
Maj. Genl. C. O. Howard,

Supt. Freedmen's Bureau.

Sir:

As it seems probable the Freedmen's Bureau will be continued another year, I take the liberty of suggesting a change in the local superintendent for this (York) county. I came here from the North six years ago, and having carefully studied the character of the inhabitants, both white and black, I speak with some confidence when I say that R. Churchill, (the Supt.) is a most unfortunate selection to represent the Bureau in this locality, where the large number of freedmen congregated must require a man of more than average tact and administrative capacity.

Mr. Churchill has deemed it his duty, from the beginning to put himself in a hostile attitude to the White inhabitants, and has rendered himself peculiarly obnoxious. The whole tendency of his administration has been to widen and deepen the ill-feeling naturally existing to a certain extent between the white and colored people, necessarily in the end to the disadvantage of the latter class.

When orders came, some weeks ago, for the appointment of a "Freedmen's Court," the citizens elected a worthy man to represent them. The freedmen thenceforth elected a colored man from Massachusetts.
The White man, as a matter of course, declined to come in conjunction with the colored one, when Churchill and the negro proceeded to hold court. This, naturally tends to render the Bureau obstructive, and in the end we do exactly more harm to the blacks than to the whites.

I have been employing sometimes as high as 150 colored men, and during the past three years I had not less than 1,000 different individuals in my employ. I have also, about two years ago, in my opinion, arrived at the conclusion that the operations of the Bureau have been entirely detrimental to the best interests of the colored population. They have become more and more reluctant to hire out, and until now it is almost impossible to hire one, while their thieving depredations have become almost intolerable. We are without redress, as our county court is afraid to meddle with the negro in any form, and Churchill is not disposed to curtail his thieving privileges.

A man of enlarged views and good administrative faculty might do much good if clothed with the authority of the Bureau, where one of narrow mind and strong prejudices against the White inhabitants would do great evil.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

Edw. C. Burlington
Bucksport Maine Dec 25th 1865

Maj Gen Howard

My brother

Samuel S. Gardner was
Hatters at Selma Ala as Ass't Capt Freedmen
we heard from him quite often and regularly until July last since
then have not heard from him we supposed he had
written but few since some cause the letters did not reach
us and leave waiting from time to time with the expectation
of hearing from him we judged that at Gen Official they
would Run up the War
left Selma and when
we got there cause any
interruption the official may
Dear Sir or Ma'am:

Forwarded and obliged.

Yours Truly,

E. N. Gardner
Montgomery, Ala., July 8th, 1866

I have fully returned with the information that Col. [Redacted] is on duty at Ft. Colin's, Ala., as Maj. Gen. U.S.A., for that District, and when last heard from, was in good health.

Wager Swayne

Robert Wager Swayne
Bkport. Dec 26, 1865.

Gardner, & B.

Desires to get in
formation of Samuel
M. Gardner who was
Supt. of Freedmen at
Selma, Ala. late
July last.

[Handwritten text that is difficult to read]

Washington Dec 29th 1865

Reply referred to
Maj. H. Granger to know
what has become of the
within named individual.

This letter to be returned
to this office

Regd in Maj. Granger's
Department.

Resd Dec. 24th, 1865.
New York Dec 17th 1885

Maj. Genl. Howard
Washington D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose an article upon June Belchayr's report, from the head of the Chinese at Fort. This article offers it seems to me one of the most precise and all but unique for the Aspinwall and the red question, which I assume you are creating serious division amongst good men here at the outbreak. If you will prepare that the peace men be settled upon the public lands you will find the fort and the ructions press of the result in your support. I write upon this note at the suggestion of several of our brave men who look to you with confidence
in your judgment and
the utmost faith in your
honesty of intention.

I remain,

Your trulst,

[Signature]
New York, Dec. 27, 1865

Frederick Geo. Ward.

I suggest the settlement of public lands by freedmen.

My thanks,

S. B.

Read Dec. 28th, 1865.
Kennebec Arsenal,
Augusta, Me., 27th Dec. 1865

My dear General,

I left the city Thursday morning and reached Boston Friday morning.

I remained over at Springfield and had a call on Balloch with chance of the council people. I was also obliged to stay in Boston until Monday morning so my course. Miss Flower could not get ready to join me until that time. I arrived home Monday evening just in time for the Christmas dinner.

I found all at home and very glad to see me.

I gave your message to Mt. Consuelo of the train at Brunswick and he said he would give you his thanks at the hotel—10. Mr. & Mrs. Y.-t. Children.

Mollie & Ralston came and rested, and got to your letter with great pleasure.

Yours affectionately,

[Signature]
MM. MM. le Général.

D'abord, nous avons deux choses à vous dire. Nous avons bien voulu vous en faire part le mois dernier. C'est un document d'un grand intérêt, et je suis convaincu que les jésuites de Paris reproduiront L'Andely. que j'aurai prescrits dans notre M. de l'Académie.

Ayant j— vous prit,

MM. MM. le Général.
L'assurance du respect avec lequel
j'ouvre l'honneur d'être,
Votre très humble serviteur,
M. le Marchand.
New York Dec. 24th 1865

Édito de la France-Amérique

[Handwritten text in French]

[Signature]

Dec. 25th 1865
Richmond, Va., Dec 27th 1863

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard

Commander &c.

