

Treasury Department, 206

Second Comptroller's Office,

Dec 27th, 1873.

Gen. G. B. Howard,

Late Commr. Bureau R. F. & A. L.

General,

A communication from the Secretary of War to the Secretary of the Treasury respecting discrepancies in Gen. Balloch's accounts between the sums reported by him as on deposits at certain dates, and the sums certified by the Treasurer and Asst. Treasurer, of the U. S., has been referred to me for such action as may be necessary.

A List of these discrepancies has been furnished, & I will hear any explanation that you or Gen. Balloch may wish to present, on Monday next, at 11 A. M.

I am, very respectfully,

J. M. Woodhead,
Comptroller

OFFICE OF

State Mutual Life Assurance Co.

240 MAIN STREET.

ISAAC DAVIS, President.
WM. DICKINSON, Treasurer.
J. D. E. JONES, Sup't of Agencies.

CLARENDON HARRIS, Secretary.
H. H. WHEELER, Asst Secretary.
WM. E. STARR, Actuary.

Worcester, Mass. Dec. 27 1873
Genl O. O. Howard
Washington.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Frank A. Page
~~now~~ in the regular army (one
arm lost) is an applicant
for an important position
in our Co. & refers me to
you as knowing his
character & standing.

Will you oblige me the
favor to write me what
you know of him?

Yours Truly

J. D. E. Jones
Supt of Agencies S. M. L. A. Co.
Worcester
Mass.

Copyd
Jan 8, 1873

Very respectfully to Gen. H.
W. Please state to me
confidentially your opinion
of said Page now.

And please your truly
O. H. W. W.
Brig. Gen. W. H. A.

Washington
Dec 29, 1873.

DEC
29
1873

S. G.

"G"

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Treasury of the United States
Washington D.C. Dec. 27th 1873

Sir:

In reply to your verbal request, to be furnished as soon as practicable, with an abstract of moneys to the credit of yourself, Geo. W. Balloch, and J. M. Brown, Disbursing Officers of the late Bureau of Refugee Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, with the Treasurer U. S., Asst. Treasurers U. S., and National Banks designated as Depositories U. S., at the close of each month from March 1867 to June 1872, - I have to say, that your request will be complied with, but that it will probably take two weeks to complete the papers.

Very respectfully
F. E. Spinner
Treasurer U. S.

Major Gen. G. O. Howard, U. S. A.
Washington D.C. }

True copy

W. A. L.

W. A. L.

Requise sent Genl Wm

Dec. 27. 73

A. E. Spinner to Gen.
Howard in regard
to abstract of money
to the credit of Gen. H.
Gen. Bailock & Maj.
Munn. They will be
furnished.

"D"

Ms.

Treasury Department

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Third Auditor's Office

Washington, D.C. December 27th 1873.

Brig. Genl. O. O. Howard, U.S.A.

Sir:

In reply to your verbal request, made this morning, that you be furnished from the records of this office with a "tabular list", from the accounts of Brig. Genl. Geo. W. Balloch, late Chief D. O., Bureau R. & A. C., of all moneys deposited by him in the U.S. Treasury, and in designated Depositories, from January 1867, to October 1871, incl." I have the honor to state that it will not be possible to prepare the abstract you require, by the 31st inst., as its preparation would occupy at least ten or twelve days time.

I have the honor to be

Sir, very respectfully
Allan Rutherford
Auditor

Thin copy

J. A. Shaden

A. O. O.

Return Copy -

Original sent Ser. of War

2nd Auditor's Office

Decm. 27. 1873

Burkeford, Alan

3rd Auditor

States that it will
take 10 or 12 days to
prepare a statement of
ser. Ballacks accounts -
current, as requested -

War Department,

Adjutant General's Office,

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1873

Washington, D. C. December 27 1873

Brig Gen. O. O. Howard U. S. A.

Late Commissioner Bureau R. R. & A. C.

Washington D. C.

General:

In connection with previous correspondence respecting deficiencies in the records of the late Bureau R. R. & A. C., with especial reference to the specific correspondence in regard to those pertaining to the late disbursing office at New Orleans, La.,; I have the honor to inform you of the procurement, on the 24th inst. from the Agent of the Baltimore & Ohio R. R. in this city, of two boxes containing books, records, &c pertaining respectively to the above named office and that of the late disbursing office at Louisville, Ky.

