

AFRICAN-AMERICANS

IN SIMSBURY

1725 - 1925

By

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Simsbury, Connecticut

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About Simsbury, Connecticut

The town of Simsbury is one of the oldest in Connecticut. Initially an area ten miles square, the town embraced what are now Granby and East Granby (then Turkey Hills) on the north and east, Canton on the west and a portion of Bloomfield on the east. The town straddles the Farmington River, which traverses it from south to north.

Simsbury was settled by two qualities of people. Many belonged to the second generation of Puritans who had followed the Reverend Wareham from Dorset in England to Dorchester in Massachusetts, from there to Windsor, Connecticut and thence to Simsbury. They were joined by a number of independent entrepreneurs who had left England in search of opportunity and a better life.

The first settlers appear to have arrived from Windsor about 1653. Subsequent Indian raids and resettlement followed and in 1670, the town was granted official status by the General Court of the Connecticut Colony. The First Church and Ecclesiastical Society became the governing body of the town and persisted as such until the division between church and state was legislated in 1830. The Society served not only as town adjudicator and collector of taxes but also as the monitor of behavior and morals.

Meanwhile, Simsbury had become an inland frontier town, prepared for assault by marauding Indians and at the same time, ripe for agricultural development by family economic units benefitting from entitled land grants. The education and literacy level of this community was modest, typical of second-generation immigrants of the period who lacked formal schooling. This rather isolated farming community had little connection with the more affluent and sophisticated Connecticut River towns, which enjoyed trade with the West Indies. These river towns flourished on the exchange of timbers, grain, pitch and turpentine for rum, other produce, and slaves. The initial Simsbury settlers provided some of the necessary pitch and turpentine. In return, although it could not compete with the merchants and trade of the Connecticut harbors and certainly was not a mecca for transported Africans, the town did in time attract a number of blacks who found employment with local families and became a gentle part of the community. Some tried to emulate their pioneer overseers. Others were willing to serve as paid substitutes in the War of the Revolution. A few remained in the area as family units, with varying degrees of success.

Although Simsbury historically did not have a large black population or serve as an identifiable "underground railway" station, a number of black people did play a role in Simsbury's past. In view of the heightened interest in African-American history, it seems appropriate to examine and recognize the contributions, as well as the disappointments, of those early and unheralded participants in the small northeastern towns of this nation.¹

In The Colonial Era

No sooner had the Connecticut colony been established than shiploads of blacks from Africa were brought to Connecticut ports and river towns to be sold as slaves. Their purchasers included prominent citizens and ministers, among them the Reverend Timothy Woodbridge of Hartford. It is not surprising, therefore, that his nephew, Timothy, was probably Simsbury's first slave owner.

Young Timothy's instincts ran as strongly to copper mining as to his stormy Simsbury First Society ministry. State records include a bill of sale of a male Negro named Quaw on February 26, 1727, to the Reverend Woodbridge by John Jacob Luttroth.² Mr. Luttroth was the attorney for the New York and Dutch investors in the copper mines at Newgate in that part of early Simsbury known as Turkey Hills and now as East Granby.³

When he tried to sell a slave he found unsatisfactory, Timothy's son Theophilus ran into trouble. Superior Court records report that, in May of 1744, a Benjamin Arnold sued Theophilus Woodbridge and recovered one-hundred pounds and costs, presenting evidence that "Woodbridge sold him a Negro slave named Pegg of about 25 years, stating that she was sound as far as he knew, but petitioner has evidence that Woodbridge knew the girl was unhealthy, troubled with fits of distraction and unfit for service."⁴

Timothy Woodbridge and his uncle were not the only ministers in the new colony to own slaves. In the archives of the Simsbury Historical Society is a bill of sale to Simsbury Town Clerk John Owen, dated August 1759 and signed by Timothy Dwight, Jr. and Timothy Edwards, Executors, stating that for the sum of twenty-three pounds, they had "sold and delivered two Negro slaves viz the one a Negro man named Joseph, the other a Negro woman named Su and wife to the said Jo, which slaves were lately the proper goods of the said Jonathan Edwards deceased, bought of one Hezekiah Griswold of Windsor and Wethersfield." The sale was made on behalf of the estate of Sarah Edwards, widow of the noted preacher and revivalist. It appears that Su and Jo had remained with her until her death.⁵

The Joseph Phelps family of the Turkey Hills district apparently felt an affection and responsibility for its slaves. In his will of 1749, Joseph bequeathed his property, his Great Bible, and "use of my Negro, Tom" to his wife Mary. His son Joseph, in turn, instructed his wife Hannah and five sons and five daughters to be the executors of his will, dated 1760, and provided that "furthermore, I do order my Negro man servant Zickery [sic] and my Negro woman servant, Citty, that are husband and wife, shall not, after my decease, be put asunder, but have liberty to choose their master among my children to live with."⁶ This may have been the same Zacheriah (or

Zacky) Prince who enlisted in the Revolutionary forces on the Connecticut Line under Captain Champion and died a free man in 1779.⁷ Apparently the couple were not the only slaves in the Turkey Hills area, for it is recorded that in 1775, a seat was built for the Negroes at the church in that parish.⁸

Another compassionate master was Andrew Robe, an upstanding Simsbury citizen who gave of his land to extend the meetinghouse property and participated actively in the community. In 1760, Robe gave his slave, Peter Cezer, his freedom. The records state that "on 4 June 1739 he bought from Aaron Pinney of Windsor a Negro boy about eight or nine named Cezer Negro." The boy was later baptized Peter and "having kept in my service until this day, I now do give unto him his freedom to act in his own name and to receive the profits of his own labor." To assist Peter in his new status, Robe gave him 31 1/2 acres of land and instructed that "all persons having dealings with him are desired to treat him as an honest man."⁹

All master-slave relationships were not so amicable, however. In 1774, Timothy Moses placed this advertisement in the *Connecticut Courant*:

TEN DOLLARS REWARD Run away from the subscriber living in Simsbury, in Hartford County, on the day before the election in Hartford, a Negro man about 27 years of age, about 5 feet and 8 inches high, and lisps some in his speech: had on when he went away a brown coat and red waistcoat, a white holland shirt, a new castor hat, a new pair of leather breeches, a pair of blue...Whoever shall take up said Negro and return him to me shall have ten dollars reward and necessary charges paid by timothy moses. All persons are hereby forbid to harbor said Negro on penalty of law.¹⁰

The number of black people in Simsbury apparently increased during the eighteenth century. In 1762, the Connecticut General Assembly asked for a list of the number of inhabitants in each town in the Colony of Connecticut. Simsbury reported 2233 whites, 36 blacks and no Indians. The 1.6 percent of Simsbury's population listed as black was only half the percentage listed for the entire Colony.¹¹

The American Revolution

It is estimated that, during the period of the American Revolution, blacks made up some three percent of Connecticut's population and two percent of its armed forces. Many blacks were manumitted on the basis of their three-year enlistments. Although Simsbury had few black residents, at least seven black men from Simsbury served in the Revolutionary War. Some served on their own initiative while others were paid to fight in the place of other men. Joseph Whipple hired Phillip Negro to serve in his place for a four-year period. Cuff Negro also enlisted, as well as an anonymous black who was active from 1777 to 1779.

