



The Research, Discovery,
and Experience Company

Davidge Hall, 522 W. Lombard Street, Baltimore,
Maryland. Public Domain from [Wikimedia
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CONNECTIONS TO SLAVERY AND RACISM

April 4, 2024

AGENDA

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CONTENT WARNING

The content and discussion in this presentation will necessarily engage historical events, themes, and materials related to abuse, enslavement, and dehumanization that may be disturbing, even traumatizing, to audience members. The content may be emotionally and intellectually challenging. If at any time, you need to take a break or step away, please do so. We will do our best to make this a time and space where we can engage bravely, empathetically, and thoughtfully with the findings, as we work collaboratively through the process of discovery and transformation.

Oscar Cortina, LCPC, Senior Counselor with the UMB Student Counseling Center, will be available to provide information regarding counseling resources. Students may request a same-day appointment today if you would prefer a confidential space to meet with a counselor.

SCOPE OF RESEARCH

Phase 1

The initial project scope called for in-depth research of individuals whose names appeared on UMB buildings. HAI's research was limited by partial or complete closure of libraries and archives due to COVID-19. We completed extensive research online and were able to conduct remote inquiries with some repositories.

In 2023, once repositories reopened to outside researchers, HAI followed up on these additional avenues of research for the fourteen individuals of interest. This included a combination of in-person research trips, as well as further remote inquiries, online research, and collaborations with archival staff.

Phase 2 (Ongoing)

This new scope, started in December 2023, calls for targeted investigation and analysis of UMB's historical ties to chattel slavery and systemic racism. Connections to slavery include (but are not limited to) direct involvement by UMB or its acquired schools in the intra-American slave trade; receipt of donations, endowments, loans, or other forms of investment into UMB from individuals or institutions that owned enslaved persons or were involved in the intra-American slave trade; and use of enslaved labor in campus facilities. HAI will also undertake targeted research to understand the ways in which the University has historically been involved in the devaluation, discrimination, and exclusion of Black Americans and other marginalized peoples.

POSITIONALITY

HAI is a for-profit professional consulting firm. The team of historians and archivists who worked on this project are not members of the racial community that this work most impacts. We understand the subject matter can be difficult and sensitive and we acknowledge our distance from it.

HAI conducted our research through the lens of researchers and historians. This effort is part of a larger social justice endeavor and we are honored to be part of UMB's discovery efforts.

TIMELINE

NOVEMBER 2020

Work Begins

UMB authorizes HAI to move forward with research.

JULY 2021

Initial Deliverable

HAI delivers the initial research report. Many in-person avenues of research were unavailable due to COVID-19 restrictions, limiting the report's completeness.

FEBRUARY 2023

Project Reinitiates

HAI conducts research at repositories which were closed due to COVID-19 restrictions and using newly identified online resources.

JUNE 2023

Final Deliverable

HAI delivers the completed research report to UMB.

NAMES AND ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS

INDIVIDUAL

Frank C. Bressler
 Donaldson Brown
 Francis King Carey
 John Beale Davidge
 George Gray
 John Eager Howard
 Robert Carey Long, Sr.

CAMPUS CONNECTION

Frank C. Bressler Research Building
 Donaldson Brown Riverfront Event Center
 Francis King Carey School of Law
 Davidge Hall
 George Gray Research Hall, School of Medicine
 Howard Hall, School of Medicine
 Plaque on Davidge Hall (Architect/Builder)

NAMES AND ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS

INDIVIDUAL

Clara Barton

Dorothea Dix

Lucile Petry Leone

Mary Mahoney

Florence Nightingale

Louisa Parsons

Lillian Wald

UMB CAMPUS CONNECTION

Names on School of Nursing

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

HAI consulted resources from the following institutions:

- University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB) Library
- University of Maryland (College Park) Archival Collection
- Library of Congress
- Maryland Center for History and Culture
- Maryland State Archives
- New York Public Library
- Smith College
- UCLA
- University of Michigan
- Yale
- Online sources including: University of Maryland Digital Archive, Newspapers.com, Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, Genealogy Bank, HathiTrust, Internet Archive, JSTOR, and Google Books

DEFINITIONS

Connections to Slavery

- Based on publicly available records, purchased, sold, manumitted, or held ownership of enslaved people. Received benefit from the institution of slavery and the labors of the people who were enslaved.

Connections to Racist Ideology

- Based on publicly available records, demonstrated a belief that whites were superior to people of color, expressed through racist, derogatory, or paternalistic policies, practices, and language.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Connections to Slavery

- John Beale Davidge
- George Gray
- John Eager Howard
- Robert Carey Long, Sr.