The statement that a box of records was at the depot in this city, made verbally by Captain Sladen, of your staff, a few days ago, led to inquiry, in answer to which a letter, of which the enclosed is a copy, was received from the Agent of the R. R. Co. in this city.

Very respectfully,
your obedient servant,
Thomas M. Vincent
Assistant Adjutant General

Geo S. Stontz
Genl Agent

Matthew Hale
Cashier
Balt & Ohio Railroad Company
Agent's Office
Washington D. C. Dec 23 1873

Adjutant Gen U. S. A.
Washington D. C.
Dear Sir

Yours of this date
to hand in reply would say there are two Boxes
at this Depot consigned to O. O. Howard from
Balt one arrived April 26 1872 & the other
May 9th 1872 freight on both being Nine $\frac{2}{100}$
Dolls & 9 $\frac{2}{100}$ Gen Howard has been duly
notified of the arrival of Property several
times but as yet has failed to remove same.
Your early attention is solicited

Very respectfully
Geo S. Stontz
Gen Agent

Per A. J. Deming
O. C.

Official copy

Thoma M. Vincent

Assistant Adjutant General

War Department

A. G. O. Dec 27. 1873



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Gorhamwood, La.

December 27 1873

My dear friend ^{Mr} General.

I have seen with a great deal of pain your arraignment before Congress on matters connected with the administration of the late Bureau. Possibly the matter causes

you no anxiety but I know how discouraging such treatment must be to you after the years of toil and study you have given to the vast and grave interests which were connected with the position of Commissioner. There is no person of even common intelligence but what must admit the inestimable value and blessing of

the legislation that created the Freedmen's Bureau not alone to the late population of blacks in the Southern States as slaves, nor to them as a race newly clothed with all the rights and privileges of citizenship, but fully as much to our entire people of the whole country. The Bureau was the pioneer of those Reconstruction features of legislation that followed soon after and it was the faithful earnest patriotic labors of the "Agents" of that Bureau that did the main work of bringing the Southern States back into political and civic harmony with the General Government, that created order and secured a fair administration of law, that laid well and firmly

mentally the ground work of industry,
aroused indolence, instructed igno-
rance and destroyed passion and
robbed prejudice of its venom or
power to do evil. It is not too
much to say, that had Reconstruction
followed wisely and honestly the
paths laid out by Purran work,
and had been administered from
the same high stand-point that
governed the labor of the Purran
officials, we should have had no
such failures to record, no such
unsatisfactory returns to be sad-
dened by, as history has chron-
icled in that special direction.

You were the directing chief
of the whole machinery of the

Bureau and in view of the vast
good that has been accomplished -
work permanent for all time and
its benificent influences; it might
have been reasonable and just to
have expected, that you would
be treated with more fairness and
moderation; with more regard for what
you and yours, for the most part,
faithful coadjutors have accom-
plished in the cause of humanity
and good government; - for the
bringing of these poor ignorant
freemen to a proper understanding
of their true relations; between them
and the white population around
them; and, to a true appreciation
of their status and obligations
Citizens, was a duty and a labor.

which no pen can ever fully record
or words be found properly to represent
its magnitude and importance, its
full significance and value, reaching
as it will far into the unborn
future, no human intelligence can
correctly estimate.

I wish
that General Griffin was living that
he might come to your side, as
I know that he would have done,
and stand by you with his confirmed
affection and counsel in this mo-
ment of trial, for he would have
felt this impugning of the in-
tegrity of the Bureau a personal
thing, - not to you alone, but a
cloud of dishonor which would
envelop every principal who had
been a representative in its work

and therefore a matter to be met
answers and crushed in its
very incipency.

I wish that I might be of
some assistance to you, although
I judge you will not lack for
friends who will feel it not
only a duty but a pleasure to
come to you with every disposition
to serve your best interests, but
should anything suggest itself
where I can be of any use
please let me know.

