
3530 5/1/1866

From: T.D. Eliot

To: Dear Sir [OO Howard]

OOH-3478

H. of R. Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[9]

H. of R. [Washington, added in pencil] May 1, 66

Dear Sir

The appropriation bill has passed the House, but it was objected to by a good many, because the statements of Mr Stevens were not quite definite. I was called on to say something & was glad I had seen you today.

I think it will be well for you to see Mr Fessenden at some length before you go away, and perhaps I can give you some suggestions that may be serviceable.

Truly & Sin

Yr frd

T.D. Eliot [Thomas Dawes Eliot, Republican Congressman from Massachusetts and Chairman of the Committee on the Freedmen's Bureau for the 39th and 40th Congresses.]

3531 5/1/1866

From: John Bigelow

To: My dear Sir [OO Howard]

OOH-3479

Source: Bowdoin

[1]

[ca May 1, 1866] [The date was added in pencil.]

My dear Sir

Permit me to invoke your friendly attentions in behalf of M. Ferdinand Lasteyrie the grandson of Lafayette, whom this note is intended to present to your acquaintance.

Hon N. P. Banks

Mr. de Lasterie has many claims to the consideration of men independently of his great inheritance of gratitude from the American people. He now visits the U.S. to regulate some interests compromised to some extent by the late war and I beg you will assist him with your advice.

I remain as ever
Your firm friend
John Bigelow

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

Bigelow John

U.S. Minister to France

Introducing Count DeLasteyrie, grandson of Marquis De Lafayette

[Calling Card] Count de Lasteyrie

[Note. Count Ferdinand de Lasteyrie had married Martha Washington Seabrook of Rockville, South Carolina in 1846, and had to recover their lands after the civil war. Ref. Mabel L. Webber, Early Generations of the Seabrook Family (Continued), The South Carolina Historial and Genealogical Magazine, Vol. 17, No. 2 (Apr., 1916), pp 58-72. Alicia Anderson Thompson, Images of America: Rockville, 2006, publ Arcadia Publishing, Charleston S.C., ISBN 0-7385-4234-2, p 84.]

3532 5/1/1866

From: George Myers

To: Major Genl. O.O.
Howard, U.S.A.

OOH-3480

No. 145 Dallas Street
Baltimore, Maryland

Commissioner of Freedmen's
Bureau

Source: Bowdoin

[3]

Baltimore, Maryland
May 1st 1866

Major Genl. O.O. Howard, U.S.A.
Commissioner of Freedmen's Bureau
General,

Your sympathetic letter of the 16th ult'o, was received by the Directors of the Maryland Mutual joint Stock Company, with inexpressible gratitude. Your willingness to lecture for us, if the opportunity afforded, is highly appreciated, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted, indicative of our indebtedness for your influence and good wishes.

"Resolved, that we recognize in General O.O. Howard, a brave and christian like soldier, a true friend of the colored man, and the oppressed of every race, and an able advocate of equal justice to all men.

Accept our thanks for your endorsement of the letter forwarded to the Secretary of the Navy."

All favors in that direction will be thankfully received, as we are prepared to do any thing in the line of ship building.

With the best wishes for your future, I remain,

Very respectfully,
Your Obd't Servant,
George Myers,
Director,
No. 145 Dallas Street

[Summary written sideways on the last page, in a different hand.]
Baltimore, Md. May 1st 1866
Myers, George
Thanks Gen. H. for kind letter of 16th April, 1866
Recd May 7th 1866.

3533 5/1/1866

From: Wm Ives Budington

To: Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-3481

Brooklyn, N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

[5, 6]

Brooklyn, N.Y.
May 1, 1866

Genl. O.O. Howard,
My dear Sir,

Accept my acknowledgments for your favor of the 11th ult. & the thanks of the Committee for consenting to speak for us at our Congregational Re-Union to be held in Plymouth Chh. on Wednesday Eve'g the tenth of May.

The Anniversary of the Bible Society takes place in the forenoon of Thursday, I believe, in which case you will find it convenient to attend both.

