

Suggesting that I write this note -
I am truly yours,

W. F. Sherman

Washⁿ D.C.
Feb. 24. 1881.

Answer Feb. 26/81.

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Headquarters Army of the United States,

Washington, D.C. Feb 24 1881

Gen O O Howard -

Supdt A.S. Mil Acad -
West Point.

Dear General -

Gen Meigs writes me
that you are not pleased
with Charley Hays - as your
Quartermaster - He is my
first cousin, and I have
known him all his life -
Still I was not instrumental
in getting him into the Army,
nor in leading him to West

now will I be in retaining
him there, when you desire
his presence unnecessary —
But I think it would be best
for you to make few changes
in the Personnel of the Staff
at this date, but to watch
the balance changes
at the end of the Academic
Year — The Line of the Army
is so heavily taxed with
details now that I will
not be able to approve of
the detail of any more
officers of the Line to the
Military Academy — but I

I shall adhere to my judgment
long since formed that the
Commissioning and Quarters Master
is selected from those Grade
branches of service. In fact
I suppose you have little or
nothing for a Quarters Master
to do, but if somebody
must do that little it must
be one of the Reserve Quarters
Masters. If at the end of
the Academic year you apply
for such Quarters Master service
approve, and Hays can take
his station.

It is at Col Hays

Edwin Noble.
Phila. Pa. Feb. 24, 1881

Matter what the color of his skin may be, or whether
he be your friend or foe.

I had intended to have visited West Point for some
time, but the weather and a severe attack of Rheu-
matism of the muscle of the chest approaching the
heart has prevented me, I must now indefinitely
postpone the visit, for I cannot bear to see Edwin
with his cheeks off, and reduced to the point,

When I do come, I shall certainly accept your kind
invitation to call on you.

I have placed Clara at St. Margaret's school for
girls in Watbury Connecticut, We think she is much
improved, has become more womanly, she reminds me
much of her dear departed Mother, as she possesses
many of her amiable qualities.

I beg excuse for tiring you with this long letter,
and now close by sending the loves of all the family
to you Mrs Howard and Children

Very truly your Friend
Edwin Noble

Recd Feb. 25th 1881

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No 128 So 19th St. February 24/81

Gen. O. B. Howard U. S. A.
My dear Friend

Your letter of yesterday has been
a great relief, as I have been much depressed by the
disgrace brought upon Edwin S. John by his unaccount-
able conduct in violating the rules of the Academy by
crossing the river to Garrison's, and consequently his pun-
ishment by being deprived of his office and chevrons;
that he merited punishment is unquestionable, it is
well that he was stopped in his career, or he may have
gone on to a more serious violation of the regulations,
The fact is, that Edwin has been too much favored by
his relatives and friends, all his requirements even more
than necessary have been furnished him, some against my
approval or permission, he became a favorite with all
who make his acquaintance, has been so courted and
humored, that he has forgotten himself and the responsi-
bility depending on his position as an Officer and Cadet,
With all his failings (and I know but very few), Edwin
is a noble fellow and I love him dearly, to me he is the

same as my own son and I feel his disgrace keenly.

He has written two letters to me since the occurrence giving an account of his misfortune, they are written in a frank, manly manner, making no excuse and condemning only himself for his conduct, regretting deeply the pain it has given me and his friends.

I wrote to him, severely censuring him for his conduct, I appealed to him for the love he bore for his Mother, for the honored name of his Father, to bear up manfully with his misfortune, to pay strict attention to his studies; to violate not even the least of the regulations of the Academy; to associate with no one who was inclined to do so; to keep from the society of young and giddy females, to be obedient to his superiors; and as he had yet four months before graduating time, he could regain his good name and thereby rejoice the hearts of those who had been made sad by his folly.

By the same post I received your letter, one came from Edwin, he is contrite and regrets his conduct. and says, "It was foolhardiness caused by an utter want of thought." "Honestly I think the pull up short, was a good thing for me, my friends had done too much

for me and there was little to work for."

I make these short extracts from his letters so that you may judge of how he views his deilection. I feel satisfied that you and Mrs Howard regard Edwin as though he were your own child and will advise him as such for the sake of his noble father and sainted Mother, and I pray that the Almighty may look favorably upon him.

