

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 sagacity, 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, indus-
trial 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 indirect way~~
had a little to do with the action
of Congress in constituting it on this basis.

Having been led by personal obser-
vation and by my official position,
to study the question of social re-organ-
ization 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 lee-way for abuses; and also,

cause it was exclusively for the blacks.
 Gen. Schenck, ^{to whom our memorial was referred,} had introduced a bill
 in the House, uniting Refugees and Freed-
 men 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 facts there
 submitted gave a new interest to
 Gen. Schenck's bill, so that on being
 again called up, for substance, it
 passed the House, while Senator Sum-
 ner's failed in the Senate. The dili-
 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 members,
 because it was not exclusive. This ac-
 counts for the naming of Refugees first;

and but for this combination no bill for
Freedmen could have passed the last
Congress. Hence your construction of the
Bureau 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 aids, up
to the point of self-support in freedom,
is now the great task before the nation.
Our Secretaries, S. Miles and Mr. Ab-
bott, have already placed the Mus-
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 never
drop the name "freed-man," ^{as we have dropped "colored"} and know
him only as a man. I rejoice to
hear, general, that you will address
our meeting in Boston next June. I
me. With high regard
your Obedt. Servt.
Jos. P. Thompson, Pres. of C.

HEADQUARTERS, MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

In the Field: May 20 1865-

Camp Near Alexandria, Va

Maj Gen O. Howard,

Chief, Bureau of Refugees,

Dear Genl.

I am this morn in receipt of your
 communication of this act and I thank you
 for your generous act. I do think it but
 just to Logan, and notwithstanding his
 modest reply to us last night I know he
 will prize this act most highly. I will
 deem it a special honor & pleasure if you
 will ride with me at the Review of Wednesday
 next. I will be at the head of the Column at
 9 Am of Wednesday near the Capitol and beg
 you will join me there. Your personal
 staff can ride with mine.

As in Obedience, W. T. Sherman
 Maj Genl.

HEADQUARTERS, MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI

1862
On the 20th day of July

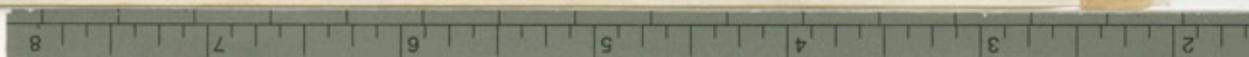
Camp near the mouth of the

Mississippi

Major General Sherman

Dear Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th inst. in relation to the matter of the 1st Mississippi Cavalry. I have the pleasure to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
G. W. Sherman



The American Telegraph Company.

PRINTING AND MORSE LINES.

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DIRECT TO ALL STATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES.

OFFICES.—432 Pennsylvania Av., U. S. CAPITOL, and Willard's,
The Metropolitan and National Hotels, Washington, D. C.

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CAMBRIDGE LIVINGSTON, Sec'y,

E. S. SANFORD, Pres't,

145 BROADWAY, N. Y.

4 P. Dated Philadelphia May 20th 1865.

Rec'd, Washington, May 20th 1865, o'clock, min. M.

To May Sen O O Howard

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

W H Merritt

17/78 Pd.

The American Telegraph Company

Philadelphia, Pa

May 20 1865

M. H. Merrill

E. S. BARTON, York

120 KINGWAY, N. Y.

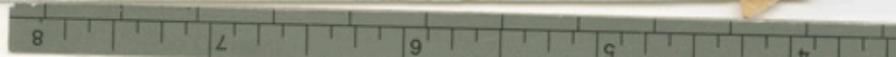
CAMBRIDGE LIVINGSTON, Socy

Telegram

Gen Howard

In relation to Mrs. Howard

Rec^d B. of A. C. + c May 18th



Head-Quarters, Military Division of the Mississippi,
OFFICE U. S. ENGINEERS.

Memphis, Va. May 20th 1865.

My Dear O. O. Howard

I have the honor to inform you that, at my request, Major E. F. Hoffman, A. S. C. has been assigned to Engineer Duty - with General Sherman's Army.

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

Very Respectfully
Yours as ever
W. L. B. Jersey
Capt. A. S. C. In Charge

Hamington May 26, 1865

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My dear Brother

My first thought was to send this letter by Lizzie, Monday next, lest you would not get opportunity to read it otherwise, but as it will reach you a day or two earlier I will send it by post. Had you heard of Ella's affliction? Her dear Brother Albert died on the Coast of Africa & was buried at Sea Feb. 14. He died of fever. The news reached us two weeks ago today. His father & Mother feel it deeply and at times Ella seems very sad, but I do believe their trust is in God. His letters & those of his mother (he was bapt.) testify to a distinctly religious change in him. His bible was a constant companion during his long sickness and we must now come here with Him who is the God of the Sailor as of the Soldier.

