

TERESA J PHILLIPS

Born: Abt. 1830 in VT

Died: unknown

Appointment(s):

American Missionary Association (AMA)
Beaufort, SC
1866

Hilton Head, SC
1867

Theresa Phillips was born about 1830 in Vermont. She was appointed by the American Missionary Association to teach the freedmen for one year in Beaufort, South Carolina in 1866 before transferring to Hilton Head Island for a second year of service.¹ Evidence of difficulties in Beaufort and a decision of the AMA to transfer her to Hilton Head are in two letters which she wrote to the AMA administrators. Theresa wrote on April 6, 1865 from Beaufort to Rev. S. S. Jocelyn about how she and other teachers had used corporal punishment in the classroom which was not permitted by AMA.² Theresa also wrote on January 1, 1866 from Hilton Head to Rev. S. Hunt about a situation that had occurred in Beaufort with two male teachers which was unacceptable to her.³

Although she personally expressed a desire to stay in her teaching position in Beaufort, she was not permitted to stay over the summer months nor continue the following year in that school. The situations she described in her letters perhaps provide the reason why she was re-assigned for her second year to Hilton Head.⁴

¹ Smith, Janel Janiczek, From A Northern Home to a Southern School: Cultural Imperialists or Just Stubborn Yankees, pp 179-180. Statesboro, GA: Georgia Southern University, Jack N.Averitt College of Graduate Studies, electronic theses and dissertations 2013, <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/etd/58>, accessed Sept 2, 2018 .

² Phillips, Theresa J. American Missionary Association Archives, Amistad Research Center, Item #H5563: [Letter Apr 6, 1865 to Rev. S.S. Jocelyn from Beaufort, SC. accessed Sept 22, 2018.

³ ----- Item #H5894: [Letter Jan 1, 1866 to Rev S. Hunt from Hilton Head, SC.

⁴ Smith, p 179.