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3259 1/20/1866 *From:* C.H. Howard

*To:* Dear Colonel [HM  
Stinson]

OOH-3202

Charleston S.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[103, 104]

Charleston S.C.  
Jan. 20 1866

Dear Colonel [Probably Col. Harry M. Stinson]

I find that W. H. Trescott & Wm Whaley are to start for Washington tomorrow and I desire to communicate with the General if possible before they reach him.

Trescott goes avowedly to defeat the Bureau Bill if he can. He also desires to complain of Capt Ketchum for not restoring his property. He attempted a lawyer's quibble & dodge upon Capt K. today by reading all of Gen. Howard's letter except the last sentence which provided that a satisfactory agreement should be made with resident freedmen as in other cases. He said (when the Captain insisted he had not read the whole & he was compelled to read it) that Gen. Howard did not intend that that condition should apply in his case.

Capt. K. has restored a great deal - some by agreements being made satisfactory to the Freedmen & some where there were but "few" (residents) as Gen. H. gave him authority to do.

I have just read an astonishing order of Gen. Sickles - the proof. If it had been published I would enclose a copy. It would do first rate if issued by the Assistant Commissioner & General Scott & I had talked over the matter & he had determined to issue an order covering some of the ground. But General Sickles has taken Freedmen's affairs entirely into his own hands. It is, I think, a bid for the position of Sec. Of War for which he is aiming or as next best thing to be Commissioner of the Bureau. He is working very adroitly.

This order must be attended to & I hope the General will not neglect it a moment. One paragraph makes Post & District Commanders the Agents of the Bureau, ignoring completely the existence of any direct Agents that may be there on duty in any district. I will quote this paragraph

"Par. XX. Commanding officers of Districts & Sub-Districts & Posts within their commands respectively will perform any duty appertaining to the ordinary Agents of the Bureau of Refugees F. & A. L. carefully observing for their guidance all orders published by the Commissioner or Asst. Commissioner or other competent authority."

This takes the appointment of his agents out of the hands of the Asst. Comm'r & makes the Military Officers without exception the Agents & responsible for their conducts & for reports to the Commanding General. Gen. Sickles has taken hold of this matter in the interim just as Gen Saxton was leaving & undertakes to crowd Gen. Scott out entirely. I think that Gen. Scott should be allowed to regulate all of these matters <expressed> in the 21 paragraphs of this order or else Gen. Sickles should be made Asst. Comm'r which I do not think would answer at all. He had managed to curry favor with all the ex-Rebels & this is a strike for favor with Congress and the North. After studying it well I trust Gen. Howard will meet the case squarely and boldly and with emphasis. Gen. Sickles thinks (as I have certain grounds of knowing) that the General is weak, that he means well & all that, but is not able to cope with difficulties and is easily influenced and drawn one way & another.

I wish you would read this letter to the General as soon as you can - not lose time - & I write to you because you can lay it before him without its being seen by any one else & without delay. I will send Sickle's long order, regulating the Freedmen's Bureau &c. as soon as it is published. The proof I have is promised to be returned to Gen. Sickles.

Gen. Scott is almost overwhelmed by the am't. of business here of which he had no idea.

Truly Yours with brotherly regards  
C.H. Howard

Bvt. Brig. Gen.

P.S. I really hope the Bureau Bill will be passed soon.

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3260 1/20/1866 *From:* Joseph Parrish

*To:* My dear Genl [OO]  
Howard

OOH-3203

*Source:* Bowdoin

Pennsylvania  
Freedmen's Relief  
Association  
Canvassing and Supply  
Department,  
Office, No. 418 Walnut  
street.  
Philadelphia

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[55]

[Letterhead]

Pennsylvania Freedmen's Relief Association  
Canvassing and Supply Department,  
Office, No. 418 Walnut street.  
Philadelphia,  
Jan 20 1866.

My dear Genl Howard

You were kind enough to send for me to Bishop Simpson a letter recommending me to the favorable consideration of your Commissioners in the various districts of the South, for which I thank you cordially. I write now to know if you will give the Same Sort of recommendation to Mr John P Crozer, a wealthy philanthropist of this City, who desires to visit the South purely for the purpose of examining into the condition of the freed people.

