

R. R. Hotels
Cheyenne, Wyoming

Sept. 1st [1874]

Francis H. Smith, Esq.
Secretary Board of Indian Comrs
My Dear Friend,

I shall be very glad [?]
to see you here and hope you may [come. ?]
I am undertaking visiting different [posts ?]
of my command as soon as practicable
and would like to have you accompany
me. I am indeed grateful to you &
have ever been for you time & precious
friendship. It will be some time before
my sentiments will be very popular [?]
but I shall try to do my duty fearlessly &
bide my time. If you turn [to it ?] remember
me kindly to all my friends.

Very truly your freind,
O. O. Howard

Sept. 30 [1874]

Hon. E. P. Smith

Dear Friend:

I forward Mr. Atkinson's letter. He is an old citizen and knows whereof he speaks. I think our methodist brethren will do well not to make a change without carefully looking into the subject. The removed man called himself a methodist, uses his influence to remove this Agent. This I am told, - all hearsay - yet which Indians are satisfied & the agent is the right man - it is of course wise not to remove him!

Yrs. Truly

(sgd.) O. O. Howard

Oct. 1 [1874]

Hon. E. P. Smith

Dear Sir

I have Capt. Wilkinson gather at his desk all possible information touching Indians matters within the limits of my Department (not for the regular channels of communication). I shall often communicate directly with you from that desk anything that I think will facilitate matters, harmonize conflicts, prevent misunderstandings etc. etc. I sent Gov. [Groain?] messages and wish you to notice my 45 particularly. All Well.

Yours Truly

(sgd.) O. O. Howard

Personal

Nov. 7 [1874]

Hon. E. P. Smith

Dear Friend:

Frank Smith will soon be with you. I hope you will have a long talk with him privately as well as upon public business. He will tell you concerning our family. We get letters often from Grace and Guy and they speak of your great kindness to them. and of Gertie. I am delighted and so is my wife to hear that Mrs. Smith is so much better. I have just heard bad news from my old house - it so distresses me that I hardly know which way to look for relief. McNulty leaves it and I have to continue the payment of rent, 150 dollars per month. I hope Mr. Cook will find some one to take it at some figure to help me out. Please advise with and help him if you can. I shall probably hear from him soon concerning it. He has done nobly thus far in other matters. Your kind letter deserved better treatment - I was ever so much obliged to you. The conduct of the War Department towards me left the "Smith" family. I hope the Skinners are well. Harry has had the whooping cough, and Bessie has what Carrie Sladen calls the "chicken coop." Johnny sighs for Washington occasionally. He is the same irrepressible as ever. I have had a look at a great many of your Indians in this quarter of the world. Many of the agents have been here and I know them. There is not much danger of fighting in this region. The only points where matters ought to receive speedy attention are [Alville] and [Waleowa?] Valley as F. H.S. will explain. How do our Washington friends feel in view of the growing restoration of the Democratic Party to power - The people of England gained much, even tho. Chas. I III did come back. The Republicans have left their marks - I do know the Restoration. I hope they will not dig up the Cromwellian bones of past dead issues now nobly embalmed and hope to give credit by insulting them. Much love to Gertie and Mrs. Smith and kind remembrances to all friends in [?] and [?] who inquire. May God bless and keep you.

Faithfully
(sgd.) O. O. Howard

Nov. 14 [1874]

Hon. E. P. Smith
Com^r Indian Affairs

Dear Sir

For reasons that I will not name but which you will readily supply I write to ask you to visit the President in behalf of one of the most promising of our young men - viz: George W. W. Upton, son of Judge W. W. Upton of Portland, O. The young man was promised an appointment to West Point by Hon. J. G. Wilson the instant the usual vacancy should occur, but his sudden death in June 1873 prevented the fulfillment of the promise. A democrat, Mr. Nesmith, succeeds Mr. Wilson. He appoints Edward H. Brooke who was recommended for an appointment at large by General Ingalls. Brooke's father has long been and is now connected with the army. It would gratify all parties here I think to put Upton on the list of appointments at large in place of Brooke, already nominated by Mr. Mesmith. I know the President's rule but I join the atty. Genl. and Senator Mitchell in urging him to depart from the rule in this instance. I do not know a young man better fitted in every respect for the appointment, and his father is a true friend to General Grant. Do not let my letter go in by usual official routine, please: but let the President see your pleasant face and oblige a worthy young man, who will repay you by a memorable life,

Yours Very truly

(sgd.) O. O. Howard

(Personal)

[November 28, 1874]

Hon. E. P. Smith
Commissioner Indian Affairs
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

The within paper has come informally into my hands. Therefore
I send you a copy directly as requested by Doctor Lindsby.

The Spokans seem to be waking up to some idea of self dependance
which I rejoice to see.

Very Truly Yours

(sgd.) O. O. Howard

Brig. Genl. U. S. Army

Hon. E. P. Smith

Commissioner Indian Affairs:

Washington, D.C.

Accept my resignation Howard University. Write Gracie to accept invitation.

O. O. Howard

December 10, [18]74

Dec 11 [187]4

Hon. Jno. M. Langston, Vice
President Hoawrd University
Dear Friend:

I have been several
times on the point of writing
to you but have been hindered
by one thing or another till
now. I have had all my furniture
books &c. packed till very recently.
On opening them I find that I have
one of my subscription books;
I spoke to Mr. Johnson about
it but it seems that I neglected
to give it to him. I will send it
on by Capt. Williamson who goes
East by the way of Washington
(or thru. Washington on his return)

I keep hearing quite good
accounts of the University -
I had to borrow so heavily to get my

debts into practicable shape
& to bring my family together
that I have not yet been
able to send you any money.
I wrote Jno. Cooke that if he
could get what was due him
for services from the University
he might give it to you &
credit himself with it in his
Acct. with me. I shall
probably be able to save
enough of my pay to add
to it before next June, but
now it is impossible.

My little boys often speak
of your Frankie — they long
for Washington. — The Democratic
Victories! How do they affect
you? Must the poor ones
of the South be [remitted?] to their
Enemies? Give my kind regards to
your excellent wife & to all
our friends of the University.

