William Powell

Dr. William P. Powell, Jr.

Born: 1834 in New Bedford, Massachusetts
Died: 1915 in England

Born in New Bedford of an African American father and Wampanoag mother, William P. Powell Jr. was one of the first African American physicians to receive a contract as a surgeon with the Union Army. Powell, who received his training at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in London, England, was assigned to the Contraband Hospital in Washington, D.C. where he served from May 1863 until November 1864.

New Bedford Whaling NHP