
2632 6/15/1865 *From:* H. Wilson

To: Major General [OO]
Howard

OOH-2572

Natick

Source: Bowdoin

[179]

Natick, June 15th, 1865.

Major General Howard,
Dear Sir,

I send you enclosed papers. I hope you will do all that can be done for the protection of the poor negroes. God have mercy on them for this nation seems about to abandon them to the hatred of their disloyal masters.

Yours ever
H. Wilson

2633 6/15/1865 *From:* H.W. Beecher

To: Genl. OO Howard

OOH-2573

Source: Bowdoin

[67, 68]

June 15, 1865

Genl. OO Howard

My dear Sir

The bearer, Surgeon Macy, is lately returned from Charleston. He has been in my brother's regiment. He knows the makings of things in the middle & the outside about Charleston.

I doubt not, you desire important information from him.

I am very truly yours,
H.W. Beecher

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

June 15, 1865

Beecher, H. W.

Introducing Surg Macy

Recd. July 17, 1865

2634 6/15/1865 *From:* David Wells

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2574

Gettysburg

Source: Bowdoin

[69, 70]

Gettysburg June 15, 1865

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard,
My Dear Sir,

Having accepted the invitation extended to you by the Board of Managers of the Soldiers' National Cemetery to deliver the Oration at the laying of the Corner Stone of the monument to be erected therein, I write to you an invitation to accept the hospitalities of my house during your sojourn here on that occasion.

Our late lamented President was my guest on the 19th of Nov. 1863 at the time of the Consecration of these grounds and also Mr Everett who too has been called away from earth since.

Mr Everett came here four or five days before the day on which he delivered his oration so as to have a view of the Battlefield & also to have some rest after the fatigues of travel.

I shall be pleased to have you with me and to hear from you what day you will be here.

I am, with high regard,
Your Obedient Servant,
David Wells
President of the Soldier's National Cemetery
& Chairman of Com. of Arrangts.

I have written to the Secretary of War to order on here from some point, some Infantry, Cavalry & Artillery to make a military display and have yet received no reply. May I trouble you to use your influence by bringing the matter to his notice & request that it be done.

D.W.

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

Gettysburg, Pa.

June 15, 1865.

David Wells

Prest. Soldier's National Cemetery

Extends invitation to his house on the occasion of the forthcoming anniversary.

Recd (Bu. R. F. & A.L.) June 16, 1865

Answered

2635 6/16/1865 *From:* MH French

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard,
U.S.A.

OOH-2575

Head Qrs. 8 A. Corps
Baltimore Md

Washington City

Source: Bowdoin

[71]

Head Qrs. 8 A. Corps
Baltimore Md
June 16, 1865

Dear General,

May I ask of you your assistance to have my son Frank's name brought forward for a brevet.

He was wounded severely at Balls Bluff and has been with the Army until after 'Coal Harbor.'

Should you think him worthy of such consideration it will be highly appreciated by me.

With great regard
Very sincerely yours,
<MH> French
Lt Col. 2d Art.

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard,
U.S.A.
Washington City

[CHECK ORIGINAL, 1st page on the left additional writing.]

2636 6/16/1865

From: J. T. Ware

To: Maj. Gen Howard

OOH-2576

Source: Bowdoin

Superintendent's Office
West Jersey Rail Road
Company,
208 South Delaware
Avenue,
Philadelphia

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

[72, 73]

Direct
Superintendent's Office
West Jersey Rail Road Company,
208 South Delaware Avenue, (Up Stairs)
Philadelphia, June 16th 1865.

Maj. Gen Howard,
Chief Freedman's Bureau,
Washington, D.C.
Dear Sir,

I noticed in to day's, a card issued by you in regard to the "homeward march" of union reffugees. Unfortunately I come under the above head.

I am a native Georgian, of the ill fated city Atlanta, loving the old flag under which I was born so well to fight against it. I sought reffuge from rebel tyranny, beneath its protecting folds.

My father was an old citizen of Atlanta, and was an upholder of the constitution up to the time of his death, which was two years ago. He left me with a widowed mother, and about twenty thousand dollars worth of property. Our residence stood directly opposite Col La Dukes Hd Quarters, which were in Mr Peter's house. To day Gen our house lays in ashes, and Peter's stands, although he was a bitter "secesh," and fled long before we were greeted by your "first shells."

I kept clear of rebel service by being in the employ of <M&W.R.R.>. I married when I was twenty years old, just six months before the noble army of which you had the honor to command a portion, reach Atlanta. We remain in City during the whole bombardment, those missiles of death and destruction caused many sleepless nights to pass over our heads but I was determind to remain so long as one brick lay upon "another". The long summer days and nights rolled slowly by but at last we were greeted by the appearance of "Sherman's Grand Army", but I have no thought our part of the conflict ended, but alas! how different. Scarce had two months passed when Gen S deeming prudent to evacuate the City and march through the heart of the rebellion of Georgia I should have said. His forward movement compelled us to leave Atlanta, and seek shelter in the "northern clime". I have been a "wanderer" ever since.

