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3011 10/1/1865 *From:* Chas. Hamlin

*To:* Major General [OO]  
Howard

OOH-2954

Bangor

Washington D.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[184]

Bangor 1 Oct 1865

Dear General,

My good friend Rev. Mr. Leonard who was Chaplain of your old Regt. the 3rd Maine and mine the 1st Maine Henry Artillery wishes to go abroad a Consul or resident Minister to some port in the continent. One of his chief objects in going abroad is to find time in which he may devote himself to literary pursuits which he can do more successfully than here.

I have undertaken with others to aid him in procuring him such an appointment.

It occurs to me that you can materially assist him by giving him a letter. There is little need of telling you what his services and reputation are but as I know him well. I cannot refrain from attending to his fine abilities as a writer both of prose and poetry. The late Starr King, E.H. Chapin who have been his warm friends have spoken of him in this respects very highly. Some of his writings which I have seen and read are worthy of either of the above gentlemen as authors.

The grounds, in general, on which his appointment will be urged are his services and qualifications.

If you can find time amidst your labors to turn aside and aid one whom I know is your friend you will greatly oblige him and me.

Very Respectfully  
Your Obt. Servt.  
Chas. Hamlin

Major General Howard  
Washington D.C.

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3012 10/2/1865 *From:* C.C. Augur

*To:* General [OO] Howard

OOH-2955

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters  
Department of  
Washington,  
22d Army Corps,  
Washington, D.C.

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[135]

Headquarters Department of Washington,  
22d Army Corps,  
Washington, D.C., Oct 2nd 1865

General Howard  
Dear Sir,

A few days since you asked me to recommend you some good officers for duty in your dept. I take great pleasure in stating that Colonel Ingraham, Provost Marshall of Defenses North of Potomac, and who is about to be mustered out of service, is one that I can recommend heartily and with full confidence that he would give entire satisfaction to you, in whatever place you put him.

Respectfully yours,  
C.C. Augur

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

Washington Oct 2nd 1865

Augur, C.C.

Maj. Gen.

Recommends Col. Ingraham for position in B.R.F.&A.L.

[STAMP] BUREAU B.R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D OCT 2 1865

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3013 10/2/1865 *From:* E.S. Tobey

*To:* Maj. Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2956

Boston

Washington

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[186, 187]

Dear General,

Will you kindly allow me the privilege of introducing by this to yr favorable notice the bearer Captn. C.C. Soule who has been in command in 55th Regt Mass Vols & has been within a few days honorably mustered out. He now designs to engage in business as a civilian in Charleston S.C. & wishes to obtain reliable information from you as to the condition in which confiscated lands in So. Carolina can be purchased by loyal citizens.

He & his family are intimately known to me & I therefore shall esteem it a special favor if you wd place him in possession of any valuable information which may be consistent with your official duties.

Capt Soule who was in the senior class at Harvard when the war commenced nobly waived the usual graduating degree & entered promptly as a private into the military service of the country. He is a young gentleman of most exemplary moral character, fine abilities and has evinced a remarkable degree of patriotism & self denial. I therefore beg to commend him to your confidence & usual kind consideration.

With great respect

Yr. ob. Svt

E.S. Tobey

Maj. Genl Howard

Washington

Boston Oct. 2d 1865

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3014 10/3/1865

*From:* Jno W Corse

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

OOH-2957

*Source:* Bowdoin

Head-Quarters, District  
of Minnesota,  
Department of the  
Missouri,  
St. Paul

Bureau of Refugees etc.  
Washington D.C.

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[183, 188]

Head-Quarters, District of Minnesota,  
Department of the Missouri,  
St. Paul, Oct 3d 1865.

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard  
Bureau of Refugees etc.  
Washington D.C.  
General,

Your very kind letter of July last (with flattering recommendation) after going to two or three places was finally resurrected from the dead letter office and mailed to me at this point, from whence I acknowledge recpt and profound thanks for your interest and generous sympathy in my success.

I am sure there is no superior for whom I entertain a more profound respect or kindly feeling than for yourself, and I am truly proud of your good opinion and sensible of the debt I owe you for the manifestation of the same.

