New York, May 26th, 1865.

Major General, O. O. Howard,
Bureau of Refugees and Freedmen.

General,

Though I have not the honor of a personal acquaintance with you, I feel that I know you, not only through your admirable military record, but from having seen you in the fight at Resaca, where I ministered to the wounded of your corps, in the service of the Christian Commission.

I am happy now to find you at the head of a Bureau, which, hardly less than war itself, calls for capacity, energy, experience, patience, hope.

Your first circular shows that you intend to administer the Bureau in the interest of no class or school.
but upon the broad basis of the Act of Congress, and for the social, industrial and educational wants of the entire South. This construction of the Bureau is the more gratifying to me personally, because I had not through my own seeking, but in an inspired way, had a little to do with the action of Congress in constituting it on this line.

Having been led by personal observation and by my official position, to study the question of social re-organization in the South, I drew up the enclosed Memorial, which was adopted by our Commission, and was carried by me to Washington. At that time Senator Sumner's Bill for Freedmen was on its passage through both Houses, but was strongly objected to by many because it proposed to create a new Department in the civil service, with large leeway for abuse; and after
cause it was exclusively for the Slaves.

Gen. Schurz had introduced a bill in the House, uniting Refugees and freedmen under one Bureau. This failed at first; by one or two votes. A day or two after, the meeting of the Union Commission was held in the Hall of Representatives, and the fact, then submitted gave a new interest to Gen. Schurz’s bill, so that it being again called up, for instance, it passed the House. While Dorr’s Sumter’s failed in the Senate. The dila
gent circulation of our Memorial, with personal interviews with members of both Houses, led to the framing of a bill embodying the main features of the Memorial, which drew to its support many Democratic men,
because it was not exclusive. This accounts for the naming of Refugees first;
and but for this combination no bill for
freemen could have passed the last
Congress. Hence your construction of the
Resolutions is in entire accordance with
the design of Congress in founding it.
The elevation of the masses in the
South, white and black, by proper in-
dustrial and educational arts up
to the point of self-support in freedom
is now the great task before the nation.
Our Secretaries, Mr. Miles and Mr. Al-
both, have already placed the Uni-
Commission at your service for this
work. The ignorance of the poor whites
furnished fighting material to the
rebellion. We must educate their
children into patriots. I think, also,
that to secure for the negro his true
status as a citizen, we must put
him only as a man. I trust to
hear, General, that you will address
our meeting in Boston next Summer.

With high regard,

Jas. P. Howard, Pres.

HEADQUARTERS, MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

In the Field, May 20, 1865

Camp near Alexandria, Va.

My Dear Mr. Cottier.

Chief, Bureau of Refugees.

Dear Sir,

I am at this moment in receipt of your communication of this act and I thank you for your generous act. I do think it but just to you, and notwithstanding his conduct apply to a less mighty I know he will prize this act most highly. I will accept a Spensie Homes if you will ride with me at the Return of the Thursday Dept. I will be at the head of the Column at 9 A.M. of today. The Capitol and big you will join me there. Your personal staff can ride with you.

Ever your's, W.T. Sherman

Major Gen
The American Telegraph Company.

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CAMBRIDGE LIVINGSTON, Sec'y, 145 BROADWAY, N. Y.
E. S. SANFORD, Pres't.

Dated Chicago, May 20th, 1865.

Rec'd, Washington, May 21st, 1865, o'clock, min. M.

To May 20th, 1865 Howard.

If you wish me to receive your wife telegraph me the day you arrive she will arrive.

W. H. Merritt
Philadelphia, 24th May 30th 1858

W. H. Merritt

Telegram to

Mr. Howard

In relation to Mrs. Howard

Re: B. of H. 10 May 1858.
Hd-Quarters, Military Div'n of the Mississippi,
Office U. S. Engineers.

Alexandria, Va., May 20th, 1865.

Maj. Genl. O. P. Howard

I have the honor to inform you that, at my request, Majr. E. T. Hoffman, A. A. G. has been assigned to ENGINEER Duty with
Sherman's Army, military District.

 Permit me General to thank you for your kindness in recommending him, as his services will at the present time be particularly useful to the engineer, in reducing and compiling the surveys made by the several Engineer Officers during the recent campaign.