I hope Bro. Reeves is prospering with his
Theo. Dept. Williamson will tell you all
about us. I have sent my [resignation?]
that I may not embarrass you or this
University — I pray daily for its abundant
success = May the Lord give it [to?] true
friends. Mr. Alvord has broken down! I am
sorry to hear it. I should like to look
in upon you.

Yours very truly,

O. O. Howard

December 11th 1874

Hon. E. P. Smith

My Dear Friend:

Yours of Nov. 23rd is at hand. I thank you very, very much for its length and gossipy character.

John Cook has been quite faithful and successful in taking care of my affairs, but he is so weak from his hemorrhage that I am afraid he will break down.

I wrote immediately on receipt of your letter to Genl. Tounsend for a copy of the Atty. Genl's. decision. Nobody has condescended to send it to me officially yet - the Tribune only had the offensive part of it. The contingency of Brodhead's opinion certainly relieves me. Ballock is responsible, of course, for the amoun covered by the voucher. The Solicitor of the Treasury has sent me notification of the decision of the Atty. Genl. namely: that my subordinates and myself are liable for deficiency in civil suit - I received this yesterday - I would not mind the suit at all if it were not for the cost of the defense - sure to result in my complete release. I hope rather that the subordinates may make the figure-head, and I be brought to testify in the cases. This course will be more economically and equally satisfactorily to myself and my enemies after the result shall be known.

"The next Congress!" I do not believe that even the Democrats will have so little sense, depending as they do on a show of reform, as to elect Fernando Wood to the Speakership - if they do, and he wants to investigate me. There will not be a happier man in Washington than I, from the beginning to the end thereof - even if he chose Confederate soldiers and northern Copperheads to make up the summary. I hope Genl. Boynton will be clerk of that Committee - a little warm hearted persecution from that quarter would be poor capital even for the Democrats. The only thing I hate about it is I hate to waste so much precious time in defending so small a man as myself - I have

already taken too much of the public attention. Fernando had better spend his time with the present personnel of the Administration.

What you say about the black people is good, but if I mistake not a few more defensive apperations where seven hundred negros attack forty white men with fury resulting in the death of one white man and seventy blacks, will very soon prevent very hearty loyalty to the southern whites on the part of the black voters. The blood of the poor and inoffensive that cries from the ground in every part of the extreme south must rise to the ears of the God of justice, and I cannot believe that he will permit us, however, mean and selfish and ungrateful we may be to remit them to the complete control of those that hate them.

I don't think I will mind such a Democrat President if Sherman happens to be the Semocrat. It will be much better than Bpyntonian Republicans nless he happens to be after the type of the man who makes the lightning Serve!

I do not care whether Eames is married or not - except for his sake (I always hold to early marriages) but I'm very sorry that it gives his father so much uneasiness and results in increasing the weight of the debt of the Congregational Church, and the consequent reduction of the Pastor's salary preceeded by friendly advice of the deacons; but I can say "I told you so" having written a very faithful letter to brother Rankin, the advice in which he did not follow.

University - I sent my resignation by telegram so that it might be with you in season for the 16th - get a good President - don't wait for me, for while I shall be exceedingly happy under the investigation of Fernando - Democrats - yet I do not wish to enter too soon into the blissful presence of what the colored men call my "all time enemies."

We are delighted to hear of Mrs. Smith being so much better, and I believe her trip to Philadelphia, New Jersey, etc with have a good tendancy to relieve the delusion she seems to be under.

I didn't know really what was the matter with Alvord - I never heard about the Senaca's stone troubles nor of Mullet's course towards him.. Oh, that he Alvord had spent his days in the ministry! I feel a sincere sorrow for him and his family.

I hope Gertie will not lose confidence in the ponies, but will take some collateral strength- white or colored - when she undertakes fast driving in the future.

The Genl. and Mrs. Whittlesy are very dear to us. Mrs. H. misses her very much and I certainly do the Gneral - remember us very kindly to them. Tell Gertie that I now have theoretical use of both feet in the way of kicking very often but practically have grown very mild. I will convey Miss Minnie's message to Janie and all yours. Jamie has now a shop, a lathe, and new velocipede (home made) etc. etc. - is more of a mechanic than ever - goes to school with Johny and Chauncy from sunrise to sunset every day.

Some one asked me if we had the scarlet fever yet, and I answered that we had only got as far as the Whooping Cough - what the children call the "Chicken Coop." came first. Then the Whooping cough, and now one or two of them are threatened with the scarlet fever. - The medical department has deprived us of the use of medicines as of old at public expense - children's diseases are, however, not serious.

Do help my bill for expenses - pressing Dyer a little now and then - and others.

Very Truly and affectionately yooours

Dictated - Johny took up your letter and began to read with zest he [?] and [?] and says to his mother "Can't Mr. Smith write better than that!" You see I avoid a rejoinder by dictating - which I can do nicely as, since the war, I hold no secrets.

(sgd.) O. O. Howard

Portland, Oregon

Dec. 30th 1874

Hon. E. P. Smith

Com^r Indian Affairs

Dear Friend

I refer Tirtlots letter to you. He was a good student. His wife I do not know.

Hope you had a good time Christmas and during the holidays. We are seeing some indications of a shower of Grace. A few begin to lisp the name of our Lord with a new meaning. Y.M.C.A. reawakened. Cong. church brightening - other churches lively. Give my love to Gertie and Mrs. Smith.

Your Young Friend,

(sgd.) O.O.H. ~~word~~

January 6 1875

Hon. E. P. Smith

Com^r Indian Affairs

Sir:

By authority of the War Department, Lieut. W. H. Boyle, 21st infantry, was assigned to do certain supervising duty in your department in this city.

You have permitted him to employ clerical aid whenever such shall be necessary, that is, from time to time whenever the purchases and forwarding necessitated it. Now I have assigned to him a monthly correspondence with all the reservations in this Department, in number, of which I informed you

Now, I request that you allow Lieut. Boyle to employ one permanent clerk at compensation not to exceed \$125⁰⁰ in coin per month.