I hardly know whether or not the reorganization will be of a sufficient increment to the old army to insure of my retention but Genl Sherman thinks it will. He says congress ought to retain out of the Vol. Force at least 20 Maj. Genls & 40 Brig. Genls. But a fit of economy which sometimes seizes our government may reduce it very much. There is nothing I should like more than to be retained, but if the circumstances do not authorize Congress to add to the expenses of the Government so largely, I shall assuredly be among the first to forego my hopes and aspirations in the military & quickly subside into a sober quiet citizen. However nous verrons.

I have been studying faithfully to familiarize myself with the new duties imposed upon me in this command & I flatter myself I am becoming somewhat familiar with our Indian history and relations. While I do not apprehend any outbreak of a serious character at present, I am conscious of the fact that the different tribes in my district are very much discontented and are liable at any moment to rise up & massacre thousand of helpless women & children, before much resistance could be offered on my part. With a frontier of over seven hundred miles and only a Regt and three fifths to guard it, it will be almost impracticable to stay anything like general reprising without large reenforcements. These of course cannot arrive until after all damage is <done> & then commences a war of extermination which from the nature of the the country must be protracted as are all Indian Wars for years. It seems to me the Government does not appreciate in this instance the force of the old adage that "n ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." The only feasible remedy I can see is to put the whole Indian question into the War Departments hands. If you have any influence with the Government you can-not exercise it more humanely or in a more christian-like cause than to attain the end I suggest. But I forget you have your time all employed & cannot vex yourself with affairs that do not pertain to the glorious task to which you have addressed yourself. May God in his infinite goodness give you wisdom & health that you may accomplish it. With renewed thanks for your kindness. I am as ever.

Devotedly Yours  
Jno W Corse  
B. M. G.

[Written sideways on the last page, overwriting the text, in a different hand.]  
St. Paul, Min. Oct 3, 1865  
Corse Jno W.  
Brev. Maj. Genl. USV  
Friendly Letter

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3015 10/3/1865

*From:* Rev. Geo. A.  
Perkins

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

OOH-2958

Farmington, Maine

Chief of the Freedmen's  
Bureau,  
Washington, D.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[189, 190]

Farmington, Maine, Oct. 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard,  
Chief of the Freedmen's Bureau,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

You are aware, perhaps, that after spending a few years in Turkey as a missionary of the A.B.C.F.M., I returned to this country in 1859 on account of the ill health of my wife; and in the spring of 1863 went out again as a Professor in "Robert College of Constantinople". Having resigned my position in the College, and having been so much reduced by ill health that it was inexpedient to reenter the missionary work immediately, I left Constantinople in June last, and have been some two months in this country. My health has much improved since leaving Constantinople. My lungs are not now diseased, the inflammation having been removed, but my throat is not yet in a good condition, and it does not seem best for us to return to Turkey at present, - if at all. I desire, however, to engage in some work in which I may be useful, and by which I may support my family; and perhaps a climate somewhat warmer may be better for me than that of Maine in the winter. Your brother, the pastor of the Cong. Church in this place, mentioned me to you, some time since, when I inquired how I would do as Superintendent of Schools in Washington. As several weeks have passed, it is altogether possible that that office has been filled. If so, do you know of any other similar situation which I can obtain? Or of any position that would not require -at present -continued use of the voice or pen? If any should occur to you, can you tell me what salary will be paid? I will be glad to obtain a salary sufficient for the support of my family; but if I cannot find such a position, I may be glad of one, for a time, that would give a partial support, if the work required should also be moderate.

It would be agreeable to me to remain here a few weeks before entering upon any business, but I write now lest I should lose by delay a situation now obtainable. As your time must be fully occupied, I will not trouble you to reply to this letter, if you have nothing favorable to communicate.

Please accept my high regards for yourself, and my desires for abundant success in your labors for the welfare of the Freedmen.

Very truly yours,  
Geo. A. Perkins [Bowdoin College Class of 1849]

Address

Rev. Geo. A. Perkins,  
Farmington, Maine.

