

Washington City  
Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> 1866

Maj. Genl. Howard.

Genl.

I have the  
honor to lay before you the  
enclosed letter in regard  
to Capt. Geo. P. Webster of whom  
I have written & spoken to  
you ~~so~~ at before - Now that  
the Amendment has been pro-  
claimed officially as a part  
of the Constitution, & the Freedmen,  
Borrow has been established  
in Kentucky, I take the liberty  
of calling your attention to  
the appointment of Capt. Webster  
in that Dept. as chief J. G.  
of your Dept. I am desirous  
such an opportunity will  
receive the cordial approva-

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of the City of New Orleans, and the  
G. W. Govt. besides being entirely  
satisfactory and gratifying  
to the Free men of Ky. &  
all who nowa days advocate the  
interest of the poor negro  
in that State -

I can with great pleasure  
assure you that Capt. Webster  
is a man of fine ability,  
honesty, and unexceptionable  
Morals - and has by lot been  
of efficient & forth full  
Services here Branded Lt. Col.  
in the G. W. Sept. He is  
at present in St. Louis -  
Mo.

I am Govt. with great  
respect

Your humble & O. W. sub.  
G. C. Gray Jr.

35

638 Tremont St,

Boston Jan 9. 1866.

Dear Genl.

The young men  
take the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> day named  
in yr letter. you know  
as I see you are advised!

Come to my House for M<sup>rs</sup>g<sup>s</sup>.

I have made another ar-  
rangement for you on the  
eve<sup>r</sup> of the first Sat<sup>th</sup> of Feb<sup>r</sup>

In great haste, but  
fraternally

E.B. Webb.

Genl. O. O. Howard.

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all of my plants  
and i just had a  
bad day with all of  
my plants and  
now i am  
so sad

SPRINGFIELD BRANCH  
OF THE  
United States Christian Commission.

F. A. BREWER, President,  
GEO. P. GEER, Vice President,

CHARLES MARSH, Secretary,  
HENRY S. LEE, Treasurer,  
REV. HENRY POWERS, General Agent.

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Rooms of Young Men's Christian Association, 220 Main Street,

Springfield, Mass., Jan 9 1866

Maj Gen O.O. Howard

Dear Sir

I have noticed  
that you are to speak before the  
Y.M. Christian Association in  
Boston early in February, and  
I am directed by a similar organ-  
ization here to invite you to address  
the people of Springfield; if, consistent  
with your public duties, you can  
give one night on your way  
to or from Boston

Our people, and  
Especially the young men, many of  
whom have served in the army

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those who have been deeply interested in the Christian Communion would rejoice to see you in Spd and sincerely hope for a favorable response to their invitation

I am very truly  
Your Obedient  
Charles Marsh  
Priest

Springfield, Mass., Jan. 1st, 1866.

Marsh, Whal., Fresh  
Spr'd Branch, U.S. N.Y.

Invites Gen. Howard  
to lecture in Springfield, Mass.

Enclosure - Letter from Mr. Marsh  
to Gen. Garfield asking him to  
use his influence to induce Gen.  
Howard to address their assn. - En-  
dorsed by Gen. Garfield to Gen.  
Howard hoping he can comply with  
the request of Mr. Marsh -

SPRINGFIELD BRANCH  
OF THE  
United States Christian Commission.

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F. A. BREWER, President,  
GEO. P. GEER, Vice President,

CHARLES MARSH, Secretary,  
HENRY S. LEE, Treasurer,  
REV. HENRY POWERS, General Agent.

Rooms of Young Men's Christian Association, 220 Main Street,

Springfield, Mass. Jan 9<sup>th</sup> 1866.

Maj. Gen. Garfield.

My Dear Sir

May I ask a favor  
of you. if you public duties  
leave you any leisure for such  
a service

Our young Christians afo're  
are anxious to get Maj. Gen.  
Howard to speak in Springfield  
next month. He passes thro'  
our place to fulfil an engage-  
ment in Boston.