I will try to do as you advise, to "encourage him to stand high" I have lectured him pretty severely, to do more might depress and make him despondent and indifferent, I shall therefore encourage him as you suggest,

I regret that you and your family did not come by the way of Philadelphia, I had Mr Barker to look out for you and bring you to my house, where the front chamber was prepared for you and Mrs Howard and others for the children, there being plenty of room and willing hearts to receive you all.

Let me, although it is rather late, congratulate you on your appointment to West Point. In my opinion and in that of all I have conversed with (Republicans) you are the very person best qualified for the place, for we are confident you will see that justice is done to all, no

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EDITORIAL ROOMS
SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE
743 BROADWAY
NEW YORK.

Feb. 24,

1881.

Gen. O. O. Howard
West Point
N.Y.

Dear Sir:

We have your
favor of the 23rd and
are more sorry than
you can be that the
poem does not seem to
justify us in accepting it
for Scribner. An editor
acts in a fiduciary capacity
not only toward his em-
ployer but toward his audience
and has no right to obey
his natural promptings
to strain a point in a case
like this.

Very respectfully yours
—Editor S.M.

Editor Sentinel Monthly

New York City
Feb. 24, 1881

Dear Sir:
We have your
favor of the 23rd and
are very glad to hear
that you are so
keen and not slow to
identify me in accepting
for service. My only
act in a financial capacity
not only toward the
large but toward the
and has no right to object
in material (trading)
to obtain a hint in a case
like this.

Very truly,
Feb. 25, 1881

Chas L. Whitehead

New York
Feb. 25. 1881.

Ans. Feb 26. 1881.

Recd Feb 26. 1881.

Wm W Howard,

My Dear Sir,

Lieut Wood
mentioned to me some
time since that you
were expecting to
come down some
Saturday to attend
the meeting of the
Century.

It would give
me great pleasure
if you & Lieut Wood

could come down
the 5-th of March
& spend Sunday
with me, & we
will visit the Century
that evening at
that is the monthly
meeting night.

We dine at
half past six &
would expect you
at dinner.

If this plan is
not convenient for
you I trust some
other day will
give me the pleas-
ure of your
acquaintance

Yours very truly
Thos E Whitehead

64 W 35th St

New York

Feb 25th /81

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American Home Missionary Society,

BIBLE HOUSE, ASTOR PLACE,

REV. DAVID B. COE,
REV. HENRY M. STORRS, } Secretaries,
REV. ALEX. H. CLAPP, Treasurer.

New York, Feb. 25 1881

Genl O. O. Howard -

West Point, N.Y.

Dear Sir & Brother

Many thanks for your kind note
of 23^d. We shall certainly
avail ourselves of your most effective
assistance, some day, to give fresh
power to our mis- of work on the
Pacific Coast - having this permission
in hand.

I hardly thought it possible that
Mr. Stocker's request should fall
within your province, but I could
not refuse his desire to lay it
upon you.

Very sincerely & cordially
Yrs
H. M. Storrs

Dr. C.

Henry M. Clapp.

H. M.

Feb. 25/86.

C. H. MULLIKEN,
REAL ESTATE AND LOANS,
No. 91 Dearborn Street,
ROOM 1.

Chicago, February 25th 1881

My dear Howard

Your note I found on my desk and was very sorry not to have seen you. I should have written you before now but have been prevented by other matters. I thought possibly you would call again for I really desired to take you by the hand and have you & Mrs Howard dine with us at my house. You know Mrs M- and myself are all alone now. Henry is married, is in business and at housekeeping. If I had known you were in town, I should have called upon you if you had been at an Hotel. It has been a long time since we have compared notes and it would have given me great pleasure to have had a good long chat with you. I am real glad you are at West Point I should think you would enjoy the change immensely. When you find leisure write me of yourself, your family, how many children you have, where they are what they are doing. We are getting to be old people now our sons and daughters married and filling the places we once occupied. I can hardly realize it. in fact have to stop and think if it is so. You are now situated so we may see each other occasionally but in Oregon, you might as well have been in Africa

Remember Mrs Mulliken & myself very kindly to Mrs Howard and your family and believe me very sincerely your friend C. H. Mulliken

L. A. M. M. M.

Chicago Ill.

Feb. 28. 1881

Recd. Feb. 28. 1881.

Sherman
Genl. W. F.

Feb 25, 1881.

Headquarters of the Army,
Washington DC, Feb 1, 1881.

