(Confidential)

212

Office Sub Dist Memphis Tenn
July 11th 1865.

Dear General

I beg that you will pardon me for presuming to again address you personally but after reading your Circular and careful reflection I cannot well refrain from so doing. Upon reporting at Nashville to Genl Thomas I found him anxious that I should go on duty in your Bureau. This may have resulted from an opinion on the part of the Genl that I had some qualification for the position, or because he had nothing for me to do. He sent for Genl Fisk and consulted with him. Genl F. also seemed desirous ~~for~~ to have me ~~to~~ serve under him. I consented and have been assigned to this Dist, composed of that portion of the State lying West of the Tenn River and in which it is said there were 300.000 colored people prior to the war.

I notice by your Circular that most of the Asst Commissioners are officers below my own rank. and I can easily understand

that they have been very properly, purposely so selected to save unnecessary expense. I can't help feeling that there is an evident want of fitness of things in my being assigned to the position of Supt of a Dist. and that I might be made to figure in a very unsatisfactory light should all these matters undergo an investigation, as they are unlikely will, at the next session of Congress.

Several cases have arisen in the short time since I have been here, which have suggested to me that experience may yet show that it would be better, in some instances, to locate the Asst Comrs and the Dist with reference to centers of population rather than Geographically. This is the most important city between St Louis & New Orleans. and the natural centre of population for West Tenn North Miss and Eastern Ark. In this way a District might be made up containing a vast number of Freed people who could best be provided for from this point. and containing a sufficient amount of Abandoned land to afford a practical solution of the question of the final disposition of that portion of the freed people who from age sickness or other causes are unable to obtain employment but

who could do something for their own support if settled on land set ~~aside~~ aside for that purpose. Unfortunately there is scarcely any abandoned land in this Sev Dist. as will be seen by the list of abandoned lands which I have forwarded to Gen Fish. In my investigations of this matter I found some maps of abandoned lands below this Dist on the river. and thinking they might be valuable to you, judging from your telegram of 26 ult to Gen Fish, I have mailed them to you. If a Dist could be made up in the manner I have suggested and I could have controle of it with the authority of an Asst Comr and the right to report to you directly I should rather like to take charge of it, and I have an impression that I could manage it to the satisfaction of the Chief of the Bureau. I know I could try very earnestly. I am well aware however, that such changes cannot be made to suit individual wishes except in pursuance of a general plan. I feel compelled to say ~~however~~ that my serving with my present rank in the position I now have would very likely prove in the end an embarrassment to the Bureau and unpleasant to myself. You may therefore think it best under the circumstances that my detail to serve in this position should not

be confirmed. While on this subject allow me to make one or two suggestions. I find the freed population of this city and vicinity estimated at from 15 to 30.000. Exact information is of no value. and I propose to ask for a temporary detail of a commd officer or soldier in the Dist, competent for the purpose and proceed to make a complete census of the Colored population & refugees. obtaining all the information needed for the Bureau. This can be done without expense to the Bureau or Government and if extended over the country would afford information of great value to both and especially, to Congress at its next session. The order to turn over to the Bureau all abandoned land & house funds &c seems to indicate that the funds so accruing may be expended for the necessary wants of Refugees & Freed people. If this is the intention the question arises at once for what purposes and in what way shall money be expended? Of course the accounts must be kept and the returns made as required by the Army Regulations. but expenditures must be made, unknown, in providing for the wants of the Army. and for which the Regulations make no provision, and point out no mode of accounting for. Will it not be necessary therefore, in order that accounts may pass the scrutiny of the Auditors office. that there be issued from your office regulations prescribing for

what purposes and under what limitations funds may be expended. As for instance Whether or not to fit up school rooms provide fuel &c pay wholly or in part teachers & superintendants. to purchase medicines and pay for medical attendance and the necessaries for sick Refugees & freedmen to repair buildings used as hospitals, to expend nails & glass in building huts for those settled on abandoned lands who are unable to provide for themselves &c. and for many other really necessary purposes which will readily suggest themselves Of course this matter cannot be left to the discretion of the Asst Comrs but must be referred to you. I will bring some of these matters before you officially through the usual channel and also several important questions about the property ordered to be turned over to your Bureau some of which has improperly and illegally, in my opinion, been turned over to the former owners since the date of the Presidents order No 110.

