Historical Rooms
No 45 Bible House
New York City

General:

For the completion of the Rebellion Record I find that I need a considerable number of the reports of operations during the last year of the war. Will you have the goodness to forward to me any reports of yours which have not yet been published in the Rebellion Record, or which you have not already forwarded to me for publication. Besides the completion of the Record according to the plan upon which it was started, and with which I presume you are familiar, I propose to publish in a large volume and in style very similar to that of the Record, a series of condensed military narratives, to be written in person by the Generals on both sides. The objects of such a work are to give to the world an authentic and thoroughly impartial history of the war, written by those who are in fact the only persons that can speak of the various operations with absolute fidelity to truth.

It is, of course not to be expected that such reports will embrace the full details of all the operations, and of every battle in which your command was engaged. This would swell my volume to a size quite beyond the popular reach. Another design of this work is to give to the world in a shape, that is accessible, the true military record of every General prominently engaged on either side, at least, all those who survive to write their own reports. I am aware that there is a General Order requesting

all Generals who have had important commands to forward to the War Department a resume of their operations during the war. Many such reports have been made and forwarded, But it is very well known that many of the Generals will not comply with this order, at least in a manner to make their report of any special value, and nothing of the sort is expected by the Government from the Southern Generals. If printed as they will probably be by Congress, the printing will be in the ordinary style of public documents, in a large type, and with very imperfect indexes, so that practically your report to the Department will be preserved indeed and will be accessible to historians and public men, but utterly beyond all popular knowledge or access. Embracing also as my design does, the reports of Southern as well as Northern Generals, it will be the only volume in existence, in which the results of the various general engagements are placed in such a form that comparison can readily be made.

On this account, as well as for other reasons, it is desirable that your report should be complete, and as accurate as you may have the means of making it, in respect to dates, numbers and losses. I would thank you to give the size, or about the size of the particular corps or command which you took into battle, and also to state to the best of your knowledge, the name of the commanding officer who was opposed to you, and whose troops you met. You see it is my object to produce a work that shall be perfectly authentic, and afford the means of settling decisively the question as to whether a particular command was outnumbered by the enemy, in this or that engagement.

I would also state that it is my design that this volume shall be embellished, with very handsome steel engravings of a large number of the commanding officers, and that in typography and execution, it shall leave nothing to be desired, and yet be sold

at such a price, as to put it within the reach of the masses.

With regard to the length of these condensed military narratives, I may say that the recent report of Lieutenant-General Grant, covering all the operations of the United States forces, from the time the he assumed command of all the armies down to the surrenders of April and May 1865, is a very good model for a narrative of general operations.

It is very desirable in writing of battles, that some condensed yet clear account should be given of the topography of the whole field, or of that part of it where you commanded.

It may be proper to add, that each narrative, will be prefaced by a biographical sketch, which taken in connexion with your narrative, will give all the leading events of each General's life up to the end of the war.

Yours truly

Frank Moore

New York City
"Historical Rooms"
45 Bible House

Acknowledge -

Frank Moore

Requests Reports of the
General's Campaigns &c.

R F & A F
FEB 1
1886
WASHINGTON

Personal

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands.

Office Act. Ass't Commissioner, State of Georgia.

Augusta, Ga., Feb 1st 1866.

129

Dear General

I learned through a friend from Savannah that Col H. F. Sickles who was recently mustered out with his Regiment, entertained some unkind feelings towards me and that he proposed to go on to Washington and if possible do me some mischief. If this should prove true I should be very much surprised, I certainly am unconscious of having acted in a way to excite Col Sickles animosity and have not done any thing I would not be perfectly willing he should make known. As you will recollect he was a dull slow man. and that it cost a great deal of labor to make him understand what aught to be done. but I always thought he was honest and in earnest and I cannot find it

in my heart to believe that he was
be guilty of such a piece of treachery
Still I thought I would write
you on the subject. I should like
very much to know what possible
cause of complaint he can have.

I am Yours Very Truly
Davis Tillson
Brig Genl Vols
A. A. G.

Major Genl O. O. Howard
Comr Bureau R. F. & L.
Washington D. C.

Augusta Georgia
February 1st 1866

Davis Tillson
Brig Genl Vol
A Ass't Comm'r

Has learned that Col H. Fiske recently mustered out, is proposing to go to Washington and endeavor to do him some mischief, and makes some comments upon the Colonel's characteristics etc.

Rec'd Comm'r A.D. 10 A.M. Feb 6th/66

Brief
Rec'd Feb 7th

St Louis Mo
Feby 14th 1866.

Dear Sir.

On reaching this place I was much disappointed to find that General Sherman had gone to washington.

You may remember the conversation, we had, on the subject, of the increase of the army & of my getting a field position in it, one evening walking from your house to 3rd Street. If you can help me I earnestly beg you to do so. Be sure that I will be truly grateful to you for your friendship & kindness to me whether you succeed in this matter or not. I am very anxious about it for my children's sake more than mine own

Sincerely

they must be educated now, but I would better give little my nieces & nephews. Give my best wishes & respects to your wife & family.

