
3078 11/21/1865 *From:* Wm Oland Bourne

To: Major General O.O
Howard

OOH-3022

Source: Bowdoin

New York,
Office of the Soldier's
Friend

[34, 35]

New York, Nov. 21, 1865
Office of the Soldier's Friend ,

Major General O.O Howard,
General,

I have sent you copies of The Soldier's Friend , which I publish and which I hope have reached your hands. Whether in the press of your duties you have been able to spare time to examine them I am in doubt.

Permit me to call attention to a feature which is attracting a good deal of interest. It is the Premium to the Left-Armed Soldiers for original essays and Specimens of Penmanship. You will see by the prospectus that I have enlisted an eminent Committee of Award.

I desire the influence of your name and character to this effort on behalf of our Soldiers. Already many specimens have been sent in, and from the accuracy made I hope for a very honorable representation of the moral and intellectual character of the Army.

While I hesitate somewhat in asking you for your contribution to the work, I still feel that with the generous spirit you have manifested, and your Christian sympathy with all the concerns the best interest of the rank and file, as well as the lowly and the oppressed, you only need to have your attention called to this effort, in order to secure your favor.

I would deem it a privilege, not less than an honor to have from your pen, a narrative of your work in the Army, and an essay on any one of the great practical topics of national or Christian reform in which you are interested.

I am endeavoring to make my paper a practical and serviceable instrument for the Army and Navy, and for the masses of the Community, North and South. I want the cooperation of true, earnest, Christian men in my work.

I know you will excuse my freedom in this application, and I trust you will find it within your power to spare an hour or two to the opportunity of thus aiding a benevolent undertaking.

I am very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Oland Bourne
Ed. Soldier's Friend

[Newspaper Clipping]
Premium \$500
To The
Left-Armed Soldiers of the Union.

There are many men now in hospital, as well as at their homes, who have lost their right arms, or whose right arm is so disabled that they can not write with it. Penmanship is a necessary requisite to any man who wants a situation under the Government, or in almost any business establishment. As an inducement to the class of wounded and disabled soldiers here named to make every effort to fit themselves for lucrative and honorable positions, we offer the following premiums:

For the best specimen of left-hand penmanship	\$200
For the second best specimen	150
For the third best specimen	100

The specimens of penmanship must be written with ink, on fine letter-paper of the ordinary size (eight by ten inches) and not to be less than two pages.

The literary part of the work may be original or selected. Brief essays on patriotic themes, and especially narratives of the writer's experiences in the service of the country incidents or sketches of the war, are preferred. In all cases the writer must give his name in full, his company, regiment, and rank; list of battles in which he was engaged, as complete as possible; the place where he lost his arm, with the date; and his post-office address. An inch margin must be left at the sides and top and bottom of the paper. Should a sufficient number of specimens be sent in, they will be placed on exhibition; and the proceeds, if sufficient, will be devoted to the publication of a memorial volume containing the prize essays, a list of contributors, etc., a copy of which will be sent to each competitor.

The undersigned has the honor to announce that the following gentlemen will act as the

Committee of Award,
His Excellency Reuben E. Fenton, Governor of New-York
Rev. Henry W. Bellows, D.D. President Sanitary Commission
William Cullen Bryant.
George William Curtis
Howard Potter, Executive Committee, Bureau of Employment, New York.
William E. Dodge, Jr.,
Theodore Roosevelt,

After the award shall have been made, the editor of The Soldier's Friend is to have the right to publish such of the contributions as may be best adapted for publication, and the manuscripts will be bound up and preserved as a memorial of the brave.

The manuscripts must be sent in on or before the 1st of January 1866. Time will thus be allowed for the men wounded in the last battles near Richmond to enter the lists as competitors.

The manuscripts must be wrapped around a wooden roller, to avoid folding or crushing in transportation, and must be addressed to

Wm. Oland Bourne,
Editor of the Soldier's Friend,
No. 12 Centre-street, New-York

Editors of newspapers through the country are respectfully requested to republish the above.

[Written sideways on the last page in a different hand.]
New York, Nov. 21, 1865
Bourne, Wm. O.
Desires a contribution from Genl Howard to Columns of Soldiers Friend.
Recd. Nov 24th 1865
Ansd. Dec 1st, 1865

3079 11/21/1865 *From:* Theo. S. Cuyler

To: Maj Genl O.H. Howard

OOH-3023

136 Oxford St
Brooklyn

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[37, 36]

136 Oxford St
Brooklyn Nov. 21, 65

To Maj Genl O.H. Howard
Washington D.C.
Dear General

I feel already so well acquainted with you that I cannot address you as a stranger.

I write to inform you that you have been elected as one of the Vice-Presidents of our new "National Temperance Society & Publication House".

We expect to do a grand work & on a good pecuniary basis.

We have some thought in our Board of Managers of making Gen. C. B. Fisk our working "Secretary" at New York.

It is said that he proposes to withdraw from the Freedmen's Bureau –that he would be a most efficient organizer in our new Society & probably would be willing to accept the appointment.

I only know the General by reputation & have written to him today to ascertain whether he would entertain such a proposition.

