HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WASHINGTON, Feb. 9th. 1906.

Gen. C. H. Howard.

chicago.

My dear General: -

Your letter at hand. The bill providing for a volunteer Officers retired list has mit yet come up for consideration in our committee.

The opposition is confined principally to those persons who are "against " everything. If there is not a deficit in the treasury department, and if other appropriations are kept with in proper bounds the bill has a fair show for passage, but I think it will come in probably as a Senate Amendment. Assuring you again of my hearty co-operation

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2/9/1906	From: Rep. Loren Fletcher	To: Gen. C. H. Howard
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CHH-266

House of Representatives Washington, D. C. Chicago, III.

[Letterhead] House of Representatives Washington

Feb. 9th. 1906.

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Very Truly Yours /s/ L. Fletcher [This is probably Loren Fletcher, Representative from Minnesota from 1893 to 1906.] From Gen. C. H. Howard, U. S. Volunteers

> 1000 Tribune Building Chicago, February 23, 1906

Hon. W. B. Allison,

U. S. Senator.

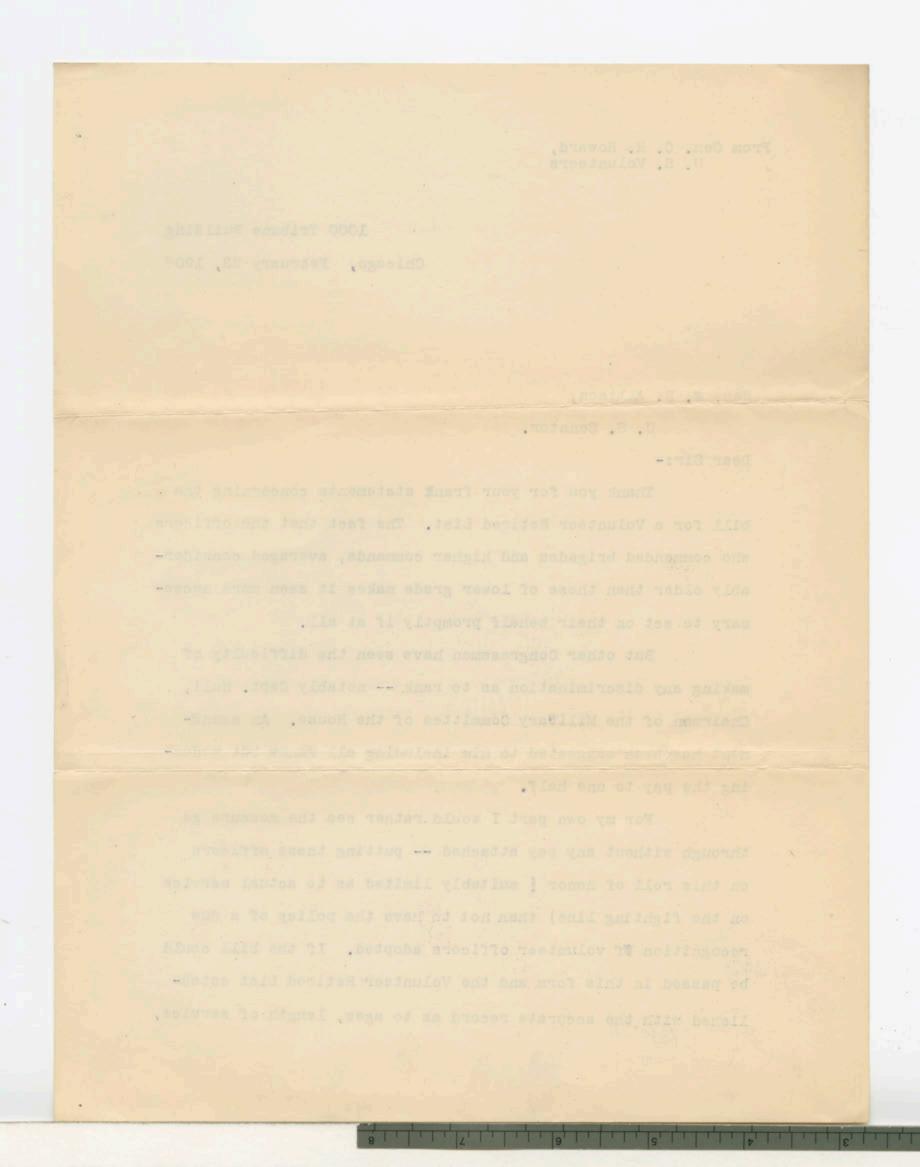
Dear Sir:-

Thank you for your frank statements concerning the bill for a Volunteer Retired List. The fact that the officers who commanded brigades and higher commands, averaged considerably older than those of lower grade makes it seem more necessary to act on their behalf promptly if at all.

But other Congressmen have seen the difficulty of making any discrimination as to rank -- notably Capt. Hull, Chairman of the Military Committee of the House. An amendment has been suggested to him including all ranks but reducing the pay to one half.

For my own part I would rather see the measure go through without any pay attached --- putting these officers on this roll of honor (suitably limited as to actual service on the fighting line) than not to have the policy of a due recognition of volunteer officers adopted. If the bill could be passed in this form and the Volunteer Retired List established with the accurate record as to ages, length of service,

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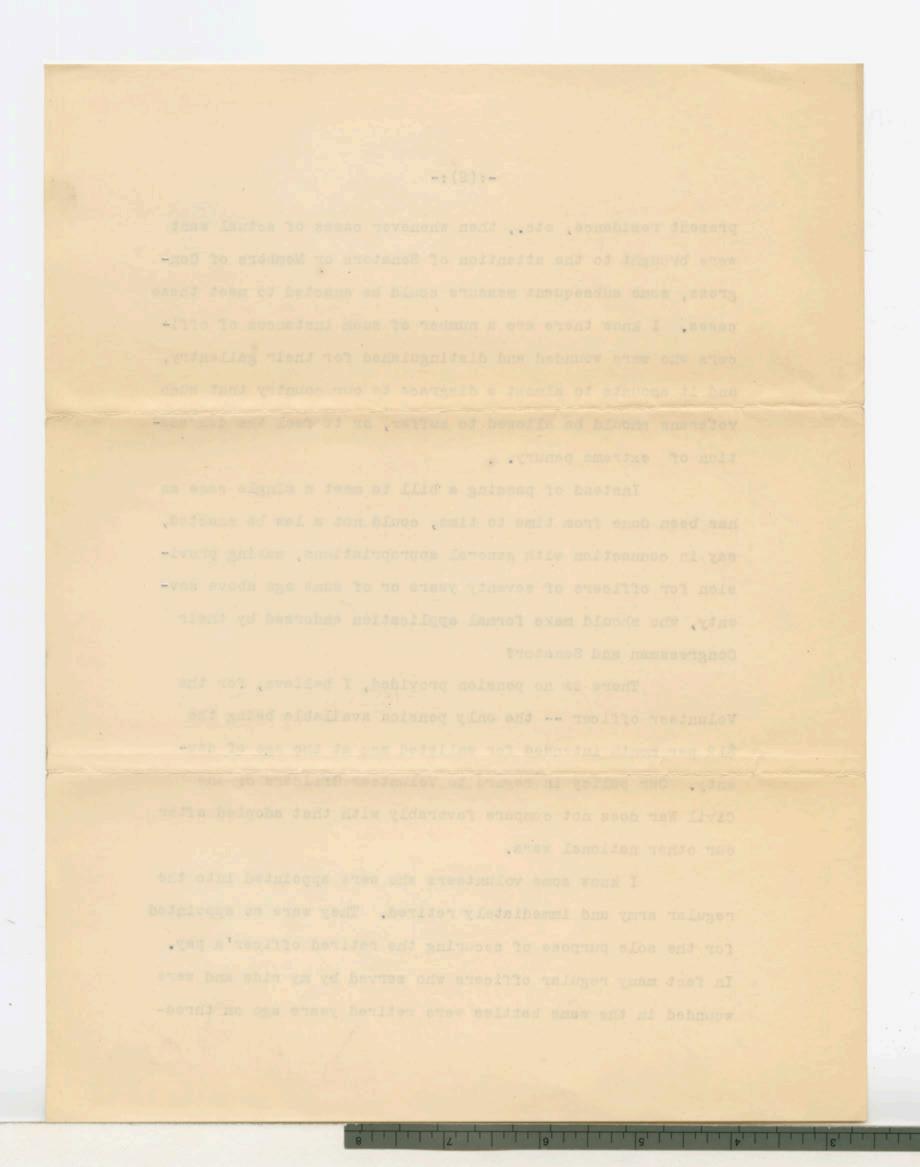
present residence, etc., then whenever cases of actual want were brought to the attention of Senators or Members of Congress, some subsequent measure could be enacted to meet these cases. I know there are a number of such instances of officers who were wounded and distinguished for their gallantry, and it amounts to almost a disgrace to our country that such veterans should be allowed to suffer, or to feel the degradation of extreme penury.