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

Farmington Me.

Oct 3, 1865

Perkins, G.A.

Desires position of Supt. of Schools in Washington D.C.

C.B. P237

[CHECK ORIGINAL, Faint writing]

Recd B.F.R.&A.L. Oct <>

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3016 10/3/1865    *From:* Will [William Oliver  
Otis]  
OOH-2959                      Hallowell  
*Source:* Bowdoin

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[191]

Hallowell Oct 3d [1865, written in pencil]

Dear Otis,

I spoke to you about sending Dispatches by me to Texas. There are no mails yet established, and I think it may be convenient to you as well as to me. I do not care about the <amount> and am ready to leave immediately. The regular steamers for N.O. leave N.York and Boston every Saturday and if I do not hear from you I shall take one of them on the 19th. I want to go to Galveston, Houston Austin and perhaps Bonham, which will be nearly all over the state. I shall write to you when I get settled and shall be much obliged if you can throw any business into my hands.

I have just received a letter from John he writes everything is going on smoothly in Texas. I suppose he is now in Houston.

My love to Lizzie and the children.

Your affect coz  
Will

Gen. O.O. Howard  
Washington  
D.C.

[Note: The author is probably William Oliver Otis, who had moved to Texas after the death of his father, Congressman John Otis, in 1856. He had been graduated from Bowdoin in 1851 (A.B.) and in 1854 (A.M.). The reference to John was probably his brother, John Otis, Jr, who had also moved to Texas before the war.]

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3017 10/3/1865    *From:* James. J. Woolsey    *To:* Maj. Gen. Howard  
OOH-2960                      N.Y. National                      Comr. Of Bureau for Fr.  
*Source:* Bowdoin              Freedman's Relief  
   Association  
   Rooms, 76 John Street,  
   New York

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[192]

N.Y. National Freedman's Relief Association  
Rooms, 76 John Street, New York

New York, Oct. 3d 1865

Maj. Gen. Howard,  
Comr. Of Bureau for Fr.  
Dear Sir,

Suffer me to inquire respecting Atlanta, Ga. as a proposed place to establish schools among the Freedmen?  
We have a few young Ladies who are disposed to go there provided the field is open & proper facilities can be  
afforded. Any information or suggestions you may be pleased to give us will be most thankfully received.

Very respectfully yours,  
James. J. Woolsey  
On behalf of the N.F.R. Association

[Written on the back side, in a different hand.]  
National Freedmen's relief Association  
New York Oct 3d, 1865  
Woolsey, James J.  
Secy of Finance Comm.  
Desires to know if Atlanta is an available place to send teachers.  
[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D OCT <5> 1865

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3018 10/3/1865 *From:* E. Turney

*To:* Major Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-2961

Washington D.C.

Commissioner of the Bureau  
of Freedmen, &c.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[193]

Washington D.C.  
Oct 3, 1865

Major Gen O.O. Howard  
Commissioner of the Bureau of Freedmen, &c.  
Sir -

Appended are a few notices of our educational work which will indicate in what light it is viewed by men of the first influences among American Christians. With the recommendation in the terms employed by such men as Drs Wm B. Williams, H. Atalcom and others whose names appear, we can not but be confirmed in our conviction that we are engaged in the right thing.

You will notice the points which we are occupying with our schools. Its they have been gathered under the hand of the Government through the Freedmen's Bureau, we ask its continued funds in aiding us to <> them in the highest degree efficient for good.

Yours with great respect  
E. Turney

[Attachment]

From Rev. B.T. Welch, D.D., President of the American and Foreign Bible Society.

“ Sept. 14, 1865

“ I take great pleasure, in view of my long acquaintance with the Rev. Edmund Turney, D.D., the important positions of public trust which he has occupied, his extensive experience as an educator, and his special adaptation to the work to which he is now devoting his energies, in commending him in the presentation of the claims of this enterprise, to the fullest co-operation and aid of the Christian public.