Connections to Racist Ideologies

- Clara Barton
- Donaldson Brown
- Francis King Carey
- Dorothea Dix
- Lucile Petry Leone
- Florence Nightingale
- Lillian Wald

No Racist Connections Uncovered

- Frank C. Bressler
- Mary Mahoney
- Louisa Parsons

CONNECTIONS TO SLAVERY

Based on publicly available records, these individuals purchased, sold, manumitted, or held ownership of enslaved people. They received direct and indirect benefits from the institution of slavery and the labors of the people who were enslaved.

JOHN BEALE DAVIDGE (1768-1829)

John Beale Davidge was a medical doctor and a founder of the College of Medicine of Maryland. Davidge Hall at the University of Maryland Baltimore was named in his honor.

Connections to Slavery

- Davidge funded his education through “aid from friends and fortunately coming into possession of some slaves through the death of a relative.”
- In 1798, Davidge enslaved three people in Baltimore City, according to records of Maryland Slave Owners and Superintendents.
- In 1810, Davidge enslaved five people whose names are unknown.
- Baltimore City tax records from 1813 and 1818 recorded that Davidge enslaved a man named Abraham.
- In 1820, “Doc’t” Davidge enslaved four people in Baltimore: two men or boys between 14 and 25, a woman between 26 and 44, and a woman over 45. Their names were not recorded.

GEORGE GRAY (1740-1828)

George Gray was a native of Scotland who came to the United States in the late 1700s. He died in Baltimore in 1828 and bequeathed \$5,000 to the University of Maryland. Gray's fortune was held in stocks of banks, insurance companies, and other businesses. None of his investments had obvious ties to slavery. George Gray Research Hall, in the School of Medicine, is named for him.

Gray worked as an agent for several Scottish mercantile firms before retiring to Baltimore. In George Gray's era, mercantile businesses in Southern Maryland and Virginia sold and traded European manufactured goods for cash and tobacco. While some tobacco farms were family-run, many larger operations used the unpaid, forced labor of enslaved people to produce their crops. Some mercantile companies also accepted enslaved people as payment or collateral, although it was not their primary business.

GEORGE GRAY (1740-1828)

Connections to Slavery

- In 1772, Gray purchased tobacco from two Charles County, Maryland, planters who were both documented enslavers. This activity may have been in his capacity as an agent.
- In 1773, Gray, as “attorney in fact” for Jamieson Johnston & Company, purchased two enslaved boys, Ralph and John, from a Charles County tavern keeper, according to county property records.
- In 1785, Gray enslaved one “tithable” person (someone over 16) in Prince William County, Virginia.

GEORGE GRAY (1740-1828)

Connections to Slavery (continued)

- In 1787, George Gray of Richmond, Virginia, purchased a 13-year-old boy named Jame from enslaver John Jameston. The sale was recorded at the request of Robert Fergusson, the owner of a Scottish mercantile operation and likely Gray's employer.
- In 1791, the account of George Gray of Richmond, Virginia, was used to transfer money in the sale of three enslaved people from Capt. Robert Knox's estate to John Robertson. The three people were 24-year-old Lucy, 4-year-old Tom, and 2-year-old George. The boys were likely Lucy's children.

JOHN EAGER HOWARD (1752-1827)

John Eager Howard served as Maryland's governor for three years in addition to other significant military and political pursuits. He was also a businessman and estate owner. He sold the land for the medical school to the Regents for \$9,000, giving them a \$1,000 discount as his contribution to the school. Howard Hall, at the School of Medicine, is named for him.

Involuntary Indenture

A 1715 Maryland law outlawed interracial marriage and sentenced all mixed-race children to indentured service until they were 31 years old. Although the child was legally born "free," their indenture was involuntary and their time of service could be sold or bequeathed. Both parents were also subject to forced service as punishment, but this rarely applied to those who were wealthy and white. John Eager Howard's estate included both enslaved and indentured people.



Col. John Eager Howard
by Charles Willson Peale, 1784
From National Park Service

JOHN EAGER HOWARD (1752-1827)

Connections to Slavery

- HAI documented the first names of 42 men, women, and children enslaved by John Eager Howard.
- HAI identified 14 individuals recorded with terms of service or indenture but without last names. They were likely of mixed race and involuntarily indentured until age 31.
- John Eager Howard received enslaved people from the estates of his father, mother, and brother.
- Some tax and census records tallied people by race and age range and did not include names. Howard probably enslaved additional people whose names were not uncovered.

