

---

2583 6/1/1865

*From:* James N. Glenaster

*To:* Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2522

Brooklyn

Freedmens Bureau  
Department

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[2]

Brooklyn June 1 1865

Gen Howard  
Freedmens Bureau Department  
Hon Sir

From your known status throughout the Country on the question of humanity, and of Eminent loyal service to the Country, we cannot but rejoice at your recent appointment at the head of Freedmen affairs, as Colored men.

Some of us for along time have looked forward with hope, when things in behalf of the Freedmen would take some definite permanent shape, and the many abuses under which they have suffered be satisfactorily adjusted.

Early in the war your correspondent with several of his brethren, made the subject of the Freed people a matter of deep inquiry, as far as we had then the power, and then we were fully persuaded of the fact, that the Government had a vast accumulation power on its hands, and if but rightly directed would result to the Government, in much eminent service, subsequent events have shown, that our impressions were correct, and what has failed on the <score> of advantage to the Government must be attributed to the lack of experience, and in some cases to the want of humanity, and moral honesty, in those who have heretofore had the care, and control of these men.

The report of the Commissioners of Enquiry into the condition of the Freed people as appointed by the war department, Robert Dall Owen, Col James MacKay and Dr Howe and subsequently the reports of W.E. <Teabman> Esq of their condition along the valley of the Mississippi justify all and more than I have said.

Immediately after the Published report of the Commission I submitted in connection with Professor W.J. Wilson now Principal of one of the most successful Freedmens Schools in Washington the results to our Joint investigations into the condition of the Freed people and earnestly solicited those gentleman in their presented plan of a Freedmens Bureau to give the appointment of Resident Superintendent to intelligent, experienced, educated, upright colored men. They answered that though they had not the appointing power, yet would, nevertheless unanimously recommend it and we rejoiced to say, it was also recommended by Senator Sumner, Hon J.P. Chase, Judge Underwood of Virginia, then President of the Freedmens aid society of Washington.

But in the recent measure of a bureau, the Claims of such Colored men, we fear has been entirely overlooked. At the same time we are free to say, that to give the now proposed Bureau, a permanent Glorious success, Colored men to it, in important responsible positions, are an indispensable element.

And in this view we are joined by some of the most eminent thoughtful men of the Country. We do hope sir that such are your matured views, and in proper season that they will be called to fill such positions.

Sir, allow me to say in connection with the papers sent you, that I have not only been identified, with the cause of the Freed people as the papers indicate, but was one among the first to <move> in the matter of Colored troops and visited our Excellent Lamented Chief magistrate the President, with a Committee of Gentlemen from New York, introduced to him by Senator Sumner. The President invited Hon S. P. Chase to an interview, our object was to make a tender of (10,000) black men as a neuclus to (100,000) who would respond to the call of Government whenever it was the settled policy of the Government so to receive them. Our meeting on the part of the President was literal, frank and cordial, and I need not say to you sir that the result to the country has been glorious.

Thus you will perceive sir that I have not been a stranger to our necessities as a country or to the Freedman, as my redeemed <master>.

Most respectfully  
Your Obedient Servant  
James N. Glenaster

---

2584 6/1/1865

*From:* E.P. Popwell

*To:* Major Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2523

Adrian Michigan

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[1]

Adrian Michigan  
Jun 1, 65

Major Genl Howard  
Dear Sir

[Not transcribed. Invitation to speak.]

Yours sincerely  
E.P. Popwell  
Pastor of Plymouth Ch.

---

2585 6/1/1865

*From:* Mrs Matilda Burtwell

*To:* Genl OO Howard

OOH-2524

Care Mr Levi Wade  
Murfreesboro  
Tennessee

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[6, 5]

Murfreesboro, Tennessee  
1st June 1865

Gen'l O O Howard  
G'l-

The kindness of heart attributed to you by those who know you best, the sympathy ever felt by the noble & brave for a vanquished foe, and above all, the high regard entertained for you by my deceased brother, Cadet Levi L Wade of this state while at the Academy [USMA, class of 1854], embolden me to appeal to your generous & sympathetic heart in this hour of trial in behalf of my husband, Col Jno R B Burtwell, a graduate of West Point [USMA class of 1860] & late of the Rebel Army. Having just seen the Presidents Proclamation, I hasten to write not being aware of my husband's whereabouts – tho' he has been surrendered by G'l Dick Taylor [son of President Zachary Taylor]. My haste is actuated by a feeling of grief that only a wife can feel for a husband in the hour of sorrow.

Your name has been familiar to me for many years. I've had in my possession since the death of my brother, a bible presented to him by yourself whilst at the Academy. He <read> it daily prior to his death, & the leaves are still folded where he last read. I regret very much, G'l, that I couldn't see you while the Army was <>, but I was not aware of your being attached to the Army of the Tenn until you had passed through our state. I should certainly have sought an opportunity of seeing you. I saw G'l Rice frequently. He was exceedingly kind to me. I deeply deplored his death.

