
3186 12/29/1865 *From:* A. Baird

To: Maj Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-3131

Source: Bowdoin

Headquarters,
Bureau of Refugees,
Freedmen and
Abandoned Lands,
State of Louisiana
New Orleans

[75]

Headquarters,
Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,
State of Louisiana
New Orleans, Dec 29th 1865.

Maj Genl. O.O. Howard
Commissioner of Freedmen &c
General -

The bearer Mr Charles De Goalon introduced to me by Mr I.M. Lapice one of the oldest most intelligent and liberal planters of St. James Parish, goes to Washington in relation to a matter which has for some time occupied the attention of intelligent men in this section.

They regard the supply of labor as insufficient and then wish to introduce German labor, and French Canadian labor and Coolie labor, to supply what is wanting, as well as to introduce a competing element, so as to stimulate the Negroes to greater exertion.

Mr Goalon is interested in regard to the Coolies –not those from China –but from the East Indies –a superior race –and wishes to know the feeling of the Government and of prominent men in relation to such an enterprise.

With this <news> I beg to introduce him to your notice and consideration.

Most Respectfully
Your Obt. Svt.
A. Baird [Absalom Baird]
Bvt. Maj. Genl
Asst. Comr for La.

[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.& A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D JAN 18 1866

3187 12/29/1865 *From:* Sarah B.F. Greble

To: My dear Friend [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-3132

Phil'a

Source: Bowdoin

[82]

Phil'a Dec 29th 1865

My dear Friend

On Christmas morning, just as our Santa Claus (in the person of Papa Greble) was distributing the gifts, the Postman brought the beautiful gifts from you. Clara's ring is very acceptable, the young lady has been wishing for one because Edwin had one. It is an exquisite one I think. The marker for my Bible is chaste and beautiful. I thank you sincerely for it & the sweet thought which prompted you to send just that, so that I can think of you at that dear Supper where we are brought into communion through our blessed Lord and Saviour. Edwin was much pleased with his book from Jamie, the children often speak of him and wish that he could be here to play with them. Need I tell you that we often speak of you and wish that your visit could have been longer.

Mamma received your letter and thanks you for it. She has spoken of writing several times but Christmas with its duties and pleasure must be her excuse for not doing so. Your Husbands letter telling us of your safe arrival, &c, brother Edwin has filed amongst his autograph treasures.

On Thursday Holy Innocents day we had a nice festival for our 550 children at Trinity Chapel. It gave perfect satisfaction to every one. I feel rather tired from my exertions as I had the entire responsibility of it. We dressed the church beautifully too. I put popped corn all through the greens. It looks like wax flowers.

I received a nice letter from Clara from California to-day, also one from West Point. Mrs Dunster has a little daughter. The Roberts (Mother says) are the "intellectual movers there". They have not told me any news. On Tuesday night Mrs Webb had a beautiful Christmas tree for the children. There were twenty children and over two hundred gifts on the tree. I hope the Santa Clause was very kind to you and that he remembered to fill all of the childrens stockings. I received a new dress, hood, pr of gloves, night caps, ten dollars, two pictures, photographs of pictures framed in blk walnut. Edwin & Sallie each received matches, Aunt Martha Sue, Mama & in fact the whole family desire me to send warm Love to you and to your noble Husband.

Monday is the great gathering day in the house. We dine about forty. I wish you could have seen little Clara when she saw her little bed. It looked very cunningly with it ruffled pillow cases &c.

Good night dear friend – with love to the Genl and kisses for the dear children and the very best wishes of the happy season & the happiest of New Years for you with all your dear ones around you. Believe me ever to be

lovingly your friend
Sarah B.F. Greble

3188 12/29/1865 *From:* Mrs. L.M.E. Ricks *To:* Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-3133

Source: Bowdoin

Commercial College
481 9th Street, Bt. D. &
E.
Washington D.C.

