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2974 9/21/1865     *From:* Mrs R A Heuvlin

*To:* Maj Gen O O Howard

OOH-2917

Foust Cottage  
Greenville Co NC

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[160]

Foust Cottage  
Greenville Co NC

[ca Sept 21, 1865] [The date was written in pencil. It is about right since the letter was received 22 Sep 1865.]

Dear Sir

I wrote you two weeks since from Petersburg Va and have been anxiously awaiting a reply. Our former Slaves are still desirous of securing homes with us, seem willing to follow us and we are very desirous to so arrange it so as to give those with families land and enable them with what little assistance we can give them to gain an honest livelihood. Then we can hire the young able bodied ones. I am confident of success in raising funds by subscription with the plan written out & sanctioned by you for every one I conversed with regards the subject seemed to admire the spirit. In fact I omitted inadvertently, however, telling that several friends have subscribed something, but I found many strangers. I would need the influence and sanction of those in authority. I hardly think we can succeed in purchasing the old homestead of Mr Jenkins for a less sum than first proposed for the first payment which if you recollect was \$1500 but we can get plenty of land to give our own former servants good homes for less than half the sum. Therefore if you will be kind enough to forward me the requisite papers, and if possible a transportation ticket, I believe I can raise the sum needed by us, and a surplus if desired by you for the benefit of the "Freedmens Bureau". Am perfectly willing to do this.

At all events pray let us hear from you. Letters and papers now come to the County seat therefore letters will reach us from our old Post Office.

Sassafras Fork  
Greenville Co  
N Carolina

With Sentiments of Esteem  
I Am Very Respectfully  
Mrs R A Heuvlin

To Maj Gen O O Howard

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

Greenville Co NC

No date

Heuvlin Mrs

asks assistance

LB<>

[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D SEP 22 1865]

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2975 9/21/1865 *From:* Fred. Tiedemann

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

OOH-2918

Philadelphia

Washington

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[131]

Philadelphia Sept 21 / 65

Major Gen. O.O. Howard  
Washington  
General,

You would oblige me very much by informing me, what reply Gen. Slocum sent you when Capt. Maitlinning of the Indiana Cavalry acting as A.D.C. on your staff brought him the news that the 1st & 11th corps were fighting at Gettysburg.

I am writing an acct of the Campaign which led to the Battle of Gettysburg, and any official information would be of great importance to me; I remain your obedient

Servant

Fred. Tiedemann

late Capt & AAG to Genl. Schurz

box 2098 Phila. P.O.

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2976 9/21/1865 *From:* Chas. W. Keyes

*To:* Maj Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-2919

East Wilton Me

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[129]

East Wilton Me Sept 21st 1865

Maj Gen O.O. Howard,  
Sir

In accordance with your permission I wrote Maj Gilbreth of the Freedmen's Bureau in relation to what steps it was necessary for me to take to obtain a Commission in a Colored Regt, but have received no reply.

My friends are making an effort to have the order under which I was mustered out revoked. My recommendations as a Soldier & as a man endorsed by Governor Cony are in the hands of Senator Morrill who is now in Washington – any assistance you may see fit to render me will be endorsed by the Gov. & Adj. Gen. & appreciated by one who has suffered in the countrys defence.

I am Gen Respectfully  
Your Obt Servant  
Chas. W. Keyes

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2977 9/21/1865 *From:* Julian K. Larke

*To:* General [OO] Howard

OOH-2920

New York

Freedman's Bureau

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[130]

New York Sept 21 1865

General Howard  
Freedman's Bureau  
&--  
General,

Being engaged on a work entitled "Grant and his Generals", as editor, writer and compiler, and in which appears a sketch of your own military career, I take the liberty of applying to you for a copy of the Army and Navy Registers for 1865, or if not ready the Blue Book for 1865, such works being very necessary for the proper transaction of any editorial duties and only to be procured from gentlemen high in authority like yourself.

Trusting you will comply with my request, I remain

Your obediently  
Julian K. Larke A.M.  
author of  
Grant and his Campaigns  
Life of Sheridan, Sherman &c

Please address  
Julian K. Larke  
care of Fox Brothers  
114 Nassau Street  
New York City

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

New York City,  
21st Sept / 65  
Larke J. K.

Requests any Registers or Blue Books in 1865

[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D SEP 22 1865  
ans Sept 23 / 65

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2978 9/21/1865    *From:* Geo. O. Glavis

*To:* Major General O.O.  
Howard

OOH-2921

Newark, N.J.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[134]

Newark, N.J. Septber 21 '65

Major General O.O. Howard  
Sir,

Permit me to thank you for the effort you made to have me ordered to the Freedman's Bureau. I should like to have served under you, and aided the good cause with all my might. But it was evidently not the Lord's will – at least not for the present, and I bow in submission.

