Springdale, Cedar Co. Iowa.
6th Mo. (June) 8th 1865.

Major General O. O. Howard.

Respected Friend

My attention has been directed to the appointment of a Commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen &c; I rejoice on behalf of suffering and oppressed humanity, in our President's good selection.

I am desirous of obtaining employment in the great and useful work embraced in this Bureau.

I have long laboured for the elevation of the coloured people, endeavouring to raise up in them a higher standard, and more consistent views of Religious, Moral, and Civil duties, to themselves, their country, and their God; in this way by mental cultivation and training, prepare them to enjoy and appreciate their liberty and blessings, that in due time, they may take their rank in the great human family designed for them by our great Creator.

I fully endorse the language of the Commissioner "That the negro should understand he is really free, but "on no account, if able to work, should he harbor the thought "that the Government will support him in idleness."

Whilst amongst them the greater part of years "63 & "64, which I spent in the valley of the Mississippi, I taught them this, adding that their future welfare and happiness depended mainly on their individual industry, in mental and temporal application.

My knowledge and acquaintance of the negro, with their habits, customs, manners &c, has not prepared me to unite with the radical Theories of some, but confirmed me in Practical common sense, being best influenced by circumstances as actually existing in the immediate vicinity.

I am 50 years of age, healthy and active; born of Quaker parents, and have been for over 20 years, an ordained minister amongst them: as this portion of the christian church does not make any provision for the support of its ministers, but expects them to earn their own livelihood. I am also well conversant in mercantile business, having for 23 years, been an Importer in New York city; can keep books, accounts, &c.

Two of my Sons have been engaged in putting down the late wicked rebellion, one a commissioned officer in the Navy, the other was in the 35th Iowa Inf. Col. Hill.

To find a more extended field, and enlarged opportunity for usefulness, in advancing the true interests of my fellow man in every good way; is the cause of my request for some minor appointment, such being my motives, I do trust that Major General Howard will kindly overlook in me any irregularities in the mode, being ignorant of any other way.

If I am furnished with any proper form &c for an application, I shall feel much obliged, and would endeavour respectfully to comply with such requirements.

Should Major General Howard have no places to fill, may I very respectfully ask him, to furnish me the address of Major E. Whittlesey Ass.t Com.r

for state of Mississippi, where most of my time was spent, and where I am well known, or of any, of the other Commissioners, who would be likely to be in need of such assistance as my abilities, and business qualifications offer.

I am strictly temperate, not knowing the feelings of the drunkard. I am ignorant of all gambling and never in my life practised it, or entered a house or the arms of a woman prostitute. I am free from all debt and I hope at peace with all men.

Very respectfully asking the favourable consideration of my application, as also the answering me at early convenience of the esteemed Commissioner I await his kind reply and remains

Very truly

Henry Rowntree.

My address is

Henry Rowntree.

Springdale.

Cedar Co.

Iowa.

Springdale
June 18

Hc Rosenbaum

Wants an
appointment.

A.

Recd By R H Dale 22 Jun

Wake County N.C. near Raleigh
June 8th 1865

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

Dear Sir,
Permit me to trouble you with a few lines.
Just after the surrender of Johnson to the invincible Sherman, a considerable quantity of Forage (corn & fodder) was impressed in this neighborhood for the use of the army, and in many cases receipts were given to those from whom the forage was taken, some signed by the Quarter Master and others by forage Masters with the promise that it would be paid for. The forage was taken principally for the 15th & 17th Corps of your brave Command. Now will you

be so kind as to inform me whether the said rects can be collected and if so how shall we proceed to do so? They seem to be informal or irregular & not proper vouchers of payment in their present form. I presented them to Col. Boyd Genl. Schofield Chief Q. Mast. who advised me to write you concerning the matter, saying that he thought it was the intention of the authorities to pay for forage taken about this time ~~then~~ after the cessation of hostilities. The parties presenting these claims will be able to show that they are true and loyal citizens and strongly attached to the Union. If these claims can be paid, General, it will greatly aid the community in raising

their crops, and relieve them greatly from their present prostration, and cement their affection for the Government which knows no rival—

Fearing that I have troubled you too much already, I close, presuming upon your kindness which was so largely extended to us in protecting us while in our midst.

Please write me at Raleigh and render us under renewed and lasting obligations

Your obt. Svt.

James H. Foote.

Being so
far from Ral-
eigh I can not
decide this indi-
vidual case.
The approval
however of
Genl Schofield
or of either of
his corps Comdrs
to a formal
voucher will
be sufficient
evidence to secure
payment
The Army of Sherman
is mostly in Ten. Ky

Clerk's Office, Select Council,

23

Philadelphia, June 9th 1865

Major General O. O. Howard

Dear Sir.

You are specially invited to be present at the reception of the returning Philada Regiments to take place to morrow 10th inst: Rooms have been provided for all the guests of the City at the Continental Hotel: and Carriages will be ready at 12 O'Clock M. to convey the guests to the reviewing Stand.

By order of the Committee

A. Stewart

Clerk of Comm.

Miss Carrie Borden.

War Department,

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands,

Washington June 9th, 1865.