[213, 214]

Confidential

Commercial College
481 9th Street, Bt. D. & E.
Washington D.C.
Dec. 29th '65

Gen. Howard,
Kind sir,

Since I saw you, I have been quite sick with a violent cold. For this reason, and from the fact that I cannot, amid the multiplicity of calls in your office, speak with you as I wish to, I address you on Paper. I have made several efforts to see Mr. N. Dubois, but, in consequence of sickness in his family I have failed to see him.

I have had some applications of pressing need – shall I supply them? The persons who gave me the articles expressed a strong wish that I should distribute to the suffering with their blessing and write and inform them how distributed.

There is in the West much distrust. And, many think that their charities have been abused. Without your name, I could not have obtained any thing. Therefore I think, you have a right to dictate the disposal.

As the suffering here is comparatively small – after dispensing some gifts here to the most needy I would like to go down south and distribute some. Beside, there is now at the Depot, large quantities of goods for the Freedmen – marked to the address of Mrs. J.S.G. And I think what I have would do more good farther south. I saw myself fifteen bbl and eight or ten large boxes.

Now, Gen. Howard, you may well imagine how I feel – if I am, as I hope I am, possessed of Charitable and honorable principles.

During my tour in the West, ministers gave me their pulpits on Sunday. Often as many as seven hundred persons listened to me, for an hour and a half with wrapt attention. People gave to me, although they had just given to some one else. The laboring man and the Widow, the poor Widow, came with their offerings to, “send to the Lord”. With such names on circulars could I dream of deception? If I have misrepresented, I did it in good faith, but, still I do feel deeply mortified.

Now, the only atonement I can make is to distribute with my own hands, what has been given for the needy – to the truly needy. I would feel gratified if I could have one uninterrupted conversation with you. If there is, an a clean, golden wedge in the camp, I do not want it in my tent.

I am anxious to go over to the Freedman's Village – Carriage here is expensive. Could I have an ambulance.

I wish also to go to Alexandria and to Georgetown.

It is reported that there are places at each of these towns; where second handed goods are sold, at high rates, to the Freedmen.

I could, if I had a conveyance at my command, in a quiet, manner find out, possibly something.

I do not wish to judge – nor, do I wish to meddle with other persons affairs but, if I have been made accessory to a swindle – it is just and right that I defend myself.

If you can, next week, place an ambulance for a few days at my command – I will consider it a great favor. I find a great many likely looking persons willing to go West.

I write in haste, in the midst of company. Truly yours in Christian Hope.

Mrs. L.M.E. Ricks
482 9th St
Bt. D & E

3189 12/29/1865 *From:* D.F. Crane

To: Maj Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-3134

Boston

Source: Bowdoin

[215, 216]

Boston Dec. 29, / 65

My dear sir -

We are much pleased to hear that you can be with us February 15 / 66. Our church will seat 600. We wish, if agreeable to you, to know your subject that we may announce it, and your price that we may have the necessary funds.

I will meet you in the afternoon of the 15th at any place in Boston, accompany you to my House to Tea, if agreeable to you & then you would have a short time for rest before time for Lecture.

Thanking you for your acceptance of our invitation

I remain yours truly
D.F. Crane

Maj Gen Howard

P.S. Please reply
D.F.C.

3190 12/29/1865 *From:* Wm C. Hickok M.D. *To:* Major Genl [US] Grant

OOH-3135

Burlington Vt

Source: Bowdoin

[24]

Burlington Vt
Dec'r 29th 1865

Major Genl Grant
Sir

The Legislature of Vermont have organized an Agricultural College to be connected with the University of Vermont. The Trustees are enquiring for names of suitable men for President. Some gentlemen wish to present to them the names of Col. E. Whittlesey, Assistant Com. for Freedmen at Raleigh N.C. In your Report you have made honorable mention of him. The object in writing to you, is to enquire if you are personally acquainted with him, if so, will you be so kind as to state more fully than in your report, your opinion of his character, energy capacity, manners &c and his fitness for such a situation.

By so doing you will greatly oblige many friends of Co. W. and admirers of yourself.