Begging to be excused for troubling you with so long a letter I remain

Yours Very Truly

Davis Tillson
B. G. & Supt &c

Maj Gen O. O. Howard
Chief Bureau R. F. & A. L.
Washington D.C.

Memphis July 11, 1865

Pillsbury, Dan –
Brig. Genl –

Writes a confidential letter

Recd July 13, 1865.

The American Telegraph Company.

PRINTING AND MORSE LINES.

DIRECT TO ALL STATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES.

OFFICES.—432 Pennsylvania Av., U. S. CAPITOL, and Willard's, The Metropolitan and National Hotels, Washington, D. C.

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CAMBRIDGE LIVINGSTON, Sec'y, E. S. SANFORD, Pres't,

145 BROADWAY, N. Y.

Dated New York July 1 1865.

Rec'd, Washington, July 1 1865, ____ o'clock, ____ min. M.

To Maj Genl O. O. Howard

Chief of Freedmens Bureau

Please telegraph me the Address of Maj Dayton Genl. Sherman's Staff wife joins me in affectionate regard thanks to all - We are well & comfortable,

Julien Soule

Care Hofer 145 Bdway

Telegram New York July 11, 65

Soule & Julian

asks address of
Wm Hamilton

Washington D.C. July 11 1865

Maj Genl O. O. Howard

My Dear Genl.

Permit me to introduce an old friend Mr Jas A Buchanan, Atty & Solicitor of this City —

Mr Buchanan desires to present certain claims, and I beseech for him an indulgent hearing consistent with the merits of his case —

You may rely upon him as the soul of honor, I know him at the Bar of Iowa where he was distinguished not only for his ability as a lawyer, but for his integrity and high-mindedness as a gentleman —

Your Friend & Obt Svt

W. Clark

Brig Genl

Albany July 11. 1865

Dear General,

Though I have been seriously ill since I had the pleasure of seeing you in Washington, I have not been so ill as not to know something of what has been going on — My wife has read to me your oration at Gettysburgh — I am delighted with it — & it is a pleasure to me to tell you so. Your picture of "the Volunteer," his hardships, his sufferings, his patriotism, his cheerfulness, his endurance, his courage, is admirable — I think it is the finest thing of its kind that had

been produced during this war.

I am still confined to my chamber, & write this by the hand of my daughter. But I could not help congratulating you upon your new triumph, at Gettysburgh.

Yours sincerely
Lee Harris

Maj. Genl. Howard

Hilton Head S. C.
July 11 1865

My dear Brother.

The steamer leaves tomorrow & I do not like to have it go without a letter to you. Lieut. Ely came down & has been at Beaufort. I saw him on the boat coming down here this morning on his way to Charleston – thence to go by R. R. to Orangeburg – to reach Columbia S. C. He seems a good sensible Officer. Capt. Young went up to Branchville & that vicinity, by Gen. Foster – found that the military were not very cordial in their cooperation – All in Gen. Hatch's District – They seem in a measure to have resigned themselves to be "moved" about, as father would have said, by the the native planters – former "secessionists". Gen. Hatch as nearly as I can ascertain has no very firm ideas himself & was

formerly pro-slavery. He got the notion (which seems very absurd to the most of us) that the negroes were going to "rise" in insurrection on the 4th of July so instead of making a glorious Independence Day for White & Blacks he prohibited every kind of Celebration of 4th of July, as it probably had been for 3 years past, was like a funeral day in Charleston S.C.

I had a Celebration at Beaufort. At Eastern Point notice however as I was not assigned to command the Post until July 1st. Wished Review - Reading Declaration Independence &c. &c. some Speaking - all going off admirably to my mind - I was the Chief Manager of affairs -

My Post extends up to Pocotaligo where I have 5 Companies 26th U.S.C.T. At B. I have 104th & 128th White Infantry. One, a White battery, (Rhode Island) will soon go out of service.