The greatest contribution was made by the Wallis (or Wallace) family. London Wallis and

his wife Irana, described as a free mulatto woman, registered the births of five children into the Simsbury records, four boys and a girl. Mr. Wallis and three of his sons enlisted. The father became a militia Colonel and carried the title for the rest of his life. Joseph served in the 2nd Regiment and qualified as a pensioner. After the war, Joseph married a white woman, Antha Hale of Hartland. London Junior, barely 17 years old, was paid as his substitute by Elnathan Strong, who had served an earlier term himself. Zebulon, the eldest son, joined Colonel Phelps's regiment and benefitted from a bounty settlement.¹² His son, William, born in 1793, was given to Justice of the Peace Roger Wilcox to train and raise.¹³

During the Revolutionary War period, Irana and London added four more girls to their family. Hannah, Susannah, Esther and Rebekah were baptized at St. Andrew's Episcopal church in what was then Scotland, now part of Bloomfield. Unfortunately, Irana did not live to see her children establish their own families after the war. In December of 1779, her death was recorded by the Reverend Samuel Stebbins of First Church in Simsbury.¹⁴

There are many property deeds and transactions recorded in the Simsbury land records involving both London [Wallis], "negro lately slave to Isaac Owen of Windsor, deceased, now a free negro" and a London Freebody, "negro of Capt. Nathaniel Holcomb and wife."¹⁵ Although by then in servitude to Mrs. Mary Griffin, London Wallis enjoyed a considerable amount of latitude and was able to build a home in Tariffville for his family and eventually, purchase the land on which it stood. Freed by the late 1750's, he managed to acquire other nearby properties. The two Londons transacted business between themselves. Freebody lived near the Barn Door Hills but eventually was so badly in debt that his property was confiscated and he was incarcerated in Hartford until he could pay his debts, a seemingly impossible requirement. Ill-equipped to conduct business as free men emulating their white neighbors, neither of the two men were able to prosper nor retain their properties.¹⁶

A Black Community in West Simsbury

Little more is known about the Wallace family, except for the marriages of some of the children. However, Abiel Brown, who lived in the northwest part of Old Simsbury, now Canton, wrote a history about that area in 1856.¹⁷ In it, he described a small community of black residents called "Negrotown" which served as host and anchorage for other black families in transition. Building lots and oversight were provided by their guardian and landlord, Captain Dudley Case and his wife, Susanna.

Residents included James Baltimore (or Jim Balt) who arrived with his wife around 1774 and had two children, Polly and Sam. He was later widowed and married Susannah, the daughter of Col. London Wallace, to establish a second family. Young Sam stayed with Captain Case for almost thirty years and reportedly, enjoyed a considerable amount of liberty and privilege.

Their neighbors included Charlie Prince, also a former employee of Dudley Case, and his wife, Tabitha Quamino. The Princes were members of the church and looked upon as solid

citizens. Unfortunately, an improperly executed deed deprived Charles of the property his patron had given him years before. After his death in 1828, the family apparently dispersed.

Simon Fletcher built a house by the brook on Mr. Case's land and was one of several fiddlers who lived and played in the community. It was probably his son Hercules to whom Hannah Wallace was married.¹⁸ An earlier arrival was Caesar Wilcox, who was brought from Africa as an adult and became the property of Joseph Wilcox, Jr. When his master died in a fall in his barn, it was Caesar who found him. So broken was his language that it took some time before he could signal the sad news to his mistress. Caesar drifted off to New York state and had a family, but returned later to Simsbury, poor and infirm. Although the Simsbury Selectmen applied for a warrant on December 18, 1806 to have Caesar "a black man who hath legal settlement in the state of New York but is now in said Town of Simsbury and is a pauper and chargeable to said Town" returned to New York, records show that the newly separated town of Canton assumed his support for six years until he died in 1812, an aged man.¹⁹

Into the Nineteenth Century

The first U.S. census, taken in 1790, records only two Simsbury men who still owned a slave - Ezekial Humphrey and Jonathan Pettibone. Pettibone, according to the bill of sale, had purchased "a negro boy named Samuel Filley" in 1775. Another eleven "free persons" were counted, probably either black or native American servants in the households surveyed. (The total population of Simsbury in 1790 was 2,576.)²⁰ This was two years before the Connecticut law, passed in 1788, took effect. By that ruling, all persons in Connecticut who had been born into slavery were declared free in 1792 and all others, when they achieved twenty-five years of age. It is reported that, on the day of emancipation, many former slaves celebrated with parties or took several days away from their work but soon settled back into the same life as before, only as free people.