Gen Howard,

Dear Sir

I came up to your Quarters this morning to present to you and Mrs. Howard the compliments of Col. and Mrs. Richard Borden, my good Father and Mother, with a cordial invitation for you to pay us a visit when you are again in New England. It would afford us all very great pleasure to welcome you to our quiet home in Fall River, and we should enjoy so much the expression of that friendship in which the service of our beloved Country has entwined the earnest loyal hearts. My good Mother wishes very much to see you. Since the dear old Flag suffered the expulsion, but not the ~~mysterious~~ mysterious of Sumpter, she has scarcely ceased her prayers and her toils for the soldiers. It has been a great comfort to us that while our noble men were in the Field

enduring the terrible labor of redeeming our Country we at home might minister to their wants in so many ways. If you have not shared in the supply of our hands dear General, you have I trust received a richer portion in the wisdom and blessing which our Heavenly Father has been pleased to bestow in answer to the prayer of faith.

Now please do come and see us with Mrs. Howard and the children, and very soon if you can. Grace will remember little Hattie Borden Mrs. Borden will be very happy to see you at her house with Mrs. H.

Thanking you and your gallant command for all that you have done for us in the field I am yours with highest regards and esteem —

Carrie Borden

Mill. Carrie Borden

Care of ~~C. P. Borden~~ Harris, Shoemaker

Philadelphia

Pa

City Engineers Office
St Louis, June 9. 1865

Dear General,

A long time has elapsed since I wrote to you last and during this period many things have occurred of great moment to the Country. With the greatest interest have I followed up your movements through the heart of the Confederacy and have enjoyed your achievements the same as if I had been with you. - Your slow and steady promotion is

the surest sign, that it was well deserved, of which I for my part have been long convinced. It was not the momentary impulse and exaltation over one act, but a promotion on reflection, which it seems to me, makes it of much more value.

And even if the government should not have regarded your merits, the opinion of the people is but one, and that is: that the one armed soldier stands among the first of the Nation.

You know very well General, that I am not disposed to flatter a person, but excuse me

for having said so much and for allowing my candid feelings this expression. - Believe me, if I assure you that I regard the period of my life which I spent in your association, one of the brightest, which will remain inscribed on my memory for ever.

Now I must trouble you with a matter relating to the old 11th Corps - It is about the books and papers of the same. You remember General that, when the 11th Corps was dissolved, two books were retained by you which you intended to send to me. The re-

mainder of the papers I
kept until I could send
them altogether, not wishing to
have any of the books miss-
ing on examination at the
War Department. -
Now as you are stationed
in Washington, I have taken
the liberty to send the box
containing all the books
& papers in my possession
to your address, so that
after adding the books with
you, I would ask you
to have them turned over
to the Adjutant General's
office. For a long time
have I had the desire
to comply with the orders
requiring the transmission
of these documents

which without any fault of mine has been delayed inexcusably. I must apologize for charging your offices with something which should be done by me, but under the circumstances I am in hopes to be excusable.

Now and then I hear from the offices formerly connected with the 11th Corps. Among them is Col Ballock, who undoubtedly is the same good man. He speaks of you always as the kind hearted good General, which in the mouth of Ballock is really meant so.

You have probably heard

of my resignation in Dec[illegible]
last. In short, I will
give you my reasons for
doing so. My last cam-
paign and career was
attended with so little suc-
cess, that no matter whose
fault it was, it gave me
a disgust for a life of that
activity as I had led
for several months last
year. Another reason is
that my aged father wished
me here and that it so
happened, that before tender-
ing my resignation a
position in this office was
offered me by my
former chief.
Although I have many
times felt a desire to
be present when acts

operations of the army were in progress. I am now pretty well satisfied with my condition.

A great part of my leisure time I spend in adding to my little knowledge of my profession, Civil engineering and all other time that can be spared safely to general studies, which is the greatest satisfaction that I have found so far.

Excuse my encroaching upon your time with such a long letter containing so many useless remarks.

With the greatest respect and my best wishes

I have the honor to remain
Yours Sincerely
P. de Heyrenbach

St. Louis Mo.
June 9. 1865

Mecklenburg. J. A.

Friendly letter.

Camp of the 136th Regt. N.Y.V.I.
near Washington D.C. June 9th 1865

Maj Genl O. O. Howard,

General:

I convey you once more, and for the last time. The war is over. The rebellion is crushed. The flag of the Union waves proudly & triumphantly, over every foot of territory, subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Those who abandoned the peaceful pursuits of civil life, for the stern realities of bloody war, can once more return to the ways of life so abandoned. Those who serving with hearts filled with gratitude to God for his protecting care & mercy. those who have faithfully discharged their duty, with the proud consciousness that they have aided in upholding the Government of their fathers, against the assaults of the most formidable rebellion the world ever saw. There are comforts and consolations to the Christian Soldier, of which no human authority can deprive ~~them~~ him. But it must be conceded, that the officers of the Govt, do not, and perhaps cannot, distribute the rewards of service with any thing like even handed justice. In my case, I have discharged my duty faithfully, zealously, and allow me to add, efficiently. In my judgment, I have been treated with great injustice. As a personal favor I ask you to read carefully the enclosed paper. Having done so, I think you will say I am right. I am well aware, that I have been thrown into my

present unfortunate position, by the force of peculiar circumstances.
It was my misfortune (at least I so regard it) that my Regt. was assigned to the 11th Corps in the fall of 1862 - It was a greater misfortune - (I mean so myself and my military advancement) when the 11th Corps was broken up and its Commander (who had been with it long enough to become acquainted with relative merits and capacity of each and any officer in it) transferred to another Corps - My chances of promotion were utterly destroyed, when Genls Butterfield & Hooker left the army & Genl Slocum succeeded to the Command of the XXth Corps. There indeed arose a Pharaoh who knew not Joseph -

In a military hierarchy, as you are aware, it is the power of the Superior officer to present the services of his subordinate, however meritorious, from being acknowledged or rewarded. In our service, the subordinate seems to be in the power of the Superior - Hence the Superior is bound by the highest of all honorable and moral obligations, to do justice to his subordinates.
Now I respectfully submit to your good judgment; have I been treated justly, fairly? Have I not been, without cause or provocation, humiliated and degraded? Have I not been compelled to suffer from palpable favoritism?

