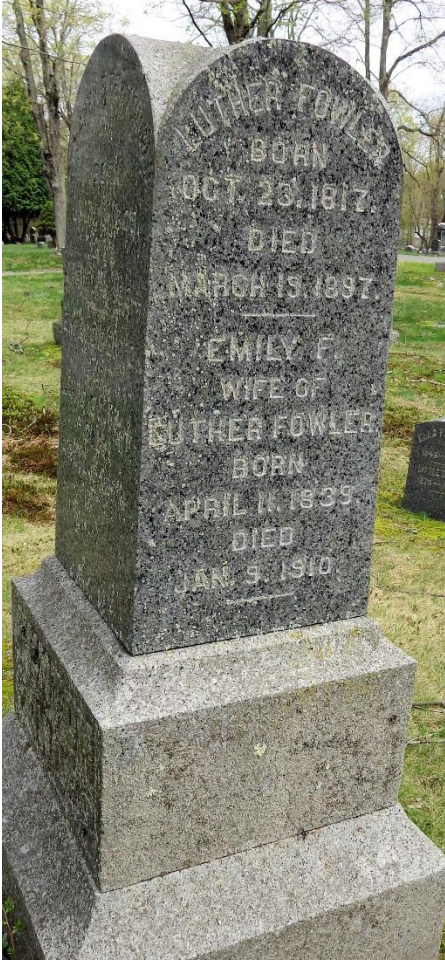


EMILY P FENTON



Born: Apr. 11, 1839 in Half-Moon, Saratoga Co., NY

Died Jan. 9, 1910 in New York, NY

Appointment(s):

American Missionary Association (AMA)
Stoney Plantation Fairfield School
Hilton Head, SC
Nov. 1866

Beaufort, SC
Sep. 1868 - May 1869

1839-1910

Emily was born April 11, 1839 in Half-Moon, Saratoga Co., New York to Stephen Fenton (1804 VT - 1864), a physician and Emily Dewey (1814-1874). She was an older sister to freedmen's teacher Ella Fenton and the wife of freedmen's teacher Luther Fowler who she married March 19, 1859.¹ The American Missionary Association appointed her to a teaching position with the freedmen on Hilton Head Island. Emily and her husband arrived in 1865 and she took up her position as a teacher in the Fairfield School on Stoney Plantation.²

¹ *Westchester Historian*. Vol 30:103, p119. "French scrapbooks".

<https://www.Westchesterhistory.com/media/pdf/library/french/FrenchF.pdf>.

² Smith, Janel Janiczek, *From A Northern Home to a Southern School: Cultural Imperialists or Just Stubborn Yankees*, p 374-375. Statesboro, GA: Georgia Southern University, Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies, electronic theses and dissertations 2013,

EMILY P FENTON

On March 19, 1865, Emily wrote a letter to President Abraham Lincoln about the condition of the freed slaves on Hilton Head Island.³ On December 6, 1866, Emily wrote a letter to Rev. Samuel Hunt from Hilton Head about the progress being made with the freedmen, the difficulties she faced and challenged him on his expectations of the teachers.

We have received your instructions and find it impossible to comply with them in every particular. You can see from the monthly report we are doing the work of three teachers and you will also observe that we only teach one session. Teaching two sessions would of necessity [?] in value of more labor.⁴

The American Missionary Association transferred Emily to Beaufort, SC in September 1868 where she remained until May 1869.⁵ The 1880 US Census shows her residing in Mt. Kisco, Westchester Co., New York. In 1900 she was living in Bedford, Westchester Co., NY as a widow and in 1903 as a widow at Carpenter Avenue in White Plains, Westchester Co., NY. Emily died January 9, 1910 in New York and her will was dated October 16, 1909.⁶

<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/etd/58>, accessed Sept 2, 2018

³ U.S. Library of Congress: American Memory Collection. "Abraham Lincoln papers, Series 1. General Correspondence, 1833-1916": Mrs. Luther Fowler to Abraham Lincoln, Sunday, March 19, 1865 [she writes on behalf of the freedmen at Hilton Head]. <https://www.loc.gov/item/mal4137000/>,

⁴ Emily P Fenton. American Missionary Association Archives. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University Amistad Research Center. Item # H6285: [Letter 6 Dec 1866 from Hilton Head to Mr Smith].

⁵ Smith, *Ibid*.

- American Missionary Association. *American Missionary*, Vol XI, No 4 Apr 1868, p 74.

⁶ *Westchester Historian*. Vol 30:103, p119. "French scrapbooks".

<https://www.Westchesterhistory.com/media/pdf/library/french/FrenchF.pdf>.

---Ancestry.com 'New York Wills and Probate Records, 1659-1999. Westchester 1809-1910, Wills and Letters, Vol 0166-0169'.