
2677 6/24/1865 *From:* E. Whittlesey

To: My dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-2619

Raleigh

Source: Bowdoin

[140]

Raleigh June 24th 1865

My dear General

I have not been long enough in my work to find material for an official report, but as an opportunity occurs to send directly to Washington, I will write a few lines. In the three days since my arrival, I have had interviews with the Gov, Generals Cox & Ames, & many prominent persons. All receive me with many kind words, & seem glad that somebody is sent to take from their shoulders a work & responsibility which they do not know what do do with.

I have looked at the condition of Freedmen & Refugees in & about the city. A good beginning has been made by Capt. Beal in their behalf. About 600 poor blacks (women & children) are gathered in log huts about 2 miles from town, & doing well. They have gardens, & a field of corn which will yield a part of their support.

The whites are in a worse state. I have drawn some Hospital tents, & will have a camp for them today.

I have not yet assumed the work of issuing rations to whites, as I have no officers to help me.

Medical attendance is much needed, and Surgeons are not to be obtained. The Medical Director seems ready to help me, but says his force is reduced very much below the wants of the Army. I have however got the promise of a Hospital Steward today.

Reports from the western part of the state represent all guilt in the country. Freedmen are at work, having made some bargain with their former masters.

At Fayetteville some suffering & disorder exists. I have applied for an officer to be sent there at once.

I propose to visit Newbern, Roanoke, Beaufort & Wilmington next week, after Capt. James arrives.

Under Gen. Scholfield's orders a large amount of supplies is being issued to poor whites. I think four times as much as the blacks tho' I cannot give the figures.

Yours truly,
E. Whittlesey

P.S. & Private

I don't know Col. Granger's object in visiting Washington; but I am convinced that he is not the right man for the Post he now fills, nor for any position in this bureau.

I see very suspicious indications, & fear that he will give me trouble if he gets promotion, & remains commandant of the Post.

E.W.

2678 6/24/1865 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: My dear brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-2620

Source: Bowdoin

Hd. qrs. "Camp
Stanton"
Beaufort S.C.

[184]

Hd. qrs. "Camp Stanton"
Beaufort S.C. June 24 '65

My dear brother

Gen. Saxton has offered to take a letter to you and as he goes by Ft. Monroe you would get it much earlier than the letter I wrote yesterday which is in the mail. I made it a speciality in that letter to express to you my conviction of the importance of giving military power into the hands of asst. Commissioners of Freedmen. I enclose an extract from newspaper showing the bad feeling existing, certainly in South Carolina, among returned Rebel Officers & other old citizens and their determination to do for the Freedmen only what they are compelled to do. Now I do not think the force will actually need to be used if it is at hand but should your agents undertake to carry out any regulations or orders distasteful to these people, without military power within call at least, I believe they would meet with great difficulty and that finally military force would have to be actually employed. But should it appear that these agents have the military power at hand, it would I think not only facilitate all operations but prevent actual shedding of blood in the future.

If I could see you I could in a short time express what is difficult to bring out upon paper.

I find that the Department of the South has been virtually broken up since South Carolina is in Meade's Mil. Div'n, Georgia in Thomas' and Florida in the Gulf Dept. So I suppose there will be or has been an entire reorganization and perhaps So. Carolina will constitute a Department by itself. If not, Gen. Saxton could as well and better than anyone exercise the military command which is becoming of less and less importance (merely as military) and his operations for the Freedmen's interest would be incalculably facilitated. As it is it operates not only negatively against him but the military authorities now here are a constant and positive hindrance to him as he will undoubtedly explain to you in person.

These two Regts. (128th & 104th under my command) (which he expected to retain had he continued to raise his Colored Corps) are to be turned over to Gen. Gillmore. This will not be very agreeable to me personally as I will be brought under men who know nothing of me or my past military experience and record. Besides it will occasion probably my removal from Beaufort which will neither be so pleasant for me nor so advantageous for the Regt. at present. We are just finishing some fine quarters for the men, have a school house or rather tent with nice writing benches &c &c arranged. No corrupting influence of a large city for the officers & men. Good drill ground and in that every thing in good running order.

Gen. Saxton has asked me to take the position of an agent or asst. Com'r for him to be located, say at Columbia or other important point. I think I would accept such a place if I could see the means at hand for executing orders & carrying out your plans & wishes. But I am not willing to be a do-nothing. I always desire to accomplish something & especially what I undertake.

If I could go & take my own Regiment along and thus have it partially at least under supervision or could see the means at hand, (readily to call without begging for wks to execute your plans. It would seem right for me to go.