Instead of passing a bill to meet a single case as has been done from time to time, could not a law be enacted, say in connection with general appropriations, making provision for officers of seventy years or of some age above seventy, who should make formal application endorsed by their Congressman and Senator?

There is no pension provided, I believe, for the Volunteer officer -- the only pension available being the \$12 per month intended for enlisted men at the age of seventy. Our policy in regard to Volunteer Officers of the Civil War does not compare favorably with that adopted after our other national wars.

I know some volunteers who were appointed into the regular army and immediately retired. They were so appointed for the sole purpose of securing the retired officer's pay. In fact many regular officers who served by my side and were wounded in the same battles were retired years ago on three-

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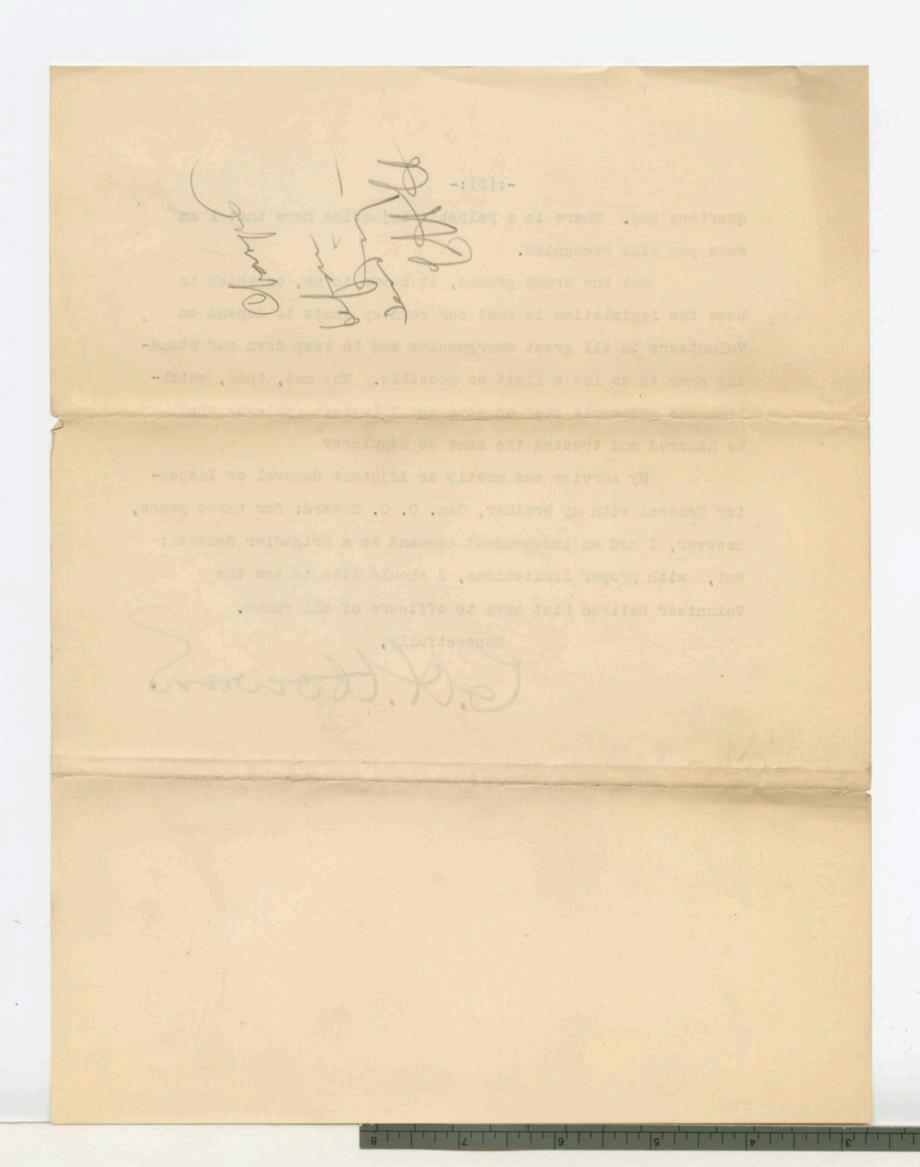
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But the broad ground, it seems to me, on which to base the legislation is that our country wants to depend on Volunteers in all great emergencies and to keep down our standing army to as low a limit as possible. Why not, then, establish the principle that at <u>some</u> age Volunteer officers shall be honored and treated the same as Regulars?

