
2707 7/6/1865

From: P.S. Perley

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2650

Henry, Illinois

Washington, D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[194, 195]

Henry, Illinois, July 6, 1865

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

My Old friend and Chum,

Last month I telegraphed you asking you if you had any place any where for me and asking you when and where I could see you. On June 12, 1865 you telegraphed me, dispatch received, wait reply by mail . I have not heard from you. I think I construe the telegram rightly that I should wait an answer by mail from you. After I had telegraphed you I saw that all your appointees were military men and I concluded you could not give me any place. I have received no letter from you. I know you must have been very busy and must have had more than two men could do and I dont wonder you overlooked me if you did or had to push me off. I have waited patiently knowing you had more than you could do in your bureau and knowing too you were to deliver the Oration at Gettysburg on the 4th of July. And I should wait still but yesterday morning my house worth a couple of thousand Dollars went up in flame and uninsured and it makes me feel a little more like straining a point to secure some pecuniary advantage to myself if that were possible. I dont know what you may think of me with these years lapsed between us. I write altogether in the dark but I believe Howard you cant feel unfriendly to me and if I am writing you a solicitous and self-seeking letter I am going to say right here at the risk of hurting myself in your regard that I am proud of you and have been these years gone and right glad of your success, right glad of your record that it has been what it has, right glad that you survive and have now for yourself and wife and children and kindred and friends a name in histor a place inly just below Grant, Sherman Thomas and Sheridan.

And I make for you a little extract from my 4th of July speech in this connection - And our Heroic Dead. I bow my head low as the dust in which they lie in grateful remembrance and honor of them, and I take the shoes form off my feet as I tread above them, for it is holy ground where they sleep. Who can do them justice, who can pay to them in words, or tears or silence the nation's <need> of homage – not you nor I nor my old chum Howard as he speaks today at Gettysburg on the field where he and so many of them fought so well and were so many whom he led sleep so gloriously at last – in sight of their graves, inspired by the thrilling memories of the glorious struggle not he nor any man however gifted. Everetts polished periods fell far short of it and where he failed who shall hope to succeed?

But my heart is full and in broken words I bless them. May God bless them and those that love them and weep for them, forevermore.

I enclose you one more extract which had it not been made my friends and I think I would not be homeless now. I have been living here now for ten years and the place is only about 2500 and is not growing. I have been wishing to go to a city, some large place for some time and when I telegraphed you I thought if you could nominate me to or help me get some place in your bureau that would take me to any Southern city and pay me a pretty good salary for a year or two I could get acquainted and meanwhile have my partner come and open a law office and make a living for myself while I was getting acquainted and then practice my profession with better success than to go and get acquainted and break in in a new place and a new practice without it would be a great favor to me and a kindness I know I should appreciate but I have come to the conclusion from your not writing me and what I have been of your nominations or appointments that you cant do it. It is all right if you cant. I am not a place seeker nor an office hunter. I would have been in the war if I could have been. I have edited the Republican organ of this County for years, did the last campaign and I think vigorously and ably but I have never asked anybody for an office. I was in Peoria just before I telegraphed you and saw our M.C. E.C. Ingersoll and incidentally told him you and I were classmates and college chums and he told me to write you and he would procure for me any confirmation of any nomination you could give me and told me to write you and send the letter to him and he would write to you but I dont do it. I dont want to get out of my profession and into politics or any place but a position that would pay me a good salary that I could make some money in sure

for a year or two would help me much and I should like such a one. I have lots to do and I am very tired and send this to you without hardly knowing what I have written but you will gather from it what I want. I have very little hope you can help me now and it is all right if you can't so you would be glad to if you could. I have not written you because I have supposed you had better business than to be writing letters to me but I tell you truly I know what you have done and many and many a time I have mentioned you in my Editorials and war speeches and I have made hundreds of them and with pride and pleasure and warm approval. I am glad chum you are what and who you are. I am glad you stand high in the approval and love of all loyal good men.

Yours ever in haste,
P.S. Perley

[The following appears to be in Peleg Perley's handwriting, but wasn't explicitly referred to in the body of the letter.]

(25) Green as the <days that are altho> the victor brows of our returned heroes of the 86th and 47th – green as the grass that grows above the dear heads of the unreturned and unreturning sleepers, green as their memory and their lives in the hearts that love them best and long for them most, so green is the slime that mouthed, in these gone Summers, the malarious peace pool – so green the copperhead scum on the world's swill-tub on o so they shall remain forever, one green with glory evermore renewing one green with infamy evermore undying.

