

Ms. B. 2. 5. 7. 8

Washⁿ Nov 23

140

1865

Capt. A. O. Ritchum

adly. Charleston S.C.

Capt

Your letter of the 10 has been received. & I am directed by Gen Howard to reply to your questions as follows -

Your action in regard to Col. Ritchum's plantation is fully approved & you will pursue the same course in all similar cases -

The restoration of land will be made in the following manner. As soon as the board of supervisors is formed for any island or locality, the owner of an estate must make an agreement with the freedmen upon said estate that shall be satisfactory to the board of supervisors.

The order of restoration will then be given upon the owner signing the obligation & producing proper proof of title & pardon -

It is not necessary to form all the boards before restoring the property in a locality where one is in operation. The action relative to the abandoned rice fields included in Gen Sherman's order ~~will~~ will be the same as that pursued

with regard to Edisto Island

Very Respec

G. O. Serr

Shawson

Ber May + a S L

A POPULAR DELUSION EXPOSED.

ALL the infinite and eternal blessings of God's salvation are ours *through faith*. We have no title to them on the ground of what we have done; but it is God's delight to give them on the ground of what Christ has done. They are the gift of His grace, through faith on our part.

How unspeakably important, then, that our faith should be real and genuine—the true faith of the Gospel! How many fancy they believe, when in reality they do not! Alas! they deceive themselves. If people generally believed the plainest declaration of God's Word—if they believed the judgment of God pronounced upon sin, "*The soul that sinneth it shall die*"—"The wages of sin is death"—could they go on as they do, from day to day and year to year, without ever having an hour's trouble or anxiety about their sins? You know it would be impossible. Were you to see a criminal under sentence of death—a sentence which might be ex-

ecuted without a moment's warning—interested about a thousand trifles, but perfectly unconcerned about his impending doom, could you credit the profession that he really believed in the awfulness of his situation? You could not. And is not this a picture of the world around us, pursuing its easy, careless, infatuated course, utterly regardless of the dreadful judicial sentence, "*If ye die in your sins, whither I go, ye can not come.*"

As to the glad tidings of the Gospel, similar delusions prevail. When the truth is set forth, how often do persons reply, "I believe every word you have said; I have always believed it;" while, in reality, they are unbelievers! If you owed a large sum, and were apprehensive of being arrested for it, and tidings came that another, in munificent grace, had paid it for you, would not all your apprehensions be instantly allayed? If, on the contrary, you had fears on account of the debt, would it not be indisputable proof that you did not believe the debt had been paid? Undoubtedly it would. It would prove that you were, as regards the payment of the debt, *an unbeliever*. So is it with the tidings of the Gospel. Nothing is more

common than the fashionable *profession* of belief, because to be regarded as an unbeliever is discreditable. But let the sifting question be put, "Do you then enjoy peace with God, in the assurance that your sins are blotted out?" and how melancholy the extorted confession! The truthful voice of conscience gives the lie to the language of the lips. They who do not believe that their debt is paid, do not believe that Christ has paid it. They who do not believe that their sins are gone, do not believe that Christ has borne them away. Such persons may, indeed, believe in the death of Christ; but they do not believe in the value of that death. *They do not believe in the efficacy of his atoning blood.* As regards the great fundamental truth of the Gospel, *they are still unbelievers.* Theirs is not the simple, peace-giving faith of the Gospel—that faith which can say with assurance, and which does say, in a transport of worshipping love, "*The Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*" (Isa. liii, 6.) "*His own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree,*" (1 Peter, ii, 24), and bare them away forever.

1st your book is found

CHRIST THE ONLY SAVIOR.

God will have none to have a hand in the justification and salvation of a sinner but Christ only. And, to speak as the thing is, Christ Jesus will either be a whole Savior, or no Savior; he will either save you alone, or not save you at all. "For among men there is given no other name under heaven, whereby we must be saved," says the Apostle Peter; and Jesus Christ himself says, "I am the way, the truth and the life; and no man cometh to the Father but *by me*." So that, as Luther truly says, "besides this way, Christ, there is no way but wandering, no verity but hypocrisy, no life but eternal death."

ALAS! there are thousands in the world that make a Christ, of their works, and here is their undoing. They look for righteousness and acceptance more in the precept than in the promise, in the law than in the Gospel, in working than in believing, and so miscarry.

Cincinnati, Nov. 23, '65

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Major Genl. Howard,
Freedmen's Bureau,
Washington, D.C.: Dear Sir. I was
encouraged to send you a little vol-
ume just issued here, and entitled
"The Christian's Duties in the Tempe-
rance cause" by seeing your name
among the officers of a Society recent-
ly organized in N.Y. to restrain in-
temperance & its kindred evils that are
now coming in like a flood upon
us.