Gen'l, will you be so kind as to send me an immediate reply & if possible pardon for my husband? I assure you mine would be a life-time debt of gratitude. If this is favorably recd I will write in full. Our family desire to be presented most kindly to you.

With respect Gen'l your <> & friend  
Mrs Burtwell

My address -  
Mrs Matilda Burtwell  
Care Mr Levi Wade  
Murfreesboro  
Tennessee

[Written on the last page, in a different hand.]

Murfreesboro Tenn.

June 1, / 65

Bentwell Mrs. M. [Note the difference in the spelling of the last name.]

Desires Gen to assist her about getting a pardon for her husband, Col Jno RB Bentwell, late of Rebel army.

Asks an answer.

Sladen,

Please ascertain from Maj Knox the process of getting a pardon. The Genl desires it. I called to see Knox but he was not in his office. <Balluth>

Rec'd B of R F & AL June 22d

---

2586 6/2/1865

*From:* O Brown

*To:* Maj Genl O O Howard

OOH-2525

*Source:* Bowdoin

Bureau of Refugees,  
Freedmen &  
Abandoned Lands,  
Head Quarters Asst.  
Commissioner, State of  
Virginia  
Richmond, Va.

---

[7]

[Letterhead]

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen & Abandoned Lands,  
Head Quarters Asst. Commissioner, State of Virginia  
Richmond, Va.,  
June 2d 1865.

Maj Genl O O Howard  
Dear General

I enclose herewith the order of Genl Terry published to day with the editorial of the "Richmond Times" for the purpose of showing you how readily our Southern friends "on't see the point" of an order where brother Sambo is involved.

I am General  
Truly Your  
O Brown

[Written on the back page, in another hand.]  
Richmond June 2 1865  
Brown, O.  
Col & Asst. Comr  
Friendly letter

---

2587 6/2/1865

*From:* Wm Scott

*To:* Gen O O Howard

OOH-2526

New York

Washington

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[39]

The American Telegraph Company  
Printing and Morse Lines

Dated New York June 2nd 1865  
Rec'd Washington 2nd 1865  
To: Gen O O Howard

I give a reception to Gen'l Sherman friday will be happy to see you.  
Wm Scott

[Written on the back page, in a different hand.]

New York June 2nd 1865

Scott, Wm.

Invites Genl. Howard to be present at his reception of Gen. Sherman.

---

2588 6/2/1865

*From:* John R. Hotaling

*To:* Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2527

Rochelle  
Ogle Co.  
Ills

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[8]

Rochelle June 2nd 65

Gen. Howard  
Dear Sir

[Not transcribed. Desires a position.]

John R. Hotaling  
Late of Logans Staff

Direct  
Rochelle  
Ogle Co.  
Ills

[Written on the back page in another hand]  
By direction of Sladen

---

2589 6/2/1865

*From:* E. H. Powers

*To:* Maj Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2528

Camp near Washington

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[9, 10]

Camp near Washington  
June 2nd 1865

Maj Genl Howard  
My Dear Sir -

Pardon me for trespassing upon your time by sending you this note. My object is to say that I am ordered to make ready my regt to start for Louisville Ky. And shall probably go in a few days. As I suggested to you once before, I should be pleased to be detailed into your Dep'tment provided you considered it practicable; and the prospect of an early departure from this Dep'tment & which would probably render such detail wholly impracticable, or at least improbable, - has prompted me to send this note.

With my best wishes for a continuance of your success. I have the honor to be

Very respectfully  
Your Obt. Servt  
E. H. Powers  
Lt Col 55th O.V.I.

[Written on the last page in a different hand.]  
Camp near Washington D.C.  
June 2d 1865  
E.H. Powers  
Lieut Col 55th O.V.I.  
Applies to be detailed into Freedmen's Bureau  
Recd Bureau R F & A.L. June 3d 65  
Brief & record file



---

2590 6/2/1865

*From:* J.H. Wilson,  
Bvt. Maj. Genl.  
Hd. Qrs. Cavalry  
Corps, M.D.W.  
Macon, Ga

*To:* Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2529

*Source:* Bowdoin

Chief of Freedman's Bureau,  
Washington D.C.

---

[11]

Hd. Qrs. Cavalry Corps, M.D.W.  
Macon, Ga June 2nd 1865.

General,

I desire to introduce to your acquaintance, and commend to your kind attention Col. O.H. La Grange, 17 <Vive> Cavalry, and Comdg. Officer of the 2nd Brig. of McCook's division.

The Colonel can give you much valuable information in regard to the condition and feelings of the people, in Georgia and will express my views in regard to the Freedmen.

With great respect I am very Truly Your Friend and  
Obedient Servant  
J.H. Wilson,  
Bvt. Maj. Genl.

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard  
Chief of Freedman's Bureau,  
Washington D.C.

---

2591 6/2/1865

*From:* A.H. Dashiell Jr.

*To:* Major Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2530

Field Hospital First  
Division 9 Army Corps.