We received a letter from Mother yesterday, written from Atlanta, written June 5th in which she says every that we possessed is "destroyed". We are anxious to go home but are not able to bear our own expenses. Gen we would be under lasting obligations, if you will give me an order for transportation, for my wife and myself, to Atlanta Ga.

I have letters from Col Parkhurst of Gen Thomas' staff, that will establish the truth of my assertions, if you should desire to see them.

I am very respectfully your obt. Servt.
J. T. Ware

Care,
West Jersey R.R.

2637 6/16/1865 *From:* Saml. F. Colt

To: Major Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2577

Source: Bowdoin

The General
Assembly's Eastern
Committee
For the Religious
Instruction of the
Freedmen.
Philadelphia

Com. Bureau R. F. &C

[44]

The General Assembly's Eastern Committee
For the Religious Instruction of the Freedmen.
Philadelphia, June 16th 1865
Rev. W.P. Breed, Chairman
Rev. Saml. F. Colt, Secretary & Superintendent
William Main, Esq., Treasurer
Morris Patterson, Esq.
John McArthur, Esq.
Wilfred Hall. Esq

Major Genl. O.O. Howard
Com. Bureau R. F. &C
My dear General

By Lt. Col. Wittlesey we applied for passes fo Messrs Turpin, Memson and Hedges to North Carolina, and for Rev. Johnathan C. Gibbs to Charleston South Carolina.

The last named is ready to start and would take the steamer from New York tomorrow were the pass on hand, and the others will go to Newbern by first vessel.

Our obligations will enhanced by dispatch.

Very truly your obt. Servt.
Saml. F Colt
821 Chestnut St.
Phila.

[Written sideways on the back page, in a different hand.]
Philadelphia June 16/65
Colt, Rev. Saml F.
Answd.
Col W left no mention of subject. No passes necessary.

2638 6/17/1865 *From:* Sam. L. Harris

To: General [OO] Howard

OOH-2578

Beaufort, S.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[75, 76]

Beaufort, S.C.
June 17, 1865

General Howard
Dear Sir,

I have hastily written this evening, at the suggestion of your brother Col Howard, answers to some questions.

It occurs to me that upon one or two points I may not have made myself sufficiently clear and may perhaps not be understood.

Respecting the ballot, I am of opinion that it should not at present be granted to either whites or blacks. That was the idea I intended to convey in answer to his question. But if it is to be granted to any and the civil power to be resumed in the several states, rather than that the whites of the South with their present feelings should come in power, I should say make the ballot free, but it would be better to continue control, as at present, until gospel influences could be extended and the people, white and black, be harmonized upon at least one front, and compacted in some degree in a mutual effort for the prosperity of themselves and their country. Six months with the right man to supervise the educational work in each state would make all safe for the future.

While on the main, I was among the people connected with five different churches, while traveling a circuit of about 150 miles. At Beech Grove Church, I addressed a gathering of about 200 whites, all there were in the neighborhood, and about 300 blacks, representatives from the different plantations.

I permitted white and black, at the close of my address to ask me questions, and my answers were given to the assembly. It is true that the colored people were apparently the best satisfied with my remarks, but I was treated respectfully and considerately by all. I feel convinced that there is an urgent necessity for some one to visit the different plantations, counsel with and advise the freedmen, and thus assure them of their position and their rights, and this would give the opportunity for influence upon the late Masters.

The great changes through which we are rapidly passing can hardly be understood, but by personal contact with the people.

May the Lord guide all who shall in any manner labor for the welfare of the South and may his Presence especially be granted to you Sir in your very responsible position.

The South waits for Genl Howard's action –many prayers are offered for him –and many hearts wait anxiously –some with right purpose, others with selfish, for the orders that shall effect them.

May abundant wisdom be granted you of the Lord and as in the past so in the future may His blessings be constantly vouchsafed to you.

I have the honor to be Genl
Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant,
Sam. L. Harris

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

Beaufort SC
June 17, 65
Saml L Harris
Recd B of R F & AL June 22/65
File

2639 6/17/1865

From: J.W. Chickering
Senr.

To: Dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-2579

Boston

Source: Bowdoin

[77]

Boston, June 17, 1865.

Dear General,

Rev. Royal Parkinson, formerly of Me., now of W. was for a time Chaplain of the 23d Regiment, U.S.C. Infantry.

He felt obliged to resign on account of the difficulty of leaving his family for the new Texan campaign.

But he & his talented wife are much interested in the colored people, whom she wants to gladly instruct if he could have some appointment in your department.

I do not know what appointments you make, or whether any in Washington or its neighborhood, where Mr. P. would like to be on account of a deaf & dumb son, now fitted to enter an Institution there.

But I can recommend him as a faithful, industrious man, who would be useful in any work requiring sociality & shrewdness rather than building of character.

If you can do any thing for him & for the public good at the same time you will gratify a worthy family & oblige

Yours truly
J.W. Chickering Senr.

