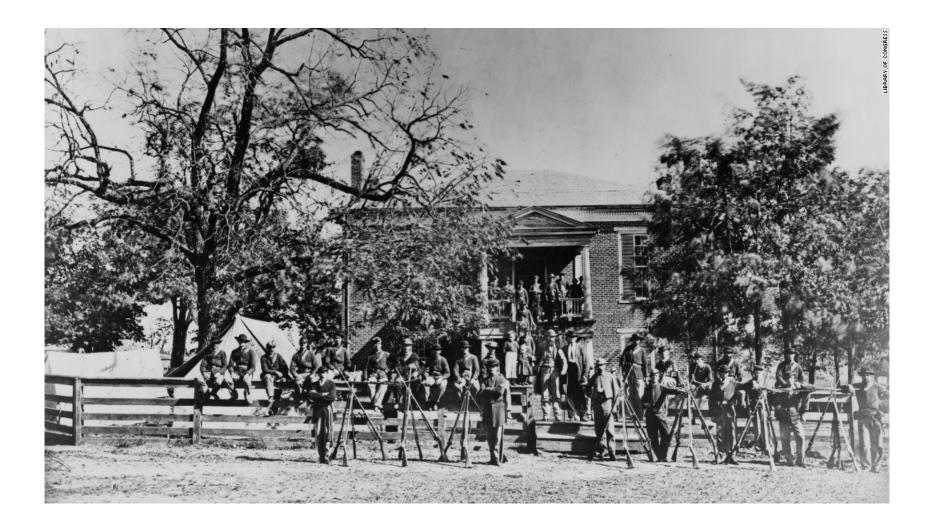


### Connection to the USCT

Tubman During the Civil War

During the Civil War, Tubman worked for the Union army as a nurse, a cook, and a spy. Her experience leading slaves along the Underground Railroad was especially helpful because she knew the land well. She recruited a group of former slaves to hunt for rebel camps and report on the movement of the Confederate troops. In 1863, she went with Colonel James Montgomery and about 150 black soldiers on a gunboat raid in South Carolina. Because she had inside information from her scouts, the Union gunboats were able to surprise the Confederate rebels. She also led raid with John Brown on Harpers Ferry

#### Appomattox Court House,



Lee's Surrender at Appomattox, 1865 in front of the 25<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the USCT

- Prelude to Surrender
- On April 3, Richmond fell to Union troops as Robert E. Lee led his Army of Northern Virginia in retreat to the West pursued by Grant and the Army of the Potomac. A running battle ensued as each Army moved farther to the West in an effort to out flank, or prevent being out flanked by the enemy. Finally, on April 7, General Grant initiated a series of dispatches leading to a meeting between the two commanders.

## The Jacksonville Mutiny

- In 1882, three Indian Scouts (Sgt. Jim Dandy, Corp. Skippy, and Sgt. Dead Shot), who were attached to the 6th U.S. Cavalry, were executed on the charge of mutiny. These individuals were in an auxiliary status as scouts, and the offense for which they were convicted should have been charged as murder. These scouts joined with a party of hostile Indians in a firefight that resulted in the death of an officer and six soldiers. See General Court Martial Order 12 of 1882.
- 2. Steven A. Channing, Confederate Ordeal (New York: Time-Life Books, 1984), 145.
- 3. Late in the war, several blacks were commissioned as officers to serve in black regiments. Additionally, several regiments of free blacks raised early in the war by General Butler and Sen. Jim Lane were officered by blacks. These officers, however, were replaced with whites.
- 4. Military Service Record, John L. Brower, National Archives, Washington, D.C. (hereafter cited as NA).
- 5. RHB to the editor, A.M.E. The Christian Recorder, August 6, 1864.

