

To

Aug 26th / 65.

Maj. Gen Howard
General

It can hardly be expected that you will recall the incidents of your travel through the country, which have no doubt been ~~many~~ and frequent.

I am induced to call to your recollection an occurrence in which I was concerned on the occasion of your leaving the S. C. R. R. Depot on the morning of the 20th inst. — On entering the Car, and about to take my seat, I observed to a friend, that I thought the Negro was doomed to be driven out. — You addressed yourself to me, rather reprovingly, I thought, and seemed to understand me that I wished the Negro driven out; but I hope you were satisfied with the correction I then made. — I was not aware that I had the honor of addressing Gen Howard; and I am not only that I was unconscious of the fact. — My hearing is bad, and my memory is worse; but something I said induced you to say — That I should pray for my enemies, and it was so often repeated, that I thought I had encountered a Saint in disguise. — You may recollect that I expected myself not pray forgiving Howard and my enemies; and I wish to be so understood now. —

When I discovered who you were, I had every

inclination to seize the opportunity to converse
with you on matters which you and all of us are
deeply interested, with a painful affection of the fact
incapacitated from making the attempt. I could not
but observe that you were quite acceptable to all.

We have heard much of Gen. Howard, and
are glad to find that he has been ordered on a special
personal inspection of the affairs of his department.

We are willing to think, that one enjoying
reputation of honesty and candor can otherwise
than profit by the observations he might make of
the working of "the new system". May I ask if Gen. Howard
ever witnessed the working of the Old system? If
not, is he yet prepared to say which he thinks the
better of the two? If he should answer, that he
never has not yet had time to develop itself.
We ask what prospect he has of future improvement.

The Negro has been more than 200 years in this
Country in a state of slavery. Has he improved, or rather
retained his original condition? How is it with those liberated
in the Islands of St Domingo, and Jamaica, the one 65- the other
70 years since? Can we believe the accounts of the vicious
barbarism into which they have lapsed? Do you believe
that the Negro can live with the white man in any other
than a subordinate and menial position? Do they enjoy

then in the former free states? By what right are we
 inflicted with the curse of equality so repugnant to our
 feelings & ideas of comfort and happiness? But I will ask - is
 the negro benefited by this pretended philanthropy?
 I defy any person to point to me a single instance in his
 experience where the negro has been benefited, and I
 will show him a hundred where it has been a curse.

The slave trade was conducted by English and
 Puritan Capital, and enterprise, and continued adverse
to our wishes. And these are the people who having
 been enriched by "the infamous traffic in human flesh,"
 now that the barbarian has been Christianized and
Civilized, and has given evidence of kind treatment
 by unprecedented increase that he is satisfied and
happy, have waged a demonic war against those in
^{ways} their supplies in honor honesty & integrity, pro-
 fessedly to protect the national honor, and to liberate the
oppressed African, but in truth to gratify a malignant
envious hatred towards a people in every noble attribute
their superiors, and to crush an "aristocracy" they envied
but to which they could not attain. The deed
 is done, and we accept it as God's work, at the hands of an
ignoble race. His Chosen people, you will recollect,
 General were of old oppressed and conquered by those ~~He~~
 had doomed to extermination. - If we had

been conquered by a fair and equal warfare, I
could have generously admitted and admired the
superiority. But it has been by no such means. With
an overwhelming Army, contributed by the whole world,
not excepting our own slaves, with all the mechanical
inventions of modern warfare; with the commerce of the
whole world, of which we were deprived, you have con-
quered us, but it is an empty conquest, so far as peace
is concerned.

Our men in good faith have sheathed their
swords, and surrendered their arms. Exhausted by
the means of supporting their families as before, they resort
to every honorable means to sustain their hungry
wives and children. But, as in the old Revolution,
our Women are true, and the rising and future gen-
erations will be taught to despise a Nation who glori-
es in having conquered by brute force alone.

You admonish me to pray for my enemies. I can-
not refuse to think, that your precept is in advance
of your example — Did you pray for a bloodless
before you invaded our happy country and desolated
it with more than savage warfare, and unequalled
atrocities? If you did, I fear you were not sincere
in earnest. You tell me to pray for my enemies* — I
reply plainly that I shall curse them with the last breath

*I acknowledge no other enemies, but Yankee's

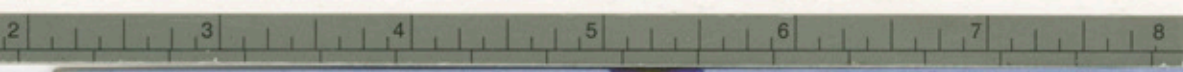
of my existence. — With thousands I have lost my property (others have lost more than that, and you will have to answer for that blood) by fire and sword, but would rather it so, and would not for the world's wealth be numbered among your people. —

I had almost omitted to mention that I charged that your people had violated the Constitution in not securing to us our property in slaves, guaranteed to us by that instrument. Am I correct when I repeat that I understood you to say that there was no such guarantee? Do you think the expression "people held to service" did not mean slaves? If you do so repeat General, I am amazed. —

In the course of conversation you charged that our people had murdered you, and did not credit the News Paper statements of the execution of a Citizen at Newburg S.C. by Negro-troops, with the sanction of Col. Trobriedge, but promised to inquire into the matter. I hope you will do so. I charge that every instance of murder, and they are numerous, that have been committed by the Negroes of the Country on the white inhabitants, are chargeable to your people, and that they will have to answer for the blood of thousands. —

I have the honor to be, most respectfully
 Your Obedt Servt
 John Heyward
 Of S.C. Carolina —

I beg leave to enclose for your inspection a slip from an August 18th paper of this morning —



BUREAU R.F. & A.
REC'D
DEC 20
1963

W. H. C.
[Signature]