May we avail ourselves  
of your acquaintance with  
the General, to secure us a

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favorable response to our  
invitation, which we have  
forwarded herewith by this day's mail

I am pleased to  
see that amid the all  
engrossing topics of public  
policy which engage the  
attention of Congress, you  
do not forget so practical  
a matter as the "New York  
Railroad."

Very Respectfully  
Yours Obediently  
Charles Marsh

Ps. If you are unable to give this  
your personal attention please send the  
note to Mr. Howard with a line from  
yourself to gain his attention

Cm

Mr. R. H. Parker, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1866

Cashier of the

Penned & Milled

Gen. Howard

With the hope that

he may be able

to accept the vision

Collier of my hand

Mosiah

H. C. Gayford

49 Napan St  
New York 40  
Jan 9th 66

Mr. Gen. O. O. Howard  
Com. Museum Sc.

My dear Sir

You and your work -  
and your trials - have been much on  
my mind during the last few  
weeks, and I have several times  
been on the point of writing  
to you, to express my sympathies;  
but as, personally, we are almost  
strangers to each other, and as  
officially we are not brought  
very close together, I have not  
felt quite at liberty to obey the  
impulse. But, now that the "Re-  
ad" has come in a reinforce-  
ment of opponents, by eliciting  
with its praise the nail driv-  
er in by the "Independent"  
censure,

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I yield to my first feeling and  
write to say that

that nail - nail though it  
be - is not fastened in a fair  
place. It is neither one nor the  
other. That is, it is neither  
e<sup>c</sup>l<sup>y</sup> driven nor tightly fastened.  
It was skilfully done, and it  
was done I doubt not with  
good intention; but it nips  
its place & will not hold.

as a criticism the article  
was too severe; it was <sup>over</sup>-  
piped. It over-stated defects and  
understated virtues. It did  
not meet out justice with  
even hand. Nor was it fair  
in its statements of facts.

as I understand it, and  
- so far as I know - there was  
act with me understand it:

*6 Ans*

*Resolved*, That this Commission desires to express the pleasure it has in the appointment of Major General O. O. Howard, as the Head of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands; its implicit confidence in his fitness for the position, and its earnest hope that he will have such support from the Government and people as may be necessary to give the fullest effect to his labors.

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and honorably discharging its obligations to those by whose valor it has been upheld, to impose such conditions as shall make the institutions of the country homogeneous, and thus to give free course to the cause of education and religion, as well as to place the American Union upon an enduring basis.

*Resolved*, That this Commission deems the crisis too momentous to suppress 6  
the expression of its fears—fears based upon sufficient data—that unless such

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1 The Russian was not a "heavy  
- helpless" - immature bark  
swept from the reefs by the cur-  
rent of public sentiment created  
by the fall elections. On the  
contrary, it had proved itself a  
craft of such good sailing  
qualities that on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of  
September - before the election -  
the Am J. Adl. Com, a body of  
representative men from all  
parts of the country, but on record  
as an unanimous vote the following  
resolution:

If you will allow me to  
it - I had the pleasure of open-  
ing that resolution, and nothing  
has transpired since then to change  
my opinion of its correctness; and  
as it is with me so, I believe,  
it is with those who, with me,  
voted for its adoption.

for it has been  
of the country  
cation and re-  
g basis.  
us to suppress  
it unless such

is a man of your intelligence in such matters & need suffer no cavet against being misunderstood. It's meant no unqualified approbation. We meant of course "all things condoned" & "with due regard to human infirmities". — But to return to the criticism.

2 It will not be impossible to attach credit to stories of its active fidelity. "Rumors" were not wholly in its disfavor.

3 "The enemies flattered — if flattered they were —" says the Independent, "were contradicted."

It does this impeachment of the Independent. Does that prove its correctness?

