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3248 1/17/1866 *From:* S. Peck

*To:* Major Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-3191

22 Glen St.  
Roxbury, Mass.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[74]

22 Glen St.  
Roxbury, Mass. Jan 17/66

Major Genl Howard  
My dear Sir

We have noted with much pleasure your engagement to Lecture in Boston the first of next month in regard to the freedmen.

Hoping that it will be possible for you while in this neighborhood to escape a brief space from public attentions & official duties, my family unite with me to request a renewal of the favor enjoyed by us so greatly at tea just before your departure from Beaufort. We are a quiet people, as Mr. Alvord testified, & should plan to have only our family circle.

I will be happy to wait on you from your lodgings at any hour of an evening which you may designate.

Very respectfully  
& cordially Yours  
S. Peck

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3249 1/17/1866

*From:* Ch. de Gaalon

*To:* Maj. Genl. A.A. Howard

OOH-3192

Room 9  
St Denis Hotel, Bd'way  
New York

Washington, D.C.

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*Source:* Bowdoin

[77, 78]

Room 9  
St Denis Hotel, Bd'way  
New York 17th Jan'y 1866

Maj. Genl. A.A. Howard  
Washington, D.C.  
Sir,

Being unable at the present time to proceed to Washington, permit me to transmit you a letter of introduction which was given to me by Brig Genl Baird.

The vital question for the Southern States is to obtain hands in order to reestablish the culture of cotton & sugar, & place it in the same position that it was before the war, and the only way in which that can be arrived at, is to encourage large immigration. The number of Freedmen has enormously diminished, and their good will to work required to be stimulated.

Heretofore, I was myself planter in Louisiana, and having employed in Guadeloupe (west-Indies) on my plantation a large number of Hindooes emigrant of East India, I was enabled to appreciate them. It is them, who after the freedom was granted to the Blacks in 1848 by the French Government, who were the means by their labor of bringing back prosperity into the Colonies; for instance the Island of Bourbon which produced during slavery only 45 to 50 thousand hogsheads of sugar produced in 1862 198 thousand hogsheads and that increase was due entirely to the Hindooe immigration. They are docile workmen, attentive, submissive –they came under a contract of 5 years and were true in their engagement, at the same time exacting what was due them.

My object is to import for Louisiana of adjoining states a certain number of those men, and I may say that most of the planters approved much of the plan. Therefore I now take the liberty of addressing you to request that you will pleased use your influence in order to obtain for me the official sanction of the immigration Department in Washington whereof Mr Congar is Commissioner, and I will feel very grateful, if you will favor me with your moral assent to my project, begging at the same time that you will oblige me with an early answer.

Believe me Sir,  
Yours very respectfully  
Ch. de Gaalon

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

New York Jan. 17th 1866

Gaalon, Ch. de

Recommends immigration of Hindoos to this country. Desires Gen. Howard to use his influence to that end.

One enclosure from Gen. Baird

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

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3235 1/14/1866 *From:* Ann S Munson

*To:* Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-3193

Farmington Me.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[79]

Farmington Me.  
Jany 14th 1866

To. Gen. Howard -  
My dear Sir,

Last nights mail brought the enclosed line and envelope from my Son, which I immediately re-mail begging to add this little note.

I pray you to aid his recall home. He is my son, husband, my only relative.

In a few months it will be five years since he left me at the call of war, and is now more than four years since we met!

I trust, dear Sir, you will find it in your heart and Providence open the way to have this son of mine homeward come.

