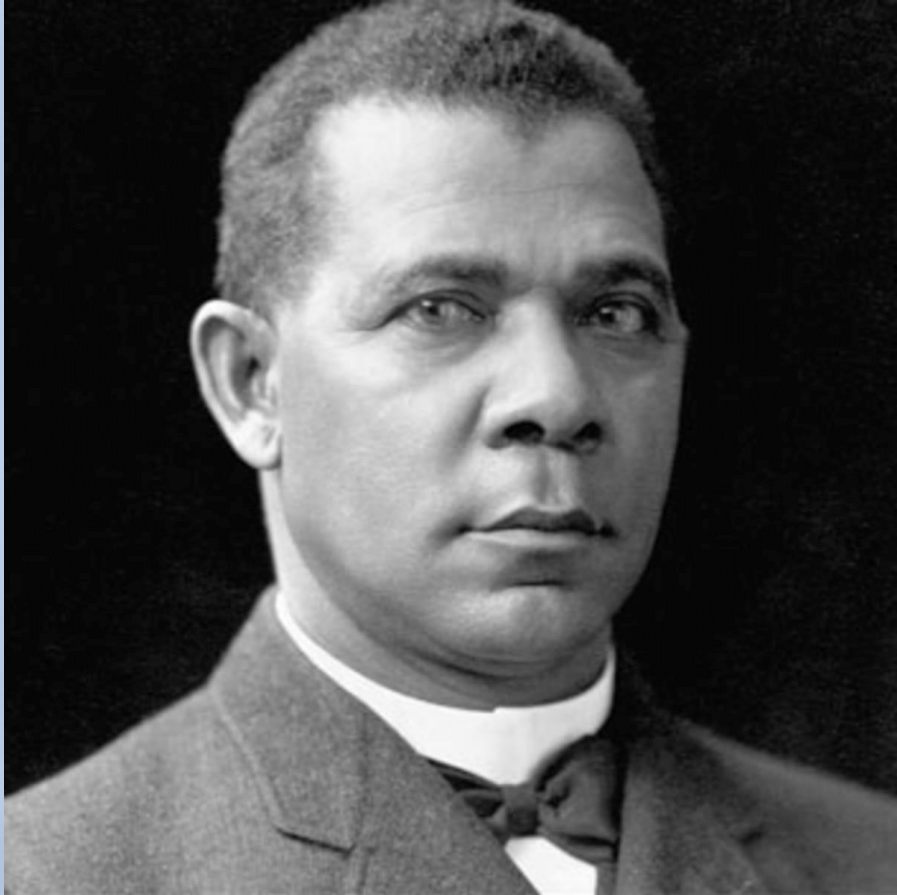


Historical markers remind us of our shared history

- **Washington Street** -- Booker T. Washington-Olivia Davidson Wedding Site – 2008
- **Athens County Fairgrounds** – Site where Milton Holland raised Co. C., 5th USCI – 2013
- **Kingsville, Ohio** – Boyhood home of Albion Tourgée, civil rights activist, journalist, lawyer – 2015
- **Chauncey, Ohio** – Honoring three men from that village who gave their all to save the Union – 2022
- **In front of Tupper Hall** – Birthplace and boyhood home of Charles C. McCabe popularizer of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic -- proposed

Famous wedding took place on Washington Street



Booker T. Washington married Olivia Davidson, his second wife, in Athens on 11 Aug 1886 in the home of Dr. Noah Elliott and his wife Mary, the sister of the bride.

The marriage of Mr. Booker T. Washington, principal of the Tuskegee Normal School, Alabama, and Miss Olivia A. Davidson, assistant principal, will be solemnized at the residence of the bride's sister, Mrs. Dr. Noah Elliott, Athens, O., Aug. 11. Miss Davidson is a graduate of Framingham Normal School, Massachusetts.

-- *Boston Evening Transcript*
03 Aug 1886, Page 4

Marker dedication on 18 Oct 2008

Booker T. Washington and Olivia Davidson Historical Marker Dedication



Saturday, October 18, 2008, 11:00 a.m.

