

May 20, 1985

Col. J. E. Bryant,  
Bank of Mt. Vernon Building,  
Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

Dear Colonel. -

I sent the letter enclosed with one to Rev. H. G. Miller,  
Camp Church, as I supposed he would get it sooner.

Your own postal did not have your own address on it, and I feared  
[that?] simply "Mt. Vernon" would not reach you.

In case he gets the accomodation, as I hope he will, you  
must furnish him with what little money he will need. I am so straight-  
ened by unexpected circumstances causing expenses that I cannot very [well?]  
help you. Skirmish a little among his friends and so get what is  
needed.

Very truly yours,  
O. O. Howard

Dictated.

Dec. 24th, 1895

Mrs. Alice Rollins Crane

243 San Pedro St., Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Mrs. Crane:-

I am glad you ran across my friend, Capt. Jefferds [sic], He knew all about my visit to the Southwest and to Cochises' stronghold. There were three place in which I found the Indians of Cochise the first, a beautiful plot of ground of perhaps forty acres with a stream of water coursing through it, and several small trees which had a little shade. The plot of ground was surrounded, except the narrow ingress and egress of the creek, by a high wall, buttressed with considerable debris at the foot. In this place, I found Cochise's families with a small guard of Indians. The others were out robbing in different directions under what he called captains. The second place was on the side of a mountain <sup>whither</sup> ~~where~~ the Indians had fled in the night upon an alarm of soldiers coming. It was a false alarm. The third place was where we went and staid until the peace was consummated, the chiefs all having returned to Cochise's headquarters. Now, I cannot quite tell which of the three places is now called Cochise's stronghold.

I have about eighty pages, letter paper size, of written manuscript concerning those Indians in the Southwest. This was once printed in the old "Hamersley's Monthly" , a publication that went

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out of print, and having lost my copy, I have tried in vain to get one. Besides this manuscript, I dictated an account of my trip to the "Washington Chronicle" and it was printed at the time, 1872, in a small pamphlet form, without cover. Strange to say, all my retained copies have taken to themselves, wings and flown to unknown parts. As I am giving lectures, and shall be away from home almost all the ~~xx~~ time till next May, I cannot revamp the account by writing or dictation, but if you will pay for the typewriting, I will have a couple of copies made of my manuscript and mail them to you. The typewriter estimates, judging by the close written pages, the price as \$15. If you think it is worth your while to pay this much for the copying, you are welcome to the use of the material.

I had heard that Capt. Jefferds [sic] was not living, and am glad indeed to know that he is alive and well. He was the only white man that Cochise's people had spared in their raids for many years. He proved himself judicious, brave, heroic, and if his counsel had been taken, I am sure that many wars would have been avoided. If you write him, give him my kind remembrances. Capt. Sladen, my aide-de-camp long since having lost his leg, has been retired and is living in Portland Oregon. There were few braver men than Sladen.

Very truly yours,

O.O.Howard

Feb. 3rd, 1896

Mrs. Alice Rollins Crane,

Los Angeles,- 243 San Pedro St.

My dear Mrs. Crane:-

Miss Ellis, the typewriter, has now completed a copy of my old manuscript, which was rather blind and difficult to decipher, the only copy of it being in the copy book.

On reading it over I perceive that there are several scenes which were in my first pamphlet of which I cannot find a copy, that are omitted from this old copy-book. For example, one day when I was engaged in writing letters, sitting under a tree, and many of the young Indians were playing around me toward evening, I heard a scream from women as if they were struck, or suddenly ill treated and terrified. I looked up and saw one of them running from Cochise's personal lodge, and then I heard him scolding or talking in a manner that I was not accustomed to hear. The whole camp appeared to be inspired with alarm. I ran over to Jefferds [sic] place and said to him, doubtless in a startled manner: "Jefferds [sic] what is the matter?" He answered: "The old man appears to be mad about something. He and alot more of his braves who are now in camp have been on a [teswin?] drunk this morning; and it takes some time for them to get over it.

#2.

What occurred next I cannot distinctly recall, but I know that something was threatened; probably attempts were made to take the lives of some unruly men or women, or both, and I felt for the first time that we white men were in danger of being very suddenly swallowed up. I was standing close by Jefferds [sic], and exclaimed something like this "Jefferds [sic], what can we do in this strait?" Jefferds [sic] quietly answered, "Sit down, General, and take it coolly; and then he walked deliberately to Cochise's lodge and sat down close by him and began to talk to him in Spanish. He kept this up for perhaps a half hour, keeping the old man quiet and interesting him as one would a child by various expedients, till the effects of the [teswin?] wore off. As soon as sobriety returned, peace again reigned in the camp, and I felt ashamed to have been so much disturbed. But, to tell the truth, I never did have any confidence in strong drink; and drunken Indians ~~are~~ <sup>present</sup> the worst possible phases of its murderous pranks.