2640 6/17/1865

From: Richard Realf

To: Major Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2580

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters Post of
Nashville,
Nashville, Tenn

Chief Commissioner
Freedmens Bureau

[78, 79, 80, 81]

Head-Quarters Post of Nashville,
Nashville, Tenn, June 17th 1865

Major Genl O.O. Howard
Chief Commissioner Freedmens Bureau
General,

Being on the eve of honorable muster out of service, I have the honor most respectfully to solicit an appointment to some subordinate position or agency in the Bureau of which you are Chief, and to enclose copies of endorsements on a recent application for appointment in the Regular Army, which by reason of the general rush for such appointments will probably be unsuccessful.

I am an Englishman by birth, liberally educated, and by previous occupation a lecturer and writer upon literature and belle lettres. My term of service dates from August, 1862, during which period I have participated in all the battles and campaigns incident to the operations of the Army of the Cumberland. I entered the service as a private soldier, rising through regular gradations to the position of Regimental Adjutant in the Command of Colonel Frank T. Sherman, who was for some time your Chief of Staff during the period in which you commanded the Fourth Corps.

It is perhaps unnecessary for me to add that I have always been identified with the Anti-Slavery and Republican parties, or that I am desirous that under the changed status of affairs, they who were so recently slaves shall be led through fairly rewarded industry and systematic education to usefulness, competence, and fitness for all the duties of men and citizens.

I venture to express the hope that the favorable endorsements which I have the honor to enclose will satisfy you as to my character, capacity, and fitness for any position your courtesy may confer.

I have the honor to be
General
Very Respectfully Your Obedt Servant
Richard Realf
Adjutant 88th Ill Inft, and
A.D.C. Staff of Brvt Maj Genl Miller

My P.O. address is Furnessville, Porter County, Indiana.

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

Nashville Tenn

June 17, 1865

Realf R. Lt 88th Ills Vols.

Asks to be assigned to Bureau of R F & AL

Recd Bureau Refugees &c June 21 / 65

Referred by letter to Gen Fiske A C for K & T.

Ans June 28, 1865

Head-Quarters Post of Nashville
Nashville, Tenn., May 2nd 1865

I have the honor to recommend Lieut. Richard Realf for appointment in the Regular Army of the US to a position not below First Lieutenant. Mr Realf is one of those young officers now in the Volunteer Army who has by long service and a natural aptitude for the profession become well qualified for such a position, and in my judgment will render most efficient service to the country. Mr Realf is an officer of exceeding great ability, and his

gallantry in action has won the applause of all who know him.

(signed)

Jno. F. Miller

Brig Genl U.S.A.

Head Quarters 1st Brig. 2nd Div. 4th A.C.

Camp Harker, Tenn. May 4th 1865

Lieut. Realf has served under my command and personal observation in some of the most important operations of the War: viz. the Campaign of Atlanta, the battles of Franklin Nov 30th 1865, and of Nashville Dec. 15th & 16th same year. And I have pleasure in recommending him for his manly worth, his bravery, and efficiency as an Officer. I hope the Government may retain his services by appointment in the Regular Army.

(signed)

E. Opdycke

Brevet Brig Genl U.S. Vols.

Comdg

Head Quarters 1st Div. 4th A.C.

Camp Harker, Tenn., May 4th, 1865.

I most heartily concur in the recommendation of Gen. Miller. Lieut Realf served as Adjutant of the 88th Ill. Infty under my Command during the Campaign which resulted in the capture of Atlanta. I know him to possess all the qualifications necessary to make the good Officer. He will be an honor to the service, and I do most sincerely hope that his application may be successful. The Lieut. is every way worthy and well qualified for the position.

(signed)

Nathan Kimball

Brevet Maj Genl U.S. Vols.

Comdg.

Head Quarters 2nd Div, 4th A.C.

Nashville, Tenn, May 4th, 1865.

Lieut. Realf's record in this Division is good, and he would undoubtedly prove worthy of an appointment in the Regular Army.

(signed)

W. L. Elliott

Brig. Genl. U.S. Vols. Comdg.

Head Quarters 3rd Div. 4th A.C.

Nashville, Tenn, May 5th 1865.

I take pleasure in recommending 1st Lieut Richard Realf, 88th Ills. for the promotion asked for. He has served in the same Corps with myself, a part of the time the Corps being under my command. He always bore himself well, a good officer, a gallant soldier, and a worthy gentleman.

(Signed)

T. J. Wood

Maj Genl U.S. Vols.

Head Quarters 4th A.C.

Camp Harker, Tenn, May 5th 1865.

I take pleasure in recommending Adjutant Richard Realf, 88th Ill. Infty, for an appointment in the Regular Army. I believe him to be well qualified, and I remember with gratitude his doing me an excellent service under fire at the severe battle of Franklin.

(signed)

D.S. Stanley

Maj Genl

Head Quarters Department Cumberland

Nashville, Tenn, May 5th 1865.

Respectfully forward, approved, and appointment recommended.

(Signed)

Geo. H. Thomas

Maj Genl U.S.A.

Head Quarters Post of Nashville, Tenn.

May 6th, 1865

The above and foregoing are true copies of endorsements on Lieut. Realf's original application.

(signed)

L. Howland

Captain & A.A.G.

I certify on honor that the foregoing is a true and literal copy of original endorsements in my possession.

Richard Realf

1st Lieut 88th Ill. Infy. and

A.D.C. Staff of Genl. Miller.

