
2810 8/1/1865

From: J.M. McKim

To: Maj. Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-2755

Source: Bowdoin

Bureau of the American
Freedman's Aid Union,
69 Nassau St, New
York

[118, 119]

Bureau of the American Freedman's Aid Union,
69 Nassau St, New York, Aug 1 1865

Maj. Gen O.O. Howard
Bureau Refugees &c
Dr Sir

Sen. <Murphys> note from the White House & proof of address, coming through you, is duly rec'd.

That address, drawn up by Mr Jay, has not been & will not be published.

In consolidating and enlarging this Union Dr Parrish will not be located at Washington, as had been contemplated, but will be stationed most probably in this city.

When our plan of organization shall be completed & ready to be put into action we shall submit it to you for your consideration & approval.

Most truly yours
J.M. McKim
Sec. A.F.A.U.

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

New York
Aug. 1st 1865
McKim J.M.
Sec A.F.A.U.

States that address will not be published and that Dr. Parrish will not be located in Washington.

2811 8/1/1865

From: Thomas W. Howard

To: Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2756

West Point Lowndes
Co Miss.

Source: Bowdoin

[120, 121]

(ca Aug 1, 1865)

Genl Howard

Though possessed with a real eagerness to write to you my being entirely unknown to you makes me loth 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 so far from my wish.

Should this reach you Genl I know that it will occasion some surprise & I doubt not that it will seem very imposing to you. But permit me to say thought 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 you let counsel from thine 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 12 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 rec'd 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 disable me from service. I was classed as one of the Invalid Corps. & papers 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 Gentleman 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 apply my self 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 aspiration were cut short by the downfall of our cause. And my political aspiration they too lie in the deep sea 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 wraped up, in a cause which in the presence of Almighty God he would have endeavor 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 of President Davis was to day condemned to die by the US Authorities I care not by what made 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 grieve 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 redouble 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 & having 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 character & mental ability is of real worth which situation would be of great benefit to me as I could discharge my duty to my Employer & 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 as one upon good & sufficient recommendation dispatch 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 of as heart could wish. But all I have was invested in Negro property which is now gone up. My mother (Mrs. N.W. Moore), Step Father & Brother the latter older than myself are all living in Miss on a good Prarie Section of Land belonging to my Mother. They have perfected a contract with her Freed Men & Women & 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 cannot predict what tomorrow may bring forth. But I do not feel willing to throw myself upon my relation for a support I have business qualifications which will amply support me & I wish now to secure a position under such an Employer as I have name above whose recommendation will always be of value to me. If I can get a position of the above mention 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 bad words nor <Gobdees> & if there is any thing I do feel proud of it is a good & pure character. All of which I will 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 good house four years before the war & I dont 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 till such I would say may they never have to feel what we do. I feel satisfied there is that within me which if properly 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 have 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 grateful & lasting kindness I have the credentials now in my possession which will satisfy you that I am what I represented myself to you. My Post Office is West Point, Lowndes Co. Miss. on the M. & O.R.R. I live 6 ms. from the place. Hoping that you may be led to a proper appreciation of my Motive for writing & that you will pardon 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 Obt. Svt.
Thomas W. Howard

West Point Lowndes Co Miss.
Aug. 1st 1865
P.S. My Post Office is West Point, Lowndes Co. Mississippi

2d P.S. Gen I would prefer an answer directed to me at this place care of W F Franks instead of being sent to the care of Cyrus Johnson, I have come to this conclusion after consulting a U.S. Captain who is station 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.F. Franks
West Point Lowndes Co
Miss.

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

Yours with respect
T.A. Howard

2812 8/1/1865

From: B.G. Northrop

To: Maj. Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2757

Source: Bowdoin

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts,
Office of Board of
Education,
Boston

[122, 123]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
Office of Board of Education,
Boston, Aug. 1 1865

Maj. 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 Freed men.

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 our association national in its character, your words, even if by reason of the weighty cares & duties pressing upon you but few, would greatly help & encourage the Educators of the country in these critical & eventful days.

We have strongly hoped that on your return from Augusta you w'd be willing to take New Haven by the way.

Very truly yours
B.G. Northrop

P.S.

If any other day of the session better suits your convenience, we should be happy to change our programme and welcome you at any time, Day or Evening.

[Written on the last page in a different hand, possibly OOH's.]

Mr Northrop
Answered

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

Boston, Aug 1st 1865.

Northrop B.G.

Desires Genl. Howard to deliver an address in New Haven Conn.

2813 8/1/1865

From: E. Turney

To: Major Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2758

Washington, D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[124]

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 .

The testimony of Gen. Turner at Richmond with regard to the demonstration of Southern feeling and purpose in that city you have doubtless seen.

Yours with great respect

E. Turney

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

Washington

Aug 1st, 1865

Turney, E.

Has prepared the statements as desired, & encloses slips from the Chronicle relative to the state of things in North Carolina.

[Written sideways on the last page, in a different hand, possibly OOH's.]

Mr Turney – Dont require answer.

[Several newspaper clippings were attached.]

[Clipping #1]

FROM NORTH CAROLINA

The Pardoning Power – The State Convention

Raleigh, July 25 [1865]

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. Three treacherous leaders who have been pardoned through Governor Holden's recommendation are now organizing in every county, and openly assert 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.F.J. 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 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 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.