In one of your beautiful photographs, there is a large tree near a slope. Your remark on the back: "The Point of Dragoon Mountain, On South end turning to West." It was under that tree we were bivouacing when the two Indian boys came to us. The beautiful stream of water is close by that tree. I reckoned it about seven miles from that tree to around the point and into the stronghold, where we staid the first night in that charming den.

#3.

You have located the cathedral, or Cathedral Rock, all right; also in another picture the place where we emerged from the stronghold.

I have made some marginal notes which will serve as explanations. I do not mind your using my manuscript for the facts, but I shall publish the manuscript, or republish it and so would like to have you avoid too many extracts. You can put the [facts?] in your own way.

With regard to the compensation, of Miss Betta L. Ellis for her typewriter copy, you can get a draft on New York for the fifteen dollars to her order, and send it to me at Burlington, Vermont.

With kind regard to yourself and husband, I remain

(Dictated)

Very truly yours,

O.O.Howard

P. S. As I have given Capt. Jefferds [sic] the palm over myself in courage, I will add that [about?] our first interview Cochise said to Jefferds [sic]: "How did General Howard dare to come in here without troops?" He answered: "General Howard does not fear anything." This made Cochise look upon me with great favor. Surely, I was not at all times so cool and collected as Jefferds [sic], but I had a strong will power inside of me, and a dependence upon the One above who could not fail me.

O.O.H.

August 31st, 1896

Capt. William Grebe,

Bonner Springs, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of August 27th to General Howard at hand. The General is absent from home and when he returns I will ask him if he remembers your being hurt on or about the date of the battle of Jonesboro' and if he does I being a Notary will make out a certificate to that effect with his signature and send same to you. The General has been overwhelmed with communications and other matters of business and in answering your last long letter, he, no doubt, thought he had complied with all your requests.

Kindly asking your patience until his return, I remain

Yours truly,

(Dictated)

Private Secretary.

Sept 18ml1896 (sic)

Dear Captain Grebe:

General Howard has returned home. He says he is exceedingly sorry that he cannot sign you an affidavit that he remembers your injury, for he has forgotten the circumstances entirely notwithstanding your excellent discription (sic).

You can easily see how a man with great responsibilities on his mind should forget an accident which at the time you yourself did not think was serious.

Yours truly

(sgd) H. S. Howard

Private Secretary.

November 7th, 1896

Colonel Theodore A. Meysenberg.

St. Lois Bolt and Iron Works,  
E. St. Louis, Missouri.

Dear Meysenberg:-

I enclose you a letter just received, with a most cordial invitation from me personally for you to attend our meetings while in St. Louis. I promised you at my last visit  
^ to go straight to your house, but the address has escaped me; and I am not sure that you and your good wife would expect me at such a time as this. I shall take my son Harry with me, and we shall go on with General Dodge in his private car, leaving New York at 2 o'clock p.m. the 16th. Certainly, Harry and I will give you a call while in your city. I thought of you as "the wrecks of the war", of which party I was one, pulled out of E. St. Louis on our phenomenal  
about ten months ago  
election tour ^ .

Congratulating yourself and myself on McKinley's election, and kindest remembrances to all at your home, I remain as ever,

(Dictated)

Your comrade and friend,

(sgd) Oliver Otis Howard

Dec. 19th, 1896.

Mrs. Alice Rollins Crane,  
243 San Pedro St.,  
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Madam:-

General Howard directs me to reply to your favor of the  
14th inst.

The General never saw Antonio Apache before he went to Carlisle  
at their last commencement, and was very much surprised and delighted  
to meet him on the same platform as the son of Juan, whose history you  
know. The General does not know anything at all about the history of  
Antonio beyond that it is said that he was captured and cared for by  
Major Bourke, 3rd Cavalry, now deceased. To obtain any facts about  
Antonio, if the foregoing is true, you might write to Mrs. John G. Bourke  
care Mr. Harbaugh, Omaha, Neb., who probably knows about his early histo-  
ry, including his capture.

General Howard suggests that you write to Antonio also.

Yours truly,

H.S.Howard

Private Secretary.