4 Notwithstanding the "feeling indifference to & connivance at the atrocities committed in Louisiana & elsewhere" and the threatening delinquency of the Bureau in those States,

is possible that this feeling 42  
 may have done it injustice; may  
 have admitted of an explanation  
 of a justifying character; and  
 one allowance should have been  
 made for this fact of men who  
 edit a paper which, by its editor,  
 professor, teaches: "Judge not"  
 according to the appearance,  
 but "Judge actions purpureum".

5 Mr Conway's displacement  
 - wise or unwise - is not ac-  
 cepted by the best friends of the  
 freedmen, <sup>here</sup> a strong argument  
 against the Bureau.

6 "on the suffrage question the  
 Bureau <sup>has</sup> expressed no opinion in  
 cause as he admitted it "per-  
 haps has no business to do so."  
 But well informed people un-  
 derstand that the Com <sup>representatives</sup>  
 of the Bureau & his subordinates  
 are generally in favor of im-  
 partial suffrage & are not

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"adverse to the Freedman's claim"  
"The Northern associations"  
have either obtained all  
aid they asked of the Presi-  
dency, or given an answer  
to their request as presented  
the "despatched" which  
the Independent says "are  
several" & which I assert  
may not be several.

If Gen. Howard is neither  
statesman, politician nor  
financier. Part of this is true.  
He is not a "politician". As  
for the rest it is not yet too  
far to sweeping & dogmatical  
judgment. Mr Lincoln was  
not a statesman, nor Mr.  
Stanton an organizer - judging  
by the first Government of their  
respective administrations. It

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in the ~~the~~ <sup>either</sup> Independent 5 years  
to get a paying subscription  
list or the reputation of an  
able newspaper.

9. "a late convert to anti-slavery" he may be, but not so  
late as some men whom, &  
whose public acts, the Independent treats with high praise.

10. If there be a "rumor"  
that Gen. Howard "advised Gen.  
Sexton to resign on the ground  
of his radicalism" that one  
never finds no credit with ~~the~~  
the best & best informed men  
that I am acquainted with.

11. "The zeal of General Howard  
and his desire among the freed  
men a knowledge of Evangelical  
religion & bring them into the  
Church is conscious; we are  
very to add that he seems as  
inclined to do full justice to their  
civil, social & political needs."  
so says the Independent. This

is a frame charge, and consider  
the vehicle through which it can  
one not to be treated lightly.  
is a charge at me - the per-  
petual of religious narrowness,  
official delinquency; not to  
say malfeasance.

12. "But now for the moment. The  
Bureau seems likely to become a  
serviceable piece of furniture. It  
feels the turn of the tide." We are  
to the end of the article. In the  
first two thirds of this article  
criticism the writer condemns  
with strong censure; in the  
last third he "dares with faint  
praise". Writer

The Independent thus concludes  
his despatch: "Two months ago we  
predicted were of the opinion that the  
Frederick aid advisors would soon be  
relaxed & suspended. We predicted that in  
six months there would be a black  
school in a northern state"

Now I submit that a man  
so short-sighted, so crooked-sighted

is incapable of passing in a **44**  
 matter of this kind - not the  
 man to pass freezing censures,  
 & dogmatic judgments upon a  
fellow laborer whom he at the  
 same time admires so: -  
 "most worthy, with a very high  
 sense of duty; a man of pure  
 soul purposes, unstotted integ-  
 rity, and undoubted singleness  
 of aim!"

But I am making  
 my letter quite too long; &  
 - perhaps from habit mak-  
 ing it more of a newspaper  
 than a reply than a letter  
 to a friend.

You will note that on  
 the subject of evangelicism I  
 make no comment. I can only  
 say that I don't believe the  
 charge, - albeit I am quite  
 ignorant of the facts in the  
 case.

4      5      6      7      8

I don't belong to the class  
known<sup>as</sup>, and often self-styled "evan-  
gelical"; but I have a ~~soo~~  
a tender sympathy with those  
who do, if they be good. I ~~love~~  
the brethren. I prize the ~~brethren~~  
but as I understand it; and  
I don't disdain it as even a  
other people understand it.