The consideration that
that your position gave you such
great opportunities thus to promote
the welfare of our beloved country
in need, we to send you the volume.

I pray God to give you grace
to be faithful in your most respon-
sible office, & to bless your efforts
to serve Him.

Yr. Bro. & Part. in Gospel Bond
O. P. Agdelett
No. 361. W. 6 St.

Cincinnati: O. Nov 25/65

A. J. Delott, Rev. P. P.

Friendly letter ac-
compa.ing certain
books.

Recd. Nov 27th 1865.

My Dear Sir

I should much
like to hear your views. If you
have time on the proposed basis
of the Union Commission &
"Freedman, Dick & Co."

The F. did have proposed a
resolution which the U. C. have
assented to. If the two parties
can agree upon a fair basis
and the matter is in the hands
of a joint Committee.

It is clear that a limited
effort will be more effective
than one divided. If we can
agree to pursue the same object.

The principle difficulty is
in the name. They are strongly
inclined to submit - the word
Freedman being kept. Tho
it is understood that their President
and several prominent members
are adverse to its perpetuation.

One objection to the name is
very serious. As the more charit-
able parts of both associations

will be

A of necessity but temporary
we have to consider education
as our main ^{main} object. In the
absence of your ~~Reverence~~ ^{Reverence} which
must be as a power capable
of giving protection be for very
long. They cannot carry on
schools for coloured people
without the consent of the
Southern people and unless
they strongly change that ^{Consent} ~~Consent~~
will not begin white ^{carried} ~~carried~~
on under a little so ^{to them} ~~to them~~
a permission,

Our object is the enlightenment
of the ignorant ^{classes} ~~classes~~ by good
thorough education so as to form
an intelligent ^{classes} ~~classes~~ against
the power that now rules the South.

In this object we have a
powerful sympathy amongst
them under our present ^{name} ~~name~~
but if we adopt the term
they desire that sympathy will
be lost. as we fear

We are willing to take any
simple title. let them call Com
Southern and Com. ^{American} ~~American~~
Com. National or the like

any name in fact. That does not
 "butt" against old feeling or prejudice
 I should be much pleased
 to know your ^{new} views as that
 doubtless will have great
 weight with the ^{radical} Association
 men

Very Respectfully

J W Greenleaf

Phil 23 Nov 1845

1 Miller. Nov 23, 1868

Merick, D. V.

Asked for opinion
of Gen. Stewart on
the proposed law
of the Union Law-
of Freed men and
Lawn.

Washington City D.C.
Nov 23. 1865.

Major General
C.C. Howard U.S.A.

General

I have the honor to inform you that
by a vote of the Soldiers and Sailors
National Union League of this City you
have been duly elected an honorary
member of their association. Trusting
the interest of the Soldier and Sailor
who has fought to maintain the
honor of this Nation may ever receive
your hearty cooperation.

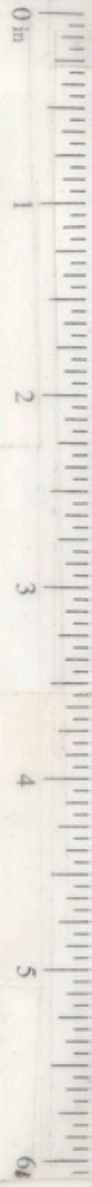
I Am General

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt

S. G. Merrill

Rec Secy
S. S. N. U. S.

[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper]



Fort Leavenworth Kansas.

Nov. 28th 1865.
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Col. Genl. O. O. Howard
Washington. D. C.

Genl. -

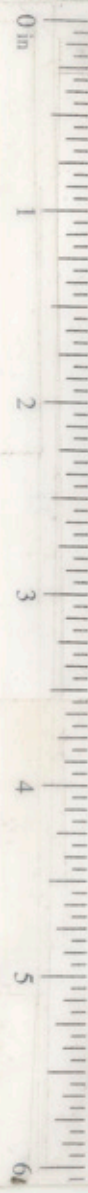
Permit me to call your personal attention to the application of Mr. H. C. Messenger, - my father. - I hope, and believe that it will meet with the just consideration, which experience under your command, teaches me characterizes you. It is unnecessary for me to speak of his qualifications. They are evident in his communication. From the uniform kindness and civility which I have experienced while Chief Signal Officer upon your staff during the Campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta. I cannot but feel that it will not pass unnoticed.

With much respect.