With the best of wishes for you and yours, I am dear Sir,

Sincerely yours,  
Ann S Munson

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3250 1/18/1866

*From:* William E. Matthews

*To:* Major Gen O O Howard

OOH-3194

Davis Hotel  
212 K St  
Washington

Ch Freedmens Bureau

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*Source:* Bowdoin

[54]

Davis Hotel  
212 K St  
Washington Jany 18 1866

To Major Gen O O Howard  
Ch Freedmens Bureau  
Respected Sir,

It has come to our knowledge that you are desirous to have an interview with the several persons who have been delegated to come to Washington in the interest of the Colored people. We are pleased to learn the fact. The desire for such an interview is most heartily reciprocated on the part of such of the delegation as are at present in Washington, but we would prefer if it shall meet your pleasure, and if no interest is likely to suffer by the delay, that said conference be postponed for a few days until some others of the delegation, who are expected shall come. We would however be most happy, we assure you, to receive for consideration any thoughts or suggestions you may be pleased to preset us with, for which we will be most thankful,

Very respectfully  
Your <> servts

William E. Matthews	Maryland
Lewis H. Douglass	Maryland
A.J Ransin	So. Carolina
A. W. Ross	Tewksbury Mass
John Pones	Ills
Geo L Downing	New England States
Henry Highland	Garnet Col Mens National Loyal League N.Y.

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3251 1/18/1866 *From:* Wm S. Craighill

*To:* Major Genl. O.O. Howard  
U.S. Army

OOH-3195

Balto.  
U.S. Engr. Office

Chf of Freedmen's Bureau  
Washington D.C.

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*Source:* Bowdoin

[80]

Private

Balto. Jany 18 1866  
U.S. Engr. Office

My dear General

I am much obliged for your kind letter of 15th.

I have today recd my brother's application, which I enclose.

I am going to ask of you the favor to retain it from the files of your office until you decide whether you can give him the place he desires. If it turns out that you cannot do so, please return it to me.

Very truly yours  
Wm S. Craighill

Major Genl. O.O. Howard  
U.S. Army  
Chf of Freedmen's Bureau  
Washington D.C.

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

Baltimore, Jan 18th 1866

Craighill, W. P.

Thanks Gen. Howard for kind letter –encloses his brother's application –if not granted he would like the application returned.

Recd. Jan. 19, 1866

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3252 1/18/1866 *From:* Francis M Bache

*To:* Major Genl Howard USA

OOH-3196

Philad'a

Chief of Freedmen's Bureau  
Washington, D.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[82]

Philad'a Jan 18 1866

Major Genl Howard USA  
Chief of Freedmen's Bureau  
Washington, D.C.  
General

My Father, Colonel Bache, of the Corps of Engineers will hand you this note & introduce himself to you. I do not presume to do so, as my acquaintance with you is so limited that you will probably hardly recollect me.

He will explain the object of his visit to you on my behalf, so I need not do so here.

In my undertaking I desire all the strength I can get.

Very respectfully  
Your Obt Servt  
Francis M Bache  
late Capt 16th Infty USA  
Bt Col. & A.D.C.  
To Maj Genl Meade

3253 1/18/1866

*From:* W.H. Hunt

*To:* Maj Genl. [OO] Howard

OOH-3197

Fort Monroe Va

Washington D.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[83, 84]

Fort Monroe Va  
January 18th 1866

Maj Genl. Howard  
Comr &c  
Washington D.C.  
General:

I regret that your letter under date of Decr 18th 1865 did not come to hand until to day, owing to a mistake made in the initials of my name. No action has been taken, that would have been had your views been known. I wish to ask a question, to guide in future efforts to establish the freedmen under the homestead law. Allow me to say, that I am not a candidate for any position within the gift of our Government. I would not even now enter into the agreement proposed to you, some time since, if the object could be attained as well by other means. I see no benefit to be derived, nor desire any, for myself beyond what accrues to all in common, except, the satisfaction of having made an effort to do something to benefit the freedmen. I would now respectfully ask, if you would consent to appoint competent persons, or those now acting as Supts to Supts colony's (subject to the Asst Comr of State) provided they can take with them a number that would warrant such special appointments. I am assured, by Supt Geo H. Ponneman at Halifax N.C. that he can take ten thousand freedmen from his District, between this and July next, upon receiving the assurance that free transportation, and the protection of the Bureau would be extended. A few thousand from each District or state, will have a good effect, by correcting the errors of the land holders, who are now flooding every avenue, to create capital to operate against the freedmen, and who are exacting stringent contracts, not in rentals, but as hirelings, and who complain, because they will not all so contract. They talk with so much indifference, about allowing their lands to grow up to bushes and briars, that, there should be a quick and earnest movement in the direction indicated, which may insure an immediate change. The lands, will at once be placed at a fair rental, and the negroes will be suddenly represented as willing to contract for one, or any number of years. Be assured, that no negro who has cropped one season for himself will willingly consent to become a day laborer, and contract as such. In speaking of Colonizing, I do not mean to set them out on one side, as a mark, to be like some Free Love or other obnoxious society, a disgrace and a failure. They must not be set apart in a body, by themselves. Fearing this, causes me to strain every effort to operate under the homestead law, and not have lands reserved where none but freedmen can locate, but where lands are free to all, and bring daily taken up by northern & western men and thous avoid crowding the Negroes together. There are vital reasons why this should be so. Our man will return about 1st Feby & I will with pleasure report results of observations.

I am respy yours &c  
W.H. Hunt

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

Fort Monroe, Va. Jan 18 '66

Hunt, W. H.

Concerning colonization and the Homestead law.

[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D JAN 24 1866

Ans'd Jan 30/66 Rec Pres Letter Book

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3254 1/18/1866

*From:* L. M. Dayton

*To:* Maj Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-3198

*Source:* Bowdoin

Head Quarters Military  
Division of the  
Mississippi,  
St Louis

Washington D.C.

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[85, 86]

Head Quarters Military Division of the Mississippi,  
St Louis Jany 18th 1866

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

I have been noticing events, calculating what would be my chances for a position in the Regular Army & as best I can judge, there is little likelihood of my accomplishing it – all legislation seems to tend against increasing my Dep't – where there is an increase, persons of any position are debarred and all future acts being repealed, closes the game. It may be I am in error though, and therefore look in this to you as one likely to know and knowing me, I feel you will be kind enough to give me information. In case I act of course I would not wish to call upon the junior commanders of our Army should Genl Sherman not do something for me – there certainly can be no doubt but that he will if I deserve it.

Major Genl's Schofield and Slocum have sent me very fine letters which I prize very much and I wish the favor of Genl Howard that he will give me (if he thinks worth trying for) a letter that will assist me into a position in the army – if the prospects will not warrant the effort I will feel very proud of and grateful for a letter of general recommendation as regards your knowledge of my business ability &c.

Of course you have numbers of these requests and are taxed largely but I hope you will grant me a little time. My views of the Army as we were talking once you may remember, are about the same – now as then I do not specially like the children of the Army but have always had a high degree of regard for those who conduct themselves many and are men – your appreciation I am sure is the same. I remember when we talked and soon after your making the remark to Genl S – that I must be “Worked into the Regulars”. I would be glad to get your advice General and need not assure you it will be fully appreciated. If there be an opportunity I desire to connect myself with the Army and do really think my services during the war, with my education, should give it to me, not considering my ability to cope with what may come in future, of which there ought to be no doubt.

All are well here & seem to be moving quietly.

Let me hear from you General soon as convenient & oblige,

With great respect  
Your Obt servt  
L. M. Dayton [Lewis M. Dayton]  
Bvt Lt Col & A.A.G.

[Written sideways at the bottom of the last page, in a different hand.]  
St. Louis No. Jan 18th 1866  
Dayton, L.M.  
Bvt. Lt. Col. & A.A.G.  
Would like letter of recommendation from Genl. Howard  
[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D JAN 24 1866

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3255 1/19/1866 *From:* C.H. Howard

*To:* Dear brother [OO  
Howard]

OOH-3199

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters,  
Assistant  
Commissioner,  
Bureau Refugees,  
Freedmen and  
Abandoned Lands,  
South Carolina and  
Georgia,  
Charleston, S.C.

