
3471 4/3/1866

From: John A. Waterman
Frederick Robie
Gorham Maine

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

Washington D.C.

OOH-3418

Source: Bowdoin

[1]

Gorham Maine April 3d 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 programme, 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 entire community.

We are very respectfully
Your obt. Servant
John A. Waterman
Frederick Robie

3472 4/4/1866

From: O Brown

To: Maj Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-3419

Richmond, Va.

Source: Bowdoin

[2, 3]

Personal

Richmond, Va. April 4th 1866

Maj Gen O.O. Howard

Commissioner &c

Dear General

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

The proclamation of the President received to day has involved us in difficulties that seem almost insurmountable. I suppose the next order will be to muster out 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 Colonelcy of the 24th Regiment recites "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 without increase of pay or allowance."

My only wish in the matter is that I may have the time while in that 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 thoughts to my duty while in the service, and am too poor to "settle up" at 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 June 30th remaining of course on such duty as the Commissioner may direct but with the understanding that during the time I be allowed to settle any accounts with the Government.

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

I am with much respect

Your ovt Servt

O Brown

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

3473 4/4/1866

From: J.W. Parker

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-3420

Boston

Comsr of F.A.L. &

Source: Bowdoin

[4]

Boston, April 4, 1866

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard
Comsr of F.A.L. &

During the religious anniversaries of the benevolent organizations, the National Association for the Education of Colored Preachers and Teachers will hold a meeting in Tremont Temple on Sat. Eve. May.

We are anxious to have you speak on that occasion. There will be five or six hundred clergymen for all parts of the country, and on no occasion, unless at New York could you reach so many men who form and direct public opinion. It seems to me you can in no way for the time serve the great cause so well. I need not assure you that personally I am very anxious to have you in Boston and with us at that time. I am Genl. most

Sincerely & Truly &c
J.W. Parker
Cor. Secy.

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

Boston, April 24, 1866

Parker, J.W. Cor. Secy.

Invites Gen. Howard to be present at the Anniversary of the Nat. Assn. for the Education of Colored Preachers in Boston, during May.

[written in pencil] Cannot decide.

Recd April 9th 1866

3474 4/4/1866

From: Edw'd P. Pearson
Jr.

To: Dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-3421

Hart Island N.Y. Harbor

Source: Bowdoin

[5]

Hart Island N.Y. Harbor
April 4th 1866

Dear General

The Board to report on the Brevets 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 Stinson a brave and good man. My first intimation of his death was the telegram from Col. Osborne in the newspapers.

I sail with my Regiment in a few days for Texas.

With great respect your Obedt. Servant
Edw'd P. Pearson Jr.

3475 4/4/1866

From: Geo. H. Allan

To: Major Genl. [OO] Howard

OOH-3422

Jacksonville, Fla.

Source: Bowdoin

[6, 7]

Jacksonville, Fla.

April 4 / 66

Major Genl. 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 mater of which you ought to know.

A few days ago a colored man who name I have not yet ascertained, was tried & convicted of theft. He was fined \$58.00 which being unable to pay he was advertised 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, & my informant was present. The time was ten days or two weeks ago. At the sale, the Sheriff announced that the man would be sold to whomever would take him for the short time pay the debt, \$58.00

" Five years" was bid, then "four years", & so on, down to "one year", when the bidding became spirited. The negro man begged that he might be allowed to go & earn the money to pay the fine, on the railroad where he could earn \$30.00 pr month. This was refused, & 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 col'd woman, unable to pay a fine of \$400.00 had been sold for four years.

Now is not this, practically, a recommencement of traffic in slaves? Suppose these purchasers trump 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 facts, which may have been brought to your notice through other channels. Should prefer not to have my name made public relative to this affair but will gladly aid you in this case or in any other in obtaining additional information if necessary.

Respy, Yours,
Geo. H. Allan
Gen'l Agnt
Freedmens & Union Com.

3476 4/5/1866

From: H. M. Hogeboom

To: Maj. Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-3423

Norfolk

Source: Bowdoin

[8, 9]

Norfolk April 5th 1866

Maj. Gen. Howard,
Dear Sir:

I intended to have taken an earlier opportunity of thanking you for your very 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 one 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 assist 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 more rapidly probably those of the District of Columbia.

If by this means I shall gain facts and inspiration which I can use to influence the women of our state to a broader sympathy and more enlarged benevolence toward these poor people, my life will be a thousand fold enriched..