JOHN EAGER HOWARD (1752-1827)

A few of the people Howard enslaved

- Nace was born around 1784. He was 5'7 or 5'8 tall, had a yellowish complexion, and a scar on the first joint of his left thumb. In 1798, he escaped his enslavement on Howard's Anne Arundel County farm but was captured and held by the sheriff. Records show Howard enslaved Nace in Baltimore from 1799 to at least 1823. He was not part of recorded estate after Howard died in 1827. No more information was uncovered about him.
- Jenny was born around 1791. Howard purchased Jenny's indenture and recorded she was to be set free on October 18, 1818. Instead, Howard did not manumit Jenny until 1824. No more information was uncovered about her.
- In 1799, Howard enslaved three people and indentured 12 others, including three unnamed girls ages 5 years, 3 years, and 6 months old who were all to "serve" until they were 30 years old.

JOHN EAGER HOWARD (1752-1827)

Additional Connections to Slavery and Racist Ideologies

- In an 1812 letter, Howard advised Virgil Maxcy on how to recapture an enslaved person who escaped bondage.
- In 1817, Howard wrote a letter discussing the purchase of an enslaved man named William and a younger man named Robert. It is unclear if Howard or his son ultimately purchased these individuals.
- In 1817, Howard was elected Vice President of the Colonization Society of Washington, and became President of the Colonization Society of Baltimore. The organization sought to transport free Black people from the U.S. to Africa with the goal of separating the races.

JOHN EAGER HOWARD (1752-1827)

MARYLAND LEGISLATION

As Governor of Maryland, Howard enacted three pieces of legislation which directly impacted enslaved people:

1789 Maryland law (Chapter V)

- An enslaved person could receive up to 39 lashes for killing a wild deer outside of hunting season without the knowledge of their enslaver. A free person's penalty for the same crime was a fine of 5£.

1789 Maryland law (Chapter XLIV)

- Enslaved people convicted of felonies could be sentenced to death or up to 14 years of forced labor on Baltimore's roads or basin. The government would pay enslavers for the value of the enslaved convict, then auction the person off after their sentence ended. Free men and male servants similarly convicted served a maximum of seven years of labor.

JOHN EAGER HOWARD (1752-1827)

MARYLAND LEGISLATION (CONTINUED)

1790 Maryland law (Chapter IX)

- Allowed manumission of enslaved people by last will and testament, provided they were under 50 years old and able to support themselves.
- Repealed part of the 1692 law which subjugated the children of Black men and white women to indentured “service” until they turned 31. This did not affect the involuntary indenture of the children of white fathers and Black or mixed-race mothers.
- Imposed a fine of 300£ on anyone transporting free “negro or mulatto” people out of state fraudulently [to be sold as an enslaved person].
- Established a 30£ fine for enslavers who neglected the old, infirm, or disabled people they enslaved, if any of the people freed became a public burden. Enslavers were supposed to provide necessary and sufficient food, clothing, and shelter.

ROBERT CARY LONG SR. (1770-1833)

Robert Cary Long Sr. was a prominent builder and architect in Baltimore, Maryland. He built Davidge Hall at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and a plaque in the building memorializes his work.

Connections to Slavery

- In 1820, Long enslaved a young woman between 14 and 25 years old, and a girl under 14.
- The 1830 census recorded no enslaved people in Long's Baltimore household; however, it did include a "free" Black girl under 10 who may have been involuntarily indentured.
- Long partnered with Col. James Mosher and Thomas Towson in the construction of Davidge Hall. HAI determined both Mosher and Towson enslaved people. Some of Long's building contracts may have profited from enslaved labor.



Portrait of Robert Cary Long, Jr.
From Maryland Center for History and Culture.

CONNECTIONS TO RACIST IDEOLOGIES

Based on publicly available records, these individuals demonstrated beliefs that whites were superior to people of color, expressed through racist, derogatory, or paternalistic policies, practices, and language.

CLARA BARTON (1821-1912)

Clarissa Harlowe Barton was a nurse, humanitarian, activist, teacher, and founder of the American Red Cross. She initially became famous for her efforts to aid and treat wounded soldiers during the Civil War, which led to a lifetime of involvement in humanitarian causes. Her name is on the School of Nursing.