2708 7/6/1865

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2651

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[612]

Washington D.C. July 6th 1865

Dearest

Guy arrived Safely with Gen. Hodsdon meeting me at Mr Will's, where we staid. Gen Hodsdon was very kind and I did not more than half thank him, and I did not offer to pay him for anything he may have spent for Guy. I you should see him please tell him this and that I will make amends. Guy enjoyed himself at Gettysburg. Mrs Wills entertained, I should think thirty people all together among whom were Gov. Curtin [Pennsylvania] and Gen Meade. My oration was easily delivered, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour in length. I experience the difficult in remembering it and was satisfied with the delivery. The soldiers who were present were much interested. In the evening I went with Mr Bachelder, the author of the "birds eye view of the battle field", over the ground of the first day's engagement. I should think there were ten-thousand people present. I will not attempt description of anything at Gettysburg, for I want to take you up there and have you see for yourself. Mrs Geary was delighted to hear from you and hoped to meet you at Gettysburg. I gave her your message.

We left the morning of the 5th dined with Mr Deford in Baltimore and rode around to take a look at the city. We started for Washington in the 6 o'clock train and reached here about 8 P.M. Mrs Markland will go with Guy on a shopping trip. I could'nt find anything ready made in Baltimore, but there is plenty here.

We are all quite well. I cannot write more this morning. I wrote mother on the 3d. Give much love to the children. I dont expect to be home till the last of this month or first of next. I may leave for Hilton Head next Saturday, but am not sure yet. Guy thinks he would like to stay here, till I come back. I am anxious to have him with me, but am a little afraid of warm weather. God bless you & all the children.

Lovingly your husband

Otis

2709 7/6/1865

From: T.W. Osborn

To: My Dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-2652

Allens Hotel
Oneida N.York

Source: Bowdoin

[196]

Allens Hotel
Oneida N.York
July 6th 1865

My Dear General:

The surgeon who has the charge of me says I can leave here so as to be in Washington on the 20th inst. & he will not consent to my traveling before that time. I assure you I shall be there if there is no hindrance unlook for at present to prevent. The arm is doing as well as could be expected for such a fracture & I think will be sound.

Trusting that your health remains good. I remain

my dear Genl your
obd. Servt.
T.W. Osborn

2710 7/6/1865

From: F.N. Northrop

To: Maj Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2653

Utica N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

[197, 198]

Utica N.Y.

July 6 / 65

Maj Gen Howard

My dear Sir

Reading your Oration has brought you back to me. My Boy was a former soldier in the 19 '<ohio>' 3d division 4th Corps. Those Boys did not like you being taken from them and I thought Gen Sherman was wicked to take you from that blessed old 4th Corps. But it was your gain and their loss.

I see you in your Oration had not forgotten them and I am glad for when they read it they will think that their old Genl remembers them for they think the Army of the Potomac gets all the praise. He is with the Corps on their way to the Rio Grande but will receive his discharge which I <procured> from Washington after 4 yrs Service from <15 to 19>.

Very Truly

F.N. Northrop

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

Utica N.Y. July 6, 1865

Northrop, F. N.

Writes a congratulatory letter concerning the oration at Gettysburg

Recd July 9, 1865.

2706 7/5/1865

From: Saml. H. Lockett

To: Maj. General O.O.
Howard

OOH-2654

Marion Ala

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[199, 200]

Marion Ala July 5th 1865

Maj. General O.O. Howard
U.S.A.
Washington D.C.

General

I take the liberty of writing to you, hoping that the late bloody war between our respective sections has not destroyed all the personal friendship that once existed between us. My brother who has just returned from Prison at Johnson's Island met Major S.P. Lee in Cincinnati who very kindly remembered me, and sent me word, that, if I needed the influence of any friend to secure for me the especial pardon promised by Pres. Johnson in his Amnesty Proclamation, to those belonging to the excepted classes, I might safely address myself to you as such a friend. I therefore take the liberty of asking that you will forward the enclosed application for executive clemency, and endorse it as you may think proper, hoping that what you know of me may enable you to do so in my favor. I have nothing to offer in my own justification, for the part taken by me in resisting the authority of the United States, beyond the plea that I conscientiously believed I was right in the course I adopted. I had been educated to believe that the allegiance of the citizen was preeminently due to the State of his nativity or residence, and when my state, Alabama, declared herself an "Independent Sovereignty" and called for her sons to rally to her standard I felt bound to do so by the promptings of patriotism as true and sincere as those that have animated and sustained you through the brilliant yet trying career that has made you one of your country's heroes.