I trust you may feel free to give him such credentials as will aid him, I shall be pleased to receive them from you & will place them in his hands. You may remember Mr C. as a member of the Christian Commission Board.

Yours faithfully  
Joseph Parrish

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

Phila. Jan 21st 1866

Parrish, Joseph

Asks for a recognition of John P. Crozier as an agent of their association.

[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D JAN 22 1866

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3261 1/20/1866

*From:* C.G. Dahlgren

*To:* Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-3204

Willards Hotel  
Sykes, Chadwick & Co.  
Washington, D.C.

Commr Bureau Freedmen &c  
Washington City

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*Source:* Bowdoin

[90]

[Letterhead]

Willards Hotel  
Sykes, Chadwick & Co.  
Washington, D.C.  
Jany 20th 1866

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard  
Commr Bureau Freedmen &c  
Washington City  
General,

On my return of this city, my brother R. Admiral Dahlgren handed me your communication of 26 Dec last responding to my communication in regard to the order of Maj. Reynolds at Natchez: in regard to anticipated difficulty among Freedmen: and the endorsement of Col. Thomas Huron: for your preemptory in regard to which, I take this opportunity to tender you my thanks.

I make no doubt, but by the display of energy and activity on the part of the authorities much distress and crime was prevented: for it was fair to presume that some would be badly inclined: as if so large a number of people: all could hardly be good: and altho no extensive nor long continued violence would exist: yet in <humility>: it might be severe a few individualy: and it is far better by proper disposition to prevent disturbance: than to punish or to put them down.

On my return home I shall take pains to state your views as I understand them viz: that the object of the Bureau is to render justice to the Freedmen and to the Planters: that the latter shall pay fair wages periodically: and that the former shall perform his labor equally fairly – and enjoy full protection in all his rights.

I am General

With much regard

Your Serv't

C.G. Dahlgren [Charles Gustav Dahlgren was a Brig. Genl. in the Confederate Army, and the brother of Union Rear Admiral John A. Dhlgren.]

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3263 1/22/1866 *From:* W.F. Spalding

*To:* Maj. Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-3205

Excelsior Literary  
Association  
Nashua N.H.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[92]

Nashua N.H. Jan 22 1866

Maj. Gen O.O. Howard  
General

I have the honor to inquire whether it will be convenient for you to lecture before the Excelsior Literary Association in this place, and if so your terms, the subject upon which you would prefer to speak, and at what time.

Soliciting an early answer,

I remain General  
Very respectfully  
Your obedient servant  
W.F. Spalding  
For Excelsior Literary Association

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3264 1/22/1866     *From:* Edwin Johnson

*To:* Maj. Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-3206

Baltimore

Washington

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[93, 94]

Baltimore Jan. 22, 1866

My dear General,

If I did not know your readiness for every good word and work I should hardly venture to ask that you will do us the great favor to come over and spend a Sabbath soon for the purpose, especially, of giving an address at the Anniversary of our Sunday School.

You will remember that I am here to help build up a church of the Pilgrim Fathers, true to loyalty and liberty and to Christ the Friend of Man and Savior of Sinners. The Master is owning the work both by increasing our numbers and by the gift of His Spirit. Quite a number of youth have lately found hope.

Now, my dear Sir & brother, if you can consistently come and speak out of your warm heart to these youth and to all the people I feel sure that by so doing you will not only encourage us but accomplish the most rewarding work—that of leading some souls to Christ. Is not that the strongest motive I can employ? To you I am confident it is.

Mr. Noyes, one of our members, will deliver this to you and answer any inquiries. We should be glad to have you here next Sabbath but if that is not convenient please name the earliest date at your command.

Of course we will pay all your expenses and afterward remain greatly your debtors.

Unless you prefer the Hotel we desire that you will come right to the parsonage 214 Garden St. where we will make you comfortable, and my wife particularly desires that Mrs. Howard will come and bring any of the children, the more the better.

Now will you at least excuse this liberty and believe me with great respect & affection

Yours,

Edwin Johnson

Maj. Gen. Howard,  
Washington

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

Baltimore Jan 22 1866

Johnson, Edwin

Desires Gen Howard to visit Balt. & address the S.S.

