Gorham, Maine April 30, 1866

To

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The citizens of the town of Gorham contemplate dedicating a "Soldiers Monument" with a suitable program and demonstration on the 4th of July 1866, and we are directed by the committee of arrangements to extend to you an invitation to be present, and deliver an oration on the occasion, and allow me to say that your acceptance of the invitation would be very gratifying to the committee and our native community.

I am an very respectfully,

Your Old Servant,

John A. Waterman
Incumbent Pastor
Richmond, Va. April 14, 1866

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard
Commissioner

Dear General,

Your recent
form of kindness is my only excuse for addressing you as a friend in relation to my personal affairs.

The proclamation of the President received today has involved us in difficulties that seem almost insurmountable. I suppose the next order will be to muster our volunteers. From a remark made when I last saw you, I infer that you thought my being retained in the service was an unauthorized proceeding. I beg leave in this connection to state that my appointment to the
Colonel [illegible] of the 24th Regiment states
"This appointment to continue in force during the pleasure of the President for the time being" and that the bill creating the Bureau provides that "any military officer may be detailed or assigned to duty under this act at the increase of pay or allowance."

My only wish in the matter is, that it may have the time while in the service, to settle my accounts with the government. I do not ask this as a charity, but simply as an act of justice. I have given my whole time and thought to my duty while in the service, and am too poor to "settle up" as my own expense.

I have noticed that some officers have had their resignations accepted to take
effect" on some future day.

If it is desirable for me to do so
I will forward my resignation to take
effect three days remaining of course
on such duty as the Commissioner may
direct but with the understanding that
during the time it be allowed to settle
any accounts with the Governor.

O.

20.
Hoping General that you will not suppose that I am asking that which is unreasonable and then you will excuse my troubling you in this matter.

I am with much respect,

[Signature]

P.S. Please answer me at your earliest convenience.

[Signature]
Boston, April 4, 1866

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard
Comr. of F.H.S.A.

During the religious and anniversaries of the benevolent organizations, the National Association for the Education of Colored Teachers and Teachers will hold a meeting in Boston, Mass., on Sat. ev., May 7.

We are anxious to have you speak on that occasion. There will be from 600 to 800 persons assembled for the meeting, and will be an opportunity to reach many minds who form and direct public opinion. It seems to me you can in no way be more effective in the interest of the cause of education.

I am in no way assured of when you will arrive, but I hope it will be soon. I do not assure you that per.

I am very anxious to have you in Boston and with us at that time. I am Gent. Most

Sincerely, Trust, a.

J. W. Parker
Cor. Sec.
Nant Island N. Y. Harbor
April 4th, 1866

Dear General,

The Board to report on the
Breets conferred on Infantry Officers now
in session in Washington has called upon
me to furnish a Record of my Service.
The Board recommends that the endorsement
of my immediate Commander during the War
be obtained.

I enclose my statement, may I ask
you to endorse and forward it as addressed?
Please remember me to the Officers
of your Staff.

The Country lost in Simmons a
brave and good man. My first intimation
of his death was the telegram from
Col. Osborne in the newspapers.
I sailed with my Regiment
in a few days for Texas.

With great respect your old servant
Jacksonville, Fla.
April 4/66.

Major Gen. Howard,

Dear Sir,

I deem it my duty to inform you of the following facts in accordance with your request that I should advise you of any matter of which you ought to know.

A few days ago a colored man, whose name I have not yet ascertained, was tried & convicted of theft. He was fined $58.00 which being unable to pay he was sentenced to be sold for hire by the sheriff which was accordingly done.
The sale came off at Gainesville in the central part of the state, and my informant was present. The time was two days or three weeks ago. At the sale, the sheriff announced that the man would be sold to whom would take him for the short time and pay the debt, $58.

"Five years" was bid, then "four years," $200 or, if more, "two years" when the bidding began. The negro man begged that he might be allowed to go and earn the money to pay the fine, on the railroad where he could earn $30 per month. This was refused, and he was finally sold to a planter for five months — since hearing
the above, I have heard of another similar case at the same town or in that vicinity, where a cold woman, unable to pay a fine of $400.00, has been sold for four years,

Now is not this practically a recommencement of traffic in slaves? Suppose this purchase tamps up some charge against these people when their time is nearly out can they not keep them in virtual slavery as long as they please—Capt. Cullen the Military Agent at that town is supposed to sympathize with southern sentiment. *

I write merely to call your attention to the fact which may have been brought to
your notice through other channels—should prefer not to have my name or public relations to this affair be known; will gladly aid in this case or in any other in obtaining additional information, if necessary.