Details of the lives of those who remained in Simsbury are sketchy. The accounts of Jeffrey O. Phelps show the sale of yarn "to a black woman" from his shop in 1814. Although most of his women customers charged their purchases to their husbands' accounts, or if widows, to their own, it is noted that the black woman paid cash. Men no longer bound to the conditions of slavery still found their means of survival tied to tentative contracts. In 1821, Gabriel Reeder contracted to work for Ariel Ensign for the term of five months for the sum of nine dollars, subject to a minimum of three days notice.²¹ Gabriel was married to Phoebe Jackson, a daughter of Peter and Esther.²² Although Phoebe is buried in the Jackson family plot at Center Cemetery, Gabriel was not and may have been buried in Tariffville, where he was living and listed as a "pauper" in 1860. As was the situation with many black couples, Phoebe was counted in the 1860 Census as living in one household, where she may have been employed, and Gabriel in another.²³

In Support of Abolition

Simsbury was not without its champion of the rights of freed blacks to a full life within the American community. Reverend Allen McLean officiated at the funeral of Richard Eels, M.D. in September of 1846. A native of and practitioner in Simsbury, Dr. Eels had left Connecticut in search of his ideals. According to the Reverend McLean, he was "a very zealous, enterprising abolitionist. He removed from Simsbury to Quincy, Illinois, where he was very successful in the practice of medicine. In that new country, he was very influential as a citizen and as a Christian. His zeal in the cause of abolition occasioned him much suffering. Under trials of this description, his health failed him. He died on his way from Quincy to Simsbury." Eels is buried in the Simsbury Center Cemetery.²⁴

Dr. Eels was not alone in his anti-slavery sentiments. For the Anti-Slavery Convention held at Hartford in 1838, an advertisement encouraging the Convention included printed lists of sponsors by town. Richard Eels' name was among the fifteen listed as sponsors from Simsbury.²⁵

The Reverend McLean, the compassionate and caring minister of First Church in Simsbury, set the moral tone for the town during the Second Great Awakening in the early 19th century. He recorded not only those occasions at which he officiated but also those community events which he deemed of merit. His manuscript record notes the deaths of: Peter Jackson, colored, age 45, in 1810; Rose, a colored woman about 90, the same year; a colored man in 1815; a colored woman, name unknown, age 64, in 1833; a colored woman burned to death in a small house owned by Judson Phelps (an unsavory local character) in 1851; two young children of Henry Jackson in 1830 and 1838 and a three-year-old child of Joseph Jackson in 1845.²⁶ In their later years, the household of the Reverend and Mrs. McClean included two black servants: Richard Wells, described as a laborer and Laura Bailey, a domestic.²⁷

It is interesting to note the change in nomenclature from the pre-Revolutionary period, when "Negro" served as the surname for people such as Peter and Philip, to the subsequent period of gradual freedom. Account books and Simsbury records refer to "blacks" while the sensitive rector preferred the term "colored." In 1786, the Anglican Reverend Roger Viets recorded having officiated at the marriage of "Cudgo of Simsbury with Elizabeth of Westfield, Africans" on February 22, 1786.²⁸

Demographics

The tables appended to this text, derived from town records and census data, provide further information about the occupations and conditions of blacks in Simsbury during the nineteenth century. The Federal Census figures from 1850, 1860 and 1880 underline the transient nature of those blacks who lived in Simsbury during the second half of the century. In most cases, the names of persons enumerated on one census did not appear on the subsequent one. Many served as domestics or laborers in their employers' households. Others were a teammaster, an ostler, a cook, a dyer in the woollen mill, a barber, or attending school.

In 1850 and 1860, most were listed as having been born in Connecticut. However, the twenty-nine year old Tariffville barber, John Addams, declared in 1860 that he had been born in Mesaland (assumed to be Africa.) The influx of southern blacks following the Civil War is apparent in the data from the 1880 Census, where several cited Virginia or Maryland as their birthplace.

There were very few intact families. The George Hendrick family, described as mulatto, was counted in 1850. The Hendricks lived in Tariffville where George worked as a dyer in the woollen mill. Many workers left the community after the mill was destroyed by fire in 1867. However, it appears that George and Eliza were no longer in town by 1860, or perhaps escaped the census. Their sons John and Charles, aged fourteen and eight, lived at a local boarding hotel. Although not listed in the 1880 Census, Charles Hendrick lived to be sixty and died in Simsbury in 1913.

There were two families about whom more information is available, the Jacksons and the Coopers.

The Jackson family

The life of the Jackson family is documented in town records, memoirs and graves in the Simsbury Center Cemetery. Seven small stones mark the burial places of three generations of Jacksons. The first was Peter, reported to have been traded in Bermuda for a native Indian from Connecticut who had been enslaved by a colonist as a domestic servant but found unsatisfactory. In 1922, tobacco heir George Mitchelson wrote that his father had told him that "the old colored family by the name of Jackson were originally brought from Bermuda as slaves, the result of Indian trading." According to Mitchelson, "the early settlers rid the community of undesirable Indians by shipping them to the West Indies in exchange for Negroes, and finding this profitable, they made a business of getting the natives intoxicated and sending them out by way of Hartford or New York, receiving the Negroes in return. These Negroes came from Cuba, Jamaica and Bermuda." It is ironic that Peter Jackson is reported by Reverend McLean to have "drowned in a fit of intoxication," a fate similar to that attributed to his Native American predecessors. Pity the poor New England native transported to the tropics as well as the slave brought north to this climate!²⁹

Jackson's wife, Esther, lived to be 98. She purchased a half acre of land and a house east and south of Hoskins Station, between the Farmington Canal and an old cellar hole. Her son Harry and daughter-in-law Pamela acquired adjacent land. When the railroad came through in 1850, Esther Jackson sold to the New Haven, Hartford and North Hampton railroad rights to the property which included her "old dwelling house, including the old stone in the cellar and chimney to convert to its own use."³⁰ In the 19th century, such foundation and chimney stone was a valuable commodity. Her unmarried daughter Esther died months after the mother for whom she had cared through pneumonia and lung disease.³¹ The younger Esther and her sister worked for a time as a housekeeper-nursemaid for the Zopher St. John family at Hoskins Station.

Nicknamed "Easter" by the St. John children, she was much loved for the good humor and care which she bestowed upon them during their mother's lengthy illness. This relationship may have left a lasting impression with little Louisa St. John, who became an educator and eventually succeeded her husband, Rufus Hitchcock, as President and teacher at Straight College in Louisiana, a high school level institution for black youth.³²

A nephew, William, cared for the horses at the livery in Tariffville before he was killed in the Civil War. The Jackson family persisted in Simsbury and Tariffville until at least the close of World War I.