I do not think he will need any more money than you have allowed him and I can, by the assistance of Lieut. Boyle and this clerk keep up a thorough system of correspondence and cooperation with your department and Lieut. Boyle will have the same man, carefully selected and of the right sort, to assist in making purchases and forwarding supplies.

Lieut. Boyle concurs with me in making this recommendation. You know it is very difficult to get a good man for temporary work.

I am very respectfully

Your obt. serv't.

(sgd) O.O.Howard

Brig. Genl.

U.S.A.

Jan 15 118715

Hon. Frederick Douglass

My Dear Sir:

I see by an
extract from the N. Y. World in
the Chicago Tribune that two
things are stated one is that
the Freedmen's Bank suffers
loss by Howard University
\$75,000 and the other enumerates
me among the wicked ones
who are responsible.
Now the first is not true &
I understand the note is paid.
If it is not paid, the security is
ample. As to the 2nd, I was
elected a trustee but at once
resigned. I was just on an
Advisory Board: was not
called upon for advice — I
resigned that place, though merely

nominal, long ago. I
do not believe the Bank
has lost or will lose our
rent by me. I [gave?] ample
security for all I borrowed.

Have the commissioners
any allegation against me —
or is there any foundation
for the false statement of
his correspondent against
me?

O. O. Howard

Jan. 29 [187]5

Hon. E. P. Smith

Dear Friend:

Very grateful to you, Mrs. Whittlesey, Gertie, the Genl. and all for kindness and hospitality to Gracie. We think Gracie can study here - go back perhaps the last term and show Vassar people how much superior Portland, Ogn. is to Poughkeepsie. For Portland has a home with father, mother, brothers and Bessie in it - where young gentlemen can put in an appearance now and then without detriment to the institution. I am getting good letters from all your Agents - no murmur except from Tulalip where it bodes no mischief. We have been blocked up with ice and snow for about three weeks. Mr. Wadhams, a Christian merchant, said we might as well attend to the Lord's business seeing we could do little else. He must have forgotten the plumbing. My pipes have seven breaks, and the plumbers have a large business elsewhere. Yet the meetings have really been the main business of this city for three weeks. The young men's room crowded at daily noon prayer meeting, and meetings every night comprising a union of five churches - skipping around from Cong. church to Pres. church - thence to Bapt. with a fuller one at the Methodist. Men talk concerning it on the street, in the hotels. The saloons are being robbed of victims. Drunkards are reformed. Resolute young men are turning and beginning the Master's service. Dying men have been led into light. Mourning hearts comforted, and family dissensions are relieved and even Christians who have for some time hated each other have begun to speak together and work for others. I have never seen in any city a more widely-distributed religious interest. A son of a Cong. deacon from Belfast, Maine went all day without strong drink and walked two squares to ask a Christian brother how he should come. He fears excitement yet it seemed to me he was the most excited man I have seen. I have enjoyed the meeting very much - not been able to bear the cross of sitting still except by taking time by the forelock and staying at home - do not think I'm more fanatical than usual but somewhat deeply interested in a genuine, practical reform. I find that men have not only to abandon their sins but to get well acquainted

with their Saviour in order to give example of hopeful and happy continuance. How is the religious interest at the University? I saw a little abuse of you and me in an article quoted by the Chicago Tribune from N.Y. World in connection with the Freedmens Bank. We can stand it for I am only too thankful that intense anxiety for the freedmen did not lead me to put my foot into that trap by taking office as solicited. I hope Mr. Alvord is well before this time. Give my kind regards to Genl. Whittlesey and the members of his family. He did not write me respecting the progress of the Chair Co. His letter was very welcome. Mrs. Howard is really home sick half of the time - nothing has brightened her eyes so much as Mrs. Whittlesey's letter. Chauncey manifests his Eastern longings in a letter to Kittie Eaton and Johnnie remembers yourself as the playfellow of his heart - nearly the only one with whom he has not quarreled. He permitted his father to write a letter asking forgiveness of a boy for stoning the boy's dog the other day and attached his autograph thereto. This he did three minutes after he had threatened to give the boy another kind of pay. You perceive human nature has not been eradicated from my family. Jamie replied to me last night when I told him the operation of the Holy Spirit was like the sudden light his mother had thrown on the stairway for my ascent that "you come out of the darkness, father, to go up the lighted steps." He said he had been thinking and thinking all the time he was skating so it is with men and boys just now. A strong Unitarian came to me the other day with a burdened heart; and a blacksmith said to me in the interval of business at his shop "I want the evidence of my acceptance." I'm not half through but must adjourn.

Affectionately

O. O. Howard

Tell Gertie that I wear soft snow shoes and have not kicked even a dog this winter. Harry and Bessie are delighted that papa can steer a sled at full speed. There is just now a great draft at home on all the distinct and indistinct recollections of papa's boyhood. The Curly Pate and Rosy Head show equal and simultaneous

curiousity as soon as papa appears upon the threshold. I think if we had a comfortable house our home life would show an increased enjoyment. New Democratic House and Andrew Johnson in Senate loom up in the distance. They may serve to reunite Grant and me. Andrew and W. W. B. will doubtless have midnight consultation - Who knows? I couldn't write so much in so short a time but for our friend Cadliph's reproduction. All the emigrants are well.

Feb. 11 [187]5

Hon. E. P. Smith

^r
Com Ind. Affairs

Dear Sir:

The Secretary of our Y. M. C. A., Mr. W. C. Chattin and Mrs. W. C. Chattin have sent in their vouchers for something in the neighborhood of \$600 for services that ended in 1874. Mr. Chattin was a teacher and Mrs. Chattin assistant or matron in manual labor school on the Silytz Indian Reservation. Employed in Good faith. Money not there so that vouchers were given. The amount had to be borrowed and interest has been paid for since time continues. Do see that these good people have their pay. ~~and~~ They have but little of this week's goals and it is simply a shame not to pay them - is it not? The vouchers are in your office.

With respect I remain

Your Truly

(sgd.) O. O. Howard

Brig. Genl. U. S. A.