I hate narrowness. I hate  
the narrowness of self-assumed  
evangelicism; and I hate  
just as much, the narrow-  
ness of self assumed liberalism.  
I have lived long  
enough to know that a  
among the paradoxes of the  
world there is an illiberal  
liberalism - a sectarian and  
sectarianism, as well as

un-scriptural Exemplification,  
and a radically heretical  
orthodoxy.

45

My dear Sir. You for  
whom is a remarkable one.  
It imposes upon you diffi-  
cult & delicate duties. It  
is not for me to tell you  
where to look for grace &  
strength to enable you to  
perform these duties. If  
any man - any man-  
lack wisdom let him ask  
of God who giveth unto  
all men liberally & upbraid-  
eth not.

a line from you, to  
certify that you do not

take amiss my freedom  
with you, will stay  
ever most  
affectionately

J. M. Thorne

Lancaster Penn.  
Jan 10 1866

General:

I have just returned from the Gulf States where I have been traveling since May.

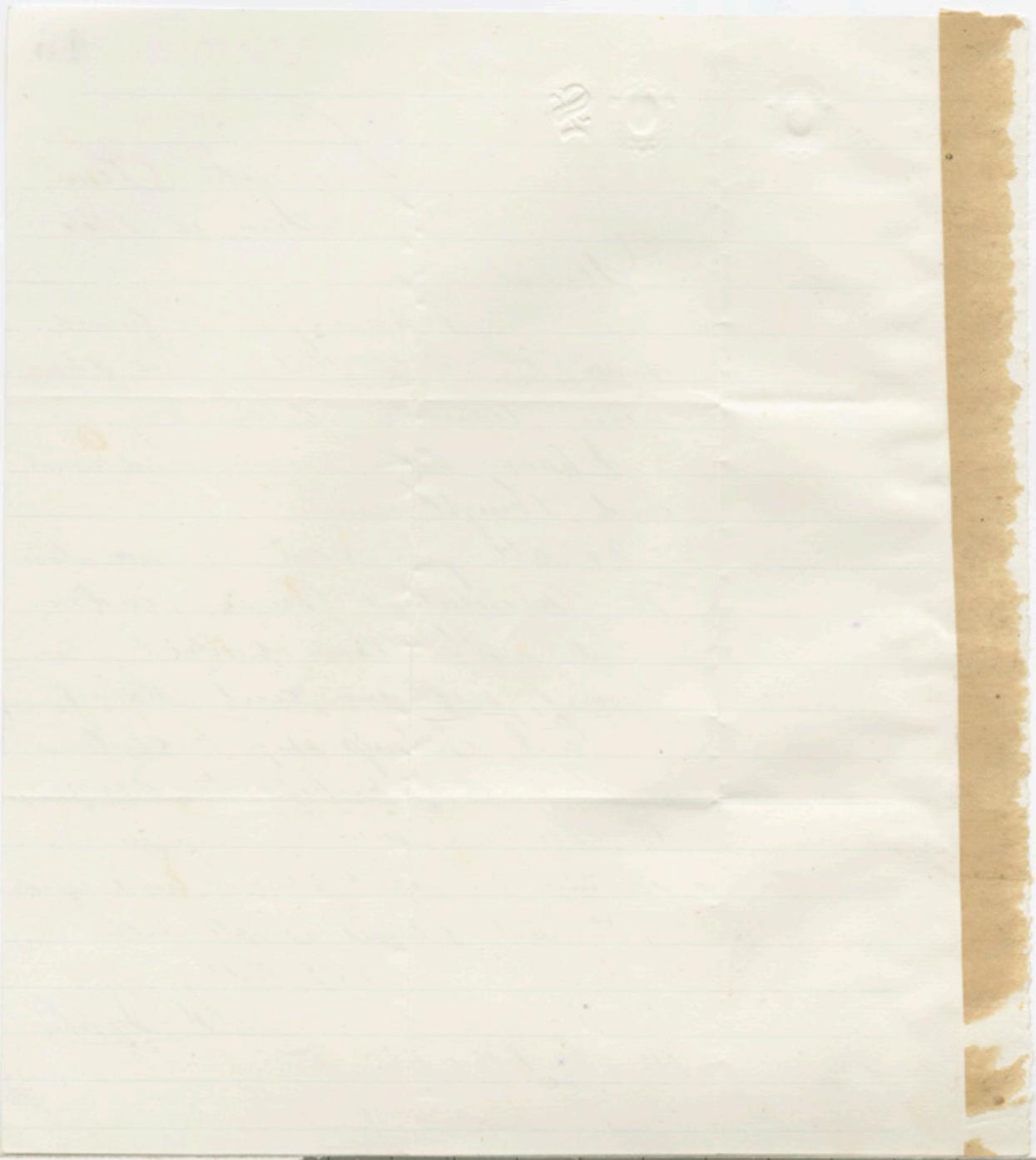
I have seen much, heard much, and thought much.

