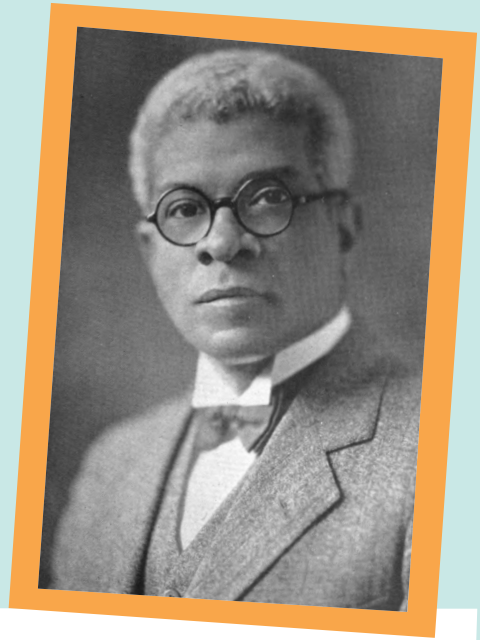# African-American ENTREPRENEURS (PART 1)

Thomas Day

Thomas Day was a prominent African American entrepreneur (a person who comes up with a really good idea for a business and decides to start that business on their own) in the early 1800s. Born a free man (most African Americans were born enslaved) in Virginia in 1801, he moved to Milton, North Carolina where he established a very successful furniture-making business. He was known for his high-quality craftmanship and creative designs. Many people, both white and black, wanted to buy his furniture. Thomas Day was able to build a successful business, and left a lasting legacy in the field of furniture-making.

1. **What successful business did Thomas Day have?**

2. **Was Thomas Day born free or born a slave?**

3. **Where did Thomas Day live in North Carolina?**

Charles Spaulding

Charles Clinton Spaulding was born in Columbus County, North Carolina in 1874. An African American, Spaulding started a business called North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company. This company helped African Americans buy life insurance (a policy that helps people take care of their families if they get sick or pass away). Charles Spaulding also helped African Americans get better jobs and start their own businesses. He was an entrepreneur and leader who made a difference in the world.

1. **What company did Spaulding start?**

2. **How did Spaulding's company help African Americans?**

3. **Why was Spaulding's entrepreneurship valuable?**

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