Respectfully

Your most obedient,
W. G. B. Jenney

Chm. Asst. Sur., Exchange
Savannah, May 26, 1865

My dear Brother,

My first idea was to send this letter by Fannie Monday next, lest you should not get opportunity to read it otherwise, but as it will reach you a day or two earlier I will send it by post. Read you heard of Elses affliction? Her dearest Brother Albert died on the coast of Africa two months ago. He died of fever. The news reached us two weeks ago yesterday. Mrs. Foster and Mother feel it deeper than did Miss Ella seems very sad, but I do believe their rest is in God. His letters & those of his mates (he was kept) testify to a distinct religious change in him. His Bible was a constant companion during his stay in chiefs and now must now come home with him who is the goal of the sailor as of the soldier. Fannie will tell you all the house news and I need not dwell upon it. Mother is as well as usual and finds work very useful in the farm. I dread the Washington Climate for you are to accustom to the open air for them.
Because of their Northern birth habits, perhaps it be as well to have them spend the summers at the North? I now wish we - Motheriggie & myself could cencenote a fewee little and live become together. We are to have a telegraph here this summer. I hope your friends in August & will present you with a horse & then you will have a Northern home to flee to.

Lyric set me the order assigning me as Commissioner of Freedman's Bureau. The news confounded us all. Not only your family but your many Christian friends in MS are relying on it. But when I reflect on the responsibilities of your new position - its perplexity & deceptions, I feel that you need sympathy of prayer for some that praise - it is a new mode of life for you. You must now live among politicians - contractors - office seekers - destroying flattery - May God send you some fine natural hearted personal friends to be near you to advise you wisely the uncertainty perplexing questions that will also advise you with wisdom, counsel, precedence -
It is exceedingly unfortunate for public men to have to retract anything. It is still new injunctions, of course, to persist in an injudicious course. As Lincoln was a model of honesty, I think, in making up his mind he took time to hear all sides and candidly weigh all evidence. But my dear brother, I am more to this letter to express my heartfelt sympathy with prayers for your success. May you not fall among thieves. May you not be beset with selfish and officious office seekers. May you not be bored to death with worthless but cunning and unpractical Clergymen. (Horace James, Rev., Capt.) This is one of the best men in every respect that you will ever meet. You will feel to be one of the last names! But I would like to have gone on with topic I have a good host brotherly conference with you to have observed your circumstances and surroundings. I am to be called your state conference next month on the facilities of Evangelizing the South, and I hope to get a clear light on that subject from you and others. I believe I will preach on it next Sabbath. I unless if you have time to read some.
of my ideas—(1) It is a conquering work
must be accomplished without any de-
pendence on existing religious organiza-
tions of the South—The Southern Ministry, with
but few exceptions, must be got rid of. They
are the worst of secessionists, to engraft as
they have any place in these the counties
is unsafe—and Religion will again have
made the efficient hand-maid of Veto-
ation. It must seek to rise wherever
it does remains in the South. But
its Church & Ministry must be abolished
as far as possible—(2) To this End all
moral-political—views and religious
influence must be taken from the late
slave-owners. They must be reduced either
to zero—a nullity—a pacificated— or else the mass
and combining proofs of Reparation, not
gas to secession & Rebellion, but of
Hate-holding. They must exhibit a readiness
& Enlightenment Conscience on their subjects.
(3) The other White men from under the
influence of their Ministry & teaching must be instructed in secular knowledge
be sure. But certaining is to the morals
of slavery & all its associated vices. Their
Religious notions must be corrected. Their
Refused consequences set right. To this end they must have a peace min.

(3) The Freedmen are to be treated with no regard to color, very little respect for the notions, beliefs, prejudices of their former masters. As to suffrage it seems to me that that honor be granted with great caution. Not on account of color, but on condition of assume the responsibilities of citizenship. I make them self-sufficient, self-reliant, reflect, in all education, must be a slow process at best. (I wish Military Government could be maintained until the nation is all educated.) The educated states of people tend to become the leaders. Northern emigrants' soldiers (5) The men to effect these changes must come from the North. They must be teachers, ministers, farmers, superintendents. All are faithful, conscientious, active by virtues of humanity, patriotism, religion. All are benevolent efforts for the army must now be connected to this end. Our money, our minister, our young men must
go into their fields to plant - to love - to live - to die. Cultivate the greatest good for our country and our God. He allows this work to northern men. He has accomplished that purpose. In the process of continuing the nation's concept religiously, the South has been made manifest in the whole land has been swept with the dragon's destruction - Now He will help rebuild at right foundations. He has put you in the head of this nation in the most responsible and important place of modern times because He sees you to be a Christian man incapable of narrow and selfish policy. Now He expects you to do as Christ Jesus and help be His name. He will help you - We must fill up our churches with converts - Our Seminaries, with ministers - must send forth our surplus of men and mercy - We must have colleges, churches, schools, building at the South as much as possible under the influence of the pure principles of the Gospel. If there be any good in the South now (as I do not doubt it) let us appropriate it as we were formerly. Again, May God bless you my brother as a (1 page)
Washington, May 20 65