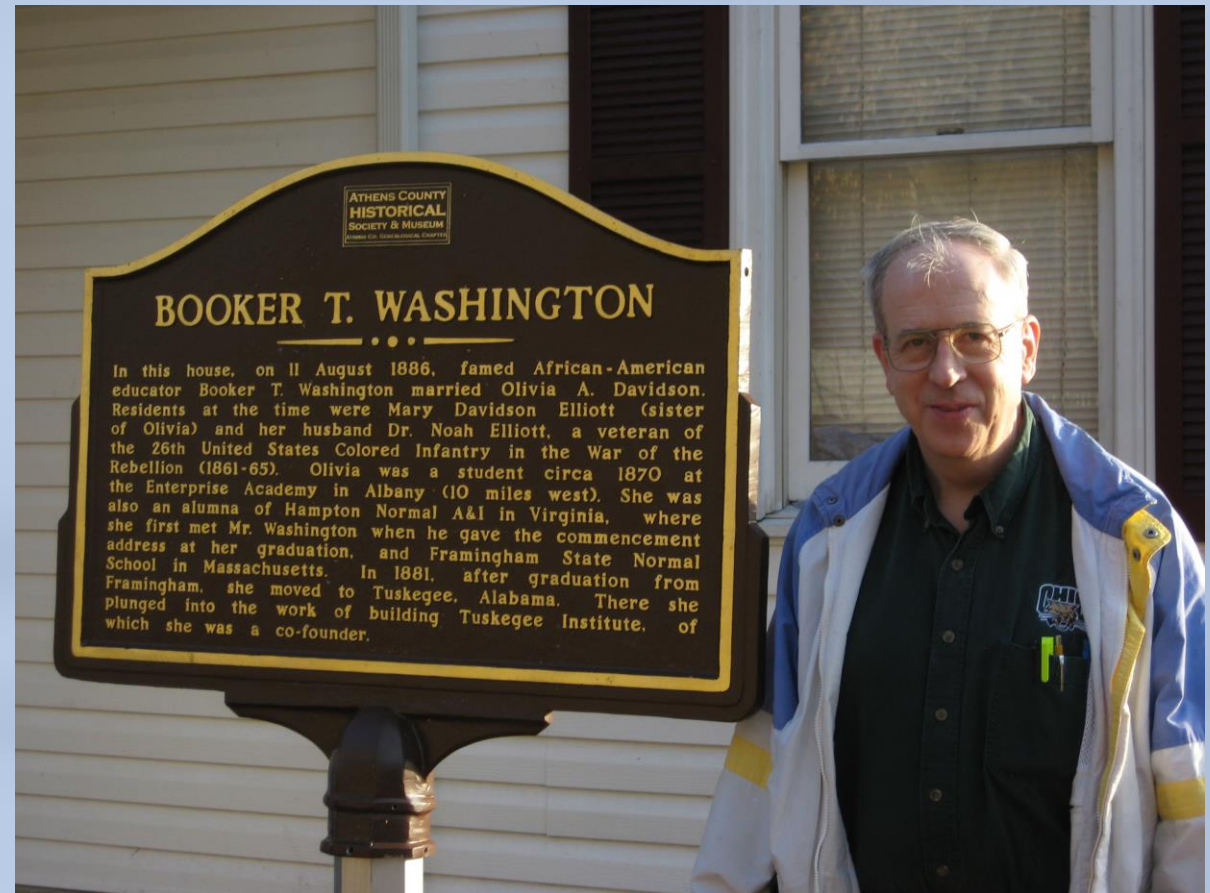
193 W. Washington St., Athens, Ohio 45701

On August 11, 1886, famed African American educator and founder of Tuskegee Institute, Booker T. Washington married Olivia Davidson in a house located at 193 W. Washington St. Please come join us to commemorate this historic event and learn more about African American history in Athens County.

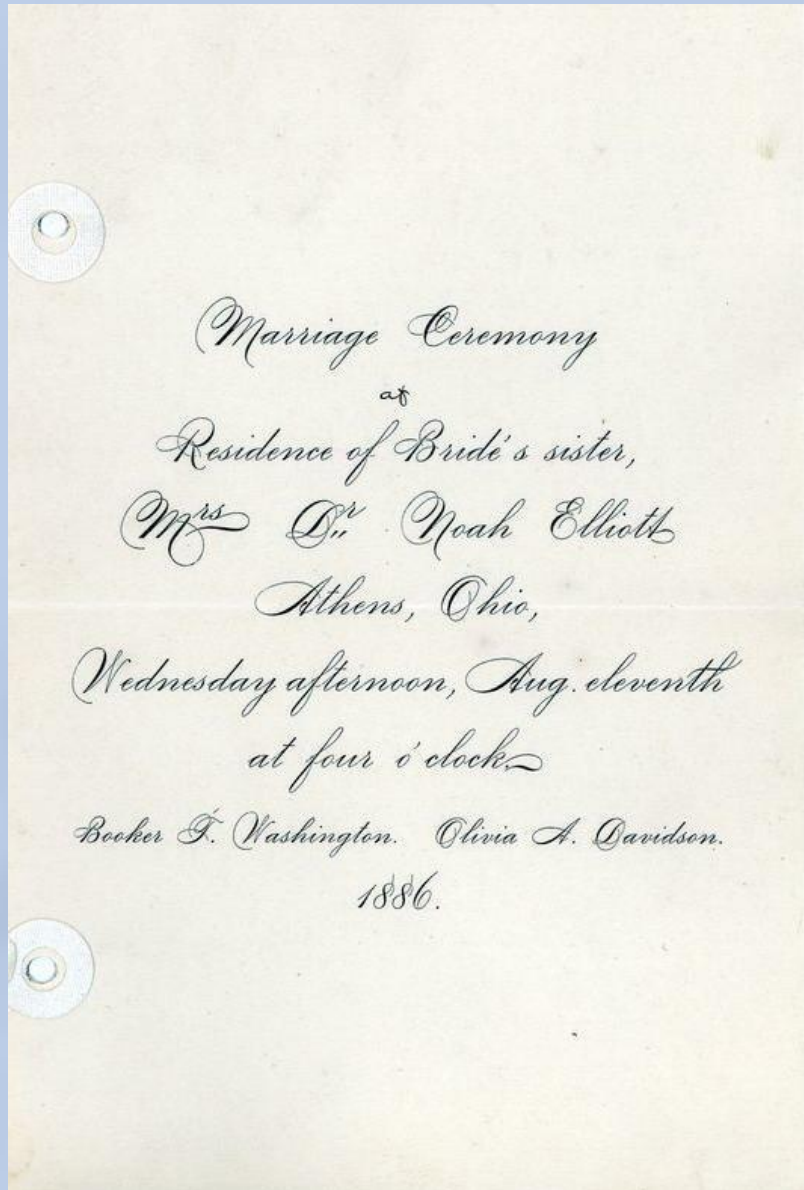
Schedule of Events:

