From Colorado Citizen

Loss by Flood in the Colorado Valley (Texas)

We have made an estimate of the amount of the destruction in Texas Harris, Bastrop, Fayette, Colorado and Wharton Counties and from our estimate there were (80,000) eighty-thousand acres land in cultivation that has been overflowed and the entire crops thereon destroyed. Of this land fifty-thousand acres was in cotton which at a low estimate would have made thirty thousand (30,000) bales, worth three million (3,000,000) dollars, and twenty thousand (20,000) in corn (500,000 bushels) worth three hundred thousand dollars — making the total loss in crops alone, three million three hundred thousand dollars. Loss in fencing, fences were one million seven hundred thousand dollars, making the total loss in five (5) counties about five million dollars.

The aggregate loss in all the other counties of western Texas must nearly or quite equal that sum — making the entire loss in Texas Ten Millions of Dollars!
Fifteen thousand Freedmen in danger of starvation.

It is said that the recent unprecedented overflow of the main rice bottomes in Texas has left a large number—some estimate it as high as fifteen thousand—of Freedmen and their children without the means of subsistence. They have lost their all. Their only chance to maintain life is to go into the high lands and pick cotton. They are entirely without homes or any species of property whatsoever. The overflow occurred at a season too advanced to admit of re-planting. Aid should immediately be sent to their suffering Freedmen. No time should be lost in attending to their wants.
Several reasons why the North should aid liberally in the education and general elevation of the freedmen of the South.

They now constitute our fellow-citizens and are entitled to all the privileges of citizenship. To discharge properly the duties of citizenship they must, to a certain extent, be educated.

This the South will not, to any considerable extent do. Consequently the North must or it will go undone.

If the Southern freedmen are not educated, their rising race, as well as adult portion, will soon constitute a mass of ignorant voters to be manipulated at the will of designing demagogues. Many of them are anxious to avail themselves of the advantages of school privileges. For think their rising race and are willing to pay for such privileges.

The experience of the last few years has proved that the race is susceptible of mental culture.

The South, having last the pecuniary value of the slaves, thinks that the North ought to bear the expense of their education.

We seem to be entering upon an era of universal suffrage, hence the importance of the general enlightenment of all who are, or will be voters.
Edwin of the

Agricultural prospects continue favorable in Texas! The wheat and corn crop is made and is the largest ever realized in the country. All vegetable products dependent on early summer rains have done well. An increased degree of industry has been exhibited by all without regard to race, color or previous condition.

Especially have the Freedmen demeaned themselves well, and proved that they are capable in their changed condition of being made good farm laborers. A great misfortune has fallen on the country in the shape of the unprecedented overflow which has prevailed throughout a great portion of eastern Texas, including parts of the Brazos valley and extending west to the Rio Grande. The extent of the damage has not yet been ascertained, but it will doubtless amount to many millions of dollars. This falls heavily, especially upon the poorer classes and upon the freedmen who have worked hard with a hope of supporting themselves and families in that part of the State in which the greatest number of Freedmen reside, there has not been more than a third (1/3) of an average crop of cotton realized since emancipation. Consequently, the most industrious and economical part of the Freedmen have not been able to realize more than a living, have accumulated nothing. Many of them gone...
hoping to save enough from the growing crop to purchase home steads for their families. But, alas! after the crop was fully made, and with the most flattering prospects of an abundant yield, they are in midsummer, doomed to disappointment—Their crops, cattle, stock, poultry, household furniture, all! all! last and they left in an entirely destitute condition, to subsist the balance of the year, on the most precarious means, and to commence another year without house or home. Truly the Freedmen of Texas seem to be an unfortunate race! They richly deserve not only the commiseration but the substantial aid of the friends of humanity everywhere, and especially of such as have peculiar sympathies for the Freedmen. Charity judiciously bestowed at this time would save many valuable lives among the colored race in Texas.