Mr. Gen. O. O. Howard

Gentlemen,

I am compelled to return to W. Y. to-night, and every moment of my time has been so limited that I have not been able to avail myself of your kind permission to look over your letter book, in aid of our history of "Sherman's Campaigns." I expect to return next week, and should then be glad to make use of this privilege if agreeable to you.

Very respectfully yours,

Henry Heath
Head Qu. 1st Ind. Div. A. C. 
Chattanooga, Tenn., May 30, 1863.

Dear Sir,

I was greatly pleased by the announcement that you had been placed at the head of the Bureau for Freedmen. I have heard but one expression among the friends of the colored people, that your appointment was the best that could be made.

It is eminently proper that one who presides over the duties of looking after the interests and rights of four million slaves, shall watch with interest, with hope, with earnest prayer for your success.

I am, General, Most Sincerely,
Your Friend and Obedient Servant.
Thos. J. Morgan
Col. 1st U. S. C. V.

To Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard.
Comdg. Brigade.
Dear [Name],

I have been thinking a lot about our conversation last week. I realize that I may have been too quick to jump to conclusions without fully understanding your perspective. I apologize for any misunderstandings that may have occurred during our discussion.

I am committed to acknowledging and addressing any issues that may have arisen. If you are willing to share your thoughts and feelings with me, I promise to listen with an open mind and heart.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my concern for your well-being. I understand that we may have different priorities and goals, but I hope that we can find common ground and work towards a solution that benefits both of us.

Please let me know if there is anything you would like to discuss or if there is anything I can do to make things right. I value our relationship and I am willing to do whatever it takes to make things right.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
Philadelphia, May 20, 1865

My dear General

I have read your kind letter of May 16th, with very great interest, and am glad to hear from you again. With respect to your appreciation of the great work of the Commission now drawing to its close, the enclosed circular will communicate to you the action of the Executive Committee at its meeting on Thursday, after solemn and careful deliberation.

I cannot help again expressing my gladness at your new and deserved position. I trust that you may be able to inaugurate and carry forward a work which will equal the wants and necessities of the classes for whom the Bureau was designed. I shall be very glad indeed to give you any advice or assistance lying in my power and think that I may be able to do so to some purpose in advising with reference to these—whom having been engaged in our work—are adapted to aid you in yours. However I shall see you in Washington next week; as I intend going there to see the Review. I hope then to be able to talk with you about what you have mentioned in your letter.

In the meantime, with very great respect, and warm personal regard, I am yours in Christ.

Geo. H. Stuart
Chairman U.S.C.C.

Major General O. Howard:

Washington.
Head-Quarters District of Annapolis, Annapolis, Md., May 20th, 1865.

My dear Sir:

I thank you for your kind note of the 17th instant.

Pardon me for again interfering with your plans.

I did not intend to ask you to recommend my promotion, but I simply to give a brief statement of my services while in the field. In that capacity I have under you, and the manner of my service at A. A. E. & Co. of the 19th Army. You will observe that during that duty, I have not been in command of the Brigade, and I please you to note that I did not have the benefit of the work I think I am entitled.

I hope to be present at my division while present to hear my statement. It has great honor to accommodate.
The goodness of a kind breast by Father all this to last four years. May Our Repulse be continued to you as a grace.

Y.r. very truly,

F. F. Small
Southwark Foundry.

Merrick & Sons.

Philad. May 20, 1863

My dear Otis,

I have your note of 15th. I would with very great pleasure come on to see you if I felt that it would be right to leave while we are in such confusion from the fire which destroyed about one third of our place on Monday night.

I see 200,000 men march through Washington on their way home after four years of cruel war as we have had would be a proud moment for any American but I am afraid I must deny myself the pleasure.

I telegraphed you today that if you wished me to take care of Leggi as her arrival I would do so with great pleasure if you would notify me when she would arrive.

We should be glad indeed of the opportunity of showing you both some of the beauties of this part of the country and can very readily accommodate you all - I hope the children will come with you, my little girls will be very happy to see them. I want灏儿 to know them.

I received a letter from John Otis a short while
ago which I mention for you to read—please bring it on next you—it was in my drawer in the office. I got somewhat damaged at the fire.