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[12, 13]

Field Hospital First Division 9 Army Corps. [June 2, 1865]

Major Gen. O.O. Howard &  
General

I take this method of bringing to your notice a matter, which has engaged my attention through the suggestion of some of my friends in Massachusetts. It is some special aptness which they think I possess for work among the Freedmen.

I may say, that I am by birth a Southern man, but educated at a Northern College, and for ten years was Pastor of the Church in Stockbridge, Mass. My father was President of a College in East Tennessee and is not unknown to President Johnson. His large family of children are still residing in Tennessee. My sisters (two of them) living near the battlefield of Stone's River and have maintained their loyalty. My father at the disruption of the Presbyterian Church came North because of his conscientious views on Slavery, having always been opposed to the System, and thus escaped the horrors & desolation which the Rebellion has brought upon the State. I have been in the Army as chaplain of the 57th Mass. V. Inf. Since April 64, having been obliged to resign my charge previously on account of dyspepsia. Such are my antecedents & it has been supposed that from my early education & knowledge of the Negroes from my family connexions. My Northern experience as a Pastor, and my experience in the Army as a Chaplain, I might be useful in the great work, which you have undertaken in reconstructing society in the South.

I am no office-seeker, and I am not disposed to encroach on your time by a presentation of my views or claims I may have on your attention. Should you desire an interview with me in view of the possibility of needing my service I will be happy to wait upon you at such time and place as you may appoint.

As I am a stranger to you, and you may desire references as to character and qualifications I would refer you to Hon John Z. Goodrich Collector of the Port of Boston (formerly my parishioner), John C. Smith Pastor Fourth Presb. Church Washington D.C. Brig. Gen. W.F. Bartlett formerly the colonel of my Regiment. Dr Adams Med. Inspector of the 9th A.C.

I entered the Army to aid in suppressing the Rebellion. I have been detailed since the battle of the Wilderness to the Field Hospital of the First Division 9.A.C. And have ministered to thousands of our wounded Soldiers, and as my regiment may soon be mustered out, I am ready to enter any field, which Providence may open. The sedentary life of a Pastor may provoke the return of my malady, and some post in your department may furnish me occupation, where I may do something to repair the wastes and build up the institutions of our beloved country.

Very respectfully  
Your obedient Servant  
A.H. Dashiell Jr.  
Chaplain 57 Mass. Inf.  
Field Hosp'l 1st Div. 9. A.C.  
Near Georgetown D.C.

P.S. I would also refer you to the Hon David Dudley Field of New York.

[Written on the last page, in a different hand.]

Field Hospital 1st Div 9th A.C. near Georgetown D.C. <[CHECK ORIGINAL - very faint]> with any of the Asst Commissioners <PWG>  
A H Dashiell, 57 Mas  
Asks a position  
Referred by letter to Asst Commissioners

Ans June 21  
Recd B R F & AL Jun 2/65

---

2592 6/2/1865

*From:* Geo. H Stuart

*To:* Maj Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2531

*Source:* Bowdoin

The Young Men's  
Christian Association  
of Philadelphia,  
1009 and 1011  
Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia

Washington D.C.

---

[14]

The Young Men's Christian Association  
of Philadelphia,  
1009 and 1011 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, June 2d 1865

Dear Sir,

[Not transcribed. Invitation to speak at the annual convention.]

With high esteem  
We are  
Very truly Yours,  
Geo. H Stuart  
Peter B. Simons  
Jno Wanamaker  
Geo W Eddy

To  
Maj Genl O.O. Howard  
Washington D.C.

---

2593 6/3/1865

*From:* Henry Leavitt

*To:* Hon O.O. Howard

OOH-2532

Huntsville Ala

Freedmens Bureau

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[17]

Huntsville Ala June 3d 65

Hon O.O. Howard  
of Freedmens Bureau  
Sir

Please send me a copy of the law establishing a "freedmans bureau" June 1, 2015also any instructions or orders relative thereto which may have been issued from your office.

Respectfully Yours  
"Henry Leavitt  
Huntsville Ala."

[Written on the back page, in another hand.]  
Huntsville June 3d 1865  
Leavitt, Henry  
Asks for circulars orders &c from this Bureau.  
Answered by fulfillment of request. Sladen  
Recd June 11th 1865.

---

2594 6/3/1865

*From:* Ed. M. McCook

*To:* Maj Gen O.O. Howard

Brig Gen

OOH-2533

Hd Qrs 1st Div Cavalry  
Macon Ga.

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[15, 16]

Hd Qrs 1st Div Cavalry  
Macon Ga. June 3, 1865

Dear General:

Allow me to congratulate you upon your appointment to so important a position as that of Superintendent of the Bureau of Freedmen. It is a position where you can do more for philanthropy, and the country than any other in the Army. Since our first kind meeting at Cleveland, and that terrible Atlanta Campaign we served through together, I have followed your career, and with pleasure from Fortune her favors. How I envied you and all the soldiers of Shermans Army that glorious march to Savannah!