I am Genl. Your Obedt. Servt.

C. H. Messenger

Signal Officer U. S. A.



October 10th 1885

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure

to acknowledge

the receipt

of your letter

of the 10th inst. in relation to the application of Mr.

W. H. H. for a license to sell the first of the

series of papers under your contract.

It is very much regretted that

the character of the work is such that

it is impossible to finish the work in time

to send it to you as early as you wish.

It is, however, our desire to have the

work done as soon as possible.

Very respectfully,

W. H. H.

W. H. H.

W. H. H.

W. H. H.

Leavenworth, Kansas, Nov. 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard,
Chief of Bureau of Refugees,
Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands,
Washington, D. C.
General:

On the 5th of June last past, being then in the Military service of the United States at Athens, Ala., I addressed to you an application for appointment to the superintendency of a Colony or Farm. Your reply, dated the 16th of the same month, informed me that inasmuch as Congress had made no appropriations for the Bureau, very few if any civilians would, for the present, be employed in it, but that my letter would be filed and my name registered on list of applications; and that should occasion require, my application would be favorably considered."

Almost immediately after writing the application referred to, I was detailed as a Clerk in the Office of the Provost Marshal

for the District of Northern Alabama, at Huntsville, where I remained until recently, when my Regiment was mustered out and discharged, and I returned to my home in Wisconsin.

On my leaving Huntsville I was offered by Maj. Goodfellow, then in charge of your Bureau affairs at Huntsville, a situation as Clerk at a salary of seventy-five dollars per month, which I declined on the ground that the pay was not sufficient. I therefore beg leave to renew my application for service in the Bureau, not indeed as a plantation manager, but as a Commissioner in charge of the interests and duties of the Bureau in some one of the counties in Alabama, or wherever else you may need the services of a competent person to adjust the differences between the two races, and aid in the establishment of a thorough and permanent peace in our land on truly Christian principles.

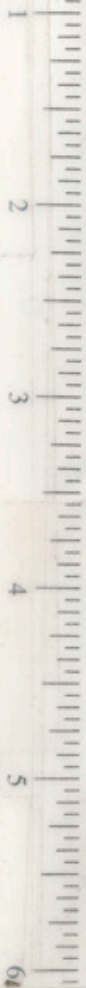
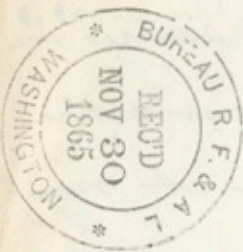
Allow me to say that my experience in the discharge of my duties in the Office of the Provost Marshal at Huntsville, pre-

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vious to the arrival of Maj. Goodfellow, assures me
that I shall be able to discharge, to your entire
satisfaction, any duties you may require at my
hands.

Please address me at Seavenworth,
Kansas, where I am now located.

I have the honor to be

Most Respectfully,
Your Obedt. Servt.,
J. C. Messinger.



Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard

Commr. of Bureau of Freedmen &c.
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

I am induced to address you because you are interested in the welfare of the Freedmen and from observations made during your late tour through the Southern States, can most likely give me the information I desire respecting the social problems now in process of solution in the South.

I have recently been thinking very seriously of settling in the South either where I could profitably cultivate cotton and sugar or both including Indian corn tobacco, rice, etc., — a system of mixed husbandry as practiced in most of the Northern States. An outline of my plan

is to lease or purchase a plantation and to till it by the help of freedmen as workmen. If my success in the cultivation of the soil would warrant and in default of any provision on the part of the State to educate the freedmen at public expense I would give my workmen & their families the benefit of common & Sabbath school education & churches. I am a firm believer in the value & superiority of educated free labor, its benefit for the laborer & his employer.

I do not expect from the present attitude of the State that they will make any provision to educate the negroes. To remedy this defect in my own vicinity & plantation I would to a certain extent like to appropriate

a reasonable share of my⁵¹
plantation profits. I can live
here in comfort and plenty,
and my desire to settle there
would be to do a little good,
that's my ambition, can I do
it?

In addition to the above, I
believe the Freedmen should be
treated humanely but firmly,
according to the best usage
given to our Northern white laborers,
holding out similar inducements
to become valuable
members of the community. By
this means and no other, do I believe
this labor can be made profitable
to the employer & employee; besides,
an example would thereby be set from
which much good might result
in removing the prejudices of the
Southern planters to a speedy and
faithful adoption of the civilization
(over)

Adair Rapids, Iowa, Nov. 23. 1865.