Nashville, Tenn.

June 17, 1865.

2641 6/17/1865

From: Jos. Dickinson

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2582

No. 21 Harford Avenue
Baltimore, Md

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

Source: Bowdoin

[82]

No. 21 Harford Avenue
Baltimore, Md June 17th 1865.

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

May I presume to ask of you one of the many appointments in your gift as Chief of the Freedman's Bureau?

From your knowledge of my services in the army, I am led to believe you may consider me worthy and competent to fill any position your may see fit to honor me with, assuring you I will use my best endeavors to merit your confidence and esteem.

Most Respectfully Your Obt. Svt.
Jos. Dickinson,
Late Lt. Col. & A.A.Genl. A. of P.

P.S. You are aware, I presume, I resigned on acct. of wounds received at the Battle of Gettysburg. J.D.

2642 6/18/1865 *From:* W.B. Hazen

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2583

Louisville Ky.

Commr. Of Freedmen
Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[83, 84]

Louisville Ky.
June 18, 1865

My dear Genl.

The enclosed letter from my friend Col. Bebee was received today, and I thought best to send it to you, and by reading it you will at once see what he wishes, and can perhaps without trouble to yourself gratify him.

Any letter that I might write about it to the Dpt. would probably fail in its object.

With the expression of profound gratitude for your uniform kindness and consideration

I am your
Sincere friend
W.B. Hazen

To
Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard
Commr. Of Freedmen
Washington

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

Hd Qrs 15th A.C.
Louisville June 18
Hazen Maj Gen.
Asks the Genl to promote Lt Col Beebe
Recd B of R F & AL 23rd June

A-

2643 6/18/1865 *From:* EB Ward

To: Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2584

Office of E.B. Ward
Detroit Mich

Source: Bowdoin

[87]

Office of E.B. Ward
Detroit Mich June 18 1865

Genl Howard
Dr Sir,

Though unacquainted with you I wish to introduce to you Rev. Wm King of Canada formerly of Louisiana.

Mr King has had an experience with the colored men both south and north that few have enjoyed and his experience in my opinion would be eminently valuable to your Bureau. He does not want office but wishes to give you such information as no other man can impart and I hope you will be enabled to give him an attentive hearing.

Respy
EB Ward [Eber Brock Ward]

<>

[Written on the back page, in another hand.]
Detroit Mich.
June 18, 1865
Ward, E.B.
Introducing Rev Mr King of Canada.

2644 6/18/1865

From: May M. Hallowell

To: Major Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2585

Source: Bowdoin

Secty Relief Assn. for
Union Refugees
No 2121 Arch St
Phila.

[88]

Phila. June 18th 1865

Major Gen. Howard

I appeal to you on behalf of the Union Refugees from E. Tennessee, and respectfully ask your assistance, in obtaining transportation for some of them to return to their homes.

I directed a note to you at the Continental Hotel, and enclosed resolutions forwarded to me by the E. Tenn. Relief Assoc. at Knoxville as an evidence of my interest in the matter, which I hope may yet come to hand.

Your very Respectfully
May M. Hallowell

Secty Relief Assn. for Union Refugees
No 2121 Arch St

2645 6/19/1865 *From:* H.H. Boody

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2586

8 Wall St
New York

Source: Bowdoin

[89, 90]

8 Wall St
New York June 19, 1865

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard
My dear Sir,

Allow me to introduce my classmate, Rev. C.M. Blake, late Hospital Chaplain at Chattanooga.

Mr. Blake has served through the whole war, with, I believe, great acceptance. He is by the usage & experience of his life a teacher; but has a good deal of aptitude for the administration of other officers.

He desires to be connected with that most important department of labor which <> falls under your supervision; and if you can find it compatible with the public interests to give him employment, you will I have no doubt find him an efficient co-adjutor & will oblige both him and I.

Yours truly,
H.H. Boody

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

New York, June 19, 1865.

Boody, H. H.

Introducing Rev. C. M. Blake, late Chaplain at Chattanooga, who desires to become connected with the Freedmens Bureau.

2646 6/19/1865 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2587

Washington, D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[607]

Washington, D.C.
June 19th 1865

Dearest

It is Monday morning before breakfast. I received a letter from you Saturday evening, and I was happy to learn that you had arrived safely and that the children were very well and glad to see Mamma back and glad to get their presents. I am much obliged to Mr Webb.

I had no intention of going to Gettysburg without some kind of preparation, so that I immediately set to work and wrote some thirty or forty pages of manuscript. Maj Stinson is revising, correcting, <?phing> and rewriting the same. Whether I shall memorize it or not is a question soon to be solved. If you were here to help I think I should do so. I hav'nt spoken from notes since I lost my hand and will find it inconvenient. I introduced by speaking of my last visit, then of the consecration of Mr Everett and Mr Lincoln. Then I made my theme, the "private volunteer soldier" giving you glimpses of him from my own different point of view. Stinson who is a good writer and truthful says the speech is a good one. I closed with a reference to Gen. Reynolds and a very brief one to Gen. Meade. I think amidst the multitude of 4th of July orations that will be delivered mine may escape without unusual criticism. I shall let pass all controversy and say nothing of the freedman's bureau. The business at the office is quite extensive, but I think I am disposing of it with comparative ease.