I felt much tempted to ask for a Leave to accompany Gen. Saxton to Washington & then go thence with you to Gettysburg. Rowland wrote me he would meet me there if I would. How much I would have enjoyed this & Lizzie along too & you so much of a public character & your attention so taken up as to make me more acceptable and appreciable to the latter than I otherwise might <be>. Wouldn't I take her a stroll through the Cemetery & show her where her husband & I & a few other choice spirits slept one night with our heads against a marble monument! Wouldn't I show her where we stood when the shells flew like hail and when one burst near us and tore my coat and took the least bit of cuticle from my back and a good God kindly & mercifully shielded us when many many were cut down never to rise again! I should like so much to have met Rowland

there & talked over the battle-times. But if I had gone now I could not have gone latter & it is better for me to stay till Lt. Col. Beebe returns & then have 30 days. By that time I hope you will be ready for a vacation at home.

I have feared you were undertaking too much of late & your health or strength might fail. I do not see, hardly, how you could consent to be the orator at Gettysburg – having so much upon your mind & hands in your new Bureau. The preparation may look as a recreation & respite from your usual work however. You are succeeding a very finished orator Edward Everett. But many thought he was hardly up to the occasion. You will hardly be able to bring in the battle much it seems to me, else it will be, magna pons <gui>!

Love to Lizzie. If she would only write me one page of note size occasionally since you are too busy to write. I shall forget I have such a sister or imagine her among the things that were if she don't write or prompt you to sometimes.

Your loving brother
C.H. Howard

2679 6/24/1865

From: D. Remick

To: Maj Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2621

Louisville Ky
Head Quarters Army
Tenn

Freedmens Bureau
Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[141, 142]

Louisville Ky
Head Quarters Army Tenn
June 24th 1865

Dear Genl

I take the liberty to address a few lines to you. All of your old friends are anxiously watching the movements and progress in the Freedmens Bureau. Some <favor> one thing and some another, but we who know you think and believe that you will do what you conscientiously think is right and that you are not a fanatic nor will not allow yourself to become one and that you will not and that you will not <over rush> measures that would be detrimental to both white and black but wait for the black to progress and when the proposed time comes you will advocate that they be permitted to take part in the Govt by voting &c but probaly that time will not come for two years yet. We all pray and hope that you will succeed and believe that you will.

Our Army is here, a portion of them being mustered out and paid of. We have the 14th, 15th 17th and a part of the 20th A.C. in all about 67000 troops.

The 2d Divn 15th A.C. is ordered to Little Rock Arkansaw and starts tomorrow morning. Genl <Stubmis> brigade go to St Louis. The staff remains abut as they were when with you. Col Max Woodhull is the Adj Genl and a fine gentleman he is. Col Conklin is here as formerly.

They have sent me a Brvt rank of Col. I don't feel very much flattered with that kind of promotion when officers all around me are receiving full Colonelcy.

There is Capt Read CS with General Thomas as Chief C.S. has received his full Colonelcy and he done no duty until six months ago at which time he was assigned as Chief Commissary of that department. Also his Quarter Master received full Colonelcy. The Quarter Master in this department is a full Colonel and other departments the same but they exclude me for some reason and for what I cant continue. I have worked faithfully and have the highest recommendations from Genl Beckwith and also from youself and Genl Sherman endorsed me but all without effect. Genl Logan said he was going to write abut it that why I should be excluded when there was provision by law to make Army Chief Commisary rank of Col and they were doing it in other departments both Quartermasters and Commisary departments that I should be excluded he could not continue. If I had not arranged and sysmatised the foraging parties the men in ranks would have starved and I worked constantly to keep up <proper> organizations to keep them moving.

Genl Logan advised me to write to you to ask you to see the Secretary of War personaly and he believed if you would see him he woud readily accede to my having the rank that I am entitled to under the law and practice to others of Quartermaster & Commisary depts.

Is Col Bullock with you. Please give my kind regards to all of my acquaintances on your staff. I saw Col Hays to day. He wished to be remembered to you. All of our officers feel gratefull to you. May God bless you.

I have the honor to be Dear Genl
Very Truly Your Humble Svt
D. Remick
Chf CS A. Tenn

Maj Genl Howard
Freedmens Bureau
Washington

2680 6/24/1865 *From:* Wm. Hobson

To: My dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-2622

Saco, Maine

Source: Bowdoin

[143]

Saco, Maine, June 24, 1865

My dear General;

I am desirous of obtaining a Colonelcy of Colored Troops, and would like your influence in my behalf.

I have just been honorably discharged as Lieut. Col. of the 17th Maine, because my services were no longer required, and because of disability arising from wound received April 6.

As I suppose you know, I taught the High School in this town for nine years before entering the service. The people here desire me to take the school again, but the life is too confined for me. I imagine that the fact that I had been a successful teacher would be an additional recommendation for the office I desire.

If necessary, I will send documents to show my standing as an officer in the 17th. I had command of the Reg. for five months previous to being wounded. During that time, your brother Charles visited us, and if you happen to see him, you may ask him concerning the appearance of the Reg, and my standing in it. Your cousin, Dexter, was under my command for some time, and can tell you how I was regarded in the Reg.