Very sincerely, Ys

L. J. M.

[Handwritten text on the bottom right corner]
1865.
Boston May 20.

Dear Genl. Howard,

God bless you, and give you many, many years to enjoy the fruits of your bloody toils and sacrifices. How I long to see you! Are you not coming this way for any purpose? Shall we not see you at our house at Amherst? Has Damaris written you? I come if possible, I stay with you of course.

Send Howard at Washington over the Freedmen’s bureau is the right man in the right place. So the Christian philanthropic community will decide.
There is in the City of Washington, a family of my acquaintance, and your admirers as we be natural.

Mr. Charles Carruth, wife & children.

They want to see you, and share your hand. They are among the best people in Boston. If they call, see them for a few minutes and oblige them of me.

And if you do not come to Boston, I do not know but that I shall come to Washington.

Mrs. Webb joins in love to you, and prayers for your fullest, richest success.

Ever fraternal

W. B. Webb.
Head Quarter, Munsona District.
Williamsburg May 21, 1865.

Maj Gen W. T. Howard.

General.

Allow me to con-
gratulate you upon the closing of
this great rebellion, and add my
testimony to that of others, to the good
and useful labor of yourself and to the
influence your aid, has had in
bringing this war to a successful
end.

Allow me also to thank you,
as a man who loves religion & virtue,
for the bright example you have set as a Christian soldier.

I congratulate the colored race of this
Country, that it has known so prominently
fit as yourself, as the Regulator of
its future destiny. And I feel confident
that the War will lead to good, under
his continued care, as the last proof of
this power.

Please not to have I ever been officially
informed of your appointment. But
suppose I soon will be.
My position as Commander of this District gives me control of about 21,000 colored people. Their progress in education, morality, and their desire to be good citizens and conduct themselves accordingly, gives me satisfactory proof that no great difficulty will be encountered in directing their future progress as soon as they can be brought under the control of well-established regulations. The present difficulty is to bring to their direct knowledge the duties of their situation and overcome the ignorance, pride, prejudice, and every other bad quality of the present holders of the Loans of the South. With every confidence in your judgment, sound and goodness, I turn the matter to the

Very Respectfully,

J.T. Dorsey

B.C. Tisdale


Comt. District
Washington May 27th 1863

My dear Brother,

I am acquainted with Mr. Woodard and know him to be a man of excellent reputation in all respects. He has for a No. of years been the efficient Supt. of the Camp Church, School, in Washington and a most valuable member of the Church.

I have no doubt that he will prove himself worthy of any place that you may select to give him in connection with the Freedmen.

Yrs. Brother,

Kendall

[Signature]

W/ Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard
Freedmen's Bureau
War Dept., Washington
Dear Howard

[Handwritten text]

Sincerely,

[Signature]
General O. C. Howard,
Commissioner, &c.,

General:

In compliance with the request contained in your Circular No. 2, I herewith forward you a copy of a recently published Bulletin of the Penna. Freedmen's Relief Association, in which (pages 346-38) you will find a report of the schools maintained by that Association in this city, Georgetown, and Alexandria; also a list of the officers of the Association (pages 40.)

I would take the liberty to add that all the schools taught by this Association at this point are very poorly accommodated, both as to room and the pro-
per conveniences for school teaching. Numbers of applicants for admission are turned away every week for want of room to receive them.

I would therefore respectfully request—if I am right in supposing that the matter comes within your province—your aid in obtaining the use of some of the public buildings (barracks or hospitals) which it is presumed are about to be vacated at this point for school for the children of freedmen, under the auspices of this Association.

It is believed that the Pennsylvania Freedmen's Relief Association has a larger number of schools and teachers here than any other one society; and it's efforts for the education and elevation of the freed
People might be largely facilitated and extended by aid in the way I have indicated.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient,
A. E. Newton,

Super. Schools, Pa. F. R. A.
Penna. Freedmen's B. Assn.
Office Washington May 22, 1865

Newley A. E.
Supt. Schools P. & R.A.

Encloses copies of annual reports of the above Association.
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

State House,

Senate Chamber.

Boston, May 22, 1865

Major General O.O. Howard

Dear Sir,

In behalf of the Executive Committee of the Young Men’s Christian Association of the United States and British Provinces, I have the honor to invite your attendance at our annual convention, to be held in the city of Philadelphia, commencing on Wednesday, June 7th, and concluding on Sunday evening.

It is the earnest and universal desire that you should address the convention at some time during your visit, convenient to yourself.

