

BUREAU OF THE

American Freedman's Aid Union,

118

69 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK,

Aug 1 1865

May. Gen. O. C. Howard
Bureau Refugee Com

Dr Sir

Gen. Murphy

Note from the White House &
proof of address, coming
through you, is duly recd?

That address,
drawn up by Mr Jay,
has not been & will not

be published

In consolidating
and enlarging this Union
or Parish will not be
located at Washington, as
had been anticipated,
but will be stationed
most probably in this
city

When our plan of
organization shall be

completed & ready to be
put into action and
shall submit it to you
for your consideration
& approval

Most truly yours

J. M. Chin
Sec. A. F. A. U.

New York
Aug. 1st 1886.

Mr Kim S. M.,
Sec A. F. A. W.

Yours
I hope that address
will not be published
and that Dr. Parry
will not be located
in Washington.

Genl Howard

Though possessed with a real eagerness to write to you my being entirely unknown to you makes me loath to do so. Because in writing to you without the proper letters of introduction I can but feel that I am exercising an undue liberty & at the same time subjecting myself to a charge of presumption & folly which necessarily forces upon me a still greater apprehension that of incurring your displeasure which I can truly say is far from my wish.

Should this reach you I know that it will occasion some surprise & I don't not that it will seem very imposing to you. But permit me to say though there are many inconsistencies which I am forced to ascribe to this letter I hope you will lay all prejudices aside and looking not at my impropriety but at your own excellent nature & entering feelingly into that which prompted me to write to you let counsel from mine own good virtue direct you what to do.

I now purpose acquainting you with myself as follows. My Name is Thomas W. Howard born & raised in the State of Mississippi My Fathers Name was Groves Howard of whom I have no recollection the same having died during my infancy My Grandfathers Name was Abel Howard. who I am told was a native Virginian. I am now 22 Years of Age. I entered the "Rebel Army" a private Soldier in the Spring of '61. And after 18 months service as such I was appointed to & recd the Commission of 2d Lieut & assigned to duty in a Battalion of Sharp Shooters in the Army of Tennessee which won the pride & Admiration of the whole Army. I was a participant in every battle the Army of Tenn was engaged in up to the time I recd my second wound which was at New Hope Church near Dallas Ga. during Genl Johnsons Ga Campaign. I was first wounded at Missionary Ridge the ball passing through my left leg below the knee I recovered from this however in 60 days & immediately rejoined my command at Dalton Ga. During the Ga Campaign I recd as stated above my last wound in my right hip which disabled me from service. I was classed as one of the Invalid Corps & passed ^{sent me} from the War Department at Richmond honorably retiring me from the service of the Confederate Armies. As soon as I recd these papers & had sufficiently recovered from my wound to travel I betook myself to Davidson College North Carolina to finish my education which had been interrupted by the war. The reputation I carried from the Army in regard to my conduct as an officer & a gentle man was all that an Ambitious boy for I was nothing more could wish in addition to this I was indorsed by some of the best & influential men in Miss. So I had nothing to do but to apply myself diligently to my books. Conduct myself as I had done & had the Confederacy succeeded finally I could have got any position that I wished. But alas all my noble Aspirations were cut short by the downfall of our Cause.

and my political aspiration they too lie sunk in the deep of
forgetfulness never more to be fished out by the grappling irons of
recollection. Few can depict the grief of a high-spirited boy whose soul was
wrapped up in a cause which in the presence of Almighty God he would
^{have} affirmed was just. to see that cause now lost and the remaining
defenders of it subjugated. Oh it is a deep grief & harder still for the
heart to overcome than the mental pangs of dying. If President Davis
was to day condemned to die by the U.S. authorities I care not by
what mode it would be the happiest moment of my life to know
that I could be permitted to offer my life as a sacrifice for his
preservation. Think not that these are mere idle words. They are
the sentiments of a true Southern heart.

But the only alternative now left us is to humble
ourselves & submit. And we must not sit down & fold our hands to give
over the past, but show by our actions that we are willing & able to
adapt ourselves to the new order of things & with a hearty good will
double all our energies to make good, true & substantial Citizens.
we may hope to win favor not only of the world at large
but also from the supreme Ruler himself. I have made up my
mind so to act, have taken President Johnson's Amnesty Oath & hav-
ing made a good Confederate Soldier I shall strive as hard to make
a good U.S. Citizen. And in order to begin as early as possible I have
written to You thinking that You would appreciate my situation
& being of the same name as Yourself would manifest some
interest in my behalf. What I ask You to do Genl is to make some effort
to secure me a position as private Secretary to some Gentleman who
is character & Mental Ability is of real worth which situation would
be of great benefit to me as I could discharge my duty to my employ-
er & could thus have access to a good Library & the privilege of reading at
night. Do not fear that I shall fail to merit such a position if You can
secure me such an one upon good & sufficient recommendation dis-
patch to me forthwith & I will give You or the parties interested ample
satisfaction on that score. Do not think that I wish an easy
position. I love to work & desire to be employed all the time. I
assure You I can do my share of it. Had the Confederacy triumphed
I would have been as well off as heart could wish. But all I have
was invested in Negro property which is now "gone up." My Mother
(Mrs. H. W. Moore) Step Father & Brother the latter older than myself are
all living in Mississippi on a good Prairie Section of Land belonging to my
Mother. They have perfected a contract with the Freed Men's Committee
& every thing at present is getting on as well as could be expected.
But all around them every thing is in confusion. As the
Negros show no disposition to work even for good wages. & I can
predict what tomorrow may bring forth. But I do not feel willing
to throw myself upon my relations for a support. I
have business qualifications which will amply support
me. & I wish now to secure a position under such an one

falayer as I have named above whos recommendation will always
 be of value to me. If I can get a position of the above man-
 tion I can soon establish a reputation that will secure me friends
 & wages. I can do a little of most any thing, I never drink intoxicating
 liquors of any kind. Never played a game of cards in my life
 & never use ^{nor tobacco} bad words. If there is any thing I do feel proud of
 it is a good & pure character, all of which I will take pleasure in
 substantiating when call upon to do so. There is no chance to secure
 a position here. because every body is in the same fix as myself
 "got nothing" I do not wish to clerk in a store if I can do otherwise
 for I followed clerking in a Dry goods house four years before the war.
 & I don't think that it would be of any improvement to me. But if I
 can not secure such a position as I first wished for why I am willing
 to take one in a business house until I can establish myself.
 I would like very much to be with the Hon. Vallandigham of
 Ohio. Because I have a high regard for his Statesmanship. But having
 been a rebel I feel a delicacy in proposing to him. for no doubt
 many public Men North could not bear to tolerate the idea of
 taking a person in their employ who had been a participant in
 the rebellion. Still such I would say may they never have to feel
 what we do. I feel satisfied there is that within me which if prop-
 erly cultured would make me known among the great men of
 the earth but I have no means of doing it. & those who are near & dear
 to me are like myself how to commence life anew. I would like
 to hear from you immediately upon receipt of this & if you
 can effect the object for which I write you will do me a truly grate-
 ful & lasting kindness I have the credentials now in my posses-
 sion which will satisfy you that I am who I represented myself
 to you. My Post Office is ^{West Point} Lowndes Co. Miss. on the M. & O. R.R.
 I live 8 ms. from the place. Hoping that you may be led to
 a proper appreciation of my motive for writing & that you will par-
 don the many imperfections this hasty written letter embodies &
 that you will favor me with a reply. I have the honor to
 subscribe myself General.

Your Obedt Servt
 Thomas W. Howard

West Point Lowndes Co Miss.

Aug. 1st 1865.

P.S. My Post Office is West Point, Lowndes Co. Mississippi

~~For please send answer if you know me with~~
~~one To T. W. Howard Care of Cyrus Johnson~~
~~Memphis Tenn. I direct also that He forward the~~
~~same To W. F. Franks West Point Miss.~~

~~T. W. Howard.
Care of Cyrus Johnson.
Memphis Tenn.
to W. G. Franks
West Point
Miss.~~

C. P. D. Gen I would prefer an answer directed to me at this place care of W. G. Franks instead of being sent to the care of Cyrus Johnson. I have come to this conclusion after consulting a W. S. Captain who is stationed at this post. He informs me a letter will go through with out any difficulty by sending it through the Military Mail, so upon the

whole I would prefer a letter directed as follows

T. W. Howard

Care of W. G. Franks

West Point Louisiana Co

Miss.

I thought best to acquaint you with this as the mail facilities here are very bad

Yours with Respects

T. W. Howard



OFFICE OF BOARD OF EDUCATION,

Boston, Aug. 1 1865

My. Gen. Howard
Dear Sir.

It would very much help the cause so near your heart, if you would be at New Haven on Wednesday Aug. 9 & express your views in reference to our duties to the Proceedmen.

The Am. Institute of Instruction is the oldest & most influential Educational Association in this country. Its doings are annually published. Thirty five volumes of its "Proceedings" form a valuable portion of our Educational

literature.

At this meeting of
an association national
in its character, your
words, even if ~~but few~~, by
reason of the weighty cares
& duties pressing upon you,
but few, would greatly
help & encourage the
Educators of the Country
in their critical knowledge
and.

We have strongly hoped
that on your return from
Agua you will be willing to
take New Haven by the way.

Very truly Yours

P. G. Washburn

P.S.

If any other day of the
session better suits you con-
sidered, we should be happy
to change our programme and

Welcome you at any time,
Day or Evening.

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Wm

Mr. Northrop
Answered

Dear Mr. Northrop,
to deliver an address in
New Haven Conn.

Northrop, D. G.

Boston, Aug 1st 1868.

Washington, D. C.,
Aug. 1st, 1865

Major Gen. O. O. Howard

Sir - I have prepared the statement which you desired, and which I leave at your office. I have just read in the Chronicle the following with regard to the state of things in North Carolina. According to my observation the "witness is true".

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

The Pardoning Power—The State Convention.

RALEIGH, July 25.—The Raleigh Progress continues to denounce the reckless use of the pardoning power in North Carolina: "This misplaced leniency," it says, "is making the leading rebels of the State, who are daily receiving pardons, still more defiant and disloyal. Composing the public men of the State, they have all been designated as delegates to the coming State Convention, which body it is known they will control. The negroes and Union men, whose protection depends entirely upon the enforcement of the confiscation law, which disarms only the disloyal, are special objects of the hatred of these men, who will be beyond the reach of the Federal authorities as soon as the new State Government is inaugurated. It is understood that this element who held State securities for upwards of forty millions of dollars, contracted since the rebellion for war purposes, will make a strong effort to have the same assumed by not providing against it in the new Constitution, but leaving it to future legislation. Owing to this unexpected exhibition of disloyalty and vindictive arrogance, the Union men are endeavoring to have the call for a State Convention delayed until after Congress meets, which will save time as well as great expense, as the proposed new Constitution is destined to be repudiated by the people. It is very apparent that it will be of an obnoxious character, judging from the material designated to compose that body. These treacherous leaders who have been pardoned

through Governor Holden's recommendation are now organizing in every county, and openly asserting that their party is strong enough to defeat Mr. Holden or any other candidate for Governor who fails to identify himself with them. Governor Holden drafted a call for a convention some time since, and sent it to President Johnson for his ratification. Since then the opposition to an early convention has assumed formidable proportions, and is daily gaining strength.

THE MALCONTENTS.

RALEIGH, July 31.—William A. Graham, ex-member of the rebel Senate, and a political leader of this State, who is to be a delegate to the coming State Convention, says, under no circumstances will he consent to the return of North Carolina into the Union, if the negro suffrage question is to be made a condition.

J. P. H. Russ, of this city, who recently received a Federal appointment, and who has been designated to represent this district in Congress, and also in the approaching convention, defines his position on the slavery question by saying if he had the power he would re-enslave every slave who is now free.

Some of the county meetings, which nominated rebel leaders for candidates to the State Convention, instruct them to favor, by constitutional or legislative enactments, the binding out of liberated slaves to their former masters for a term of years.

The Union men are alarmed at these fresh developments of disloyalty, and are organizing for the purpose of demanding the immediate enforcement of the confiscation law, which they claim will drive these rebel leaders from the political field, and enable men of clear records to present a Constitution and delegation to Congress which that body will consent to accept.

The reckless manner of pardoning the leaders of rebellion in North Carolina—such men as Graham and others—is exciting the apprehension of the loyal citizens of this State.

The testimony of Gen-
Turner at Richmond
with regard to the dem-
onstrations of Southern
feeling and purposes in
that city you have doubt-
less seen.

Yours with great respect

E. Turner

[EXTRACT.]