The Hartford Courant, in an article published on July 21, 1921 about the Farmington Canal, which was active from around 1827 to 1850, included the following. "Like all historic events, the ancient canal has gathered unto itself one or more mossy legends. There is a place [in Simsbury] known to older residents as "nigger's elbow." Tradition has it that Connecticut had a counterpart of the fabled lad in Holland who held back the waters of the North Sea by sticking his thumb in a crack in the dike. Our mythical hero, a colored lad, spied a leak in the canal at Simsbury while returning home late at night. The situation looked disastrous to him. As the aperture was too large to be stopped by his finger or hand, he thrust his elbow into the hole and cried lustily for help. All night he remained with his elbow in the hole, waiting for help to arrive. At daybreak, an early rising farmer found the all but unconscious boy still sticking at his post. The unimaginative farmer flatly refused to be alarmed by the leak and urged the boy to go home. This the crestfallen boy did, but soon after he left, the bank gave way and the resulting hollow which can now be seen at this place, is said to be where the unleashed waters of the canal tore through and spent its fury. Thereafter, the place was called "nigger's elbow" and is still spoken of as such today."³³

Myth or not, the term which would be unacceptable today persisted in town records at least until the October 4, 1937 Town Meeting.³⁴ The term referred to the peculiar bend in the Farmington River opposite Westminster School which ran very close to the canal. This would have been but a few hundred yards from the Jackson family property and it is highly probable that one of the Jackson boys was the youth involved.

The Cooper family

More impressive than the modest headstones of members of the Jackson family in the Hopmeadow Cemetery is the red granite monument erected in memory of Matthew Cooper, funded by a public subscription collected after his death in 1915. Matthew was born into slavery, in Rappahannock, Virginia in the 1830's, the son of Aaron Cooper. He was said to have visible scars on his back from repeated lashings.³⁵ It is not known by what route he arrived in Simsbury but it may have been via the underground railroad through Farmington. In 1869, Matthew and Mary J. Elkey of Granby were married by Joseph Toy, an ordained Methodist clergyman as well as manager of the Toy, Bickford safety fuse manufactory in Simsbury. Matthew was almost forty

years old and Mary, twenty-one.³⁶ The names of four of their children appear on the monument, although all are thought not to be buried there.

For many years, Mr. Cooper was a farm hand for Dudley McLean at Holly Hill farm, now the Hopmeadow Country Club. The Cooper family must have enjoyed a warm relationship with their employer, for the diary of Mary Payne McLean includes these entries for 1891:³⁷

September 1 - Willie Cooper died.

September 2 - Father [Mr. McLean] drove into Hartford to get a coffin.

September 3 - Funeral at the Cooper's quite well attended.

Cemetery records report that he was born in 1880 and died in 1890 at the age of ten, a date probably arrived at when the monument was inscribed.

In his reminiscences, William Roger Greeley of Boston, a frequent visitor to the home of his grandparents Mary and Dudley McLean, recalled a visit to the Cooper home:

"Grandpa and his three sons...ran the farm for awhile but when the sons began to teach school, there had to be someone for regular help. Grandpa found a negro, Matthew Cooper (who had two strong sons, Johnny and Willy, and a lot of smaller children). Grandpa built him a small house down the road apiece and paid him enough to support his family. "Mr. Cooper", as we called him, was a hard worker with a good disposition. More than this, he had a powerful interest in religious music. Before long there was an old parlor organ in his small "sitting room" and one evening before supper Aunt Sally took us down to hear Mr. Cooper play and sing. There he was at the organ with a pair of gold-bowed (plate glass) spectacles to give dignity and atmosphere to the occasion, and a hymnbook open in front of him. His wife and children were scattered over the grounds in the dusk, oblivious to the approaching concert.

Lowell wrote: "Over his keys the musing organist, beginning fitfully and far away, first lets his fingers wander as they list and build a dreamland for his lay. Then, as the touch of his loved instrument gives hope and fervor, nearer draws his theme, first guessed by faint auroral flushes sent along the wavering vista of his dream."

This describes it approximately if you accent the "fervor" and delete the "faint". Now and then he turned a page in the hymnbook. This, as well as the spectacles, was a matter of correct form only, as Mr. Cooper couldn't read. The concert was conceived without pre-arrangement for a termination, but when we left it came to a close."³⁸

When Matthew Cooper died, he was living in Weatogue with his wife and daughter Josephine. The Farmington Valley Directory for 1918 listed Mrs. Cooper and Josephine under the Weatogue address and noted that Matthew Cooper had died on Sept. 28, 1915.³⁹ His widow lived until 1931.⁴⁰

The Underground Railway

In his history of The Underground Railway in Connecticut, author Horatio Strother implies that runaways who had found temporary shelter at Deercliff Farm on the mountain in Avon proceeded on to Simsbury.⁴¹ Although there are no records to show that Simsbury may

have been an extension of the Underground Railway and there is no record of specific houses which might have harbored those in transit, the late Mary Daniell, great-granddaughter of the Reverend Allen McLean and niece of Senator George McLean, remembered that Mr. Cooper worked on her grandfather's farm and was believed to have been a runaway slave. In her conversation with historian William Vibert, author of Three Centuries of Simsbury, she conjectured that the McLeans may have been involved with the fugitive slave activity.⁴² It is more probable that the escapees from Farmington and Deercliff Farm made their way by either water land through Simsbury to the known hideaway in Granby and that Matthew Cooper alone stayed behind in Simsbury.

The Civil War

The Civil War monument in Weatogue includes the names of seven African-American soldiers who enlisted from Simsbury in that momentous battle.⁴⁴ The movie "Glory" has told eloquently of the devotion and service of these men and their counterparts. Of the seven, six served in the 29th Connecticut Regiment and one in the 31st, both designated as "colored." Only one can be traced to his Simsbury residency, William Jackson. William died on the battlefield in March of 1865, leaving his wife of four years, Helen Thompson.⁴⁵ It is probable that Luther Harris lived in Simsbury as well. The other five, Albert Cann and Orlando Bringmib, both of whom died in battle, and George Brown 2nd, Sydney Kelsey, and Henry Saunders, may have come from other communities or even other states to enlist under Simsbury auspices in response to actions of the Town. In an effort to comply with President Lincoln's proportionate call, a subscription had been taken in 1861 to support the families of men engaged in the Civil War. In July of 1862, the town fathers, anxious to meet the required quotas, increased the bounty and guaranteed the sum of one-hundred dollars to any man who would enlist from Simsbury. Added to what amounted to a draft in August of 1863, this reward served as an inducement to lure many men, including blacks, from other localities to sign up in Simsbury.⁴⁶ Granby, which had a larger population of blacks, many of them intermarried with the Jackson, Reeder and Elkey families, sent an even greater number to support the northern cause.