I write you, because I have served under you longer than any other Corps Commander; because I know you abhor injustice; because I believe that if I had continued under your command I should have been subjected to no such unjust treatment; and because I have no doubt that, with your aid, even now, justice can so far be done, that

I can go home with honor. You may say that the consciousness of having faithfully discharged his duty, is the good man's reward. Undoubtedly this is so - Earthly power cannot deprive him of this. It is his support & consolation under injustice contumely & oppression - But this, I apprehend, is no reason why he should be subjected to injustice contumely and oppression. It is the successful man that carries off the honors - The meritorious ought to be successful, but you know that merit & success are not always companions.

I undertake to say that the assignment of Cogswell to my brigade cannot be justified. It was against every military usage - It was in violation of the practice and policy of our military service - It has been pronounced unjust & unwarranted, by every military officer in the corps to whom the facts have been made known. And to add to the injustice (I will not now qualify it by epithets) Genl Slocum has put in circulation the statement that the 3d Brig of the 3d Div of the 20th Corps was the best brigade in the corps that Cogswell had brought out its merits & qualities. You know that this (in regard to Cogswell) is not so - You know more of the brigade than Genl Slocum - You know its discipline, its efficiency and its reputation, are older than Cogswell's commission as a Colonel. The remark was intended as reflection upon Cogswell's predecessors; and you know that in that respect, it was (to use no harsher term) unwarranted.

If there is any thing I have the right to be proud of, and I am proud of, it is the conduct of the Regt I brought into ~~you~~ the field

as you were pleased to say of it on another occasion "it never turned its back to the enemy" The conduct & services of my brigade on that terrible campaign against Atlanta, were repeated by you & extolled by name. Look at its record - It is written in blood - It's march from Burnt Gap to Atlanta can be traced by the graves of its dead heroes fallen in battle. I cannot think of it, of the sacrifices I have made, of the services I have rendered, and the treatment I have received, without feeling indignant. I dislike to leave the army with such feelings of oppression & injustice rankling in my mind. Perhaps I ought not to entertain them, but is it in human nature to do otherwise?

I have so much confidence in the President & Sec'y of War that I believe that they would relieve me from my present position if my case could be placed fairly before them. I am aware of the difficulty of accomplishing this, in the imminency & pressure of the public business - If any officer in the Service can do it, I respectfully submit, you can - Under you, I have served, and with your name & fame I am associated. Together we have rejoiced in prosperity & victory; and together we have walked in the dark shadow of adversity. I labored at all times, and in all places, to the extent of my ability, to the extent of my capacity, ~~I endeavored~~ to maintain & uphold the honor of the Corps & its Commander. In view of "these things" I am now emboldened to appeal to you in the day of my adversity with which as a Commander you can not associated - It is my last effort to obtain redress from the Military Bureaus. This feeling, my defence (and I am fully aware of the difficulty) will come from my own voice & pen. With your permission I will have a personal interview with you to day or to morrow. - I am with great respect Your ob Servant

James B. Wood Jr

Hd. qrs. "Camp Stanton"
Beaufort S. C.
June 9 1865

181

My dear Brother,

Capt. Cole surprised me much by stepping into my tent last Monday evening. He brought a brief letter from Maj. Stinson – The only words in your hand-writing were "Beaufort S. C." upon the exterior of the envelope containing my Brevet (the Brevets) appointments. These were a complete surprise and of course gratifying.

I walked down to Gen. Saxton's with Capt. C. that evening. The Genl was glad to have some word from you. He had newly decided to visit Washington.

I can hardly tell you how glad I was to see some one from you from the personal staff. Capt. C.

(See page 7th)

Suppose Mrs. Saxton would be almost beside herself with delight at such a surprise. (Which Gen. Saxton gave her) "Gen. Howard"

gave me some idea of your situation and how you are occupied. I am very glad to know Sizzie is with you.

I have so much to say that I hardly know where to begin. Besides I have been in the habit, you know, of having long talks with you during the past 4 years so that pen & paper seem a very inadequate means of communication. I was sorry Capt. C. could not remain longer. He left next morning for Sommerville. But he came back to my Camp at Reveille and I had a Dress Parade & Drill (Battalion) for his inspection about which he will tell you.

I think you could not have done better than to appoint Gen. Paxton to the position you did. Will it not be permitted him to have control of some troops?

You know the execution of every measure now depends and will for some time depend entirely upon the military. If the colored troops in these two states could be organized into a Div^n and Gen. S. assigned to command it — although it would probably be advisable to distribute it in garrisons yet Gen. S. would then have power to carry out any policy.

It would give him more respect of the existing military authorities also more deference from the inhabitants — With a military organization & command come also staff officers and many prerogatives, as you are well aware, which would facilitate his operations much. I am convinced, were you in his place, you would consider it highly important to have some

troops under your control at least for a year to come. There seems to be a propriety in giving a military man who returns his rank some actual command if it is deemed, also, for the good of the cause.