Mar 26 1875

Hon^{ble} E. P. Smith

My Dear Friend:

I am getting hungry for another letter from you. Wilkinson is back- Mrs. Wilkinson rejoices and as Mrs. Howard buys her shoes in Washington the shoe question is relieved. Mrs. Howard is happier and so am I. I think she began to rebel against the webfoot notion as urged by our California friends while en-route so that she never became reconciled to the wide and chunky shoes- the only ones that are made here or allowed to come over the bar of the Columbia river. I visited one of your reservations the other day- the Grand Ronde- wrote you about it sent your letter to Charles (leaving out your name) as a "well considered article" for the Advance. What I saw on the reservation enlarged my feeling of Catholicity and since my return I have been corresponding with the "Catholic Sentinel" as you will see by a paper that I send you. This, taken in connection with the fact that Mrs. Sherman promises to have me made a special object of prayer in the universal church, may frighten you; until you remember the reiterating character of my make-up, perhaps I'd better say the stick-to-itiveness, of my disposition. This recollection will show you that my object is to bring the illustrious and venerable hierarchy back into the more ancient congregational church. Thus far but one catholic has united with our body, but you will admit that Jules Verne's Harry and the professor never could have made that journey to the center of the earth if they had not made a beginning. Look out for the future! This morning I was warned against visiting Indian reservations now that you and Mr. Delano have gotten rid of the Peace Commissioners, for "the Indian Department will now be more sensitive than ever of military interference" I write freely for I am in the Indian room of my office. Here you will find the proper supervision of Indian accounts and supplies. Here is kept up a correspondence, informal of course, with the agents. They all seem to like the idea, but if you detect any feeling of envy, jealousy, hatred or (I can't say malice, it being impossible under Grant's peace policy.) vexation, then let

know. From my stand point there hasn't been a jar between the Indian agents and the officers of the army since I have had the reins. One instance of prompt discipline and another of quick arrangement have been made to the satisfaction of all parties. I wish you would settle that controversy between Mr. Delano and yourself concerning lawyer Langford who has taken possession of a part of your reservation at Lapwai. I am keeping the peace out here but Mr. Langford says I keep dodging the issue, and looking through the whole case it seems to me that Mr. D favors a Territorial claim decision while you hold to reservation rights and call upon the military to prevent collision and war. Congress being adjourned, the Peace Commission gone home, you and he might get a half hour to make a compromise and save the effusion of blood- I mean out here of course. Home sick? Why [Johnny?] could hardly speak when your name was mentioned. Water, mud a damp climate, coal oil, cell-like upper rooms, chicken-pox, whooping cough, blood derranged - giving sore hands, sore feet, rough boy at school, rougher men and sometimes women outside - these are some of the suggestive courses of home sickness. Christian duty as it is to look ahead and up the residuum of human nature in the grown part of our household will make us look back even to the kicks and blows of our Babel capital. This dictating fills four pages before I've begun my letter. Permit me to say that I write with great effort in this war with special reference to a rebel. We are all well as usual. Give much love to Mrs. S and Gertie. Gracie keeps us informed of Gertie and ^{Nassar}~~Nasson~~?. Also our kindest regards to the Whittleseys. The General may return to the ministry after the demise of the Peace Commission. Mrs. Howard proposes to suggest Astoria, but I warn Mrs. W. against that missionary field unless she is prepared to rough it. I want to hear brief comments on church, Y.M.C.A., University, Bank, Chair Co., red people, black people, blue people and from later convictions (see Catholic Sentinel) green people. I do hope Mrs. S. is well and cheery and with you. God is blessing us abundantly and I hope Washington is full of His Spirit. If you should dictate to Miss Minnie I hope she will be as patient and steady handed as my good friend Mr. Cudlipp has been this afternoon.

Affectionately

(sgd) O.O.H.

April 2 [1875]

Hon. E. P. Smith

Dear Sir:

F. W. Haskell Esq. the bearer of this note came out with me early in the war - was adjutant of the 19th Maine Regiment - has borne a good reputation - I met him at his home in Chicago when he was associated with Mr. Dudley. I think he accompanied him to New Mexico - when I heard he left the Government service to go into the mining business. When I was with him he was a capable gentlemanly and steady young man - not afraid to work.

Your truly

O. O. Howard

June 28th [1875]

Hon. E. P. Smith

Comr. Indian Affairs

Sir:

My experience in the line of accusation has rendered me cautious and for this reason after consulting with my Aide-de-Camp Lieut. Boyle let me say if you would have Mr. W. B. Cudlipp appointed your Inspector - Lt. Boyle and myself will give him all the council and aid our experience and position will enable us to do and by this means keep the office and business separate from mine. As Mr. Cudlipp has been very familiar with this work and enjoys the confidence of all the officers and is getting to be favorably known among the citizens for his upright life. I believe the appointment would be a good and economic one and that the pleasant cooperation that has existed between your Department and mine will be as well kept up by this Civil Appointment. Mr. Barstow so recommended in case Lt. Boyle could not continue (see Mr. Barstow's letter of June 8th or 9th).

Should you greatly prefer Lt. Boyle to continue - then please permit the rental of a single room and the employment of one man only for clerk, messenger, porter etc. etc. This will also effect the separation that I deem wise,

Very respectfully Yours

(sgd.) O. O. Howard

Brig. Genl. U. S. A.

Mem.

This has been rewritten and copied for fear the impression from the original was not legible.

(sgd.) Cudlipp

July 1~~st~~st [1875]

Rev. Geo. Whipple

Sec. A. M. Assoc.,

New York.

Dear Sir:

The great distance that separates
us and which renders my presence
at your meetings impossible, induces
to
me ^ tender my resignation as a member
of the Executive Committee of the A.M.
Association to take effect from date.

In dissolving my connection with
the Committee permit me kindly to
allude to the pleasant relations that
have always existed between us, and
to wish the Association God-speed in
the Master's work.