However I cannot help but to think with my friends that the <action> of the War Dept was as unrivalled for insult, and at a meeting which we held to night in honor of Genl. Schimmelpfennig [Alexander Schimmelpfennig died Sept 5, 1865], the audience seemed to think much the same way.

Wishing you God's blessing in the discharge of your solemn duties.

I have the honor to be  
Very faithfully yours  
Geo. O. Glavis

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2979 9/21/1865 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2922

Richmond Va.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[625]

Richmond Va. Sept. 21st 1865

Dearest,

I started from Washington with Gen. Strong & Lieut. Sladen yesterday morning before 7 a.m. and arrived here by 3 P.M. We came by the way of Aquia Creek in a Str. down the Potomac that far & thence by rail & stage through. There is now only about three miles of staging, just before reaching Fredericksburg extending across Rappahannock by a ponton.

I am feeling very anxious about you & the children. Thomas Bubier started for the Pony Tuesday evening. I told him he might bring through any boxes you might have ready. If you start Wednesday you will be in Phil'a by Friday. I will meet you at the Continental. You will probably get there first. I shall go from Norfolk probably rather than go back to Washington.

I think everything in Va. is as well as could be expected. Richmond has waked up & gone to work in business fashion, but the old <> of hate, Secession & love of Slavery is still here & can be felt almost in the atmosphere. Col Brown is well. I have'nt seen his wife yet.

Give much love to Guy. You must bring on some of the most readable of our books. I am going to hve Grace and Guy read to me this winter. Uncle Chas says Gracie can do it well. The weather holds very cool.

Very pleasant indeed this A.M.

Lovingly yr husband

Otis

Much love to all.

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2980 9/21/1865     *From:* W Q Gresham

*To:* Maj Genl O O Howard

OOH-2923

New Albany Ind.

Washington D.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[132]

New Albany Ind.  
Sept 21st 1865

Maj Genl O O Howard  
Washington D.C.  
General,

I take the liberty of calling to your favorable notice a gallant & deserving officer of your old command – Lieut Col Thos. G. Morrison of the 66th Ind Vols. Col. Morrison was severely wounded at Richmond, Ky, in the fall of 1862, and last fall near Big Shanty, Ga, he was still more severely wounded in the right arm near the shoulder. This last wound he received when Hood was marching North. He has lost the use of his right arm – has a wife and five children and, you will see that the future to him is <more dimming> than cheering. He is a man of very moderate means, but he is honest and his capacity for business is far above the average or rather it was, before he lost the use of his arm. He is a man of education and intelligence and it has occurred to me that he might be useful to you in the Freedmens Bureau. He is sound on that and all other questions and a great admirer of your as an officer. If you can find employment for him you will do a favor for a deserving and worthy gentleman and greatly oblige

Your obdt Servt  
W Q Gresham  
Brig Genl

Lieut Col Thos G Morrison  
New Albany Ind

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

New Albany Ind  
21st Sept 1865  
Gresham Brig Genl  
Letter recommending his friend Col. Morrison.  
LB  
Recd BRF & AL 20th Sept 65  
ans Oct 3rd 65.

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2981 9/22/1865 *From:* Eliza M. Pease

*To:* Maj. Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2924

New Haven

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[73, 74]

New Haven Sept. 22. 1865.

Maj. Gen. Howard,  
Dear Sir,

I have just read in Hours at Home a memorial article on Brig. Gen. Ransom, by J.P. Thompson, D.D., which stimulated my resolve to write to you upon the same subject.

When my husband said to me, "Gen. Ransom is dead," my heart swelled with emotion and I exclaimed, "dear child!", my mind at once going back to the time – 1839 & 40, when he, a sweet little boy, came daily to my school in Norwich, Vt. The affection that I cherished for the lovely child then, continued during the lapse of years, and I wept and mourned for him as I would have done then, had he died in the midst of those days.

Greenfield Ransom was a beautiful boy. I remember well his sweet face, beaming with smiles as he came in to school timidly, wearing his clean, blue calico apron.

He was quick to learn, and always a good, happy boy. The second season he was often permitted by his mother to lead his little sister to school as a visitor. I can never forget how delighted he looked as he led her to me that I might give her the necessary attention. His bright, pleasant eyes were never visible when he laughed.

A few years later I chanced to meet him and found him the same dear boy, modest and gentlemanly in his bearing.