10:30-11:00 a.m.	Tour of Home
11 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Dedication
12-1:00 p.m.	Tour of Neighborhood
1-2:00 p.m.	Reception (Athens Historical Society)

Made possible by efforts of the Athens County Historical Society and Museum and the Department of African American Studies, Ohio University.



Wedding invitation & Booker T. on horseback



Historical Marker

Dedicated 18 October 2008

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

In this house, on 11 August 1886, famed African-American educator Booker T. Washington married Olivia A. Davidson. Residents at the time were Mary Davidson Elliott (sister of Olivia) and her husband Dr. Noah Elliott, a veteran of the 26th United States Colored Infantry in the War of the Rebellion (1861-65). Olivia was a student circa 1870 at the Enterprise Academy in Albany (10 miles west). She was also an alumna of Hampton Normal A & I in Virginia, where she first met Mr. Washington when he gave the commencement address at her graduation, and Framingham State Normal School in Massachusetts. In 1881, after graduation from Framingham, she moved to Tuskegee, Alabama. There she plunged into the work of building Tuskegee Institute, of which she was a co-founder.

Historical Marker (Back)

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

From the late 1800s to the mid 1900s many African Americans lived on or near this section of Washington Street. Just to the east on Pratt Street was the Athens African Methodist Episcopal Church. The building still stands and is now a residence. A local African American notable, who lived nearby at 159 W. Washington St., was Andrew Jackson Davison, an attorney with an active practice in Athens for a number years. His wife Eliza Brown Davison (often misspelled Davidson) was a cook for Gen. George Custer during the War of the Rebellion (1861-65) and for a time afterwards. A. J. and Eliza are both buried a block north in the West State Street Cemetery.

**Two BTW
descendants –
Nettie
Washington
Douglass &
Eric Hughes
speak at
dedication**



Dr. Noah Elliott, Athens County's First African American Physician and Brother-in-Law of the Bride



**Physician
Patriot
Veteran**

With marriage of his sister-in-law to Booker T. Washington he became part of a famous family.

Military Service

- Enlisted – 24 Dec 1863 in Co. E, 26th Regiment of the U.S. Colored Infantry, Riker's Island, New York Harbor.
- Private, promoted 30 June 1864 to NCO status as Hospital Steward (Acting Hospital Steward as of 29 Feb 1864.)
- Discharged – 28 Aug 1865, Hilton Head, SC (Mustered out with unit)

1860 U. S. Census records -- in Gallipolis:

Name: Noah Elliott

Age : 31

Sex: Male

Color: Black

Occupation: Physician

Value of Personal Estate: \$100

State of Birth: Kentucky

Military Pension Record

Contains following affidavit 16 April 1889:

“Since my discharge from said service on the 28th day of August 1865, I have resided in Lee Athens Co. Ohio from 1865 to 1866, from 1866 to 1874 Gallipolis Ohio, from 1874 to 1884 Lee Athens Co. Ohio, from 1884 to the present time Athens Ohio and that my occupation has been that of physician.”

Note: “Lee” refers to Lee Township in Athens County, where Albany is located.

Milton Holland raises Company C of the 5th United States Colored Infantry on the Athens County Fairgrounds



Above: Holland mug shot;
Right: Governor's Proclamation of Milton Holland Day; and
Far Right: Holland wearing his Medal of Honor.

