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Washington D.C. 2d mo 7th
Feb 7 [1868]

Maj Genl O. O. Howard

Having submitted my views upon another sheet, in regard to an Institution for the purpose of instructing some of our colored population, how to be more proficient in the line of housekeeping: I may here add, that my plan would be in the first place, if possible, to secure a suitable building, in a healthy location and easy of access; and there, with efficient helpers, the foundation should be laid for a thorough knowledge in all the branches of a domestic education; blended with this, there should be set apart a portion of time, each day or evening to devote to reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic &c. While the preliminary

-ries are thus being acquired in the domestic, as well as the more literary department, it is to be hoped that eventually, and by the time that it is needed, there may be erected, through voluntary contributions, an establish ment for a good class of boarders, and where everything shall be required to be well done, and the powers or capabilities of those who have been instructed in the first named Institu-tion shall be tested, ere receiving their diploma, or presented as candidate for any office or department in the art of housekeeping.

Respectfully

E. H. Valentine

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49. Bible House New York Feb 7 1868

(Confidential.)

My Dear General Howard,

I have this morning received your letter through Mr Dexter. I assure you, my dear & honored Christian brother, you are one of the last men in the world with whom I could willingly consent to have any controversy. There are few, if any, with whom I have had so little personal contact whom I so thoroughly respect as a man & love as a Christian. I do not think there would have been the slightest friction between the Washington Ch. Movement & the Cong. Union if you had been at the helm — or better, the General in Command. But in the first place there are great difficulties in the matter which are intrinsic & inevitable, & then Dr. Boynton — I am speaking in strict confidence, remember — has behaved badly. His tone was offensive when he was here. His request for leave to go to the Churches was laid before the Board & they felt that, in justice to the other

churches, nearly a hundred in num-
they could not grant it & kindly said so.
He then threatened to take the old endorsement
given by Sec. Sanghorthy at the outset & the
without any vote of the Board, & to appeal
to the Churches with that. We told him at
time - i.e. the treasurer & myself - that it would
be wrong to do this & that we were sure
Board would so consider it. Yet he did it.
December & January are, with the Chu
our months, more than any other, for co
-lections - our cause connecting itself
fore Fathers' day, before & after. Just at this
time, for us so important; & when we
had already appropriated more than
beyond what we had in the treasury
from seventy-five to one hundred churches with
houses, a large part of them in various
stages of progress, on our hands. & B's circulars were sent out
-most invariably, that when a church m
a collection for the Washington Church,
answers to our appeal that it can take
but one collection each year for Ch. build
& that it has already contributed this
year, so that collections for you are in

3/ by far the greater part taken from our treasury
& the waiting applicants to that, when they are made
in the Churches. What then can we do. I shed tears
over the cries of my brethren in the new & waste
places - laymen & ministers both giving toward
building their places of worship what their fam-
-ilies suffer for the want of, & content seven over
-joyed, if they can get a Church worth from three
to five thousand dollars. It is now certain that
our entire receipts for this year, & these obtained with
great effort, will not exceed $30,000, or about
that sum. It is not with us therefore a question
of inclination, but one of simple justice
& duty. Ought we not to distribute fairly
what the Churches will give. Because we
have thought the Church at Washington of
National importance, we have aided it
to ten times the amount that we are
granting to others. Ought we to go still fur-
-ther & refuse to give anything to others, in order
to give more to that? It is to precisely this
issue that the Board are brought. You do the
Board great injustice, My dear brother, when
you say, "I had supposed that our Cong. brethren
of the Union wanted a Church of their own at Washington
but from the tone of your letter I see that such is not

the case. I know it is not with the Board, as it certainly is not with myself personally, a question of feeling at all, but one of simple right. As called back on behalf of all who contribute on the one hand, & all who are in need on the other, the Union must simply do what the trust reposed in it demands. You misapprehend my letter, moreover, when you say that I "ask the Cong. Newspapers not to do" you with their support." We have held our peace entirely, though thinking ourselves not fairly treated, until Mr. Dexter wrote me asking the facts of the case. I gave them in the letter sent to you, showing that Dr Boynton's appeal, or any appeal to the Churches in our name, or in a way to cut off our collections, could not be endorsed by the Congregationalist without injury to a great many churches; & that this I have not said or written a word to any other person it ought not to do. As regards your statement that the money could be probably "raised" if you had the title, our understanding was that you would then be able to hire the money to be paid, as nearly all expensive churches do the cost of building, by carrying the debt till the congregation itself could pay it. Few such churches start without a debt to be extinguished in a course of years.