After the war began I heard of him as a brave, gallant officer periling his life for his country. I knew he would do his work well.

I read with peculiar interest every thing with which Gen. Ransom's name was connected; proudly saying, as I had opportunity that I was his first school teacher. I often resolved to write to him hoping I might receive a letter in return; but I delayed until it was too late. My next plan was the only testimonial I could offer to the good boy and brave soldier – to write to you, sir, with whom I knew he served in the field. I have delayed from time to time, lest in the midst of the oppressive duties of the war while it was raging, you might not have leisure to give my letter a reading, much less an answer.

I value, too, the opportunity which this delay affords me of bringing to your mind the memory of one whose beautiful character does not fade away. Gen. Ransom made a short visit in Norwich, Vt., his native place, in the summer of 1864, and spent the evening at the house of my brother Mr. Norris. He was very familial and happy with his old friends who were boys with him. He had then just come from a visit to Gen. Grant, and was soon to report to Gen. Sherman. Alas, how soon he died! How soon his labor of love for his country was ended.

If I have taken too much liberty in thus addressing you, please grant me pardon, remembering that every patriotic man and woman feels a peculiar freedom in addressing those who by their skill & valor have accomplished much for our common country.

With sentiments of regard  
I am yours,  
Eliza M. Pease  
Care of /  
Thomas H. Pease

[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D SEP 24 1865



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2982 9/22/1865     *From:* Edward W. West

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

OOH-2925

*Source:* Bowdoin

Office of Blossom Bros.  
No. 159 Front Street,  
New York City,  
Box 1622 N.Y. Post  
Office

Freedman's Bureau,  
Washington City, D.C.

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[135]

Office of Blossom Bros.  
No. 159 Front Street,  
New York City, Friday, 22 Septr. '65  
Box 1622 N.Y. Post Office

General,

When of Gen. Casey's staff, as A.D.C., I had the honor of making your acquaintance at Washington at the Commencement of the War when you temporarily reported to Gen. Casey. I remained in the service about three years & served on the staffs of Gens. Casey, Hooker & Heintzleman. I rec'd an honorable discharge.

I desire to become a cotton planter on the Red River or the Mississippi in one of the south western states. I control from \$15000 to \$20000 capital. I wish to hire or buy an abandoned plantation. If convenient to you may I ask you for any information general or particular on the subject & any of your Orders, Regulations, Instructions &c now in force & any advice you may find it convenient to give.

I have the honor to be, General,  
Very Respy, Yr. obdt. Servant,  
Edward W. West

P.S. An early answer wd. Oblige. E.W.W.

Major Gen. O.O. Howard,  
Commissioner, &c.  
Freedman's Bureau,  
Washington City, D.C.

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2983 9/23/1865

*From:* A.F. Moses

*To:* Maj'r Gen'l O.O. Howard

OOH-2926

Moseley Hall  
Lenoir County N.C.

Washington City

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*Source:* Bowdoin

[136, 137]

Moseley Hall  
Lenoir County N.C.  
Sepr 23 65

Maj'r Gen'l O.O. Howard  
Washington City  
My Dear Genl

Your verry kind letter of the 8th is duly at hand, contents particularly noticed.

I thank you for your advice. I will rent out my plantation as soon as an opportunity offers. Send me a renter, if you please.

You informed that you had commended my lamentable case to Mr Mason of Raleigh N.C. That he would aid me all he could –how he can do so without an appropriation from his private sources, I am at a loss to know, which I could not allow. I am acquainted with his character –he is a gentleman of high order.

Notwithstanding my loss pecuniarily –I am now looking at things calmly, and have come to the conclusion that the late War was all right –altho I was opposed to it in the beginning. It has made us feel more dependent on our Good God. I now love him more and more and will try to serve him better & better. I love his work, I love his people. I believe you to be one, I am bound to say so to you, I have told you so. I dont flatter. I profess to be a christian, I hope I am one, and as you once told me, I try to be one.

My time is but short below. I trust, I shall soon be where the sound of musketry & cannon will not salute my cars any more, where I hope to meet, Genl Howard.

Genl excuse this familiarity of language. I assure you my motives are of the purest order. Pardon me for trespassing on your valluable time.

In conclusion permit me to say that in the event of my going back to Goldsboro to live, (I think I will) could you not give me something to do there for you that would pay. I flatter myself that I could fill any office that you might think propper to confer on me with entire satisfaction to you. You have officers there perhaps that want to go home. I feel certain that I could and would to the verry letter –all your orders would be strictly obeyed.