I have just returned from Florida. I suppose you of all others will feel most interested in hearing of the condition of the Country and its people. I received the surrender of some 8000 troops to that state and found the people acquiesced in the new order of things with apparent cheerfulness. When I announced to the Negroes their freedom, they seemed to in many instances to think it meant freedom from all future labor. The Negro population there you know far outnumbers the whites, and while they seemed to fully realize the change in their status, they did not appear to feel that any new responsibilities & cares devolved upon themselves.

It will require a wise and firm Course to ensure sufficient labor to gather the coming crop and I fear very much that in the hand I left it in, neither wisdom nor firmness can be looked for. Only the most Energetic and decided administration of affairs in that state can prevent untold suffering on the part of both white and black.

I wish to see you and have a long talk with you about this. I am going North provided I get a leave of absence to marry a young girl who has waited patiently for me until the war was over. I am going to take her to Washington and know that her pretty face and guileless heart will make you her friend if you see her. I wrote this because I thought you ought to have your attention directed to the Country through which I have passed.

Very truly Your friend  
Ed. M. McCook  
Brig Gen

Maj Gen O.O. Howard.

[Written on the back page, in a different hand.]

Hd Qrs 1st Cav Division  
Macon Geo. 3 June  
McCook E M Brig Genl  
Letter friendly & admiring  
No answer required  
Rec'd July 21st 1865, Hd Qrs RF AL

---

2595 6/3/1865

*From:* H. Hayes  
Lt Col C. Qr Mst  
Corps

*To:* Maj Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2534

*Source:* Bowdoin

Board of Examination  
of Quartermasters,  
"For the District  
comprising the  
Departments of  
Tennessee,  
Cumberland and Ohio."  
Louisville Ky.

Freedmens' Bureau,  
Washington DC.

---

[18, 19]

Board of Examination of Quartermasters,  
"For the District comprising the Departments of Tennessee, Cumberland and Ohio."

Louisville Ky. June 3d 1865.

My Dear Sir,

Since the Armies split last fall near Gaylesville Alabama, the old Corps. (Fourth) which you commanded a year ago has moved hither & thither auxiliary, I suppose, to the main design, fighting well towards the close of the year, and since then marching and changing stations often. Finally I believe it is to come here to Louisville to be paid & mustered out, along with two other Corps, which you have also commanded.

I shall go back to the practice of law and strongly meditate settling South. After finishing my duty as a member of the Examining Board (upon which I have been since March) I want to make an actual observation of some parts of Georgia and Alabama in view of a suitable place.

It occurred to me to ask you whether my services could be rendered by me in the way of communicating information relative to the matters which you have in charge, or of doing ought else, in the advancement of the public policy towards the Freedmen.

The status of this class becomes one of the great questions to be settled. Without presuming to have opinions worth mentioning. I am for giving them citizenship and privileges as fast as earned by industry, good behavior and intelligence under the most favorable conditions that can be given them.

Very respectfully  
Your Obedt Servant  
H. Hayes  
Lt Col C. Qr Mst Corps

Maj Genl O.O. Howard  
Freedmens' Bureau,  
Washington DC.

[Written on the back page, in another hand.]  
Louisville Ky June 3 / 65  
Hays, Hiram  
Lt. Col & Chf Qr Mstr  
4th A.C.  
Friendly Letter  
Answd

[In OO Howard's hand]  
Brig Gn. Wild will be on duty in Ga. Go to see him. O.O.H.

[In another hand] Sladen dictate



---

2596 6/3/1865

*From:* Frans Geo. Shaw

*To:* Major General O.O.  
Howard

OOH-2535

*Source:* Bowdoin

National Freedman's  
Relief Association,  
New York

Bureau of Freedmen, R &c  
Washington D.C.

---

[20]

National Freedman's Relief Association,  
New York, 3d June 1865.

Major General O.O. Howard  
Bureau of Freedmen, R &c  
Washington D.C.  
Sir:

I have the honor to present to you the bearer, Revd J. P. Chown, of Bradford, England, who comes to us highly recommended by friends there, not only for personal qualities & extended influence, but for deep interest in our work.

Mr Chown wishes to obtain information respecting the system inaugurated by you as Head of the Bureau, in order that he may make it known to the British Public on his return & will be much obliged to you, as shall we, for any facilities which you may extend to him in furtherance of this object.

I remain, Sir,  
with much respect & esteem,  
Yr obt Servant,  
Frans Geo. Shaw, President

---

2597 6/3/1865

*From:* John S. Sayward

*To:* Maj Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-2536

Augusta

Freedmen's Bureau  
Washington  
D.C.

---

*Source:* Bowdoin

[21]

Augusta June 3 1865

Gen. O.O. Howard:

Dear Sir:

Allow me to recommend to you Lieut P.A. Gatehell of the 1st Maine Heavy Arty. As a most worthy young man, who has been promoted for his brave deeds. He is an elegant penman, and should you require a man of clerky habits, a man of honor and good morals, trust-worthy and correct in business and in life, you will find such an one in Lieut Gatchell.