My service was mostly as Adjutant General or Inspector General with my brother, Gen. O. O. Howard; for three years, however, I had an independent command as a Brigadier General; but, with proper limitations, I should like to see the Volunteer Retired List open to officers of all ranks.

Respectfully, Attoward

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1000 Tribune Building Chicago, February 23, 1906

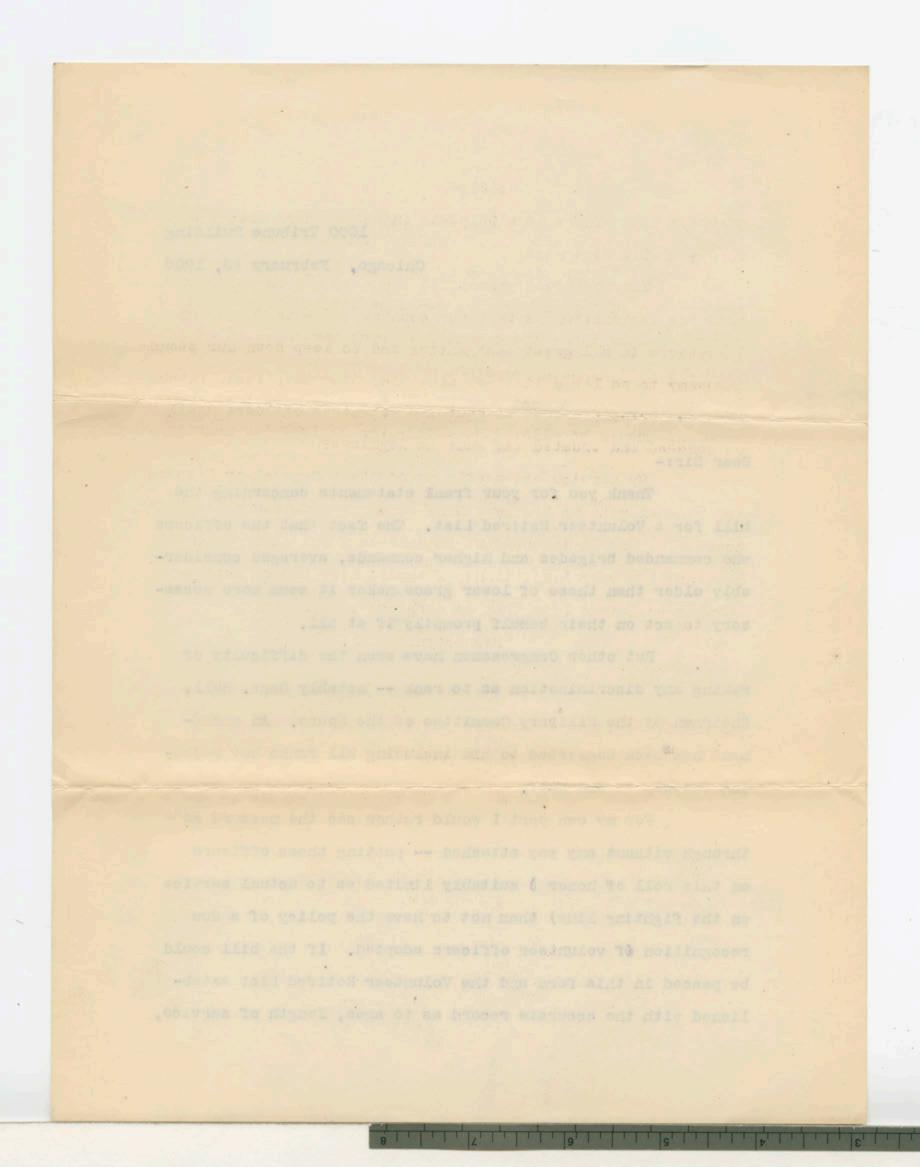
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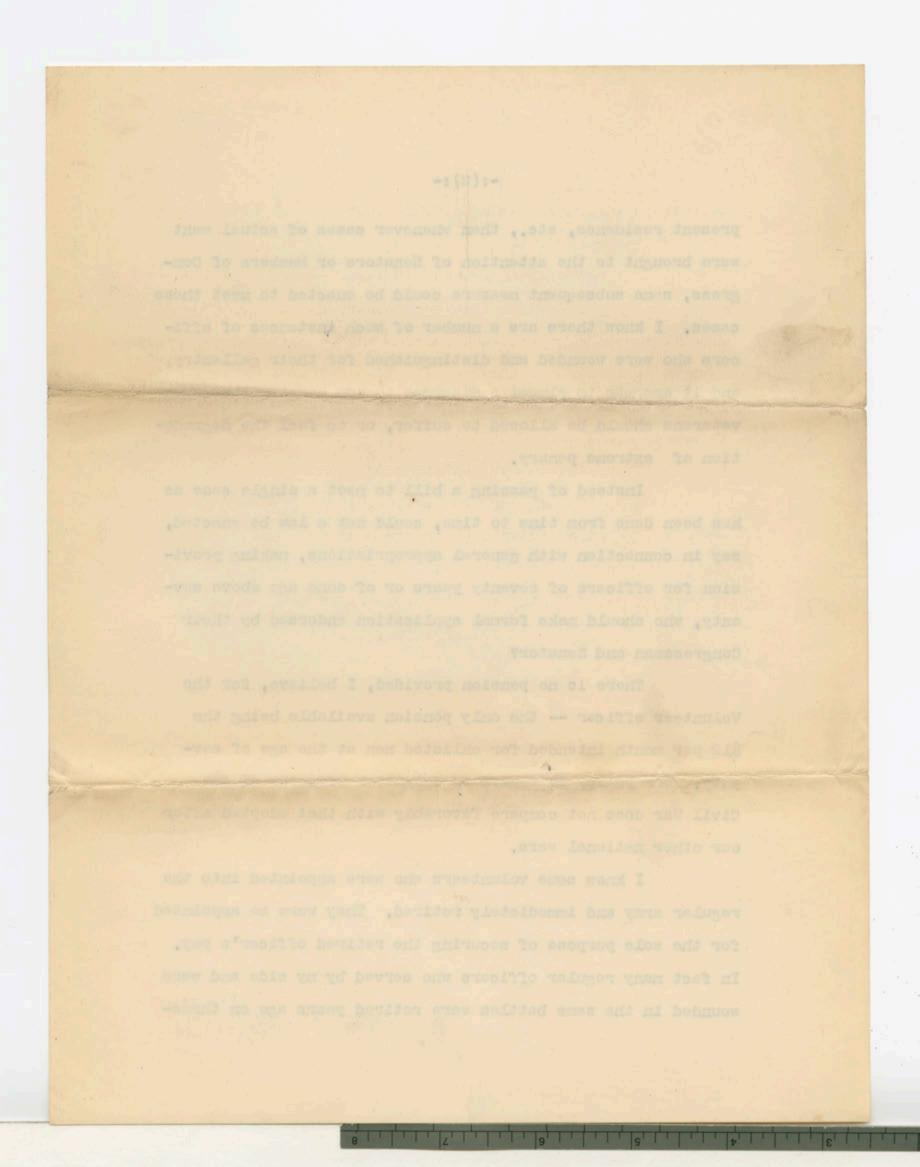