Osborn has again met with an R.R. accident and broken his arm. He was in Oneida N.U. Col. Whittlesey has gone to North Carolina with his eagles on his shoulders. Yesterday I went to Dr. Gurley's church [New York Avenue Presbyterian Church] in the morning and heard a clergyman by the name of Fealy from the West. After dinner a gentleman came for me to take me to a Sunday School at Georgetown, when I told him I would go provided I was not put in the news papers. I found it an Anniversary occasion and neighboring schools invited in and a printed program, a large church and a full house. My name was left out so I could find no fault, though I did not anticipate it was so grand an occasion. The children hundreds of them listened to me attentively. I wish Guy had been there and remembered how much he appreciated a story, he said he never heard me tell before, one evening that he went to the vestry with me. I thought of Gracie and the little ones as I saw so many children. They sang as well as those in Philadelphia and there were very many beautiful faces amongst them.

Give all the children much love from papa. He knows now not to send any more kisses, but intends by the blessing of God to go home before many days and thinks he will do his own kissing.

General & Mrs Casey came to see you also Mrs General Grant & Mrs Lieut Col Porter. Mrs Markland was here on my return. I gave her your message, and she says tell Mrs Howard, "I will try but she knows that "Mrs Dr Walker" comes to the office." She must explain.

We are having a very pleasant mess but I want Lizzie and the children. God bless you & them. Lovingly
Otis

2647 6/19/1865 *From:* Emlen N. Carpenter *To:* Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2588

Phil-Ellena [St]
Germantown [Pa]

Chf. Bureau Refugees
Freedmen &c

Source: Bowdoin

[91, 92]

Phil-Ellena [St]
Germantown [Pa]
June [19 written in pencil] 1865

Genl. O.O. Howard
Chf. Bureau Refugees Freedmen &c
General,

I have the honor to acknowledge the communication of L Sladen of inst desiring me to write "fully & freely" to you what I knew & thought of Mrs Feaster & daughter. With the belief that this communication is to be strictly confidential I will endeavor to give you the correct idea.

Mrs. Feaster sought me out about ten days before Genl Sherman entered Columbia. She predisposed me in her favor and gained my confidence, by telling me she had seen me when I was a little boy, and knew my father & mother and other members of my family. She then pressed money upon me at different times to the amt of sixteen hundred \$1600 in confederate money. When her house was burned I felt a great deal of sympathy for her. Her house I saw and it was handsomely furnished. There was also a store or warehouse, said to be stored with tobacco, salt, leather &c t the amt of \$150,000 in gold. This I did implicitly believe, but I neither saw it or know it to be so.

The night before Gen Sherman entered Columbia while the rebel soldiery were evacuating the town, finding I was unsafe in the streets, I went to her house, about 9 PM. I remained there till about 4 am and then Mrs. F. sent a black boy who took us out of her house into one next door. Capt McChesney of 1st N.Y. Cavy, the officer who was with me when I reported to you, was with me, and is the only officer besides myself, that I saw at her house during the few hours I was there. When her house was burned I thought I could find no worthier object of sympathy than an old friend of my father & mother & aunts.

When we arrived in Phila., I found I had been imposed upon and deceived. The ladies were invited to Phil-Ellena. They were here five weeks. I found that they were not acquainted with my family & friends. Being visitors here helped to introduce them into society. Mrs. Feaster's accounts of her trials and losses were magnified according to the frequency of their relation and the size of her audience. These statements have all been repeated to me, I did not hear them.

When she left here she returned to the Continental Hotel were she commenced a course of conduct that was ridiculous. She magnified accounts of her services to prisoners, stating that she had disbursed \$500.000 to prisoners. Among others I had received from \$2500 to \$5000 in gold. Through her solicitation also, you tendered me a position on your staff. She represented that she concealed large numbers of Union Officers at her house. This course had the desired effect at first and so many gentlemen of Phila felt sympathy for her & would have aided her, but she ruined her cause by letting her feelings get the better of her judgment. In endeavoring to injure me she injured herself, until finally many of her statements were found to be untrue.

About this time she left Phila for N.Y. When I found that in the first place my confidence was gained by misrepresentation, secondly that the aid extended to be was not disinterested, & finally that upon her finding that I had discovered the imposition that she aspersed my character. I lost most of my sympathy for them and severed all connection with them. I cannot help pitying the poor woman, although she has behaved very badly, & I doubt whether her motives were disinterested, but then she has lost her house and she certainly did aid officers, prisoners of war.

As I said before it is with the belief that this will be strictly confidential that I have written as I have, mentioning several things which are necessary only as tending to throw some light on the subject. I intend to visit Washington before long & I would like to explain more fully than I can on paper many little things which have transpired since the departure at Fayetteville.

With earnest wishes for your welfare,
I have the honor General to remain
Respy. & truly
Yr obt Svt
Emlen N. Carpenter [Col Emlen Newbold Carpenter]

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

Phila Pa

June 19, 1865

Carpenter, E.N.

Answers letter relating to Mrs Feaster. Thinks she has exaggerated &c &c.

