

SUCCESS FOR AFRO-AMERICANS AND CALLED FOR ABLE BLACKS TO EMIGRATE TO THEIR SPIRITUAL AND RACIAL HOMELAND, AFRICA. TO BEGIN THEIR OWN NATION. HE PLANNED TO ESTABLISH A COTTON INDUSTRY THERE THAT WOULD UNDERSSELL AND EVENTUALLY BANKRUPT THE SOUTHERN COTTON INDUSTRY BY TAKING EUROPEAN MARKETS FROM IT. THIS WOULD SIMULTANEOUSLY HELP ERADICATE SLAVERY IN THE AMERICAN SOUTH WHILE ALSO FURTHERING A PATH OF BLACK, SELF-HELP AND RACIAL AFFIRMATION. THIS POSITION TENDED TO OBSCURE DELANY IN AMERICAN HISTORY BECAUSE OF THE PRE-EMINENCE OF A BACK-TO-AFRICA POLICY, SET BY THE WHITE-LED AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY(ACS), WHICH DELANY AND ALL AFRO-AMERICAN LEADERS STRONGLY OPPOSED. ALTHOUGH THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY WAS SUPPORTED BY MANY RESPECTABLE AND MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD WHITE, AMERICANS, INCLUDING LEADING CLERGY AND AMERICAN PRESIDENTS, AFRO-AMERICAN LEADERS PERCEPTIVELY ARGUED THAT THIS MOVEMENT, WHICH WAS INITIATED IN PART AND SUPPORTED BY WHITE PLANTATION OWNERS IN THE SOUTH, INCLUDING BUSHROD WASHINGTON IN CHARLES TOWN, WAS A METHOD FOR WEEDING OUT AND GETTING RID OF OLD, NON-REPRODUCTIVE BLACKS ON THEIR PLANTATIONS AS WELL AS REBELLIOUS BLACKS WHO SOUGHT TO ENCOURAGE UPRISINGS AGAINST THEIR KEEPERS.

1858-JOHN BROWN SPEAKS TO A CONVENTION IN CHATHAM, ONTARIO, ORGANIZED AT BROWN'S REQUEST BY DR. DELANY. ABOUT THIRTY-FOUR LEADING AFRO-AMERICAN LEADERS ATTEND AND HEAR JOHN BROWN'S PLANS TO LEAD AN ARMED INSURRECTION. DELANY DID NOT OFFER DIRECT PERSONAL SUPPORT, SENSING THE LIKELY FAILURE OF THE UNDERTAKING. HIS INTEREST IN SUCH A SLAVE UPRISING IS, HOWEVER, WELL DOCUMENTED IN HIS NOVEL, "BLAKE," WHICH HE WAS WRITING AT THAT TIME.

1859- DR. DELANY AND ROBERT CAMPBELL SIGN A TREATY WITH AFRICAN CHIEFTAINS AT ABEOKUTA, ALLOWING SETTLEMENT LANDS TO EMIGRATIONIST AFRO-AMERICANS, RETURNING TO AFRICA'S NIGER VALLEY:

1860-DELANY RETURNS FROM AFRICA TO LONDON WHERE HE LECTURES WIDELY. THE CONFRONTATION WITH AMERICAN AMBASSADOR DALLAS AT THE INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY CONVENTION OCCURS, CAUSING AN INTERNATIONAL, DIPLOMATIC INCIDENT AS THE AMERICAN DIPLOMATS ARE OUTRAGED BY DELANY'S SELF-ASSURANCE.

1861 -DELANY RETURNS TO CANADA AND LECTURES ON AFRICA

1863-AFTER THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION, HIS RENEWED FAITH IN THE AMERICAN DREAM PERSUADES DELANY TO VIGOROUSLY HELP TO RECRUIT AFRO-AMERICAN RECRUITS FOR THE CAUSE IN NORTHERN STATES. DELANY HIMSELF BECOMES PART OF MASSACHUSETTS' 104TH REGIMENT.

1865-PRESIDENT LINCOLN MEETS DR. DELANY AND APPOINTS HIM AS THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN FIELD OFFICER IN THE U.S. ARMY. HE IS ASSIGNED TO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, LEAVING HIS FAMILY AT HOME IN WILBERFORCE, OHIO. IN JULY HE IS TRANSFERRED TO THE NEWLY FORMED FREEDMAN'S BUREAU