



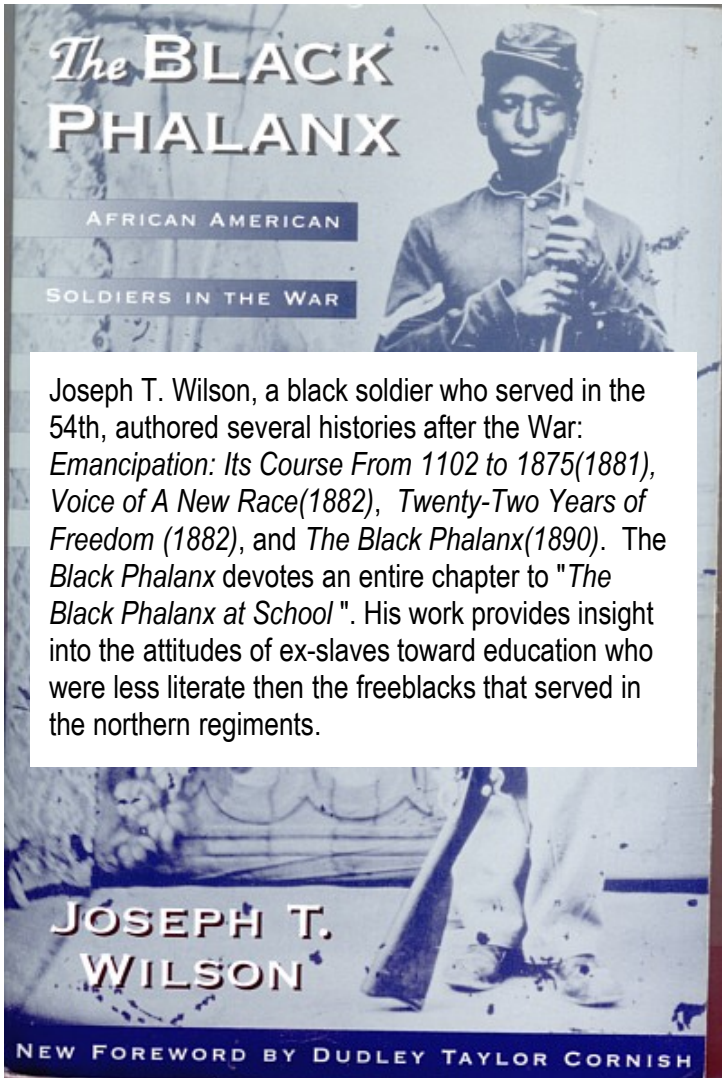
DATE: Friday, May 31st, 2013
TIME: 5:15 p.m.
PLACE: Cherry Hill School
 209 Beach City Road
 Hilton Head Island, S.C.
 843-255-7301

THE USCT BATTLE FOR FREEDOM CIVIL RIGHTS & EDUCATION

Asa Gordon

Secretary General-United States Colored Troops (USCT)

African-American soldiers of the civil war fought their battles on three fronts, an armed battle on the front lines against a common enemy to free their people, a rear-guard battle to secure their equal rights from their allies, and a personal battle for their education.



Joseph T. Wilson, a black soldier who served in the 54th, authored several histories after the War: *Emancipation: Its Course From 1102 to 1875*(1881), *Voice of A New Race*(1882), *Twenty-Two Years of Freedom* (1882), and *The Black Phalanx*(1890). The *Black Phalanx* devotes an entire chapter to "The Black Phalanx at School". His work provides insight into the attitudes of ex-slaves toward education who were less literate than the freeblacks that served in the northern regiments.



"Once let the black man get upon his person the brass letters 'US', let him get an eagle on his button and a musket on his shoulder and bullets in his pockets and there is no power on earth that can deny that he has earned the right to citizenship in the United States."

Federick Douglass]

COLORED SOLDIERS!

**EQUAL STATE RIGHTS!
AND MONTHLY PAY WITH WHITE MEN !!**

On the 1st day of January, 1863, the President of the United States proclaimed

**FREEDOM TO OVER
THREE MILLIONS OF SLAVES!**

This decree is to be enforced by all the power of the Nation. On the 1st of July last he issued the following order:—

PROTECTION OF COLORED TROOPS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, July 31.

General Order, No. 143.

"The following order of the President is published for the information and government of all concerned:—

EXECUTIVE MANDATE, Washington, July 31.

"It is the duty of every Government to give protection to its citizens, of whatever class, color, or condition, and especially to those who are daily engaged in the public service. The loss of pocket, and the tongue and conscience of war, to be used as a civilized power, permit an obligation to take in the treatment of persons of war as public enemies. To sell or expose any captured person on account of his race, is a crime against humanity, and a crime against the civilization of the age.

"The Government of the United States will give the same protection to all its soldiers, and if the enemy shall in any way deprive any of its color, the soldier shall be protected by regulations upon the enemy's person in war possession. It is, therefore, ordered, for every soldier of the United States, given in violation of the laws of war, a rebel soldier shall be executed; and for every one executed by the enemy, or sold into slavery, a rebel soldier shall be placed in hard labor in the public works, and continued at such labor until the soldier shall be released and receive his treatment due to prisoners of war.

"ABRAHAM LINCOLN."

"By order of the Secretary of War:

"R. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant General's Office."

That the President is to request the rebels soon begin to find out, as witness the following order from his Secretary of War:—

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington City, August 6, 1863.

"It is the duty of every Government to give protection to its citizens, of whatever class, color, or condition, and especially to those who are daily engaged in the public service. The loss of pocket, and the tongue and conscience of war, to be used as a civilized power, permit an obligation to take in the treatment of persons of war as public enemies. To sell or expose any captured person on account of his race, is a crime against humanity, and a crime against the civilization of the age.

"Very respectfully your obedient servant,

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

"The Hon. General WELLS, Secretary of the War."

And retaliation will be our practice now—mean for man—to the bitter end.

Swing Low, Sweet Harriet

Sunday, June 2nd, 2013 **Sesquicentennial Commemoration of
Harriet Tubman's**

Abolitionist Raid On The Combahee River June 2, 1863

2pm-Harriet Tubman Bridge _ 5pm-Tabernacle Baptist, Graven St_843-525-9006t