Recd. Jan 24, 1866

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3265 1/23/1866 *From:* Wm. P. Craighill

*To:* My dear General [OO  
Howard]

OOH-3207

Balto.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[95]

Private

Balto. Jany 23d 1866

My dear General

I hope you will excuse me for troubling you, but I enclose for your perusal two letters [OOH-3208, OOH-3209] relating to my brother's case.

With reference to the text oath he says in a letter to me "While I believe I am as loyal a citizen now as there is in the U.S., still I cannot swear that I have never aided or sympathized with the South" Mercy to a true penitent after sincere efforts at reform is one of the most adorable attributes of deity. It is to be regretted, I think, if the test oath is to be inflexibly & universally required of all persons in the south. To be sure, the deity sees the hearts of men & knows whether their protestations are sincere. The case is different with men, who can not infer honesty from external things such as words or acts. I am entirely in favor of requiring guarantees, not promises alone, from the states of the south. But I will not take up your time. I know you will do what you conscientiously can in this case & I would not have you do more.

My brother farther says, "If Genl Howard can dispense with the test oath and give me the situation, I would be very glad, but if he cannot, I shall still be very grateful to him for his disposition to do so."

With sincere respect & regard,

Yours

Wm. P. Craighill

Box 341

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3258 1/19/1866

*From:* J.J. DeLamate

*To:* Dr. Craighill

OOH-3208

*Source:* Bowdoin

Bureau Refugees F. &  
A. Lands  
Office Chf. Med. Off.  
Bureau State Va  
Richmond Va

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[97]

“Copy”

Bureau Refugees F. & A. Lands  
Office Chf. Med. Off. Bureau State Va  
Richmond Va Jany 19th 1866

To. Dr. Craighill [Edward A. Craighill]  
Doctor,

Having been informed that you desire a place as Med. Officer of Bureau R.F. & A. Lands in charge of Freedmen at Lynchburg Va, I would request the following information viz:

1st Do you desire to devote yourself entirely to the duties of this position if you receive it, or do you intend to do private practice as additional?

2d If you desire the place to do duty, and at the same time engage in private practice state the terms you will require for doing the duties required by the Bureau.

3d Can you take the oath required of Officers entering the U.S. Service?

Please reply promptly  
I am with much respect  
Your ob. Svt  
J.J. DeLamate <Sugham>  
Chf Med Off State Va

Box 826 P.O.  
Richm Va.



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3262 1/20/1866      *From:* E.A.C. MD [Edward A. Craighill]      *To:* Mr J.J. De Lamate  
OOH-3209                      Lynchburg Va                      Chf Md. Off.  
*Source:* Bowdoin

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[96]

"Copy"  
Lynchburg Va Jany 20 1866

Sir,

Your communication of 17th inst. rec'd this morning, and I hasten to reply. In answer to your inquiries I could respectfully state as follows:

I I would prefer to pursue my private practice in connection with the duties of the position in question, but if impracticable or inexpedient, I would be willing to devote myself exclusively to the said office.

II If allowed to do both, I would be willing to discharge the duties required by the Bureau for one Hundred Dollars (\$100) pr. month.

III I would respy. state that I have taken the oath of allegiance to the U.S. in good faith, but cannot conscientiously take the test oath.

Very Respy &c  
E.A.C. MD &c [Edward A. Craighill]

Mr J.J. De Lamate  
Chf Md. Off. &c

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3266 1/23/1866

*From:* Rev E. W.  
Hutchinson  
Bucksport

*To:* Maj G. O.O. Howard

OOH-3210

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[98]

Bucksport Jan 23d / 66

Maj G. O.O. Howard  
Dear Sir

We are having a course of Lyceum Lectures for the benefit of the M.E. Church in this place which is in debt for recent extensive repairs upon the Meeting House and learning you were to be in Bangor the 7th of next month I write to know if it would not be consistent with other engagements to give us a lecture immediately after. Our lectures are Wednesday eve of each week but could arrange if most convenient to you to have yours on Thursday eve after being at B. Would send a team to B for you and take you back at such time as would best accomodate you. Our people would <[torn page]> very much and though the place is not large would give you a good home. Please drop me a line immediately on receipt of this Stating whether you can serve us or not and what ever would be most convenient for you.