Very truly yours,

O.O.Howard

July 2 [1875]

Hon. E. P. Smith
Com^r Ind. Affairs

Dear Sir -

I write you in haste just as I am starting to visit Klamath - the Indians near Fort Wrangel and more near the Fort at Sitka are energetic and self supporting. A little instruction would avail much at the present time. They very much desire that we would send them teachers. The English at Fort Simpson and at Metlakata have through their ministers given instruction to the Indian children and have brought so many of the grown people to real Christianity that there is cleanliness, order, marriage, in fact an evident possession of the virtues that necessarily follow a successful preservation of Divine truth. The contrast is so marked compared with our own irreligious neglect even to give the Indians in Alaska near by the simple elements of the knowledge that all children in our country may have, that I thought I would appeal to you in behalf of those tribes of which the [Stickeens ?] are a type. They the Poast Indian are now all at peace - the difficulties at Wrangel and at due Cape villages having been completely settled, they are ready, and at Wrangel and Sitka, largely desire to have their children taught. If there is no appropriation ask the Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Methodists, Baptists, Episcopalians, Catholics or other working Christians to send us teachers for these tribes. For \$2000 I could get two of the right kind of men to go - It really needs at each place a man and his wife, both well fitted for the best type of Christian teaching, to make substantial headway. Somebody like Mr. and Mrs. Cowley at the Spokane Village, or like what you over saw at White Earth. You must understand the need. The Alaska field is just ready for the most remunerative Christian teaching. If you need further and more detailed information I will send an officer when it is possible to do so - one who will give you a careful report. I deem it the cheapest and best of all the ways devised to keep order viz: the giving of proper instruction to these Indians. I was told by an intelligent Englishman at Simpson that the fighting and killing of one another for revenge and

and drunkenness had almost entirely disappeared - that the Episcopal Missionary at Mettakata had done more to keep the peace and further the prosperity and happiness of all the people Indians and Whites than all other Government Agencies, no forgetting the English Gunboats which carried along and migistrate to places where trouble had arisen. Frontier prejudice is much against this view of things, but it is capable of complete and incontravertible demonstration.

Very respectfully yours

(sgd.) O. O. Howard

Brig. Genl. Comdg.

Dept.

July 29th 1875

Rev. Geo. Whipple.

Dear Sir:

Your "confidential"

letter, enclosed with official note of July 13th 1875,
is received and carefully considered. The invest-
ment was made in the Y.M.C.A. Stock
or bonds doubtless because it was known at
Hampton that this investment would be satisfactory
to me. The exact circumstances I do not remem-
ber. I cannot tell whether the money for the
purchase of the bonds was derived from the
R. & F. Fund or some other irregular fund
in my possession. It is probably substantially
the same as the fifteen hundred dollar invest-
ment at Fisk University, examined into by the
Congressional Committee. I feel very sorry
that the investment was made at all, though
I had every reason to believe that the stock would
always be good, and it would have been so
if the Architect and Builder had not been

granted, by the Trustees of the Y.M.C.A. Stock Company most extraordinary allowances in extras, damages &c.. I would relieve you at once if I were able, but I carry ten thousand dollars of the stock privately. Please consult with Mr. A. S. Pratt, Washington, D.C., with reference to the time when outside indebtedness will be paid up and the stock begin again to pay ~~again~~ its proper dividends. The Soldiers Home invested in this same stock about the time Hampton did and all are waiting for the income of the building, including the stores, to discharge the debt (in the neighborhood of \$30,000 before I left Washington).

I suggest that the A.M.A. exchange the stock for land or for any other available security so that it may have the whole thing in its own hands, particularly as I was permitted to work for the Association and was credited the
with ^ twenty five percent to which you refer.

should
If the investigation takes place I wish the [?]
with to become manifest, nothing more, nothing less. I think Mr. Ketchum knows all about the subject and I should be willing to be governed by

his advice after he has [given ?] it careful consideration. Of course I
am always willing to use all I have to rectify any wrong
that I have done. It is so long since the transaction that
[I am ?] unable to recall my motives fully. You remember how
before I [?] to put any [?] to everything that I believed
to be God's work, while I wished to secure myself against
[total ?] loss.

Hoping you may be able to settle the
matter without scandal and to the satisfaction of my
good [name ?].

I remain, as ever, your sincere friend,

O.O.Howard

(telegram)

Aug 13 1875

2-30 PM

To E. P. Smith

When requested I recommended Mr. Barstow for Indian
Agent B B Tuttle, an Episcopalian, late deputy collector at Walla
Walla - Believe he would be a good man for place of Gibson just
deceased.

O. O. Howard

Sept. 3^d 1875,

Hon. E. P. Smith

Sir -

Permit me to recommend to your favorable consideration Mr.

F. A. Seely.

He served long with me as a quartermaster in the army - was careful and able in his administration. For his successful service he was early selected for working in the Bureau over which I presided. Gen. E. Whittlesey will be able to give you detailed accounts of his labors in North Carolina - He has left a good impression on my mind for this service and for his financial work in Missouri.

I shall be glad if you may be able to get assistance anywhere for your Bureau.

Respectfully Yours,

O. O. Howard

Portland, Oregon

Sept. 10th 1875

Rev. Geo. Whipple

Secretary A.M.A.

Dear friend:

I have mislaid your last letter
or perhaps left it at the house. While thinking
over what you wrote I believe in that or in
the former letter you said that the explanation
of the Y.M.C.A. Stock was that it was a
present by me as Commissioner to Hampton.

I think ~~this~~ on investigation ^{this} might involve ^{or imply}
wrong doing on the part of the Treasurer of
Hampton: for he must have accepted for
cash. I did undoubtedly solicit the investment
in the stock or bonds but if the investment had
been objected to & the receipts not signed I could

not have settled my accounts. I know
I never dreamed of forcing the Y.M.C.A.
stock upon Hampton & could not have
done it. I desired this investment to
without doubt
be made ^ and it was so done and
receipted for accordingly: I do not
remember by whom.

Very truly yours

O.O.Howard

Brig. Gen. U.S.A.

(see Howard Investigation of 1870)

P.S. It was just such a case as that at Nashville
except perhaps there was no personal meeting with
Gen. Armstrong or the Treasurer. O.O.H.

