

Thomas Mundy Peterson Day of Democracy

Ask us about Thomas Mundy Peterson!

The 15th Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified on February 3, 1870 under President Abraham Lincoln. The amendment reads, “**The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.**” The 15th Amendment guaranteed African-American men the right to vote. In addition, the right to vote could not be denied to anyone in the future based on a person’s race.

Mr. Peterson was the first African American to vote in the United States of America on March 31st 1870. He was born in Metuchen New Jersey and lived his adulthood in Perth Amboy New Jersey as a Councilman for his community.