He is a resident of Lincoln in Penobscot county. He was pursuing his college course when the war broke out and left the college for the army.

I know him well and have the fullest confidence in his ability, probity, and moral worth. He would like employment in some place in your Bureau, and I trust that you will find it convenient to give him a place.

Lieut. Gatchell, while a Sergeant of Infantry was on duty in this city as a clerk in the office of Major Gardiner and won approbation for his intelligence and devotion to business.

I do not deem it necessary to make to you an argument in favor of employment being given to those patriotic & capable young men who have been actively engaged in the service of their country, in the battle field. You understand all that & the whole country cannot fail before long in all places to act accordingly.

I feel that in this request I am equally ~~saning~~ both yourself and Lieut Gatchell.

Your truly with prayers & wishes for you success

John S. Sayward

Maj Gen O.O. Howard  
Freedmen's Bureau  
Washington  
D.C.

[Written on the back in another hand.]

Augusta Jun 3, 1865

Sayward, John S.

Would like a position in Freedmen's Bureau.

Answered

Sladen answr

I have already 3 men from Maine in my enfordy & the Mre Dfr will grant no more &c.

June 7th 1865 Recd.

---

2598 6/5/1865

*From:* Milton Welch

*To:* Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2537

State of Maine Council  
Chamber  
Augusta

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[23]

State of Maine Council Chamber  
Augusta June 5 1865

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard  
Dear Sir,

I wish for something to do in the cause of the Freedmen and if you have a situation that I can fill to your acceptance should be very glad of it.

You will probably remember me as a Monmouth boy and a graduate of Bowdoin College. The most of my life since 1845 has been passed in teaching High Schools and Academies in Maine. I have been a member of the State Board of Education and think I have a tolerable acquaintance with the wants and ways of children.

Previous to the breaking out of the Rebellion & had been in Georgia about three years and in leaving there in 1860 I lost the earnings of my life, I would like to return to that state and assist in some capacity in the education of the black children. I think my heart is in the work and I believe I can bring to your notice satisfactory certificates of fitness for the situation. I do not know what has been done or is doing in this direction, but I would like the privilege submitting my testimonials for your considerations.

If there is anything for me to do, a line addressed to me at Houlton Maine will be promptly attended to, and if there is not I shall be content.

Very truly yours  
Milton Welch

---

2599 6/5/1865

*From:* John P. Roe

*To:* Major General O.O.  
Howard, U.S.V

OOH-2538

*Source:* Bowdoin

24th Wis. Col. Inf. 1st  
Brigade 2nd Div. 4th  
A.C. Nashville,  
Tennessee

---

[24]

24th Wis. Col. Inf. 1st Brigade 2nd Div. 4th A.C. Nashville, Tennessee.  
June 5th 1865

Major General O.O. Howard, U.S.V.  
General

The people of Wisconsin propose to erect a permanent "Soldier's Home" for the benefit of disabled soldiers. In furtherance of which the State has appropriated Five thousand dollars (\$5000) and in obedience to a proclamation from Gov'r Lewis a State Fair is to be held at Milwaukee commencing June 28th Inst to raise funds for the same. The "Home" Committee having appealed to the several Wis. Regts. in the field to contribute "Trophies" &c. I have undertaken in behalf of the 24th Wis. V.I. To procure an autograph letter from each of the distinguished Generals under whom we have had the honor of serving, who, so far have responded in a most gratifying manner. Presuming that you have not forgotten the 24th Wis. as a portion of those gallant heroes whom you so nobly led on the "Atlanta" campaign, and also that you heartily sympathize with the benevolent object in view, I most respectfully request of you, General, an autograph letter to my address Milwaukee Wis. in aid of our "Soldiers Home" Fair.

I have the honor to subscribe myself General,  
Your Obedient Servant  
John P. Roe Chaplain 24th Wis V.I.

---

2600 6/5/1865

*From:* W B E Bickford

*To:* Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2539

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters,  
Twentieth Army Corps,  
Office Chief  
Commissary,  
Washington D.C.

Commissioner of Bureau  
of Freedmen & c &c

---

[25]

Headquarters, Twentieth Army Corps,  
Office Chief Commissary,  
Washington D.C. June 5th 1865.

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard  
Commissioner of Bureau  
of Freedmen &c &c  
General -

I am informed that considerable numbers of Officers of the various departments and arms of the service are being detailed for duty in your Bureau.

I had thought to leave the service whenever this corps organization should be discontinued, but if I can be ordered to report to you I will cheerfully work on in whatever capacity you may find me most useful.

I am with great respectfully  
Your obedient Servant  
W B E Bickford  
Capt and c.l.

---

2601 6/6/1865

*From:* Mrs. J.B.  
Richardson  
Washington

*To:* General O.O. Howard,  
  
Commissioner Freedmans  
Bureau

OOH-2540

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[26]

Washington  
June 6th [1865]

Major General Howard,  
Sir,

Since I had the pleasure of seeing you some three weeks since, I have received an appointment to a clerkship, in the Treasury at the salary of \$50.00 per month. I find however that that sum will not pay for the board and working of my child and myself, and unless I can obtain some other means of support, I shall be obliged to resign the clerkship, and try to live at home on my pension of \$30.00 per month. If I could receive my pension in monthly payments I might be able "make both ends meet", but it is only payable twice a year, in March and September.

