#2. Slavery in and around Charleston during the War

For this part of your spy report, you need to find out about the experiences of enslaved people in this area during the war. To do this, you'll need to find out some basic information about slavery *before* the war, and then uncover how the experience of the war was affecting the enslaved. Remember that there won't just be one kind of experience for everyone in slavery. Many factors, like geography and skills, influenced the experience of slavery for African Americans.

A. What different kinds of experiences were there among the enslaved in this area before the war?

Use the resources here to collect information about slavery in this area. Keep in mind questions like:

- What kinds of work are enslaved men and women doing? What is it like to do this work?
- Are the enslaved living on big plantations, in small households, or both?
- What proportion of the total population are people of color? In slavery?

You can keep track of what you are learning on your **Official Investigation Record**.
[link here to pdf of Learning Activity #2. worksheet]

See these resources:

#1: Description of Rice Cultivation

#2: Slave Sale Broadsides

#3: Population Chart

#4: Slave Hire Tags

#2. Slavery in and around Charleston during the War (cont'd)

B. How had the war affected experiences of the enslaved?

Use the resources here to collect information about how the war had affected lives of people in slavery. Keep in mind questions like:

- How had the war affected slaveholders?
- What decisions did owners make that affected the lives of the people they had enslaved?
- How had the war affected the enslaved directly?

You can keep track of what you are learning on your **Official Investigation Record**.
[link here to pdf of Learning Activity #2. worksheet]

See these resources:

#5: Slave work on Confederate fortifications

#8: Margaret Grimball diary re: chaos, moves inland

#9: Confederate general suggestion to move slaves inland

C. Writing the first part of your report

Once you have used the documents to answer the questions in A and B, you are ready to write the first part of your Spy Report to Stanton.

Use the information you have gathered to write:

a) a paragraph that describes the information you learned in A.

b) a paragraph that summarizes what you learned in B.

Do not be afraid to give Stanton specific details that you have learned, when you think they are important in helping him understand the situation in Charleston.