#### Harry H. Thompson



# Harry H. Thompson

- Lancaster Pennsylvania
- Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania
- Civil War Veteran 25<sup>th</sup> USCT
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grand Master MWUGL of Florida
- May Have been a Professional Baseball Player for the Philadelphia Americans (latter became the Philadelphia Athletics and Jacksonville Jacks.
- Civic and Political Leader in Jacksonville

#### John R. Scott



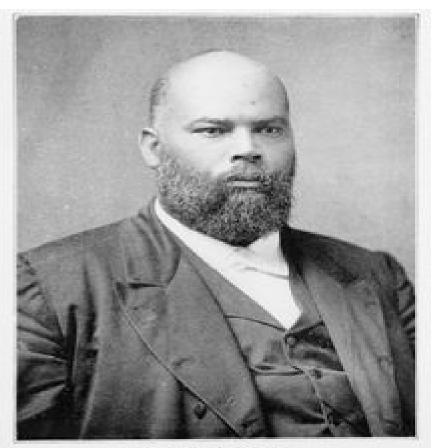
PRESIDENT JOHN B. SCOTT.



# John R. Scott

- Civil War Veteran
- One of the highest ranking U.S. Government Officials in Florida / Department of Revenue
- Freed 1863
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grandmaster
- Pastor in Jacksonville
- Instrumental in the formation of Edward Waters College and his son was the 1<sup>st</sup> President of Edward Waters College

#### Abraham Grant



BESHOP ARRAHAM GRANT.

Johned Church at an Early Age—Advanced Dutil he Was Elected Bishen of the A. M. E. Church—An Able Pulpit Orstar, and Among the Bishene He is Known as the Polyrithan of his Church—Barbig Towns to Bepertury. He is Devoting His Closing Yours to Beneres/ence and the Promotion of His Hare.

### Abraham Grant

- Freed after service to his country in 1865
- Acting Grandmaster 1880
- Civil war Veteran of USCT
- Pastor of St, Paul's AME Church in Jacksonville
- Elected 18<sup>th</sup> Bishop of The AME Church
- Active with the AME Conference and proponent for the Africanization of Florida

### Abraham Grant

- Soldier enlisted on Jan 31, 1865 in Hilton Head, SC at the age of 24; 5'7" tall
- Occupation farmer. Discharged on Apr 20, 1866 in Ft. Pulaski, Savannah GA.
- Abraham married Mollie Mack on 22 Jul, 1882 in Ware County,
- GA (copy of marriage license on file in pension file). The couple had no children. Her parents were Abram and Eliza Mack.



- Freed 1861
- Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts 1863
- Educator in Jacksonville Florida
- Subject of the Book the "Letters of Tilman Valentine the Story of the USCT Jonathan W. White, Katie Fisher and Elizabeth Wall
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Elected Grand Master
- Veteran of 3rd Regiment of the USCT Company B
- Led raids on plantations to free slaves from Jacksonville to Ocala

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- Protested the punishment of a cook for eating Molasses during the Jacksonville Mutiny
- Shot at a protester who spit at members of Company B upon their arrival to Jacksonville
- Officer with the Conference of Grand Masters
- SGT Valentine briefly was a officer of the USCT
- Community Leader in Jacksonville

## The Schism Begins

 Grand Master Valentine refusing to announce the result of the vote, the Grand Lodge, acting upon the precedent established by Grand Master Valentine at the annual communication of this Grand Lodge held at Palatka, Fla., January, 1887, called upon Past 'Deputy Grand Master, D. M. Papy, to announce the result of the vote, which he did, as follows. Brother Tillman Valentine having received fifty-nine (59) votes, Brother S. H. Coleman, one hundred and thirty-one (131)

#### Samuel Coleman



# Samuel Colman

- Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts Prince Hall lodge # 12
- MWUGL of Florida Prince Hall Lodge # 2 Jacksonville Florida
- Elected GM at 1<sup>st</sup> semi annual communication 1887 Rueben Mitchell
- Was defeated 2<sup>nd</sup> semi annual communication in 1888
- Educated in Boston was looked upon as a outsider

# 1<sup>st</sup> attempt of healing

- Past Master Pappy served as interim Grand Master until a settlement between Tilman Valentine and GM Samuel Coleman Rueben Mitchell was elected Grand Master
- Last veteran to serve as Grand Master
- Served as Grand Secretary and Grand CCFC
- Delegate to Conference of Grand Maters and assisted in defusing the tensions during the election of 1888