General,

The accompanying communication was received by me to-day. I have felt it my duty to forward this to you under the permission that I received from you that I might "advise you in confidence" believing it to be important; I have to request that it may be in the strictest confidence.

The communication came to the Maj. General Comdy. The Department yesterday by telegraph in either from the Lieut. General, addressed to General Terry — good I have sent a copy to each District Commander and to myself — it will be impossible for me to obtain the information called for in less than two weeks.

Over
and then my report will necessarily be mixed with that of the district commanders. It will have little value.

If I may be mistaken in my notion then this report is called for to furnish arguments against the continuance of the Bureau, if so you have can be done by communicating the information to you under the seal of confidence.

Very Respectfully,

Col. [illegible]
Home, Dep't of Virginia

Richmond, Dec. 27, 1865

Col. C. Brown
Acting Commissioner
Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and
Abandoned Lands

Col.

The Maj. Gen. Commanding requests that you report as early as possible all known cases of outrages which have occurred within this Military Department since the surrender of the Rebel Armies, committed by white people upon blacks and blacks upon white.
The statement in each case should give, whenever practicable, the date and locality of the occurrence and the circumstances as fully as possible.

It is important that the report be received here by the end of the present week.

Very Respectfully,

Capt. Capt.

James A. Bates
Acting Adj't General

Official

Capt. Capt.
New York, Dec. 26

General:

Just as I had procured my ticket for passage to England, letters were received from there setting forth that at that time it was deemed too late to do anything for the coming season at the south. Although I had everything in readiness, I at once gave up the mission.

I am at work on my Report which will be more lengthy than any I have made to either Generals Banks, Harbutt or Canby. The news papers promise us a report from Gen. Fullerton. If he has made one, I would be glad to have a copy.

I read your report with great pleasure. I am fully convinced
That if you were allowed to act your pleasure in the truth, matters would not be in the shocking condition which I find represented not only in my letters from there (from all the States) but also in the Southern papers. I fear the present public policy is like a sponge that swallows the "sweet water and the bitter."

I enter in full sympathy with you in the great work. I yearn and pray for your triumph.

Will you be kind enough to send me your Report in such form as you may have it?

I will not complete my Book till the work is more advanced than it is at present. Your Report will aid me much.
I have seen a letter from Mr. Plunket, written last summer, in which he states, "I will give myself no rest till, in some way or other, I get coming out first, then county, and then Capt. Peake."

I suppose, from what I learn from New Orleans, that this wretched man is now devoting his whole energy and time in the prosecution of one of the best officers in the Bureau—i mean Capt. Peake the Supt. of Education in Louisiana.

The letter of recognition of services which you promised me in your letter, I will be glad to have.

Respectfully,

Thomas A. Conner

case Gen. Clark, 712 3. 592
New York Dec 28th 1865

Conway Thurs. 1st

Read opinion of Mr. Hillhouse both in England desires copy of Mental Health's report also copy of the Slocum's report. Desires a letter of recognition of services.

1866 B.

Rev. Dec. 29th 1866.
Dear Sir,

Rochester, N.Y., Dec. 28th, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. C. Howard, U. S. A.

General,

I have received your communication from Gayleville, Ala., of Oct. 30th, and am glad to hear from you. I was only able to write you in response to your letter of Feb. 1st, 1864.

I trust that your health is improving, and that you are able to carry on your duties as usual. Your letter has been a source of great comfort to me, and I am grateful for your continued support.

Since losing my original rank as a Lieut. Col. in the Confederate army, and taking the position of Col. A. D. C. in Brig. Gen. Davie's staff, I have supposed that my grade was as far as the question of exchange is involved, that of other aides on the staff of a Brigadier's staff, viz., 1st Lieutenants. As such, I don't think that Capt. C. A. Cribb or other authorized part on the staff of my former army would consent to exchange for me. On this basis, I deem it not inappropriate to add that Capt. C. A. Cribb of the staff of the 3rd New Jersey, wrote to the 3rd New Jersey, stating that you had directed Col. Mulford to tender me in exchange for any officer of like rank that you held of your's. As I have since heard nothing of the matter, I fear that in the press of business incident to active operations it has been overlooked.

I trust that you will be able to do as I have requested and take the matter in hand.

I am very truly,

Your obedient servant,

William J. Green.
Green, W. Harlow, Jr.
Brevet of War
Johnson's Island
Dec. 25, 1864.
Major Gen. J. E. French

Dear General,

I am sorry to inform you that we are in the act of exiting the city.

You will see by the circular on the other side that we are in the act of putting the two companies.

An application has been made to an agent of myself by Mr. J. French who late of Old Can in Louisiana from another request a Can supply for their own needs. Before acting on this application, I am advised to hear from Mr. French as to his fitness.

These circumstances are matters of great delicacy, forbidding haste.
manding circumstantial evidence.

We cannot say too much to an able
man and a true friend to the cause, and
his evidence refers only to his business
activities in this particular work.

A Canadian is, as an Expert, an
Emissary of the Character of the
Movement for which he works
and an honor at any Convention
will suffice Mr. Scott.

Very truly,

[Signature]

C. M. Scott

Cor. Sec. 7

Dec. 27th

1865