Do all you can to maintain the Freedmen's Bureau, and extend nothing more than contact its powers, influence, and stations.

Genl Schuyler's report contains much truth; perhaps the danger to Northern men is magnified; otherwise the report is not an exaggeration of the state of things & people with.

Respectfully yours  
H. Syphus

May Genl. O. D. Howard }  
Washington D.C. }



6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

Rocky Mt. N.C.  
Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> 1866.

Manger, N.C.

Affixes to obtain  
a situation in the  
Bureau -

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Rocky Mount, N.C.  
Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> 1866 -

2

Major Gen. D. Howard,

Gen.

I am anxious to  
obtain a position as ~~Assistant Comt~~  
in the Freedman's Bureau either in  
and for the counties of Edgecombe and  
Nash - or the counties of Mecklenburg  
& Cabarrus in this State. Or if in  
your power, any position in the  
Bureau that would enable me  
to be stationed in Edgecombe  
or Nash County, or at Charlotte.  
If this request is not compatible  
with your arrangements, and  
you are not unwilling to confine  
upon me a position under you,  
I would be pleased to have a  
position in the State of Florida

and if possible upon the  
Atlantic Coast.

I came South to spend the  
winter, with my wife, for plea-  
sure, and with a view of se-  
lecting some locality for a  
future home. I have become  
tired of spending money and  
doing nothing and should  
you deem me worthy of your  
patronage and a position  
in the Freedman's Bureau I  
would endeavor to merit your  
approbation, by a strict and  
careful attention to my bus-  
iness, and a fair and just  
administration of any affairs  
that might be intrusted to  
me.

Yours very Resp -  
G. F. Granger.  
Late Col. 9<sup>th</sup> N.Y. Vol.

Charleston Jan'y. 12<sup>th</sup> 1866.

51

Major General D. Howard,  
General,

You were kind enough to say in the interview, which I had with you in Washington, that you would be pleased to hear from me in relation to matters in this State, connected with your Bureau; and I therefore take the liberty of writing you touching a matter of vital importance to the agricultural interest of this State, and to the welfare of both races.

The whole seaboard of So. Car. is in a deplorable condition from the scarcity of food. I am satisfied that there are not provisions enough in this section of the State to last more than 3 months longer from this date. The planters are very desirous of returning to their plantations, and resuming planting operations, but the difficulty of procuring subsistence for their employees is a great obstacle - You expressed yourself as favoring the plan of advancing ~~for~~ rations to the planters for their laborers for one year, to be returned in value to the govt: at the end of the year

when the crops made should be harvested; and  
that you had recommended an appropriation by  
congress for that purpose. I beg to leave to urge  
the early establishment of such an arrangement.  
The time has arrived when the planters should make  
contracts for the ensuing year, and such contracts  
must be based upon the supply of provisions, which  
they can command. To have any success at all,  
agricultural operations should be commenced  
forthwith. The speedy arrangement of this matter  
will render a great benefit to both races and  
to the country.