Sept 13 [1875]

T. A. Meysenberg

Dear Colonel:

I have just read the history of the battle of Gettysburg by S. P. Bates - purporting to be the state historian of Penn^a. He does me great injustice - infact tries to rob me of all the credit I there obtained. If you can get hold of the work will you write a criticism of his account of the first day's battle as far as their adverse & untrue statements concerning me are concerned & send it to me - and will you have the kindness to give me a copy of your field notes that you so carefully kept or of any other valuable information.

I am thinking of writing my war observations at some length. If you have any books or accounts that would aid me I shall be grateful for them. Hoping you are well & doing well I remain

As ever your friend

(sgd) O. O. Howard

September 14., [1875]

Dear Sir:

I write to apprise [sic] you of certain errors in your "History of the Battle of Gettysburg," into which you have fallen, doubtless through incorrect information from men who are unfriendly to me, or over friendly to themselves.

1st. You state on page 68 "'I am very clear and distinct,' says Captain 'Rosengarten of Reynolds' staff, 'in my recollection of the fact that one of General Howard's aids [sic]*
"(Captain Hall) reported to General Reynolds as we were near Gettysburg, the early arrival of*
"the Eleventh Corps on the Taneytown Road. '["]

If Captain Hall so reported he was mistaken; one column [() Schurz and Steinwehrs Divisions) arrived near Gettysburg, on the Taneytown road a few minutes before one o'clock. Barlows Division arrived a little in advance, on the Emmitsburg road

2nd. On the same page you say "Howard had ridden off, when he found the First Corps was engaged, in advance of his column, arriving at about one o'clock &c"

I was in Gettysburg reconnoitering by 10 1/2 A.M.

[* these are, in the original, continuations of the previous lines.]

[2]

No orders reached me directing me to move to Cemetery Hill. An aide of General Reynolds met me, to modify the first phase of Reynolds' order, from this form "to keep within supporting distance," to this: "You will come up to Gettysburg." I said to him, "where shall I encamp," he replies "choose your ground anywhere near here." We were then on the Emmitsburg road, a half mile from Gettysburg. I went in person to several points with members of my staff - to Cemetery Hill - to high ground west of the Emmitsburg road - and finally to Fahnestock's Observatory, and was there just before 11 A.M., when an officer from General Reynolds reported to me the General Reynolds was wounded. I said I was sorry and hoped he would be able to keep the field. Not ten minutes later his death was reported, and I assumed command of the field and sent out orders accordingly. My letters, written on the field, messages, field-notes and orders, all combine to prove this. So write 10 1/2

A.M. instead of "one o'clock" for myself, and about one o'clock for the arrival of the command. You say "He ordered his batteries forward, but his men came slowly " The men did not move too slowly for a hot July day. The batteries preceded them when just near the town, because needed at the front.

3d. On page 70 you say: "Though Howard had arrived on the field and was now in chief command, he was wholly occupied in directing his own corps, leaving the First entirely to the management of Doubleday." The first sentence is entirely untrue. I established my headquarters at Cemetery Hill.- put Steinwehr's Division and all the reserve artillery of the corps there - all this force arranged as a general reserve. I sent forward two divisions of the 11th Corps (Schurz commanding at the front) for the relief of General Doubleday, and doubtless so informed him. I then went in person to Doubleday's position and examined it with care. He said

[4]

that his left was not then likely to be turned
it was the point concerning which I was anxious.
So far as reënforcements were concerned, I had at
once sent to General Sickles to General Slocum
and through General ^{Sickles} ~~Slocum~~ to General Meade -
giving the exact truth, and calling for the help which
eventually came. I saw no occasion then, at one
o'clock, to modify or change General Doubleday's
position. You must recollect the object I had in
view; it was to hold Gettysburg with one wing which
only amounted, with our small corps to "an advance guard,"
to hold this strategic position till the army should come
up. General Doubleday's memory is not accurate. I
did not, of course, give him unnecessary orders. I did ask
him to look out for his left and I would protect his
right. When he sent to me for help I had none
then to give. Slocum was not yet up and to send
Steinwehr's little Division to the front would have been
the height of folly.

I kept pressing for General Slocum, who [was] said to be near at hand to push forward [his] troops. Aides came to me from General Doubleday and I never failed to send him a prompt and courteous reply. At least twice I directed him to dispute the ground obstinately if he should be forced to fall back. General Schurz received the same order. The final order sent him by me was that he should fall back and take post to the left of the Baltimore pike on Cemetery Ridge. This he literally did. It is a little remarkable that he should have so quickly and fully complied with my order without having received it. It may be that he did not, for orders often miscarry when the fighting is as fierce as it was there, - if he did not he was "guided," as you say, and some officer of mine must have guided him to the exact position

[6]

[I] pointed out General Hancock ^{found} ~~formed~~ them there, to the south of the Baltimore pike - took from him Wadsworth's Division and led it himself over to Culp's Hill, while I was organizing the retreating brigades and regiments of the 11th Corps and putting them in position. As to General Buford, he was on my right flank with his cavalry. He gave me information constantly, and I kept an officer with an orderly habitually with him. He finally moved at my instance from the right, and prolonged the new cemetery line of battle to the left, thus giving General Lee his impression that we had, at 4 P.M., a superior force to meet the assault that was contemplated; but the movement was checked by himself, for the reason, as he states, of his uncertainty as to our strength and his perception of the excellency of our position.

Now notice page 74. "He committed the fatal
"error of attempting to string out his two divisions in one

"thin continuous line" &c. I did not cover a third of General Lee's line. The artillery, except two batteries, of the 11th Corps was located on Cemetery Hill supported by Steinwehrs Division of Infantry. The space between the two corps was not unusual and two batteries were there to command the ground. The lines of the 11th Corps were not thinner than those of the 1st Corps. "The simple work" suggested by you could not be thrown up under a brisk fire. Had the lines been shorter General Lee would have supposed my forces less, and would much sooner have enveloped them. "Or, had he made "the north bank of the north branch of Steven's Run "his main line, making the Almshouse a fortified "point," Cemetery Hill as a position was better than the Steven's Run and Almshouse position and was partially fortified under my eye.