[Clipping #2.]
(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, toll, 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;

2814 8/1/1865

From: D.C. Gilman

To: Maj. Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2759

Yale College,
New Haven, Conn.

Source: Bowdoin

[128, 129]

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 especially charge, 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 Servt.
D.C. Gilman
Chairman of
Comm. On Invitat.

Yale College,
New Haven, Conn.
1 Aug. 1865

2815 8/2/1865

From: J. T. Champlin

To: Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2760

Waterville

Source: Bowdoin

[130]

Waterville
Aug. 2, 1865

Gen. Howard
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,
J. T. Champlin [James T. Champlin, President Waterville College]

2816 8/2/1865

From: J. M. Forbes

To: Horatio Woodman

OOH-2761b

Naushon Island

Source: Bowdoin

[153]

[The following letter was enclosed in the note from Horatio Woodman dated Aug 7, 1865.]

Naushon Island

Aug 2, 65

My Dear Sir [Probably Horatio Woodman]

I have your note about Secy Stanton. If I have any infirmity it is in drawing my charges specifically & persistently & if the Secretary remembers me at all it must be my attempts at reforming a basis of his subordinates. The outside public however cannot always give definite information & the next best thing is to put him on his <>.

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 [John Murray Forbes]

"Constant vigilance is the vice of Liberty"

2817 8/3/1865

From: Mrs E A Callahan

To: Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2762

Source: Bowdoin

Care of Mrs Harley
Corner Broughton &
Montgomery Sts.
Savannah Ga

[131]

Savannah Augt 3rd 1865

Genl O.O. Howard

Respected Sir

Will you pardon my intruding myself once more on you. I have never seen my eldest Son since the 9th Decr. Then he left No 2 CR.R station Eden Effingham Co. Ga. as guide to the 15th Army Corps I think enroute for Fort McAllister. Being family educated & a good boy I can only suppose he has fallen victim to disease or accident. The persecutions of the Rebels continued till Isas [or I & as] left without one head of cattle stock or horse. The crop I made taken from me & I forced to come into the City. I became teacher of the Cold. 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 Millitary orders I am without one particle of support for myself or four children. Have offered myself in any capacity in vain. My months salary & as owing as fast as I earned it. & this moment 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 Freedmens children all we have taught them is lost by 2 months vacation. Revd C.McRae 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

Your obt. St

Eliza A Callahan

[Written on the back page]

Mrs E A Callahan

Care of Mrs Harley

Corner Broughton & Montgomery Sts.

Savannah Ga

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

Savannah Ga

Aug. 3d 1865

Callahan Eliza A.

States that she has heard nothing from her son; that school has been closed by military authority and that she is without support.

2818 8/3/1865

From: E.W. Woodman

To: Dear Cousin [OO
Howard]

OOH-2763

Hd Qrs 2 Regt Cavalry
Barrancas Florida

Source: Bowdoin

[132, 133]

Hd Qrs 2 Regt Cavalry
Barrancas Florida
Aug 3 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 Montgomery Ala. where a detachment of this Regt was on duty. He informs me that Major Miller of this Regt was detached to serve under Brig Gen Levain Asst Comr of the Bureau of Freedmen, that Mr Norris of Summersett Co Me brought this about, they being old political friends &c.

I realize how much your success in carrying out the Policy of <> depends on the employment of men of correct principles & habit therefore take the liberty to inform you that Maj Miller is in my opinion unfit for the duties of his position, as I understand it. He gets drunk, is as clay in the hands of schrewed & 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.

I 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 overrun 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 Maj Cutler, who I regard a very excellent young man.

Hope you & family are well. I would be very glad to see you Mrs H & 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. Would give much to see Jamey & Chancey.

Yours very truly.
E.W. Woodman

Confidential

[Written sideways on the last page, in a different hand.]
Barrancas Florida
Aug 3, 1865
Woodman
Col 2d Me Cav.
Advises that Maj. Miller be not employed in Bureau
Rec'd Aug 15 1865

2819 8/3/1865

From: P H Sheridan
Maj Gen

To: Maj Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2764

Head Qrs Military Div of
the Gulf
N.O. [New Orleans]

Source: Bowdoin

[134, 135]

Head Qrs Military Div of the Gulf
N.O. Aug 3d 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 there. We have to keep them on the plantation for their security and welfare, and the planters combine <against> their rights secretly. I have thought it best to give but few directives as I think it best for you to commence without having many changes to make.

My very kind regards for your self and family
Respectfully
P H Sheridan
Maj Gen

Maj Genl Howard
in Charge of Freedmen &c

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

New Orleans La.

Aug. 3d 1865

Sheridan P.H.

Maj Genl.

Thinks an asst. Commissioner should be appointed for Texas.

Recd Aug. 13 1865

2820 8/3/1865

From: C.J. Watson
Capt & A.Q.M.
Harrisburg Pa.

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

Comm. Freedman Bureau

OOH-2765

Source: Bowdoin

[137, 138]

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.J. Watson
Capt & A.Q.M.

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

Harrisburg Pa.
August 5th 1865
Watson C.J.
Capt. & A.Q.M.

Desires to be assigned to duty in Freedmen's Bureau or elsewhere.