Aftermath

Although this study does not attempt to address the presence or roles of African-Americans in Simsbury in the twentieth century, it is well known that Martin Luther King, Jr. labored in the local tobacco fields and lived in the Work Camp on Firetown Road during the summers of 1944 and 1945 when he was a student at Morehouse College. Corps of youth workers from the south were brought north to replace the depleted agricultural labor force during World War II. Groups of the young people were taken to worship in Simsbury churches and Martin grasped the opportunity to sing with the choir in First Church, an appearance remembered still by some of its senior members.⁴⁷

APPENDIX

Tables

- I 1850 U.S. Census: Simsbury: Persons listed as Black or Mullato
(a) Living in another household
(b) Living in separate household
- II 1860 U.S. Census: Simsbury: Persons listed as Black
(a) Living in another household
(b) Living in separate household
- III 1880 U.S. Census: Simsbury: Persons listed as Black
(a) Living in another household
(b) Living in separate household
- IV Simsbury Birth Records: 1848-1872: Persons registered as black
- V Simsbury Marriage Records: 1848-1868: Persons registered as black
- VI Simsbury area Marriages: 1824-1873: Persons noted as Black
- VII Simsbury Deaths: 1810-1851. Persons noted as Black
- VIII Simsbury Deaths: 1906-1915. Persons noted as Black
- IX 1918 Simsbury War Bureau Census: Persons identified as black
- X Excerpts from Simsbury Cemetery Records

Table 1
 1850 Census of the United States
All Persons Residing in Simsbury and Listed as Black or Mulatto

(a) Listed as living in another household

<u>House- hold #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>B/M</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Where born</u>	<u>Head of household</u>
4	Josephine Auerman	12	B	-	Conn.	Boarding house (Chas. Cornish, keeper) Tariffville
35	Gabriel Reeder	45	M	Laborer	Conn.	Sanford home (Poor house), Tariffville
201	Harry Wells	48	B	Laborer	Conn.	Candace Hoskins
221	George Manning	14	B	In school	Conn.	Alexander Phelps
253	Hannah Jackson	38	B	Laborer	Conn.	Jeffrey O. Phelps
414	Christopher Jones	46	M	Laborer	Conn.	Thomas G. Adams
429	Jarius Jones	55	B	Laborer	Conn.	Jeffrey Wilcox

Table I (Cont'd)

1850 Census of the United States
All Persons Residing in Simsbury and Listed as Black or Mulatto

(b) Apparently living in separate household

<u>House- hold #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>B/M</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Where born</u>	<u>District of Household Location *</u>
118	George Hendrick (Hendrie)	28	M	Dyer	Conn.	Tariffville
	Eliza Hendrick	26	M		Conn.	
	George Hendrick	10	M	In school	Conn.	
	John Hendrick	5	M	In school	Conn.	
	James	3	M		Conn.	
376	Esther Jackson	89	B	-	Conn.	Hoskins Crossing/Westover Plain
	Esther Jackson	54	B	-	Conn.	
	William Jackson	26	B	Laborer	Conn.	
	Erastus Jackson	19	B	Laborer	Conn.	
	Abraham Jackson	22	B	Laborer	Conn.	
376	Richard Wells	65	?***	Laborer	Conn.	Union District (Hoskins/Firetown area)
	Roxa Wells	60	B	-	Conn.	
381	John Thomas	69	B	Farmer	Conn.	Union District
	Martha Thomas	60	B	-	New York	

410	Harry Jackson Lavina Jackson	58 55	B B	Laborer -	Conn. Conn.	Union District
426	James Auerman Mahala Auerman	38 38	B B	Laborer -	Conn. Conn.	Hoskins Station/Westover Plain

* General locations were determined by recording names of households counted in the same census area, a search of deeds in the Simsbury Town Records and pinpointing named households on the map of Simsbury, showing landowners and school districts, in the Atlas of Hartford County (Baker & Tilden, 1869.) None of the homes of these black families were indicated on that map.

** Spelled as Hendrick in the Census Record, but as Hendrie in Town Records of the births of both James and George.

*** No entry regarding race was made in the census record. However, Richard Wells was counted in Household # 183 in the 1860 Census..

Table II

1860 Census of the United States
All Persons Residing in Simsbury and Listed as Black

(a) Listed as living in another household

<u>House- Hold #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birth- Place</u>	<u>Head of Household</u>
50	Elizabeth Foster	52	Domestic	Conn.	Curtis Goddard
76	Edward Norton	53	Laborer	Conn.	Henry O. Wilcox
93	Jane White	25	Domestic	Conn	Noah Hoskins
183	Richard Wells Laura Bailey	70 40	Laborer Domestic	Conn. Conn.	The Rev. Allen McLean
228	Henry Wells (Mulatto)	50	Laborer	Conn.	James B. Hoskins
230	Jarius Jones	64	Laborer	Conn.	Jeffrey Wilcox
239	Margett Thompson	15	-	Conn.	Moses St. John
241	Edward Finneman	19	Cook	Conn.	Drayton Humphrey
245	Erastus Jackson	28	Laborer	Conn.	Shubael Hoskins
247	Joseph Williams	55	Laborer	Conn.	Boarding House (Wm. Holmes) Tariffville

Table II (cont'd)

<u>House- hold #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birth- Place</u>	<u>Head of Household</u>
281	Phoebe Reeder	50	Housekeeper	Conn.	Daniel Smith
317	John Addams	29	Barber	Mesa land	John McLoughlin
353	Henrietta Addams	18	Servant	Conn.	Humason? (illegible)
355	Susan (Persia?)	10	In school	Conn.	Thomas Talmidge
358	William Jackson	30	Ostler	Conn.	Thurston House
	John Hendrick	14	-	Conn.	(Wm. Reed, Manager)
	Charles Hendrick	8	-	Conn.	Tariffville
	Columbus Reeder	28	Teammaster	Conn.	
366	Peter Jackson	52	Pauper	Conn.	Poorhouse (Dr. George
	Gabriel Reeder	52	Pauper	Conn.	Sanford)

Table II (Cont'd)

1860 Census of the United States
All Persons Residing in Simsbury and Listed as Black

(b) Apparently living in separate household

<u>House- Hold #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birth- Place</u>	<u>District of Household Location</u>
61	Wells Roberts	21	Laborer	Conn.	Bushy Hill/Climax Road
	Ellen Roberts	32	Housekeeper	Conn.	
	Irana Danforth	25	Domestic	Conn.	
	Charles Danforth	2	-	Conn.	
243	Harry Jackson	68	Laborer	Conn.	Hoskins Station/Hopmeadow
	Lavinia Jackson	65	Housekeeper	Conn.	
	Pamelia Jackson	47	Servant	Conn.	