Very respectfully
Your obt Servant
Wm C. Hickok M.D.
Burlington Vt

3191 12/29/1865 *From:* Wm C. Hickok M.D. *To:* Maj. Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-3136

Burlington Vt

Source: Bowdoin

[217]

Burlington Vt
Dec'r 29th 1865

Maj. Genl Howard
Sir

A few friends of Col. E. Whittlesey, Ass. Com. of Freedman's bureau at Raleigh N.C., wish to present his name to the Corporation of the University of Vermont, for the office of the President of that Institution. We wish to get the opinion of gentlemen who know him as well as yourself of his qualification, as an highly educated, energetic, courteous, man with good administrative powers &c. Will you be so kind as to give your opinion of his qualifications for such an office. There is to be a meeting of Alumni on the 12th of Jany, where the names of candidates will be presented.

I have written to Rev G.A. Howard of Cattskill a dear friend of mine to get me some letters & requested him to get one from you, but fearing he might not get my letter I have taken the liberty to write direct.

I am very respectfully
Your obt Servant
Wm C. Hickok M.D.

3193 12/30/1865 *From:* Mary J.R. Buel

To: Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-3137

Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[218, 219]

Washington Dec 30th 1865

To Gen. Howard
My Dear Sir

Permit me to ask of you a special favor.

My highly esteemed friend Capt. Sarbruy, of the firm of Sarbruy & Co. of this city, is about issuing a new business card, and is desirous of adding your name to the list of his references.

I had promised to bring him to see you, that you might know him personally, but my many engagements have <til here> prevented.

I can vouch for his reliability, and I believe him to be not only an honorable gentleman, in all business transactions, but also to be governed by christian principles and therefore one whom we may aid by our influence, without any compromise.

I shall esteem it a special favor to myself should you consent to allow him the influence which your name will afford him.

Wishing you and your family a happy new year, and the richest blessings of our Heavenly Father

I have the
honor to sign myself
your humble
servant
Mary J.R. Buel

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

Washing, Dec 30 1865

Buell, Mrs. Mary J.

Desires permission for a friend, to place Gen. Howard's name upon a card for reference.

Recd. Jan 2. 1866

3194 12/30/1865 *From:* E.B. Webb

To: Dear Genl [OO Howard]

OOH-3138

638 Tremont St
Boston

Source: Bowdoin

[220]

638 Tremont St
Boston Dec 30. 65

Dear Genl

The Young Men of the +n [Christian] Association can have the hall on the Wed'y eve'g Jany 31 & on Feb eve'g 1st (Thursday). Cant you arrange so as to lecture for them one of those eve'gs, & so take Jamaica Plain Friday or Saturday eve'g & then go on to Portland &c? Otherwise it brings you & Beecher into the same week, wh is bad for several reasons.

Come to my house, & spend Sunday with us. It is a long time since we have seen you. It will give us pleasure, & of course, we depend upon it. Do arrange so if possible, & I will see that it is all right at Jamaica Plain.

In haste, but fraternally
E.B. Webb.

I wrote Tilton about those articles in the Independent in wh such injustice was done you. He is more sensible & civil this week.
E.B.W.

3195 12/30/1865 *From:* M. Sampson

To: Maj Genl. [OO] Howard

OOH-3139

Phil'a

Supt. Freedmen's Bureau

Source: Bowdoin

[221, 222]

Phil'a Dec 30, '65

Maj Genl. Howard
Supt. Freedmen's Bureau
Hon & Dear Genl.

The Freedmen's societies of this city, especially those connected with the Society of Friends, have selected Dr Joseph Parrish of this city as our agent to go South & examine as to destitution &c in order to send their <> where they are most needed.

Dr Parrish is eminently qualified for such a work, and I write to ask if consistent with your views, whether you cd give him a letter to the officers of the Bureau asking for him such facilities as they might be able to give in the prosecution of his mission.

Allow me to congratulate you on the manner in which you are conducting the affairs of the Bureau. So far as I know you have the confidence, approbation, and affections of all the friends of the Freedmen. I know your post is one of anxiety and care, and I know too that you are able, circumstanced as you are, to do but little of what you wd wish to accomplish.

May God sustain and direct you in all your ways.

Yrs truly
M. Sampson