Any information you can give our Board of Managers through we would be most welcome.

With kind regards to your brother Col. Howard –if he be with you.

I remain, Dear Genl,
Cordially Your friend
Theo. S. Cuyler
Pastor of Lafayette Ave. Church

[Written on the back of page 1, in a different hand.]

Brooklyn N.Y.

Nov. 21st 1865

Cuyler, Theo. S.

Informs Genl Howard that he has been elected Vice President of National Temperance Society. That they desire Gen. Fisk for Secy.

Recd. Nov. 22nd 1865

Ansd Nov. 23 "

3080 11/21/1865 *From:* Francis Wharton

To: Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-3024

Brookline, Mass.

Source: Bowdoin

[49, 41]

Brookline, Mass.
Nov. 21, 1865

My dear Sir,

I send you two circulars, and a report, referring to the organization of the P.E. Freedman's commission. It was elated at our meeting, by one or two questioners who had seen you, that you would give your full support to such a work. I will be much gratified if you could, if you think proper, give any suggestions as to the plan and working of such a society.

Sincerely yours
Francis Wharton

Gen Howard,

Rev. and Dear Sir,

The Protestant Episcopal Freedman's Commission met at the Rooms of the Domestic Committee, New York, on Friday, Nov. 10. The following members were present:-

Rt. Rev. Bishop Potter, Rt. Rev. Bishop Odenheimer, and Rt. Rev. Bishop Stevens:
Rev. Drs. Dix, Dyer, Eccleston, Haight, Howland, Littlejohn, Montgomery, A.H. Vinton, Washburne, Wharton;
Rev. Messrs. Anthon and Aspinwall; Messrs S. Brown, Minturn, Morgan, Welsh, and Winston.

Rev. John A. Aspinwall was elected Recording Secretary, to the Commission.

The following Executive Committee was then appointed:-

Rev. Dr. Haight, Rev. Dr. A.H. Vinton, Rev. Dr. Littlejohn, Rev. Dr. Eccleston Hamilton Fish, Esq., F.S. Winston, Esq., G.D. Morgan, Esq., and John Welsh, Esq.

Rev. Dr. Wharton was elected Secretary to the Committee, and Robert B. Minturn, Esq., Treasurer.

At a subsequent meeting of the Executive Committee, it was resolved:-

- 1.- That the clergy be requested to take up a collection in ai of the Commission, on the coming day of National Thanksgiving; or if this interfere with diocesan regulations, at the earliest period practicable.
- 2.- That contributions of clothing be earnestly solicited, to meet the destitution among the Freedmen that now exists.
- 3.- That this Commission heartily invites the formation of auxiliary societies, diocesan or parochial, to aid in its important work.

By the instruction of the Committee, these proceedings are now forwarded to you, in the trust that they will meet with an immediate response. The Committee will see that whatever clothing is entrusted to them, is promptly and wisely distributed; and competent teachers are now waiting at the North, ready, with the hearty co-operation of the Southern clergy, and with the support of the Chief of the National Freedman's Bureau, to enter upon the instruction of the Freedmen, as soon as the requisite funds are supplied.

Contributions of clothing to be sent to the Rev. John A. Aspinwall, Domestic Committee Rooms, to be marked, "Goods for Freedmen."

Remittances of money, to be made to Robert B. Minturn, Esq., (Grinnell, Minturn & Co.) New York.

Communications as to the general working of the Society, to be addressed to the Rev. Dr. Wharton, Brookline,

Mass.

Sincerely yours,
Francis Wharton , Secretary.

Nov. 11, 1865

3081 11/22/1865 *From:* Matthew Prine

To: Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-3025

Camp Morten
Indianapolis, Ind.

Source: Bowdoin

[42, 43]

Camp Morten
Indianapolis, Ind. Nov 22d

Genl Howard
General

I have the honor to present the following petition for your notice & hope, Sir, that you may recollect that I deserted to your command, near Dalton when Genl Johnston, retreated from that place. I deserted & came over to the Provost Guard of Your Corps & was taken to your Head Quarters. I there stated that I had been forced into the Rebel Army in February 1864 & was assigned to an Alabama Battery & that being a Northern man & having no sympathy with the Rebels I had deserted, & wished to take the oath of Allegiance & be set at Liberty. I was told, Sir, that I would be a free man when I reached the North. I have been confined in this Prison since last May & am very anxious to be allowed to take the Oath & hope Sir that you will kindly intercede with the Authorities in Washington, that I may be released. Hoping Sir that you will pardon the liberty I have taken. I remain with Respectfully Your Obe Ser'at

Matthew Prine
Division 11

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

Prine, M.
Rebel deserter
Indianapolis Nov. 22, 1865
Answered

3082 11/22/1865 *From:* Hezekiah Watkins

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-3026

43 Wall St. N.Y.

Chief Freedman's Bureau

Source: Bowdoin

[44]

43 Wall St. N.Y.
22nd Nov. 1865.

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard
Chief Freedman's Bureau
General -

Parties in this city desire to place in my hands as large amount of Southern claims for collection. I beg leave therefore to ask you for information upon two points: ast to the personal safety and security of one travelling through the South as a Collector, and second, as to the ability of the Southern states to discharge, at present, any large proportion of their southern indebtedness.