I think it will be
better to make haste
slowly - to recommend
well, and just prior
to the Spring Examina-
tion to make specific
recommendations for all
the personal changes
Lieut. Howard Bowen

W. F. Sherman

Dear General
To make sure of economy
the Encls. sent & Howard have
this letter & the spare one
his last

Sincerely

W. F. Sherman

Headquarters, Department of West Point,
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

West Point, N. Y. Feb. 25 1881

General

R. C. Drum,

Adjutant General U.S. Army

Dear General:

That you may
see that I am working toward some
specific end I write you the
following as my present purpose.

1. In the line of economy. I wish
of my two aides here one for
Adjutant of this Dept. & Adjutant General
the other for Adjutant of the Academy.
2. I have three officers on commission
duties - ^{general order} I want but two, one for
the cadets & one for the post.
3. I would like to fix my Engineering

so that the Chief of Practical Engineering shall also be the Asst. Professor - and as the next 187 class will be small I propose with two officers in that department.

In law, French, English studies & mathematics one each may be dispensed with.

In tactics - I want Capt. M.B. Miller to replace Randolph & Piper. Wilmore is surplus - so is Michler.

- To sum up. I can relieve
- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 one Asst. Prof. | Capt. Payt. |
| 2. two Asst. Engin. | (Propose will select) |
| 3. two in F. & Eng. | " |
| 4. one in Math. | " |
| 5. two in Tactics | " |

thus making a reduction with the Adjutant of nine officers. This will leave enough for ^{present} efficiency of instruction.

Again I do not propose to have any

staff ^{simply} for show - The use of the department function is to give us the power of eventuality & others essential to government of the troops & the best care of the public property. In my time & I will bring the cost down to what it would be without a departmental establishment.

I wish much to correspond with General Sherman's views as I understand them that officers detached from their commands should remain here as a rule but four years.

Will this procedure be satisfactory. Think you to all concerned as the War Dept?
Yrs truly - O. A. Howard
Brig. Gen. U.S.A.

F. H. SMITH,
Real Estate Broker,
24 and 25, Le Droit Building,
Cor. 8th & F Sts., Washington, D. C.

Washington, D. C., February 26 1881

M. Genl. O. O. Howard U. S. A.

In account with F. H. SMITH.

HOUSE.	TENANT.	Dr.	Cr.
1880 Dec 10	By Bal as per gc of this date		80 84
"	Cash -		1000 00
31	" 427-7th St H. Wex - to date		40 00
1881 Jan 31	do do do do		40 00
Feb 26	By Balance Overdrawn		14 46
1880 Dec 15	To Repairs as per bills rendered, viz: <i>Chick</i>	1000 00	
	<i>Int Note 20 Natl. Bank</i>	5 00	
	To Water Rent for <i>do do Lennan</i>	60 00	
	To Taxes for		
	To Insurance for <i>A. S. Pratt</i>	71 10	
	do <i>H. L. and Annuity Initiation</i> ^{20.} <i>Med Exp. dues</i> ^{2.} ^{1,20}	23 20	
	do <i>(Fire-) 427-7th \$4000</i>	12 00	
	To Commission at 5 per cent. on \$80 ⁰⁰	4 00	
	To Balance as per check herewith,		
		1175 30	1175 30

Washington, D. C.,

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Disp

F. H. Smith & Son, Agents
515 7th Street, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 25 1881

Dear General:

I enclose statement
of a/c there is \$100 interest due on
Looman's note, which if convenient
I think it would be a good
plan to pay without waiting the
slow process of accumulation of
the rents, which will be reserved
for the next Life Insurance premium
of Mr Pratt.

I have not been able to get
anything from the Mr. St tenant
for a couple of months. The
Extreme Cold Weather seems to have
worked a good deal of hardship with
of his dog, though I doubt if his
disposition is any too good.

Wm. H. Smith.
N.Y. Feb. 26. 1881

I saw Maj Brackenridge twice
and have seen Lt Smith J. M. of
the Artillery Regiment which has
come to the Arsenal, in regard to
renting the 7th at Stone. The
latter says Maj Brackenridge
left a memorandum in regard
to the matter for him, but he
does not think it will be necessary
to rent any additional room.

I have not been able to do any
thing further in the matter of the
Hall.

The indications are that a
movement in real Estate will occur
during the Spring, but do not point
much to a boom in Island property.

Shall you be here with the
rest of the world on the 4th?
We have a bed for you if you come.
Wm. H. Smith

Recd Feb 28. 1881

expressing to you &
which I trust you
will consider private
in writing - Mrs Howard,
the interest - will you
please remember me
with kindest regards.

