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2750 7/18/1865

*From:* W.E. Boardman

*To:* Major Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2695

*Source:* Bowdoin

U.S. Christian  
Commission  
Central Office  
11 Bank Street  
Philadelphia

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[31, 32]

U.S. Christian Commission  
Central Office  
11 Bank Street  
Philadelphia, July 18th 1865

Major Gen Howard  
U.S. Commissioner &c  
Dear General

Today for the first I find decisive measures taken to bring about a general combination of agencies as proposed by you for voluntary aid to the Government in its work for Refugees Freedmen &c. The active workers of both Christian and Sanitary Commissions will be invited to combine with those already in the Freedmens associations and make a national strong and efficient body which will command respect and call forth general and generous contributions. The Freedmens Aid Union are to meet the 24th inst to issue the invitation.

With much to encourage there hast has been much also, of minutia to discourage until now.

The prospect opens. God grant it may open more and more, until our best hopes are realized.

I go immediately west to help on the matter there.

Very Respectfully  
Your Obt Servt  
W.E. Boardman

[Written on the last page, in a different hand.]  
New York  
July 18th, '65  
Boardman W.E.  
Friendly letter

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2751 7/18/1865 *From:* Ira. LeBaron Jr

*To:* Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2696

Woodstock Vt

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[30]

Woodstock Vt July 18th 1865

Gen Howard

Dear Sir

I would like the agency for Vermont to raise funds to purchase Fords Theater for the Young Mens Christian Association Washington DC. If you will give me the appointment, & send me the necessary documents, I will commence operations immediately, by publishing articles through the press of Vermont & by Canvassing &c. I think that I could do well for you. It is most certainly a worthy cause & no doubt its friends will be numerous.

Respectfully Yours

Ira. LeBaron Jr

Pastor of M.E. Church

Woodstock Vermont

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2752 7/18/1865 *From:* Anson Blake

*To:* Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2697

New York

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[33, 34]

New York 18th July 1865

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard  
Commissioner &c  
Dear Sir

I am duly favored with yours of the 15th inst., in reply to my letter of the 13th.

I have not, at this moment, sufficient knowledge of the financial condition of the Pacific R.R. Co., or the intentions of the Directors of that Company as to pushing on their work, to enable me to write such a Programme as I have conceived, peculiarly fitted, to promote our advantageous settlement of Freedmen, and a conversion of Lands, into work on the Road for which they were donated.

General Dix, will in about two weeks probably, become President of the Road; and I am to have a full consultation with him on the subject in about one week from this time, and shall then be better able to judge what the Company can do.

In the meantime I would say that it is probably a large portion of the Freedmen will remain near where they have always lived, and that another portion, will choose to emigrate, and settle where they can establish communities by themselves, on Lands of their own, and to be paid for in their own labor.

This latter class are embraced in my plan, and I hope a way will be found, to let them have a fair chance to work on the Pacific R.R. and to settle their families on the Lands along the route, by devoting 50, or 100 miles of said Road, more or less, according to their numbers, exclusively to their labor, and not permit any other nationality to interfere with them in their work.

The same, or a greater, or less number of miles, might be appropriated to Irish, and also to German, laborers, but neither of the latter class, will work kindly with the Freedmen.

These laborers should be allowed to settle on the Lands of the Company, like the old mode of preempting, and when paid for, have title.

A very liberal price should be put on the Land, and on the labor of the Freedmen, and they should be encouraged to clear up the Land, and have Schools and Churches.

One-half price of Labor would subsist them, and the other half would pay for 40 acres, in about a year, if they worked well.

They ought to preempt 160 acres, and pay for 40 acres each year.

Personally, I feel much interest in this matter, but at 75 years of age, I can't do much. I have sufficient of this world's goods, and therefore, what I can do to aid this much injured class, will be done freely, and as a matter of duty.

After another interview with Genl. Dix, will trouble you with another letter.

Very Respectfully & Truly Yours  
Anson Blake

[Written sideways on the last page, in a different hand.]  
New York, July 18, 1865  
Blake, Anson

Writes in regard to employing negroes on Pacific R.R.  
July 22nd 1865, Recd  
File

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2753 7/18/1865

*From:* Geo. H. Stuart

*To:* Major Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2698

*Source:* Bowdoin

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

Freedmen's Bureau  
Washington D.C.

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[177]

U.S. Christian Commission  
Central Office  
No. 11 Bank Street  
Philadelphia, July 18, 1865

Major Gen. O.O. Howard  
Freedmen's Bureau  
Washington D.C.  
My Dear General

I have very great pleasure in introducing to you, Rev. W.D. Howard D.D. Of Pittsburgh, Pa. He is the Chairman of the Executive General Committee on Freedmen of the General Assembly of the O.S. Presbyterian Church. He occupies a distinguished position as a minister in that body, and is a very intimate friend of my own. He wishes to consult with you in reference to the work among the freedmen, and I cordially commend him to your Christian Confidence and Courtesy.

