

Memorandum on Sanitary Commission  
Jan. 29th 1910

Among the papers lent me by Miss Ellen Collins, I find a report of The American Freedman's Union Commission, New York Branch for the year ending July 1st, 1870. It gives an account of the number of teachers sent out by this organization; 55, 43 of them being colored. The average attendance under these teachers was 1909. The interesting point in this is that the commission was made up, in part at least, of the women who had been so prominent in the Sanitary Commission work. Mrs. J. S. Lowell is its chairman, Miss Ellen Collins is treasurer. Both these women were very important in the New York work of the S. C. This carries out what Miss Schuyler had already told me, that the women who had been working during the war naturally went on with the relief work which was made necessary by the war. She, herself, at the closing out of the commission work was prostrated and spent six years hunting health. In closing out the work, she says that she had letters from scores of those scattered over her district who had been strong supporters through all the war, offering their services for anything that she might next take up. She says when she came back and organized the United Charities of the State(?) that she had really the organization awaiting her. It was Miss Collin's idea to use the old Mt. Vernon list for the sanitary work, so as a matter of fact the women's work of '40's and '50's was utilized for the war, and that body in turn utilized for the United Charities of the state.