Gen. S. now has under his control three Regts. 128th & 104th - (the latter not yet mustered in) & some fear that it will not be though it seems to me better that the Govt accept a Regt. just organized & full to the maximum - which it has cost so much to recruit - Besides it is undoubtedly better to provide for as many colored men & families as possible by getting the men into the army.

My men are learning to read and write - Have become quite neat and soldierly in appearance and you would certainly say are much improved from what they were as recruits.

I expect my Regt. will be turned over to Gen. Gillmore for duty soon. Gen. S. will ask to have it returned here and the 32nd U. S. C. T. sent away. This (if accomplished) will give me command of the Post here and even if Gen. S. has no control of troops by any arrangement from you — we shall work very harmoniously together of course as I see you have permitted his Hd. qrs. to remain here. This is certainly the most advantageous place easy of access to the islands and about mid-way between Charleston & Savannah.

Capt. Cole says Maj. Whittlesey is to leave Florida. I am pleased at this for I may see him sometimes.

(16)

The Lieut. Col. of 32nd U.S.C.T.
Came to me this morning about
applying to you for that Hotel. He
will see Capt. Cole. I know
nothing about him.

Don't you think you will come
down here this Fall? Sometimes I
think it would be well for me
to take a respite & go North in
August. I get rather weary here
sometimes & they all say it will
be intensely hot in August - Still
I have not settled to go - I do
not trouble myself any about
the healthiness - I think I will be
well. But it sometimes seems that
I would come back to my
work with more vigor & would
accomplish more after a little
relief & contact with the vitalizing
thoughts & feelings of friends at the
North - I do hope that you will visit
us if you can & bring Lizzie. I

[See margin Page 1st]

[Page 17th]

Can I do to do some more for you?
Affectionately
Your brother
O. O. Howard

There is one important matter that I wished to mention. I hear from different sources that Gen. Grover at Savannah seems almost in sympathy with Rebels. He has even prohibited the Drum Corps of the 33d U.S.C.T. to play a certain air which he considers "incendiary" - It makes one think of the dark age of Slavery to see that word "incendiary". He is certainly not in sympathy with those who are laboring for the Freedmen - Rebel Officers record their names at the hotels as "Captain" or so "of C.S.A".

Hatch at Charleston & Potter of District Port Royal are complained of as of the same stripe.

Lt. Col. Babcock is to have a Leave in July and would

visit Maine if you & your family were there. He may do so at any rate as he has a special attraction at Belfast – Dr. Monroe's daughter – You may remember Dr. M. He used to be surgeon 20th Maine & was in the Legislature last Winter.

We are all expecting to be brought before an Examining Board of any officers are resigning on this act. Perhaps I had better but I think I will wait & see. Do you suppose Gillmore will remain here? He has been doing much apparently to conciliate the Freedmen interest of late – Induced Chief Justice Chase to think he (Gillmore) was as good a friend the black man could have. He appointed several officers of Colored Reg on his staff – Woodford you will remember – Gave you the reception speech at the Astor House when I first came through with 8th Maine. He is Brt. Brig. Gen. & Chief of Staff for Gen. Gillmore.

P.S. You have my warmest thanks for remembering me, to Louie & the Bennets. W.H.H.

41

Quartermaster's Department,
Thirtieth Reg't, Maine Veteran Vols.,
Savannah Geo. June 9th 1865.

Maj Genl O O Howard
My dear General
You are undoubtedly aware of the assignment of our Div^n to this Dept - I had the honor of calling at your Head Qrs. before I left W. and found you absent - As we shall probably remain here or near here for a considerable time it occurs to me I may possibly be of some service to you in furnishing you with information Statistical or otherwise in lieu of a more valuable correspondent - Please to command me at any time I can be of service to you - only do not overrate my abilities. I simply claim to be a good Soldier so far as I have had opportunities to learn - With best wishes for yourself and Mrs. H.

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Royal E Whitman
Lt Col. 30th Mass Vols

Savannah, Ga.
June 9th, 1865.

Royal E. Whitman,
Lieut. Col. 30th Me. Vols.

Proffers his services in furnishing information statistical or other.

Recd. (Bu. R.F. & A.L.) June 15 1865

Farmington Maine
June 9 1865

Major Genl O. O. Howard,

Dear Sir,

I address you at this time, to ask you, if you can and will detail or appoint my son Capt Nathan C. Goodenow now at Louisville Ky, acting Ordnance officer of the Cavalry Depo at that place, (an) formerly on Genl Stoneman's Staff, to some duty in your department?

My son has been in the army now nearly three years, first appd a Lt in a mounted Battery in Illinois, and very soon after a Capt in the 16 Illinois Cavalry. He was with Genl Sherman's Army to the taking of Atlanta and

and after that was ordered back to Ky to attend to duties pertaining to the refitting several Cavalry Regiment, In November last he applied for orders to join his regiment, instead of which he rec'd orders assigning him to duty at Louisville, where he has since been. On the 14 Dec last he was taken suddenly and violently ill at Louisville, and was confined to his room for 53 days with fever and rheumatism, which terminated in his recovery, with the loss of the sight of his right eye, and depriving him, of the opp he had hoped for, the more active duties of the service.

I have understood he has a good reputation for energy and ability in the duties he has been assigned to and that Genl Stoneman has spoken well of him as an officer.