If a favorable action
is likely to take place
will you please tele-
graph us - at our ex-
pense - & believe me

Yours faithfully Yours -
Miss Daniel S. Wells.

Mrs. D. S. Wells.

Angel Island.

Feb. 26. 1881

Recd March 8, 1881.

Recd March 8, /81

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Angel Island
Feb. 26th 1881

Genl. O. O. Howard

Dear Sir

I trust you
will pardon the liberty
I have taken - in ad-
dressing a letter to you;
being prompted by
reasons - which you
shall hereafter learn.

Major Wells - has had
a promise to be ordered
East with the first
detachment of insane
men - which is to take
place the latter part
of March. His object in
going is to place
our darling "Wells" re-
mains - in their final
resting place.

My object in visiting
you General, is to ask
of the prospect you
so kindly offered us
is to be entertained?

It interests us so deeply
financially as well as
otherwise - that all
our arrangements
must be differently
made if this hope was
to be abandoned.

I thought ere this
you would probably
have made up your
mind definitely whether
you would apply for
Major Wells - or - not -
As you kindly said
I was entitled to some
consideration in the
matter I have taken
this opportunity of

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COPLES & MULKEY,

ATT'YS AT LAW.

CREE'S BUILDING,

Corner of Stark & 1st Streets.

Portland, Oregon, July 26th 1881

Mr J. O. Howard

West Point

N. Y. Dear Sir

You will I hope
Excuse this hasty note written in haste, and without
much time for consideration.

You know much of our situation here.
A change in the position of Post Master here, is
imminent. Geo. A. Steel of your acquaintance
is a prominent candidate of our people, and
frankly I will say to you, that the occasion
of this informal note to you, is simply that
the Roman Catholic influence ~~is~~ here, is
consolidated against him. For that reason
as well as others we are deeply interested.
I merely make this suggestion to you. Possibly
you might wish to be advised of that fact, and
in your communications with the President make some
suggestion. With great Respect Yours J. F. Copley

J. L. Caples.
Confidential. Recommending
Postmaster at Portland, Oregon.

Portland, Ore
Feb 26. 1881

To Postmaster General.

My dear Sir:

Wt Portland, N. M. March 1881
I know Mr. A. Steele to be
a good man; the opposition is
not from his Church relation,
but simply political. Please
glance this over and return
to me.

Yours truly
O. O. Howard

Brig. General
U. S. Army.

Recd. March 4. 1881

(No. 1)
Post Office Department,

Office of the Postmaster General,

Washington, D. C., March 14 1881.

Respectfully returned to

Gen O. O. Howard
in accordance with
his request.

File Closed

J. L. James

Postmaster General.

Hattie A. B. Corbo

Washington D.C. Feb. 26, '81

I am sure that a good strong word from you will win for them, even if must be said to Genl. Harfield.

I am not now travelling with Mrs A. - am keeping house - but I am interested for her the same as if I were still in her house - One thing I must be assured of - without the letter you wrote in her pension case - it would never have been won - Hoping you will pardon my coming to you

I am very respectfully
Hattie A. B. Corbo

944 L. St. N.W.

Washington D.C.

Feb. 26/81

Genl. O. O. Howard

Your letter was received telling me you felt you had said all you could regarding Mrs. Annas's pension. I have urged Sec. Schurz to consider the matter and to correct it for her to receive as she ought to the pension of a Major's widow. He wrote me in reply he would do all he could - It is now very close to the end - and I am fearing the matter will be overlooked - I shall venture another line to him asking it may not be

But - dear General if allowed
at - most - its not - at support -
and its an absolute necessity
something should be done

The most - feasible thing
now is a place as messenger
for Eddie. now bet. - 13 & 14 -
fully competent to fulfill
the duties of one - I know
of many less so than he
in age & strength -
Eddie is a good honest -
trusty boy and very anxious
to help his mother

I have had him write out
a formal application for
a place as messenger
and have today sent it to
Sec. Schurz - saying all I
can in favor of it -

Will it not be possible
for you to say a word

personally by telegram to
him. The time is now so
brief now - I fear a letter
would be late - yet would
not if he can receive by
Wed. Mch. 2. -

Tell now I have hoped this
aid than mine would be
found to gain it. -

But it seems to me I cannot
see Sec. S. go out - without
something being reached.
There are no persons I
can interest in it - so my
only hope is yourself. -

If you can possibly aid
it now. do, if cannot - let
me be encouraged you
will stand by the case
when the new men come
into power who will now
so soon -

Anna Dwy
Feb 21. 81

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Jm O Howard
Dear Sir

Though quite
reluctant to occupy any
of your valuable time
with a purely personal
matter, you having had
so limited an acquaintance
with me, I yet venture
to address you on the subject
of my business future.