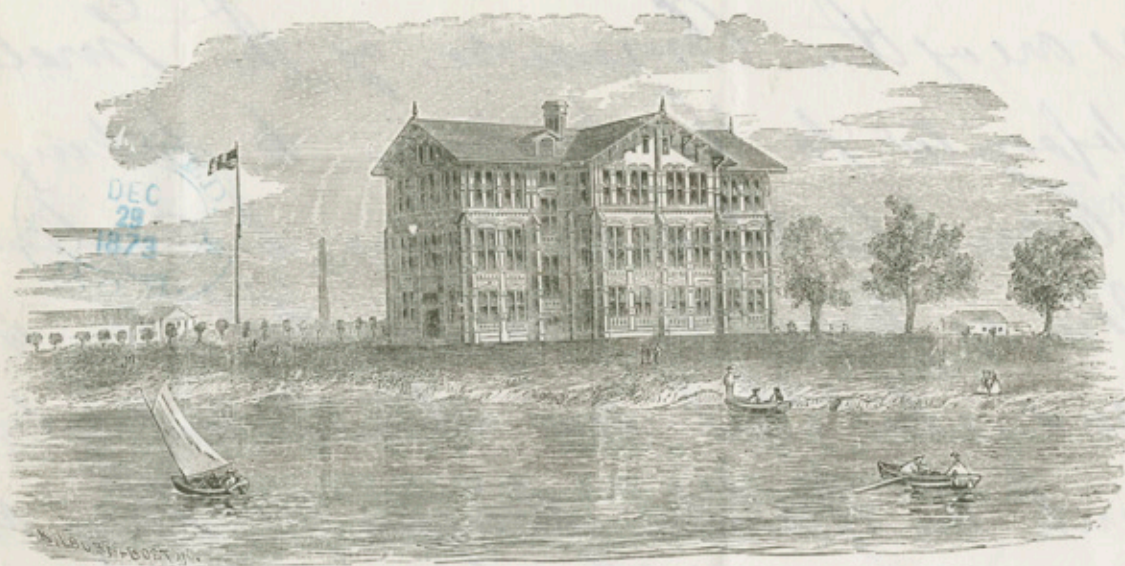
You must excuse this hastily
written note, take it as from the
heart and excuse composition.

With high regards
Your obedt. Servant.

A. N. M. Taylor
2nd Lieut. 19th Regt. Inf. Infantry

To Rev. Maj. Genl. D. D. Howard.
Wilmington.





Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute,

Incorporated by Special Act of the General Assembly of Virginia.
OPENED APRIL, 1868.

S. C. ARMSTRONG, Principal.
J. F. B. MARSHALL, Treasurer.

JOHN H. LARRY, Department of Mechanics.
ALBERT HOWE, Farm Manager.

Hampton, Va., Dec 27 1877
Genl O. B. Howard

My dear Sir:

The Hampton

Singers cannot make any money by
concerts, for some months, by singing
in the United States. We have tried
the ground thoroughly and of late have lost
seriously. Necessity is upon us & we must
do something. I wish your consent

as one of the Committee of the Institute
appointed for the purpose of taking the
Cambridge Students across to England as
soon as possible - say in Feb 74 - being
instructed that we should not interfere
with the Jubilee Singers. They cannot
complain. They are expecting to
return soon. They have had England
all to themselves for nearly a year.

There are many serious difficulties
in the way - I wish to remove all I
can & then see if it will be possible to
go. Please write soon: there is no
time to lose. Am sorry to be so
unfortunate but must.

I wish Capt. Wilkinson here. Can
we have him?

Yours sincerely
J. L. Armstrong
Please keep this matter
a secret at present.

Office of A. ANNAN,

No. 40 BURLING SLIP.

DEC
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1873

New York, Dec 29 1873

Genl O. O. Howard
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir

I wrote
you a short time since
& to which I have expect-
ed a reply - not receiving
any will you oblige me
by acknowledging this note

Respectfully Yours

A. Annan

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Dec. 26, 1873

Simon A.

Desires the receipt of
this to acknowledge.

And DEC 31 1873

Staden

DEC
30
1873

OFFICE

Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Hartford, Ct. Dec. 29th 1873

Gen'l O. C. Howard

Dear Sir,

Will you be so kind
as to favor me with your autograph
on the enclosed card?

Have you got a signature
of Gen'l Robt. Anderson that you
could spare me? Can you tell^{me} of whom
I could possibly get one of F. Abraham
Lincoln's?