I am down here daily upon an Examining Board - Examining all officers

to grade them in accordance with a War Dept. Order. We finish here today & will move off at Beaufort. My duties are quite onerous & responsible for me at B. regulating civil matters a good deal as well as military but my Regt. is pretty likely now to remain there & of course it is more agreeable to have command of the whole on some accts. I am now organizing Provost Courts. Col. Ramsey 26th Ind. V. will be my Provost Judge. He is a lawyer – He has with his Regt. been doing almost solely the business of the Freedmen's Bureau – in charge of their affairs in that section.

I am thinking a grand movement should be made for Education in the South – What do you think of the proposition to have the confiscated lands devoted to this purpose? Would it not have a double purpose of establishing the institutions for education so much

succeeded & also in a measure reconciling the people to the individual loss by showing them it is all for the public good?. — Your Orator came in the Herald — Of course I was delighted to see it — I read it aloud to Miss Bo-tume (whom you may remember as a teacher of Colored Children) and one or two others (one her niece Miss Longford) and with great satisfaction. I am glad you draw so largely from your own experience as it comes it will be immeasurably more valuable in time to come. And what you do not write down now will probably slip away & be lost from your mind & heart. The poem was good. I hope you will write me a word or two of your enjoyment of the 4th — whether it was all you could desire. The papers say you are coming down here — I hope so — but thought perhaps you would first take a little respite & go home as now you have seen Lyon — Sexton — I still adhere to my strong belief that the Bureau cannot reach its proper efficiency unless the Agents have the money in some immediate control — From a telegram from Gen. Saxton

received

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since he left I judge Gen. Grant has given his consent to just what we want — if the matter can only be properly arranged with Fillmore — The letter (to speak frankly my opinion to a brother as I would not elsewhere) is ready to do almost anything for the sake of retaining command of his Military Dept. which will need only encouragement S. C.

If you do not think of coming down before the first of September (the first of October they say is healthier) I am thinking strongly of asking for a Leave when Lt. Col. Beebe returns the last of this month — say 30 days — & if you go home at that time it would be doubly pleasant.

The people are hastening North on every steamer & there are beginning to be cases of Fever but I do not anticipate sickness at all — You know 4 years Campaigning has pretty well hardened me & I have too much to do to get sick — My Regt. was doing

finely & I was reluctant to leave it
As it is, it is not far off – I expect
to accept a position as Asst. Comm. to
Gen. Saxton but now that bul. Ely has
come for Columbia I do not know
as the Gen. will desire it and perhaps
it is better for me to remain at Beau-
-fort – I do not like to forsake the
Regt. unless I can give Lt. Col. Rice
a chance for promotion.

We are having it 105° in the shade –
Is not that melting hot? I scarcely even any
rain – I do not write to Stinson this
mail it is because I will not get any
time – I improved a spare moment while
waiting for the boat for this – Hope
for a few words in return. Your last
letter thro. Brig was a great satisfaction.

Your loving brother
O. O. Howard

P.S.
Tell Maj. Stinson
that I will gladly
call it "square" on
the horse question.
My regards to Col. Fullerton
Maj. Gilbutt & the rest of the family

Ellis Cass Co, Iowa
July 12th 1865

Maj Genl Howard

Dr Sir

the mail this morning brings me an honorable discharge from the service of the United States. Genl I thank You very much for Your Kindness in my behalf, and I am truly sorry that I could not remain any longer. Genl may I ask one more favor from You, it is this, if You can consistently do so I would like in Your own hand writing a few lines in regard to my services while with You. I know that You are very busy. but hoping that the Request may

meet Your approval I have taken the liberty to make it ~~the Request~~.

My health has improved very much since my return home. Genl I thought I knew ~~the~~ the Responsibility of the Position You occupy before leaving Washington, but I am convinced since traveling through the different States that it is even grater than I had before supposed. and no one can wish more sincerely for your success than myself hoping that I may be honored with a reply. I remain Most Respectfully Yours

John H. Hill

To Major Genl O O Howard
Washington
D.C.

