

FRANCES ELLEN CHEESMAN



1847-1931

Born: Feb. 27, 1847 in Genoa, Cayuga, NY

Married: Oct 1866 to Rev. George Clifford Carpenter

Married: Jun. 4, 1902 to William Buxton

Married: Oct. 12, 1920 to Alonzo Robert Hurford

Died: Aug. 27, 1931 in Indianola, Warren, Iowa

Appointment(s):

American Missionary Association (AMA)

Chaplin's Plantation – Hilton Head, SC

Marshlands School

May 1866 – Apr. 1867

Bessie School – Mitchelville – Hilton Head, SC

Mid-1867 – Mar. -1868

Frances Ellen was born February 27, 1847 in Genoa, Cayuga, New York to Abram Garrison Cheesman (1820 NY - 1901) and Maria C. Davis (1822 NY - 1901). From 1850 - 1865, Frances lived in Genoa with her parents. In October 1866 she married Rev. George Clifford Carpenter and they had three children. Both were appointed in May 1866, before they were married, as teachers to the freedmen on Hilton Head Island by the American Missionary Association and arrived at Hilton Head in May 1866 to teach on Chaplin's Plantation until at least March 1867.¹ By April 1867, she transferred to Mitchelville Freedmen's Village because she submitted a 'Teacher's Monthly Report' (TMR) from Bessie School in Mitchelville in April 1867.² It is a bit unclear as to the exact timing of her transfer because Eliza Ann Summers provides a list of teachers in Hilton Head as of April 1867 and lists the Carpenters both as being on

¹ Martin, Josephine W., ed. "Dear Sister": Letters Written on Hilton Head Island 1867. Beaufort, SC: Beaufort Book Co, Inc, 1977. P 110.

² American Missionary Association Archives. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University, Amistad Research Library. "Teacher's Monthly Report", Bessie School, Mitchellville, Apr 1867.
<http://www.drbronsonstour.com/teachersmonthlyreportgeorgecarpenterapril1867.html>.

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Chaplin's Plantation in Hilton Head, but also at Marshlands School.³ Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter departed South Carolina on March 20, 1868 to return home.⁴

In 1880, the couple was residing in Indianola, Warren Co., New York. After her 1st husband's death in 1894, she remarried on June 4, 1902 to William Buxton (b 1828 England - 1918), a banker and by 1910 US Census, they were living on Pacific Avenue in Long Beach, California. He died shortly after their marriage and by 1920, Frances was listed as a widow living with her married daughter Edith's family in Indianola, Iowa. However, by October 12, 1920, Frances Ellen had found true love once again when she married Alonzo Robert Hurford (1848-1931) in Indianola. Frances died at 5:00 am on August 27, 1931 in Indianola, Warren Co, Iowa from nephritis.⁵ She was buried in the IOOF Cemetery (aka Odd Fellows Cemetery) with all three of her husbands by her side.⁶

³ Martin, Josephine W., ed. "Dear Sister": Letters Written on Hilton Head Island 1867. Beaufort, SC: Beaufort Book Co, Inc, 1977. P 110.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Findagrave.com Memorial ID #27997063 created 2 Jul 2008 by Contributor #46620252.

⁶ Ibid.