

May 26th 1891

Dear Captain Sladen:-

Allow me to introduce my old pupil at West Point, Seldon Hetzel. I have long known him and his family. It is some time since I have seen him, but presume he is the same frank and happy spirit as of yore.

Any kindness you may show him, or friends introduce him will be courtesies to me and to him.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) O.O.Howard

Major General U. U. Army.

Captain J. A. Sladen,

U. S. Army,

Portland, Oregon.

Dear Sir

Aug 15 [1891]

Your note of Aug 14. is just at hand. I have some interesting items in mind concerning "Boy chiefs. As soon as I get leisure I will write. Meanwhile I send you a story written for young folks concerning a girl-chief of the [Paiutes ?]. If it suits your purpose please use it, paying me \$50 for use in your publications.

To S.S. McClure
[?] Building
New York

Very truly yours,

O.O. Howard
Major Gen. US. Army

September 24, 1891

Dear Captain Sladen:

Your kind letter at last. You must write John and encourage him. He is stationed at Leavenworth till he gets broken in, with several other new appointees. He worked like a Trojan, and, with twenty-four others, they examined him at Washington, from Monday morning till Saturday night. Twelve only passed the rigid examination, and though not very high, he was one of the twelve. Of course he had not given himself directly to studying for this thing till toward the last.

We sent Grace to the hospital as she grew worse; her weakness had a local cause. After many weeks she had a surgical relief, and is now stronger than she has been since her arrival. At present she and Bessie are with my brother, near Boston. The other little ones go to school and play with grandpapa. Grandma pretends to be very severe, and succeeds well in bringing "Howard" to time, though he has tremendous will-power when unusual irritation sets it in motion. "Howard" is habitually the pleasantest of boys.

Harry and Bessie left the nineteenth ultimo. Mrs. Bright gave them a treat in England. They saw everything anybody could in two or three weeks and then went on to Evreux, where we all have

2.

been steeped in French.

Mrs. Howard has grown fleshy and strong, and holds the reins more easily than ever before. We number now twenty-three: seven children, four by marriage, - 11; ten grandchildren, - 21; my wife and myself, making the aggregate. So that it is right and proper that "the will" ^{of His family} should increase with time.

Yes, like yourself, I get away occasionally, enough for a rest, and then keep returning as of old. I am delighted that you are doing so well, being allowed to march, neither in line nor in column, but at will.

Jamie, Adelheid and the baby, Hildegard, live in a little flat corner Oriental St., and Bellview Ave., Newark, N.J. He is still connected with the Barber Asphalt Co., but in the intervals of the Asphalt branch he has considerable other business. He makes everything prosper that he touches except, perhaps, spirituality. He is much like the average New Yorker, devoted to business with much business absorption. Adelheid mitigates the evil, and Hildegard creates tenderness.

Chancey has become a bonafide tax-gatherer. Has just brought his wife and Mamie and Willie, Mamie three years and Willie less than one, to Newark, and lives diagonally opposite Jamie's flat on Bellville Ave.

As for Guy, the Secretary of War took possession of him and sped off into the interior through North Dakota, Montana, Minnesota,

3.

Nebraska next, about now. The Secretary, if he dare, and as he is going to be Senator his courage increases, will probably make Guy a Captain and A. Q. M. Batchelder wants it. I do not care much; for it will not help his pay to any great extent; and I shall lose him from my staff. Still I think that Quartermaster's duties will suit him, and it will probably be two or three years before he is a Captain by regular promotion.

Yes, I am busy just now writing a history of General Zachary Taylor. It is giving me a great deal of satisfaction to study him and the Mexican War; but I am too lazy to work much at night so the book come on slowly. It is written to accompany a series over which James Grant Wilson seems to preside under the shadow of the Appleton tree.

Jeanie, Guy's wife, who was ill for some time and had her turn for many months at the hospital, is now well and strong. Just at this time she has gone to Omaha with her two children, Helen and Otis, to visit her father's family. Helen almost had the St. Vitus Dance. Her muscles would not obey her mind; but little by little she has regained her equilibrium and seems all right again.

Grace's girl children are full of beauty and life and each has her individual characteristics. Bessy and May are very womanly, Gracie full of fun and strength and Jeanie active and happy. We shall miss them very much when they turn back to Oregon.

Mrs. Howard was very much delighted with your letter. Do not

4.

wait so long; tell us more about Mrs. Sladen, Fred, Gerry and the rest. Give much love to them.

This letter is long enough, and yet, I have not touched upon
on [Trystic ?] St. (our Sunday Mission)
Negroes, Indians, "Camp Memorial Church," nor your many Baptist brethren
including Rev. Dr. McArthur who sends love
ren in New York : have not touched upon politics, something just now
that moves swingingly with extraordinary gains for a Republican
revival. It needs that bad enough in Conn., N.J., and N. Y. It
is not very satisfactory to try to exist, politically, as here among hard-
shell Democrats. Thank fortune Harrison is steady and staunch, and
Blain's health probably prepares for Harrison another term.

Sincerely your friend.

(sgd) Oliver Otis Howard

Major General, U. S. Army.

Captain J. A. Sladen.

Portland, Oregon.