



Created by: Jennifer Damon, Mark Twain Elementary

Grade level: 5

Primary Source Citation: *Union School Petition against Admission of African American Children*, November 22, 1848, Rotch-Wales Collection, Massillon Public Library. From *Ohio Memory: An Online Scrapbook of Ohio History*,

<http://www.ohiomemory.org/u/?p267401coll36,22850>

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the document located at the above link while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

Level I: Description

1. In what year was this petition written?
2. Who are the writers of this petition?

Level II: Interpretation

1. What are the authors stating in this petition?
2. To whom is the petition addressed?

Level III: Analysis

1. Whose voice is not heard in this petition?
2. Is the desire stated in this petition a constitutional? For whom is it constitutional?
3. What does this petition tell you about Ohio schools and segregation?

To the Directors of the Union School
of the Town of Mafellon

Like the undersigned household
ers of the Town of Mafellon Stark Co.
and State of Ohio Under ^{the} Statute passed
Feb. 24th 1848 Made and provided for
the admission of Colored children into the
common schools set apart for white
children into the common schools
which reads as follows: That in every
city incorporated Town or Village or
left of justice or organized for in this
State containing a less number than twenty
black or Colored children desirous of
attending school It shall be the duty
of the School directors of any school
district organized for the education
of white children to admit such black
or Colored children ^{upon the} same terms and
they shall be entitled to benefit as if
they could be if they were white
children, under the act to which this
is an amendment Process and no
objection be filed with ^{the} directors
signed by any person having a child
in such school or by any legal voter
of such district") would respectfully
present to the said directors as requested
by the above Statute (in writing) our objection

children be denied the privilege and benefits of said Union School erected expressly for white children of the Town of Massillon. And further we urge that the Colored Children that have been received into sd school may be discharged therefrom upon the receipt of this our "objection" Massillon Dec 22nd 1854

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Thos. Blackburn | J. E. McLean |
| Mark Withington | John Ferris |
| L. Lehmann | G. F. White |
| David F. C. Trappan | Lewis H. Smith |
| Geo. A. Kellenberg | J. P. Reed |
| Wm. Brown | Geo. Seal |
| John Shepley | John Ferris |
| L. F. Doney | O. S. Hart |
| E. C. Bond | David Walker |
| D. R. Alder | J. S. Kelley |
| C. M. Oberlin | P. Baldwin |
| D. R. Ferris | A. C. McCarty |
| O. K. Dickey | V. Moffet |
| Chas. M. Willson | S. Oberlin |
| Silas Pearson | J. S. Mount |
| John Hartup | A. S. Humburger |
| C. S. McEwen | H. B. Harris |
| Thos. Fitzgould | Adam Sibela |
| John Davis | John Schodmutter |
| Saml. Hall | Nathan G. Smith |
| John Wilson | David Hootman |
| Dan Harbaugh | Hugh Conington |
| L. P. Keeler | Wm. Beon |
| | Adam Hummel |
| | M. Decker |

children be debarred the privilege and
benefits of said Union School erected
expressly for white children of the
Town of Mansfield. And further we urge
that the Colored Children that have been
received into sd school may be discharged
therefrom upon the receipt of this
our objection. Mansfield Dec 22^d 1835

John Blackburn	J. E. McLean
Mark Withington	John Ferris
L. Johnson	G. F. White
David F. C. Farapagan	Levin S. Smith
Geo. A. Kellenberger	J. P. Reed
Wm Brown	Geo. Seal
John Shapley	John Terry
L. F. Doney	Olive Hart
E. C. Bond	David Walker
D. R. Medwater	J. A. Kelley
W. M. Oberlin	P. Baldwin
D. R. Ferris	A. C. McCarty
A. C. R. Dickes	V. Moffitt
Chas. McMillan	S. Oberlin
Silas Pearson	J. S. Maunt
John Hartney	A. S. Huntington
R. S. McEwen	H. B. Harris
Thos. Fitzgould	Adam Sibela
John Kane	John Schradmuer
Saml. Hall	Nathan G. Smith
John Wilson	David Hartman
Dan Harbaugh	Hugh Crighton
L. P. Kester	Wm. Peon
	Adam Hummel
	M. D. Doolen

Copy of Petition
from Citizens
of Weymouth
to School Board
of Union School
expressly got
up for Colored
Children

W.S.

[Page 1] [corresponds to page one of Union School Petition Against Admission of African American Children] To the Directors of the Union School of the Town of Massillon We the undersigned household ers of the Town of Massillon Stark Place and State of Ohio Under the Statute passed Feb.24 1848 Made and provided for the admission of Colord children into the common Schools, set apart for white children into the common schools which reads as follows . That in every City incorporated Town or Village or Seat of Justice containing a less number than twenty black or colord children desirous of attending school. It shall be the duty of the School directory of any School district organised for the education of white children to admit such black or colord children upon the same terms, and they shall be entitled to benefit, as they could be if they were white children, under the acts to which this is an amendment Provided no objection be filed with the directory signed by any person having a child in such school or by any aged voter of such district" Would respectfully present to the said directory as requested by the above Statute(in writing) our objec -tion to the admission of Colord children into said Union School and to the full benefit there of or any part of the sum And we further urge as a right given by sd Statute that the said Colord

[Page 2] [corresponds to page two of Union School Petition Against Admission of African American Children] children be debarred the privilege and benefits of said Union School erected expressly for the white children of sd Town of Massillon. And we affirm this anger that the Colord Children that have been received into sd school May be discharged there from upon the receipt of this our "objection" Massillon Nov 22 1848 Thos Blackburn J.E.McLain Mark Wilhington John Tennis L Lehman H.F.Uhle David F.C.Traphagan Lewis Hurxthal Geo.A Kellenberger T P Reed Wm Brown Geo Searl John Shipley John Terry L. F. Dony Olive D. Hait E.C.Bond Louis Welker D.K. Atwater J.S.Kelley C.M. Oberlin P. Baldwin D.K. Fenner A.L. McCearty O & K Dickey V Moffit [illegible] D McMillan S Oberlin C.N.Oberlin T.S. Mount Silus Rawson A.S.Humberger John Huntness H.B. Harris R.S.McEwen Adam Sibilia Thos Fitzgerald John Schodmuller Jas Cuny Nathan G Smith Saml Bell David Huntsman John Wilson Hugh Creighton Dan Harbaugh Wm Bean S.P. Kesler Adam HammerSmith G.D.Hine M Derdenger H.W.Smith Jas Lazarett Wm Johnstone M [illegible] Saml McCaughey W.A. Reed Saml H Whitehead Thos Glen Isaac Nettleton Lewis [unclear]

[Page 3] [corresponds to page three of Union School Petition Against Admission of African American Children] P.Y. Blodjet T.E. Konnsman Wm P Hunt John Desbuck FW Snider Christian Snider [illegible] Wallonhorf Geo Ress Jacob Rum A Fisher P Klim W L Klekfel Geo Willison Reuben Sander Asa Cutter Jeremiah Howald [illegible] [illegible] D.K.Canter by GD Hine Johanas M[illegible] John Cecil J.S.Lockwood Leigys' Fleure & [illegible] T.F.Kunthuus HB Huntb[illegible] M D Wellman S L Bordon Solomon Lind F Pennigat John Drew David Trede[illegible] Levi N. Darren William Bohanon Peter Morganthaler Dutch mane T.R. Richmond T. Brown 96 Copy [written sideways]

[Page 4] [corresponds to page four of Union School Petition Against Admission of African American Children] Copy of a letter from Citizens of Massillon To School board of Union School [illegible] by got up for Colored Children