I have good reasons for believing his habits of temperance, sobriety and good Morals are well established, and I know him to be more than ordinarily capable in business. He has two motherless boys depending on him, and it seems to me he is among the thousands who, having earnestly and patriotically given their services to the country from pure motives, and are entitled to consideration. For you personally, I know, from letters to me two years ago, he has the highest respect and admiration. If you can therefore, assign him to some duty or place in your department, I should be grateful to you.
If need be, I think I could furnish you with testimonials from many of your personal friends

With the highest respect
Yours truly Robt Goodenow

Harrington Me June 9/65

Woodsum, Robt.

Asks to have his son detailed into the Bureau.

Father of the Asst. Com. Mustr. Employed Ans

June 12, 1865 Recd.

Richmond Ind.
June 13. 1866.

My dear brother:

You see by the enclosed circular that I am into business & have done something at it already. Can you immediately send me a copy of the laws passed during the last two sessions of Congress — I suppose they are bound & ready for distribution & if you could send them to me without the expense of purchasing them you would do me a favor. If they are not some of the perquisites of your office, I can get them in Cincinnati, to which city we are sending nearly every day. I saw by the papers that Hon. Gen. Howard was at Washington

PENSIONS,

BOUNTY AND BACK PAY

The undersigned has taken a license as

U. S. War Claim Agent

—FOR—

INDIANA,

And will give particular attention to the collecting of Pensions, Bounties, Arrears of Pay, and all other demands against the Government of a war nature.

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NO CHARGE UNLESS SUCCESSFUL.

OFFICE OVER CITIZEN'S BANK,

(The Office of J. P. Siddall, Esq.,)

Richmond, Ind.

R. H. GILMORE,

Attorney at Law.

REFERENCES:

MAJOR GENERAL O. O. HOWARD,
Chief of Freedman's Bureau, Washington, D. C.
Hon. IRA HARRIS, United States Senator, Albany, New York.
C. H. STRICKLAND, Esq, Richmond, Indiana.
J. P. SIDDALL, Esq, "
COL. JOHN A. BRIDGELAND, "
WM. PARRY, Township Trustee, "

(over.)

a few days ago. Is she there now? If so give her much love from her brother Dell.

Are there any of the Children with her.

I am injoying life very much and am rapidly getting acquainted with the people.

Mr. Siddall, in whose office I am at present located, is a pleasant man.

Uncle & family are nicely.

Your aff. brother

R. W. Gilmore

P. S. Mr. S. R. Deane, who is the father of a certain young lady in whom your brother is somewhat interested, has requested me to write you inquiring whether you know of a Friend named & his wife who would like a good situation, such as Mr. D. could give upon his farm, & if so would inform him of one immediately. R.W.G.

Richmond Ind.
June 10. 1865.

R. H. Gilmore.

Request copies of the laws passed during the two last sessions of Congress.

Sent by sending the Report

Sent Gen. Ass. the last two sessions.

Recd. Ch. Bu. R. F. & A. L. June 15. 1865.

THE AMERICAN TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

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

Dated Head Qrs 2nd A.C. June 10 1865.

Rec'd, *Philadelphia*, ... 1865, ... o'clock, ... *min.* M.

To Maj Genl O. O. Howard

The 6th P. V. is a veteran organization & will not be mustered out of service

C. A. Whitelaw

1 Coll 139

June 10th 1865.

C. A. Whittan.

states the 69th Pa. Vols
& Vet. R. C. will not
be mustered out,

35
80
115

56
95
151

Madison, Ga –
June 10. 1865.

53

My Dear Friend:

Perhaps the mad current of Events which has swept over our land for the last four years, has not so entirely washed my name from your memory, as to render the above Caption less true than I was wont to have it – & that I may still claim it without being considered presumptuous –

The fierce struggle is over – the will of God is plainly stamped on our destiny, & I pray that His Grace may be sufficient to sustain us all, in our prosperity & success, alike in our misfortunes & adversity –

I cheerfully acquiesce in His wise decrees & am more than willing to abide by whatever fate may be mine in this World, looking, through faith, alone to the World on High as the Goal of all genuine happiness –

This fearful tragedy has been enacted: surely it was the working of a Higher Power than Mortal: & all must admit that the part borne by the South was as essential to the consummation of the ends obtained, as

was that of the National Government —
May God sanctify the results to the good of all
His people —

You most likely have not heard of
my marriage, which took place Sept. 13
near Atlanta, Ga — when I was married to
Miss Seton — daughter of Rev. E. W. Seton of
M. E. church — & Missionary secy — of the same

My Wife is all that man could desire —
& in her I am signally blessed — a most
affectionate wife & an earnest, zealous member
of the Church — & in our Precious Boy of 10
months, we have a great treasure — an earnest
pledge of God's love for us —

Please present my kindest regards
to Mrs. H — & the Children —

I could, nay I would write much more —
but not now — I must await & see, if I can
still subscribe myself,

Truly Your friend &c

M. H. Wright
(Col. & - Paroled)

Maj: Genl: O. O. Howard —
Chf. Frdmn Bureau,
Washington, D.C.

P. S. I shall remain in Madison, until I fully understand my status; & know what I am to do — or is to be done with me — If you have the time & inclination to write me, it will give me great pleasure to write you fully — M. H. W.