Louisa Cass Co. Iowa
July 12. 1865

Mills, John A.

Friendly letter –

7/20

Rec'd July 30, 1865.

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Bow. Coll.
July 17. 1865

Major General O. O. Howard.
My good & honored friend.

At the approaching Commencement season we wish to give a welcome to all Bow. graduates & students who have taken part in the war — congratulate them on the successful conclusion of the bloody strife, & on their safe return — & indicate our sense of the honor they have done themselves, their country, & also the College, in their brave & noble course. Cannot you be present? It would gratify us very much, & all who may be here — & I write not at my own instigation merely,

but by that of other members
of the Faculty. — Commencement
day is Wednesday Aug 2.

Allow me to add the great
pleasure & satisfaction I have
taken in following your course
in the war from the time you
took the 3d Maine from Augusta
till the present. I have been
proud of the ability you have
shown, & the honor you have
attained, & especially of the
bearing which you have ever
maintained of a Christian
man & Soldier. Your testimony
to the Gospel of the Lord Jesus
Christ everywhere has not only
been doubtless a means of
great good in the Army, but
a cause of gratitude & stimu-
lus to the Chrs at home.

I hope to take you by the
hand some day & tell you

the same by word of mouth.
May it be at the approaching
commencement.

I forgot to add that a part
of the business at the meeting
of Welcome is to inaugurate
steps for a memorial mon-
ument to those who have
bravely fallen.

Yours very truly
J. P. Sewall

Rec'd. Coll.
July 17 1865

Sewall, J. B.

Friendly letter

Reed July 17th 1865

Washington D.C.
July 18th 1865

Dear Mt.

I find boy a little thin and not very strong. On Saturday last I let him play with Jessie Grant at Georgetown and the next day he did not seem at all well and he staid at home Sunday to rest & sleep considerably. Monday he was better and went to the office with me. Monday night, however, a fever came on after the old fashion, but was quite gone by morning. I called in our Brigade Surgeon Dr Stevens. He ordered him to take a solution of Quinine that I already had. This morning boy seems entirely well. Those blotches on his body show that his blood is not quite good

I hope you are all well at home. I was good deal worried about Guy neither before last, but now I think he'll have been pushed by Col. Fullerton & they have taken quite a fancy to each other. I am not going South, am intending to send Colonel Fullerton instead. We have a Mrs. Andrews here who comes with her. Comes from Lavenrach & whom Lavon wished me to allow to run in with me temporarily - We occupy the little room opening out of this (my bed room). We will be a great on your account. I have spoken for a cottage set of furniture for the little dining room. I shall live in it I think during the hottest of the weather and when you come perhaps you will find it convenient to have that room for two of the children and there is always a sitting room for yourself. We shall need all the room there is over the kitchen &c. for the servants. Mr Horner who is very Bavarian has got his family with him, and the children & the lady seem little people that you & I like, that is not proud & pretentious but good & human-like. I hope I will get a line from you today, darling, for I am getting anxious about you.

There is the breakfast bell. Guy has read a Chapter & we have prayed together for you & Lavon, Jennie & Chauncey. Good bye

Lovingly your
husband
Otis

Camp "Fry"
Washington D.C.
July 13th 1865

Col. C. A. Howard:

Dear Sir.

I wrote you some time since in regard to a colored regiment, & the prospects of entering one, but presume the letter never reached its destination. At the same time I stated that I had received an appointment in the V.R.C. as 2nd Lt.

Indications are at present that the V.R.C. is going to be mustered out, hence I again take the liberty, of addressing you a line, if there is a chance of an appointment in the Dept. you are in, or if you think a position could be obtained in the General's bureau.

Casey's board has been disolved. The rapid disolution of the Army, has, I am told caused such a scarcity, of clerks, that the authorities are obliged, where they can, to detail officers. Citizens of course can be had, but there is no provision to pay them.