Connections to Slavery and Racist Ideologies

- In 1861, Barton initially denied that slavery was the cause of the war. She wrote that enslaved people were, “worthless in any country, only as subjects fit for missionary labors and candidates for eternity.”
- By 1863, Barton assisted in efforts to provide education to the formerly enslaved. Her public writings included praise for the self-liberated and United States Colored Troops.
- Barton later testified to Congress about abuses committed by former enslavers.



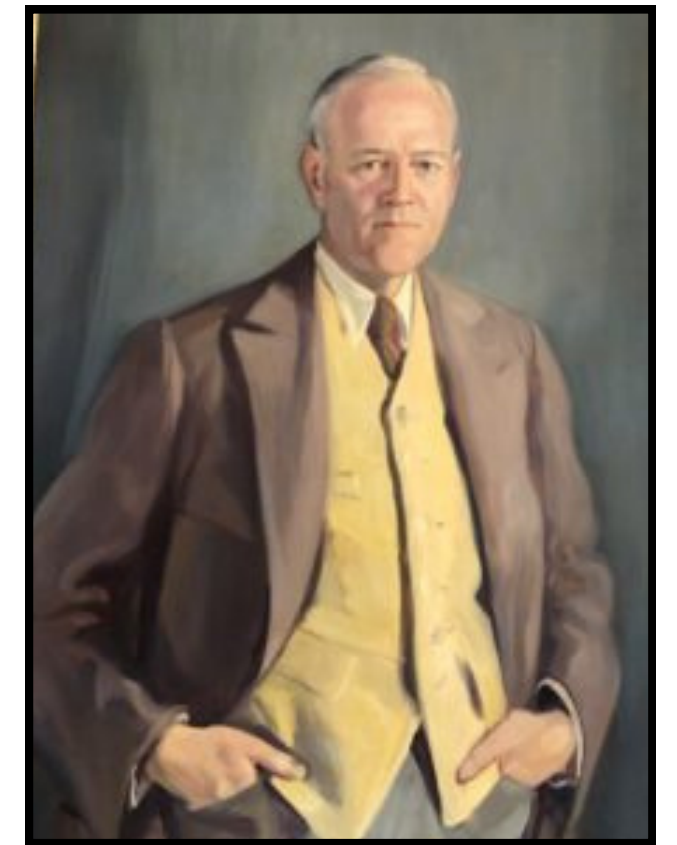
Clara Barton ca. 1866
National Park Service

DONALDSON BROWN (1885-1965)

Frank Donaldson Brown developed the expanded Return on Investment (ROI) concept during his work for Dupont and General Motors. In his will, Brown left the University of Maryland 20 acres of land and his mansion, which is now the Riverfront Event Center.

Connections to slavery and racism

- Brown's grandparents were enslavers, and his father served as a colonel in the Confederate Army during the Civil War.
- Brown's memoir suggests a paternalistic attitude towards Blacks:
 - "On the land were numerous houses which had been turned over to the families and descendants of those who had served as slaves. Through all the years afterwards, these Negro people displayed marked loyalty and respect to my grandmother. . . . These Negro boys regarded us as superiors, and were respectful towards us, but with it all we played together, and went hunting and fishing."



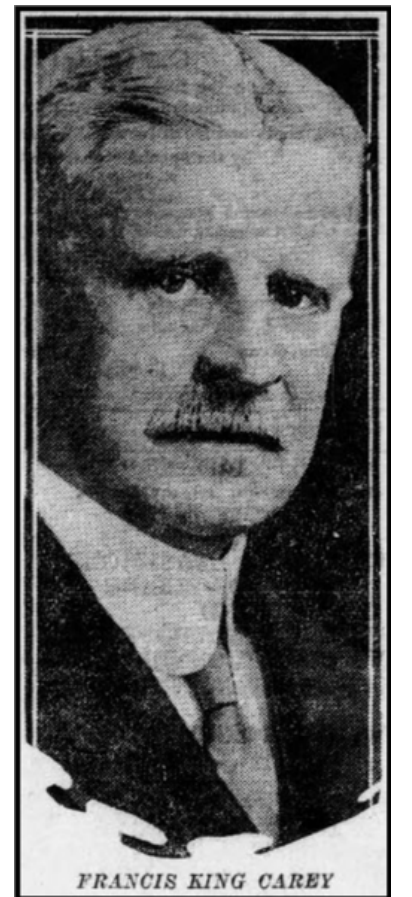
Portrait of Donaldson Brown
From Donaldson Brown Riverside
Event Center

FRANCIS KING CAREY (1858-1944)

Francis King Carey, sometimes called Francis Key Carey, was a lawyer, industrial executive, and civic leader. In 2011, University of Maryland Baltimore's law school was named for Carey after receiving a \$30 million donation from a foundation started by Carey's grandson, W.P. Carey.