It remained for the
Second Nat Bank as Cashier,
until a little more than a
year since, when I was
forced by ill health to
resign.

The forced
resign. seems to have been
a blessing, as I now find
myself better than for ten

Hard past, and feeling like
taking hold of work
vigorously.

However I am
inclined to change my
residence, as the climate
here is damp & debilitating.

Can you assist me in
locating elsewhere?

Of course, by
Education I am a banker,
but still I feel that there
are other occupations for
which my experience
would fit me.

Could put a moderate
capital into business if
it seemed desirable to do
so, but would be quite
satisfied with a good
learned position.

If you know of any

openings in or near New
York - in Washington, or
in the West - I would
be greatly obliged for
friendliness in my behalf

I take the liberty
of enclosing copies of
two of my letters - refer
to all the banks here
viz.

Second Nat Bank (FOR PAID)	
Chemung Canal Bank	(In amount)
Lyons Smith & Co. N.Y.	
Wm Hall Banker	
Ex Geo L. Robinson	Albany
Hon H Boardman Smith	do
Rev J K Beecher	do
Hon A S Dixen	do
J Riley Reid	do
Hon C J Fairman Sup Ins	Albany
Geo S. Coe & Co. N.Y.	
J L Everett Car, N. Broadway	" "
E Scofield Car, First St	" "
J M Hard & Co. Chambers St	" "
J M Williams & Co. 20 Nassau St	N.Y.
Hon J A Galt Smith (inc)	Brooklyn
Senator A. Cameron (Wisconsin)	

The letter to Senator
Platt (of which I enclose
copy) was written in view
of the new "US Nat BK
N.Y." but I have not used
it, as I learn that the
offices are all filled
before the announcement
of organization.

My son whom you
saw at my house, has
been at Yale, and is
now at business.

The little girl Fannie
whom you saw, is at the
Huttgart Conservatory fitting
herself for a musical
career - so that we have
only our two year old
Alice at home.

With warm regards
in which my Corey joins
I remain

Truly yours

W. F. Corey

Am going to N.Y. Monday
during the week my address
will be 17 Broad St. Can. A. M. M. M.

Chemung Canal Bank
Elmira NY
To whom this may be presented

I have been
acquainted with Mr. Tracy
for thirty years & know
him to be a gentleman
of the strictest integrity
just and high minded

He is a fine ac-
countant and capable
of filling any position
in a bank having had
a thorough education as
Teller & Cashier in the
Elmira Bank & Second
Nat Bank of this City

(Signed)