The painful memories which localities in this vicinity arouse with peculiar freshness, only intensify the feeling that the <cost > sacrifices which were given in the war must not be utterly lost if private influence could add anything to the work of moving sympathy in the right direction.

I have suffered deeply myself. I gave the richest treasure I had, in my dear brother, at the outset and three years and a half ago after the second battle of Bull Run, I saw his hearts blood leaving 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. "Duryea's Zouaves," who suffered so severely and, we must believe, as far as man was concerned, to a great extent, needlessly.

May God bless you and keep the nation from falling.

Very respectfully & truly Yours
H. M. Hogeboom

[Summary written on the last page, in a different hand.]
Norfolk April 5 1866
Hogeboom, Miss H.M.
Friendly letter
Recd. April 7, 1866

3477 4/5/1866

From: Wm Ives Budington

To: Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-3424

Clinton Ave. Ch.
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

[10]

Brooklyn, N.Y.
April 5, 1866.

Genl Howard,
Dear Sir,

I have the honor, in behalf of the Trustees of the Am. Congl. Union, to ask you to be present & make an address at their Annual Re-union to be held in Plymouth Church, in this city, on Thursday Evening May 10th.

Gov. Buckingham of Conn. has been invited to preside, & it is the intention of the Trustees to devote the proceeds of the gathering to the Building Fund of the Congl. Chch. In Washington. By consenting to serve the Union in 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 engagements will allow you to accede to this request,
I am most respectfully Yours
Wm Ives Budington
Pastor Clinton Ave. Ch.
Brooklyn, N.Y.

3478 4/5/1866

From: M. L. Stoever

To: Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-3425

Penn'a College

Source: Bowdoin

[11]

Penn'a College
April 5th 1866

Gen. O.O. Howard,
My dear Sir:

I am much obliged to you for your kind note. As you cannot visit me at the present time, perhaps you can come next summer, and bring Mrs Howard with you. I have not yet received a letter in reply to my inquiry from your 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? All that I would ask for the service, would be the payment of expenses. I presume passes could be secured on the different Rail-Roads. If you are not authorized to appoint any one on such an errand, which of the Freedmen's Associations, do you suppose, would be glad to avail itself of my services?

My friend Rev R. J. <Darrin>, whom you very well know, has written to me that he was just about starting on an explorative tour South, prior to his departure for Europe where he intends to represent the interests of the Freedmen. Please let me hear from you as soon as convenient.

Faithfully yours
M. L. Stoever

3479 4/6/1866

From: Hugh S. Bond

To: My dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-3426

Baltimore, Md.

Source: Bowdoin

[12, 13]

(Baltimore?)

(ca –Apr. 6, 1866) [This line and the above were written in pencil, and agree with the summary below.]

My dear General

A “talk” is all we want, I abominate set speeches.

I have “oated” Genl Stannard around.

Yesterday the Ladies of the industrial school had him. He made a speech – I am told. His style is exactly like Lieut Genl Grant's <Verl Sap>

Yours truly
Hugh S. Bond

[Summary written sideways on the last page, in a different hand.]

Baltimore, Md. April 6 / 66

Bond, Hugh S.

Friendly letter

Recd. April 7th 1866

3480 4/6/1866

From: Max Woodhull

To: My dear General [OO]
Howard

OOH-3427

Source: Bowdoin

War Department,
Bureau of Refugees,
Freedmen and
Abandoned Lands
St Louis

[14, 15]

[Letterhead]

War Department,
Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands
Washington [This was crossed out.]
St Louis April 6th 1866

My Dear General,

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

As I had not been in St Louis for 10 years, and did not know when I should have an other opportunity of visiting the city, I ran down from Paducah Tuesday, & leave tomorrow morning. I will not go to Chicago, but shall strike through for New York, where I want to spend a day, and probably will be in Washington next Wednesday.

I find St Louis greatly changed, and improved, with an enormous amount of parts of the country.

Enclosed I send you a slip clipping from the "Cincinnati Commercial". You will enjoy it very much.

I had intended writing you something about the organization of the Bureau in Ky. and on Educational subjects, but on the whole think I might as well reserve such subjects till I return.

<I am truly & Divinely yours>

Max Woodhull
AAG

Maj Gen Howard
MG

[Summary written sideways on the bottom of the last page, in a different hand.]

St Louis Mo.
Apl. 6th 1866
Woodhull, Max
Friendly letter