Lizzie will tell you all the home news and I need not dwell upon it. Mother is as well as usual and finds Wash very useful in the form. I dread the Washington climate for you & your family - for you, because you are so accustomed to the open air, for them

See also in this high school - Elly sends you & the father are both well - Elly's health is better

because of their northern birth & habits -
Wouldn't it be as well to have them
spend the Summer at the North?

I only wish Mr - Mother Lizzie & myself -
could concentrate our forces a little and
live nearer together - We are to have a
Telegraph here this Summer - I hope
your friends in Augusta will present
you with a house & then you will
have a Northern home to flee to -

Lizzie sent me the order assigning
you as Comandante of Freedmen's Bureau.
The hour conferred on you thus unsolicited
was gratifying to us all - not only your
family but your many Christian friends
in Mr are rejoicing in it - But when
I reflect on the responsibilities of your
new position - its perplexities & temptations
I feel that you need sympathy & prayer
far more than praise - It is a new mode
of life for you - You must now live
among politicians - Contractors - Office holders
& Office-seekers - Sycophants & flatterers -

May God send you some true-hearted
personal friends to be near
you & advise you amidst the thousand
perplexing questions that will arise -
advise you with wisdom, candor, freedom -

It is exceedingly unfortunate for public men
 to have to retract anything. It is still more
 injurious, of course, to persist in an injudi-
 cious course. Mr Lincoln was a model
 of stomach, I think, in making up his
 mind. He took time to hear all sides
 & candidly weigh all evidence. But
 my dear Brother I only meant in this
 letter to express my heartfelt sympathy
 with & prayers for your success. May you
 not "fall among thieves". May you not
 be overruled with selfish corrupt office
 seeking ^{& land & cotton speculators}. May you not be bored to death
 with benevolent but unwise & unprac-
 tical Clergymen. (Horace James (Rev. & Capt.)
 of N. C. is one of the best men in every
 respect that you will have under you)
 I feel to be one of the last named! but
 I would ~~not~~ like to have you in with
 Lippie & have a good free brotherly conference
 with you & to have observed your circum-
 stances & surroundings. I am to be called
 on State Conference next month on
 "the facilities of Evangelizing the South" &
 I hope to get some light on that sub-
 ject from you & others. I believe
 I will preach on it next Sabbath.
 I wonder if you have time to read some

of my ideas - (1) It is a supramary work.
It must be accomplished without any de-
pendence on existing religious organizations
at the South - The Southern ministry, with
but few exceptions, must be got rid of. They
are the worst of secessionists. So long as
they have any place or power the Country
is unsafe - and Religion will again be
made the efficient hand-maid of Rebell-
ion - We must seek to use whatever
of piety remains at the South but
its Church & ministry must be abolished
as far as possible - (2) To drive out all
social-political - many and religious
influence must be taken from the late
Slave-owners - They must be reduced either
to poverty - or expatriated - or else they must
give convincing proofs of Repentance, not
only for Secessionism & Rebellion - but of
Slave-holding - They must exhibit a renewed
& enlightened conscience on these subjects
(3) The other Whites taken from under the
influence of their ministry & leading men
must be instructed in secular knowledge
to be sure - but certainly as to the morality
of Slavery & all its associated vices - Their
Religious notions must be corrected - Their

defiled consciences set right. To
 this end they must have a pace min.
 why - (4) The Freedmen are to be treated
 with no regard to color, or very little
 respect for the notions, beliefs, or prejudices
 of their former Masters - as to Suffrage.
 It seems to me that that should be
 granted with great caution - NOT on acct.
 of color. but ignorance. degradation. Subjection
 to outside & corrupt influence - To fit
 them for citizenship - to make them in-
 dustrious - self reliant - reflective - & at
 all educated, must be a slow process
 or best - (I wish Military Government
 could be maintained at the South
 till these slowly evolved changes could
 be effected) The landed Estates of Rebels
 should be sold to Freedmen - Northern
 Emigrants & Soldiers (5) The men to
 effect these changes must mostly come
 from the North - They must be teachers.
 Ministers - farmers - superintendants
 &c - Who are faithful & conscientious, &
 who are actuated by motives of humanity.
 patriotism & Religion - All our benevolent
 efforts for the Army must now be
 connected to this end - Our money - our
 ministers - our young men must