You were successful, and a grateful nation sings your praise, and feels itself honored in bestowing honor upon you. We failed and though our aims were as high, our motives as pure, yet I am a "Rebel" and a "Traitor" I have not yet brought myself to accept these terms applicable to me, but I am still willing to yield to the stern logic of facts, to own that once more my true and faithful allegiance is due to the United States, and I am perfectly sincere in wishing to return to the ranks of dutiful citizens, to do good and faithful service, for that Government which has shown itself so able to protect me and mine in the enjoyment of life and the pursuit of happiness.

Feeling thus I have no hesitancy in taking the oath of allegiance, and will do so freely, voluntarily, and honestly, fully resolved to be always true to its obligation.

I take the liberty of saying General that I watched with great interest your bright career during the last four years and saw with sincere pleasure your name rising day after day, higher and still higher up the hill of fame. I am sorry you lost your arm, but it is almost worth a life to gain so bright a record as you have made. I hope you will live long to enjoy your reputation and to do good to your fellow man, who always was your greatest pleasure.

My family is here with my father, Nelie, and our two children are well and we are all comfortable, happy and as prosperous as could be expected.

With many kind wishes for your future welfare, and with the warmest sentiments of friendship from Nelie and myself to you and Mrs Howard.

I am General
very respectfully & truly
yr friend
Saml. H. Lockett [USMA Class of 1859]

[Written sideways on the last page.]
Letter to Genl. Howard

If Genl. Howard is not in Washington, please forward the application to the Atty. Genl.

Respectfully forward for the decision of the Attorney General. I would recommend as favorable.

Recd July 12th 1865

Marion Alabama

July 6th 1865.

Lockett, Saml. H.

Inclosed application for pardon with the request that it may be forwarded with endorsement.

2711 7/7/1865

From: W. P. Grace

To: Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2655

Memphis Tennessee

Source: Bowdoin

[201]

Memphis Tennessee July 7th 1865

Genl Howard

Dear Sir;

Along with this I send you the outline of a plan I have drawn up for the employment and education of the freedmen of the south which I wish you to examine and make such suggestions as you may think fit. I do not think there will be the least difficulty experienced in the formation of such companies. I have applications every day by parties wishing to take stock, and get information &c. You will notice I provide for the education of the young blacks. I know of no practicable plan by which those who are now men and women, can as a general thing be educated.

I wish you would inform me what assurances we can have from your department, provided the company is formed and the experiment tried, that we will have your sanction and cooperation. If we can have the sanction of your authority, that the hands will remain for the period of one year or during the term of their engagement upon the condition that they are well treated and promptly paid, we do not fear failure.

I have written to the President on the subject.

I have the honor to be your
most obedient servant.

W. P. Grace

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

Memphis Tenn.

July 7, 1865.

Grace, W. P.

Sends outline of a plan drawn for the education & employment of the Freedmen.

2712 7/7/1865

From: Max Woodhull

To: Maj Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2656

Source: Bowdoin

Head Qrs Army of the
Tennessee
Louisville Ky

[202]

Head Qrs Army of the Tennessee
Louisville Ky July 7 '65

General

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 1st inst, with reference to the Muster out of the 12th Me Regt of Infy and in the temporary absence of Gn Lafaro from Hd Qrs, would respectfully inform you that, under instructions from the Adjutant Genl of the Army, the entire Army of the Tennessee is to be mustered out.

I would invite your attention to copies of G.O.s no 24 & 26 & of circular 9 C.S. From these Hd Qrs. From these orders it will be seen that the 12th Me goes out of service, as soon as the necessary rolls & papers can be completed.

I am General
My Great Respect
Your Most Obt Svt
Max Woodhull
Bvt Col & AAG

Maj Genl Howard
Bureau & &

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

Hd Qrs, Army of Tennessee
Louisville, July 11 1865
Woodhull, Max
Col & A.A.G.
Encloses copies of orders.
Recd 12 July 1865

2713 7/7/1865

From: Jas. E Yeatman

To: Major Genl O O Howard

OOH-2657

Western Sanitary
Commission
No. 10 North Fifth Street
St. Louis

Washington

[204, 205]

Western Sanitary Commission
No. 10 North Fifth Street
St. Louis, July 7th 1865

Major Genl O O Howard
Washington
Dear Sir

I telegraphed you on Monday to know if the Presd't, Secretary of War & others would approve the proposed plan of a Freedman's Monument to print circular. If any thing is to be done it is important that it should be done speedily. I presume they will not object, but we are unwilling to commence without their approval I wish that you wd give us your own approval as well as obtain that of other parties named in the paper sent you some time since.