New York June 12th
Astor House

[1865]
54

Genl Howard

Dear Friend

In reply to your kind inquiry of what you could do to assist me, I beg leave to suggest that you would have an interview with Sec Stanton urging his attention to my case if I could have remained some time in Washington it would have been of advantage, as we were under the care of Mr Weed we felt bound to return when he did, could there be any arrangement made for my spending some time in Washington it would be advantageous I have no doubt

no one seems to realize our
painful position. I feel
that my heart is breaking
and my anxiety in regard
to my children is very great
does it not seem hard after
having suffered so much
for the cause, and braved
all dangers to succor and
assist our brave men who
peilled their lives to save
their country, that I should
have become beggared, so
suddenly deprived of wealth
of a home of luxury and
comfort, and to become
a houseless homeless
wanderer. Many wise men
who examine the matter
agree in thinking the
See, has the power to grant
~~relief~~

relief, will you not
add your influence, see
him in person and
urge my necessities, do you
think it would be of any
advantage to see the
President in my behalf
Mr Sec Seward expressed
much sympathy for me
and would add his influence
if you have an opportunity
to speak with him on the
subject I would feel grateful
I hope much from your
interview with Mr Stanton
one fourth of what I expended
on the Prisoners would now
make me comfortable, which
is all I desire, I beg my
friend you will be able
to propose some way of

Mrs. Foster

they may meet the
Mr Lee's Kinds. Mr Weed
has done nothing since our
return he is awaiting a
promised letter from Mr Stanton
and I fear the whole matter
has escaped his memory —
and will you not revive
the matter, and keep up
his interest. I have received
many letters from the
Prisoners, would like you to
see them. my daughter
sends kind remembrances
we both indulge in hopes
of ultimate success and
feel your influence will
be great and will not be with-
held. I hope to be able to come
to Washington again at the
suggestion of Mr Weed my daughter
write to Mr Stanton to day, Respectfully
Amelia Foster

if this matter has to be
referred to Congress would
there not be some relief
granted by an advance
or a requisition on the
quartermaster department
I am so anxious to have
a home for my family I
cannot bear the thought
of separation the convent
is the only asylum I
see at present and I shudder
at the thought I know that
I expended one hundred thou
=sand dollars on the prisoner
in four years this they will
vouch for it cost a mess of
four one hundred dollars to
get a dinner one fourth of
what I expended would
now place me above want

it would be a mite to
the Government and so
much to me at present
I feel that I need not
urge you to speak in my
behalf your native goodness
of heart will prompt you
to do all you can for me
and my dear little ones
poor little Lettie is now
sheltered in the convent
to relieve me of expense
I have been waiting so
patiently for some action
my hopes are again excited
God grant success may
crown the efforts of my
friends much of that hope
rests upon you my kind
and good friend would others
felt as you do I would soon feel
comparatively happy, Truly Your
A. F.

57

Milford June 11. 1866.

My dear Cousin

I truly beg your pardon for troubling you again. knowing how busy you are and will be busy as possible

I take the liberty of sending Page's letter which tells the story. And ask as a favor of you, for which I should ever feel very grateful as I do for your many past acts of kindness: Can you not detail him so he might be examined in Washington before an impartial board -

I do not think it just for a Col and Lieut Col to examine their own Officers

Col H. had the making of the Corps before and I know of many & many a field Officer who if they could would protest against his making it so - Gen Fry and he have had interests together are friends so he will support him in everything

Page's position is and has been very trying but it has proved to me his noble principal

If the poor fellow had not an empty
sleeve I should wish him to have the army
but his profession is gone – he can't take the [illegible]
and he has little business experience.

I fear the sympathy of most business men does
not include heart and purse

I feel he has earned his position and
that no man ought not to be able to make him
give it up –

His life has been one long struggle and
I do think he feels his courage

Will you not please give him a few lines
of comfort and advice

Having you might be home & this
not reach you I am going to write to my
old friend Gen Underwood who is President of
a Court Martial to see if you are not
in the city & he can detail Pay to please
do so – I write there without his knowledge
Encouraging the fable of the mouse who
freed the Lion from the snare I may do
best by & help him – With a good deal of
love for you & yours I am ever truly
your affectionate Lizzie

P.S. I have read Burns Poetry please
turn them up -

Address Maj S. P. Lee 6th Reg Ill Vol
care Rason Clyfin & Co
140 Walnut St
Cincinnati
Ohio

Milford June 11th 1865.

See, Mrs. Lizzie

Lumington June 12/65

Dear Brother Oas

I have received a letter from Mr. J. L. Schick of Gettysburg Ohio, you recollect gratuitously entertained me and gave his house for a hospital for Perry Lee & others - inviting me to spend the 4th with him - and saying that "he would be proud to have you accept of his hospitalities while in Gettysburg" = If public arrangements will not permit you to gratify him by accepting his invitation. I do hope you will be able to call (or see) & thank that noble Christian patriot & his wife for all that they so generously did for us & the

Minn rounded - He met with Charles & wants him to come - I wish we could all meet there - I go to Boston this week and a letter will reach me addressed to ~~National Council~~ Care of Frank B. Gilman, 107 ~~th Street~~ =

Ella & the children go to Bath - I expect to be away 10 days at least -

Mother was up & spent last Thursday night with us - She seemed pretty well & cheerful, but is quite lonely there at Leeds alone = With love to Lizzie if still with you -

Affly Your
Rutland -

PS. I have not heard from you since you new appointment =

Farmington June 12. 1865.