Most truly yours  
A.F. Moses

P.S. About 25 years ago I imported a Verry fine double barrel Fowling Piece, from London, that with all the apparatus, was taken from me on the 25th last March by the army that passed my house. If that could be or one as good returned, it would afford me great pleasure & profit. I am passionately fond of gunning –a good shot yet, - that & the Gold Locket, I hoped you might procure for me would be a pleasing site to this old man. Dont you think an application to the Powers that be, might be successful. Please try for me. I would gladly reciprocate the great favor.

A.F.M.

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

[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D SEP 30 1865  
ans Oct 5th 1865

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2984 9/23/1865 *From:* Stedman Clark

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

OOH-2927

Providence, R.I.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[2 stamps 133, 139]

Providence, R.I. Sept 23d 1865

Maj Genl. O.O. Howard

Sir,

If there is any need of more teachers to go south I am ready to give my time and labor. I have served three years in the Army and five years at Antioch College under the late Horace Mann and have taught school in Ky. and Mo.

Stedman Clark

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

Providence RI

23rd Sept 1865

Clark, S.

asks situation as teacher

LB. 189

[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D SEP 25 1865

ans Sept 25, 1865

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2985 9/23/1865 *From:* Richard Irby

*To:* My dear Sir [Thomas Branch]

OOH-2928

Nottoway Co. Va.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[169, 170, 171, 172]

Nottoway Co. Va.  
Sept 23 / 65

My dear Sir, [Thomas Branch]

Understanding that Gen. Howard Supt. of the Freedman's Bureau is about to visit Richmond and knowing that you feel an interest in all that concerns the welfare of the Country I venture to ask that you will see him in person and advise with him of the Condition of the Freedmen and what is to be done to secure the welfare of white and Colored.

It is obvious to any one conversant with the present condition of this part of the state that labor at present is completely paralysed. Large numbers of men formerly steadily employed in industrial pursuits are now huddled together at public places or sauntering over the Country. Those who are regularly employed do not perform more than one third as much as they did formerly. I venture the assertion that the production of this Country at present season (which has <> one very favorable) will not be one half as great as the average of former seasons. In fact there are many owning good farms who will not have as much of farm produce at the end of the year as they had at the beginning. It is not to be wondered at then if landed proprietors are seeking white labor and hesitating to employ "freedmen" for the coming year – for if next year they are not able to make more, their occupation will be abandoned. I will not stop here to do more than do advert to the serious injury to the general prosperity of the country, resulting from the loss of one crop in one state – or more for all the southern states. If it ever was important for individual and national interests for full crops of cotton and tobacco to be raised, it surely is more so now.

What then will best remedy the present ills and bring about the desired results.

Some system of general operation which will enable the employer to count upon the <securing> the labor he hires. The employer ought to give fair remuneration for faithful work and when that is done he should be enabled by proper regulations to secure a faithful performance of the contract. Any sensible man would prefer to give full wages for faithful work, to giving half wages for half work, for in one case he gets the proper yield from his Capital, and in the other, he gets only half.

It may be asked why landed proprietors do not rent out their lands to freedmen so as to stimulate them to do something more than they are doing now. This is simply impracticable. The farms in this part of the state have not been arranged to be worked except as wholes and Capital and time are both needed to work them differently. Moreover were farmers to rent out their lands to freedmen, they have no assurance that they will be worked any better than they now are and can get no surety that the rents will be paid. The freedmen except in rare cases have no capital to stock the farms and hire the necessary labor. The improvidence of the race whether natural or acquired must be done away with before they can become proprietors, or managers of labor.

Something must also be done to improve their religious condition. Previous to their freedom the freedmen attended the regular preaching of the Gospel as well if not better than white people. Now they have ceased attendance pretty much entirely except when the preacher is of their own color. It must be apparent to every candid observer that such preaching as a general thing is not such as it ought to be. In many cases it is worse than no preaching. Negro preachers, like the wizards of the barbarians <of yore> are frequently designing and less to be trusted as a class than any other. They are ignorant and unlettered and superstitious.

They should be regularly commissioned and licensed by some proper power, and be held to observe proper rules of conduct and tenets of faith. Until this is done people will regard the building of a church for freedmen as a local calamity – but if the matter is rightly managed every christian man will regard it as his solemn and imperative duty to build their churches and promote their spiritual welfare. Every patriot and philanthropist must regard this aspect of the present revolution as very important – and will if a way is opened do all he can to

advance the freedmen in religious culture. Houses for worship will not be wanting when the people become convinced they will be used aright.

With these views hastily and imperfectly expressed I take leave of the subject hoping that some course proper and advantageous may be reached by those who have these important trusts in charge. I am

Yours very truly  
Richard Irby