
3346 2/25/1866 *From:* A Toomer Porter *To:* Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-3290 Charleston

Source: Bowdoin

Charleston Feb 25 1866

Genl O.O. Howard
Genl

At the close of the labours of this Lords day, just after returning tonight from preaching to a large congregation of whites & colored it has occurred to me to send you on a portion of the proceedings of the Protestant Episcopal Diocesan Convention of South Carolina. You may not have seen it. It is part of the history of these times. Do any understand the present situation better. Can any do more. This church represents the influence of this state, & that she is to convert the Committee to whom the whole matter has been referred as guaranty. Rev CC Pinckney Jr Rev CP Gadsden, Rev A.T. Porter Mr George A Trenholm Mr Wm C Bea Mr EL Kemsue, though one of the I say those gentlemen never take hold lightly or <decentfully> of anything.

We intend to open at once two schools under the auspices of the Church we have established two congregations of colored people in this city & will more, & purpose to send out from this City by Gods help an influence in this matter that will befall to the end of the land.

I have thought it would be pleasant for you to receive this. Have you heard anything of my friend McQueen. I have not heard from him for months.

If not objectionable to you may I beg of you a letter addressed to me & stating what you know of my connection with McQueen. I have been sent out by the Bp & a Board of trustees in a Mission for the Church & a letter from you merely stating facts which are known to you may be of much good to me in some quarters. As a Christian man I feel assured you are willing to further the work of Christ by every means in your power I am Respectfully
yrs

A Toomer Porter, Rector of the Ch of the Holy Communion Charleston <>

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

Charleston, S.C. <Feb. 26, 1866 [Tape]>

Porter, Rev. A.T.

Friendly letter

Recd. March 3 1866

3347 2/26/1866

From: D.W. Layton

To: Maj Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-3291

Head Quarters Military
Division of the
Mississippi,
St Louis.

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[208]

[Letterhead]

Head Quarters Military Division of the Mississippi,
St Louis. Feby 26th 1866

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

Less than a week since your addressed to the Secy of War, enclosed to me, came to hand after being a month on its way. I should have answered on receipt but at the time was sick - now I can assure you it is a pleasure to thank you - though I fully appreciate the kindness & its value, so seldom have I asked for such I am at a loss to know how to properly acknowledge, but whatever true feeling is required you are the recipient - should I in the end be unsuccessful, remembering this, I shall still feel my service has not been without value & appreciation.

All our people are usually well I believe but no news. Again thanking you

I remain with respect
Your obt servt
D.W. Layton
A.A.G.

3348 2/26/1866

From: O Brown
Col Asst Comr

To: Maj Gen O O Howard

OOH-3292

Source: Bowdoin

Bureau of Refugees,
Freedmen &c.,
Head Qr's Ass't Com'r
State of Virginia,
Richmond, Va.

[212, 213]

Confidential

[Letterhead]

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen &c.,
Head Qr's Ass't Com'r State of Virginia,
Richmond, Va.,
Feb 26 1866

Maj Gen O O Howard
Commissioner &c
General

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the order relieving Capt C.B. Wilder and beg leave to state that I have not an officer of sufficient ability to take his place except Lieut Col Mallory and he (Col M) says he would resign before he would accept this position – as he (Capt W) is relieved on his report.

I do not know of another man that could take the place and hold it with Capt W – living at Fort Monroe (as he will resign and make his home there).

Bt Lieut Col W. N. H. Beadle who is now on duty with Col Whittlesey is represented as being a suitable man for the place.

Please send him to me or some other man strong enough to fill the position and confer a lasting obligation on

Your Obt Servt
O Brown
Col Asst Comr

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

Bu. Ref. Freedmen, &c.
Richmond Va.
Feby. 26, 1866
Brown, O.
Col. & Asst. Comr.

Acknowledges receipt of order for relief of Capt. C. B. Wilder.
[STAMP] BUREAU R F & A L WASHINGTON REC'D FEB 27 1866

3345 2/24/1866

From: G. Whipple

To: Rev. J.W. Alvord

OOH-3293

American Missionary
Association
No. 61 John Street,
New York

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[209]

[Letterhead]

American Missionary Association
No. 61 John Street,
New York
Rev. Geo. Whipple, Sec'y
Rev. M.E. Stieby, Sec'y
W.E. Whiting, Asst. Treas.
Feb 24, 1866

Rev. J.W. Alvord,
Washington D.C.
Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 22nd, was received Saturday. I take the first opportunity to reply.

Without endorsing your logic exactly, we will have the matter arranged with the Am. Bible Society, as Genl Howard suggests, it being understood that the "ew minutes talk" he gives to us, shall not be cut down below fifteen or twenty.

I will notify D. Taylor. I hope to be at Washington this week.

Yours truly
G. Whipple
Sec.

3349 2/27/1866 *From:* E. Whittlesey

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-3294

Raleigh

Source: Bowdoin

[216, 217]

Raleigh Feb. 27, 1866

Dear General

Being alone and at leisure this evening, I propose to trouble you with a private letter. Like all the rest of the world, I presume you have been stirred up a little by the Veto. The people here are exultant. They seem to think our occupation is gone. But I have not so regard it. The new bill, as I told you, would not have changed my mode of operations (except for the worse in discontinuing my four general districts & making all the subdistricts directly subject to my orders). It contemplated furnishing large means; but that can be done under the present law when the appropriation bill comes up. On the whole we have not lost much except the morale of having the President's approval. That indeed is something, but we can do very well yet, if Congress will insist on keeping a sufficient military force here. The chief immediate danger is in a new Proclamation of Peace restoring the privilege of habeas Corpus. Without martial law we can do nothing. It will be impossible to try any criminal by Military Commission. If you have any influence with the President I hope you will use it just here; for without Martial law, I do not see how one of your own officers can be protected in the discharge of his duties.