Howard. Rowland

61

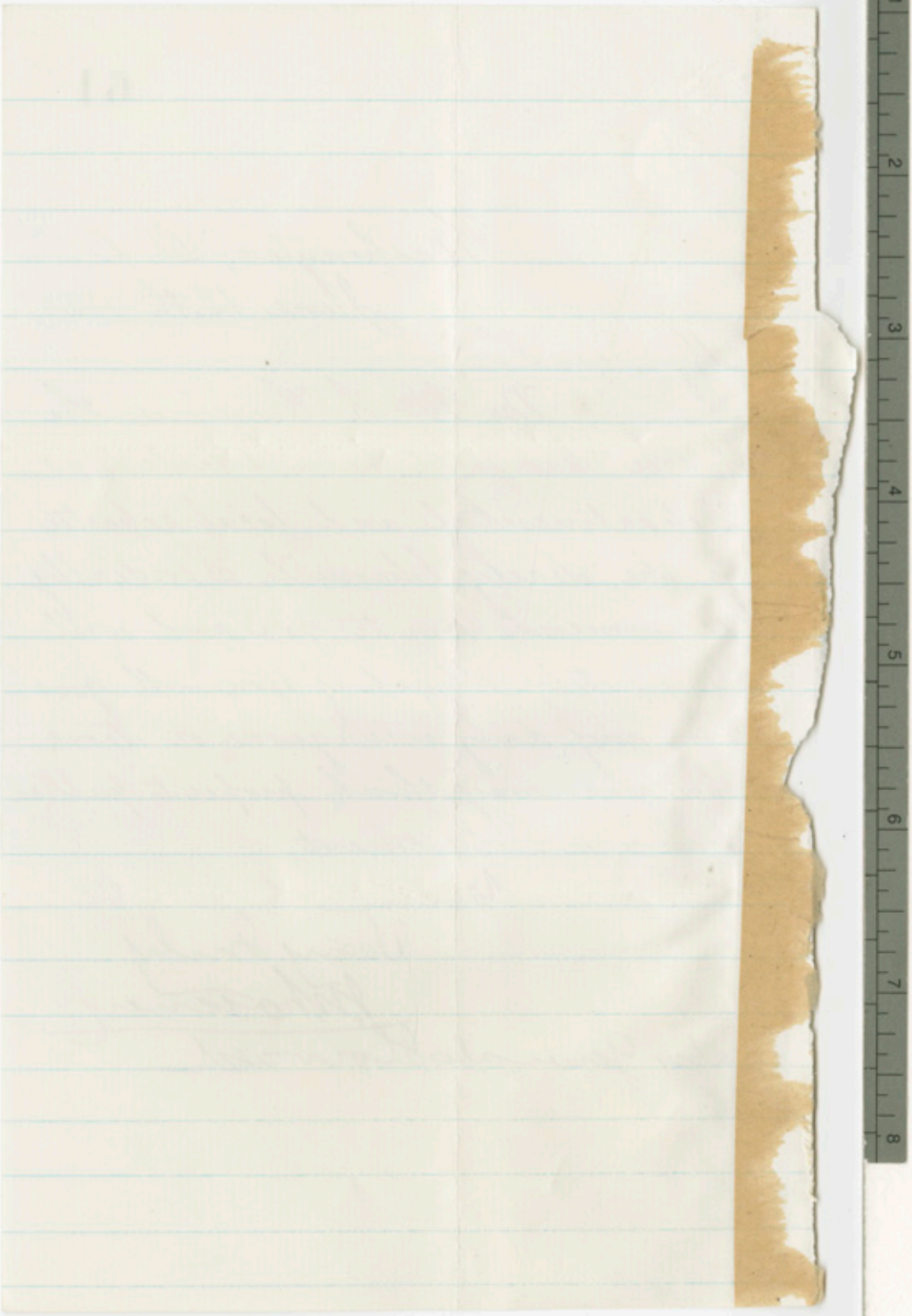
Washington, D. C.
June 12th 1865.

My Dear Sir,

Mr Wm. B. Hineline the bearer, has just been selected as Departmental and local reporter for the Daily Chronicle, I cordially recommend him to you and will be greatly obliged if you will give him any daily intelligence or items that you may think proper to publish from your Department.

Yours
Very Truly
J. W. Forney

Major General Howard



62

Camp Stoneman D. C
June 12th 1865,

Maj Genl Howard.

Sir!

Pardon me for the liberty I take in thus addressing you. I wished to know if your brother the Col has command of a Cold Regt and if so, could you assist me to obtain a position in it as I was acquainted with Chas when at Brunswick where I reside and would write him if I knew where to direct. I have served three years in the old Fifth Me and am now in "Hancock Corps."

If you can assist me any thereat I shall be under the greatest obligation to you

I am sir
Very Respectfully

Co "D" 8th Regt 1st Corps Born 1844 Sept
Camp Stoneman DC St Louis Johnson.

P.S.

I can furnish the best of recommendation as to character, ability &c

63

Washington. D.C.

June [14?] 1865.

Genl. Howard.

Dear Sir,

I wrote you a note some days since, begging you, if it were in your power, to give me some writing from your office. As I have received no answer to it, I can only suppose it has never reached its destination. Since I applied to you for a clerkship in your Bureau, I have obtained the appointment to me in the Treasury Department, at the sum of $850.00 per month. After most earnest endeavor I find that I cannot obtain board for myself and child for less than $48.00 per month in this city. Pardon me for writing these particulars to you, but I merely wish to state that that sum is totally inadequate to my support; and that I must find some other employment. If you could give me some writing from your Bureau, which I could take home

~~home~~ with me, and do nights and mornings, I assure you I should not only be most truly grateful to you, but I think you would feel that you had assisted one who was really in need. I hope it is needless for me to state that I should try most faithfully to do my duty to your satisfaction.

