



**GABRIEL**

ENSLAVED, LITERATE 25 YEAR OLD BLACKSMITH WHO LED ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT INSURRECTION PLOTS IN THE HISTORY OF NORTH AMERICAN SLAVERY.

**NAT TURNER**

LEADER OF THE ONLY SUCCESSFUL SLAVE REVOLT IN VIRGINIA'S HISTORY, SHATTERING THE MYTH OF THE CONTENTED SLAVE.

**DRED SCOTT**

AN ENSLAVED MAN WHOSE LAWSUIT FOR HIS FREEDOM LED TO THE INFAMOUS SUPREME COURT DECISION THAT PERSONS OF AFRICAN DESCENT WERE NOT UNITED STATES CITIZENS.

**WILLIAM HARVEY CARNEY**

A FORMER SLAVE WHO FOUGHT WITH THE 54TH MASSACHUSETTS, THE FIRST BLACK MILITARY UNIT. HIS HEROISM AT FORT WAGNER LED TO HIS BECOMING THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN RECIPIENT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR.

**MARY ELIZABETH BOWSER**

BORN INTO SLAVERY, SHE LATER BECAME A MISSIONARY TO LIBERIA. DURING THE WAR SHE SERVED AS A UNION SPY. INSIDE THE CONFEDERATE WHITE HOUSE.

**VIRGINIA'S HEROES IN THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM**



**REVEREND WYATT TEE WALKER**  
A PETERSBURG MINISTER, CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST,  
CHIEF OF STAFF TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.,  
AND A CO-FOUNDER OF THE SOUTHERN  
CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE.

**JOHN MERCER LANGSTON**  
VIRGINIA'S FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN MEMBER  
OF CONGRESS AND THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF  
WHAT IS NOW VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY.

**LUCY SIMMS**  
BORN INTO SLAVERY, SHE BECAME A PROMINENT  
EDUCATOR WHO TAUGHT THREE GENERATIONS  
OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILDREN  
IN THE HARRISONBURG AREA.



**JOHN MITCHELL, JR.**  
A COMMUNITY ACTIVIST, THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN  
TO RUN FOR GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA, AND EDITOR  
OF THE RICHMOND PLANET NEWSPAPER, WHICH  
REPORTED ON LYNCHINGS, SEGREGATION AND THE  
RISE OF THE KU KLUX KLAN.

**ROSA DIXON BOWSER**  
AN EDUCATOR, WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVIST,  
AND SOCIAL REFORMER WHO FOUNDED THE  
FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
AND CO-FOUNDED THE VIRGINIA STATE  
FEDERATION OF COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS  
AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
COLORED WOMEN.

## VIRGINIA'S LEADERS ON THE PATH TO EQUALITY



## THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

THAT ON THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTY-THREE, ALL PERSONS HELD AS SLAVES WITHIN ANY STATE OR DESIGNATED PART OF A STATE, THE PEOPLE WHEREOF SHALL THEN BE IN REBELLION AGAINST THE UNITED STATES, SHALL BE THEN, THENCEFORWARD, AND FOREVER FREE; AND THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING THE MILITARY AND NAVAL AUTHORITY THEREOF, WILL RECOGNIZE AND MAINTAIN THE FREEDOM OF SUCH PERSONS, AND WILL DO NO ACT OR ACTS TO REPRESS SUCH PERSONS, OR ANY OF THEM, IN ANY EFFORTS THEY MAY MAKE FOR THEIR ACTUAL FREEDOM.

## THE THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT

NEITHER SLAVERY NOR INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE, EXCEPT AS A PUNISHMENT FOR CRIME WHEREOF THE PARTY SHALL HAVE BEEN DULY CONVICTED, SHALL EXIST WITHIN THE UNITED STATES, OR ANY PLACE SUBJECT TO THEIR JURISDICTION.