True the climate is mild, but life cannot be sustained on pleasant breezes or innocuous draughts of pure water. Sickness will doubtless follow the overflow, and many plots remain in the infected district, will fall as prey to the diseases, which are the legitimate consequence of the sudden subsidence of water at this season of the year.
The white population, having lost their crops, will have enough to employ all the means they will be disposed to spare in relieving the wants of the poor of their own color race. Now is the time for the Northern friends of the
Caroled people in Texas to come to their relief.
It is hoped and confidently believed, that, de-
vorant individuals and associations at the
North will promptly and liberally haste to the
rescue of the Freedmen of Texas, in this time of need.
Its time should be fast? Whatever
is done should be done quickly.
Notwithstanding the overflow, it is thought if
the Cotton Boll will delay their deprivations a short
time longer, a larger aggregate piece of the varied
products of Texas will be realized during 1869
than ever before, since the country has been occupied
by Anglo Saxon, but will be mainly in section, not?
The Rail Road Spirit is still in the Community.
It is thought our wide domain will soon be
thoroughly permeated with Rail Roads.
Two distinct branches of the Southern Pacific
Rail Road have been projected to run through
out our State. A general System of Free Public
Schools is in anticipation, in the advantages of
which all colors are to participate.
Political reconstruction is considered "not far
away." Moral reconstruction is making some
progress. Temperance organizations are multiplying.
Bibles and other evangelical publications
are being circulated.
The gospel is being preached
by all colors, and if not to every creature, yet
quite extensively.
Something is being done in the education and evan-
gelization of the Freedmen, two religious and
two Agricultural Newspapers are published in the
State. Texas is soon to be connected by rail with the
coast of the Gulf of Mexico by way of New Orleans and Kansas.
Some churches are being built — and many more are needed. But the greatest need of Texas is a
population deep, imbued with the spirit of enterprise, and possessing capital and energy where
with to develop the boundless resources of our widely
extended and immensely fertile country.

When such a population shall be attained — and
its attainment is only a question of time, and that
time not a long one — then the Empire State of the
South — West — will rank with the most prosperous of
the great North — West — age! will control the
palm even with Illinois though it may be
some years before we can boast of having, in one
State, a Chicago!
We are not without Yellow Fever in any part
of our Territory. The next dreaded evil, the
Cotton Worm, still delays his unbenevolent visit.
Prosperity seems to come up in the not-
distant future. Thirty million gold dollars
is still the estimated value of the growing crop
of Texas for 1869, always basking the Cotton Worm.

Texas Star State
Galveston, Texas. — Oct. 8, J. Sheehank,
who has for some time been laboring in
Galveston, Texas, thus writes to a friend.

I am laboring under heavy difficulties here.

The Board of Freedmen is run wholly on
Sectarian Evangelical grounds. I am the only
Unitarian who has a position in the Board,
and expect to be dismissed at any moment.

The State is filled with hungry, wolfish bigots,
who are interested by the various fundimental
aid Societies, and who come to fleece the
Freedmen. Of course I oppose them, and
shall do so both in this world and in the next; so
I have a stirring time. The liberal Christians are
not wise in that they contribute bountifully to
professedly benevolent associations, that use the
means thus generated, given for various speculations
and

Small denominational ends. I shall probably give
"the works up and go north in a few weeks."
End. Hon. refused in his testimony to prepare
an actual instant which had been actually committed.
The committee would like to hear a statement of
all the cases arising of masturbation wherein such proc-
must had been actually committed.
This is to certify that on Friday afternoon the 27th. day of April 1866 Brig. Gen. Davis Tillson U. S. V. and A. Com. of the Freedmen's Bureau for the State of Georgia, called me into his private office in the city of Augusta, Ga. and informed me that the Mayor of the city had called to see him in regard to the floral ceremony proposed to be performed over the graves of the Union soldiers in the city cemetery on the 28th. of April, and wished him to stop it, as he feared it would result in serious consequences, much as the whites were much excited about it, and said that he (Gen. Tillson) would like to have it dispensed with or at least postponed a week or two; that if persisted in then he thought it could only stir up bad blood and perhaps result in the death of some colored person.

He added that he thought I had influence enough with the teachers
to stop it (or postpone it) and that if I could do so, it would be a gratification to him.