Connections to Racist Ideologies

- Carey testified before Congress in 1902 that the "men of the Anglo-Saxon race" would not submit "to benefit an alien people" in the import of Cuban sugar.
- In 1909, Carey opposed an initiative aimed at depriving Black Marylanders of their vote. He wrote the "Anglo-Saxon race, with an enormous majority vote" was able to "protect itself from the negro population" in Baltimore.
- In 1917, as an executive of the National Sugar Manufacturing Association, Carey wrote, "The advantage of getting labor from old Mexico is, of course, that it is under discipline and can't run away."



The Baltimore Sun, July 27, 1922

FRANCIS KING CAREY (1858-1944)

Connections to Racist Ideologies (continued)

In 1923, the Federal Children's Bureau released a report about the long working hours and harsh conditions faced by children and women working in beet fields. Carey responded to the report's findings in two newspaper articles:

- In April 1923, Carey claimed that the sugar companies had no real control over the laborers beet farmers employed. He also suggested that a lack of "Americanization" on the part of the laborers was responsible for allowing children to work rather than going to school, and that the beet field work involved "but little physical effort."
- In October 1923, Carey did not address the issue directly, but claimed that other statistics about the education, health, and welfare of children in various parts of the country were also "startling," suggesting that the children presumably working in beet fields were just as well or poorly off as children elsewhere.

DOROTHEA DIX (1802-1887)

Dorothea Dix was an activist and author who worked on behalf of the mentally ill, the incarcerated, and the poor. Her work resulted in the founding or expansion of more than 30 hospitals for the treatment of the mentally ill. Her name is on the School of Nursing.

Connections to Racist Ideologies

- Dix supported the American Colonization Society (ACS), which advocated sending Black people to Africa to separate the races.
- Although Dix privately condemned slavery, she refused to publicly oppose it.
- According to historian David L. Lightner, Dix considered Black people to be an inferior race and felt the question of race in politics was more of an issue of power than of right and wrong.
- Among her letters, Dix appears to include a clipping that contains racist language towards Black people. The clipping is not referred to in any of her correspondence.



Portrait of Dorothea Dix
From Library of Congress

DOROTHEA DIX (1802-1887)

Connections to Racist Ideologies

- On a trip to North Carolina in 1848, Dix reported, “The negroes are gay, obliging, and anything but miserable,” and referred to the enslaved as being “of course thoughtless and irresponsible.”
- In a memorial to the US Congress, Dix wrote about the comparative rates of insanity between Native Americans and Blacks, stating mental illness was relatively uncommon in Black people because:
 - “The Ethiopian American, habitually gay, lounging, and contented, is, as a general rule, constitutionally free from the solicitude and anxiety for the future, which is so marked a characteristic of the Anglo Saxon, the Celtic, and the Germanic races.”
- In an undated letter to M.T. Torrey, Dix used derogatory comments towards free people of color, enslaved people, and the larger Black population. Dix also described the governor, who issued proclamations in favor of people of color, as one who was a “glorified child, --and has all the caprices of a weak mind.”

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE (1820-1910)

Florence Nightingale was a British nurse and reformer who came to prominence in the 1850s for her service as a volunteer nurse and military hospital administrator during the Crimean War. Nightingale professionalized nursing for women and campaigned to improve public health and sanitary conditions in hospitals worldwide. Her name is on the School of Nursing.

Connection to Racist Ideologies

- Nightingale was an advocate of British colonialism. In her writings, she often spoke of the “inestimable blessings of Christian civilization” and the importance of “engrafting civilized habits on uncivilized races.”
- When referring to indigenous peoples in British colonies, Nightingale frequently used paternalistic and prejudiced language.