Our N.C. Legislature has discussed the Negro testimony bill, & one house has passed it, with the proviso that it shall not go into effect until jurisdiction over freedmen is full committed to Civil Courts. The proviso swallows the whole bill. I am having a new Circular printed on that and other topics, which I have talked over with General Ruger.

I have matured & begun to put in practice a plan for getting all the dependents out of towns and upon farms, where they can partly at least earn their support. If I had means I would buy the farms, & sell off lots from time to time. As it is, I can only rent. My great difficulty will be to get mules & horses, and forage.

I shall send you an official paper requesting you to get authority from the Sec. of War to give or sell to certain Societies some of the Govt buildings, to be fitted up for School houses. The freedmen of Enfield for instance apply for a building in Weldon, which they will more and rebuild at their own expense. They have the money raised, and are impatient to begin the work. The Friends of Phil'a are willing to buy lots in several places, and put the buildings upon them, if we can give them a title to the property; but they are not willing to repair Govt buildings which may at any time be sold as <debts [CHECK ORIGINAL -Tape]> property.

I intended to write only a personal & friendly letter, but I am running <full> into business. I do not wish you to think that I am disheartened in the least by the unfavorable aspect of the times. We have already done more than we hoped for, & the good work will go on.

I see that your Lecture was everywhere well received, & I think it has done good.

My regards to Mrs. H., Chas. & all the rest.

Most Sincerely Yours
E. Whittlesey

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

3350 2/27/1866 *From:* Shipherd

To: My dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-3295

Source: Bowdoin

American Freedmen's
Aid Commission,
General Office
444, Fourteenth Street,
above, G.
Washington

[210]

[Letterhead]

American Freedmen's Aid Commission,
General Office
444, Fourteenth Street, above, G.
Washington
Matthew Simpson, President
Jacob R. Shipherd, Secretary
Feby 27 1866

My dear General:

This will be given you by Mr C L Tambling, the pioneer teacher of Texas, who was a college acquaintance & afterward a fellow work with me in the West. I think he will be able to tell you something of Texas affairs. Try him for ten minutes, at any rate. I go West tomorrow for 3 or 4 weeks.

Yours -
Shipherd

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

American Freedmen's Aid Asso'n
Washington D.C. Feby 27 / 66
Shipherd
Introduces Mr. C. L. Tambling
Recd Feb 27, 1866

3351 2/27/1866 *From:* William Silvey

To: Major General O.O.
Howard

OOH-3296
Source: Bowdoin

Office Special Agent
Treasury Department
Alexandria Va.

Commissioner of Freedmen
Refugees & Abandoned
Lands
Washington D.C.

[211]

Office Special Agent Treasury Department
Alexandria Va. February 27th 1866

Major General O.O. Howard
Commissioner of Freedmen Refugees & Abandoned Lands
Washington D.C.
Dear Sir

A few days since my friend Judge Underwood of the United States Court presented to you a petition from Francis H. Weymouth of this City for a position in your Department. I have been acquainted with Mr Weymouth some time and believe him to be a true loyal man. I know also that the colored people of this City look upon him very favorably. If you can give him a position in your Department I think you will confer a favor on the loyal men of this City and advance the interest and welfare of the colored race. Mr Weymouth has a very amiable Christian wife, a Lady from Maine, who from all I can learn would be a very efficient and valuable assistant to him in his labors among this class of people.

I am General
Yours Very Respectfully
William Silvey

3352 2/27/1866 *From:* Deane

To: Dear Gen'l [OO Howard]

OOH-3297

Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[214, 215]

Wash'n

Feb 27 [1866] [The year was written in pencil and agrees with the summary on the last page.]

Dear Gen'l

Our Prayer meeting for Colleges will be held at the Columbian Col Law Buildings on 5th St. on Thursday eve, and I trust you will be able to add to the interest of the meeting by your presence and words. I am not sure we have shall have a large meeting so far as numbers, but trust it will be a good and profitable one.

Your friend

Deane

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

Washington Feb. 27 / 66

Deane

Prayer meeting Thursday evening at Col. College Law building for Colleges.

Recd. Feb. 28th 1866

3353 2/27/1866 *From:* Anonymous

To: Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-3298

Source: Bowdoin

[140]

[ca. February 27, 1866] [Written in pencil. No date was given. It was received Mar 14, 1866.]

Genl O.O. Howard
Dr Sir

By reports in papers I noticed that you were present at a Lecture so called by the Negro Douglass, during which lecture he took occasion to speak very disrespectfully &c of the President & you sat still & approved. Now I am astonished at you remaining quiet. A military officer of the government you know that so much could not have been said against Mr Lincoln by a white man without being arrested & thrown into the old Capitol, while a negro be allowed to do what a white man would be punished for. I dont mind it in such men as Jnon Chase, WD Kelley & Mr Tawney & that ilk but I am astonished at your being present & concur at it.

[No signature]

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

Anonymous letter

Anonymous.

Complaining that Genl Howard listened in silence to language of Fred. Douglass.

Recd Mar 14th 1866