Truly your
Friend & Servant
John M. Olivier

To Major Gen
O. O. Howard
Freedmans Bureau
Washington
D.C.

Saint Louis Mo.
February 1st/66

John. M. Oliver

Earnestly begs the General to aid him in obtaining a field office 'appointment in the regular service. —

Rec'd Ornan D. D. Wash. Feb 6/66
Ans'd February 21st 1866. —

A very private Suggestion

Were I A. C. B. F. R. R. & L. S. for for Florida, I would write to Gen'l Howard and ask him to give me the full particulars of a representation made then by an outsider a not long since, and by whom,

came! [illegible] which [illegible]

Mad. Lot

Tallahassee Florida
Feb. 1st 1866

Maj. Genl. O. O. Howard
Maj. Dear General

This strange
bit of paper which I inclose
came to me to day from Chaplain
Moore Supt. Ed. for the State who
has remained at Jacksonville &
there performed his duties.
I am entirely unable to con-
jecture what it means. The
Chaplain is not a man to get up
a stampede for a stampede sake
& so I surmise there is something
behind this which I do not know.
I am not aware of having given
occasion for any serious attacks
from any skittish persons & so
send you this. I would prefer to
meet any thing square & if a defense
or an acknowledgement of a wrong or
or mismanagement is necessary to
make it.

Pardon me if I am taking
too much for granted on so slight a

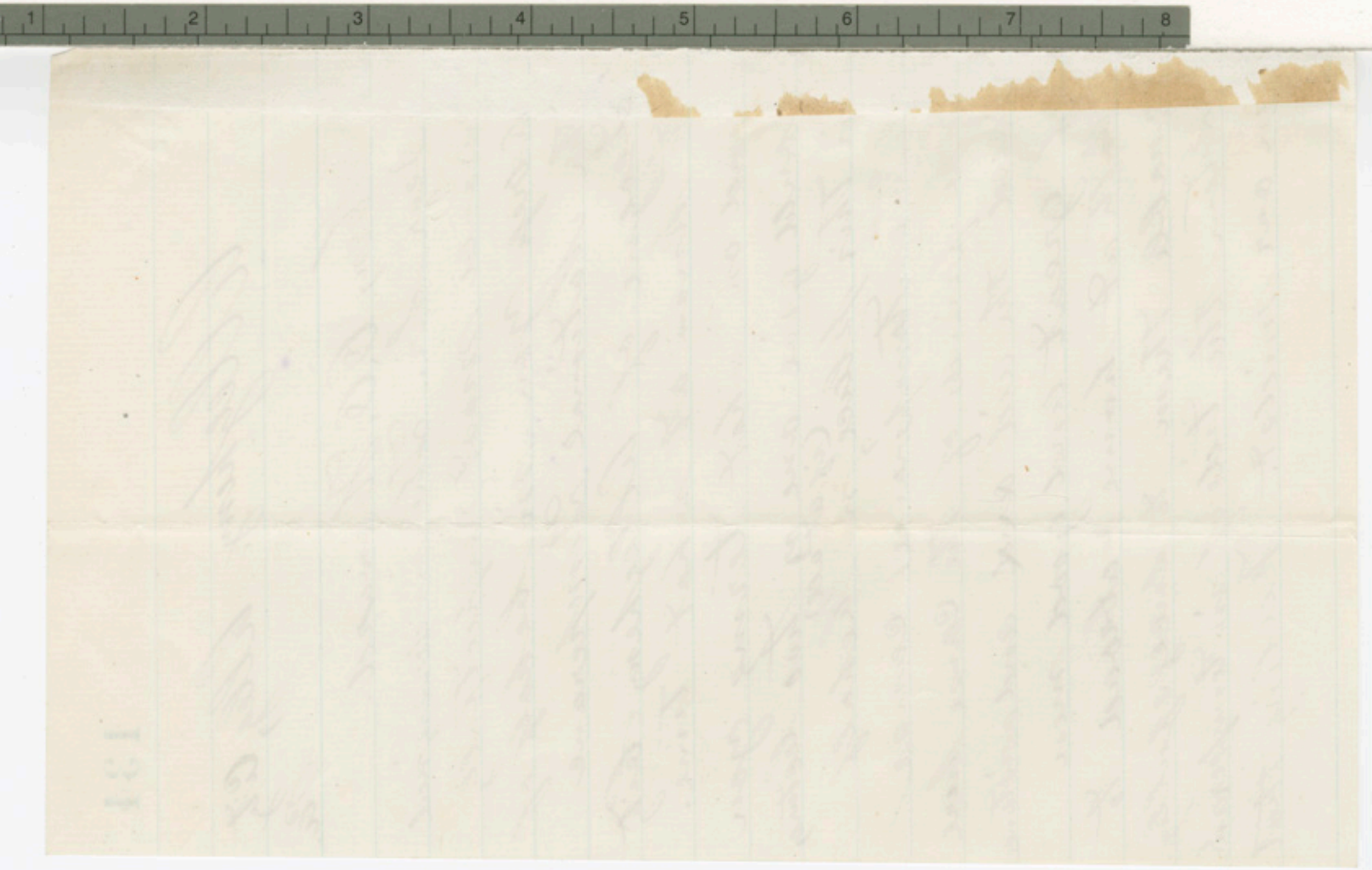
rumor. I have attempted to act justly & honorably in every capacity & to treat all men like men no matter who or what they were & to maintain myself in all respects as an officer & a gentleman. I trust General you will treat this matter kindly & give me any information that may be proper.