January 1st, 1897

John T. Lockman, General

88 Nassau St., New York City.

My dear General:

Thank you for your good Christian letter. I was so stung by the view of Hamlin's myself, which I obtained from Hamlin's book and for censure of all graduates of West Point, that I haven't yet recovered from the soreness of my disappointment. I had stood by the Corps and General Schurz without faltering. I do not believe that presented the Corps at the Council as at fault. I simply wanted to lead it into action next morning at the head of a column of attack, or before we crossed the river; and after that, as you know, at Gettysburg, Wauhatchee and Chattanooga, I identified myself with my command and never slandered it. It was due to me, from Hamlin, to have sat down with me, as he evidently did with Schurz, and heard my defense. Doubtless I did depend too much on my right division commander. I had never known him, before I came to the Corps, nor measured him in battle; but this is true according to subsequent experience several times repeated, that had my division commander on the right defended his position for half an hour he would have had help,-the help of Steinwher and all of Schurz's reserves, as Stanley, commanding division, received help against Hood at Resaca, and Logan's right division at Ezra Chapel.

With reference to not sending information to Hooker, Hamlin is mistaken. I sent promptly, the result of Schimmelfoenig's reconnaissance, the reports of scouts sent behind the lines and Whittlesey's findings, from time to time straight to Hooker. Hooker's officer, Colonel Dickinson, was with me when the battle began, and reporting to him was reporting to Hooker, and he got word to his commander as quickly as his horse could carry him there; whether the retreaters outstripped him or not, I cannot say.

I do not propose to stir up any controversy. It is the last thing I want, but I think it was a mistake not to have identified me with the good aide of the

11th Corps.

When Hooker demanded my reserve, according to the information which I had, I did regard it as confirmatory of his theory and that of Sickles, that Lee was in full retreat. Had the theory been true, I ought to have stretched to the left in support of Sickles' attack and moved forward to his support. Again, General Schurz movements, after conversation with me, were warmly sanctioned by myself. Whatever people may say, the 11th Corps was there to fight, and Steinwehr's one brigade aided by other troops gathering about them as a nucleus, did gain for the whole army a full hour. I formed a line along the despised entrenchment; losing that, I formed another in the edge of the forest, losing that, I formed a third on the slope in front of Hooker's headquarters; and ours formed part of the force that held Jackson back all the night after his assault.

I say this, dear Lockman, because I have felt so grieved over my disappointment, and ashamed that I so heartily supported Hamlin's work before I knew it. I could not now denounce Devens, because I had not evidence then sufficient to call him to account. As for Sickles, I believe that he made a mistake, and that his reports also are colored doubtless by the testimony of subordinates. But it is not wise to impute to such a man a disposition to falsify. He is not a West Pointer and he literally obeys the orders of his commanding general. It was Stonewall Jackson's ability which held him in check. I am willing to say that that was the only battle, after I became a corps commander, in which I did not extensively reconnoitre, either in person or by means of officers whom I thoroughly know and could trust.

Wishing you and yours a most Happy New Year, I remain,

Affectionately your companion and comrade, forever,

(sgd) Oliver O. Howard

P. S. I did ride over the country before locating my right flank in order to place it just where I was ordered to place it. General Hooker, himself, with his engineer, rode along that part of the line and I was with him. I saw no part of the line that was not covered by a barricade, fairly strong, so that it is new

to meet that [ Von Gilsa ? ] had no cover except slashing. Surely hi battery was covered an [ epaulment ? ]. However, the Army of the Potomac was very reluctant to barricade or intrench at that time. They learned better before long.

(sgd) O. O. H.

Col. T. A. Meysenberg

Feb. 10th

1897

Dear Meysenberg:

Are you coming to the inaugural of McKinley? I hope so & that you will bring Miss M. & Mrs. B. with you. I want you to aid me in the big parade if you are willing. I command the veterans of all sorts & would like to ride by your side once more. Harry sends his love to you all. He hears from you thro. Mrs. Brock & Hayer Clark. Have you Dr. Rawlin's Cook?

Very sincerely yours

(sgd) O. O. Howard

March 13, 1897

Colonal (sic) T. A. Meysenberg,  
Tudor Iron Works,  
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Colonel:

Your kind letter is at hand. Carney wrote me in a simi<sub>l</sub>ar<sub>l</sub> strain last Feb. I remember things that he mentioned but could not connect the man himself with them. I was impressed that he, in his advancing years has mixed up things over much. I kept you on as an Aide <sup>for the inaugural parade</sup> though you did not put in an appearance. Some people came to se<sub>e</sub> me and inquired about you, particularly Genl. Stahl. He had the same <sub>l</sub>thing <sub>l</sub>? about Hamlin's book that you and I have expressed. It does not give satisfaction, altogether. Harry joins me in kindest regards to your wife and Mrs. Block.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Oliver Otis Howard