I am truly sorry to detain you so long. But a full statement seemed to be ne-

-cerny; & I am glad of this new opportunity to say that the Trustees of the Union have no other than kind feelings & good wishes in relation to the Washington Church. They would most readily help it out of its difficulties if they could. Pray do not feel unkindly towards us because we are unable.

As to what course should be taken I do not know what to say. If the money needed can be borrowed on Mortgage, the Congregation, if worthy to exist, would soon pay it off. I went to a new Cong. Ch. at Albany which most people predicted could not live, & began with a debt of about $30.000. dolls. When fairly started we made a subscription in the Congregation, of from $1000 down to $5. pr. year for four years & at the end of that, had paid the whole. The Ch. at W. might probably do as well. If there must be more help, then I think you will be obliged to raise it by going to the large cities & getting a few of the wealthy men together & inducing them, as individuals, to give to this object as altogether a special one. You are a favorite with the public & might do a good deal in this way

Probably, without very materially d-
-turbing the general cause of Ch. buildi-
which must be for some generations t-
come one of the most important & vi-
works of our Cong. Churches. I must a-
-I repeat for you alone - that from what I he-
but little can be done so long as Dr B. -
at the head of affairs. There is a lack o-
confidence in him, & his tone is impe-
& over-bearing. I hope divine wisdom will
direct all concerned in this great matte-

I have endeavored, dear Gener-
to put you in possession of the facts a-
they appear to the Board & our enli-
views. If I have misstated any thing,
overstated, I shall be truly sorry. Be-
that I am, personally, never inten-
to be most truly & faithfully,

Your friend & brothe-

Ray Palmer

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard.

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ROOMS OF THE

Union Republican Congressional Executive Committee.

ROBERT C. SCHENCK, Chairman. THOMAS L. TULLOCK, Secretary.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8, 1868

O. O. Howard,
Commissioner &c.,
General:

Accompanying this you have copy of newspaper published in Ala., and containing report of speech delivered by John M. Langston Esq. We respectfully submit the same to you for perusal and ask its return to this office when you have read it. We remain, General,

Very truly yours,
Thomas L. Tullock
Secretary.

P.S. We also send printed letter of Mr. John V. Given, a colored man of this city.

T. L. T.

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Philad: Feby 8. 1848

My dear General,

In the midst of an unusual pressure on my time I have neglected ack'g your kind letter, and to say how much gratified Mrs Stuart and myself are at the prospect of your being our guest on Thursday next, I have also to add that we shall both be delighted to have Mrs Howard accompany you and make her home with

Pulaski Feb 8. 1862

My dear General

In the hurried of an
unusual pressure on my time I
have neglected to reply from this
letter, was it my dear General
pretty, then that not supply
me at the instant of your
being our guest & Friendship
Truly I have also to ask
that in order that it might
be have been otherwise employed
for our cause for have only

us unless she feels committed to the friends named, Will you kindly drop me a line to inform me by what train you may be expected so that I may meet you if possible at the ~~train~~ Depot, Should I miss you drive directly to 1313 Spruce St., where you will always find the "latch string out", We shall talk of A. S. S. U. when we meet. Even

Bro in Xn bonds

Geo. H. Stuart

Phila. Penna.
Feb. 8th 1868

Stewart Geo. H.
1313 Spruce St

Is gratified at the prospect of having the Commissioner as guest on Thursday.

Mrs Stewart and self would be delighted to have Mr Howard's presence also.

Devices to be advised of time of departure

Confidential

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Atlanta Ga. Feby. 8th. 1868.

Dear Genl.

I have had a long interview with Genl. Swayne and Lt. Col. Bruden who has just come up from Montgomery. The action of Genl. Hayden is hardly denounced, and he is reported as conferring with those opposed to the adoption of the Constitution, and it is said here, that if the Constitution is rejected, it may be attributable to his action. I hope it may not be so, but I fear that what is said of him is too true, that he has removed Bureau agents, and appointed Registers and Judges of election with a view to their result. Now what I recommend is that you do not permit him to remove any more Bureau agents at present

except for good and sufficient cause, aside from political grounds. I was somewhat apprehensive of him when I was there, but relied on what Becker and Shakley told me of his improvement but I fear that did not continue.

I may be mistaken now, but I think Becker be a very reliable man.

Genl. Carson who is now at Montgomery with Genl. Meade will return here to-morrow and if I do not hear before his return I hear more from him. But it will then not avail much. Stryker thinks that I ought to go back to ala, to investigate Hayden's action, but I do not see that it comes within Bureau matters. I cannot do much in the premises; so I think the only thing is to watch him. If the constitution is rejected, the bill can not be remedied just now. I hope Genl. Shepherd will return

to his command and relieve Hayden, perhaps that will be the best way to remedy it.

