

## William Tunstel seeking his brother McLeroy

Thirteen formerly enslaved people founded the *Richmond Planet* in 1882. Edmund Archer, the first African American graduate of Yale Law School, was the first editor. John Mitchell, Jr. served as the next editor for 45 years. Under his leadership, the *Planet* covered, local, national, and international news and devoted significant attention to issues such as segregation, the Ku Klux Klan's continued domestic terrorism aimed at African Americans, lynching—becoming a significant voice for political, social, and economic change.

William Tunstel's ad tells of his separation from his brother as his brother was sold from Richmond, Virginia and taken to Huntsville, North Carolina. His mother and sisters were also sold south, taken to Georgia before the Civil War. Tunstel's ad is unique because it directly references his contact with his mother at least once after they were separated, although he does not reveal how they communicated.

### **Do You Know Him!**

I desire to know the whereabouts of my brother. His name was McLeroy, and his first owner was James Dixon. He was sold at Richmond, Va., to Larken Lynch, a Negro trader and was carried to Huntsville, Adkin Co., North Carolina. Our fathers' name was William Dixon and mothers name Delia Dixon. My mother and two sisters were sold by Lynch and carried to Georgia. I heard from mother once after she was sold and that was before the war. My brother McLeroy was carried back to Richmond, Va., the second year of the war and sold to a captain in the army, named Price.

I have not heard from him since. I do not know whether he goes by the name of Dixon or Tustel. Any information concerning him will be gladly received. Address,

WILLIAM TUNSTEL,  
PLANET Office,  
814 E. Broad Street,  
Richmond, Va. 2-16-3.

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