

A Guide to the "Prayer Meeting in a Contraband Camp - Washington, 1862" Steel Engraving, 1887 SC 0060

"Prayer Meeting in a Contraband Camp - Washington, 1862" Steel Engraving
1887



Title Statement

A Guide to the "Prayer Meeting in a Contraband Camp - Washington, 1862" Steel Engraving, 1887 SC 0060

Author: Tiffany Cole

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880 Madison Drive
MSC 1704
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22807
Telephone: (540) 568-3612
library-special@jmu.edu
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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

SC 0060

Unit Date

1887

Language

English .

Abstract

The "Prayer Meeting in a Contraband Camp - Washington, 1862" Steel Engraving, 1887, is comprised of one 5 ¼ x 8 ¾ inch engraving featuring imagery of African-American worshippers, crowded into a small dark cabin. The prayer meeting attendees are depicted as singing, clapping, dancing, stomping their feet, and generally moving about energetically with arms uplifted.

Creator

Cade, J. J., active 1890-1900

Creator

Sheppard, William Ludwell, 1833-1912

Creator

A.D. Worthington & Co.

source

Cohasco, Inc.

Extent

0.06 cubic feet 1 letter folder

Repository

James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection open to research. Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection. Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the James Madison University Special Collections Library to use this collection.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have been transferred to the James Madison University Special Collections Library. For more information, contact the Special Collections Library Reference Desk (library-special@jmu.edu).

Acquisition Information

James Madison University Special Collections acquired this item at auction from Cohasco, Inc. in January 2016.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], [box #, folder #], "Prayer Meeting in a Contraband Camp – Washington, 1862" Steel Engraving, 1887, SC 0060, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Bio/Historical Note

William Ludwell Sheppard (1833-1912) was born in Richmond, Virginia and served with the Richmond Howitzers in the Army of Northern Virginia. He was a watercolorist, illustrator, teacher, and painter who began his career as a tobacco label illustrator. He has been credited with providing valuable imagery of the American South, including the African-American experience, and the Civil War. Other similar works include: "The First African Church, Richmond, Virginia – Interior of the Church, from the Western Wing" (1874), "Negroes Hiding in the Swamps of Louisiana" (1873), and "The Sunny South – a Negro Revival Meeting – a Seeker 'Getting Religion'" (1873).

A contraband camp refers to an encampment set up near Union forces during the American Civil War by certain escaped slaves who allied with the Union.

Scope and Content

The "Prayer Meeting in a Contraband Camp – Washington, 1862" Steel Engraving, 1887, is comprised of one 5 ¼ x 8 ¾ inch engraving featuring imagery of African-American worshippers, crowded into a small dark cabin. The prayer meeting attendees are depicted as singing, clapping, dancing, stomping their feet, and generally moving about energetically with arms uplifted. Printed on the bottom border: "Oh I'm gwine home to glory--won't yer go along wid me, Whar de blessed angels beckon, an' de Lor' my Saviour be?"

Keywords

African Americans -- History -- To 1863

Fugitive slaves -- United States -- Social conditions -- History -- 19th century

Prayer in art

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- African Americans

Steel engravings (visual works)

Cohasco, Inc.

Bibliography

"William Sheppard." Artist Biography for William Sheppard. Accessed February 21, 2017.
http://www.askart.com/artist_bio/William_Ludwell_Ludlow_Sheppard/29605/William_Ludwell_Ludlow_Sheppard.aspx.

Arrangement

The engraving is housed in one letter folder.

Description of Subordinate Components

"Prayer Meeting in a Contraband Camp - Washington, 1862" Steel Engraving

Unit Date 1887

Mixed Materials [1000886509] 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)