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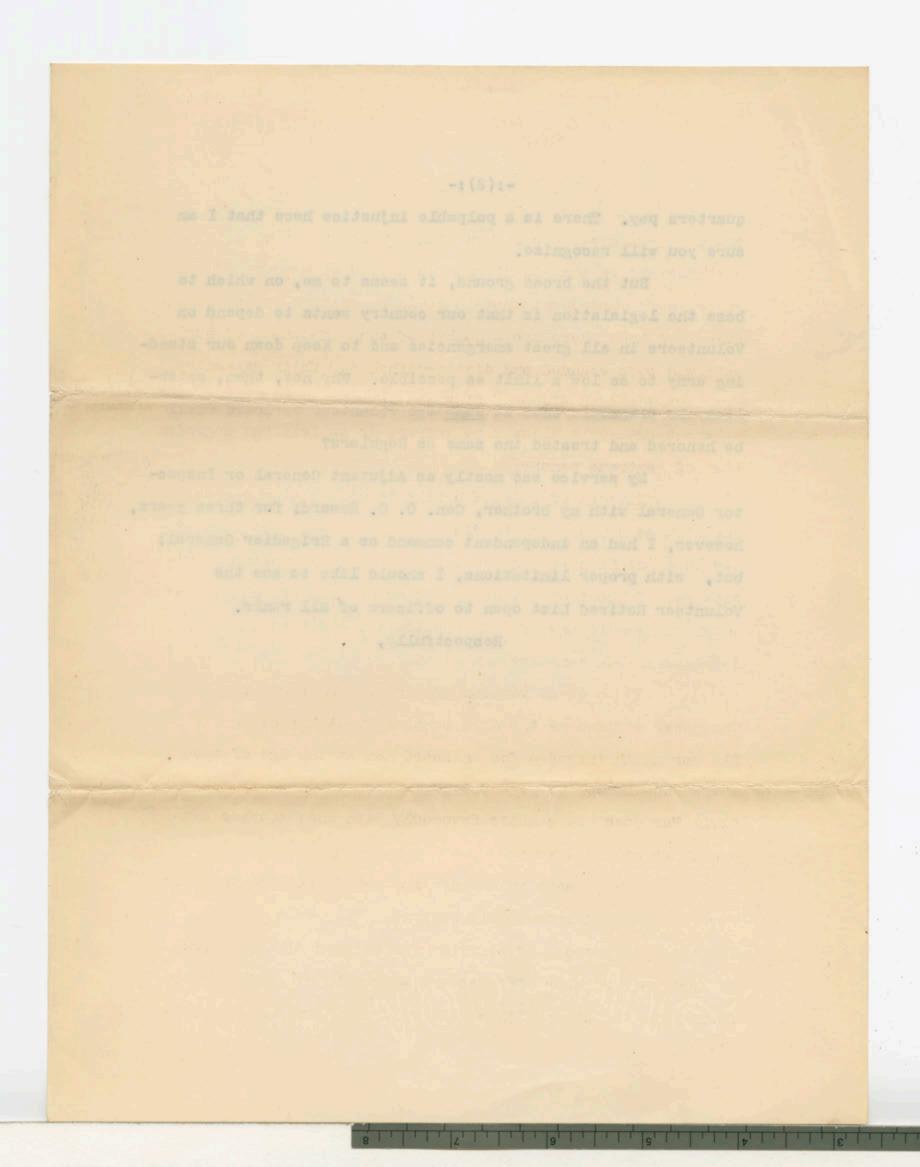
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2/23/1906	From: Gen. C. H. Howard	To: Hon. W. B. Allison
CHH-267	U.S. Volunteers 1000 Tribune Building Chicago, III.	U. S. Senator

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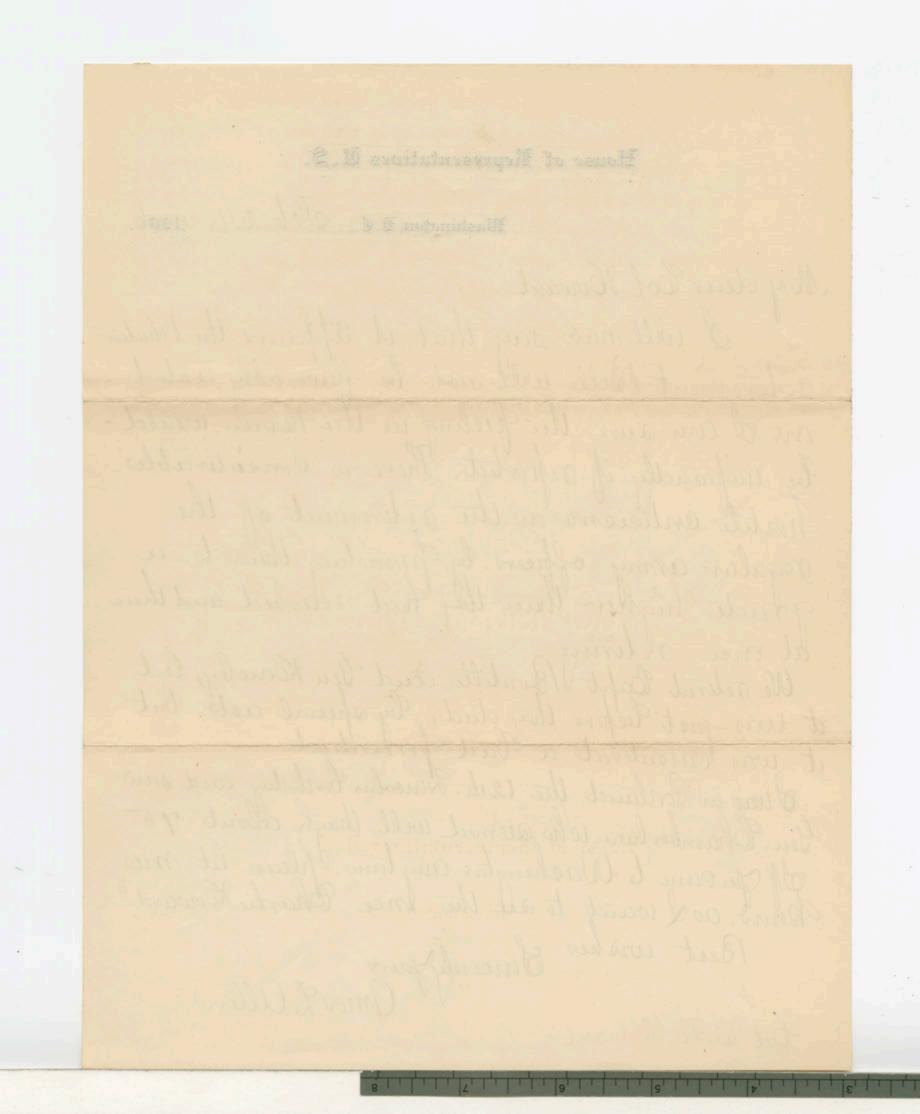
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Respectfully, /s/ C. H. Howard

House of Representatives U. S.

Mashington, D.C., Feb. 24 ,1906.

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CHH-268 House of Representatives U.S. Washington, D.C.

[Letterhead] House of Representatives U.S. Washington, D.C.,

Feb 24, 1906

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We retired Capt. Boutelle and Gen Hawley, but it was just before they died, by special acts, but it was considered a bad precedent.

I was in Portland the 12th, Lincoln's birthday and saw Gen Chamberlain who seemed well, though about 75. If you come to Washington anytime, please let me know as I want to see the once "Charlie Howard".

Best wishes.

Sincerely Yours, Amos L. Allen

Col. C. H. Howard

[Note: Amos Allen was a Representative to the U.S. Congress from Maine from 1899 until his 1910. He graduated from Bowdoin College in 1860, the year after Charles H. Howard.]