8041
go into this field to plant & sow -
to hoe & dig - Cultivate & harvest for
our Country & our God - He allures
this war to Southern Slavery - He has ac-
complished that purpose - In the process
of war the vitiated & corrupt religion
of the South has been made manifest -
The whole land has been swept with
the besom of destruction - Now He will help
rebuild on right foundations - He has
put you at the head of this matter -
in the most responsible & important place
of modern times - because he sees
you to be a Christian man - incapable
of narrow & selfish policy - Now He
expects you to do as Christ would and
blessed be his name, He will help
you - We must fill up our Churches
with converts - our Seminaries with
ministers - must send forth an
surplus of men & money - We must
have colleges churches schools, missions
at the South as much as possible
under the influence the pure principles
of the Gospel - If there be any good on
the South now (& I do not doubt it) let
us appropriate it as we move forward -
Again, May God bless you my brother as a
(1st page)

Washington May 20 '65

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard

Dear Sir

I am compelled to return to D. C. to-night, and every moment of my time has been so filled 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 the privilege if agreeable to you.

Very respectfully yours,

Henry Heath

Wednesday Aug 20 1861

Heath, Henry

Dear Mr. Good Friend

I look over the

Memoranda which you

sent with great

kindness

Yours truly

Head Qrs. 1st Colored Brig. A. S.
Chattanooga Tenn. May 20th 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.

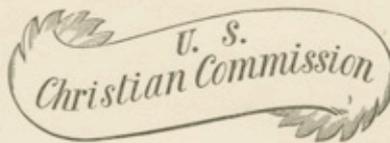
It is eminently proper that one who fears God & loves justice should assume the high duties of looking after the interests & rights of four millions of slaves. I shall watch your course with interest, with hope & with earnest prayer for your success.

I am, General Most Sincerely
Your Friend & Ob. Servant,

Thos. J. Morgan
Col. 14th U. S. C. Inf
Comdg. Brigade.

To
Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard.

GEO. H. STUART, Chairman, 11 Bank Street.
 JOS. PATTERSON, Treasurer, Western Bank.
 Rev. W. E. BOARDMAN, Secretary, 11 Bank Street.
 Rev. LEMUEL MOSS, Secretary Home Organization.
 Rev. BERNICE D. AMES, Secretary Field Organization.



Central Office,
 No. 11 BANK STREET.

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 those - who 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 regards - I am yours in Christ.

Geo. H. Stuart

Chairman U.S.C.C.

Major General O. Howard

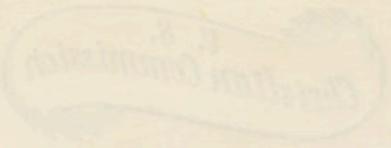
Washington.

H. B.

Will you be kind enough to drop me in the enclosed envelope - you can so address - I do not know whether I could have any better opportunity of seeing the Review than the mass of spectators - but as Mr. Demant - probably one or two other members of the Comm. - and my own family are going I have written Gen. Grant - to know if I cd. have any privilege in that direction. Perhaps you yourself know of some means by which the labor of more conveniently - have a sight of the grand spectacle.

Philadelphia, Dec 15

Dear Sir,



Recd W's Army 27, 1852

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Head-Quarters District of Annapolis,

Annapolis, Md.,

May 20th

1865.

My dear Genl.

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

Pardon me for again trespassing upon your time.

I did not intend to ask you to recommend my promotion, but simply to give a brief statement of my service while in the field - In what capacity I served under you, and the manner of my service, as A. A. G. & Col. of the 19th Me. You will recollect that during Genl. Sully's absence I was in command of the Brigade, will you please state that.

I dislike to trouble you, but I am desirous of securing the best rank to which I think I am entitled.

I hope to see you soon as my duties will permit me to leave my station.

We have great reason to acknowledge

The goodness of a kind Heavenly Father all thro' the
last four years. May His blessings be continued
to you and yours -

Yours very truly
F. D. Small

Southwark Foundry.

Merrick & Sons.

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J. Vaughan Merrick.

W. H. Merrick.

John E. Cope.