Your kind attention will greatly oblige,

Yours, with much esteem,
Hezekiah Watkins
Late Lieut. Col. 143d N.Y.V.
Robinson's Brigade -
Williams Division -
20th Army Corps

3083 11/22/1865 *From:* F.F. Stockwell

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-3027

Boston, Mass.

Source: Bowdoin

[45]

Boston, Mass. Nov 22d 1865

Dear Sir -

I take the liberty to address you asking for a little information. I want to know the proportion of White & Colored population at the South supported by the government since the war. Whenever I have had occasion to speak upon the subject. I have always maintained that there were more white people, that drew rations from the government, then colored, but I had no official proof that such was the case & drew my observations from the conflicting reports from the various parts of the South. At your convenience, Sir, it would give me great pleasure to learn the correct statement directly from you.

Very truly & sincerely
Your Obedt. Servt.
F.F. Stockwell

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

3084 11/22/1865 *From:* Maria Wheaton

To: Major Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-3028

1223 Spruce St Phila

Source: Bowdoin

[46, 47]

1223 Spruce St Phila
Nov. 22d 1865

Major Genl Howard
Dear Sir

You will be surprised at receiving a communication from me, but having seen by the papers that you were in Washington, I write at the earnest entreaty of friends, to ask of you to do what may be in your power to get an appointment in the Army for a young friend. His name is William McClure, son of William McClure an eminent lawyer of Harrisburg Pa. long since deceased. This young man joined the Anderson Cavalry, full of patriotism, before coming of age, and served as a private three years. He was one of the 300 who went into the fight when the rest mutinied, and never took a furlough. I need not tell you that it is often most humiliating for a gentleman to serve as a private, especially treated as the Anderson Troop were, under such officers as they had. And you know full well that those young men who entered the Army so early, gave the years most important to them for preparation for usefulness in after life –to their Country

Mr Mc'Cs mother is a widow, now in straitened circumstances, and he is a youth of sterling principles, and irreproachable character. (I do not mean a christian.) the family think a word from you to Mr Stanton would ensure his appointment. If you can speak that word it will give a great deal of happiness. He wants a First Lieutenantcy of Infantry, and is led to apply for it to Mr Stanton & through me to others by a notice in the papers of a Board about to convene in Washington to examine the Claims of applicants for commissions in the regular Army.

I cannot let pass this opportunity of congratulating you upon the career of usefulness, which has been permitted you. I have watched with pride and pleasure your course. I know that the military glory which has been added has been no part of your ambition. May your true reward be that of those who turn many to righteousness –a glory which fadeth not away.

Please give my love to Mrs Howard when you see her.

I hope in the multitude of your cares & duties you will not think me intrusive.

Very sincerely yr friend
Maria Wheaton

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

Phila. Nov 22nd 1865

Wheaton, Maria

Desires that Gen. Howard will use his influence to secure Wm McClure a position in the Regular Army.

Recd Nov. 23, 1865.

[The following note was appended to the above letter.]

A sisters earnest longing for her brother's good leads her to add a word to her friend Miss Wheaton's letter –and to beg of Genl. Howard to use his great influence in getting for him an appointment in the U.S. Infantry. He can furnish any number of testimonials from citizens as to his integrity of character –but being a private he has no military friends.

3085 11/22/1865 *From:* L. D. Warner

To: Maj Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-3029

Portville Cattaraugus
Co. N.Y.

Chief of Freedmans Bureau
Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[68, 69]

Portville Cattaraugus Co. N.Y. Nov 22nd / 65

General,

Having made application for an appointment in the Regular Army, and judging, that you know something of my services, and fitness for such position, I take the liberty of asking the favor of a letter from you, with such recommendation, as you can consistently give.

Although not under your command during the last year of the war, yet you undoubtedly know enough of my military career, to judge of my fitness for the position for which application has been made.

So far as attention to duty is concerned, I think I can say what but few volunteer officers can, with equal truth declare, that during the three years I was in the service, I was never absent a day from my Regt, except when in Winter Quarters.

Although, for the larger part of the time, I held no higher rank than Major, yet I was in command of the Regt for nearly one half of my entire term of service, and I do not think, the reputation of the Regt suffered thereby.

I was mustered as Lt. Col. last January, and Commissioned as Colonel in February, but was unable to muster in that grade, in consequence of the reduced strength of the Regt. Any endorsement you can consistently give will be gratefully received. My pecuniary circumstances are my excuse for applying for either a Military or Civil appointment with the Government.

I am General Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
L. D. Warner
Late Lt. Col. Comdg
154th N.Y. Vols.

Maj Gen O.O. Howard
Chief of Freedmans Bureau
Washington D.C.

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

Portville N.Y. Nov. 25 / 65

Warner, L. D.

Late Lt. Col.

154th Inf. Regl.

Desires recommendation for position in the Regular Army

Recd Nov. 24, 1865.