An early answer will much oblige.

With all wishes for your success, I am

Very truly yrs
Wm. Hobson.

[CHECK ORIGINAL. Writing on back page of letter not scanned.]

2681 6/25/1865

From: John A. Brown
Frank. E. Andesson
Frank W.
Vondersmith
Willie F Polhemus
Wm H. Allen
New York

To: Major Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2623

Source: Bowdoin

[144]

New York June 25th 1865

Dear friend,

It is with feelings of the deepest respect, that we have read the record of your consistent christian walk and conversation, during these years of war, now, happily, past, and while our people and government have gratefully acknowledged your services, as a soldier in the cause of Liberty, we would desire you to receive at our hands, an humble testimonial, in the form of a Certificate of Life-Membership to our Society, of our appreciation of your services, during the same period, in wielding the Sword of the Spirit as a good Soldier of the Lord Jesus, and of the godly influence which you have ever exerted upon the brave men under your command.

“ Remember the words of the Lord Jesus how he said
“ Thou shalt in no wise lose thy reward.”

We beg to subscribe ourselves most truly yours

John A. Brown
Frank. E. Andesson
Frank W. Vondersmith
Willie F Polhemus
Wm H. Allen

Teacher Male Class No 14
S.S. First Baptist Church

To
Major Genl O.O. Howard

2682 6/26/1865

From: G. E. Forbes

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2624

Source: Bowdoin

Clothing and Equipage
Office,
Fort Monroe, Va.

Commissioner Bureau of
Freedmen
Washington D.C.

[145]

Clothing and Equipage Office,
Fort Monroe, Va., June 26 1865.

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard
Washington, D.C.
General;

On the 20th instant Hon. Henry Wilson made an application to War Dept. for my appointment as A.Q.M. with some of Captain. During the war I have filled the position of chf. clk. in this office and now retain that position. I have acquired a thorough knowledge of the organization and working of the Q.M. Dept. and if appointed I should be pleased to be assigned to duty in the dept. now being organized and perfected by you. Should you deem it expedient to recommend me after seeing Mr Wilson's application now on file in War Dept., please to add your request to his for my appointment. I can give bonds if required and enter upon such duties as you may be pleased to give me, immediately,

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant
G. E. Forbes
Chief Clerk

Maj. Gen O O Howard
Commissioner Bureau of Freedmen
Washington
D.C.

[Written sideways in the margin on the back page, in a different hand.]
Recd June 28th 1865

2683 6/26/1865

From: S.V. Benét

To: Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2626

Frankford Arsenal,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Wash.

Source: Bowdoin

[147, 148]

Frankford Arsenal,
Philadelphia, Pa.,
June 26 1865

My dear Howard,

I have been intending, for some time back, to tender you my hearty congratulations on your promotion to a Brig Genl of the Regular Army. As the only Ordnance Officer who has risen to that high position, & whose long & faithful services so richly merited this mark of the Nation's acknowledgment, I for one, think of you with pride. It seems but yesterday that we parted at West Point, yet how different our lives have been since then. In the tented field, mid dangers, toils & privations, you have lost an arm in the defence of our nationality, but place your name high on the roll of our successful Generals. In the more peaceful pursuits of the Ordnance Profession, I have labored long, & steadily, & faithfully, in aiding the armies with those munitions, without which, battles could not have been fought nor victories gained - services only appreciated by soldiers, but which carry with them no éclat - seldom, recognition. I am glad that the future of the negro has ben placed in your hands. In my opinion, this war has been permitted by Providence, with the purpose in giving freedom to the slave. I believe in twenty years, the South will with one voice thank Heaven, that the stain of slavery has been thus washed out, & in their increased prosperity from the labor of freedmen, see the workings of an all wise God. In the endeavor to raise the status of the negro, religion must form part of the motive power, & the Havelock of the Army is the proper instrument. I lay claim to little religion myself, but I honor the man who while saving the States, forgets not to serve his Maker. I again congratulate you on your success, so well deserved.

We, of the Ordnance, have gained nothing by the war, except the happy consciousness of two or three persons who have been in the field, not even the empty honor of a brevet have been given us, & while the War Dept has time & again expressed its high appreciation of our services, nothing has been done for us. Whether Mr Stanton has had his attention called to the matter I know not, but I trust we may yet get our due. To the world at large, the Ordnance must seem a failure, otherwise why are all the others brevetted, & we remain with the same rank, with which the war found us. I am the 2d Capt on the list, & one of the oldest in the Army.

I did not intend touching on my own personal matters, but it is a sore subject, & just now rather uppermost in our minds. I only intended to write, that your career had been followed by me, with all the interest of old comrades, & that your promotion had given me unalloyed pleasure.

Should you ever have the time & inclination, I hope you will come to see me. I shall welcome you with open arms.

Yours very sincerely,

S.V. Benét [Stephen Vincent Benét, USMA Class of 1849. He was the grandfather of the writer with the same name.]

