

# MRS. MARTHA ANN CURRY nee SUTTON



**1820-1866**

Born: Apr. 23, 1820 in Jennings Co., IN

Married: Jun. 5, 1838 to John P. Manhart

Married: Oct. 27, 1856 to George J. Curry

Died: Dec 22, 1886 in IL

Appointment(s):

American Missionary Association(AMA)  
Seabrook Plantation – Hilton Head, SC  
1866 - 1867

Martha Ann was born April 23, 1820 in Jennings Co., Indiana to John D. Sutton (1797-1838) and Mary Brown (1804-1880). She married John P. Manhart (1814-1850) on June 5, 1838 in Jennings County, IN and the couple had 4 children. After her husband's death, Martha Ann married for the second time on October 27, 1856 in Crawford, IL to George J Curry (1817-1893).<sup>1</sup>

She was appointed by the American Missionary Association as a teacher to the freedmen on Hilton Head Island. She arrived in 1866 and took up her position at Seabrook Plantation as a teacher.<sup>2</sup> She was already married to Mr. Curry when she served in South Carolina. Martha Ann departed the state after February 26, 1867 according to correspondence in the Archives of the AMA held at Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana<sup>3</sup>. Martha Ann Sutton Manhart Curry died on December 22, 1886 - age 66 yrs., 7 mos., & 29 days and is buried in Oblong Cemetery in Crawford County, Illinois.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Geraldine Joncich. *Those Good Gertrudes: A Social History of Women Teachers in America*. Baltimore, MD: John Hopkins University Press, Sep 2014, p 26.  
<https://muse.jhu.edu/book/3489/>.

<sup>2</sup> Martin, Josephine W, ed. "Dear Sister": Letters Written on Hilton Head Island 1867. Beaufort, SC: Beaufort Book Co, Inc, 1977. [letters by teacher, Eliza Ann Summers]  
- American Missionary Association Archives, Amistad Research Library. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University, Microfilm #1.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

<sup>4</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial ID #8480957 created March 7, 2004 by Phyllis Parks.  
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/8480957>.