From these associations, as you know, sprang the U.S. Christian Commission, and they are doing much good service, and it is thought desirable that this subject should be brought definitely before the convention.
We shall have a public meeting in aid of the Christian Commission, also a great Sunday School meeting and a grand farewell conference on Sunday evening.

I trust you may find it consistent with your engagements to attend and address the convention gathering from all the loyal States, and the Canadas.

If you will indicate your preference as to time in correspondence with Geo. H. Sturtevant and P. B. Simmons, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, at Philadelphia, I can assure you of a cordial hospitable reception on any occasion.

Very respectfully,

T.B. Smith

Joseph A. Bond,
Chairman of Executive Committee.
Dear Genl.,

May 22, 1863

My dear General,

I have been intending ever since I became separated from your Military family to write to you and express the obligations I felt for your constant and universal kindness to me while I was a member of your staff. I assure you General, it is appreciated, as well by my parents as myself.

I suppose the bad has kept you informed of the rapid progress of our regiment in drill and efficiency as soldiers. Its organization was attended with perhaps, less difficulty than is usual, but it was an entirely new business to me. Prentice came into camp
continues in detachments of two or three hundred, and more rapidly than we could provide quarters for them. And, indeed, Gilmore really allowed us nothing at first but shelter tents—and it was only after informing him that his men hit four hundred shelter tents in the Department that he would allow the 2d M. to issue common tents to protect the men. When the 2d M. returned, I was glad to have a chance to hire a regiment, full to the man—indeed, matured it as an organization.

The progress in drill has been surprising to us and we now have battalion drills that will do credit to many white regular regiments. We find the men very tractable and anxious to learn and already have very excellent discipline.

Some unfortunate appointments were made of officers, but they were easily disposed of by the 2d M. Its captains have already left us, or having
resigned, and the other returned by him, Saratoga, in order to his Regt. Both over 1st, 1st, from the 26th Colored Inf'y. stationed here. Incompetent Lint. were ordered before an examining board—at which I am. Reinc. Nubin— and found deficient. Not have nearly the full number of good officers.

I cannot express the deep sorrow with which all here received the news of the death of our beloved Chief Magistrate's Assassination. The joy which filled all heads at the proud success of our Arms and the prospect of a speedy return of peace to our land was suddenly turned into bitter mourning. I must thank it was intended by a just and merciful Providence for our Nation's good.

I must not close without paying my congratulations upon your recent appointment to the Charge of the Freedman's Bureau. I hope the duties of your office will be pleasant to
you and I feel sure that the same success which has attended you in the Command of an Army will follow your efforts not.

I enjoyed my visit to Maine very much, and although an entire stranger was received and treated as a member of your staff with kind consideration by all with whom I came in contact. I became somewhat ac-

quainted with a member of the legislature from Belfast, Dr. Monroe, who was formerly a surgeon in the Army and had met you at your Head Quarters. I am promised a leave of absence in July when I shall visit Maine again. Perhaps General I shall ask of you a favorable introduction to the Doctor as I am deeply interested in a member of his family whom I met in Augusta and that of course know but little about.

Visiting again that you will always be prospered and highly in all your undertakings. I remain dear General

with every regard from Gen. D.

M. Ruben
St. Col.
Auburn, May 22, 1865


My Dear Sir,

Permit me first to congratulate you on your success as a Military Commander and, as a citizen of your common country, to thank you for the manifold and honorable services which you have rendered in defense of its life and integrity. For the dangers you have braved, for the victories you have won, for the honor you have brought upon the state which gave you birth, as well as for that unflinching Patriotism and Christian character which have marked your successful career, Maine thanks you—her loyal citizens thank you, and her Churches and ministers love you.

We also rejoice in your unsought appointment to the Freedmen's Bureau. Your love of righteousness, and your regard for their temporal and spiritual interests, accompanied as we know they will be, with your best efforts, to raise them up from degradation to manhood, and to secure to them all the personal rights of humanity and freedom, make us all rejoice in your appointment to the position which the President has assigned you.