Genl Howard
Wash.

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

Philadelphia Pa.

June 26th 1865

Benet S.V.

Congratulation on Promotion as Maj. General Regular Army &c.

Recd B.R.F.&A.L. June 18th 1865.

2684 6/26/1865 *From:* M.M. Hallowell

To: Major General [OO]
Howard

OOH-2627

Philadelphia

Source: Bowdoin

[149]

Philadelphia June 26, 1865

Major General Howard
Dear Sir

I thank you for the information regarding the transportation of Refugees, and if any cases come under our notice whose welfare will be enhanced by returning home all the facts will be represented to you.

Those for whom we particularly applied have been reduced from affluence to penury and a prospect of regaining lost property induced our assn. to furnish means for them to return without delay.

Our attention has been particularly directed to E. Tenn. and we are now forwarding supplies to the upper counties where much distress prevails.

The policy of establishing an Orphan's Home in Knoxville has been under consideration, and if transportation for two of our agents can be obtained to take charge of the matter I think much good will result.

Very respectfully yours
M.M. Hallowell, Secy.

2685 6/26/1865 *From:* O.O. Howard

To: Hon E.M. Stanton
Secy of War

OOH-2629

Washington DC

Source: Bowdoin

[152]

Washington DC June 26th 1865

Hon E.M. Stanton
Secy of War
Sir

In behalf of the Christian Young Mens Association I have the honor to request that the negatives of the photographic views of the interior or exterior if there are any of Fords Theatre be turned over to the President of the Association (Mr Thompson) or to me, President of the board of trustees for the purchase of the theatre with the view to being used for the benefit of the Christian Young Mens Association as a source of revenue.

Very Respectfully
O.O. Howard
Maj. Gen.

[This response was written on the back side of Otis' letter of June 26, 1865.]

The <> negatives were turned over yesterday to the artist who took them. If this application had been made in season before the order had been given, it would have been granted.

Edwin M. Stanton
Secy War
June 29 /65

2686 6/27/1865 *From:* Charles H. Fox

To: Maj Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2630

New Orleans La

Source: Bowdoin

[151]

New Orleans La June 27th 1865

Maj Genl Howard
Dear General

Having been fortunate in having been under your command for several months and under your command at Wauhatchie and Mission Ridge I have the honor to request from you a statement or recommendation in regards my services as a Colonel of a Regiment. Being located in the City of New Orleans in the Custom House, believing while under your command my conduct was such as to merit your confidence.

A communication as above requested would be valuable to me.

General if consistent with your views please accommodate me.

I am sir with respect
Your obt. Servt
Charles H. Fox late Col
101st Ills Vols Infty
Box No 58
New Orleans La.

2687 6/27/1865

From: R.T. Brown

To: Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2631

Cheraw, South Carolina

Source: Bowdoin

[169, 170]

(Private)

Cheraw, South Carolina

June 27th 1865

My Dear Sir

I have been unable to remove my family, as yet, to Virginia, and beg leave to solicit your kind interest in the matter. I wrote to Capt. Buel, some weeks ago, but am afraid that he did not receive my letter, tho' our mail communications have not been re-opened, and we have great difficulty in forwarding and receiving letters.

It was my wish to return to my old home and parish in Fairfax, but understand that my house near the Court House was destroyed some time ago. I am so much attached to that part of the State, that I am exceedingly anxious to return, if possible. The war, I believe, has sadly desolated that part of the country; most of my former parishioners are dispersed, and probably will never again be gathered in earthly folds. God knows how earnestly I have humbled myself before Him for my share of the sin contributing to such sad results. He who hath smitten will heal.

I think with the assistance of friends I may be able to settle again in Fairfax; if I can procure a suitable place near Washington your would greatly aid me if you could secure me a clerkship in your Department, or some other Dpt, which I would only retain long enough to give me a start in life again; as it is my desire to devote myself solely to the ministry. I am conscious of taking a great liberty in thus intruding upon your time and thoughts, but our interview when in Cheraw with the Army convinced me that you have a heart to feel for other's woes.

In addition to the distressing situation of my family, I am very anxious in behalf of our two sons lately returned from the Army, who are without employment, having been forced from school by our unnatural conscription. It would fulfil a desire very dear to my heart to establish them in a position in which they could perform their whole duty to our now re-united country.

My Dear Gen. Howard, please excuse me for troubling you upon a subject of this kind; but in my situation, I assure you it is asking a cup of water in the name of a disciple, and I believe it will not go without its reward. I am very anxious to remove my family from South Carolina; we have a sorrowful time here; it is my earnest prayer that God will permit me to return to Virginia.

If you have time to write please address me at this place, under cover, to the Rev. J. M. Green, Charleston, who will forward my letters until the mails are resumed.

Yours very truly and respectfully
R.T. Brown

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

[Written sideways at the bottom of the last page, in a different hand.]

<Cheraw> S.C June <30>, 1865

Brown R.G.

Desires to return to his home at Fairfax CH, Va.

Recd July 15, 1865

2688 6/28/1865 *From:* Edwin M Stanton

To: Brevet Major General
Oliver O. Howard

OOH-2632

War Department,
Washington

U.S. Army

Source: Bowdoin

[185]

War Department,
Washington, June 28th 1865

Sir:

You are hereby informed that the President of the United States has appointed you, for gallant meritorious services during the War, a Major General by Brevet, in the service of the United States, to rank as such from the thirtieth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five. Should the Senate, at their next session, advise and consent thereto, you will be commissioned accordingly.

Immediately upon receipt hereof, please to communicate to this Department, through the Adjutant General of the Army, your acceptance or non-acceptance; and, with your letter of acceptance, return the Oath herewith enclosed, properly filled up, subscribed and attested, and repost your age, birthplace and the state of which you were a permanent resident.

Edwin M Stanton [The signature was a different hand than the above partial form letter.]
Secretary of War.
(152)

Brevet Major General Oliver O. Howard,
U.S. Army

2689 6/28/1865 *From:* <W. N. Howard>

To: Dear Sir [OO Howard]

OOH-2633

Detroit

Source: Bowdoin

[159]

Detroit June 28, 1865

Dear Sir

Tho' personally a stranger to you I venture to introduce the Rev'd Wm King of Canada, a gentleman of education & great experience in the management of colored persons. I think you may derive useful ideas from his conversations & beg to commend him to your friendly attentions.

Very respectfully
Yr obt srvt
<W. N. Howard>

2690 6/28/1865 *From:* T.W. Osborn

To: My Dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-2634

Allens Hotel
Oneida N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

[158]

Allens Hotel
Oneida N.Y.
June 28th 1865

My Dear General:

I was glad to rec. your kind note & thank you for you kind expressions of sympathy for me.

I am still confined at Oneida where the accident occurred with a fair prospect of remaining here several days yet. The arm is doing well but the fracture is of such a nature that it does not admit of substantial dressing & the surgeon object to my traveling until the function is complete enough to permit the splints to be taken off. This will require from one to two weeks yet. A sister is with me & I am getting on very nicely. The townspeople too are very kind & considerate.

I regret this necessity of being compelled to remain away & that an other officer should be required to go to Ala. on account of it. I shall try however to reach Washington as soon as possible & will then be ready for wh'ever duty may be required of me.

I suppose your labors of the Bureau & the approaching anniversary of Gettysburg must give you a large allowance of work for the present.

Please remember me kindly to Mrs Howard

Very Respy
Your obt Sert
T.W. Osborn
&c

2691 6/28/1865 *From:* Geo. H Stuart

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2635

Source: Bowdoin

U.S. Christian
Commission
Central Office,
No 11 Bank Street
Philadelphia

Freedmen's Bureau
Washington, D.C.

[157]

U.S. Christian Commission
Central Office,
No 11 Bank Street
Philadelphia, June 28, 1865

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard
Freedmen's Bureau
Washington, D.C.
My Dear Friend,

It is with very great pleasure that I endorse the request of Captain Beath, to be detailed for duty in the Freedmen's Bureau. My intimate knowledge of Captain B. gained by my observation of his conduct and character while a Scholar in the Sabbath School of which I am Superintendent, and my persuasion that the good qualities he then and there exhibited will be equally well shown wherever his duties may call him, are the reasons why I cordially second his application. I feel confident, that in case you accede to his request, you will have opportunity to test the confirmation of my statements. Captain Beath will doubtless avail himself of the opportunities thrown in his way to make known that religion of which he is a Consistent professor, a feature of his character which I know you can appreciate.

Hoping that you may have it in your power to grant his request, which I will consider a personal favor, I am

Yours very Truly
Geo. H Stuart

I have refused several applications for letters & only give this because of a sense of duty having a long & intimate knowledge of Cap. Beath.
G.H.S.

[Written on the back side, in a different hand]
Office U.S. Christian Com.
Philadelphia, Pa.
June 28, 1865
Stuart, Geo H.
Chairman U.S.C.C.
Recommends Capt. Beath for detail in Bureau R.F.&A.L.

2692 6/28/1865 *From:* Fran's Geo. Shaw

To: Major General O.O.
Howard

OOH-2636

Source: Bowdoin

National Freedman's
Relief Association,
No 76 John Street,
New York

[155, 156]

National Freedman's Relief Association,
No 76 John Street,
New York, 28 June 1865

Dear Sir:

As my unexpected departure from Washington yesterday evening deprived me of the opportunity for another interview with you, I beg to express my gratification at having become personally acquainted with you & to thank you for the readiness with which you met my official requests.