Rec'd B of R F & A L June 22d / 65

2648 6/19/1865 *From:* Alfred Colburn

To: Major General [OO]
Howard

OOH-2589

Bradford N.H.

Source: Bowdoin

[93, 94]

Bradford N.H. June 19th 1865

Major General Howard
Dear Sir,

My only plea for asking a few moments of your attention is founded on my distress, & your well-known humanity.

I am Pastor of the Bradford Bap't Church. My Son, Alfred H. Colburn, is a member of Co. G. 18th N.H. Regt., Col. Livermore. In May last year, he enlisted in the 134th Ill. (100 Days) Reg. & a few days after, was taken sick & sent to the U.S. Hospital at Columbus, Ky. where he remained till the 1st of Aug, when at the request of the Surgeon, I went out and brought him home, barely alive. His sickness was very severe, & lasted till Nov.; indeed, he never fully recovered from it. It broke down his constitution which was always slender from a child; and when his zeal tempted him to re-enlist last Feb. in the 18th N.H. his friends were utterly surprised that the examining surgeon should accept a boy so feeble and unfit for the hardships of a soldier's life.

For several weeks past, as we learn from reliable sources, he has been sick much of the time, & is fast growing weaker; and tho' in his letters home, he puts on a brave front, he is evidently sinking into a state from which we have every reason to fear it will be impossible to raise him.

He is an only son –and of course, we are distressed about him. Indeed, his mother's anxiety has brought her to a sick bed.

Application for a furlough has been made by my son personally, & by myself by letter strongly endorsed –but thus far, without success. It is reported here, that the Colonel is incensed against his men, because they expressed gratification when he became disabled by a recent fall from his horse; and it is useless to expect an favor at his hands. But whether this is so, or not, I do not know.

At my suggestion, my son petitioned the Surgeon to send him to the hospital; but he merely released him from duty for a few days, & put him back in the ranks when he had scarcely strength to sit up. I do not know the Surgeon's name.

I have no reason to suppose that you have official jurisdiction in this matter; but not knowing to whom to apply, bewildered & distressed, I have ventured to lay it before you, trusting that your kindness will prompt you to do whatever may lie in your power for our relief.

Hoping you will pardon this trespass on your time and praying for your health & abundant success in that most important Department to which Divine Providence has called you,

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your obedient servant
Alfred Colburn

(over)

I take the liberty to add that my application for a furlough (of 60 Days) addressed to Col. Livermore was endorsed by Hon. Jos. Gilmore, Gov. of New Hampshire, Hon. Leonard Chase, member of the Council, and J.H. Gilmore, Gov's Private Secretary who appended their signatures to the following testimonial:

“The undersigned would respectfully endorse and approve the within application, knowing Mr. Colburn to be a reliable and most patriotic citizen who is fully worthy of any favor which may be conferred upon him.”

Note to Comdg officer of 18th N.H.

If other testimony were needed, it might be readily obtained from the most prominent clergyman of our denomination in N. England. But it will be sufficient to say that I am Secretary of the New Hampshire Bap't State Convention –a position that necessarily implies the confidence of my brethren in the ministry.

[Written on the last page, upside down in red ink, and in a different hand.]

Bradford NH

June 19, 1865

Colburn R.A.

Asks assistance in procuring a furlough for his son belongs to 18th NH who is sick.

Recd B of RF&AL June 22, / 65

2649 6/19/1865 *From:* S.P. Gamage

To: Major General [OO]
Howard

OOH-2590

Holtsville Long Island
New York

Chief of Bureau of Freedmen
&c

Source: Bowdoin

[95, 96, 97]

Holtsville Long Island New York
June 19th 1865

Major General Howard
Chief of Bureau of Freedmen &c
General

I would most respectfully solicit an appointment to some position of usefulness, if only connected with a very limited compensation, in the department of labors for the benefit of the Freedmen and their children.

I formerly held the position of chaplain in the 75th Regt. U.S.C. Infantry, but resigned for the purpose of recruiting my health, which having secured through the Divine blessing, I am desirous to be employed for the benefit of the colored people in your department.

Enclosed please find copies of testimonials from the Colonel Commandg my regiment, and from Charles A. Peabody Provost Judge and now District Attorney at New Orleans.

References are also kindly permitted to the Rev'd Drs Chas. Thompson, & Tyng of New York and Storrs, with others at Brooklyn.

Trusting that this brief and humble application may receive your kind consideration.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your Obt. Servant
S.P. Gamage LL.D
Late chaplain 75th U.S.C.I.

[Attachments]

Head Quarters 75th U.S. Col'd Infry,
Morganza La 16 Feb 1865

Rev'd T. P Gamage
Late Chaplain 75th U.S. Col'd Infry
My dear Sir

In view of the recent severance of your official connection with the regiment, under my command, and of your early departure from our midst, I beg leave to convey to you some feeble expression of the sentiment which the occasion inspires.

You came to us some fifteen months ago, upon a mission from which most men shrink in which many fail, and which a very few, like yourself, prosecute to a happy and triumphant success.