Philad. May 20 1865

My dear Otis

I have your note of 18th & 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 Thursday night -

To see 200000 men march through Washington on their way home after four years of such 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 Lizzie on 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 our part of the County and can very readily accommodate you all - I hope the children will come with her my little girls will be very happy to see them & I want Father & Mother to know them -

I received a letter from John Otis a short while

ago which I enclose for you to read - please
bring it on with you - It was in my drawer
in the office & got somewhat damaged at
the fire

Very sincerely Yrs

Wm W. Wick

Philadelphia
May 20th 1865.

Wm W. Wick

Recd. May 27. 1865.

1865.

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Boston May. 20.

Dear Genl. Howard.

God bless you, & give you many, many years to enjoy the fruit of your bloody toils & 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 Lyman written you? Come if possible, & stay with us of course.

Genl. 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 ~~at~~ in the city
of Washington, a family
of my congregation, &
your admirers as we
be natural.

Mr Charles Carruth,
wife & children.

They want to see you,
& shake your hand. They
are among the best people
in Boston. If they call,
see them for a few minutes
& oblige them & 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, & prayers for your
fullest, richest success.

Ever fraternally

V. B. Webb.

Head Quarters Pennsular District.

Williamsburg May 21st 1865.

Maj Gen O. Howard.

General.

Allow me to congratulate you upon the closing of this great Rebellion, and add my testimony to that of others, to the noble and useful labors of yourself, and to the immense influence your aid, has had, in bringing this war, to so successful an end.

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

I can congratulate the Colored Race of this Country, that it has a man so eminently fit, as yourself, as the Regulator of its future destiny. and I feel confident that he who rules, has had its good, under his continued care, in this last proof of his favor.

I have not been officially informed of your appointment, but suppose I soon will be.

My position as Commander of this District
gives me control of about 20,000 Colored
people. Their progress in education,
morality, and their sense as to the requirements
of good Citizens, and their endeavors to comport
themselves accordingly, gives me satisfactory
proof, that no great difficulty will be
encountered in directing their future use-
fulness, so 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 to overcome the ignorance, pride
prejudice, and every other bad quality of
the present holders of the Lands of the South.

With every confidence in
your judgment, sense & goodness, I leave
the honor to be.

Very respectfully

Yr. Obedt Servant

B. C. Ludlow

Major & Provost-Marshal Genl

Command District

Laramington May 22/65

My dear Brother

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I am acquainted with Mr Woodward 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 Cong: Church Sab. School, in Watthrop and an worthy member of the Church =

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

Your Brother

Newland

To/

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard

Freedmen's Bureau

War Dept. Washington

3 4 5 6 7 8

Gen Howard

May 22, 1865.

General O. O. 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 (page 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 schools, 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 its 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 Obedt. Servt.,

A. E. Newton,

Super. Schools, Pa. F. R. A.

Emma Freeman's Co. Assn.
Office Washington May 22. 1865.

Newton S. C.
Supt. Schools, P. F. R. A.

Encloses copies of Circu-
lars and reports of
above Association,

Recd. Washin May 1865.



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

State House,

Senate Chamber,

(Boston,)

May 22nd 1865

Major General O. O. Howard

Dear Sir,

In behalf of the Executive Committee of the Young Men's Christian Associations 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.

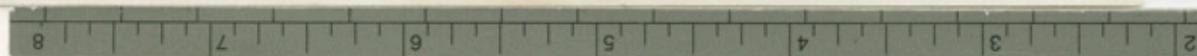
It is the earnest and universal desire that you should address the convention at some time during its sessions, convenient to yourself.

From these associations, as you know, sprang the U.S. Christian Commission and they are doing much for the freedmen and it is thought desirable that this subject should be brought definitely before the convention.



Commencement of the [illegible]
State [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Dear Sir,
In behalf of the Executive Com-
mittee of the Young Men's Christian Association of
Boston, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt
of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform
you that the same has been forwarded to the
proper authorities for their consideration. It is
the desire of the Executive Committee that you
should be present at the Convention to be held
at Boston on the 15th inst. and that you should
be prepared to deliver a paper on the subject
of "The Christian's Duty in the World."
Very respectfully,
[illegible]



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 gathered from all the loyal states and the Canadas.

If you will indicate your preference as to time in correspondence with Geo. H. Stuart Esq or P. B. Simons Chairman of the Com. of Arrangements, at Philadelphia, I can assure you a cordial joyful reception and a glorious occasion.

Very Respectfully
Yr Obedt Servt

Joseph A. Pond,
Chairman of Executive Committee.