Genl J W Boardman now at Vicksburg I understand has been recommended for the position of Asst Commissioner for Texas. I have known the General for some length of time. He has impressed me most favorably, as an earnest, industrious man, and a man far advance of the officers of the Army on the negro question, and has given evidence of kindness and humanity with good executive ability. I should consider the appointment a good one, and would cordially join in recommending him. His experience both before and since the breaking out of the rebellion with the institutions of the south will be of great advantage to him in these new duties, in case he should receive the appointment.

I have the honor to remain very Respectfully
Jas. E Yeatman

[Written on the last page, in a different hand.]
St Louis, July 7, 1865
Yeatman, J.E.
In regard to Freedmen's Monument Assn.
A. by Genl, H.
R. July 11, 1865.

2714 7/7/1865

From: S. V. Benét

To: My dear [OO] Howard

OOH-2658

Frankford Arsenal,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Source: Bowdoin

[206, 207]

Frankford Arsenal,
Philadelphia, Pa.,
July 7, 1865

My dear Howard,

As you kindly offer to interest yourself in Ordnance matters as regards brevets. I desire to make a few points.

1st. The important duties of the Dept, necessarily keep its best & most experienced Officers at Arsenals. When we consider the sudden increase of the Army from 26 to 100 thousand men, & the keeping them supplied with all their fighting munitions, improvising material that could not be purchased in markets, ransacking Europe for arms that the U.S. could not supply & are improving our war material, adding rifles guns & using larger size than has ever been used in any other service, &c &c doing all this, without let or hindrance to the operations of our armies, & without material complaint from the users, shows that the Officers of the Dept did their duty to the utmost. And yet, Paymasters, Surgeons, & others have been rewarded, the Ordnance have only received empty commendations.

2d. Is personal to myself. A subalterne, has been ordered here, who is a Bvt Lt Col for distinguished services in the field. He richly deserves the honors. I know him to be capable, energetic &c but he has too much rank to be the Sab of a mere Captain. To the world at large, he has the merit. I have the age, merely, otherwise why have I not the rank?

I believe I have done the state some service, or why should I be commanding one of the most important Arsenals with my preset rank; & it is hard after sixteen years of service to find myself ranked by men, who were in "bib & tuckers" when I left the Academy.

The Secy expressed himself to me in such favorable terms, not many months ago, that I think he would consider my case favorably. It will be a great point gained, if his attention be called to the subject. Men, who feel that they have done well, dislike to be overlooked. A few brevets are much to a soldier, & nothing to the country, as they now carry no pay.

I regret to trouble you in the midst of your new & important duties, but a word from you may go far towards justice being done to an important Dept of the Army.

I have just read your fine address at Gettysburg – that battle was the turning point of the war, & your tribute to John F. Reynolds touched me deeply. I knew him well. He would have grown up into a first class General.

Yours very truly
S. V. Benét

2715 7/8/1865

From: O. Brown

To: Maj Genl O O Howard

OOH-2659

Source: Bowdoin

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

[208, 209]

Personal

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen & Abandoned Lands,
Head Quarters Asst. Commissioner, State of Virginia
Richmond, Va, July 8th 1865

Maj Genl O O Howard
Commissioner &c
General,

I avail myself of the privilege you so kindly gave me to "address you as a friend" to do so in relation to affairs in Genl Hartsuffs District.

The relations existing between Genl Hartsuff and myself are entirely friendly but I fear trouble will arise if he attempts in connection with the Officers of the Bureau to manage Freedmen affairs.

I had hoped the appointment of Capt Soly as A.Q.M. with orders to report to me for duty would fully satisfy the General. I fear however now, from the order received to day from Capt Barnes that such will not be the case.

It appears to me that trouble can only be avoided by assuming the management and control of affairs as in other Districts.

If Capt Soly can be appointed as Gen Hartsuff wishes all the better.

If you will General be kind enough to intimate any wish you may have in this matter aside from the official record I will most cheerfully be governed by it. And let me ask one more favor General. Will you be free to admonish or advise me when my course does not meet your approval, and may not in your opinion require official closure. By so doing, you will place me under additional obligations.

Allow me General to congratulate you on your Gettysburg speech, and to thank your for your letter of advice to Asst Commissioners.

I am general
truly Yours
O. Brown

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

Richmond Va, July 8, 1865

Brown, O

Col & Asst Comr

Personal letter

Recd July 11, 1865