I write to you in hopes that it may be in your power to give me some writing from your Department, which I could take home with me, and do mornings and evenings, and which I assure you I should try to do faithfully and well.

I am sorry to have trespassed so long on your valuable but I trust you will take the matter into consideration, and give me a favorable answer. May I hope to hear from you at as early a moment as possible as all my movements depend upon your answer.

I am

Most Respectfully Yours  
Mrs. J.B. Richardson

General O.O. Howard,  
Commissioner Freedmans  
Bureau

---

2602 6/6/1865

*From:* W.M. Beebe Jr

*To:* My dear General [WB  
Hazen]

OOH-2541

Beaufort, S.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[85, 86]

Beaufort, S.C.  
June 6th 1865

My dear General:

I received your very kind letter, and I assure you, your approval of the step I had taken in accepting my appointment gave me more pleasure than that of any other friend would have done.

Not only because I regard your friendship so highly, but I knew of your former prejudices, and the working out in your own mind the true policy of Government in regard to these people, and overcoming a prejudice against color which years of education had implanted convinces me that thinking men everywhere, will eventually become of the same mind. And officers of Colored Troops may feel that their position is respected by reasonable and good men.

Nothing of interest has transpired in the Department since the Capture of Jeff. Davis. The old residents are returning to Beaufort every day – crest-fallen and penitent.

You will perhaps feel interested to know how we are getting on with our regiment. We have had our arms – Springfield rifles – for two or three weeks, and the progress of the men in the “Manual” is surprising. Our Battalion drills are very good also.

I had the pleasure and honor of commanding the regiment on the occasion of its review by Chief Justice Chase, a four weeks since. His daughter was also present.

I am very happy to hear from Capt. Cole of Genl. Howards staff who arrived here yesterday, that you are commanding the 15th Corps., and there are strong probabilities of its being retained in the Army as an organization, for some time at least.

Col. Howard received this morning two brevets, as Lt. Colonel and Col. of Volunteers, dated the day previous to his appointment as Col. of this reg't. Captains Stinson and Gilbreath have also each been brevetted –Majors. Will you think me troublesome and unreasonable General, if I ask you for your influence to obtain for me a similar recognition of services? I do not think that I am particularly entitled to it, but I do feel that I have rendered as faithful and constant service as either of these officers. For the time I served with Gen'l Howard, I have not received any recognition of services, the Order relieving me being simply to relieve me “o accept an appointment in a new Regiment” done doubtless by Taggart without the Generals' knowledge.

I feel that I am taking a liberty in bringing these matters before your notice but you know General, how much such matter & influence a mans life, and the fact that I am the only officer of Gen'l Howard's personal staff who has received no recognition of past service will have its influence among all to whom I am known. If I could obtain a brevet as Major, upon my old rand as Captain it would be of immense important to me just now.

Boards for the examination of Officers desirous of remaining in the Service are being convened in this Dept. and I expect, daily, to be ordered before the one of which Brig. Gen'l. Potter is President.

My friends at home continue to speak of you in all their letters.

Trusting that I have not taken too great liberty in asking your influence to obtain the long wished for brevet. I remain, with sincere regard

Your obt. Servant  
W.M. Beebe Jr

128th U.S.C.I.

[Note: This letter was probably written to Major General William Babcock Hazen, who was commander of the 15th Corps during Sherman's Atlanta Campaign.]



---

2603 6/6/1865

*From:* Perry [Samuel  
Perry Lee]

*To:* My own Lizzie [Elizabeth  
Lee]

OOH-2542

Lytle Barracks

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[27]

Lytle Barracks Wednesday June 6th 1865

My own Lizzie [Elizabeth (Fiske) Lee]

I will just write you a few lines this morning to tell you the news about the examination and ask your advice about going before the board. It is command by order of Gen Harker to examine Volunteer officers for the regular army and Col Wisewell was detailed as president with instructions to appoint the other members of the board and he appointed Col. Palmer and a Capt. McClary (a volunteer officer here) and Lieut Hayat of the V.R.C. Col W says all officers of the V.R.C. that want to remain in services must be examined now. If I go before the board I feel satisfied that W. & P. would not recommend me for a higher position than Lt. or Capt. as I think they have some <pet> to recommend in my place, and the question that arises in my mind is shall I humiliate myself to an examination when their minds are made upon before hand. I have been examined once and should not object to be again before a board of disinterested officers. What shall I do my Lizzie, not go before the board and be mustered out in a month or so, or go and accept a lower appointment. I leave it for you to judge and will do just as you say about it. I think the sea better than a life in this regt. Write me as soon as you get this. Col. P. is very <airy> now and thinks he can dispose of an officer as he thinks fit. One thing is certain the scamps are all right they will take care of their own lot. I am not in a writing humor this morning so I will say good bye. As you can imagine my feelings at the turn things are taking. Write me what you think. Give much love to mother and take heaps for your self

from your own loving  
Perry [Samuel Perry Lee]

[Written at the bottom of the second page in a different hand.]