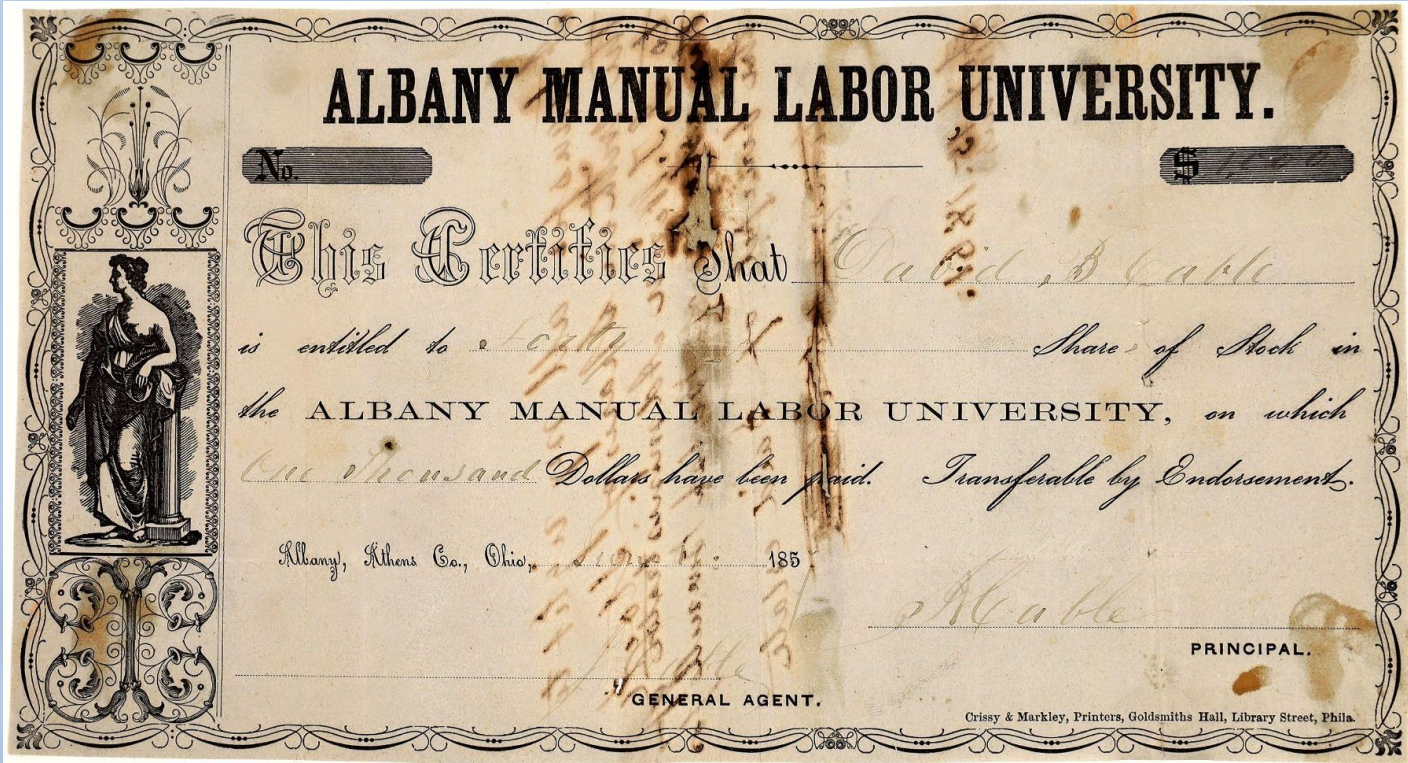


Holland brothers – Milton, William & James educated at the Albany Manual Labor University



Courtesy of author

A view of the building constructed in 1857 which housed the Albany Manual Labor University, Franklin College, and the Atwood Institute, as it appeared in 1897.



AMLU offered classes in academic subjects, such as: Latin, Algebra, Rhetoric, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Botany, Trigonometry, Calculus, Moral Philosophy, Surveying, and Evidences of Christianity. Students engaged in manual labor to learn various trades and to earn part of their tuition.

Historical Marker

Dedicated 11 November 2013

Milton Murray Holland – Front Side

Born a slave in Texas on August 1, 1844, Holland was brought to the integrated Albany Manual Labor University in 1851 by his father and owner where he learned the trade of shoemaker. He acted as a servant to Colonel Nelson Van Vorhes from 1861-1863. In the summer of 1863 he formed Company C of Athens County men for the 5th United States Colored Infantry here at this fairgrounds and eventually attained the rank of Regimental Sergeant Major. As a result of his rallying the regiment at the Battle of New Market Heights on September 29, 1864, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Butler Medal and a battlefield commission to Captain, the latter denied by the War Department on the basis of his color.

Historical Marker

Dedicated 11 November 2013

Milton Murray Holland – Back Side

Holland returned to the Athens area for a brief period after the war. He then lived in Columbus for three years and married Virginia Dickey of that city before residing in the Washington, D.C., area for the rest of his life. He served in several positions at the U.S. Treasury Department, earned a law degree from Howard University in 1872 and worked in various capacities for the Ohio Republican Party. He was also a member of the Washington Emigrant Aid Society, worked on numerous civil rights issues, served on the local school board and helped form several of the first black-owned area businesses. These included the Capitol Savings Bank, the Industrial Building and Savings Company and the Alpha Insurance Company. He died May 15, 1910, in Silver Spring, MD, at the age of 66. He is buried with honor in the Arlington National Cemetery.

Albion Tourgée: Ohio's Forgotten Civil War Hero



- Brash young man
- Christian idealist
- Campus Activist
- Union Solider (NY & Ohio)
- Lawyer
- Civil Rights Crusader
- Novelist
- Ambassador