So long as retained in the service, I would like to hold such a position, if possible now that the war is over. Would it be too much to ask a letter, to aid me in getting such a place?

I appeal to you frankly, as I take it, when you said to me to write you after passing the board — you meant what you said. As I told you, I am not particular about — the rank — if there is an opening in any of the colored regiments I'm ready to go before the board. My foot has so improved that, I think it, would not be any obstacle in my way.

I would prefer, though, were it possible being detailed in the Freedman's Bureau.

Trusting that this may reach you safely, & that it may be in your power to confer the favor asked,

I Remain
Your Obt. Serv.
Louis H. Stevenson
Lt 10th Regt. N.R.C.

Allen House
Oneida N. York
July 13th 1865

My Dear General,

Your kind note by Sladen - reached me a few days since. I am sorry to be compelled to write you to day that the surgeon in charge of me refuses to consent to my going to Washington as early as next week. I had fully intended to leave here on Monday or Tuesday of next week but to day in dressing the arm he told me that I could not have his consent, as a surgeon, to make any extensive journey, such as going to Wash. The arm is not painful, though

from the shoulder to the elbow it is entirely helpless. I could move it more than an inch or two without the assistance of the right hand. The fore arm & hand are good. The bone has united & only requires more time for the fracture to become sufficiently strong to admit of traveling & bearing the unavoidable jar of traveling. A week or two more & I am confident will be sufficient. I need only regret this additional time delay but I am disappointed I wished to go to work.

If this additional delay will be a serious detriment to you I will give way to some other officer. or if

if you should think best you might send some one of your own selection forward as an assistant to me with full instructions to go to work until I reach the field. I could then retain him as an aid, or assign him to a district. If Maj. Morris is within reach of orders he might do. or I would suggest, if Maj. Von Dyke could be reached soon enough he might do well to open the way on his own responsibility though a little headstrong in a subordinate position. Brevet Genl. Foster who I see is assigned to the cond. of Florida might find some good men at work temporarily.

But you will of course

adopt the best course for the interests of the Bureau & that will be perfectly satisfactory to me.

Please write to me as soon as you have concluded what to do or if you require my services at once telegraph me here & I will be ready.

Very Respy.
Your obt. Servt.
W. W. Osborn
Col.

P.S. I wish Capt. Simpson's assistance while traveling & have written him to that effect. He is on a leave of absence from Genl. Logan procured before his assignment by the War Dept. with me.

New York Jany 13th 1865 –

My Genl O O Howard
Dear Sir.

Allow me to take the liberty of enclosing to you a letter from my Brother E A Nason of Augusta Me. which I expected to have had the pleasure of delivering in person but now understand through the papers that no permits of the kind I require will be granted only through Maj Gen Sherman or by his approval & therefore I write you to acquaint you with my object & if consistent with your many duties to ask you aid in getting the required Permit from Maj Gen Sherman –
I have sent all the necessary papers & credentials to Washington & they will be laid before Hon W P Fessenden today. but hearing that they will be granted only by recomendation or approval of Maj Gen Sherman. I write you at once rather than waiting the result of the application at Washington to save the present Mail & you as wish to procure the Permit as soon as possible
My object is to go to Savannah with a Permit to trade there to a limited extent & under proper restrictions. thus the winter with a view of learning acquaintance with the customs & localities of the South & procuring a Plantation where a party of men of the right stamp can test the question of

raising Cotton by free labor stimulated by Northern
Enterprize. Probably the letter from my Brother
will satisfy you more fully than anything I can
say as regards my being a firm supporter of the
Union & Administration. & will only say that no
one who knows me will doubt of my being
thorough in this respect. & I think that I have
the prudence & judgment requisite to enable me
to be of service to my Country in promoting the
Union of feeling amongst Southerners so re-
essential to the future happiness & prosperity of
our Country & if I go South it will be with a
desire to do all in my power to promote this
object so dear to the hearts of all true Patriots.

