

**John H. Chafee Blackstone River
Valley National Heritage Corridor**



Thomas Higginson

The Fighting Parson

Thomas W. Higginson, an ardent reformer with strong views on abolition and women's rights was the "Fighting Parson" of Worcester, Massachusetts. One of the "Secret Six", supporters of John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry, he volunteered in 1862 to lead the First South Carolina Volunteer Regiment, a USCT unit largely comprised of men formerly enslaved.

To learn more, visit: www.nps.gov/blac

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