May God bless you in the administration and performance of the responsible duties now imposed upon you and may you be...
as successful in these as you have been in the more dangerous ones through which the good Providence of God has brought you—so much for yourself. And now you will permit further to say that I am informed that Mr. Henry Woodward of Winthrup he would like some place in your Bureau. I have known him for years. He is a man, as I judge, between 35 and 40 years of age, of sterling integrity, a member of the Congregational Church at Winthrop and for a few years past the Superintendent of the Sabbath School connected with that church in which position he has given good satisfaction. He has long been the friend of the colored race and still wishes to devote his energies to their improvement and elevation. He is and long has been a Temperance man in every sense as well as habits. He is a man of industry and perseverance, a gentleman of probity and intelligence commanding the esteem of all good men who know him, and in my judgment, a man possessing all the essential qualifications to fit him for usefulness in almost any place connected with your Bureau. He is no office seeker, and so far as I know never has been. He is a lover of truth, a lover of righteousness, a lover of his fellowmen irrespective of color, and a friend of Christ.

Now I wish to say that if you can find it consistent with your duty to give Mr. Woodward a place in your department, his appointment will give great satisfaction to his numerous friends. In a letter addressed to me, he says, “The position that I think...”
I should like would be subordinate to one of the State Commissioners where I might be directly and actively employed in behalf of the "Freedman." I cannot doubt that he would discharge the duties of such a position not only to the satisfaction of the community, but in a manner to meet the approbation of the Head of that Department.

With high regard, I am most sincerely your friend the humble Servt.

[Signature]
Head Quarters Twentieth Army Corps
Mare Alexandrino Mayo 22nd 1865.

Dear General,

It has been suggested to me by Col. Beckwith, that you will need, in your new position, some officer of the Subsistence Department. He requested me to see you in relation to it, but I am expecting to go home for a few days, I shall not be able to do so. I hope you will not think me selfish, General, if I confess that I should like such a situation. I cannot forget the many happy hours I have spent in your military family. I suppose one Corp organization will not continue more than a month or so longer—

I have conferece with Col. Remick on the subject, and he has no wish for the situation, as he wishes to leave the service. I would wish you to act perfectly free in the matter, but if you want me I shall be as ever, happy to serve you to the best of my abilities.

Very Respectfully,

Geo. W. Ballock

May 20th O.S., Howard.
Bloomingdale, N.J., May 23, '65

Dear General,

I take the liberty to address you this note although I never met with you but once. That was at Livermore Falls upon a Fourth of July occasion. I was at that time settled in Saranac as Pastor of the Baptist Church. Perhaps I can mention a circumstance by which you can recollect me. When I went upon the platform from which you and others addressed the people, I was introduced to you. My hand was in a shaking and you remarked, you also are in the same condemnation. After remaining in Saranac about three years, I entered the service as Chaplain of the 28th Maine and under the command of Col. Woodman, I remained with the regiment until my health was completely broken down.
and, I was obliged to resign, since that time I have been settled in this place as Pastor of the Baptist Church which position I still hold. I have two sons still in the service and have been for nearly the whole length of the war thus far. One of them was severely wounded at the battle of Antietam. The other is in the regular army. I perceive by the papers that you have been appointed Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau. Can you not use my Dear Sir, to give me employment in your Department when I can still serve God and my country, by serving you in the dead time and, on the Sabbath preach the blessed Gospel to the poor, I have been honored to write you this letter and, have followed my convictions in writing you, whatever may be the result,
I have never before asked an office at the hands of my fellow men. And in this instance instead of having recourse to political strategy, I was willing through friends I have felt like writing you directly. I have had many severe trials that have been on my pilgrimage, having buried a wife & four children. Still I feel I have not lived altogether in vain. I am a little more than fifty yrs of age, but I am still vigorous and capable of performing as much or more labor as ever at any time of my life. I am personally acquainted with the Hon. John P. Hale, was in the academy with him at Exeter, I am also acquainted with Hon. Mr. Black. Senator from Me, I can bring you as good references as you can desire. Now Sir, if you shall find it in your heart...
to give me employment. I shall feel grateful indeed to God & to you, and your petition will ever pray
Your Respectfully
I. W. Martin
Bloomingdale
Pompton Township
N. J.

To Major General
Col. W. Howard
and in our offices at the Bible House.
By this mail I take the liberty of forwarding to you several documents published by the Association and would call your attention to the one entitled "The Work of..."
Our efforts are directed to advance the moral and spiritual welfare of the thousands of young men who crowd our city.
I am, my dear Sir,

Very truly yours,

R. R. McBurney,
Cor. Secretary.

23rd May 1865.

Dear Sir:
The Anniversary of the Young Men's Christian Association of this city will be held Monday evening June 5th.

Let Governor Morgan preside.

We anticipate an occasion of very deep interest and most earnestly desire that you will favor us with your address.

I doubt not you will remember that the United States Christian Commission was organized by the efforts of our Association...