Lytle Barracks  
June 6th 1865  
Lee, S. Perry  
Friendly letter.  
A.  
R. June 14th 1865.

---

2604 6/6/1865

*From:* WH Merrick

*To:* My dear Otis [OO  
Howard]

OOH-2543

*Source:* Bowdoin

Southwark Foundry  
Merrick & Sons  
Philad'a

---

[28]

Southwark Foundry  
Merrick & Sons  
Philad'a  
June 6 1865

My dear Otis

I see by the papers that you are to be in Phila on Friday to address a meeting. Please do not let Geo Stuarts detectives get hold of you to the exclusion of your friends.

I have the sad task of informing you that Uncle John Vaughan died quite suddenly last night. He had been very sick during the morning but at noon when I was there, was thought to be very much better. He had a relapse however & died at 10 o'clock. As you know he was fully prepared for the great change, but to Aunt H the blow is a most severe one.

We had a very pleasant visit from Lyman Abbott on Sunday. I think he is in a fair way of getting a good organization for his new enterprise here as Father & three or four other gentlemen will probably take hold of it.

Hoping to see you & your wife soon.

I am Yrs sincerely  
WH Merrick

[Written upside down on the last page in a different hand.]  
Attended to.

---

2605 6/7/1865

*From:* Winthrop Tappan

*To:* Maj Gen OO Howard

OOH-2544

1939 Chestnut St  
Philadelphia

Cor I & 19  
Washington

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[40]

The American Telegraph Company  
Printing and Morse Lines

Dated: Phila 7 1865

Rec'd: Washington June 7 1865

To: Maj Gen OO Howard

Cor I & 19

Rev Dr Vaughans funeral Thursday afternoon at three at church of the Covenant family desirous to have you present Mrs Howard is at my house

Winthrop Tappan  
1939 Chestnut St  
25/Coll 110

[Written on the back page in another hand]

Philadelphia

June 7, 1865

Tappan, Winthrop

Desires to have Genl Howard present at Rev. Dr. Vaughn's funeral.

Has been answered

---

2606 6/7/1865

*From:* O.H. Howard

*To:* Major General O.O.  
Howard

OOH-2545

*Source:* Bowdoin

Hd. Qrs. Mil. Div of the  
South West  
New Orleans La

---

[32, 33]

Hd. Qrs. Mil. Div of the South West  
New Orleans La  
June 7th 1865

Major General O.O. Howard  
General,

In your letter of the 9th of September last, you kindly gave me the privilege of calling upon you as a friend, whenever you could be of service to me.

Major General Sheridan has just written a strong letter to the Secretary of War, asking that I may be made a Major in the Signal Corps. There are two vacancies in that grade, in our Corps. Since the personal difficulty between Mr Stanton and Col Meyer, Mr Stanton has neglected to fill any vacancies in the Corps.

I have good reason to believe that Gen'l Sheridan's letter will be "pigeon-holed" unless some one, whom Mr Stanton might wish to favor, should ask, basing his request upon the General's letter, that the appointment be made, in which case he would do so, notwithstanding his hostility to the Signal Corps.

Perhaps you have acquaintances whose influence would secure my promotion. Should Mr Stanton feel so inclined he has simply to nod his head and the thing is done. It is a matter of no consequence to him, but of considerable importance to me, expecting as I do, to remain permanently in the service.

I feel that I have fairly earned my appointment, and had I the good fortune to belong to any other Corps in the Army, this begging letter would be unnecessary. Unless some influence other than the General's letter will exert, is brought to bear, I shall not get my appointment, simply because Mr Stanton is "ugly" to the Signal Corps.

Very Respectfully & very truly yours  
O.H. Howard [Ocran H. Howard]  
Capt. Signal Corps  
U.S.A.

[Written on the last page in a different hand.]

New Orleans, La.  
June 7, 1865  
O.H. Howard  
Capt. Signal Corps. U.S.A.  
Requests assistance for promotion  
Recd. (Bu. R. F. and A.L.) June 17 1865

[Written in Otis' hand.]

I am a poor <defender> having already presented so many names, and if there is a difficulty with Col M, the Chf Sig. Offr., there is little chance of my success in that quarter. I will do what I can when an appointment offers.  
Sincerely &c

---

2607 6/7/1865

*From:* Willard Warner

*To:* Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2546

Head Quarters Post  
Charlotte N.C.

Washington D.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[34, 35]

Head Quarters Post  
Charlotte N.C. June 7 1865

General,

Pardon me for troubling you amid the manifold duties to which you have been called, much to my gratification, but I desire to say that I have been recommended for promotion by Generals Cox & Schofield and to ask your aid with the Secretary of War if consistent with your sense of duty and propriety.