I believe I do but utter the sentiments of every Officer and Soldier in the regiment, when I aver that your labours, with us have been crowned with success, in a most eminent degree.

Success being the criterion of most in the army as you know, it is then no slight testimonial of worth that is conveyed in this declaration. No other consideration than that the state of your health demands it, would have induced us to consent to your resignation.

Besides this official recognition of your valuable services, allow me my dear Sir to acknowledge my

indebtedness personally to you, for your uniform kindness and counseling to me under the many and varied circumstances in which we have been brought in contact.

Trusting that the kindly feelings which have attended an intercourse in the regiment may still continue and wishing you a prosperous homeward voyage, and a speedy recovery of your health.

I subscribe myself
Sincerely and truly
Your very humble friend
Jno. L. Rice
Lieut. Col. Comding 75th U.S.C.I.

[Attachment]

I am happy to certify, that the short acquaintance I have had with the Rev'd T. P. Gamage, has given me the most favourable opinion of him, as an humble, upright, loyal, sincere man and Chaplain, and I hope that his services may long be retained in our Army.

New Orleans La
March 31st 1865

Charles A. Peabody
Provost Judge &c

2650 6/19/1865 *From:* A.M. Van Dyke

To: Dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-2592

Head-Quarters Army of
the Tennessee.
Louisville Ky.

Source: Bowdoin

[99, 100, 101]

Head-Quarters Army of the Tennessee.
Louisville Ky. June 19th 1865

Dear General

You are doubtless apprised of the fact that the Army of the Tennessee has all concentrated at this point, the last of it having arrived several days since. The time occupied in the transit was remarkably short and I think that the Quarter-Masters Department deserves great credit for the energy and ability displayed by it. The camps are pleasantly situated, but rather too near the city, affording easy opportunities for the display of the lawlessness contracted during the recent campaigns.

The 2d Div of the 15th Corps starts for Arkansas and Stolbrans Brigade of the 12th Corps for Saint Louis in a few days.

Our Staff now presents quite an array of leaves, eagles and stars, and every officers Official address commences with "Brevet". Though there is not much that is "substantial" in a Brevet appointment, we are all well pleased at even this tardy recognition of our services. I am inclined to think that in case of another War, that those who have served of "Staff" during this war will not accept Staff appointments for as a general rule their claims for promotion did not depend upon their merit or their services, but entirely upon the personal favoritism, I may say the whims of the Commanding General. Congress may pass an hundred acts every session to "promote the efficiency of the Staff", when instead of necessarily promoting such efficiency it simply affords to the General Officer an opportunity of providing for some personal favorite a "soft place" or a "good thing".

I gathered the impression that during the time I served with you, that, in the discharge of my Official duties, I gave you satisfaction. I do not see that this faithful discharge of duty was any recommendation of me to you, or that my efforts were made by you to advance me, simply because I was not personally a favorite with you. Nobody questions a mans right to consult his own personal likes, but a great many question the propriety of allowing such a privilege in all cases.

What incentive can a man have to do his duty faithfully, when he knows that at any moment, a gentleman from another army or a young exquisite from Washington, whose principle merits are that they are personal favorites, may step in, and you step back with your finger in your mouth, and are condescendingly allowed by this favorite gentleman to assume the dignity of Chief Clerk, and are, like a boy at school, to ask him when you want to go out.

The only feeling of satisfaction that one can have, is that he has conscientiously tried to do his duty, and of course I am pleased to know that you expressed yourself pleased with the manner in which I performed my official duties. I have been very much displeased however to learn lately that your recommendations in my behalf were not cordial or were withheld because (as you thought) I "drank too much whiskey". General there were three men on your staff who drank less whiskey than I did, and not one who did not take an occasional drink, and as you think, and justly too, that even one drink is too much. They were as unworthy of promotion as myself, but they all received it at your hands. I served with you only three months it is true, but in that time we saw and learned more than falls to the lot of most mortals in as many years, and the only unpleasant recollection I can have of the campaign is that I was accused by my General of being a drunkard, or at least of having so little control over myself as to be in danger of becoming such, and that told not to me personally, so that I might be able to vindicate myself to you, whose good opinion of me as a soldier and a gentleman I always hoped to have and to deserve.

I asked you to recommend my appointment in the Regular Army. I now desire to recall my application as it is

against the wishes of my parents that I should remain in the Army, as well as against my own inclinations. I meet every day, some officer of the Regular Army, appointed from Civil life, and it's my opinion that most of them are of very little credit to the profession, and my ideas of self respect will not allow that there shall be the slightest possibility that I should be commanded by such an item as Brv't Maj W. C. Ide U.S.A. and others of that ilk.

Do not think General that I am "bilious" or have the dispepsya and that what I have written is a mere ebullition of ill-humor. I write you with the kindest of feelings and with a desire to vindicate myself, and I assure you that whenever I think or speak of you it with feelings of the highest regard and respect.

I am very truly yours
A.M. Van Dyke
A.A. Gen'l

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

Louisville Ky.

June 19, 1865

Van Dyke Capt A. M.

A.A.G.

<quite> friendly letter & desires his recommendation to a position in Regular Army recalled.

Rec'd B of RF&AL June 22d 1865

File. Ans.