I am General
Very Truly Your Obt. Serv.
J. W. Orton

Genl

Allegheny, Alleg, City
Pa.

Hon, O. O. Howard.
Dear Sir. The undersigned would most respectfully address you in behalf of the National Temperance League of Allegheny City to know at what time and on what terms you could give one or two lectures in this place (if at all) in behalf of the temperance cause. The friends of the cause here need the aid ~~xxx~~ and assistance of great and good men both at home & abroad to enable them to successfully stem the tide of intemperance in our midst. Feeling that



you will have a
desire to visit Pittsburgh
and as we ~~have~~ have only
the River between us,
Therefore hoping to receive
an early & favorable response
I remain yours respectfully

B. Horekert.

Alleg, Feb, 2nd/66

Allegheny City Pa
February 27/66
Mef

B. Heckert

Invites Major General Howard to lecture in that city.

Answer will not permit at present
Cannot tell when

Ans Feb 23d

Rec'd Answ Rd Feb 27

Superintendents Office S.P.R.R.
Victoria Texas Feb. 4th 1866

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard,

I have the honor to call your attention to the following statements. When Maj. Gen. Stanley came to this department he placed me in charge of the rebuilding of the rail-road from this place to Lavaca, (on Matagorda Bay) a distance of thirty miles. The road is now open, and though not fully finished yet, it answers the purpose to bring Govt freight to this place and will soon be in good condition. The road passes through what is called the Hog-wallow prairie which in wet weather is almost impassable. I look upon the building of the road on from here to San Antonio a distance of

one hundred and ten miles, a
one of the most important
works in the State and my
object in calling your attention
to this road is to try and
enlist your influence to pro-
cure an appropriation by Con-
gress to help build the road
at once. I think the building
of the road would be of benefit
to the Government in two ways
1st. It will insure the Government
a much cheaper line of trans-
portation from the Gulf to the
borders of Texas. San Antonio
has always been the depot
for troops on the borders, and the
supplies have passed through this
place. It has cost the Government
the last season three (3) dollars
a hundred pounds to get the
supplies from the Gulf to San

Antonio, and if the rail-road was done it could be done for less than one dollar, I presume the Government will keep at least ten thousand troops on the borders of Texas, as that must be supplied from San Antonio, (That is if they wish to keep things quiet) and they will save some two hundred thousand dollars a year by the building of the rail-road. The rail-road Company have a grant of sixteen sections of land (or 10240 acres) for each mile of road built, which will nearly pay for the building of the road when it can be brought into market. The trouble now is to get the ready money, and I think if the Government would show that they have confidence in the road by a loan of a million of dollars, it would insure the building of the road at once

and the Government would save money in the end.

2d. The building of the road would give employment to the Freed men of the state, and bring in a large number of men from the north and in that way, the country would improve very fast, and that would tend to turn the minds of the people, from that sore subject (the liberation of their slaves) to the more active pursuits of business, and in that way; trouble would be prevented.

I am ready to say with a full conviction of the fact, that if the Government intend to uphold the Freed man in his new position they must assist him in this step by the presence of troops. The building of a Rail-road will in a few years do away with the necessity for it will bring enough northern men here to rule the country by the Ballot Box

Capt. Scott is the Agent for the Bondholders and I think he will agree with me in saying that the Government cannot make a better investment than to loan this Company, which is called

San Antonio & Mexican Gulf R.R. money enough to help build the road, Mr. O. French the President of the road will visit Washington soon and I will give him a letter of introduction to you and if you can do any thing for him, which will eventually be of benefit to the Government you will confer a favor upon me, I have written this letter thinking that if any facts in regard to this subject should happen to come to your notice you would take more notice of them. Excuse me General if I have taken too much liberty in writing to you upon this subject, and believe me to be

Your Obt. Servant

W. H. Greenwood

Supt. U.S. Mail R.R.

Victoria Texas

Victoria, Feb. 4th 1866.

Sherwood, M. C.

Desires Gen. Howard to use his influence to introduce a bill into Congress to loan a million Dollars to the San Antonio and M. C. R. R. Co. to help them finish their road.

Committee