Allow me also to thank you, as before inadequately, for your kind invitation to accompany you on your projected tour of inspection. At any other season I should most gladly have availed of your kindness to visit under your auspices those places so interesting to me in every respect, while to some of them possess to me a stronger attraction than to most who have never seen them, & I beg you to believe that my having declined to do so was not accompanied by any want of appreciation on my part.

Believe me, Dear Sir, with great esteem & respect,

Yours sincerely,
Fran's Geo. Shaw

Major General O.O. Howard

[Written on the back page, in a different hand.]
New York
June 28th 1865
Shaw Fran's. Geo.
Friendly letter &c.
Rec'd June 30th 1865.

2693 6/29/1865 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2637

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[610]

Washington D.C. June 29th 1865

Dearest,

I am at the house and in our room though you did not even christen it by sleeping here one night. I have now some pillow cases though no sheets till you superintend. I dont need them as I wear very nice cotton drawers and <really> no other clothing could be required this weather.

I have just got two long letters from Charles and he insists that you are <dear> and are sadly neglectful in not writing to him.. I was delighted to get a telegram that Guy was coming on to Gettysburg, will see how hearty he looks before deciding to keep him awhile. I should be delighted if by some accident you happened to come on. But I supposed I am to expect no such joy so soon, but I do hope, darling, you are very well. Give many sweet kisses to Gracie, Jamie & Chancy. I am thinking of taking a trip to Hilton Head, Charleston, Savannah & back after the 4th. I dont much think Charles will come up now. I may bring him back with me.

We have a woman cook –Sam is steward and a little boy with Moses for waiter constitutes our working force. We have now Col & Mrs Markland, Col. Fullerton, Maj Stinson, Maj. Mathews temporarily, Capt. Taggart and Lieut. Sladen, Maj Gilbreth when here. I make nine and when Mr Alvord is here, he makes up the ten. We have a 3 pc bed stead that Maj Mathews will leave to me in the little room opening out of this.

I think we will take this little room for two children and take the front upstairs room for the other two. Stinson & Sladen use the room opposite the parlor and keep it very nice. The North west room opening out of the dining room is not used. We have as pleasant a place as there is in Washington and I think is much <retired>; very few visitors have found the locality. Maj Gilbreth & I bought Mill's black horses & I swapped away Col. Markland's carriage for a nice one with more room. When you come we can have some nice rides.

I ought to write to Mother and I am afraid she is lonely. Dellie writes from Richmond. He, Uncle Henry & Freddie want me to give Freddie a place so that he can travel South &c. I dont see how people look at things. I must get to regarding everything as bringing so much money. If it were for money for myself vs my friends, I would not have taken this post, nor would I stay here a day.

Give my kindest regards to Charles Mulliken & for Mrs Stinson. Harry wont complain, but he is slender. Remember me to Blaine, Mr McKenzie & others. Congratulate Mr McKenzie for me for getting a good wife –nothing like a good wife dont you think so? I dont really think my Oration amounts to much and must seem diminutive by the side of Mr Everett's, but I dont think it is in bad taste and I believe you will read it with some interest.

God bless you & the children. Pray for me, darling.

Lovingly your husband
Otis

P.S. 31st Am quite well this morning.

2694 6/29/1865 *From:* F. Gutekunst

To: Maj. Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2638

Source: Bowdoin

F. Gutekunst's
Imperial
Photograph Galleries,
Nos. 702, 704, 706
Arch Street,
Philadelphia

[160]

F. Gutekunst's
Imperial
Photograph Galleries,
Nos. 702, 704, 706 Arch Street,
Philadelphia, June 29, 1865

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

By Adams' Express I forward an Imperial of yourself which please accept with my best wishes. With it is an Imperial of Gen'l Fiske for himself which you will have the kindness to hand him.

Most Respect'y
F. Gutekunst
Rev T.G. Gayly

2695 6/29/1865 *From:* Wm Detmold, M.D. *To:* Maj. Genl. [OO] Howard

OOH-2639

New York

Source: Bowdoin

[161]

New York June 29th 1865

Maj. Genl. Howard
General

Permit me to sent you for trial a knife and fork as I have improved it for the use of persons who have lost an arm to enable them to cut up their own food, which the knife will readily do by a little rolling pressure the fork being attached to the back of the knife.

If you find the contrivance useful will it be asking you too much in the interest of the men who have lost an arm in the service of the Country to express you opinion on the subject to Surg. Genl. Barnes to whom I have also sent such a knife, with the suggestion of introducing it into the U.S. Hospital, and furnishing the men with one on leaving.

As I am probably entirely unknown to you, General, allow me to add that I am a Surgeon and Professor Military Surgery in New York, and that I have no other interest or motive in the matter, than to diminish (be it in ever so small a degree) the discomfort of a large class of men who have suffered for their Country.

Very respectfully
Wm Detmold, M.D.