Copy

John Arnold Jr

0 in

1

2

3

4

5

6

10

15

copy
Send Nat & Dr
C. M. M. M.
Forokomit may concern

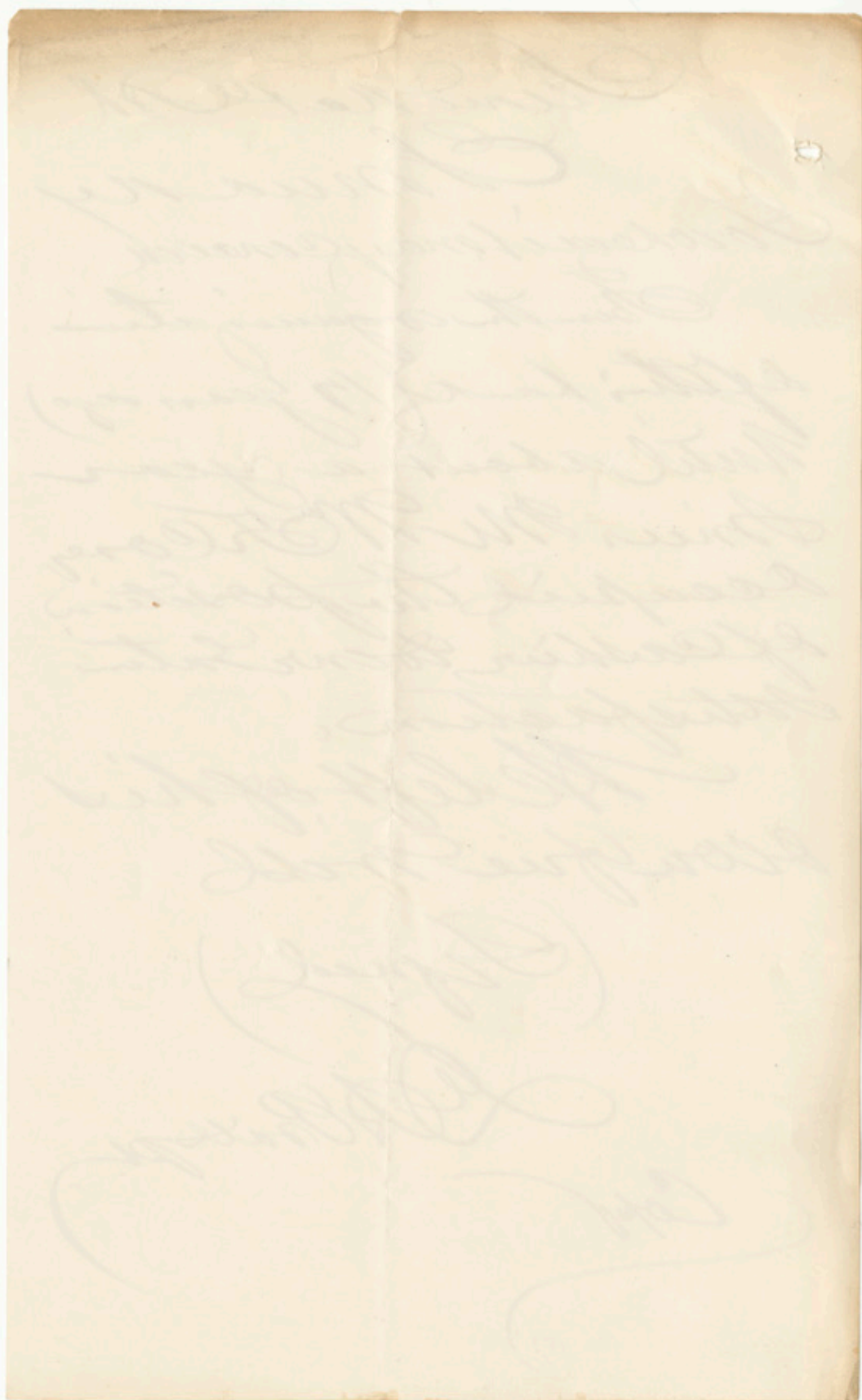
Then the organization
of this bank (17 years ago)
Until about a year
since, Mr. W. M. Corey
occupied the position
of Cashier, to our entire
satisfaction.

He left of his
own free will

(Signed)

L. A. Prater

Copy



Copy Insurance Dept
Albany, Oct 21 87

Wm T. Hall

Dear Sir

I have known
Mr W. T. Corey from boyhood
By his own energy
and excellence of character
as well as general fatness
and ability he made his
way to the Cashiership
of the Second Nat Bank
of Albany, (a position which
he held for nearly seventeen
years). He now seeks
a position in some banking
house in New York.

I speak without hesitation
and with pleasure when I
commended him to your
consideration. He has every
quality as a business man.

Which is requisite to success
His personal character
is pure & unspotted, and
his fidelity is beyond
question. It will be a
gratification to me if his
aspirations can be realized

Very truly your friend
C. J. Fairman

H. F. Corey.

Albany N. Y.

Feb. 26. 1881

Recd Feb. 28. 1881

* Sup. Ind. Dep. Albany

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Portland, Or. Feb. 26, 1881.

Gen. O. O. Howard.

West Point, N. Y.

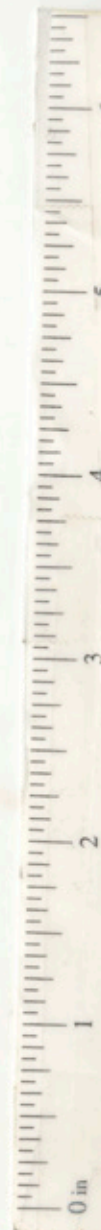
My dear brother:

I transmit to you a printed synopsis of an address by Ned Chamberlain. Much was suppressed which you would be glad to see. It referred to the Catholic efforts, and various points which the general public ought not to know until our plans become visible. I do not, however, now think of any important point absolutely new.