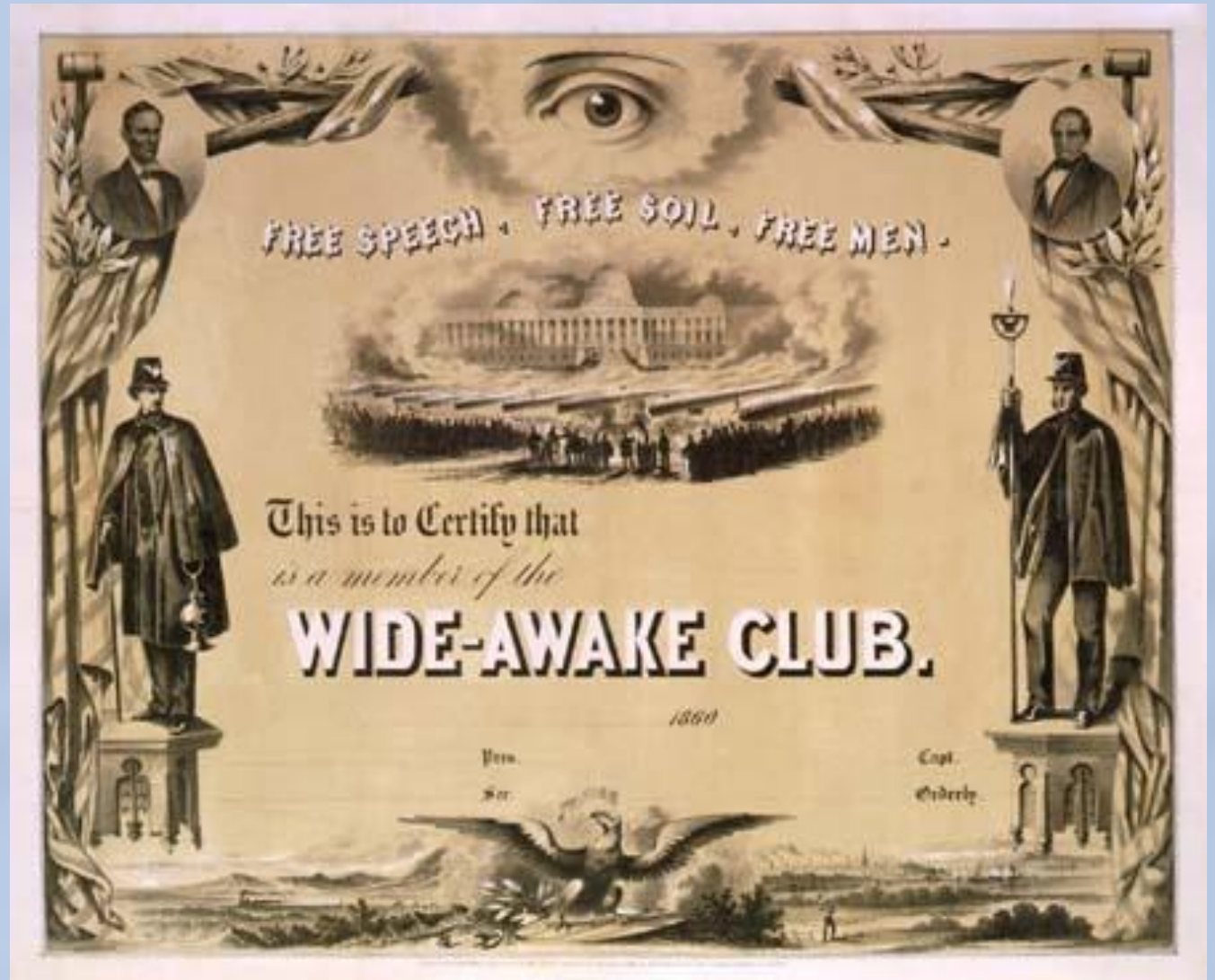
Albion (left) and army buddies, 105th OVI

Excerpts of slides originally used in presentation by Carl J. Denbow
Commander, John S. Townsend Camp 108, Sons of Union Veterans:

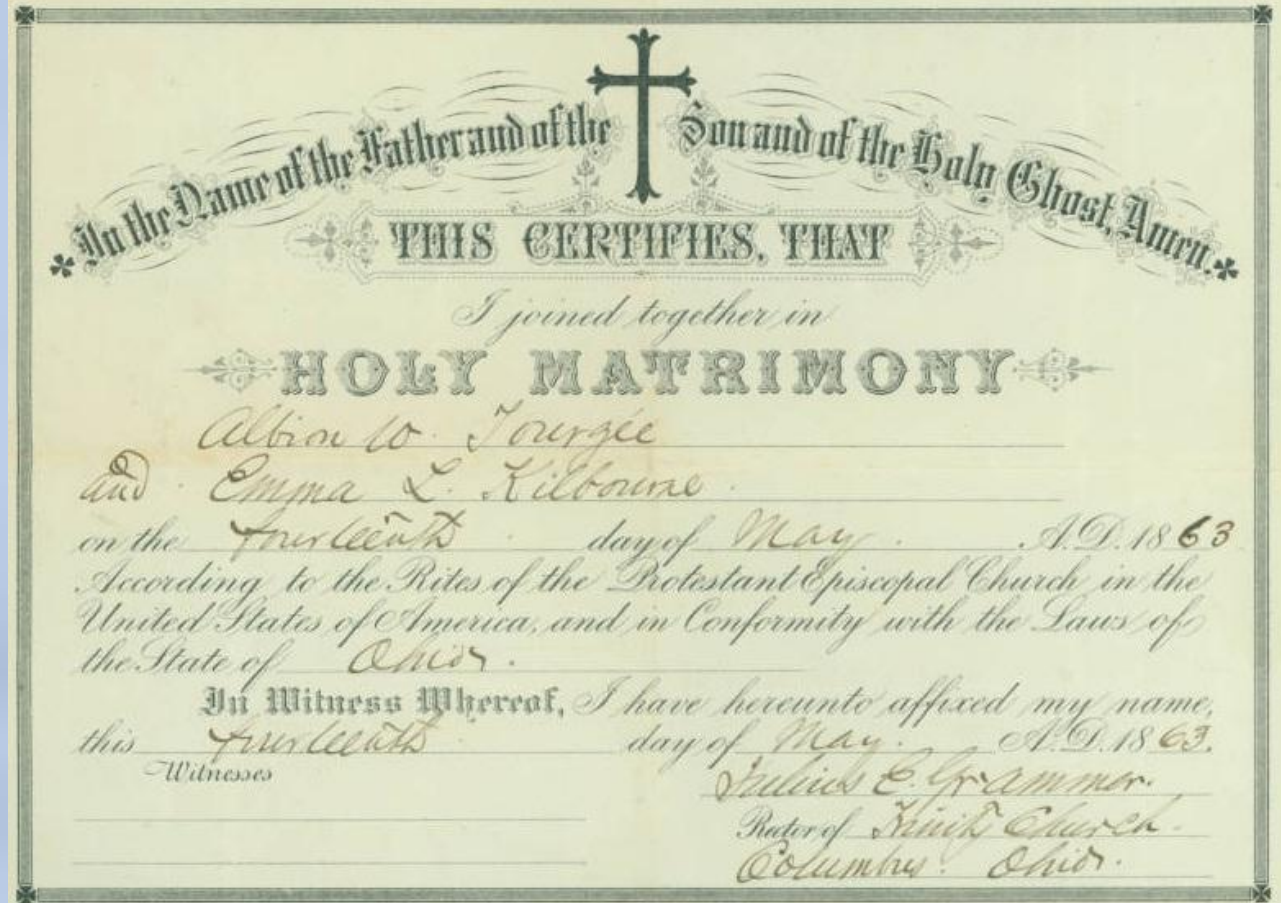
- General Charles H. Grosvenor Civil War Round Table – February 11, 2015
- Lt. George Ewing Chapter, SAR, Chester Court House – October 22, 2015

College Years – University of Rochester

- Enrolled in 1859
- Major subjects: literature, logic and rhetoric
- Defender of free speech
- Started Wide-Awake Club in support of the Lincoln-Hamlin ticket
- Strengthened a “strong basic” Christian faith
- Awarded A.B. degree “in absentia” in 1862



Marriage to Emma Lodoilska Kilbourne – 1863



“The two were wonderfully matched. Emma, though inquisitive and talented, was of stable and practical bent and served as somewhat of a check and support for the wildly energetic, imaginative and emotional Albion.” -- Carpetbagger’s Crusade, Otto H. Olsen, p. 7

Back home from the war . . . as an injured vet

- Tries a variety of occupations
- Admitted to Ohio bar in the Spring of 1864
- Works briefly with a law office in Painesville, Ohio
- “Settles” for a journalistic position with the *Erie (Pa.) Dispatch*
- In fall of 1865 leaves for North Carolina



Life as a Carpetbagger – 1865-1879



- Emma & Albion migrate to North Carolina
- **Helps organize Loyal Reconstruction Leagues**
- Publishes Republican newspaper in Greensboro
- Delegate to N.C. Constitutional Convention
- Daughter Aimee born (1872)
- Elected State Superior Court Judge (1868)
- **Comprehensive rewrite of Civil Law**
- Serves on Board of Trustees of UNC
- **Helps found Bennett College (for African Americans)**
- **Novels: Toinette & Fool's Errand**
- Unsuccessful run for Congress (1878)
- **"C" Letters – condemn KKK and corrupt Democrats**
- Moves to Colorado (1879)

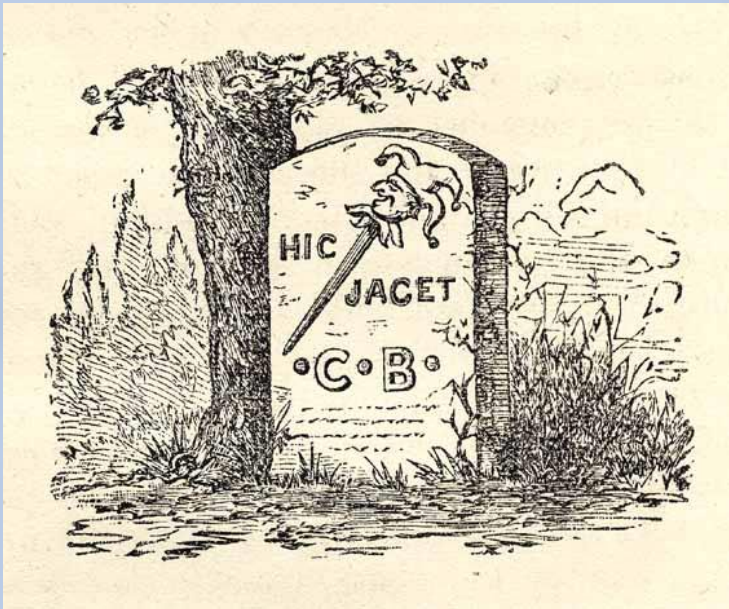
Postwar Novels:

