[219]

[Letterhead]
Young Mens' Christian Association
Rooms, Pike Block, South Salina Street,
Syracuse, N.Y.
Feby 28 1866

Maj Gen O.O. Howard
Dear Sir

The Young Mens Christian Association of this City desires to secure a Lecture from you on the Freedmen of the South.

Can you make an appointment for us & what are your terms?

Awaiting an early reply, I remain

Yours Respy
H.L. Duguid
Ch’m Lect Com.
Chicago Ills. Feb 28. 1866

Major Genl OO Howard
Comr. Freedmens Bureau
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir

I see by the papers that the Govmt is contracting to furnish freedmens dwellings in some portions of the country.

Will you do me the favor to inform me if such is the case and if so what number, cost etc.

I can furnish them cheaper than any one else for the <inst>,

Hoping that your health is good and to be remember to Brig Genl Howard.

I am Very Respy
Your Obt. Svt.
Lyman Bridges
Washington D.C.
February 28th 1866

Major General O.O. Howard

General:

I have the honor to respectfully submit the following for your considerations.

The President of the Soldiers and Sailors National Union League, appointed Major Doughty, Mr Bates and myself a committee to wait upon the Mutual Homestead Protection Company, to ascertain what inducements they offered settlers going South. We called at your office several times but found you engaged and would not press an interview.

If not detrimental to you interests can you inform us by letter, what are your opinions of the company, and can you recommend the Company to the soldiers that are desirous of emigrating South? If not what other course would you advise us to take.

I am, General, Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
G.J. Ferriss


[Written sideways on the last page, in a different hand.]
Washington D.C. Feb. 28th 1866
Ferriss, G.J.
Desires to know if Gen. Howard could recommend the Mutual Homestead Protection Company.
[written in pencil] Have not the means to knowing as to its reliability but will take every means
Dear Col. [Max] Woodhull

I write this at New Bern. The Veto is hailed by our enemies, & makes them more defiant and troublesome. Disorders & outrages increase. I must have officers; citizens are worthless.

Yours E.W.

[Written on the backside, in a different hand.]
New Berne, N.C.
Whittlesey, E.
Col & A.C.
States that the enemies of the Govt. hail the veto with delight.
Rec'd. Feb 28th 1866
Feb 28th 1866

Gen Howard
My dear Sir:

As I have written to our friends in England that I had the promise from you of about 50 copies of your report, I trust that the documents will soon be forthcoming. Doubtless they are soon on their way. If they come by express let us be at the expense.

I congratulate you on the honorable position you occupy before the loyal public in the matter now pending between the President & Congress.

Above the suspicion of partizanship, with an evident leaning toward the Executive - charged by some with undue deference & even submissiveness in that direction, - you stand vindicated before all classes as honestly & far the fully devoted to the great work officially confided to you.

With my respects to Col. Woodhull on whom I am relying for trustworthy in formation in regard to the Bureau

I am dear Sir
Yours Truly
JM McKim

[Written on the last page, in a different hand.]
New York, Feb. 28th 1866
McKim, J.M.
Asks for 50 copies of Genl. Howards report. States that the people are satisfied with the stand Gen. Howard has taken.
Rec'd March 1st 1866
Col. W to read & return
I have sent <three or these> reports, & need Mr McKims <receipt> for the <> shipt came in this message.