Genl. Sturgis will be in Wn. Early next week and will confer with you.

There is, without doubt, a good deal of feeling against Genl. Hayden at present. But if the constitution is adopted it may pass away. But he needs watching.

Please treat this as confidential.

Yrs. Very truly,
F. D. Lewall
Col. &c.
A.A.G.

Genl. Howard.

Atlanta Ga.
Feb. 5th 1868

Sewall F. R.
Col. etc
A.A.G.

Writes at length in reference to Gen Hayden who is using his influence in opposing reconstruction, by removing Bureau Agents.

Advises that this power be taken from Gen. Hayden etc, etc, etc,

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Surgeon General's Office

Washington City, Feby 10. 1865.

My dear Sir.

A short time since I rec'd your letter stating that you would accept the transfer of a certain lot of land of the Howard University Estate purchased by me and upon which I paid 50.00

Allow me most respectfully to inform you that I have a brother in this city who has a large family in very magre circumstances, and if you see fit to reimburse me the amt. of my loss, it will be very acceptable indeed during the winter months, as I have to assist them.

Very truly,

Your most obt. servant.

W. H. Tinlon

Maj. Genl O. O. Howard, Present

Bureau R. F. & A. L.

Sir

Washington Feb. 10th 68

Teulon M. H.

states that the Commissioner promised to accept the transfer of a certain lot, of the Howard University estate, on which the writer has paid $57.00.

He has a brother with a large family in very meager circumstances, who need assistance.

Would be glad to have the $57, or even less refunded, that he may relieve the brother's family

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,
For Arkansas.

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Office of Assistant Commissioner.

13. Little Rock, Ark., February 10th, 1868.

Major General O. O. Howard
Commissioner.
Washington, D. C.

General.

I have the honor to inform you that in compliance with your request of January 11th, I have this day forwarded to you, by mail, a photograph of myself. I hope it may prove satisfactory.

I am, very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

C H Smith
Colonel 28th U. S. Infantry.
Brevet Brigadier General, U. S. A.
Assistant Commissioner.

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands.
Office Assistant Commissioner, State of Georgia.

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Atlanta, Georgia, Feby 10th 1868

Dear Genl.

I have had an interview with Genl. Dunn in regard to matters in Atla. Without doubt the Constitution is defeated, or at least will be a very close vote.

Genl. Meade thinks that Hayden made a great mistake in his action, attempting to ignore politics; tho' he is not inclined to say much about Hayden, but evidently he is disappointed. He has ordered a Board to investigate the manner in which the election was conducted, and says, if in any of the counties, the people have not a fair chance to vote, that he will order a new election.

I think it not necessary or expedient for you to take any action at present, until Genl. Meade's Board reports. Col. Nelson is part of the Board.

Genl. Hayden leaves for Washington this evening, and will advise you more

fully about matters, he is well informed.

Please have my orders handed up. I have been waiting here a number of days, and am tired of doing nothing.

Very respectfully & truly
Yrs. &c.
F. D. Lewall
Col. &c.
A. A. G.

Maj. Gen. Howard.

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NATIONAL METROPOLITAN BANK,

WASHINGTON, 10 Feb; 1868

My Dear Gen.

I think a good arrangement can be made for purchase of 1054 & 1055 as suggested a few days ago. When down as far as the bank suppose you drop in a moment to look the matter over.

Yours truly,
Moses Kelly,

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard
Supt &c. &c. Present.

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L. Wall St.
New York. Feb. 10. 1868.

Gen. O. O. Howard,

My dear Sir,

I desire very much to learn, from a trustworthy source, what the prospect is in the Southern States, as to the planting of cotton this year.

There is an impression that a comparatively small acreage will be put in this spring, & if so the supply will be far from adequate to the demand. In such event the price will advance.

It seems to me,

that no man, in this Country is in a position to have so trustworthy information upon this subject as yourself. I take the liberty to ask you what your judgment is, exactly.

Should any portion of Cotton be shorter as the result of information derived from you, & a profit realized, your charge should be liberally remunerated.

An early answer will oblige

Your ob'd Serv't

H. H. Poody.

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Washington, D.C.
Monday P.M. 10th
[Feb] [1868]

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

Dear Sir:- The bearer of this note, my friend Mr. J. E. Spear, is the gentleman of whom I spoke to you this morning. He wishes to show you the line engraving of Marshall's portrait of Gen Grant, — a picture with which I am sure you will be pleased.

Very truly yours,
Sidney Andrews