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005 War Department
006 Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands
140 School Reports
200 1865
210 1870
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240 0.07 cf.
241 4 rolls, 35mm
261 The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, often referred to as the Freedmen's Bureau, was established by act of Congress on March 3, 1865. These records reflect the Bureau's responsibility to cooperate with benevolent organizations in establishing and funding schools for African Americans in former Confederate and border states after the Civil War.

270 A majority of the reports are monthly statistical reports from the district commissioners to the Bureau. These reports may list number of day and night schools, location or name of school, when opened, name of societies or patrons, number of schools sustained by freedmen, number of teachers transported by Bureau, number of school buildings owned and furnished by freedmen, number of teachers, number of white and colored teachers, number of pupils, number of male and female students, number of pupils enrolled last report, number left school this month, number of new scholars this month, average attendance, number of pupils paying tuition, number of white pupils, number always present, number always punctual, number of 16 year olds, number in alphabet, number spelling and reading easy lessons, number of advanced readers, number taking geography, number taking arithmetic, number in higher branches, number writing, number in needlework, number free before the war, number of sabbath schools, number of pupils in Sabbath Schools, totals for each category, place and date of report, and signature of commissioner. Schools were located in Wilmington, Dover, Milford, Seaford, Smyrna, Odessa, Christiana, New Castle, Laurel, Camden, Newport, Milton, Georgetown, Newark, Delaware City, Lewes, Williamsville, Port Penn, Mt. Pleasant, Slaughter Neck, Summit Bridge, Stanton, Dutch Neck, Lees Chapel, Plymouth, Peterson, and Big Union.

A monthly or quarterly narrative report summarizing the statistical report and/or describing the work accomplished, buildings, staff, meetings, and expenses may also be included. There are a few yearly statistical reports showing location of school, county, state, amount of money assisted in erecting and paying for repairs, rent paid, and total amount assisted. For 1868-1869 there is a "Report of Schools, Teachers, Buildings & etc." which shows the location of the school, names of teachers, number of pupils, owners of buildings, and occupants of buildings. Some of the 1869 reports also include the building dimensions, construction material, estimated value of the building and of the land, and the total value.

The last roll of microfilm is labeled "Schedules of Schools and Rental Accounts." It includes two reports made by the Delaware Association for the Moral Improvement and Education of the Colored People for the period October through December 1868. These reports show the location of the school, name of the teacher, owner of the building, total number of schools, average number of students, school number, color of teacher, when opened, amount of money given to the Association, and the signature of the agent.

Each roll of microfilm includes other states in addition to Delaware, because Delaware was part of the district that included Maryland, District of Columbia, and West Virginia. The records for Delaware start in 1867.

290 "School Reports" and "Schedules of Schools and Rental Accounts"
310 Originals records are the possession of the National Archives and Records Administration.

329

- needs sorting
- needs unfolding
- needs foldering/reboxing
- other:

ARCHIVIST:

- review for identification/needs further identification
- needs processing
- determine origin/purpose
- other:

CONDITION:

- totally disorganized
- order not apparent
- origin questionable
- other:

FILM:

- for security
- for preservation
- destroy original
- other:

330 School Reports arranged chronologically. Schedules of Schools and Rental Accounts arranged alphabetically by state.

331 No index

332 Handwritten, printed form with handwriting

350 4 rolls, 35 mm

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370 THE MICROFILM CANNOT BE REPRODUCED FOR SALE

390

420 2001060

430 National Archives item M803 rolls 16-18, 34.

990 June 19, 2001

995 June 19, 2001; February 17, 2010

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