"V. Whereas satisfactory evidence has been furnished at these headquarters that, at the election held in the city of Richmond, on the 25th instant, for municipal officers, voters were excluded on the ground of having lost their residence by reason of their absence as soldiers in the United States army during the rebellion, when no such ground was taken as against soldiers absent in the rebel army; and whereas, with but few exceptions, all of the officers elected at said municipal election have been prominent and conspicuous in inaugurating and sustaining the rebellion; and whereas, the issue was distinctly made and openly avowed at said election, as between those men who had aided and abetted in the war against the United States authority, and those who had, with their lives, defended the flag of our country;

"Therefore, justice to the thousands who have fallen on the battle-field or by disease in their efforts to put down this rebellion, and to those who are now returning to their homes in this district, after four years of suffering, toil, privations, and dangers incurred in fighting treason, demands that these persons who were so lately contributing all their efforts to sustain treason, and overthrow this Government, should not be installed into office and entrusted with power;

Washington

Aug 1st 1865,

Genl. C.

We prepared the statement
as desired, & enclose it to
you the Chronicle relative
to the state of things in
North Carolina.

Yours truly,
Wm. L. Garrison

Maj. Gen. Howard

Sir,

The Committee of Arrangements for the approaching anniversary of the American Institute of Instruction have requested me to invite you to be present on that occasion. The meetings will be held in this town during three days & many eminent men are expected to be present. The whole community feels so much interest in the great work with which you are

My dear Howard

Dear

The Committee of Arrangements for the approaching annual meeting of the American Association of Architects have requested me to invite you to be present on that occasion. The meeting will be held in New York during their biennial convention and are expected to be pleasant. The committee feels to have great interest in the great work which you are

especially charged, of looking
after the Freedmen, that any
remarks which you would make
on the subject would not only
be welcome, - but useful in
promoting a right appreciation
of the difficult labors to which
you are devoted.

I am, dear sir,

With the highest respect,

Yr. Obedient serv^t

D. C. Gilman

Chairman of
Comm. on Inuitat.

Yale College,
New Haven, Conn.

1 Aug. 1865

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Mr. D. L. Gilman
Yale College New Haven Conn.

Aug 1st 1868.

Gilman D. L.

Chairman &c.

Inviting Genl. Newbold
to be present at the ap-
proaching anniversary
of the American Insti-
tute.

Waterville

Aug. 2, 1865

Gen. Leonard

My dear Sir

I hope we shall have the pleasure of seeing you at our commencement next week (Aug. 8 & 9th), & of hearing from you at our commencement dinner.

And with your permission I will call you out on that occasion on the following sentiment.

"The education of all classes, black & white".

Mr Milliken wishes me

to say to you, that he will be
happy to entertain you at
his house while here.

Very truly yours
L. L. Chaplin

Naumkeag Island 153
Aug 2. 65

My Dear Sir

I have your note
about seeing Stanton
If I have any infirmity
it is in drawing my charges
specifically & persistently
of the Secretary & members
me at all. It must be
by my attempts at reforming
abuses of his subordinates -
The outside public however
cannot always give definite
information & the next best
thing is to put him on his

lines -

The enclosed article from
the Respectable Daily is
of his character -
I was sorry not to get up
to Club - Last Saturday

Yrs very truly
J. M. Forbes
Constant vigilance is the price of liberty

Mr. Horatio Woodman takes the
liberty to refer the enclosed letter
from Mr. J. M. Forbes and
the extract from the Daily
Advertiser to Maj. Gen.
Howard.

Boston, Aug. 7/65.

Mr. John H. Johnson, New York
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.
Very respectfully,
John H. Johnson.

John H. Johnson, New York

Savannah Aug. 3rd 1865

Genl O. O. Howard

Respected Sir

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Will you pardon my intruding myself once more on you. I have never seen my eldest son since the 9th Dec^r when he left No 2 C.R.R. station Idem Effingham Co. Ga. as guide to the 15th Army Corps. I think much for Robt M. Walker being fairly educated & a good boy. I can only suppose he has fallen victim to disease or accident. The persecutions of the Rebels continued till I was left without one head of Cattle stock or horse the crop I made taken from me & I forced to come into the city & become teacher of the Col^d. schools not able to procure a place in the city I came down weekly till now my mule is stolen & the School being closed by Military orders I am without one particle of support for myself or four children. have offered myself in any capacity in vain my months salary was owing as far as I earned it & this morning I know not where to look for a weeks supply. Rations suddenly stopped unless under God you are enabled to continue these Schools for the Freedmen's children all we have taught them is lost by 2 months vacation. Revd C M. Pae advised me to apply to you he has done much to purify public opinion on the subject of Educating the negroes & the sentiment is becoming more healthy in that direction. Hoping you will find time to give this consideration I am with intense respect & admiration Yours Oth^o Callahan

Decemur the

Aug. 30/1868

William Rogers,

State that the
court sitting
the one that
has been closed by
medical authority
and that the
sufferer.