Major topics: Reconstruction, Race Relations, Christian Ethics, and the Legends and Lore of the Lake Erie Area

- *Toinette* (1874)
- *Figs and Thistles: A Western Story* (1879)
- *A Fool's Errand* (1879)
- *Bricks Without Straw* (1880)
- *'Zouri's Christmas* (1881)
- *John Eax and Marmelon; or, The South Without the Shadow* (1882)
- *Hot Plowshares* (1883)
- *Button's Inn* (1887)
- *Black Ice* (1888)
- *With Gauge and Swallow, Attorneys* (1889)
- *Murvale Eastmas, Christian Socialist* (1890)
- *Pactolus Prime* (1890)
- *'89* (1891)
- *A Son of Old Harry* (1892)
- *Out of the Sunset Sea* (1893)
- *An Outing with the Queen of Hearts* (1894)
- *The Mortgage on the Hip-Roof House* (1896)
- *The Man Who Outlived Himself* (1898)

Last Errands of the Fool

- McKinley Appoints Tourgée at United States Consul to Bordeaux – 1900
- Emma secures the appointment
- Tourgée dies there in 1905; his ashes are returned to Mayville for burial.



The Fool finally at rest.

The inscription on his grave reads:

“I pray thee then . . .

Write me as one that loved his fellow-men.”

Historical Marker Project – boyhood home

Marker Dedication: May 3, 2015



Tourgée's boyhood home, situated on a sixty-acre farm about two and one-half miles from the center of Kingsville, Ohio. The wing at the left is a later addition. Courtesy of Dean Keller, Kent, Ohio.



Historical Marker Copy for Boyhood Home

Albion W. Tourgée

Civil War soldier, Attorney, Civil Rights Crusader, Novelist, and Journalist

In this house Albion Tourgée lived many of his formative years. He was born in the southern part of Ashtabula County in Williamsfield in 1838. His family moved here in 1847. He served in two Union regiments – the 27th NYVI and the 105th OVI – and then moved to North Carolina after the war. There he rewrote the state constitution to include Civil Rights guarantees, served as a judge, and fought the Ku Klux Klan. He also began his writing career, authoring his first two novels, the most famous of which was *A Fool's Errand*, a highly autobiographical account of his days as a “carpetbagger.” He was a newspaper columnist and for a period of time the publisher of a weekly news magazine, *Our Continent*. He was also the lead attorney for Homer Plessy in the infamous case of *Plessy v. Ferguson* in 1896. Plessy was an African American who sued for the right to ride in a “whites only” railroad car. Though Plessy lost, the legal basis for segregation -- using much of Tourgée’s legal reasoning -- was later overturned in *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954. In his brief for the Plessy case, Tourgée coined the phrase “color-blind justice” to describe what should be the national norm. In 1897 Tourgée was appointed consul to Bordeaux, France, where he served until his death in 1905.

Historical Marker In Front of Boyhood Home



The Chauncey Boys

Three young men from the Athens County Village of Chauncey, youthful friends, join the Union Army in western Virginia and all lose their lives directly or indirectly because of their service in putting down the rebellion. It's a poignant story . . . and had been lost to history until local historian and retired attorney Bill Walker dug out the details. His work was the inspiration for this marker.

The Chauncey Boys Indoor Marker Dedication

Because the Dover Township Park was still undergoing construction way past the time it was supposed to be completed, the dedication had to be moved inside to the Chauncey Senior Center. It will be installed in the park as soon as construction is complete.



USCT and African American civilian re-enactors attended to honor Lt. Hiram Robinett, who worked for the Freedman's Bureau after the war.



Scott Moody and Cameron Lowery, of SUVCW John S. Townsend Camp 108, unveil marker at the end of the ceremony.

Frederick Smith Recites Ohioan Paul Lawrence Dunbar's Poem "The Colored Soldiers."

This poem was written by Paul Lawrence Dunbar of Dayton, probably in honor his father, Joshua Dunbar, who traveled from Kentucky, where he had been enslaved, to New England to join the 55th Massachusetts, a sister regiment to the better known today 54th Massachusetts, featured in the movie, "Glory."