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[87]

Headquarters, Assistant Commissioner,  
Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,  
South Carolina and Georgia,  
Charleston, S.C., Jan. 19 1866

Dear brother

We arrived at about 2 P.M. today (Friday) after a very tiresome journey. Gen. Scott & staff were more exhausted than I who am accustomed to travelling on Southern roads. That had a smash-up between here & Florence yesterday which caused us two or three hours delay & a ride all the way from Santee river in a box car.

I have been with Gen. Saxton this evening. He feels that he has been disgraced and unjustly treated –in being mustered out before being relieved –and the only Asst. Comr mustered out and he wished to return to his old position as Quarter Master –says that the expenses would be too great for him as an Inspector with merely a Captains pay. He feels that you intended it as a kindness but that he would like much to be relieved from the duty –if you will do him the favor. He really feels it exceedingly disagreeable to see these ex-Rebels in this State who believe that they have triumphed over him.

I shall call for Gen. Scott in the morning when he is rested and go to Gen. Saxton's office & introduce him. Gen. Saxton intends to leave Sunday night or Monday morning for Beaufort, bag & baggage.

Gen. Sickles is disposed to interfere with Bureau matters. Capt. Ketchum thinks that either the Dept. Comdr. & Asst. Comr. should be identical or else that the latter should be still more independent than now –that last requirement that the Dept Comdr. Should approve the orders is troublesome. Gen. Sickles has restored Gov. Aiken's property & proposes to interfere with the Sea Islands. Capt. K. has telegraphed you on my suggestion before ignoring the settlers (Freedmen) who have gone upon a plantation since you were here. At first he thought he would not reckon them at all except to require the owner them suitable terms for contract & would restore if there were but “ew”old settlers.

As you failed to get Capt. K the appt. he expected, could you not secure for him a brevet. He has been long in service & always distinguished for ability & fidelity bravery trust. He would like much to have the brevet now that the other appointment has failed.

I may get off by Monday or Tuesday.

Your affectionate brother  
C.H. Howard

[Written on the last page, in a different hand.]  
Charleston S.C. Jan 19, 1866  
Howard, C.H.  
Brevt Brig. Gen.

Friendly letter  
Recd Jan 23d 1866

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3256 1/19/1866 *From:* D.L. Eaton

*To:* My Dear Genl [OO  
Howard]

OOH-3200

Wash'n

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[88, 89]

Friday Morning  
Jany 19 / 66

My Dear Genl

I send you by my orderly, a letter which the Com'sr appointed by our Society to visit New York –consisting of Col Goodrich & myself –desire to have mailed to day. That letter please read & from it you will gather what I desire you should insert –viz the date when it will suit your convenience to go. I thought you might probably take advantage of your anticipated lecturing tour northward.

You will please if it suits you to insert the date in the blank, return the letter by the bearer.

I would have called on your to consummate this matter, but official duties call me imperatively out of town this morning.

I remain as ever,  
Yrs fraternally  
D.L. Eaton

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

Wash'n Jany. 19th 1866

Eaton, D.L.

Asks when it will be convenient for Gen. Howard to visit N.Y.

[Recd] Jan. 19th 1866

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3257 1/19/1866 *From:* A. H. Markland

*To:* Maj Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-3201

Met. Hotel NY

Washington

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[49]

The American Telegraph Co.

Dated: NY Jan'y 19th 1866

Received at Washington, January 19th 1866

To Maj Gen O.O. Howard

Are you living at the same house as when I left?

A. H. Markland

Met. Hotel

[Written on the back side, in a different hand.]

New York, Jany 19 / 66

Col A. H. Markland

Telegram from New York

Markland, A.H.

Inquires if Genl Howard resides at same place, as when he left.