My dear brother:

I saw by the newspapers that you have returned to Washington. By a letter received recently from Uncle Henry I found you had been at Richmond. They enjoyed your visit very much. I am glad Rowland was able to take the trip he did with you and suppose he enjoyed it. Has he returned to Maine. I have not heard from Lizzie & the children since they went to Washington. How are they?

I had a letter from mother a few days ago which was written in rather better spirits than usual, though I think her health is still poor. The farm still remains unsold except that I have sold it to Charles in order to prevent any trouble on the part of the R.R. creditors. I am not anxious to have my property what little I have left sacrificed for R.R. debts.

Here I am doing pretty well. Today I have made six dollars and I have made this week about ten dollars so far. On Saturday I am engaged to try a case in the County, which will advertise me as it is to be in a court house.

and is considered quite a neighborhood matter ~~and~~
which will draw together quite a crowd. During the
four weeks that I have been in practice I have made
about \$50⁰⁰ which for the first month I am satisfied
with. Uncle Henry has told you probably, in very
flattering terms all about this section of country.
I consider it the finest portion which I have seen
of the West. Here is the same New England
pure air which I longed so much to see and
breathe when in Indiana. The society here
is better than at Richmond. Education is more
thoroughly disseminated among the masses and the
moral tone of society is high - as high as in many
New England villages. In fact the majority of
the people are from New Eng. and northern New
York where the Puritan element is strong. We have
Congregational Churches all about us, indicating the
origin of the people. Here for the first time since
I left my New England home I found a New England
Christian Sabbath. The shops are all closed and
the Sabbath is a day of quiet instead of a holy day
as it is in most of the West. The people are
thoroughly loyal and true to our national
government. Copperheads are a variety seldom

been. We have very many streams of growth. The 59
Cedar Valley is one of the best wheat growing portions
of the state. We have an abundance of Oak wood
for fuel. The country for three miles from the
River is somewhat hilly and thickly wooded. At the
City is the best water power in Iowa, which has not
yet been thoroughly improved. We have to R.R.s to
the Mississippi and Chicago, one via Clinton &
one by the way of Dubuque. A R.R. is being con-
structed to St Paul, Minn. and one to connect with the
North Missouri R.R. at the Iowa ^{boundary} line, which will connect
us directly with St Louis making us the largest R.R.
center in the state. I hope some day to see you and
your out here on the prairie. In a few years I trust I
shall be engaged sufficiently in business to have a home
and place for all my friends. Now I have a little office
which I own. The front room is 12 feet square and the
back room is 11 feet square. Fred & I sleep in the
back room and try to enjoy life there.

Give much love to Lizzie and the children.

Will you be kind enough to ascertain for me whether there
is any truth in the report that the 3 years soldiers
who did not enlist can now obtain \$200 additional
bounty & if so by what authority. This with me is

a very important matter and intimately connected
with my getting my daily bread. I wish you
would set some one to making inquiries in regard to
it and inform me immediately.

Please write me when you can.

(Yours aff. brother)

R. H. [unclear]

Fincerely
Yours

William R. H.

William R. H. [unclear]

Office General Superintendent of Education
OF FREEDMEN AND REFUGEES. 60

New Orleans, Nov 24th 1865.

May Genl O. V. Howard
General

I have the honor of
saying that the Schools of this City +
State are in a critical condition,

The leading Creoles refuse to be taxed
insisting first on representation. "Rural"
Baird + Canby hesitate. You doubtless
have their telegrams. Could not the
old tax of equal on both Colors be suspended
now. be ordered forward to collection?
Its partial payment is already causing
trouble. This would give satisfaction to
the negroes of all grades, + as the blacks
pay for their assessment of tax for the
white schools, it is only just that the whites
pay this assessment for the Col^d Schools. The
complaint of the latter is without reason,

I write thus, because it will be said
to have 15,000 Children progressing so
finely as are these / I have examined
them thoroughly / turned into the streets,

as an expedient. I am
causing the northern Associations to be
appealed to in this emergency,
many of these teachers have had no
pay for the last 2 months - all
that can be obtained will be needed
notwithstanding what either tax may
produce,

I am kept here by these mat-
ters + the perfecting of the Savings Bank.

Expect to go to Mobile first of the week.

The legislature have opened their ses-
sion - There is a spirit every where
manifest which indicates marked disloyalty,
hostility to the best interests of the negro, + that
the military, in no part of the State, can be
by withdrawn Yours &c very Respectfully
A. M. Adams, District

Portland, Me., Nov 24. 1865.

Dear Gen.