Yours Truly

Please direct to Rev E. W. Hutchinson

[Written at the bottom of the last page in a different hand.]

Bucksport, Me.

Jany 23d / 66

Hutchinson, Rev. E.W.

Invites Gen. Howard to lecture in that place.

Recd Jan. 26th 1866

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3689 7/23/1866 *From:* W.B. Holt

*To:* Maj. Gen'l O.O. Howard

OOH-3211

Rochester N.Y.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[99, 100]

Rochester N.Y.  
July 23d 1866.

Maj. Gen'l O.O. Howard,  
Dr. Sir:

I am pastor of the Corn Hill M.E.C. Rochester N.Y. & write to ascertain if I could prevail upon you to lecture three or four evenings for the benefit of the church above named.

The church is doing a good work, in the part of the city, in which it is located - has a good S. School, but at present is in need of funds to carry forward her enterprises. The church has been a mission station until within a few years, it has been able to feebly sustain itself.

We would like to have you lecture three or four successive evenings, one at Syracuse - at Rochester, at Buffalo, &c.

We would like to listen to your lecture on the Freedmen. I believe you have not been in this section since the war, & very many would like to see & hear you.

If you desired it, you could return to Washington by Saturday evening, lecturing Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday evenings. I hope you will consent to come. If you can not come at present, can't you appoint some time in the future when you will lecture for us?

I am aware you are a member of another branch of Christs Church, yet I presume that would not be a barrier to your lecturing for us.

I do hope you will consent to come. Please state time & terms, &

Oblige yours Truly  
W.B. Holt  
Pastor of Corn Hill M.E.C.  
Rochester, N.Y.

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

Rochester N.Y.

July 23d, 1866

Holt W. B.

Pastor M.E. Church

Requests Genl. Howard to lecture three or four times for the benefit of Corn Hill M.E. Church

[written by OOH] overworked try to build <ch> <but> will see

Answered

Received July 26th 1866

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3267 1/23/1866 *From:* W.S. Forbes

*To:* Maj. Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-3212

New York City

Com'r Bureau of R. F & A. L.  
Washington D.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[101, 102]

New York City  
Jan'y 23 / 66

Maj. Gen. Howard  
Com'r Bureau of R. F & A. L.  
Washington D.C.  
General,

I take the liberty of addressing you to inquire if a situation in your Bureau can be obtained for my Father. I beg that you will give my application your most favorable consideration, as I know you will feel that his is a most deserving case.

My Father is a Presbyterian clergyman having been a Missionary for over 30 years, 18 of which he spent in the Sandwich Islands. Until last summer, after his return to this Country he was engaged in building up Churches, in the West. He is now in Philadelphia without a charge and without monies. I have for a number of years contributed largely to his support but find myself unable at present to do so.

He had four sons—one is now a Missionary in the Sandwich Islds, one, a Lieut. in the 15 U.S. Infy was killed at New Hope Chh during our Atlanta Campaign, another was severely wounded at Cedar Mt. and is now a 2d Lieut. in the Vet. Res. Corps, and on duty in your Bureau at Atlanta Ga. the fourth myself served through the entire war in the field. You may remember me as A.A. Gen'l to Gen Geary. During our campaigns with Sherman I enjoyed the honor of your acquaintance. Few families have given more or more freely for our Countrys Cause during the past war, than has our own. Through it all my Father has been a most earnest, devoted patriot. His past labors and his personal characteristics qualify him well for working in the good cause over which you preside on behalf of our Country, and I feel sure that he would entire heart and soul into the work, whether in the Capacity of a Clergyman or in secular duty. He does not know that I have addressed you on this subject. His address is 4052 Lancaster Ave. West Philada Pa.

With sentiments of  
the highest esteem  
Your ob't serv't  
W.S. Forbes  
late Lt. Col. & A.A.G.

Address Box 1313 P.O.  
N.Y. City