“ The National Theological Institute for Colored Ministers, with the centre of its operations at Washington, and a plan of organization at once practical and comprehensive, is engaged in a work of immediate and pressing necessity. I regard it as a work which in its nature is second to none in importance in its bearings on the interests of the Colored people of this country, and one which deserves the largest liberality of a Christian nation.

B.T. Welch.”

We fully concur in the views expressed by Dr. Welch.

D. Moore, Jr., Pastor of the Washington Avenue Baptist Church, Brooklyn.

J. W. Sarles, Pastor of the Central Baptist Church, Brooklyn

J. R. Thomas, Pastor of the Pierrepont St. Baptist Church, Brooklyn

J. Dowling, Pastor of the Berean Baptist Church, New York

P. Church, New York, late Editor of The Chronicle

W.S. Mikels, Pastor of the 16th St. Baptist Church, New York

H.C. Fish, Pastor of the 1st Baptist Church, Newark

H.G. Weston, Pastor of the Madison Avenue Baptist Church, New York

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3019 10/4/1865 *From:* Jos. Parker

*To:* Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2962

Philad'a  
American Tract Soc.  
1210 Chestnut St.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[194]

Philad'a Oct 4th 1865  
American Tract Soc. 1210 Chestnut St.

Genl. O.O. Howard  
Dear Sir

It is contemplated holding a public meeting in this city in the 16th evening of the present mont for the purpose of forming a branch of the American Union Commission.

The call will be Signed by a large number of prominent citizens, among others Major Henry , Ex Gov Pollack, Norton McMichael Esq, Rt Rev. Bishop Stevens, M W Blackim, Geo H Stuart, Caleb Cope, Saml V. Merrick Esq.

I have been request on behalf of these gentlemen, and also at the earnest solicitation of the Rev J. P. Thompson DD of N. York president of the Commission to extend an invitation to you to be present on the occasion, and aid him, and others, in the advocacy of this important national Institution.

Should you find it convenient to comply with this request you will confer a favor upon these gentlemen, and also upon myself.

Jos. Parker  
Agent of Commission

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3020 10/4/1865

*From:* George L Stearns

*To:* Maj. Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2963

Union League House  
Broad Street  
Philadelphia

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[196]

Union League House  
Broad Street  
Philadelphia, Oct 4, 1865

My dear Sir

I am more and more impressed with the importance of sending pamphlets to the South through your Bureau, and want to impress the people of this city with the necessity of aiding in the good work. Therefore if consistent with your ideas of right please address me a letter of commendation, setting forth the advantages of such distribution, and send it under cover to Robt R Carson Esq of this city.

Truly Your friend  
George L Stearns

Maj. Genl Howard

If you have a copy of Gn <Marvins> speech please send it to me for I intend to print a pamphlet immediately. Send this to Boston.

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

Philadelphia Oct 4, 1865

Stearns, Geo. S.

Desires that pamphlets be distributed through the mediumship of the Bureau

Recd Oct 6th 1865

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3021 10/5/1865 *From:* Mrs Dr Whelan

*To:* Major Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2964

Mass.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[195]

Mass. Oct 5th 65

Major Genl Howard

Sir -

I took the liberty of writing you a note some days ago in behalf of the bearer (Thom Cook) but in yr absence he gave it to some office of yr Department. I venture again to hope that you may be able to furnish some employment in yr Departm't proper, where the education he has already acquired may be of advantage to him & where he may gain still more for future useful <needs [CHECK ORIGINAL -tape on right side of page 2].> He is a boy of good capacity strictly honest, can read & cipher quite well & has a good home in the District where he had always lived & has always been <>. His Father, a most worthy man is not able to support him & quite a family & so <he> is anxious to support himself. He w'd like to learn a trade, but his color prevents & is <her> received in the private workshops of the District. I thought you might employ him in some of the schools for freedmen perhaps, or in some capacity where he w'd have something to look forward to as a stimulus for his ambition.

He has lived in my family & his Father was for 12 years in the Medical Bureau of my Depart'mt while Dr Whelan was the Chief & prior to that with Dr Harris in the same place.

Excuse the length of this note from my interest in the future well being of this boy.

My respects

Mrs Dr Whelan

Major Gen. Howard