

Mrs. Ann Hampton searching for her mother Nellie Beachem

Ann Hampton placed this ad in 1896 in *The Twice-A-Week-Independent*. The newspaper began publication in 1893 in Coffeyville, Kansas. Although it was not published specifically for the African American community, Kansas was a popular destination for Exodusters (African Americans who migrated west from states along the Mississippi River) in the period after Reconstruction. Perhaps this is one reason Hampton chose this paper for her ad.

Thirty-one years after emancipation she continued to search for her mother Nellie Beecham. When she was twelve years old, Hampton, previously named Augusta Ann, was sold away from her mother to pay for her enslaver's debts after his death.

Information Wanted.

A small fortune is in store for Nellie Beecham, colored, who lived during the war near Richmond Va., and whose daughter Augusta Ann was sold when about 12 years old to Bert Leatherwood and Robert Golikely slave speculators of Richmond, on the death of her master, Sam Beecham, by his brother Ike, in 62, 63, or 64 to pay certain debts the deceased owed. Credicks and Wards were near by slave owners. The undersigned's Uncle Pompey fed her on goose and duck eggs when a child and she is now desires of finding her mother who was a member of the Rasberry Campbellite church.

Any information that will be the means of finding the said Nellie Beecham will be liberally rewarded by her daughter, now.

MRS. ANN HAMPTON.

Coffeyville Kan.

Richmond Va., papers please copy.

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