Table III
 1880 Census of the United States
All Persons Residing in Simsbury and Listed as Black

(a) Listed as living in another household

<u>House- hold #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birth- Place</u>	<u>Head of Household</u>
2	James Hill	39	Farm laborer	Virginia	Justin A. Bradley
186	Priscilla Bailey Daughter Eva	29 2	Servant	Mass.* Mass..	Francis G. Case
328	Susan Brooks	36	Servant	Virginia	Sheldon Munson
366	Sandy Archer	55	Servant	Maryland	Hotel (Richard Reed, Hotel keeper) Tariffville (Thurston House?)
383	Sarah Jackson Caroline Jackson Elizabeth Humphrey Benjamin White Leander Thompson	45 50 80 8 63	Servant Servant Keeping house At school Teamster	Conn. Conn. Conn. Conn. Conn.	Listed as boarders in the Poor House in Tariffville (Sarah Sanborn, Matron)

*Priscilla Bailey reported that her father was born in Massachusetts and her mother in Nova Scotia and that her daughter Eva's father was born in New Jersey.

Table III

1880 Census of the United States
All Persons Residing in Simsbury and Listed as Black

(b) Apparently Living in Separate Household

<u>House- Hold #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birth- Place</u>	<u>District of Household Location</u>
3	Amelia Jackson	67	Keeping house	Conn.	Union District
170	Matthew Cooper	52	Farm laborer	Virginia	Firetown Road/Hoskins
	Mary Cooper	29	Keeping house	Conn.	
	Minnie Cooper	8	At school	Conn.	
	Jennie Cooper	6	At school	Conn.	
	George Cooper	3	-	Conn.	
	John Cooper	6 mos.	-	Conn.	
206	Sidney Washington	32	Farm laborer	Virginia	Bushy Hill/Canton Road
	Ella Washington	22	Keeping house	Conn.	
221	Homer W. Drien(?)	62	Laborer	Mass.	Bushy Hill/West Simsbury
	Homer Mass (cousin)	20	Laborer	Mass.	
298	William Jackson	70	Laborer	Conn.	Terry's Plain

Table IV

SIMSBURY VITAL RECORDS

Selected Records: All Persons Listed as Black

Records of Births in the Town of Simsbury commencing with the August Returns for 1848

Date of Birth	Name	Father	Mother	Notes	Physician or Attendant
Aug. 29, 1848	James	George Hendrie, age 38 Occupation: Dyer	Eliza Hendrie, age 26	Griswold school district	-
Dec. 25, 1851	Male	George Hendrie	Eliza Hendrie		
Feb. 4, 1861	Male	John Addams, age 29	Henrietta Addams, age 19	Simsbury	G. W. Sanford
March 10, 1862	Minnie Eliza	Matthew Cooper, age 42 Farmer. Born at Warrenton, Virginia	Mary Elke[y], age 22	2nd child	H. W. Holcomb
Aug. 28, 1873	Female	Matthew Cooper	Mary Elke[y]	3rd child	S. H. Stockwell
Dec. 28, 1872	Victor Johnson	Edward Johnson, age 26 Hod carrier. Born Washington D.	Melinda Young, age 19 Born: Georgetwon, D.C.	1st child	G. W. Sanford

Table V

SIMSBURY VITAL RECORDS

Selected Records: All Persons listed as Black

Record of Marriages Registered in the Town of Simsbury commencing with the August Returns for 1848

Date	Husband	Age	Place of Birth	Wife	Age	Place of Birth	Official
Nov. 20, 1869	Matthew Cooper	[40]	Rappahannock, VA	Mary Elkey	21	Granby	Rev. Joseph Toy
Sept. 17, 1861	William Jackson	38	Simsbury	Helen B. Thompson (His first, her second marriage)	39	Granby	Chas. F. Holbrook
Jan. 1, 1868	Andrew Jones Farmer, Simsbury	21	Pennsylvania	Sallie Hennison	20	Richmond	Rev. N.A. Prince
Jan. 1, 1868	Ph----- Harris	26	Fredericksburg, VA	Elizabeth Johnson	27	No. Carolina	--

Table VI

Marriages Performed in Simsbury and Neighboring Communities

Selected records: Persons Noted as Black

Simsbury Vital Records

Oct. 24, 1824. Gabriel Reeder and Phebe Jackson by Rev. Ransom Warner of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

April 17, 1842 Tryon C. Elkey of Hartland and Delia Jackson of Simsbury (born 1821) by Rev. Allen McLean, First Church, Simsbury.

Oct. 15, 1837 John Thomas of Simsbury and Martha Jackson of Bloomfield by Rev. Allen McLean

Records of the Reverend Ransom Warner: 1823-1854. Rector of St. Andrew's, Simsbury and Bloomfield; St. Peter's, Granby and St. John's Ea Windsor.

Oct. 24, 1824 Gabriel Reeder and Phebe Jackson at Todd House (the Rectory).

----- 1841 George Hendrick and Eliza Anne Jackson (colored) in Simsbury or Bloomfield.

June 30, 1843 Richard Fields of Pittsfield, Mass. and Eliza Norton (colored) in Bloomfield.

East Granby Vital Records

March 10, 1808. Mr. Solomon Gundy and Miss Mabel Jackson, both blacks, by Andrew Hillyer.

Granby Town Records

----- Joseph Wallace and Antha Hale (white) of Hartland.

Table VII

Deaths Reported in Simsbury

Selected Records: Persons Noted as Black

Records of the Reverend Allen McLean, First Church, Simsbury

March 27, 1810 Rose, a colored woman about 90.

Aug. 4, 1810 Peter Jackson, colored, age 45. "He was drowned in a fit of intoxication"

May 6, 1815 A colored man.

March 23, 1833 A colored woman, name unknown. Age 64.

Jan. 8, 183- A child of Henry Jackson

March 10, 1838 A child of Henry Jackson, age 1.

Dec. 5, 1851 A colored woman burned to death in a small house owned by Judson Phelps.

Records of the Reverend Ransom Warner, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Dec. 1824 { J Freeman, colored.

