



CHARLES LANGSTON

1817 - 1892



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One of the earliest advocates for African American male suffrage, Langston successfully petitioned Governor Samuel J. Crawford to include both African Americans and women on the 1867 Kansas suffrage referendum. Despite Langston's efforts, the referendum ultimately failed. Langston—an educator, journalist, and superintendent for the Freedmen's Bureau—had first gained national attention as an abolitionist. His grandson, the poet Langston Hughes, became a leading figure of the Harlem Renaissance.

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