Hoping you will excuse me
for the extreme 'check' I have taken in
addressing you and that you will grant
me the favor if possible

Demean

Believe Me Sir

Your humble servant
Geo. A. Pally

Worcester Mass

Dec. 29th 1873

Dear Sir

Wm. D. Howland
Boston

Received the General
logograph as well as
President Lincoln and
Gen. R. B. Anderson.

Yours truly
Wm. D. Howland

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Fayetteville, Dec.

29. 1873.
Gen. Howard.

Dear Sir:

I write to gain some information relative to the Henderson School House located at Fayetteville. For 3 months a public school has been taught therein, at present there is no school. The colored citizens of the place desire to have a subscription

school to be used
in said House, for
the period of 3
months. As the house
is dedicated to
educational purposes
Have you any ob-
jection, to its being
used for that
especial purpose?
Again, A Temperance
order has been or-
ganized "The Band
of Hope." Do you
object to the order
meeting weekly in
the house, Hoping to
hear from you

immediately

I remain

Yours truly,

Re. S. W. James.

Fayetteville
Dec. 29th 1873

James A. B. W.

desires to know if
you ^{will} object to a
temporary ^{and} ^{brief}
Meeting in the Hudson
School House.

Fort Leavenworth, Mo.

December 29 1873

Dear General.

Your welcome letter
is at hand, I rejoice that
you are in so good spirits
and have determined to
vindicate your honor. I
hope you will not ^{take} ^{any} ^{more} ^{of} ^{it} ^{now} ^{until} ^{you} ^{are} ^{at} ^{the} ^{head}
of the army. A Court of
Inquiry can not settle

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the question of satisfying you.
while the Military committee
can give you justice
First by deciding the
question (as indicated by
the sent^d letter) whether
the Head of a Bureau or
Dept- is to be held pecuniarily
responsible for the difficulties
of his subordinates. Second
if the person directly responsible
as in the case of Major

Punkle, has been tried
and punished on the head
of the Bureau he held account-
able. Third (and most
important) ~~has~~ the Secretary (he
has not the right) to
communicate direct to
Congress charging an
officer with defaultation
in office when he knows
and admits before the
committee that the officer

has not been previously
interested. has not received
a penny - and that the officer
has been committed without
his knowledge or power to
avoid, thereby cruelly and
unjustly injuring that officer's
reputation. The Secy being at
the time an irresponsible
person. I would raise these
questions. The whole army are in-
terested (if they only knew it) in
your cause. God bless you



Your friend
Nelson H. Miles
usa

Phil^{ms} 12.29.72.

My dear Mr. Fisk

Dec 29, 73

I have intended ever since
the unchristian as well as unmanly
course pursued by certain members of
Congress against thee ^{to write and} ~~that I must~~
use my influence to encourage thee not
to suffer thy noble spirit to be depressed
under the weight of allegations they may
bring against thee. all who have come out
against thee are in the same slaveholding
spirit as before emancipation. it is
quite easy to solve the problem that creates
so much angry and cowardly feeling
towards thee and the great enterprise
in which thou art engaged; educating
young men of color to sit side by side
in Congress as Senators or Representatives
with themselves or their sons (if they ever
have any fit to go there) they are alarmed

but I am ^{glad} to see it at this time
the very class of ^{which} they have bought and
sold as chattels, capable of giving votes
or making speeches in our highest tribunals
of justice, suspected by the best states
men and all good citizens every where.
their object is if possible to break down
the University. seeing it has proved ^{so} great
a success, but my faith is they will not
be able to do it and then, "violent dealings
will come down on their own heads."

they care little for Government money and
would no doubt squander it like water if
in their power. its the college and its
powerful influence. the principle on which
its was erected that of Equal Rights to all
is firm as the "Everlasting Hills."

Keep up thy courage and nobleness of soul
I can but believe all will be well. I know
thy lovely wife must have her feelings deeply
lacerated. She enters so fully into thy joys
and sorrows and I presume does all in her

power to hold up thy head in hope.

