10-1-2015

PAYNE, Christopher

MSRC Staff

Follow this and additional works at: https://dh.howard.edu/finaid_manu

Recommended Citation
https://dh.howard.edu/finaid_manu/153

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Finding Aids at Digital Howard @ Howard University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Manuscript Division Finding Aids by an authorized administrator of Digital Howard @ Howard University. For more information, please contact lopez.matthews@howard.edu.
CHRISTOPHER H. PAYNE, SR. COLLECTION

Collection 216-1

Prepared by:
Omare Kinsey
March 2007
SCOPE NOTE

The collection of Christopher H. Payne (1845-1925), pastor, diplomat, and elected official, spans the period from 1875 to 1918, and measures one-half linear foot. The collection documents Payne=s family life through photographs and real estate papers, as well as his career as Baptist church leader, prominent official from the State of West Virginia, co-founder and editor of the *West Virginia Enterprise*, the only Black weekly in the state at that time, and as U.S. Consul to St. Thomas in the Danish West Indies.

In 2001, Moorland-Spingarn acquired the collection (through Beverly Cox of the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery) from Mrs. Mary Jane Trent, the granddaughter of the Honorable Rev. Christopher H. Payne.
Biographical Data

Christopher H. Payne, Sr.

1845 September 7  Born in Huntington, West Virginia to Thomas and Bersheba Payne.

1865  Married Ann Hargo Swinney.

1866  Lived in Charleston, SC, where he worked in a salt mine and went to school at night.

1876  Licensed as a preacher in West Virginia, where later he helped organize Baptist churches.

1877  Entered the Richmond Theological Seminary at Richmond, VA.

1884  Retired from ministry because of poor health; became the first president of the West Virginia Baptist State Convention, and co-founder, *West Virginia Enterprise*, the only weekly newspaper published by Blacks in the State of West Virginia. He also represented the Third Congressional District of
West Virginia as alternate in the National Republican Convention.

1889-1893 Served as Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue of West Virginia.

1894 Married Belle Payne and by 1918

1898-1899 Served as District Revenue Agent.

1899 Became the 1st Black member of the

1903 Appointed U.S. Consul at St. Thomas Danish West Indies.

1917 Asked to resign at age 72 because of his race.

1925 Christopher H. Payne died at the age of 80.

Sources: AResearch Notes,© Christopher H. Payne Collection, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center.

Pegues, A.W. Our Baptist Ministers and Schools. Willey & Co. 1892.
Series Description

Series A

Personal and Family Papers

Box 216-1

Encompasses biographical information; Payne’s performance evaluation as U.S. Consul to St. Thomas, and family real estate transactions documented by correspondence, contracts, receipts, deeds and other legal papers.

Series B

Photographs

Includes various portraits of Christopher Payne before and during his consular duty in the Danish West Indies. There are also photographs of his family, primarily his children and grandchildren.
### Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>A Personal Papers</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>216-1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Biographical information from Men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Biographical information from the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Biographical information from</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Our Baptist Ministers and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Republican Campaign Textbook, 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Consular Record, Summary of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Real Estate Documents</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Map and description, property on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Property tax receipts, Red Sulphur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Springs, Monroe Co., West Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Record of payments and receipts,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Deeds, Summers Co., West Virginia,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lawsuit re: Red Sulphur Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Contracts re: Hinton, West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Purchase agreement, Huntington,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Business cards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### B Photographs
Portraits, Christopher H. Payne,
Payne in St. Thomas
U.S. Consulate, 1926
U.S. Consulate staff
Payne with family members
Payne=s gravesite, St. Thomas,
Payne=s children and grandchildren
Eggert, Ingeborg
Residents of Hinton, West Virginia
Rose (last name unknown)