With many assurances of personal regard, I am

Yours Very Truly  
Geo. H. Stuart

[Written sideways on the back page, in a different hand.]  
Philadelphia Pa.  
July 18 1865  
Stuart Geo H.  
Chairman U.S.C.C.  
Introducing Rev. W.D. Howard, who wishes to consult with Genl Howard.

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2754 7/18/1865

*From:* Saml A Duncan

*To:* Maj Gen OO Howard

OOH-2699

Wilmington

Washington

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[47]

Office U.S. Military Telegraph,  
War Department.

The following Telegram received at Washington 940 am July 19 1865  
From Wilmington July 18 1865

Maj Gen OO Howard

Have caused a search to be made of all records at Fort Fisher & can find no such name as Barrow. Will cause search among the graves & report.

Saml A Duncan  
Bt Br Gen

[Written sideways on the back page, in a different hand.]  
Wilmington <>  
July 18th 1865  
Duncan Saml A.  
Bvt. Brig. Genl.  
States that he can find no record of Barrow at Fort Fisher

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2755 7/19/1865 *From:* T.W. Osborn

*To:* My Dear Genl [OO  
Howard]

OOH-2700

Allens Hotel  
Oneida N.Y.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[37]

Allens Hotel  
Oneida N.Y.  
July 19th 1865

My Dear Genl,

I had rather hoped to hear from you to day to know what course you had concluded to take in my case but I have recd. no letter yet. I will write this though at a venture & you will treat it as you have concluded to treat my case. Capt. Sampson is here & will remain until I can go as far as Washington. Upon reaching W. he intends to resign & enter business. This takes the land of the officers who were assigned to me excepting Maj. Morris who I suppose was assigned but I never recd. notice of it. I understand he is south. If you still intend that I shall go to Florida or elsewhere I would like you to apply that Dr. S.L. Merrill Ast. Surgeon 17th U.S.C. Infy. now at Nashville be assigned to duty with me. I should like Merrills services besides as I shall have the use of but one arm for a long time yet. I wish him to accompany me. Consequently I make the application now.

The arm continues to do well, as well as could be expressed from the nature of the fracture which was just below the socket of the shoulder simply breaking of the head of the bone.

Very Resply your  
Obt. Servt.  
T.W. Osborn

P.S.

If Merrill is detailed I would like Sladen to send him a copy of the order direct & request him to be at Wash. on the 1st of August. Direct to the Regt. at Nashville Tenn. O.

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2756 7/19/1865 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2701

*Source:* Bowdoin

War Department  
Bureau of Refugees,  
Freedmen, and  
Abandoned Lands  
Washington

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[615]

War Department  
Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands  
Washington, July 19th, 1865.

Dearest

I will write you a few lines this morning to let you know that we are well. Guy is going to ride out to Mr Blairs to see the grey horse this morning. He seems to be enjoying himself, plays well, sleeps well. He is a good deal of company for me. I am almost always too busy to talk with him, but I enjoy having him about. Night before last we went over to Freedmen's village. The white people there are afflicted with chills and find difficulty in preventing them.

I shall try & start for home monday after next. Perhaps leave Washington in the night train sunday evening. I dont feel sure yet of being away 30 days, but will try for it.

I didnt quite understand your indignation at the meddling of other people; probably you saw something in the papers that I did not see. I sent you two hundred dollars by the last mail which I hope you received. Give much love to the children. Thank Mrs Jackman from me for all the interest she has manifested in us and for her great kindness.

God bless you. Lovingly,  
Otis



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2757 7/19/1865 *From:* Jho M Corse  
Bvt Maj Genl

*To:* Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2702

Louisville Ky

Chief of Freedmens Bureau  
Washington D.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[35, 36]

Louisville Ky  
July 19th /65

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard  
Chief of Freedmens Bureau  
Washington D.C.  
Dear Genl,

I called upon you several times while at your Hotel in Washington and on each occasion failed to see you. I desired then to ask you to use your influence to secure for me the position for which Genl Sherman said he would recommend Gen Hazen & myself in the new Regular army. If you are still as kindly disposed as you were when we last met I would ask at your hands a recommendation for the position of Brig. Genl. in the new organization. I am induced to do this for several reasons. One of which is Genl Sherman so advised me stating that his recommendation would of itself avail little as the politicians would bring peak influence to bear to have their favorites appointed many of whom have never seen service. Again I have determined to remain in the Army the profession proving congenial to my tastes and one which Providence seems to have designated for me to pursue my extreme aversion to political life & the fascination of arms induced me to decline the Gubernatorial nomination in my own state a few days since which fact has somewhat intensified the desire to remain in the service. Senator Grimes of my state is very kindly disposed & will use his influence to assist me. Genl Sherman you know will do all in his power and a letter from you will not only add to the great debt of obligation already rest under to you but will render my success more certain.