I am convinced from my acquaintance with many here who know thee that thou stood higher in the Estimation of the best people in this City than at the present time. This morning in Company with one of our most respectable Townsmen he smoked after having read the morning paper relative to thy request of Secretary Bellingham to furnish thee with some important documents regarding thy reply to the charges brought against thee which he promptly refused, the remarks of the gentleman were what an outrage; and thus is the feeling that prevails society here as far as I have learned.

my health has not been good for some time as well as that of my husband & we should have been in Washington &c this our funds too have been much lower than usual as we both find it very difficult to collect rents and other dividends. I have

not been able to furnish the old people
with as ample means as they require
but am doing all I can for them as
there are many here without any means
of support. much love to thy wife
and believe me thy true
Friend

A. W. M. Townsend

P.S. my husband joins in kindest
regards to you both.

Recd JAN 8 1874

Friendly Letter
Isaac & Ann - Mrs
Dec. 29-1870
Wills Co.



Chicago,
Dec. 29, 1873.

Gen. O. O. Howard,

Dear Sir,

My attention has been called by my friend Capt M. C. Wilkinson of your Staff, to a certain newspaper report of an address given by him in the Ch go with Main Poston, respecting the Modocs & other Indians of the frontier. I have not a copy of the report at hand, but I may ^{be a witness} gladly upon the points made in the report as quoted there in Capt W's letter. The address, let me premise, was made at my solicitation, & with especial reference to helping our western people to get their views of the whole Indian question, & the policy of

the Gov^t., by having the facts laid before
them by one competent to testify. I was also
the more anxious to have Capt. Wilkinson
speak upon the subject, because I had myself
since my return from ^{a trip made as} a Special Commissioner
the past summer, publicly ~~expressed~~ ^{stated} my own
views, & found upon consultation that those
of the Capt. quite accorded with ^{them} my own.

I say then very emphatically, that there
was not a word in the address pointing
towards, that it be tortured into a
'vilefication' of army officers, by any one who
heard what was said. There was not a word
of any sort of criticism upon the officers of the
Army, high or low, & none as to the policy of the
Gov^t. What was said about the Modocs being
more "sinned against than sinning", was said
as a quotation, very carefully emphasized
as such at the time - of an official as to

west, who had the best of opportunities for know-
ing as to the truth of what he said, & who made the
Statement without the slightest reserve. And
the same as to Capt Wright, having "left the book
open" & Capt W. was very careful to avoid any
responsibility for these statements. He called repeated atten-
tion to that fact. He did not say that the "Modocs did
work, but being Indians did not like to" nor any-
thing of the kind. He cited the fact that they did work
in the construction of their new quarters, & gave it as
a proof that they were "competent to become civilized
as any other Indians, & not a set of hopeless
degenerates. He said nothing whatever of the "god-
liness of the Indians"; but said he believed they
could be reached by Christian influences, & cited
facts of their interest as shown in connection
with singing, & various devotional services. He said
nothing - either by word or implication, to the effect
that if something like the Freedmen's Bureau were
established with Gen Howard & himself at the
head of it, the whole Indian question would be solved."

Such a statement shows its absurdity upon its face,
& had its birth wholly in the imagination of whom-
soever wrote it. - If these quotations - of Col
Capt W.'s letter - are samples of the report re-
ferred to, I unhesitatingly pronounce the
whole thing as a wilful misrepresentation,
aimed at prejudicing Army Officers, & the public
against both Indians & the policy of the govt.

And I take very sincere pleasure in dis-
missing alike to the thorough success
which Capt W. evidently had in the dis-
charge of the delicate & responsible trust com-
mitted to him - as shown in ^{the facts noted in} this address
& his unqualified respect for & commendation
of his Superior Officers, so far as any allusion
to them were made.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully

Edward P. Goodwin

Postor First Com. Lt.

P.S. I have sent a note to Gen. Sheridan covering essentially the
same points noted above. E. P. G.

RECEIVED
JAN
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1874

Rock Island Mo. Dec. 29, 73

U. S. Engineers Office

Major General O. O. Howard

U. S. Army

Washington D. C.

Dear General:

Allow me to present to you my heartfelt
congratulations at the occasion of the change
of year.

Be assured that I ever sincerely believe
you to be the best and kindest man and
trust me, that I would not hesitate one
moment to blow up your enemies, if it
but lay in my power to apply a burning
fuse to the mine whereupon these calum-
niators might stand. —

It was a necessity for me to write and state
the above to you. —

If the form of expression is rather strong,

L
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I hope you overlook it on account of
my devotion to you

I am as ever

your thankful
E. F. Hoffmann
late Major and A.D.C.