On page 70: "When he came upon the field "he found the 1st Corps on ground of its own selection, skil- "fully posted for making a front attack, but incapable

[8]

["] of holding its own when pressed upon its flanks,
"and indeed at that moment most seriously threat-
"ened with capture. The position left for him
["] to take, and which he was forced to occupy
["] to save the 1st Corps, was one not easily de-
["] fensible, and by the time his corps arrived
["] upon the field the enemy was already upon the
"front and flanks of that position, or in easy
"supporting distance in numbers treble those he
could bring to oppose them." The truth
is here very well stated. Bear in mind this
primary object, viz: to keep the enemy back by
boldness and persistency till the main army
can join. This was done with the loss of
one mile of ground, but not of my chosen
position - Cemetery Hill.

"Reynolds had noticed the great advantage it
"presented, and had designated it as the position
"on which to hold his reserves, and as a rallying

"point in case he was forced back from the
"more advanced position in front of the town where
"he had made his stand, and had himself early
"fallen." General Reynolds did not designate
Cemetery Hill at all. Had he lived he might
have done so, - would doubtless have done so, - but
he was cut off before his leading division was
in position, and before he had felt the strength
of the enemy's forces. I selected Cemetery Hill
after careful reconnaissance.

Page 76. "Von Steinwehr was an accomplished
"soldier" &c.. What is said of General Von Steinwehr to
his praise, I like. I never mean to detract from
another's fair fame. Still General Steinwehr will
testify himself that work here imputed to him
was certainly done with my sanction, and much
of it by my direction.

Page 78. "Schemmelfennig [sic], too, while attempting
"to stay his troops, and hold them up to the fight, was
"taken prisoner, but subsequently managed to escape, and
["] rejoined his command." Schemmelfennig [sic] was not
taken prisoner; having been accidentally separated from
his troops in the town, he hid himself among some
piles of boards and finally joined us after the fight
was over.

Page 81. "As the two broken corps of the Union
"army ascended Cemetery Hill, they were met by staff
"officers, who turned the 11th Corps to the right and
"the 1st Corps to the left, where they went into position
"along the summit of the ridge stretching out on either
"hand from the Baltimore pike." The two corps were
met by my staff officers.

Page 86. "The chief command upon the field
"then devolved upon General Doubleday, which for
"upwards of two hours he continued to exercise."
I assumed command upon the announcement of

the death of General Reynolds, just before 11 A.M.-
so that your statement regarding General Doubleday being
in chief command for two hours is a mistake. If he
had been in chief command he would have sent to
Sickles, Meade, Slocum &c.; and he being a trained
soldier would have made general field dispositions;
he did not do so. I do not think he regarded him-
self in chief command for a half hour. He certainly
was not.

Page 87. "In my opinion there seems to be no
"directing person" &c I cannot contradict the statement
of General Buford's opinion. I do not wonder that
he was full of apprehension, and he judged me
when our troops were giving way. I must leave
my dispositions and work of that day to the crit-
icism of military men. I believe the dispositions
were what the emergency called for, and they were
made with firmness and coolness. General Meade
himself asked my forgiveness for misapprehending me

[12]

with regard to them and thanked me for
securing to his army what I did with the
timely and efficient help of General Hancock in
the afternoon.

Page 87. "If, when Howard found that he
"was no longer able to hold his advanced position,
"he had ordered some demonstrations on different
"[parts ?] of the field, and planting some pieces to
"have commanded the main thoroughfares over which
"his troops should retire" &c.. I did order demonstrations,
till the 11th Corps and the 1st were too hotly engaged
to control their movements. I did send an entire
brigade (Costar's of Steinwehrs division) to the front of
the town, to cover the retreat. This brigade did
efficient service in just the way you suggest, till
it was finally captured owing to the clogging of
troops that had passed them, in the streets, due
to the small neck for egress at the Baltimore
pike.

You say further on,

"Howard is without excuse for holding out so long."

If I had not held out so long, you would have no victory at Gettysburg to record. I never refused to order a retreat, never. The one referred to was an order to a Corps Commander, General Doubleday: "Hold out as long as you can." I did not believe it wise to deplete Steinwehr further than I had already done; it was not a time when a General could throw in his reserves with safety.

Page 88. "It seems that Howard, at a council of Corps Commanders held at Chancellorsville just before the army retired across the river, voted to remain and fight, giving as a reason the misconduct of his corps forced him always to vote for assaulting, whether it was the best thing to be done or not." The remark imputed to me at Chancellorsville [is]

untrue. I voted to fight, and so did every General there, except General Sickles. He opposed for political reasons as he stated. I wished to lead my corps to the attack because they were mortified at the panic of the day before, and were ready for the work, but I would not as a conscientious man ^{have} voted for the army to fight, if I had not believed it the best thing for the army to do. So that the words "senseless policy" do not apply.

You have given an interesting account of the battle; but could you have had my field notes, read my letters and reports, or conversed with me respecting the field, as you have ^{apparently} done with others, I feel sure you would not have rated me so poorly.

With General Meade, I was thanked by Congress, but I did not seek it, and I am quite sure this is the first letter I have ever written in my own defense concerning my work at Gettysburg.

I was in many large battles and tried to

do my country service, with all the energy and
ability at my command. I have taken especial pride
in Gettysburg, and am therefore ^{perhaps} unduly sensitive at
adverse criticism. I would not take from another's
fair record, and it surely springs of envy when
your informers attempt to rob me of mine.

With respect

I remain Yours

[O. O. Howard]

Brigadier General U.S.A.

Septem 20th [1875]

Colonel T. A. Meysenberg

Dear Sir:

General Howard directs me to say that if you can give him any information, not official in character, concerning the Battle of Gettysburg, not included in his request a few days since, he will be exceedingly obliged to you.

He feels sure [?] your very intimate familiarity with all the movements of the Eleventh Corps in that memorable Campaign and Battle and your habits of making memoranda and notes that you have a great deal of information otherwise unattainable. If you will send him such notes and papers he will have them carefully transcribed and return you the originals. He directs me to say, in this, that he has long contemplated writing you upon the subject.