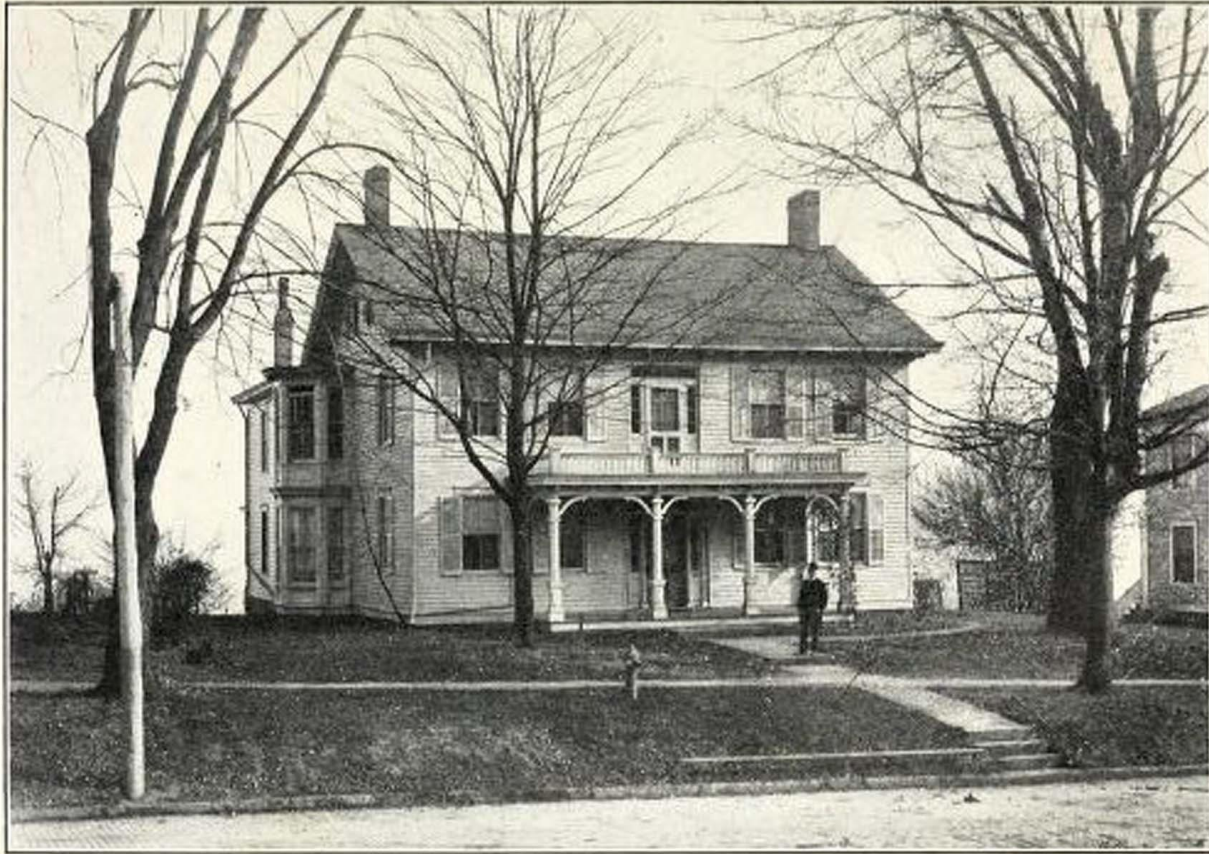


Chauncey Boys: Marker Copy

Chauncey Civil War Patriots

During the War of the Rebellion three young men from Chauncey traveled to Parkersburg and Clarksburg, VA., to enlist in what was then the 1st Virginia Cavalry (USA). These "Loyalist Regiments" became West Virginia regiments in June 1863 just before the Battle of Gettysburg. None of these Chauncey Boys in Blue would live to see their 30th birthday. Lt. Sidney Knowles died when a rebel bullet struck his head during Farnsworth's Charge at Gettysburg. Lt. Hiram Robinett was seriously injured in that same charge and had part of his arm amputated. The two who survived the war – Lt. Robinett and Pvt. Robert Edwards – both had interesting but short postwar careers before succumbing to tuberculosis, apparently acquired in the service. Robinett worked for the Freedmen's Bureau in Washington, D.C., whose purpose was to provide food, shelter, clothing, and medical services to newly freed African Americans. Edwards, who received an M.D degree from Georgetown University Medical School in 1868, practiced in Zaleski for a short period before his death. He was Roman Catholic and is buried in Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Athens. The other two were Protestants and rest in Nye Cemetery here in Chauncey. Robinett's obelisk tombstone was paid for by donations from his co-workers at the Freedmen's Bureau. This historical marker honors the patriotism and devotion of three of Chauncey's finest patriots who gave their all to restore our Union in its darkest hour.

Chaplain Charles C. McCabe, 122nd OVI: Battle Hymn of the Republic “Popularizer”



BISHOP McCABE'S CHILDHOOD HOME, ATHENS, OHIO



Left: birthplace & boyhood home of Charles C. McCabe on Vine Street (now University Terrace) in the footprint of Tupper Hall; **Above:** Libby Prison where McCabe was a POW and started a “Glee Club” and first sang the “Battle Hymn.”

Battle Hymn of the Republic

On 11 October 1836 in a house near this spot, Charles C. McCabe was born. A Methodist minister, McCabe served as chaplain of the 122nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the War of the Rebellion (1861-65). While a prisoner of war at Libby Prison in Richmond, Va., he started a “glee club” and began singing Julia Ward Howe’s poem, “The Battle Hymn of the Republic,” written to the tune of “John Brown’s Body.” After being released from Libby, he resigned his Army commission and began work with the United States Christian Commission (USCC), which furnished supplies, medical services, and religious literature to Union troops. He sang the “Battle Hymn” everywhere he went. During one meeting of the USCC in the U.S. Capitol it is reported that President Abraham Lincoln was moved so much by McCabe’s rendition of the song that he stood up, with a tear in his eye, and loudly proclaimed, “Sing it Again!” Contemporary sources refer to him as the man who popularized “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.” He was appointed a bishop in the Methodist Church in 1896 and died in New York City in 1906.