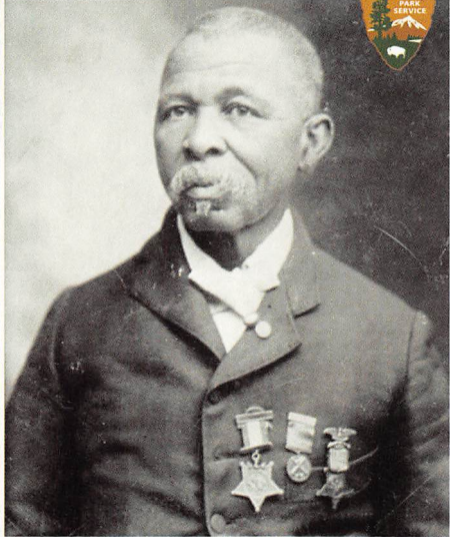


Boston National Historical Park



John Lawson



John Lawson

Born: June 16, 1837 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Died: May 3, 1919 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

John Lawson was an African American sailor who served aboard the Boston built USS *Hartford* during the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 5, 1864. While serving with a six man ammunition party on the berth deck of Hartford, he was seriously wounded by an enemy shell. Despite his injuries, he remained at his duty station throughout the rest of the battle, for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor.