

Washington, D.C.

Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>, 1866

Rev. George Whipple,

Secy. American Missionary Association

My dear Sir.

I have just received from

Dr. R. (at Quincy, Illinois) a letter filled with the most warm hearted Christian sentiments, and in which Dr. R. professes with the greatest earnestness, principles and faith, diametrically opposite to those which have been imputed to him.

I would be glad to get any information you may have with regard to his character and conduct in New Orleans. I wish to be careful and considerate in this matter, and would very much regret doing an injury to a fellow christian, especially to one of that race.

I remain

Very truly yours,

(sd) O.O.Howard,

Major Genl. Commr.

Washington, D.C.

Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1866

Mr. Edward P. Smith

Genl. Field Agent

Am. Missionary Association.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> ult. concerning the refitting and preparing for use, the school buildings at Bennfort, and Morehead City, N.C. has just been read.

Your request that the Bureau assume the Bill to the amount of (\$2750.00) has been referred to the Assistant Commisioner of North Carolina, who has been authorized to pay him.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) O.O.Howard

Major Genl. Comm.



Washington, D.C.

December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1866.

Rev. Geo. Whipple,

Cor. Secy. &c.

My dear Sir.

Your letter of the 30th ult. is just received. With reference to Mr. [Newton ?], I would simply remark that he gives no positive or direct institution to the colored people. Rev. John Kimball is Superintendent of schools for the District, and meets and consults with the teachers once a month. Mr. Kimball works very hard, is quiet, but very active in the organization of schools, and his connection with the schools, is not I believe, made use of, to propagate his view on "Spritualism."

Very truly yours,

(sd) O.O.Howard

Major Genl. Commr.

Washington, D.C.

Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, 1866

General Davis Tillson, A.C.

Savannah, Ga.

Dear General.

Your letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst. is received. I know of no objection to your transporting your property on the celebrated Steamer, Port Royal, as proposed by you. You, of course, know best whether any misrepresentation will be likely to grow out of the matter.

I remain

Very truly yours,

(sgd) O.O.Howard,

Major Genl. Commr.



Washington, D.C.

Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1866

Gen. Davis Tillson

Dear General,

Your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> is just received. General Sewall has left no impression on my mind to the prejudice of your honesty, in his conversations. I have not yet read his report which he is having copied. I will visit Georgia on my return from New Orleans. I start tomorrow. I may want you to meet me at Augusta.

I have applied to have Maj. Gen. J. J. Reynolds retire you when you <sup>?</sup>, January next.

Yours truly

(sgd) O. O. Howard

Maj. Genl. Commr.

Washington, D.C.

Dec. 24th, 1866.

Rev. George Whipple,

New York City.

Dear Sir.

Just before leaving the city on his tour of inspection in the Southern States, General Howard directed me to make out and send to you a copy of the list of his engagements to lecture during the coming season, stating that you wished to write and see if any change could now be made.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant,

(sd) H. D. Beam

Private Secretary



Washington, D.C.

Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1867

Col. C. C. Sibley

Dear Colonel,

I talked with General Tillson with regard to the appointment of a solicitor in Georgia. Mr. Hill recomends the writer of the enclosed letter. He writes like a good man. I can now pay but one hundred dollars per month, under the present law. If on consultation with Mr. Midledge, you and he cam agree that he may devote a portion of his time to this for the said sum, on your recommendation. I will employ him, or rather authorize you to do so. Mr. Joshua Hill is good authority, yet you who are responsible, must feel satisfied that he is the man you wish.

Yours truly

(sgd) O.O.Howard

Maj. Genl. Commr.

Washington, D.C.

Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>, 1867

Generals Swayne, Browne, [Mauer ?], Griffin,

Ord, Scott, and Sibley

Dear General,

I understand the judges, or some of them, who made the decision in the "Milligan Case", had no idea that it would apply to the states not yet represented in Congress. I should like to test Section 14 of the Bureau Law, passed July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1866.

Can you not get a judge of the U.S. court, to take from a Military commission appointed by you, a case by "Habeus Corpus", and carry it up to the Supreme Court, or accomplish the matter in some other way. I wish a decision by that body, via S. S. Const., if possible, this term.

Yours very respectfully

(sgd) O.O. Howard

Maj. Genl. Commr.



Washington, D.C.

Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1867

Col. C. C. Sibley

Dear Colonel,

Allow me to introduce to you my friend Lt. Col. O. H. Howard, who served with us during the Western and Southern Campaigns. I believe he will do you excellent service in charge of a district, or in any capacity you may be pleased to employ him.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) O.O.Howard

Maj. Gen. Comm.

Washington, D.C.

March 2<sup>d</sup>, 1867

Bvt. Brig. Genl. R. Saxton, U.S.A.

Dear General.

I have seen Senators Wilson and Sumner, and urged the rank injustice of [oversloughing?] you. They both say they can do nothing, except with reference to the man who was proposed to take your place.

It is believed by them that the President himself changed the order of recommendations.

Yours truly

(sd) O. O. Howard

Maj. Genl. Commr.



March 4<sup>th</sup> 1867,

Rev<sup>d</sup> Geo. Whipple,

My dear Sir.

Your

letter of the 25th ult. was duly received.

I shall try to accept your invitation. Provided no unforeseen circumstance arises, I shall be in Boston on that day.

Very truly yours,

O.O.Howard,

Maj. Gen.

Washington, D.C.

April 12th, 1867

Officers & Agents of Freedmen's Bureau

This will introduce to you Thomas W.  
Conway, Esq., Formerly Assistant Commisioner from  
Louisiana, who is making a tour through the Southern  
States.

Any aid or facility you can render him in the  
particular work he proposes to undertake, will be  
thankfully received by him, and by

Yours truly,

(Signed) O.O.Howard

Maj. Genl. Comm.



April 13<sup>th</sup> [1867]

J. M. Edmunds Esq.

Secretary N.L.M.A.

Dear Sir:

Your

letter informing me of my election as  
one of the Managers of the National Lincoln  
Monument Association, and enclosing  
act of incorporation was received.

I feel grateful for the honor conferred, and cheerfully accept the office, although the press of public business is so great, that I fear I can only give a very little attention to it.

Very respectfully

sig'd O. O. Howard

Major General

April 17<sup>th</sup> [1867]

Hon. J. M. Edmunds-

Your letter of -  
regarding supplies for the destitute  
people about Dalton is just rec'd.

I am trying to aid all such  
people and I will direct supplies  
to be sent to that vicinity.

Very truly yours

O. O. Howard

Maj. Gen.

Commissioner



Washington, D.C.

May 8th, 1867

Mr. Wm. J. Armstrong

Dear Sir.

May I ask you if you told gentlemen that you were employed by this Bureau at a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars? A matter made public can hardly be kept secret. Again, do you use profane language habitually? As my representative, and for a delicate duty, I wanted a pure man.

Yours respectfully,

(signed) O. O. Howard,

Maj. Genl. Comm.

Washington, D.C.

May 11th, 1867

Thos. W. Conway

New Orleans.

My dear Sir,

Your letter is just received.

Please give me the names of any unsatisfactory agents  
you may meet with. I am very much obliged for  
your letters.

Yours truly,

(signed) O. O. Howard

Maj. Genl. Comm.



May 20<sup>th</sup> [186]7.

Rev<sup>d</sup>. Geo. Whipple

53 John St. N.Y.City

Don't think I can get to  
Boston. Will send letter.

[O.O.Howard]

Maj. Genl.

May 21<sup>st</sup> <sup>67</sup> 1876,

Rev. Geo. Whipple,  
New York.

My dear Sir:

Your letter of  
the 20<sup>th</sup> inst. is recd. I laid it before the Sec'y of  
War. He answers briefly. "I will not grant you  
the leave of absence." I let him read your letter,  
and said all I could in the interest of your  
Association; but he said it was better for me to  
remain, as he termed it, at the head of the  
Bureau. I was uncertain whether I could so  
arrange matters in my Department as to go;  
the secretary's opinion and wish, of course,  
determined the matter.

I regret on your account my inability to  
be present with you. If you will write me  
immediately what points you would like to have  
me elaborate in a letter, I will write promptly so  
as to aid you in your worthy enterprise in  
every possible way.

Very truly yours,

O.O.Howard

Maj. Genl. Commr.



May 25<sup>th</sup> 1867,

Rev. George Whipple, New York

My dear Sir.

It will not be possible for me to attend your anniversary in Boston. On your account, and to assure you of my my [sic] most earnest endorsement of the labors of your Association in the work of education, it would have gratified me to have been with you; but circumstances with which you are acquainted make it proper for me to work on here

I still remember with great distinctness several of your schools stationed in the Southern States. For example - at Chattanooga, Atlanta, Nashville, and Memphis. I was particularly pleased with the school or schools at Chattanooga. The fidelity of the teachers and the interest of the scholars were marked.