I regret to say that the freedmen have  
up to this time declined making contracts in the  
whole low country of So. Ca: the idea of having  
land given them by the govt. is not yet dispelled.  
In the upper portion of the state, I am informed,  
that contracts are being made - some are being  
made in the middle portion of the state also, but  
not generally - The freedmen on the Islands are  
still unwilling to contract, entertaining the idea  
that they are to be given these lands - I am satisfied,  
however, that as soon as it is announced  
~~that~~ <sup>more</sup> positively that the ~~most~~ contracts are

Lands are to be restored, and that they must contract or leave, that the great majority of these ~~poor~~ <sup>poor</sup> men on the Islands will contract - and the same result will take place throughout the ~~land~~ state. The <sup>prompt</sup> settlement of this question of the restoration of the Island lands is of vital importance to the whole state. the success of the free labor system in this state depends upon it. A few plantations have been restored on Edisto Island, but the work does not prosper as Capt. Ketchum has been absent on a visit to Georgia for the last two weeks.

I have the honor, sincerely,  
to be, Very Respectfully,  
Your obdt Servt,  
E. W. Seabrook.

Quarles & Co. New York

Bookwork, etc.

Our document of  
condition of affairs w/  
A.L.



Private. Balt<sup>o</sup> Jan<sup>12</sup> 1866

52

My dear General.

Although we have not met for several years and your path has been public & conspicuous, while mine has been humble & obscure, I believe you have not forgotten me or lost your feeling of friendship for me. I have watched your career with great interest, because I wished our country to have in yourself a proof of the fact that a Christian gentleman can at the same moment be a thorough soldier. In fact no man is so fit to be a soldier as a Christian.

Since the war has closed, I have sympathised very heartily with you in the difficulties surrounding your duties as chief of the Bureau of Freedmen. I know a good deal of the character of the negro and something of the temper of the white towards him. I think the two

colors will never live comfortably together, but I am desirous to see the experiment tried.

My object in writing now is  
ask, first, whether a certain office  
is in your gift; and, secondly,  
that it may be conferred on my  
brother, should a vacancy occur.  
I refer to the office of physician to the  
Freedmen at Lynchburg, Va.<sup>a</sup>. There  
a brother who has lately settled him-  
self there as a physician. He informs  
me that it is currently reported that the  
gentleman who now fills the place, being  
a volunteer surgeon, will shortly be  
mustered out & that one of the ten  
physicians may be appointed in his  
stead. He may be mistaken as to  
the facts, but I have encouraged him  
to make application to you.

Now a word with reference to him.  
My brother had just graduated with  
credit at the University of Pennsylvania

when the war began. He was at his home in Big<sup>g</sup> when the secession forces was at its height. If he had been out of the community, he would have taken no part in their folly. He was called upon to assist in attendance upon the sick in the army assembled under the orders of Johnston near Winchester & Harper's Ferry. Thence he passed into the "Confederate" service as a surgeon. He was generally on duty at a hospital, being called on very little for service in the field. The close of the war found him at Lynchburg. He at once took the amnesty oath. He informs me that he is now truly loyal & determined to be so always in the future. He is a young man of very good sense, has studied his profession thoroughly and is a good physician or surgeon - He will, I am certain, prove a useful & attentive officer should he attain the place he desires. He is a sincere Christian -

Excuse this long note. I attribute my anxiety in  
matter to the desire of one brother to help form  
another who is just beginning the world - I  
be gratified, if your engagements allow, to have  
me a place in reply to this. Very truly yours

W. J. Craughill  
Box 341 Baltimore, Md.

Baltimore Jan. 12. 1866

Craughill, Wm.

Friendly letter.

Recd. Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> 1866