You may desire to know something of the old army you use to command. The 1st Div 15 Corps is slowly being mustered out. Genl C.R. Woods & brother have gone to Mobile Alabama. The 2nd Div. Genl Oliver comdg was sent to Arkansas to report to Reynolds. The 4th Div. I have had all mustered out & am alone now without a command, dont you want an extra Genl Officer? I believe I have the credit of having sent off the first Div in this army. The 14th, 17th & remnant of the 10th Corps are rapidly crumbling to pieces & before the 10th prox the Army of the Tenn will be no more. Gen Hazen is well & enjoys life & ladies society hugely. I am devoting my entire idle time to the theory of my profession & with my family in this beautiful Kentucky country I am thoroughly happy between my studies my boz & horses.

You are too well aware of the high appreciation I have always held you in for me to offer anything more than my humble wishes for your continued good health & that you may be spared for the field of usefulness for which Providence seems to have especially fitted you for & in which you are reflecting so much credit on yourself & honor on your country & happiness on the poor race who have reason to congratulate themselves for having fallen into your hands.

Hoping to hear from you at your leisure I remain as ever devotedly

Your friend & admirer  
Jho M Corse  
Bvt Maj Genl

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

Louisville Ky.  
July 19th 1865  
Corse John M.  
Bvt. Maj. Genl.

Requests recommendation for position in the regular army.

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2758 7/20/1865 *From:* T. E. Stone

*To:* Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2703

*Source:* Bowdoin

Middlesex Mechanics  
Association  
Incorporated 1825  
Lowell, Mass.

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[45]

Middlesex Mechanics Association  
Incorporated 1825  
Lowell, Mass., July 20th, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard:  
Dear Sir -

As Secretary, and in compliance with a vote, of the Lecture Committee, I find special pleasure in inviting you to speak before the Middlesex Mechanic Association, during its 10th annual series of lectures, which will be commenced November 1st, 1865. The Committee understand very well that you are not a public lecturer; but you have been so prominent in the eyes of the people the last four years; your devotion to our country, and your patriotism and bravery having made every class in New England familiar with your name, well all want both to see you and to hear you speak.

Can you not, then, during the approaching Fall or Winter, when you will surely be going to your home, pause over one night in Lowell? Lowell is only 25 miles, by rail from Boston; or you could come directly from New York here, without going to Boston, and go on in the morning to Maine, thus saving a night in Boston without extending the miles of travel.

I hope to receive a favorable reply to this invitation; and trust you will not answer it until you have given the subject deliberate consideration, when, I doubt not, you will find no obstacle in the way of your visiting our somewhat famous city.

We have three lecturers for the course engaged already: Dr. A.S. Stone of Boston; John B. Gough, of Worcester; Geo. Wm. Curtis of New York; besides Prof. Cooke, of Cambridge Harvard College for a series of four scientific lectures. I assure you, you will be in good company if you grant me the pleasure and privilege of adding your name to the list which is as yet incomplete.

Hoping to receive, in due time a favorable reply, I beg to assure you I am  
Very respectfully your obt. Ser't.  
T. E. Stone, for the Com.

Maj. Gen. Howard

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2759 7/20/1865     *From:* J.S. Fullerton

*To:* My Dear Genl [OO  
Howard]

OOH-2704

Hilton Head S.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44]

Private

Hilton Head S.C. July 20 / 65.

My Dear Genl.

I arrived at Charleston yesterday, remained a few hours and then took the Steamer for this place where I arrived at 2. o'clock this morning. I saw Gen Saxtons agents at Charleston, Mr Thomlinson (or Tomlinson) and Mr Pillsbury. I had not time to make a thorough examination of affairs pertaining to the Bureau in Charleston and I will return there for that purpose in a few days. This evening I will go to Beaufort where I will remain a day or two, thence to Savannah, thence to Charleston. It will hardly be worth while for me to go to Florida, but I will if I can. The Asst Comr of the Bureau for that State should be there now. Personally I do not wish to go to Augusta as there is almost a certainty of taking the fever (so it is said here) in going up the river, but it may be necessary for me to go and see Gen Steadman comndg the Dept of Georgia. It is reported that <Geolvied> is really running wild, and that he proposes not only to conduct the affairs of this Bureau, but also military and civil, as well as political affairs in the State of Georgia.

Gnl Saxton has been traveling to Charleston &c with Secy Chase and making such speeches to the negroes on the subject of suffrage as are likely to make them discontented and to lead them to think that unless they get certain imaginary rights they are not free. I have every reason to believe the reports of the military authorities here that General Saxton pays more attention to such matters than to his legitimate duties as Asst. Commr. Of the Bureau. I will not make a definite report of Gnl Saxtons official Conduct though until after I have seen him or examined ore thoroughly into the workings of his system – if he has any. I can say this much now. Gnl Saxton has but little administrative ability and he has too much to do, so but very little has been done. The State of South Carolina is as much as he can attend to and I think a good man should be appointed for Georgia – not <Geolvied>, (who might take a District).

I must say that I was quite disgusted when I arrived at Charleston and found that so little had been done by the offices of this Bureau in S.C. The two Citizen Agents at Charleston are confined principally to issuing rations hearing a few complaints and attending meetings. Not an application has been made to the Agent of the Treasury Department for Abandoned or Confiscated Lands or for money arising from the same in the hands of said Agents. I asked Mssrs Thompson & Pillsbury why nothing had been done in this matter and they said that they were a little in the dark, and were waiting for instructions to be given by Gnl Saxton upon his return.

I have had a very satisfactory interview with Gen Gillmore who says that he wishes to do everything that he can to assist you in the matter of freedmen affairs. Gnl G. is radical enough to suit any person, except upon the sufferage question, and in reference to this he says that he will be glad to see the negro have universal sufferage as soon as he is prepared for it. The want of harmony between Gnls Gillmore & Saxton, so far as Gnl Gillmore is concerned, is, I think, on account of several very radical men of strong prejudice whom Gnl S. has assigned to duty in his Department. One of the men is Mr Pillsbury in Charleston and another Maj Delaney 104 U.S.C.I. Maj Delaney is <conspicuous> in throwing obstacles in the way of the military authorities. Whenever an order has been issued by military authorities that he does not like he calls a meeting of Colored Citizens to consider it, and he is the chief orator at such. He has told the negroes in public speeches that the lands that they have been working upon belongs to them and they should have it. This irritates and discontents the negroes, and makes them in some cases refuse to work for the owner of the soil at any price, and in some other causes them to brake contracts that have been made. Gen Gillmore told me that Saxton told him that Delaney is a very bad man and was doing much damage. Today I telegraphed you about him, & if I gain any more information on the same subject at Beaufort, will write to you.

I left N.Y. City on Saturday last & almost before I was out of the town I cast my bread upon the waters , and from that time until we arrived near to Charleston was quite sick & confined to my berth.

Please excuse haste.

Truly your <>  
J.S. Fullerton  
AAG

[This could be the ending of another letter with a missing opening, or the continuation of the above letter.]

While in Charleston I was informed that Mr Preston and Mr Chesnut, both leading men of this State, are now hiring their former slaves and making contracts with them. Since my arrival here, I have heard of many other men who are or were men of political and social influence who have adopted the same policy. This will have a very good influence, for as the leading men do in the South, so do the people.

In the matter of detail of Agents for this Bureau for the State of South Carolina, Genl. Gillmore proposed to allow each of his District and Post Commanders to act as such, ex officio. This, on your behalf, I objected to as these officers could not leave their posts for the purpose of inspecting, or for any other duty, unless upon permission of their Military Commanders, and then all orders from the Assistant Commsr. of the Bureau for this State would have to be transmitted to them through Military Commanders. They would make very good Agents of the Bureau and very poor military officers or vice versa. They could not be both. Genl. Gillmore then said that he would give one officer for every county or parish or considerable town in the State if he had them to spare, but he cannot as he has hardly more than enough to perform the required military duties. He has agreed therefore to give as many as he can, and also to detail intelligent Non. Com. Officers and enlisted men for like duty. I think though, even in this case, he will not be able to detail quite as many as are needed, as the most of his regiments are composed of colored troops.

After I see Gnl Saxton or his Agent I will again return to Hilton Head to talk with Genl. Gillmore about this matter, and I think a very satisfactory arrangement can be made with him.

Very Respy  
Yr Obt Servt.  
J.S. Fullerton  
Bvt Col & A.A.G.

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

Hilton Head, S.C.  
July 20th, 1865  
Fullerton, J.S.  
Bvt Brig Genl.  
Relative to Freedmens affairs in Dept. Of South.

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2760 7/20/1865

*From:* Chas. H. Hart

*To:* Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2705

1819 Chestnut Street  
Phila

Com. Freedmen's Bureau  
Washington

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[46]

1819 Chestnut Street  
Phila July 20th 1865

My dear Sir,

If your Oration at Gettysburg on July 4th has been printed in pamphlet you will be conferring a very great favor, by informing me where I may obtain a copy.

If you have delivered any other addresses &c which have been printed I would also be obliged by knowing where you they may be procured.

With sentiments of high esteem.

I am veery respectfully your obd. & hum. Servt.  
Chas. H. Hart

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard  
Com. Freedmen's Bureau  
Washington