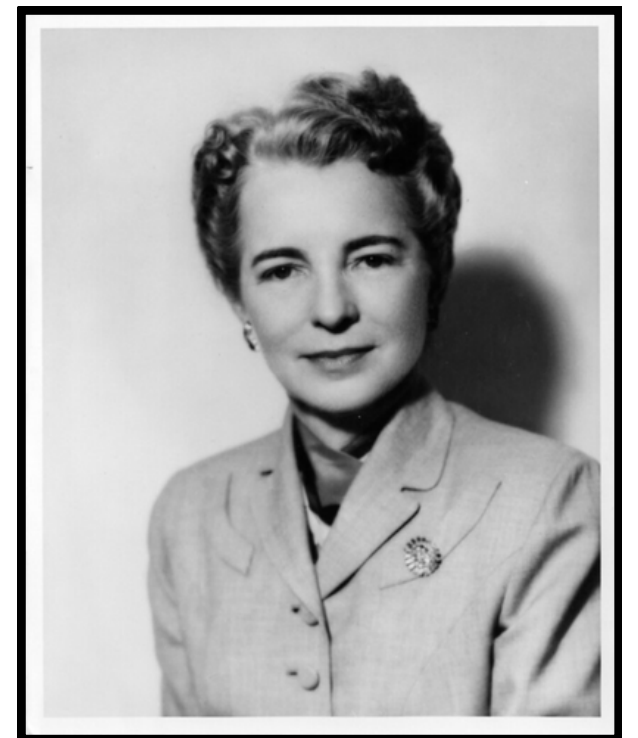
Portrait of Florence Nightingale
From the National Portrait Gallery, London

LUCILE PETRY LEONE (1902-1999)

Lucile Petry Leone was the founding director of the US Cadet Nurse Corps in 1943, which recruited nearly 170,000 female nurses to meet the demands of World War II. She became the Public Health Service's first Chief Nurse Officer with rank of Assistant Surgeon General, serving in that position from 1949 until 1966, and pioneered the role of the federal government in nursing. Her name is on the School of Nursing.

Connections to Racist Ideologies

- In a 1954 paper, Petry and coauthor Helen L. Johnston used the derogatory term “wetbacks” to describe immigrant workers from Mexico.
- In interviews from the 1970s, Petry and her interviewer use outdated terms that may be offensive or concerning by today's standards, including references to “mentally retarded” individuals, stereotyping Black Muslims and homosexual men, and integration.



Portrait of Lucile Petry Leone
From the Smithsonian Institution

LILLIAN WALD (1867-1940)

Lillian Wald is best known as the founder of public health nursing. She founded the Henry Street Settlement in New York City by 1895, which provided social services to people living on the Lower East Side. Wald supported civil rights and racial justice and helped found the NAACP. Her name is on the School of Nursing.

Connections to Racist Ideologies

- Wald's book Windows on Henry Street includes potentially problematic language. Wald wrote of studying the "new group of colored people in our neighborhood" and "the coming of the Negro colony."
- Biographer Doris Daniels wrote that Wald resisted the efforts to integrate the nurses' dining room and questioned attempts to encourage blacks to move to the East Side neighborhood, which she believed was "not suited to them." Wald also minimized the difficulties faced by Native Americans.



Portrait of Lillian Wald
From the Library of Congress

NO CONNECTIONS FOUND

Based on publicly available records, these individuals did not benefit from the labor of enslaved people and did not express racist ideologies.

FRANK C. BRESSLER (1859-1935)

Frank C. Bressler taught and practiced pediatric medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. He left a \$1.2 million bequest to benefit the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Dr. Bressler also worked with children through local civic and charitable organizations. The Frank C. Bressler Research Building is named for him.

Connections to Racist Ideologies

- HAI uncovered no records of Frank C. Bressler supporting or expressing racist ideologies.

MARY MAHONEY (1845-1925)

Mary Mahoney became the first Black nurse to graduate from nursing school in the United States in 1879. She spent her 40-year professional nursing career working to improve the status of Black nurses in the United States. Her name is on the School of Nursing.

Connections to Racist Ideologies

- HAI uncovered no records of Mary Mahoney supporting or expressing racist ideologies.



Portrait of Mary Eliza Mahoney
From Wikimedia Commons

LOUISA PARSONS (1855-1916)

Louisa Parsons was a decorated English nurse and the founder of the University of Maryland School of Nursing. Her name is on the School of Nursing.

Connections to Racist Ideologies

- HAI uncovered no records of Louisa Parsons supporting or expressing racist ideologies.



Portrait of Louisa Parsons
From University of Maryland School of Nursing
Alumni Association

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Connections to Slavery

- John Beale Davidge
- George Gray
- John Eager Howard
- Robert Carey Long, Sr.

Connections to Racist Ideologies

- Clara Barton
- Donaldson Brown
- Francis King Carey
- Dorothea Dix
- Lucile Petry Leone
- Florence Nightingale
- Lillian Wald

No Racist Connections Uncovered

- Frank C. Bressler
- Mary Mahoney
- Louisa Parsons

QUESTIONS?

MAIN POINT OF CONTACT

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