Table VIII

State of Connecticut: Bureau of Vital Statistics

Medical Certificates of Deaths Registered in Simsbury for the Years 1906 - 1915

- Sept. 25, 1906 Margaret Nichols, age about 80, died suddenly at the Sanford home in Tariffville of cerebral apoplexy. Resident of Guilford and buried there. Dr. C. M. Wooster.
- Oct. 11, 1910 Matilda Good of Tariffville died at 20 South Hudson, Hartford of tuberculosis. Attended by Dr. P. C. Jeans of Hartford Hospital. Born in 1873 in Buckingham, Virginia. Parents Edward and Harriett Anderson, both born in Buckingham. Married to George Good.
- Feb. 10, 1913 Charles Hendrick, age about 60, of exposure to cold. Believed to have been born in Simsbury. Father George, mother, [Eliza] Jackson. Dr. C.M. Wooster. Buried at Town Farm. Not embalmed.
- Feb. 19, 1913 Arthur West of Tariffville at the Sanford home of heart disease after a two-year illness. Laborer. Official residence was Orange, Connecticut. Buried there.
- Sept. 11, 1913 Martha Barnett, age 70, living at the Sanford home. Of chronic dysentery. Dr. Munson attending. Born in Richmond, Virginia. Buried at Tariffville.
- Sept. 28, 1915 Matthew Cooper, age 85 years, 6 months, 12 days. Born March 16, 1830 in Rappahannock, Virginia Married. Wife Mary signed the certificate. Lived in a one-family home. Dr. Munson attending. Father Aaron Cooper, mother's name not known.

There are few cemetery records which correspond with deaths of blacks reported in Simsbury.

Table IX

Simsbury War Bureau: 1918 Census

Population of Simsbury Over 14 Years of Age

Persons Identified as Black

Josephine Cooper	Weatogue
Mrs. Cooper	Weatogue
Jesse Jackson	Tariffville
Kevi or Levi Jackson	Tariffville
George Jackson (farm manager)	Weatogue
Mrs. George Jackson	Weatogue

Table X

SIMSBURY CEMETERY RECORDS

Hopmeadow or Center Cemetery

Row 19

Cooper, Matthew H., born 1830, died 1915.

Cooper, Mary J. Elkey, born 1850, died 1931

Cooper, Jennie, daughter of Matthew H. and Mary, born 1873, died 1894

Cooper, Josephine, daughter of Matthew H. & Mary, born 1881, died 1919

Cooper, Rachel J., daughter of Matthew H & Mary, born 1883, died 1891

Cooper, William L., son of Matthew H. & Mary, born 1880, died 1890

Row 18

Jackson, Harry, died Dec. 12, 1871, age 80 years

Jackson, Lavina, wife of Harry, died June 6, 1876, age 89 years

Jackson, Amelia, daughter of Harry & Lavina, died Mar. 15, 1889, age 79 years

Jackson, Peter [Jr.?] Nov. 23, 1819

Jackson, wife of Peter, Esther, died Sept. 21, 1857, age 98 years

Jackson, Esther, died Dec. 11, 1857, age 64 years.

Reeder, Phoebe, died Aug. 5, 1864, age 59 years

Non-Sectarian Cemetery (Tariffville)

Elkey, Katie A., daughter of John & Mary, died Oct. 10, 1891, age 32.

Town Farm Cemetery No inscriptions or records. However, town records state that Charles Hendrick, age 60, was buried here in 1913.

Endnotes

1. For a more detailed history of Simsbury, see Lucius I. Barber, *A Record and Documentary History of Simsbury* (Simsbury: Abigail Phelps Chapter, DAR, 1931) and John E. Ellsworth, *Simsbury: Being a Brief Historical Sketch of Ancient and Modern Simsbury: 1642-1935* (Simsbury, 1935).
2. Connecticut Archives, *Court Records* (Connecticut State Library: Archives, Historical and Genealogy Unit), Historical Index, Miscellaneous Records, 11:43. Reel I, 99-102.
3. The history of copper mining in Simsbury is described in Noah Phelps, *History of Simsbury, Granby and Canton* (Hartford: Case, Tiffany and Burnham, 1845), 113-119 and Richard A. Phelps, *Newgate of Connecticut* (Hartford, American Publishing Co., 1876), 15.
4. Connecticut Archives, *Court Records*, Miscellaneous Records, Reel II, 50-53.
5. Timothy Dwight, Jr. and Timothy Edwards, executors, Stockbridge, Massachusetts, to John Owen, Simsbury, Connecticut. Bill of sale, August 4, 1733. SHS
6. Joseph Phelps, Simsbury. Will dated 21 Dec. 1749. Charles W. Manwaring, comp., *A Digest of Early Connecticut Probate Records: III, Hartford District, 1729-1750* (Hartford, R. S. Peck & Co., 1906), 615-616.
7. *Lists and Returns of Connecticut Men in the Revolution: 1775-1783* (Hartford: Connecticut Historical Society Collections, 1924), Connecticut Line: 1777-1781, XII:81, 240 and VIII, 59.
8. Ethel Lindstrom Austin, *The Story of the Churches of Granby* (Granby:), .
9. Peter Cezer negro from his master [Andrew Robe]. Deed, February 15, 1760. Simsbury, Town Acts and Deeds, 8:405.
10. *Connecticut Courant*, May 17 and 24, 1774.
11. Connecticut General Assembly, "A list of the number of Inhabitants of Each Town in the Colony of Connecticut Taken in the Year 1762." Manuscript document in the collection of the Connecticut Historical Society.
12. *Simsbury Soldiers in the War of the Revolution* (Simsbury: Abigail Phelps Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 1982), Service Records: 385 (Philip Negro), 494-496 (London Wallace and sons London. Joseph and Zebulon.
13. *Simsbury Vital Records: Births, Marriages and Deaths*, transcribed from the Town Records, Albert C. Bates, ed. (Hartford: Connecticut Historical Society, 1898), 263.
14. *Records of Rev. Roger Viets, Rector of St. Andrew's, Simsbury Conn.: 1763-1800*, (Hartford, Albert C. Bates, 1893), 17, 38. Reverend Samuel Stebbins, "Church Records of Samuel Stebbins: 1777-1801" (Manuscript, SHS), p.
15. Simsbury Town Records, July 8, 1777, 12 :17 and 12 and 13, passim..