2696 6/29/1865 *From:* David Wills

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2640

Gettysburg

Source: Bowdoin

[152]

Gettysburg June 29 65

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

Genl. Geary is not here and in his absence I will answer your telegram. There will be connections made from Hanover Junction on the Northern Central R.R. on Monday with every train on that road north & south.

I would advise you to leave Washington at 6.30 A.M. so as to connect with the 9.20 A.M. from Baltimore reaching Gettysburg at 1 P.M.

Telegraph here what train you will come on.

Yours sincerely
David Wills

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

Gettysburg Pa.
June 29th 1865

David Wills

Writes regarding Rail Road Connections from Washington to Gettysburg
Rec'd July 1st 1865.

2697 6/29/1865 *From:* John M. Oliver

To: Major Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2641

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters 2nd Div
15th A.C.
Steamer Rose Hite
Miss. River

[113 middle digit not clear]

Head Quarters 2nd Div 15th A.C.
Steamer Rose Hite Miss. River June 29th 1865

Major Genl O.O. Howard
Dear Sir,

In command of the 2nd Div 15 AC I am ordered to Little Rock Ark to report to Major Gen J.J. Reynolds. Since the last eight months the friend who had my money in charge went into the oil speculation with it and his own so far with no success, leaving me at the close of 4 years service without means, instead of the little independence I had. I am desirous of being appointed Asst Commissioner or to some position like that in the Freedman's bureau for the state of Arkansas under yourself. I make this application thus frankly because you know my qualifications well and because I am fully assured of your sympathy with your old army friends. I do not know how such applications should be made, but if it requires any form will you be good enough to have your clerk furnish me with what is necessary.

Any references needed I will at once furnish. I do not wish to plead poverty with you for this position for I am well & strong. I only state the fact you may see that my whole interest would be in the success of my work & my whole energies given to it. I believe & hope too that I will bring to this work a faith in & a hope for its full accomplishment that very many lack.

Hoping for your continued health & success
I am Truly Your
Obedient servant
John M. Oliver
Brig. Genl Vols

P.S. Lest references might be needed at once I would respectfully refer you to Hon J. C. Braman M. C. 1st Dist. Michigan, Adrian, Lenawee County Mich.; Hon. J.P. Christiency, Judge Superior Court Michigan; Hon. Frank Johnson, Judge of Circuit Court for first district Michigan. Residence at Monroe Mich. Don't forget this letter is written on a shaking old transport.

Truly Your Friend & Servt
J.M. Oliver

2698 6/29/1865

From: John L Hodsdon
Adj. Genl.

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2642

State of Maine,
Head Quarters,
Adjutant General's
Office

Washington, D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[154, 164]

State of Maine,
Head Quarters,
Adjutant General's Office,
June 29th 1865

My Dr Genl

I shall want to see you personally at Gettysburg, about the practicality of Capt. Fritchell late of 7th Batty, Me. Vols. obtaining any place in yr Dept. in the South. He is the most perfect & unexceptionable man in morals & capacity, within my knowledge.

If you are restricted to officers in service, nothing remains to be said, for he is out.

Yrs most truly
John L Hodsdon
Adj. Genl.

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard
U.S.A.
Washington, D.C.

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

Augusta Me
June 29, 1865
Hodsdon, John L.
Adj. Genl of Maine
Friendly letter
A. by meeting him at Gettysburg
Rec'd July 1st 1865.

2699 6/29/1865

From: Ch. W Asmussen
Lt Col & Asst Agent
War Dept.

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2643

War Department
Washington City, D.C.

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[165]

War Department
Washington City, D.C.
June 29 1865.

General -

I gratefully accept the invitation you have been pleased to extend to me, to accompany you to Gettysburg on the 3 of July next.

Respectfully your
most obedt svrt
Ch. W Asmussen
Lt Col & Asst Agent
War Dept.

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

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

War Department
Washington D.C.
June 29th, 1865

Mussey Thos. W.A.S. [Ch. W. Asmussen, was written in pencil and is a correct transcription.]
Accepting invitation to accompany Gen Howard to Gettysburg &c
Rec'd June 30th 1865.

2700 6/30/1865

From: H. Kendall

To: Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2644

Source: Bowdoin

Presbyterian Rooms,
150 Nassau-street,
New York

Pres't of the Freedmen's
Bureau,
War Department.
Washington D.C.

[167]

Presbyterian Rooms, 150 Nassau-street,
New York, June 30th 1865

Genl O.O. Howard
Pres't of the Freedmen's Bureau,
War Department.
Washington D.C.
Dear Sir,

The Committee of Home Missions in the Presbyterian Church, in the U.S.A. having just appointed Rev. H.H. Garnett of Washington D.C. And Rev. John B. Reeve of Philadelphia, Pa. colored ministers in our church, exploring agents in the South and South West for the period of a few months, beg of you to furnish them free transportation (if it be consistent with your regulations) within the Army lines and any other facilities which may be in your power for the successful prosecution of missionary work among the Freedmen.