My position of Past Com'd't brings me in practical contact with the great Negro question. My success in dealing with both masters and slaves has been much greater than I anticipated considering the wonderful transition which the Negro has undergone.

A little good sense with a great deal of patience and firmness has enabled me to make the change from master and slave to employer and employed, with the good feelings of both parties.

I shall be in Washington about the 15th inst.

Respectfully  
Your Obedient Servant  
Willard Warner  
Col. 180th O.V.I.  
Com'g Post

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard  
Washington D.C.

[Written on the back page, in a different hand.]

Charlotte, N.C.

June 7, 1865.

William Warner [should have been Willard Warner]

Col. 180th Ohio Vols.

Comdg. Post.

Requests assistance for promotion

Recd. (Bu. R.F. And A.L.) June 12 1865.

---

2608 6/7/1865

*From:* Carl Schubert

*To:* Major General O.O.  
Howard

OOH-2548

Charleston

Washington D.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

[36, 37]

Charleston June 7th 1865

Major General O.O. Howard  
Washington D.C.  
General,

You will please excuse me for taking the liberty in addressing you to day upon a subject of this kind, but being assured that you are desirous of seeing justice done to every one I would crave your assistance in this. You will remember in passing through the country where I reside near Midway S.C. you gave me a guard to protect my property, until your Army had passed & they remained two days & half. They had scarcely left when five men (USA Soldiers) entered my House under pretence of searching for arms, and took of with them numerous articles, many of which I have labored for years to obtain, articles which I could not do without, particularly in the Country. I showed them the letter which you kindly gave me, but they did not pay any attention to it. I will give you a list of the articles taken, and Dear Sir, will you be so kind as to assist me in procuring pay for the same, for I know not what I shall do. I will not be able to obtain the necessaries of life, for you will be kind enough to remember, I told you, that I had been living in Charleston, but knowing that I would have to go in the C. Army I endeavored through a friend to get a passport for the country for being a staunch Unionist I was determined not to fight against the Union. I am truly thankful that I have escaped, but now having lost so many things without which I cannot live in the country, and to go to the city now I am afraid on account of sickness, until frost. Therefor my reasons for appealing to you trusting that you will endeavor to do all that you can for me. My little daughter if you recollect who played when requested on the piano ask you to be so kind as to all that you can for her father & Mother so that she may be enabled to get her education and the name of Genl. O.O. Howard will ever be remembered with gratitude by little Anna Schubert.

Yours Obedently  
Carl Schubert

P.S. Please direct to me care of  
Mr. M. Byer  
464 King St  
Charleston S.C.

The List of Articles Taken

One Buggy & horse. They burned the buggy.

A lot of Bacon (200 lbs)

1 doz Silver Spoons,

1 gold & two silver watches

1 valuable Music box

all the valuable clothing belonging to us.

I also had five bales of cotton stored in Charleston, which has been taken by the U Satate forces and sent north. Will you be so kind as to see to that also for me if possible. By attending to this request Dear Sir you will confer a favour on a family who really needs the above assistance, and will be received with lasting gratitude by Carl & Mary Schubert

[Written on the last page in a different hand.]

Charleston S.C.

June 7, 1865

Schubert Carl

Requests assistance about recovering some property. Reference to Mil Authorities who <> the cotton.

Ans. 21 June

Recd B. F.R. & AL June 21, 65

---

2609 6/7/1865

*From:* Lemuel Moss

*To:* Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2549

U.S. Christian  
Commission  
Philadelphia

Commissioner of Freedmen,  
&c

---

*Source:* Bowdoin

[38]

U.S. Christian Commission  
Philadelphia June 7th 1865

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard  
Commissioner of Freedmen, &c  
General:-

Mr. Stuart wishes me to remind you of your engagement for Friday evening next, - to speak at the Academy of Music, on occasion of the Anniversary of the Ladies Christian Commission. He takes this precaution, lest your numerous & pressing public duties cause you to overlook this more distant service.

The Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States & British Provinces are now represented here in their annual Convention. It may be practicable for you, as it will be greatly for their gratification & advantage, to remain in our city long enough to visit & address them.

Further, I am requested to suggest, that in your address on Friday evening, inasmuch as the special work of the U.S. Chr. Commission is drawing to a close, you may be able to say a word that will more deeply interest the ladies & others in the noble work among the Freedmen.

Mr. Stuart expects you for his guest during your stay in the city, & is holding in reserve accommodations for yourself & Mrs. Howard.

Very Truly Yrs.  
Lemuel Moss, Home Sec'y.

Please telegraph us, on receipt of this in what train we may expect you, - tomorrow if practicable.

[Written on the back page, in another hand.]

Philadelphia June 7th 1865

Stuart, Geo. H.

Friendly letter

Recd Wash'n June 8th 1865

[Written in a different hand.]

Will start for Phila tomorrow at 11 A.M. My wife is not here. Have promised to stay with Mr. Wm. Merrick.