You will know how apathetic are the people on this coast in regard to the treatment of the Indians; and that no man can expect to get help here. But I am quite willing to bear ~~all~~ the expense of beginning the work, as I did for Alaska; but the case needs the earliest attention that the new administration can give it.

I am compelled to believe that Sec. Schurz has played the politician in all our

see special files



Handwritten text in cursive script, likely a letter or document. The text is written on aged, yellowed paper. The handwriting is dense and fills most of the page. There are some red markings in the top left corner, possibly initials or a date. The text is written in a cursive style, with many loops and flourishes. The paper shows signs of wear, including creases and discoloration.

attempts to get the new reservation established, and I do not doubt that he would have played it into the hands of the Catholics if he had dared to do so.

In January we made another effort to bring the case to a decision, and were satisfied that our hope must be transferred to the new administration. I have in my possession the proof of these statements, but I will not trouble you with them. The present status is all that you care for. The situation in the field is grave enough—deepening dissatisfaction in the bands, angry denunciations of the Government. You can forecast what are the prospects of peace for next summer.

Dear Brother, you have shown so much Christian sentiment for these poor people in the midst of obloquy and reproach, that I know your sympathy for them must still be deep and prevalent, and I scarcely

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need ask you to plan some efficient inter-
position on their behalf. I have a teacher
and missionary all ready to enter. I stand
all prepared to enter upon the work
without waiting for any authorisation,
as I set forth in my letter of Jan. 22nd.
I shall, however, act with great prudence.

Since the foregoing was dictated, I
have received your letter of the 3rd inst.
I shall observe your suggestions in the
premises.

I expect to go to Lewiston in the
middle of April and dedicate a church;
and I shall then gather all the informa-
tion that I can on the Indian situation.

In the bonds of Christian fellowship
I remain, as ever,

Yours faithfully,

A. L. Lindsey.

E. M. L.

A. L. Underley

Portland Sept

Feb. 26. 1851

Dear Mr. Grant

Brook 21st 1851,

Brook March 7. 1851

Clinton B. Fisk & Co.

Bankers & Brokers,

3 Broad Street,

Waxel Building.

Stenographic

Clinton B. Fisk
C. F. Mackenzie, Member N.Y.C.E.
J. T. Williams.

New York, Feb. 26th 1881

Dear General;

I write you in behalf of the great Assembly at Chautauqua, on Aug. 5th & 6th 1881. There will be a re-union of the old Christian Commission and of Southern Chaplains. You are wanted very much for duty on that occasion at Chautauqua. I was there last year and was greatly delighted with my visit. You can do a great good if you will arrange to accept this invitation and, if you will indicate to me a probability that you can go, I will put Dr. J. H. Vincent, President, in immediate communication with you.

I rejoiced greatly with your thousands of other friends in this country when West Point was so fortunate to secure your assignment. Gen. Swaine and myself were recently in conversation and resolved that we would take an early day to go to West Point and give you cordial greetings.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Howard and the household

I am,

Yours very truly,

Clinton B. Fisk

Gen. A. C. Howard }
West Point N.Y.

Gen. D. B. Fiske

St. Louis, Mo.
Nov. 24. 1881.

Jan. 28. 1881.

Recd Feb 25. 1881

9
H.

Department of the Interior,

BUREAU OF EDUCATION,

Washington, Feb. 26, 1881.

118

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

Supt. U. S. Military Academy.

West Point. N. Y.

Sir:

Your letter of the 24th inst. addressed to the Hon A. C. Burnside, has been referred by him to this office. The book in question is entitled, "Manual on School-houses and Cottages for the People of the South" by C. Thurston Chase, (at the time of publication) Supt. of Education in Florida. I learned, some time since, that quite a number of copies were stored away in another Department and I got possession of them for distribution among meritorious applicants for such information. I have sent Gen. Burnside five copies, and he will probably supply you with one.

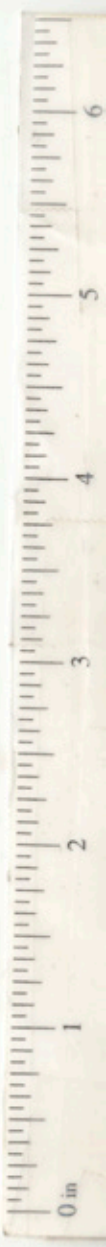
Very respectfully yours

John Eaton
Commissioner.

Dept. Education
Comm. Education

March 26.
Feb. 24. 1881.