Beaufort, S. C.

May 22^d. 1865.

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 feel 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 Col. 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. Recruits came into camp

sometimes in detachments of two
or three hundred, and more rapidly
than we could provide quarters for
them. Genl. Gilmore would allow us
nothing at first but shelter tents - and
it was only after informing him that
there were but four hundred shelter
tents in the Department that he
would allow the Dr. M. to issue commo-
dities to protect the men. When the
Col. returned I was glad to turn over
to him a regiment, full to the max-
imum & mustered in as an organization.

The progress in drill has been sur-
prising to us and we now have Battalion
drills that would 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 Col. Two Captains
have already left us, one having

resigned and the other returned by Genl. Saxton's order to his Regt. Both were 1st Lt. from the 26th Colored Regt. Stationed here. Incompetent Lieuts. were ordered before an examining board - of which I am Senior Member - and ^{were} found deficient. We now have nearly the full number of good officers.

I cannot express the deep sorrow with which all here received the news of our beloved Chief Magistrate's assassination. The joy which filled all hearts 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 trust that it was intended by a just and kind Providence for our Nation's good.

I must not close without offering 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 now.

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
considerations by all with whom I came
in contact. I became somewhat ac-
quainted with a number of the legislators
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. and perhaps
General. I shall ask of you a formal
introduction to the Doctor. as I am
deeply interested in a number of his
family whom I met in Augusta. and
they of course know but little about me.

Trusting again that you will always
be prospered and blessed in all your
undertakings. I remain Dear General.

with sincere regard your Obedt. Servant

Wm. B. D.
Dr. Bell

Auburn May 22^d 1865

Maj Genl. Oliver O. Howard.

My Dear Sir.

Permit me first to congratulate you on your success as a Military Commander, and, as a citizen of our common country, to thank you for the manifold and honorable services which you have rendered in defence 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 Winthrop Me 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 efforts 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 fellow man 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 & humble Servant

John May
"

Cashman Henry

Henry Holt

think a grandly letter
and recommend
Mr. Henry Woodward
for position in the
Bureau —

Recd Holt's May 27. 65

Head Quarters Twentieth Army Corps
Near Alexandria May 22^a 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 our Corps organization will not continue more than a month or so longer - I have conferred 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

Your Obedt Servant

Geo. W. Balloch Lt Col &c, &c,

To

Major Genl O. O. Howard

Alexandria, Va.

May 22, 1865

Brook St. N. W.

Dist. Co. D. C.
2^d N. C.

Applying for position
as Third name person

Dec 1st May 1865

Bloomington N.Y., May 23rd 65

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Dear General

I take the liberty to address you this note although, I never met with you but once. That was at Livemore Falls upon a fourth of July occasion. I was at that time settled in Fay, 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 & others addressed the people, I was introduced to you. My hand was in a sling and, you remarked, you also are in the same condemnation after remaining in Fay about three yrs. I entered the service as Chaplain of the 2nd Maine Regt, under the command of Col. Woodman. I remained with the Regt. 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
fearfully wounded at the battle
of Antietam, The other is in the
regular Army, I perceive by the
papers that you have been ap-
pointed Commissioner of the Freedmen's
Bureau, Can you not my Dear
Sir, give me employment in your
Department, when I can still
serve God & my country, by
serving you in the week times
and, on the Sabbath preach the
blessed Gospel to the poor, I have
been impressed 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, & working through friends
I have felt like writing you directly.
I have had many severe trials,
thus far 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
labour 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. ^{N^o 1} I am also acquainted with
Hon Mr Clark. Senator from N^o 1,
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
petitioners will ever pray.

Yours Respectfully

I, W. Marsh

Bloomington
Pompton Township

N. J.

To Major General

O. H. Howard

and in our former Rooms in
the Bible House,

By this mail I take the
liberty of forwarding to you
a few documents published
by the Association and
would call your attention to
the one entitled "The Work &c"
Our efforts are directed to advance
the social, moral and spiritual
welfare of the thousands of
young men who crowd our
city.

We feel assured you will
be happy to aid us by your
presence and influence in
this work of our Masters.

I am, my dear Sir,

Very truly yours,

R. R. M. Bureau,
Cor. Secretary.



No 161 Fifth Avenue.

23rd May 1865.

Maj. Genl. O. O. Howard.

Dear Sir:

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

Genl. Governor Morgan will
preside.

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

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

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[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

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