2651 6/19/1865 *From:* Alex. E. Drake

To: Maj Genl Oliver O.
Howard

OOH-2593

No. 2107 Brandywine
Street
Philadelphia Penn

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[104, 105]

No. 2107 Brandywine Street
Philadelphia Penn
June 19th 1865

Maj Genl Oliver O. Howard
Washington D.C.
My dear General

Presuming upon the kindly feeling so long subsisting between us I take the liberty of solicity a favor at your hands.

Having been placed on the "retired list", I have, since February 1865, been on duty, here, as "A.A.Ins.Gen'l Rendezvous for Drafted Men" The termination of our protracted struggle indicates an early closing of these Rendezvous, which will relieve me from duty, and place me on my retired pay. With not only my own family, but that of my widowed sister's, dependent, almost wholly, on me, and making a sum total of some fifteen, you will readily appreciate what my struggles, and privations must be even on my full pay. What then would be my condition, with my large family, on my retired pay. I have therefore deemed it well to ask you to have me placed on duty in your Bureau. You will find, I am sure, well disposed to favor me, not only Brvt. Brig. Genl. Mussey, Mil. Sec; but also his Excellency, the President, who has on more than one occasion given me tangible evidence of his kindly feeling. Recognized as a member of the old Emancipation party of Kentucky, our family giving substantial evidence of our feelings on the subject by the manumission, on the part of my Grandfather, over thirty years since, of the only two slaves we ever owned, there can certainly be no inconsistency in my application for such duties. May I hope your favorable consideration?

I am, General
With sincere respect
Your Most Obd St
Alex. E. Drake
Capt. & A.A.Ins.Genl.
U.S. Army

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

Phila. Pa.
June 19, 1865
Drake A E Capt.
Desires to be assigned to duty in Bureau
Recd Bureau of RF&AL June 20/65
Ans. June 21, 1865

2652 6/19/1865 *From:* W. T. Sprole

To: Maj. Genl. Howard, USA.

OOH-2594

Newburgh

Source: Bowdoin

[105, 106]

Newburgh June 19th, 1865

To.
Maj. Genl. Howard, USA.
My dear Friend,

You will excuse me, if in the multiplicity of your duties, I crave a moment of your time to do me a favor. My youngest saw Henry Warner, rec'd more than a year since, an appointment to the naval academy, which, after a very short trial, he resigned. I was induced to sanction it, under the impression that his health, was unequal to rugged life of a midshipman but on his return home, discovered that his whole difficulty arose from that mental distress which most lads are apt to experience, in leaving home and exchanging its quiet scenes, for the roughnesses of a sailors life. The ill-health of Saml. who about that time, was compelled to resign his position in the army, and who was completely broken down, both in mind and body, prevented me from looking into Henry's case as closely as I should have done. Had he remained in the naval school another month, I am now satisfied, he would have overcome all his troubles, and gone forward successfully. Shortly after his return he discovered the mistake he had made, and became as anxious to return, as he had been to leave. Through my friend Atty Genl Bates I made the application to have him reappointed, but thus far have failed.

Now my dear Genl. can you help me in this matter. I know that Sec'y Wells, has placed his name on the list again, of those seeking reappointment, but am very doubtful of success. May I not ask you, to see the Sec'y of the Navy, and speak a word in my behalf. Henry is a most excellent youth, fully prepared to prosecute the studies of the school, and should his life be spared, would, I am satisfied do credit to himself, and good service to his country.

Considering the manner in which I have been treated by the wretched [Jefferson] Davis, I think, I am entitled to some little consideration by government. If you can aid me in this behalf, by soliciting the Hon Secy to grant my request you will confer a lasting favor, on your old friend.

W. T. Sprole

P.S.
Henry's age is such, that should he not be reappointed before next September, the limitation of the law of Congress, will necessarily cut him off.

Many thanks to you, for your letter to my friend Miss Hedges, to Genl Patrick. She succeeded in recovering her nephew's body, and last Sabbath, the funeral services were performed, in Newburgh.
W.T.S.

[Written on the last page, in a different hand.]
Newburgh N.Y
June 19, 65
Prof Sprole
Ans
<Sub> taken personally to the Secy of Navy. OOH.

[Written on the last page, in OO Howard's hand.]
Attended to
O.O.H.
M.G.

2653 6/19/1865 *From:* Rev. Geo. Whipple

To: Major Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2595

Source: Bowdoin

American Missionary
Association,
No 61 John Street
New York

[98]

American Missionary Association,
No 61 John Street
New York, June 19, 1865
Rev. Geo. Whipple, Sec.
Rev. M.E. Strieby, Sec.
Lewis Tappan, Treas.
W.E. Whiting, Asst. Treas.

Major Gen. Howard
Commissioner &c &c
General,

Permit me to invite your attention to the accompanying petition from Northampton, Ms.

I have not the pleasure of an acquaintance with Mr Hunt, but I do know some of the signers of the application, and I have all confidence in their testimony. No man could wish more satisfactory endorsers than sign this paper for Mr. Hunt. I trust you will give it due consideration.

Yours respectfully
Geo. Whipple, Ga. Sec.