Very respectfully

Your obt. servt.

(sgd) J. A. Sladen

Aide-de-Camp

Nov. ^{r.} 16th 1875,

Rev. Geo. Whipple

Cor. Sec. Amer. Missionary Association

Dear Sir,

Your kind communication
of the 30th ult. is at hand. I
thank you highly for your
pleasant way of accepting my
resignation of membership of your
Executive Committee and gladly
accept the honorable position
of a Vice presidency in your
Association.

Very truly your friend,

O.O. Howard

Portland Oregon
January 6th 1876

Hon. E. P. Smith

Washington D. C.

Dear brother,

Bessie made me promise to send you her letter. She talked several things while she was writing it, but for fear you cannot understand her lingo. From the chirography I will translate. It is "Dear Mr. Smith, I want to see you and Gertie. I have two Christmas dollies and a carriage for them to ride in. I play with them while Harry is at school. I am very happy all the time because everybody is good to me and I think I love everybody. When are you coming to see me etc. etc.

I am indeed glad you have undertaken the University - it is a great blessing to me to have a friend and more to have an able one there where my hopes and prayers have so long centered. I fear the new Smith can not equal the Ex Smith Indian Affairs. I am having a little trouble with Joseph's band in the Wallowa Valley. Hope it will not lead to bloodshed. Our government has not been constant in dealing with them so that they are not prepared for the last order of the President opening up that valley for settlement. Gracie is always glad to hear from Gertie. It keeps up her connection with Vassar. She is studying part of the course so as not to fall behind. Johnie is growing pleasanter. You will always be his special friend, he has to struggle akways against considerable opposition, in fact he snuffed it a far off but a little darkness at night quickly subdues him, he walks to Church closely to his papa when there is no moon. All [under ?] joinin love of here.

Give my love to church, Y. M. C. A. and University. My case I am still holding here, trying for an agreed statement. Much love to Gertie and Mrs. Smith.

Affectionately

Your Friend

(sgd.) O. O. Howard

Feb. 26th 1876,

Dear E. P.

The scent is out at last. The "put up job" of medicine which Walker denied or refused is by the press laid at your door. My only question is since there was a quid pro quo how happened it that you did not distribute to the Agencies? Now my dear fellow do not like your humble servant in a bureau wprry yourself in the least over any early mistakes or traps that the foot happened to tread upon. I am very much in hope that you, Mrs. Smith and Gertie were well out on the Atlantic, and perhaps a little sea sick â-la Capt. Wilkinson (when you ought not to have laughed) at the time the recall was issued at Washington that you might account medicinely to the Committee of Ex-Confederates, usually in session in some lower dungeons of Congress up to 12 M daily Sundays excepted, but if not on the Atlantic this letter may reach you before you start. I have been trying to pour out the vials of my pent up feelings on somebody not the Alaska Fur Co. and not on you. I chose Gen. Grant and the Hon. E. B. Frend, really with a special view to make a record for my great grandchildren, though I very much fear numerous as they doubtless will be that they will not take readily to that sort of literature, still it is possible that at the next centennial, I mean 1976 they may be writing up the biographies of such men as attained unto notoriety by whipping Confederates, teaching freedmen or curing Indians, then possibly my own might not be overlooked and while [?] amongst the charges it will be probably a comfort to some kindly dispared sub-sub-relation to find a recorded answer and protest in favor of the great grandfather with two O's. Tell Gertie that Grace begins to weaken a little on Vassar, as not only the 2nd Liuetenant accordingto your prediction but ass't surgeons and English gentlemen who find their way to our shores show a disposition to be attentive and friendly. For your warning against flirtation,

and its consequences has thus far been quite effective. Guy struck quite a lead in the way of useful work when he went in with Mr. William Reid. For the firm consisting of Mr. Reid and Guy, so far as I can see has its loan business runs the state emigration society and the Board of Trade, but lest there might be some idle hours on towards midnight Mr. Reid prepares to attach a branch of Guy's specialty viz. banking. Nevertheless on the 22nd inst., after a proper celebration of Washington's birthday by following three military companies to the court house and listening to Lawyer Thompson's oration on the father of his Country I turned by steps homeward a little before sundown, for the sun was out that day, and found Guy hard at work on my piazza making an oil picture of Mount Hood that was looming up clear and ghost like in the East. If I am a little dull today and not able to condense my sentences spinning them out like a little Doris rival, it is owing to the fact that Mrs. Howard and myself sat up till just ten minutes before three this morning waiting for Guy and Gracie to come home from their last party. They are doubtless very pleasant but on our account as well as their own, parties being in some respects like the measles, we are glad they are over. Your Johnnie still keeps fresh and handsome but does not abate one jot of his lightning proclivities. Wouldn't he enjoy a visit to Africa! He and Harry and Bessie wonder if Mr. Smith will really bring a monkey with him. If you can possibly bring an elephant tooth for Chauncey it may serve to draw him back to his original place of life i.e. go into a practical ivory trade. Jammie has two fights always on hand one is against his disposition to hector and the other against his Latin. Mechanics, Mathematics, Chemistry, Philosophy, pleasant company, not omitting Madie Goodnough anything but that stidifying Latin! Still he begins to get the mastery. Mrs. Howard in Oregon is too difficult a picture to present. Think of same bright face, quick determined mandatory ways that are always permitted to little women - just a few silvery hairs, not many new dresses, long rows of little boots and shoes in the hall many pairs of rubbers not quite in order quantities and qualities of socks from short to long - little to big, sewing machine loaded

work basket full, one chinaman, no girl but Grace - eight children - including me - then put in life energy quickness capability and you have a few touches of the weekly pictures, painted upon the retina of a husband's observing eyes. Much love to Mrs. Smith. I do hope she will enjoy her part of the journey to the full. Say "Gertie I have not kicked anybody since I have been in Oregon. May the Lord prepare you and send you safely back.

Affectionately your friend

(sgd.) W. O. Howard

The dictator of this letter thanks the dictatee who joins in love and good wishes except when the question of sea sickness occurs,