#### GM Rueben S. Mitchel



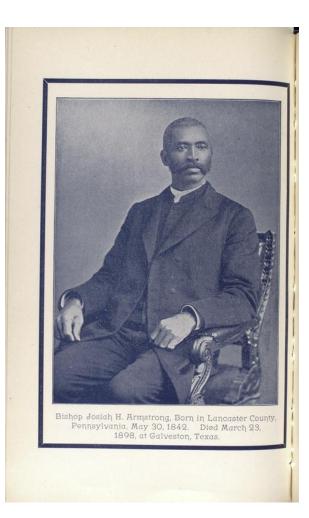
### Josiah T Walls



# Josiah T Walls

- Confiscated by the Confederate Army in 1863
- Captured by the USCT and Freed 1863
- Finished his education in Lancaster and then enlisted in The USCT in late 1863
- 1<sup>st</sup> African American Elected U.S. Congress from Florida
- Served 3 terms
- 1<sup>st</sup> African American Mayor of Gainesville
- 1<sup>st</sup> African American State Senator and Representative
- Owner of the 1<sup>st</sup> African American Newspaper in Florida
- DDGM for Levy and Alachua Counties
- Referred to as General Walls for his leading raids on plantations throughout Florida

### Josiah Armstrong



## Josiah Armstrong

- Veteran of Civil War USCT Company B 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment
- DDGM for MWUGL
- State Legislator In Florida
- Local Pastor and Missionary to Texas by AME Church
- Legislator in Galveston Texas
- 1<sup>st</sup> Bishop of the AME Church in Texas

## The New Guard

- GM Samuel H. Coleman was elected in 1890
- Served until his death in a tragic accident in 1899
- By his own admission he was authoritative leader
- Pushed for increased membership
- Strongly supported keeping the Grand East in Jacksonville

# GM John H. Dickerson

- Completed GM Coleman's final term
- Elected Grand Master in 1900
- Served until 1916
- Had one of the most turbulent administrations
- After the Great fire of 1901 pushed for the building of our current Grand Lodge
- Fought for keeping the Grand East in Jacksonville
- Held a multi cultural parade and Church service during Grand Communication in St Augustine
- Had to win a Lawsuit by temple Lodge to State Supreme Court
- Was called a dictator by many brothers and during his administration the Charter was stolen and the formation of PHO began

#### The Great Healer



#### **David Daniel Powell**

ment to care for the widows and orphans of deceased members of the several subordinate lodges working under the protection of the Grand Lodge in Florida. It was the first organization that bought and built a Temple for the Grand Lodge in Florida. It is today the wealthiest institution known among our group in the state.

The first Grand Master of this honorable institution was Most Worshipful Harry H. Thompson, who served from 1870 to 1872; he was succeeded by Most Worshipful John R. Scott, Sr., who served from 1872 to 1880. Mr. Scott died as Grand Master of this order. His unexpired term was carried Rev. Abraham Grant who out by was DeLaw Grand Master. He was later made bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1880, Most Worshipful Tillman Valentine was elected Grand Master, and served until 1888, when Reuben S. Mitchell was

elected Grand Master and served until 1890. In 1890 Dr. Harrison Samuel Coleman was elected Grand Master, and served until the latter part of 1899, when he lost his life in a wreck. John H. Dickerson, Deputy Grand Master, was elected Grand Master in 1899, and served until 1916, when, in August, David Daniel Powell, was elected as Grand Master. He is the only elected Grand Master living.

The Masonic Temple at Broad and Duval Streets was built under the administration of Grand Master John H Dickerson, and paid for during the ad ministration of Grand Master D. D Powell. The building, a five story, fire proof brick structure, containing a modern facilities throughout, is value at \$500,000, and is out of debt excep for a few taxes. The Temple was b gun in 1912 and completed in 1913. Is rated among the leading buildings the South among either race.

# **GM David Powell**

- Elected GM in 1916 Longest serving Grand Master
- Made several attempts to bring PHO Grand lodge back to the MWUGL
- Paid off the mortgage of the MWUGL
- The building was one of the leading structures of either race in the southern states
- Invited Marcus Garvey to speak at the Grand Lodge
- Invited the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the first predominantly African American labor union
- Hosted Pastor, Princess Laura Kofi to speak at the Grand Lodge. This speech was listed as one of the 500 greatest sermons in American History
- Was one of the most respected leaders in Florida
- Opened the doors of the Grand lodge to the NAACP and the Civil rights movement. A tradition that was kept to the early Sit Ins of the 1960s
- Was the subject of a article by the NAACP in the Crisis Magazine in 1942