If you can procure a line from Mr Gen Sherman
recommending or consenting to my having the proper
Permit for the purpose of trade in Savannah
under suitable restrictions. it will be a favor
which will be fully appreciated by my Brother Eli & I
& myself. I believe you are acquainted with my
Brother Wm Nasse of Chicago. who will probably
join us if we succeed in establishing ourselves in
the South permanently so you will see that we
shall take more of the right stamp to be of
service to our Country.

You know & that of the Army with which you
are connected has been as glorious & successful
as the most ardent supporter of the Union could
wish & you have been the means in the

friends of God of doing very much for this great object. I about you have devoted your life & energy & if the Progress of God's people in the north will do aught towards bringing about that ~~that~~ substantial Peace which we trust will be for the Glory of His Cause. then you will most surely have success & it must be a source of comfort to you to know that in this War the Praying men are also the most powerful in acting in any way in their power to promote this glorious object.

If you can reply to this at an early date it will very much oblige

Yours very Respectfully
Henry Raser
No 3 Bowling Green
N York

July 13. 1865. New York.

Natan, Henry.

1

Louisburg Franklin County No Ca
July 13th 1865

Maj Genl O O Howard
Dr Sir

Allow me to address you on a subject, which I hope lies deep in the heart of every one who is a well wisher to the negro race in this country, i.e both of their intelectual and moral condition, seeing their destitute condition, and no one that I have heard of has offered to make a permanent improvement in that condition has induced me, to offer my feeble services in their behalf, and I know of no one to whom I could apply better than yourself holding the high position you do for aid in a noble cause, and one in which I am sure you would give most willingly your aid and support.

I propose to erect here on my plantation an ~~asy~~ assylum a home for those who are unable to support themselves, and also a school to instruct the young and teach the grown morality, when this home is completed I would place it under the care of a good and pious instructor, where the negro shall daily hear God's word read and expounded to them, the school I think can be gotten up on a very cheap plan, let it be made a manual school allow the grown ones to have so many hours in the day for the improvement of the mind and so many hours for labour, in that way I think it could

be made in a very short time to support itself, I think the place will contain about 22000 Acres. lay it off in 20 or 30 Acre lots. build on each lot a comfortable house that would accomodate a family of 8 or 10, and have them taught to improve these lots and in a very short time they would be in a condition, to contribute to the support of the general government instead of being a charge to it, and instead of being a curse to society, I think they can be made acceptable citizens,

I propose for the sum of $75.000, to give 22000 acres to erect on it 50 comfortable houses for families and to erect 10 houses of instruction, to have the lots all layed off and put in good condition to receive it inmates, I am sure that such an institution would save the government more than the sum asked, before the coming winter is over, I was in Raleigh a few days past. and if the negroes that are there now permitted to stay there during the coming winter the fuel alone would well nigh cost the government $75.000, And if my proposal should meet your favourable consideration, And we can enter into terms in a short time, I could by the approach of Winter be prepared to receive a great many into the Assylum, There are hundreds of negro men strolling about the country unimployed who would gladly go to work here for their bread, And a great many who are now drawing rations from the government stores, that could be sent here to make their own support, with a small out lay in guano. I think from [illegible]

10,000 bushels wheat could be grown on the place, with favorable seasons, and then should it be desirable the place could be enlarged, so as to accomodate any desirable number.

I do not send ask for any office in the premises I only desire, to get the institution under way, and placed under the care of a faithfull efficient Superintendant

I was born and raised with negros, and have made it my study to learn their character & dispositions I was told by one of your Officers, that mine was the most inteligent family of negros he had met with in Southern states, I have always tried to make their condition as good as I could, and to give them all the instruction possible under the laws of the country. And now send if I can gain your assistance in doing them a final and lasting good, I shall be most thankfull both to you and the government, As I see you are Commissioner for the freedmen of the United States I hope you have it in your power to do whatever is best for them,

Allow me to began answer to this letter, at your earliest convenience, The institution might be placed directly under the controls of the general Superintendant of freedmen for S. C.

With high consideration yr obt St

N. A. Eaton

Louisburg, N. Ga
July 13. 1865

Eaton, N. A.

