Atlanta Ga Feb 14th 1866

To the Hon.

Senate and House Representatives

We your humble Petitioners

Freedmen of Atlanta Ga. and members of the colored Methodist Church and a portion of the congregation lately worshipping with said church, Beg leave to represent to your honorable body, that during the late campaign of General Sherman through our midst, our house of worship was torn down to the ground, and utterly demolished by a party of Federal Soldiers. It was without the least provocation on our part, as we ever demeaned ourselves royal, and never mistreated the Federal Soldiers, believing them our best friends.

Your Petitioners would state that it was a large, commodious and well-furnished edifice, that had been built by ourselves when in slavery, and contributions for building were raised, by very many hands of severe toil after our daily tasks were done for our Master, and by denying ourselves many of the comforts of life. It was our Crown andlug, it was too us what the Temple was to the Jews. When the dark days of war had passed, and we gather again here from our wondering, our holy and beautiful house was a Mass of ruins.

Hearings no place but under the open canopy of Heaven to publicly worship the God of our Fathers,
We gathered courage from adversity and trusting in God, out of the broken fragments remaining of the building, fitted up the skeleton of a house for the present decency, but wholly inadequate to the wants of the congregation, & almost all of us have been slaves all our lives, we are without pecuniary means to build another house of worship. Most of us are struggling for a bare life, dependent on the small proceeds of our daily labor to support our families, and aid the sick and inferior among us. We feel deeply thankful to the United States Government, who under God, have given us the inestimable boon of freedom.

We are fully conscious of the desire for our welfare, for our physical condition and moral elevation. Your petitioners are therefore the more bold and hopeful, considering that our church was destroyed by federal soldiers, without any provocation, on one part, to petition your honorable body to make an appropriation of money to enable us to build another house of worship, our church was valued at seven thousand dollars. We therefore ask the government to assist us in rebuilding it, and we your servants will ever pray for your happiness and endless felicity.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of the Preachers</th>
<th>Pastor in Charge,</th>
<th>Local Preachers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Wood</td>
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<td>J. B. Jones</td>
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<td>N. C. Brown</td>
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<td>Thomas Watson</td>
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<td>Robert Gibb</td>
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<td>Day玻璃 Milkins</td>
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<td>Athan Montgomery</td>
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<td>Duncan Minor</td>
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<td>John Reid</td>
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<td>Barnet Whitaker</td>
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<td>Glen York</td>
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<td>Vine Ware</td>
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<td>William Hindsel</td>
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<td>James Passar</td>
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<td>Arthur Howard</td>
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<td>Preston Johnson</td>
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<td>Darnell Margoe</td>
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<td>Sam Turner</td>
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<td>Daniel Macgee</td>
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<td>John Macgee</td>
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<td>Nathan Prior</td>
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| Charles Conley               |                           |                 |
| Andy Miller                  |                           |                 |
| Tony Webster                 |                           |                 |
| Douglas Colbrough            |                           |                 |
| Thaddeus Brown               |                           |                 |

| Austin Keith                 |                           |                 |
| Stephen Cole                 |                           |                 |
| Larry Thomas                 |                           |                 |
| Lewis Gites                  |                           |                 |
| Perry Johnson                |                           |                 |
| Ben Fish                     |                           |                 |
Jacob x Kelman
Millet x Coldland
Anton x Johnson
Anderson x Boyd
Henry x Pace
George x Kelham
Henry x Pack
Burr x Hemphill
Wesley x Tomlinson
Mr. x Miller
Jack x Sikes
Felman x Seathum
Tineer x Davis
Mary x Brooks
Andrew x Searson
Hitch x Zachry
Moore x Reddoun
Gilbert x Green
Elia x Pendley
John x Mosley
Sam x Martin
John x Watson
Thomas x Foster
Henry x Johnson
Trinity x Jones
Thomson x Owens
James x Bevis
Jeff x Brooks
Alfred x Porter

Robert x Henry
Charles x Kennedy
Carson x Miller
Hetheren x Coule
Richmond x Green
Mick x Mitchell
Charley x Poole
Gabriel x Repele
Henry x Green
Noah x Davis
W.T. x Turner
Zebulon x Wright
Josh x D. Bleckun
Mr. x Wesley
Charley x Harris
Mr. x Corbin
Ransome x McFartney
John x Messenger
Jeff x Thomas
Martin x Bright
Arnold x Johnson
Solomon x Johnson
Alfred x Williams
Dony x Wolmers
Joe x Williams
Major x Whittaker
Thomas x Holland
Peter x Key
Dorsey x Book

Frederick x Wilsey
Peter x Calhoun
Peter x Reddoun
Robert x Hopper
Briar x Cobb
Laver x Cobb
John x Mood
John x Black
Jack x Milly
Dan x Taffee

Jeff x Bennett
Ben x Whittaker
Ben x Jones
Thom x Anderson
Cornelius x Thomas
John x Anderson
John x Anderson
Thomas
John x Anderson

Ruey x Gar
Wm x Dallony
John Alexander
Coyne and Lee
Perry and Stewart
Auld and Auda
Langford and Mood
Rip and Alexander
Nelson and Saffer
Thomas and Turner
John and Johnson
Keaton and Johnson
Pate and Webster
Henry and Harris
Mack and Susan
Zion and Turner
John and Foster
Turner and Merrill
Felix and Malone
Love and Colwell
Tom and Combs
Tony and Hill
Hardy and Hayson
Mack and McNeil
Nelson and Son
Ezekiel and Wilkinson

Robt K Badger
Matilda and Mangum
Jane and Gran
Mann and Marsh
Lewis and Gail
Elen and Johnson
Hamer and Printup
Martin and Daniels
Louisa and Mack
Caroline and Finley
Mary and Williams
Earnie and Badger
Cattline and Badger
Mary and Faries
Heater and Ricker
Mary and Badger
Silly and Swissy
Wing and Pearson
Mary and Fowler
Caroline and Huchans
Savannah + pecan
Ennor & Saffar
Lowinda + Saseen
Bakerly + yourk
Elor + Davis
Sallor + Morrow
Florne + felds

Trustee of Said Church
Robert Webster, Chairman Trustee Board.
Anthony Montgomery
L.B. Jones,
Duncan Meindel
Vine Ware
Nathan Prier
Thomas Cazton,