Reply:

Geo H. Allan
Genl's Agent.
Fremont &
Union Co.

[Signature]
Rafael April 5th, 1866

Dear Sir,

I intended & have taken an earlier opportunity of thanking you for your kind note and letter of introduction, but had not a spare moment before I left New Haven which was only two days ago.

I am delighted with what I have already seen in the school.

If this is at all a fair specimen of what the schools generally are it ought to be sufficient to convince the most prejudiced that it is most inhuman as well as unchristian not to addict such a race to educate and develop.
the mind.

My plan is leisurely and pretty thoroughly to visit the schools and see the wants of the people in Virginia and North Carolina, and some rapidly possibly those of the District of Columbia.

If by this means I shall gather facts and inspiration which I may use to influence the women of the state to a broader sympathy and some enlarged understanding toward these poor people, my life will be a thousand fold enriched.

The painful memories which localities in this vicinity amass with peculiar freshness only tend to intensify the feeling that the cause...
Sacrifices which come from in the
way much not be utterly lost if
private influence could add any
thing to the work of moving sympa-
thy in the right direction.
I have suffered deeply myself. I
gave the richest treasure I had as
they dear brother at the altar,
and three years and a half after
the Second Battle of Bull Run.
I saw his heart blood pouring his
life away from me, and cheered
him as he passed calmly and
trustingly through the dark valley.
He was one of the 5th N.Y. "Surgeon's
Savant" who suffered so deeply
and, in most cruel, as far as a man
was concerned, to a great extent.

May God bless you and keep
the nation from falling.

Very respectfully & truly yours,

Wm. H. Stogeborn
Norfolk April 5. 1861

To Miss SN.

Friendly letter.

Rec'd April 7. 1861.
Brooklyn, N.Y.
April 5, 1876.

Gentlemen,

Dear Sir,

I have the honor,
in behalf of the Trustees of the Am.
Conf. Union, to ask you to be
present I make an address at
their Annual Re-Union to be
held in Plymouth Church, in
this city, on Thursday, Decem-

May 10th.

Gw. Buckingham of
Conn. has been invited to
preside; it is the intention
of the Trustees to devote the
proceed of the gathering to the building fund of the Cong. Ch., in Washington. By consenting to serve the Union on that occasion, the Trustees are persuaded that you will not only help the particular Church in Washington, but all other enterprises similarly situated.

Hoping that your engagement will allow you to accede to this request, I am most respectfully yours,

Wm. T. Bingham
Pater Clinic Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y.
April 5th 1865

Gen. O.O. Howard

My dear Sir:

I am much obliged for your kind note. As you cannot visit me at the present time perhaps you can come next summer and bring Mr. Howard with you. I have not yet received a letter in case I am going from you brother.

As vacation is approaching I shall have to decide whether I will spend it in the South. Have you authority to send any one on a special agency to examine the condition of the Freedmen? If so would you be willing to commission me?
service and be the payment of
expenses. I presume bonds can
be secured on the different Rail-
Roads. If you are not
authorized to appoint any one
on such an event what of
the Freedmen's Association,
do you propose, and to what
would itself of my services
My friend Rev. R.S. Tarvin,
whom you very well know, has
written to me that he has just
sent word starting on an exploration
over South prior to his departure
for Europe where he intends to
represent the interests of the
Freedmen. Please let me have
news from you as soon as convenient.

Yours truly,

M. L. Steen.
My dear General,

a "fare" is all

the want, I am makin' our shoes.

I have "tossed" five Pennsylvania accounts.

Yesterday the Ladies of the industrial school had

Jim - he made a speech.

- I am told - his style is
exact like first seen
Grants' were gap
Yours unt
Hugh Lloyd
St. Louis, Apr. 6th, 1866.

My Dear General:

I received this morning your letter of the 30th of March. I think I have learned all that I care about the condition of affairs in Ky. and have now turned my face homeward.

So I had not been in St. Louis for 10 years, and did not know when I should
[Handwritten text not legible]
have an order affecting the city.
I ran down from Palacial
Tuesday, to leave tomorrow
morning. Price has
so to Chicago, but he
will stick through for New
York. He wants to spend
another day, and probably
will be in Washington
next Wednesday.

Find St. Louis
steadily changed, and
improved, with an
improvement amount 1
St. Louis Mo.
Apr. 6th 1866

Woodhall, May

Friendly letter.

E. W. A.

G. A. P.