Any aid of this kind bestowed on these gentlemen will add to their safety and gratification and will be appreciated by the Committee. Certificates if any be issued, may be sent directly to this office, or forwarded respectively to the parties themselves.

In behalf of the Committee.
H. Kendall, Secy

Edw'd A Lambert, Treasurer
<J.F.> Ivy, Ch'n Finance Com'ee

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

Presbyterian Rooms

New York

June 30th 1865.

Kendall H. Sec.

Writes asking for Transportation for Revs. H.H. Garrett and Rev. John B. Reeve &c
Rec'd July 1st 1865

2701 6/30/1865 *From:* Lt John A. Mills

To: Dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-2645

Lewis, Cass Co., Iowa

Source: Bowdoin

[168]

Lewis, Cass Co., Iowa
June 30th 1865

Dear General

I arrived safely at home on the 28th and found my friends much better than I expected, but I find that I can not consistently remain in the service any longer and have tendered my Resignation by telegraph last night. Will you be kind enough to favor me, with getting it accepted. General I would on many accounts prefer staying in the service, but our business at home will not admit of my staying away any longer. I told Maj Gilbreth how matters stood before I came away I thank you for your kindness to me while I was on your Staff, and shall feel an interest in your prosperity. Hoping that you may be successful in all your undertakings I remain

Your Most Obt. Sevnt
Lt John A. Mills

P.S.

Genl, perhaps I am asking to much, but if you feel that you would be justified in doing so I wold like to have a testimonial of your regard.

2702 6/30/1865 *From:* Wm. Atkinson

To: Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2646

North Anson

Source: Bowdoin

[171]

North Anson June 30 1865

Genl Howard:

I see that B W Norris of Skowhegan hs been appointed to superintend the sale of confiscated property at Mobbille. This is a responsible position requiring a man of unquestioned integrity and busniess capacity. It would be well to inquire if not too late, whether Mr Norris has those qualities. I would refer you to Hon Wm Rowell of Skowhegan President of the Bank of Somerset and to Hon John S Tenny, of Norridgewock, late Chf Justice of the S.J.C. and to A.H Wine, Esq of this place for information with regard to his management of the affairs of the Skowhegan Oil Cloth Company of which he has been agent, and in regard to his integrity and business capacity.

It is currently reported that when agent of said Company, and when the company was in failing circumstances, he rased money in the Companys notes and dealayed a dividend, and that in a capital stock of only \$12000, the Company sustained a loss of over \$100,000 through his profligacy & mismanagement.

Saml D Arnold Esqr of Skowhegan a member of said Company might give you valuable information as to Norris' capacity & integrity if he would. Arnold told me last March that Norris had <misused> him.

Confidentially yours
Wm. Atkinson

2703 6/30/1865 *From:* Fran's Geo. Shaw

To: Major General O.O.
Howard

OOH-2647

Source: Bowdoin

National Freedman's
Relief Association,
No 76 John Street,
New York

[166]

National Freedman's Relief Association,
No 76 John Street,
New York, 30 June 1865

Major General O.O. Howard
Commissioner &c
Sir:

I have the honor to state that, the opportunity having occurred, I have inserted the words "when practicable" in your letter of 16th ins, addressed to the Associations, & borne by Mr Boardman, as requested by you.

With much respect,
Yr Obt Srvt
Fran's Geo. Shaw
Pres.

2704 6/30/1865 *From:* J.L. Hodsdon

To: Maj Gen OO Howard

OOH-2648

Augusta Me

Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[43]

Office U.S. Military Telegraph
War Department

The following Telegram received at Washington 9.30 AM June 30 1865
From Augusta Me June 30 1865
Maj Gen OO Howard

Guy leaves with me this morning for Gettysburg
J.L. Hodson [John Hodsdon]

[Written on the reverse side, in a different hand.]
Telegram
Hodsdon, J.L.
Augusta Me
June 30th
States that Guy leaves with him today.
Recd June 30th, 1865

2705 6/30/1865

From: Barnes & Burr,
Publishers,
Booksellers, &
Stationers,
New York

To: Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2649

Source: Bowdoin

Nos. 51, 53 &55 John
Street
New York

[172]

Barnes & Burr,
Publishers, Booksellers, & Stationers,
New York
Nos. 51, 53 &55 John Street
New York June 31 1865 [Assume June 30, as only 30 days in June]

Genl O.O. Howard
Dear Sir

We have taken the liberty of sending to your address, the following school Books for your examination, with reference to their adaptation to the Colored Schools under your charge, in "Packer & Watsons Reader & Speller", "Monteith & McNallys Geog", "Monteith & Willards History" & "Clarks English Gramr"

Our agent Mr Hulse informs us that you will take pleasure in looking at these Books, and also place them in the hands of Capt'n Taggart for examination.

Yours very Respy
Barnes & Burr