Gives a plan for taking care of his Negro Negroes

Recd July 22. 1865.

Major General Howard 15th army corps U S A

Sir my son James S Knowlton enlisted in the 6th mo Vol. July 1864 at St Louis served true all the Difficulties of the rebellion untill the 24th of June 1865 he got a commission as 1st Lieutenant Adjt 18th day of July 1865 when he fell sick of a severe Dysentery an brain Fever which held him for 5 months by reason of Loss of Absence to a month. By order of general Howard he was sent for his mother who brought him to my Home in search of Better health his sickness baffled all Doctoring and he Departed this Life the 24th of June last his Doctors and medsne Bills with his Interment is no small sum - I am a poore man 74 yeares of age and bereaved of a good son I hope you will found something to be done in matter of his back pay or any thing he might have left sent me I have this commission loss of absence by order of Major Howard his master in Roll Dated the 30 March and 5 other weapons bannetes with his office he belonged to the 1 Brigade 2 n Division 15th army corps

Be so good as to send to me at 314 Richmond street west Toronto Canada west and you will do an act of charity for a bereaved Father of a good son

Samuel Knowlton

Toronto
July 13th
1865

Portsmouth N.H.
July 13th 1866.

Knowlton Saml.

Relative to the back pay of his son.

5th 1865

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Surgeon General's Office
Washington City, D.C.

July 13 1865

General

I have the Decision of the Attorney Genl - and it is adverse to Provies

Shall we call a meeting for first Wednesday in October - now - or wait until September to do so - Yourself - Admiral Davis and myself are the only members of the Com - present -

Very respectfully
Your
Obt Ser - Hewson

J. Barnes
Sg -

Atty-Genl's Ord

Tuly 14/65

Vicksburg Miss.
July 14th 1865

Dear General.

I arrived in Vicksburg last Evening & shall commence work in this District this afternoon. I have been quite unwell for several days & am hardly able to be around. Caught a terrible cold coming down the river from Little Rock & it has settled on my lungs, I hope it is nothing serious however & that I shall be well again in a few days.

I have written you several long letters. One from St. Louis. One from Memphis & two from Little Rock I hope you will get them, I will write you

as to matters here before I
leave for Natchez. I shall
be in Vicksburg till latter
part of this week, or first of
next.

George Reid & Henry Taylor
my orderlies who are taking care
of the horses in Washington belong
to my old regiment the 12th
Wisconsin; & as the regiment
will be mustered out of the service
before I return they will, in
all probability be compelled
to go out too, & rest you would
be kind enough to ask one of
the staff officers to see that
my horses are properly cared
for until I get back to
Washington. I think Capt. Gil-
bert or Lieut. Mills would
attend to it, if my boy Dick
could assist in taking care
of them.

Genl Sherman. Oxford

Mr Morgan T. Smith are here, Smith has resigned & goes up the river tomorrow. I do not know what Command Osterhaus will have.

Genl. Sands & brother passed down the river this morning on their way to Mobile. I saw them for a few minutes.

I have just been reading your oration at Gettysburg, I think it is splendid - wish I could have been present & heard you deliver it. I passed the 4th of July in Memphis & it was the dullest day I have ever experienced.

Regards to Mr & Mrs. Markland & all the staff. I wish I was in Washington, I am quite sick & disgusted with this part of the country. It doesn't seem as it had to

Good Bye.

Ever Truly Yours Wm E Strong

[illegible]
Cully 14th 1861

Strong Pitts &
Bof Brig Genl.

Friendly letter.

Recd July 29th 1861

Saratoga
July 14 1865.

Dear General.

I have been greatly benefitted by my visit here and am happy to be able to report that I shall return to my post on the Stage which leaves N.Y. on the 28 inst. If you should desire to communicate with me before I return please direct to No 211 Spruce Street Philadelphia

where I shall be until
the 26th when I leave for
New York to take the steamer
I am with much respect
Yours truly
P Sleeper
Bt Maj Sergt

Maj Genl Howard