Recd Feb. 28. 1881.



120
1420 Chestnut St.
Phil. Pa. Feby, 26th 1881

Major Genl. O. O. Howard,

Dear Sir:

The contents of this letter must be my apology for intruding on your notice. You are known the Country over as one of those Officers who believe that proper discipline & official dignity can be maintained while yet regarding the soldier as a man, & as such, entitled to respect, with a just claim upon those above him for assistance & stimulation in every effort to lift himself into a higher plane of manhood. Holding these views yourself, it is the hope of all your admirers,

that you will try to infuse into the Cadets under your command a corresponding sentiment, in which effort may God give you abundant success.

As I am a striking illustration of such kindly notice, I will give a short sketch of my life, as it may encourage you & other officers in your purpose to elevate men, as well as to command soldiers.

Thrown a waif upon the world at a very early age, without friends, money, or any moral training, I found myself, at the breaking out of the Black Hawk war, a Drummer Boy in the 6th 2^d Infantry, attached to "I" Company, Capt. Seth Johnson. Unaccustomed to render obedience to any one, I was soon taught by severe discipline that first duty of the soldier, which was a most

important step not only in making me
a good soldier, but in preparing me
for a better life. I soon learned that the
Army was a place where neglect & disobe-
dience were sure to bring prompt & deserved
punishment, & also that merit was as
certain of due recognition & reward.

But wholly uneducated, I saw no pros-
pect for me but to pass over the same
track that had brought so many of my
comrades to mere weeks of men, inspired
with no higher ambition than to "run the
mail," gamble, & indulge in the grossest
vices. Ignorant & untaught as I was,
I nevertheless abhorred such a life & sur-
roundings. I often, when off duty, would
get away by myself, & spend hours in
bitter weeping; sometimes on the very
verge of self-destruction. In this hour
of deep despondency, the Captain of my

company & his excellent wife, both
devout members of the Presbyterian
Church, noticed my unhappy looks,
on one auspicious day, under cover of
rendering some slight service, I was in-
vited into their quarters. Seating me
on the sofa, they took seats by my side
& kindly inquired into my history, con-
fided with a desire to do all in their
power to make my position pleasant
& to aid in any struggles to better
my future life. His kindness melted
my heart, & I fully unburdened myself
to them. I need not go into detail of
this & many other precious interviews
with the same dear friends. But the
result was, I took to the Post Library,
the night school, & spent my time
on or off duty in study as diligent
as possible. In due time I was made
Hospital Steward, then Sergeant, & was

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finally transferred to New York & put
in charge of the Principal Recruiting
Station. Having much spare time, I then
continued my studies, adding the Greek
& Latin languages to the number.

Having been led to contemplate the
ministry, I sought the influence of
Col. Vose, then in charge of the Recruiting
Service, & of Surg. Mower, the Medical
Purveyor, to secure a discharge that
I might enter upon the studies more
immediately connected with this
sacred calling. These distinguished
officers, & also the late Genl. Harvey
Brown, then in charge of the stations
in New York City, offered to use their in-
fluence in securing me a commission,
but my purpose was fixed, & I re-
ceived my discharge from the
Adjut. General's office, completed the

require studies, entered the ministry,
in which sacred calling I have now
spent some thirty five years, during which
time I have occupied successfully several
prominent positions in the Denomina-
tion of my choice.

In the meantime, I have been
fairly successful as an author, having
published several volumes, one of which
I have taken the liberty to send you.

These books have been widely read, &
have received the approbation of men
of science, as seen by the degree of
"Doctor of Philosophy" conferred upon me
by the University of Lewisburg, Pa.

This little sketch will show what
service Capt. Johnson & his wife conferred
not only upon the poor orphaned
 drummer Boy, but the Army & the Coun-
try by waiving official dignity, & seeking

to inspire a poor wretch of humanity
with the idea that he might be a
man, & that they would lend him
a helping hand in all his efforts to
reach a nobler life.

Excuse this intrusion on your notice,
but I could not help giving you this
instance to encourage your noble pur-
pose, & to assure you of my most ear-
nest & continued supplications that
you may so impress the young men
at the Academy, that, when they go
forth to their life's duties, there will
be many of them filled with the
noble purpose to lift men up as well
as to command them.

With the greatest respect,
Yours. Obedt. Servt.
S. Dyer

Rev. A. Dyer.

Philad. Pa.

Feb. 26. 1881