I replied that I would convey his wishes to the teachers, which I did that same evening at the supper table.

G. L. Sobrhardt.

State Supt. I. S. Ga.
Endorsement of Col. Bridgely.

Pickens, O.C.A. August 16th 1868.

At a Mass Meeting of the colored people held in Andrew's Chapel for the purpose of expressing their appreciation of the administration of Col. Bridgely as Superintendent of R. I. the following gentlemen were appointed a committee on resolutions: Mr. J. H. Jones, Mrs. J. F. Price, R. R. Dudley, J. Lawrence and Alva Scott.

At a subsequent meeting the following report was read and unanimously adopted.

Whereas the position of Superintendent of Freedmen's Affairs is one requiring the most consummate wisdom, sound discretion, and purity of intention and of moral courage sufficient to face the frowns and intimidations of the openly vicious and to resist the temptations of flattery and whereas Col. Bridgely, late R.P. of this district possessed all of the qualifications in an eminent degree and whereas it becomes to us to acknowledge the virtues of those who are faithful to their trust, especially when the interest of our people so greatly depends thereon, therefore Resolve that we deeply regret the uncontrollable circumstances that compelled the Col. to get relieved from duty at this past.
Resolves that it is the sense of this meeting that he is justly entitled to the implicit confidence reposed in him by the entire community of colored people. Resolve that his memory be engraved upon our hearts and that our prayers shall follow him through all the walks of life that when his labors are ended he may receive the reward that heaven's store contains for those who have been faithful in their several stations in life.

Resolve that we congratulate our friends in Maryland in their good luck in having so good an officer returned to them. Our loss is their gain.

J.R. Hand  G.W. Price  R.E. Dudley
Lt. Havens  Alex Scott  Committee

Among York President

S. W. Brown Sec.

[Signature]

[Signature]
Washington D.C., Oct. 4th, 1864. Respectfully requested, Mr. E., I do see no objection to giving the information asked for. Please direct a letter to me answering the Bttriss' questions according to your observation. If you do not anticipate great want of much of the letter, Sec. 7th, Bureau law which requires cooperation with brands, brands, or associations on our part.

O.G. Howard
Major-Gen., Com. 3d

Prepared officially through 4th A, (Record division) of the Bureau.
At a Hare Meeting of the Legal Citizens of Campbell Co., and City of Lynchburg, held at Lynchburg, Va., December 21st, 1861, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Whereas, the State of Virginia, had for a long time, occupied an anomalous position, as regards the United States, the Governor having only taken partial action, under the Reconstruction Acts; having many offices of trust and influence, in charge of men opposed to the Reconstruction acts; and

Whereas: Reconstruction at this time, might be aided by placing good substantial and loyal men, in place of official trust, those who support the Reconstruction Acts of Congress, in place of those who oppose them, and looking to the time, when the present state of affairs must end, and anxious that the civil officers, that follow the military rule, shall be men in whom the Legal Citizens can trust, we therefore petition the powers that be,

Resolved: that we are in favor of an early Election, in this State, and until such is
Resolved, that all offices be filled by those in favor of Reconstruction, as well as ability to take the 'Iron Clad Oath.'

Resolved: that we petition Congress through Generals Stoneman, Genl. C. Brown, and Genl. O. O. Howard, for continuance of the Freedman's Bureau, until such time as Reconstruction shall be a fact in this State.

Resolved: that the proscription of Union citizens and supporters of the Reconstruction Acts is equivalent to opposition to the authority and government of the United States.

Resolved: that we recommend to Congress the removal of the political disabilities of all persons, who come recommended by the known Republicans of Lynchburg, and Campbell county.


Joe M. Bynum
Secretary.

Wm. L. Burton
President.
War Department.
Adjutant General’s Office,
Washington, D.C. January 15th, 1873

Receipt of Brigadier General
O. O. Howard Eato Commissioner
Bureau of Refugees Freedmen and
Abandoned Lands the following
record books:
1. Register of Retained Bounty
1. Mem. Book Cash balances
1. Record R.o. F. Fund and School funds.

[Signature]

Captain 5th Artillery
Chief disbursing Officer