Wm Rogers
Care of the
Corner of the
Decemur for

Wd 9th 2 Regt Mo Cavalry
Barrancas Florida
Aug 3rd 1865.

Dear Cousin

I am aware that you are too busy to attend to friendly letters therefore I am unwilling to write you only when I have an excuse.

Yesterday Maj Cutler rejoined the Regt. Having been sent to Mont-gomery Ala. when a detachment of this Regt was on duty.

He informs me that Major Miller of this Regt was detached to serve under Brig Gen Swain Asst Com of the Bureau of Freedmen & that Mr Norris of Sumner Co. brought this about, they being old political friends &c.
I always have much

your success in carrying
out the Policy of the South depends
on the employment of men
of correct principles & habits
therefore take the liberty to
inform you that Maj Miller
is in my opinion unfit for the
duties of his position, (as I under-
stand it - He gets Drunk, is as
Clay in the hands of schemed
& designing men. He is a politician
in every sense of the word -

I have no confidence in him
for any such position.

Please do not think I am
prejudiced against him. for
I am not - we are friendly.

Hope you will excuse me
for taking this liberty & I assure
you I would ^{not} if I did not feel
that the South is being over-run
with men whose only aim
was money, & stand ready to lend
themselves to those who can afford

to pay. I was very glad to see
 May Cutter. who I regard as an very
 excellent young man.

Hope you & family are well.
 I should be very glad to see
 you Mr. & the children -

My love to them all -

My health is quite
 good. This Regt is much
 scattered, occupying five different
 stations. I get nothing to indicate
 when this Regt will be discharged -

I am inclined to settle
 at the South, if the policy of improving
 the Negro is established on a firm
 basis. What do you think
 about it?

I would be very happy
 to hear from you at an early date.
 Will give much to see Jimmy & Chauncy.

Confidential

Yours very truly
 J. M. Woodman

Accountal Court.

Aug 8/1860

Attest

at 10th Mo (2)

Advised that - May

Miller de out in

Alphabet in Bureau.

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Recd Aug 15/1860

New Orleans La.
Aug. 8th / 1865.

Sheridan J. H.
Major Genl.

Thinks an act.
Commissioner should
be appointed for this.

Recd Aug. 18 - 1865

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Recd in Mullis
Dr of the Gulf
N.O. Aug. 3rd / 1865.

My Dear General.

It is very
important to extend
your bureau to Texas
as soon as possible
There are a great
Many Freedmen in

Texas, and but
few rights will be
given to these people
until you can extend
them. We have to
keep them on the plantation
for their security and
welfare, and the
planters combine against
their rights. Sincerely
I have thought

it best to give but few directions

as I think it best for you

to. Commence a notebook having

many changes to make.

My very kind regards

for you self and family

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Respectfully
Wm. Howard
in charge of Finance

Harrisburg Pa.

August 3. 1865

Maj. Genl. O. O. Howard

Comm. Freedman Bureau.

General,

Knowing
the interest you have always
taken in the success of Maine
soldiers and especially those
formerly connected with the
old 3rd Regt. I have taken
the liberty of asking for
the aid of your influence.

You may hardly remember
me, but I originally was
a private in the 3rd. and
afterwards Quartermaster until
it was mustered out of
service. Last summer
I was appointed Captain
and Asst. Quartermaster, and

have since been on duty
here. I am now ordered
to turn over the property
in my charge. (The Depot
being no longer needed here)
and report to the Adjutant
General by letter from my
residence.

Not wishing to leave
the service at present, I
would ask your aid in
having me ordered to duty
at some place. Possibly
you may have a position
in your Bureau that you
can have me ordered to.

Pardon me for intruding
myself upon your notice,
but my anxiety to remain in
the service, has prompted
me to it, it being very
inconvenient at present for
me to engage in my former

business.

Will you be kind
enough to inform me what
you can do?

I am General

Very Respectfully

Your obed^t servt

C. F. Watson

Capt & A. Gen.

Harrisburg Pa.
August 4th 1865

August 4th 1885

Walter L. L.

Sept. 7 Adm.

Desires to be assigned
to duty in Washington Bureau
or elsewhere.