16. Carol Laun, "Black families in early Granby" (*Granby: The Granby Drummer*, May 1996), 18.
17. Abiel Brown, *Early Settlers of West Simsbury*, (Hartford: Case, Tiffany, 1856. New York:reprint, 1899), "Black Citizens of Wes Simsbury", 139-142.
18. *Records of Rev. Roger Viets*, July 21, 1783, 38.
19. Warrant to remove Caesar, a pauper, from the Town of Simsbury to the State of New York, December 18, 1806 (Manuscript, Simsbury Historical Society) and *Early Settlers of West Simsbury*, 142.
20. First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790. Heads of Families: Connecticut: Simsbury (Spartanburg, S.C.: Reprint Publishers, 1982), 47-49.
21. Contract between Ariel Ensign and Gabriel Reader. Simsbury, May 19, 1821 (Manuscript, SHS.)
22. Reverend Ransom Warner, *Records*, Gabriel Reader and Phebe Jackson, married at Todd House, Simsbury, Oct. 24, 1824, 6.
23. 1860 Census of the United States: Simsbury residents by household and Simsbury Cemetery Records [see Appendix.]
24. Reverend Allen McLean, "Records of the Church of Christ in Simsbury", death of Richard Eels, M.D., age 46 on September 18. 1846 (Manuscript, SHS), 229.
25. Anti-Slavery Convention, Hartford, February 28, 1838, list of delegates, by town (New York: *The Emancipator*, February 24, 1838). Listed as endorsers or delegates from Simsbury were William Mather, Ehud Tuller, Jay Tuller, Ashbel Moses, Richard Eeels, Giles Latimer, Ariel Latimer, Amon Latimer, Benjamin Ely, Averil Wilcox, Averrit Case, George Cornish, Julius Chapman, Augustus R. Case, Alex. Humphrey.
26. McLean, "Records", Aug. 4, 1810 (Peter Jackson), March 27, 1810 (Rose), May 6, 1815 (colored man), March 23, 1833 (colored woman age 64), March 10, 1838 and Sept. 1, 1845 (children of Henry and Joseph Jackson), Dec. 5, 1851 (colored woman burned to death.)
27. 1860 Census of the United States: Simsbury, Hartford County, Connecticut.
28. *Records of Rev. Roger Viets*, .60.
29. George Mitchelson, "Account of North Bloomfield and vicinity" (Simsbury, May 16, 1922, Manuscript, SHS), p. 3. Peter Jackson may have been in Simsbury as early as 1763. An entry on page 33 of the Account Book of John Owen for the years 1762 and 1763 notes the sale on April 1 of "one pint of rum to Peter Negro [for] Dr. Horbert girl." (Manuscript, SHS.)
30. Simsbury Town Records, v. 35, p. 143 (Chauncy Eno to Esther Jackson, Aug. 5, 1836), v. 35, p. 237 (Harry Jackson to Pamela Jackson, March 16, 1838), v. 36, p. 486 (Esther Jackson to the Town of Simsbury, January 11, 1850) and v. 37, p. 432 (Esther Jackson to the New Haven and Hartford R.R. Co.).
31. Simsbury Vital Records, Deaths in Simsbury as reported to the Registrar commencing with the August returns for 1848. Esther Jackson, age 98, widow, died of pneumonia on September 28, 1857. Esther Jackson, age, 48, single, died of lung fever on December 12, 1857. [See appendix, Table 7]

32. Louise St. John Hitchcock, *Autobiography* (Hartford, 1920), passim. Manuscript in the collection of the Sophia Smith archives, Smith College, Northampton, Mass.
33. *The Hartford Courant*. July 21, 1921.
34. Simsbury Town Records: Minutes of Annual Town Meeting, October 4, 1937.
35. Dorothy Shaw Holcomb, Simsbury, to Mary L. Nason, March 5, 1995. Mrs. Holcomb's mother remembered Matthew Cooper from her childhood, his scars and the collection taken for his monument. She described him to her daughter as a "wonderful and kind man." The late Joseph Pattison told that author that he recalled that, when he was a young boy, he would see Mr. Cooper ride his horse and buggy from his home in Weatogue and tether it outside the general store while he went about his business in town.
36. Simsbury Vital Records, Marriages registered in the Town of Simsbury commencing with the August returns for 1848: Matthew Cooper and Mary Elkey, Nov. 20, 1869. [see Appendix, Table 4]
37. Excerpts from the Diary of Mary Payne McLean: 1879-1899.. Typescript copy, (Simsbury Historical Society).
38. William Roger Greeley, "Reminiscences" (Boston, c. 1900. Typescript monograph in the private collection of Martha Daniell Austin), 15. The Cooper house must have been on Firetown Road not far from Holly Hill, the McLean farm. Mr. Greeley may have recalled the names of the Cooper children incorrectly. Will[y] died at age ten and there is no apparent birth or death record for a John. However, in 1862, the birth of Minnie Eliza, the Cooper's second child was entered into the town records but not that of a first child. Minnie's name does not appear on the Cooper cemetery monument. It is possible that at least the first and second born children left Simsbury when they reached adulthood. [see Appendix].
39. Farmington Valley Directory, 1928, 108.
40. Simsbury Cemetery Records [see Appendix].
41. Horatio Stothers, *The Underground Railway in Connecticut* (Middletown: Wesleyan University Press, 1962).
42. William M. Vibert, *Three Centuries of Simsbury: 1670-1970* (Simsbury Tercentenary Steering Committee, 1970), 137.
44. Robert Langen, comp., "Civil War Soldiers from Simsbury memorialized on the Civil War monument in Weatogue" (Simsbury, 1897), passim, and Lucius I. Barber (Manuscript notes, "Simsbury Soldiers", Lucius Barber papers, SHS).
45. Record of Marriages Registered in the Town of Simsbury, William Jackson to Helen B. Thompson, Sept. 17, 1861.
46. Simsbury Town Records, Minutes of Town Meetings: April 22, 1861 [List of subscribers], July, 1862 [\$100 payment to all enlistees], August 2, 1863 [draft].
47. Frank Andrews Stone, "African American Connecticut, An Overview" in "Settlement of African Americans in Connecticut" (Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, *Connecticut Preservation News*, XV:2, March/April 1992), 9 and conversation between Mary Nason and Bernice Martin whose husband Garland was the choir director when King attended First Church in Simsbury.