At Atlanta the Storre's school house, the Teacher's Home, and the preparations for building the Asylum received my especial attention. I have just heard the most gratifying accounts from both the schools and the Asylum at that point. My Inspector pays a marked compliment to the Superintendent and

teachers ther. He also enlarges upon the excellent character of the schools at Nashville - the tidiness of the rooms and the neatness of the children

Memphis holds its own points of interest, and there seems to be a decided improvement in the whole waste there, though I have never heard any criticism brought to bear upon your portion of it in that city. In mentioning the above places, I do not wish to be understood as making a distinction in favor of these schools over those you have established at other places - as in Virginia, N. Carolina, S. Carolina and Georgia. Of late I hear the very best accounts of the western branch of the work of your Association - particularly from Texas. The schools in Arkansas, however, are represented as "languishing" - this by an Inspector who is just in from that state.

Your Association has accomplished a wonderful work, considering the means you have had at command. I cannot help thanking you for the great care you have taken in the selection of Christian teachers, and for the character of the instructions given to the colored children. It is very gratifying to find that, practically all the benevolent societies, almost without exception, that have been operating in the Southern field, have been judicious in this respect - so that, if I am judge, the general characters of the teachers, and of the instructions they give, are unusually high.

One of the greatest mistakes that was ever made, is to suppose that any sort of teachers are fit for primary instruction, and that good teach [sic]



thoroughly trained, with all the modern appliances and aid in their art, are only needed for Academics, Colleges and schools of high grade. A single visit to the schools in this city would correct every such erroneous impression - an impression very much akin to the notion that prevails still in certain sections of our country - that "any sort of teachers are fit to teach negroes."

While I untie with you in devout thanksgiving for the great blessings God has bestowed upon a poor people through your instrumentality, I cannot help feeling a little anxious with regard to the future. Thousands of generous men who have been free to contribute to every good work, have had their their [sic] ability to continue their contributions sadly crippled, while others are heaping up riches and spending them selfishly without apparent consideration of the great good they might accomplish for humanity, if their souls could only be filled with the love of Christ - so that they would feel constrained to give of their abundance for the spread of knowledge and truth. Yet whether our people become poorer, more unable, or more selfish in the future than in the past, the tide public affairs is taking, is drifting strongly in the right direction - so that I believe that if our public officers are faithful in the execution of their trusts, very soon the poor and down-trodden will have power in their own hands which they will use, under present impulses, to establish the common school and the institutions of learning such as have distinguished our own New England, and spreading

over the North and West, have elevated the masses of the people to a high degree of civilization. Yet I do hope that neither your Association, nor other benevolent organizations, nor any good people, will withhold their hands until they see the great revolution in the educational line, thoroughly accomplished.

If we will only show the same courage and persistency in this work as we did in the war, we shall certainly succeed - we shall have builded our structures upon enduring foundations.

With great regard

I remain Very truly yrs. s

O.O.Howard

Major Gen. Comm<sup>r</sup>.



Washington, D.C.

June 6th, 1867

Bvt. Maj. Genl. J. A. Mower,

Asst. Commr., New Orleans, La.

Dear General.

Your letter of May

30<sup>th</sup> is just at hand. I really did not need any explanation, knowing that you were acting as you thought for the best. My opinion is perfectly coincident with yours as expressed in your letter. I thought if our agents had their hearts right, they could be of great service in impressing upon the Freedmen the necessity of doing their duty, and not being led by anybody, and I thought moreover that it was well for the Agents to be on hand when public meetings were occuring, preparing for any contingency.

Very truly yours,

(signed) O. O. Howard,

Maj. Genl. Commisioner.

Washington, D.C.

June 13<sup>th</sup>, 1867

Bvt. Brig. Genl. O. Brown

Asst. Comm., Richmond, Va.

Dear General.

Mr. Armstrong was sent out on the highest recommendations, but I have been weakened in my faith in him, by his constant propensity to borrow money. Mr. J. M. Langston is not lecturing politically at all; it was a mistake of the papers. He is an inspector of schools - a good man, and cannot do any harm. He will be only a day or two more in Virginia, and will go next to Mississippi.

Very truly yours,

(signed) O. O. Howard

Maj. Genl. Commr.