I have yours of 21st inst.,
The postponement of your lecture from
Jan 12th to Feb, is all right, we
shall endeavor to accommodate
ourselves to your convenience,
Please inform us as early as possible
of the day on which we may expect
you,

Very respectfully

Wm. J. Abbott

M. A. Blanchard

for Com. Box 1844.

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard
Washington
D. C.

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Maryland Union Commission,

89 and 91

West Baltimore Street.

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Baltimore, Nov. 24 1865

Major Gen. O. O. Howard

Dear Sir,

It is proposed by the Maryland Branch of the American Union Commission, to hold a meeting on the Evening of Thanksgiving Day. Dec 28th in one of the Churches of our City. We should be very much pleased if you would favor us with your presence and address the meeting on that occasion. By so doing you will greatly add to the interest of the meeting & the favor will be highly appreciated by the Commission. The purposes and aims of the Commission, are well understood by you & have no doubt your sanction. Enclosed please find circular

With respect

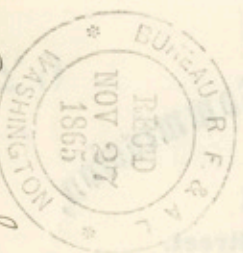
F. Israel
 Cor. Secy

Yours truly
 G. S. Griffith
 Pres. Md. A. U. C. Com

Baltimore Nov. 24th 1865

Griffiths. E. J.
Brook

Dear Mr. Griffiths, Howard to be
present at the meeting of
the Wtd. Church, of the
Am. Union Convention Dec
7th 1865,



Qued Nov. 27th 1865

Lech ~~Oct~~ Nov 24th 1865

~~1864~~

63

Joseph Brown ~~son~~ son of
"May" Armisted Brown Wash's Master
Virginia Culpepper County West Point
P.O. slate mill's, Mrs Jane Brown
daughter of Widow Mary Ann Allen was
the mistress of Wash's wife, Wash's
wife before marriage was
Maria Bamhour, at the time the
seventh corp went west, heard
from her, then she was at
Lynchburg, where they said she
would remain till the Yankees
left, and then return, or he brought
back she went to Lynchburg.
in the case of Edward Briggers
who married Miss Betsey ^{Allen} ~~xxxxx~~
sister of Mrs Jane Brown Wash's
wife was a negro, a little lighter
and colour than himself
Joseph Brown went into the confederate
service and died in Rich-
mond Va,

The old man Brown had been
dead some time. Joseph Brown
wife, and his sister Mrs Caroline
Porter were left on the plan-
tation. Maj Brown's house
was five stories high brick
painted red, with tin roof,
16 miles from Culpepper court
house, 12 miles from
Mrs Allen's house to Culpepper.
these plantations lying west
of Culpepper Court house.

Washington Camp had three
brothers and one sister came
to Washington City & C. Jackson
Camp, Moses Camp, trusted Camp,
and Mrs Sarah Jane Munday
wife of George Munday.
Mr Steward Tell a Coloured man
of Alexandria gave
Washington Camp some
information ^{in regard to his wife} ~~to his sister~~ at
the time he was on his way

to Tennessee with the 11th Corp^s
 this Mr Tell was just then from
 Culpepper one of Mrs Allen's
 slaves, Wash has had a letter from
 Charles Coles ~~from~~ Capt Gilbreth's
 servant, but none from Sam
 Wash wishes he would
 write him, & have thus tried
 to describe Wash's wife from what
 he tells me, if we should sell the
 farm & think Wash with his good,
 industrious habits, would do well
 and if we ^{do} not I think he would be
 better contented if he could have
 her with him, I received Lizzie's
 good kind letter of the ^{date} 16th also
 Grace's on the same sheet for
 which I am much gratified and
 shall write them soon, I heard
 from you, all, through Rowland's
 letter written at Washington, he
 passed Leeds Depot last evening
 Wash was there and saw him

I do not know whether his family
were with him or not, I am glad
he is safely returned to Farmington
again, my health is good
and I am well provided, and
contented to stay here as long as
the farm remains unsold, to day
have helped Wash put on the out-
side windows which makes it
seem so sunny and warm. Your daughter
Lucretia came to see me last week
with her son Rodolphus who is
a resident of California, came
here to see his father and help
take care of him in his last suffer-
ings which were very agonizing
his tongue was eat off at the root
(for some time before he died, with
a cancer, we think he starved to
death, & your aunt requested
me to remember her to you
in my letters, her farm is for sale
and ^{they} leaves Maine soon I began
this letter without any address
but it is to you My Dear son Otho
and with much love and
many kisses to your wife and
Guy Grace and Gamie and
Chancey I remain your affectionate