I am not accustomed to asking favors, and I hardly know how to word my request, but "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh;" and if in your kindness, you do see fit to grant my request, the blessings of Him, who has promised to befriend the widow and the fatherless, will I am sure rest upon you. I will call again tomorrow morning to get an answer to my request.

With the utmost respect.

Mrs. J. B. Richardson.

Major Genl. O. O. Howard,
Commissioner Freedmens Bureau,
Washington.

Recd Aug 13 1865

Richardson, Mrs. J. B.

Exeter Maine
June, 14. 1865.

General.

I see it stated in the papers that you are to deliver the oration at Gettysburgh on the 4th proximo

Will you oblige me by saying if that announcement is correct

Very respy
Your obt Servant
David Barker

Genl O. O. Howard
Washington
D.

Beaufort, S. C. June 14. 1865

Dear Sir,

I desire to express to you, my gratitude to a kind Providence, who has placed you in charge of so many of the very important interests of the freedmen. I pray that you may be endowed with wisdom for the great work, & that you may be able to find men pre-eminently fitted to aid you, without marring the work. The real elevation, having any thing like a symmetrical developement, of this people, is a slow work. Men of weak faith in God, or who cannot do this work heartily as unto the Lord, are very apt to soon grow weary of it. The cross of the Colored Man's cause, is not without its odium, here Christian love & a certain amount of courage, are requisite, or not only will the cause suffer, but the laborer himself will sustain moral damage, as has too often occurred.

Genl. Saxton desired me to make out a code of regulations relative to the marriage relations. I hope to have them ready by next steamer. I find it a very important, & also very difficult work.

There is another piece of immense importance to be provided for. I refer to the settlement of the estates of deceased freedmen, & the care of their minor children. Even if the states are reorganized, their laws ignore all the interests of the freedmen. All their courts are barred against them.

One case, which I will give, that occurred on one of the islands a few weeks since will, ~~make~~ at once illustrate the wants I refer to. A freedman died, leaving two motherless children, one a babe of a few months, the other perhaps three years. There was no one to look after either he

children or property. The property, by military order was sold for nearly $500. & the money deposited in the Freedmen's bank. Who shall be guardian of the children & expend these funds for their education? Scores & thousands similar cases will occur before one year. Would not it be well to establish something like a "Commissioner of Estates" department? He could oversee this whole field — A court of some kind, in which the freedmen shall be allowed to give testimony is absolutely necessary.

Necessity is being laid on us by Providence, through the force of stubborn facts involving equally the white man's interest to do some sort of justice to the colored man.

I hint I shall be accused

for naming another matter, Genl. Gover has been relieved of the Command of Savannah by Genl. Gillmore. Brig. Genl Wright has been placed in Command of the Port & Genl. Birge of the District. Genl Gover was the favorite of all the disloyalists, as is generally understood. His restoration cannot aid in any way the interests of the freedmen. I think Sec. Stanton knows this between you, the Secretary and other friends. I trust Genl. Gover will be assigned to duty elsewhere.

I pray that God may give you all needed wisdom for your work & good men only to aid you. Pardon my freedom & believe me Yours truly. M. French

Beaufort S.C.
June 14, 1865.

French Mrs.

Rec'd & R'ptd 23 June.

War Department,

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands,

Washington D.C. June 14th, 1865.

(Wednesday night)

Dear.

I presume you are quietly at home by this time and I hope quite well. I shall look for a letter tomorrow or next day. I came straight back in the 10 m. train reaching here about 6 P.M. Col. & Mrs Markland have joined the mess and we are ~~now~~ living quite pleasantly. Col Markland & wife, Gen. Storey - Col. & Allister Capt Tuyard. My Sisters My children & Hodges will all be in. They do not all room here yet. I am now getting along well with my business. Capt Cole has just returned from Fort St. from Boston & Charles

they are well and Jonathan sends a good report. Col Blanchard & Sam. Strong have started for the West. on duty. Stimson has gone to Richmond. Oh. there is much, much to tell you. but it is too late tonight. I have written four pages of my letter faithfully & Oration and it is now 12 - midnight. Love much love to the children

Good bye you are
lovingly
Otis

G. III - Vol. 11. 1870

302 Walnut Street
Philada: June 14th 1865.

Major General O. O. Howard
General,

I called to see you when I was in Washington some weeks ago and again when you were in this City last week but on each occasion I was disappointed. My object in calling upon you was the natural desire I felt to see an old friend, but this was not my only object. I wanted besides to enquire of you whether as "Chief of the Freedmen's Bureau" you had in your gift any office or appointment that I could fill. As you are aware I entered the service ~~and~~ of the very commencement of the war and after participating in most of the engagements I was finally taken prisoner last August on the Weldon Rail Road.

Last spring I was released and soon after, my term of service having expired, I was mustered out. I at once opened an Office for the practice of my profession, the Law; but times are not now what they were when I abandoned my business and took to the field. After a trial of some months I find myself with scarcely any business on hand, and very little prospects at present of getting any. Thinking that perhaps in starting a new institution you might be in want of assistants I thought I would apply to you.

I am General
With much respect
Your old friend
Wm. A. Leech