

The Petition of Peter Williams Junr, Lewis Francis,  
Andrew Rankins, John Kent, Thomas Zabistie, John  
Beas, <sup>John Marandon</sup> and William Tate, managers of the African Episcopal  
Catechetical Institution, in the City of New York, humbly  
Sheweth, that the attendants of the meetings under their  
charge having become so numerous, that the room which  
they occupy, though the most commodious they could hire,  
is not sufficiently large to contain them, and having reason  
to fear that it, will not be <sup>to be</sup> rented much longer; feel  
an earnest desire to erect a place, which may better  
answer the purposes of the Institution, and may serve  
also as an Episcopal School for the instruction of coloured  
youth: that for this purpose they have drawn up a  
subscription, which the Right Reverend Bishop of  
Diocese having patronized by his subscription and  
recommendaion, they hope, though the times are  
rather unpropitious for such charities, will be so far  
successfull, <sup>as to raise a sum</sup> adequate to the building of such a place:  
provided they could obtain from the Corporation of  
Trinity Church the grant of a peice of ground to  
erect it on. Your petitioners, knowing that the appeals  
to the bounty of your venerable & justly esteemed Board,  
are very numerous and extensive, would not make this  
application were it not a case of urgent necessity.

Being poor men themselves, and in the congregation  
in whose behalf they act, though considerable in  
numbers, being also poor, though they feel  
disposed to give liberally, according to their circum-  
stances, they cannot hope to raise enough even