I should have acknowledged your favor sooner, but for some uncertainty which arose about our place of meeting. We hoped to secure the Academy of Music, but were too late in making our application; we have secured Mr. Beecher's Church, but as they are putting up a new organ, we shall not have the use of that in this <ment>.

Very truly yours
Wm Ives Budington

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

Brooklyn, N.Y.

May 1st, 1866

Budington Rev W.I.

Writes concerning the Congregational meeting in Brooklyn

Recd, May 3rd 1866

[Written in a third hand.] No answer

3534 5/1/1866

From: W E Dodge

To: Dear Genl [OO Howard]

OOH-3482

Source: Bowdoin

Thirty-Ninth Congress,
U.S.
House of
Representatives
Washington, D.C.

[7, 8]

[Letterhead]

Thirty-Ninth Congress, U.S.
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

[An engraving of the U.S. Capitol was part of the letterhead.]

1 May 1866

Dear Genl,

Having just voted for your Bill I am reminded of my duty to urge you to be sure & be present at our Tem Assn on Wednesday 9 th. You are advertised with H.W. Beecher for the Evg at Cooper Institute. I hope you will not fail – try & call & see me Room No 42 Willard.

Truly Yours

W E Dodge [William Earle Dodge, U.S. Rep. 1865-1866]

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

House of Rep. May 1, 1866

Dodge, W.E.

Asks Gen. Howard to call and see him.

3535 5/2/1866

From: M French

To: Major Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-3483

Source: Bowdoin

Headquarters,
Assistant
Commissioner,
Bureau Refugees,
Freedmen and
Abandoned Lands.
South Carolina
Charleston, S.C.

[10, 11]

[Letterhead]

Headquarters, Assistant Commissioner,
Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands.
South Carolina
Charleston, S.C.,
May 2, 1866

Major Genl. O.O. Howard,
Dear Sir,

The signs of the political skies seem to indicate, that some changes may be made in the military affairs of So. Carolina, & in view of such event, I beg leave to say to you, that the Bureau branch of the service, has now become more important than the military, which has been reduced to a small compass. The duties of the Bureau are more complicated, and, in many respects, more important than those of the military. The military is not dependent on the Bureau, while, the latter is very dependent on the former. The work of the military has been done, and well done, so that it can retire, with honor, from the field, at an early day, but the all important work of the Bureau is, as yet, in an unfinished state. Vital & far searching interest, material, educational & moral, as well as, political, depend, in no small degree, upon the proper & full completion of the mission of the Bureau.

Genl. Scott seems to have a peculiar fitness to manage this latter work. He has addressed himself to it with unceasing assiduity. While the work has been increasing, he seems to have grown with its growth, so that, as is often the case. The work has not grown beyond either his comprehension, or, ability, to manage it.

I am of the opinion that the time has arrived, when the consolidation of the two branches, the military & Bureau, would be a wise & economical measure. One brain can work both, and the military, now the lesser in importance, should be hand-maid (or rather to be a little more military,) Aid de Camp, to the Bureau.

Such a measure would reduce the expense, secure a greater degree of harmony, and, enable the Ass. Commissioner of the Bureau to work it with far more efficiency – as well as more profitably & satisfactorily, to both citizens & freedmen.

It cannot be concealed that the policy of the military & Bureau, has been somewhat divergent. Henceforth there should be one policy – one work & one head.

I have made the above suggestions for what I believe to be for the good of the cause, not doubting that you will kindly receive them in that light. Light is breaking through the darkness.

Very Respectfully,
M French [Rev. Mansfield French]

[Clipping]

Charleston Courier
May 2

... On Sunday night last, Private Andrew J. Hawkins, a member of Company A, 25th Regiment Ohio Veteran Volunteers, was attacked by George Windsor and James Windsor, citizens, and severely cut and wounded in

this abdomen, hands and face. He is lying in a precarious condition. James Windsor and his wife charged with aiding and abetting the assault, the provocation for which has not transpired, have been arrested. The other Windsor is still at large.

3536 5/2/1866

From: AS Mason

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-3484

Raleigh, N.C.

Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[12]

Raleigh, May 2nd 1866

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard,
Washington
General,

According to what I understood to be your agreement, I herewith forward to you the application Genl. [William Ruffin] Cox for pardon, recommended by Col. Whittlesey, Gov's Worth and Holden.

You will please put such favorable endorsement as you can and forward it to Col. Wright Rieves, Military Secretary of the President, who I am led to believe will present it to the President for his action.

Genl. Cox both from his personal character as a gentleman and his honorable conduct since the close of the war is justly entitled to the most favorable consideration.

With the kindest remembrance for your many personal courtesies to myself.

I am,
Your ob't servant
AS Mason

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

Raleigh, N.C.

May 2nd 1866.

Mason, A.S.

Forwards application of Gen. Cox for pardon.

Recd. May 4th 1866

3537 5/5/1866

From: A. Baird

To: Maj Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-3485

Source: Bowdoin

HEADQUARTERS,
Bureau of Refugees,
Freedmen and
Abandoned Lands,
State of Louisiana.
New Orleans

Commissioner of Freedmen
Washington D.C.

[13, 14]

[Letterhead]

HEADQUARTERS,
Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,
State of Louisiana.
New Orleans,
May 5th 1866

My dear General

You may remember that when the matter of my coming to Louisiana was under consideration, you told me that there were some important changes which you desired to make in the administration of affairs here and that you wished me to carry them into effect. You thought it would be a work of only a short time and that afterwards you would have me recalled to Washington to assist you somewhat in the charge of things at your Hd. Qrs.

You may remember also that one of my objections to going South was the advice given me by Genl Fry and other friends in the War Dept. not to go far from Washington until after Congress had acted in the matter of reorganizing the Army. As each individual about Washington would then be striving to advance his own interests perhaps to the prejudice of those of others - you thought however that it would be in your power to look after my interests as well while I was absent on duty under you as I could myself. From recent letters which I receive I find that I made a mistake in not doing as I was advised to. The Bills for reorganization are all so contrived as to give more or less promotion to the officers on duty near the Dept'mt, whilst all of those leave me after the close of the war without the least prospect of Advancement. These same officers have all likewise secured themselves brevets and I who have seen more service than any of them have been overlooked because I happened to be outside of the ring.

I would like for these and many other reasons to return to the north. I wish to send my wife away from here by the end of this month and I wish to go with her.

Everything connected with the Bureau is now satisfactorily arranged and all is working better than could have been anticipated. I am assured by Genl Sherridan by Genl Canby and by numerous other gentlemen of all the various political creeds that during my administration the status of the Bureau in this community has been greatly improved. I have not made it popular but it and its officers are respected -and I have do as much as could be done to harmonize the conflicting parties and to bring about good order. The job which you gave me to do is I think about finished, and hereafter the machine can run itself without me as well as with me.

Besides, I have here an officer who has not in the Army a superior in fitness to take my place. Capt I. Irvin Gregg 6th Cavalry Bvt. Colonel in the Army and late Bvt. Maj Genl. Vols, has been with me long enough to know every thing connected with the administration of the Bureau in this State. He is a man of the best habits and character of strict moral integrity and proper feeling towards the freed people. He is quiet but very sagacious, judicious and discreet -in one word exactly the man for such a position as that which I now occupy.

What I would like is that you would have me ordered to Washington, and if you have employment for me there I wold then ask to be relieved altogether. Col Gregg could act here temporarily by my order until I had seen you. I do not wish to be relieved from duty before I get back to the north but if you find it out of your power to comply with these requests, please hold yourself in readiness to relieve me immediately on my making the request letter by telegraph or other wise.

Most Respectfully

Your Obed. Svt
A. Baird [Absalom Baird, USMA Class of 1849]
Bvt. Maj Genl
Asst. Com. La

P.S. Should you after seeing me think it important for me return here for any purpose I would of course be ready to do so.

Maj Genl O.O. Howard
Commissioner of Freedmen
Washington D.C.

3538 5/6/1866

From: Mary Phelps

To: Maj Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-3486

Springfield Mo.

Source: Bowdoin

[15, 16]

Springfield Mo. May 6th 1866.

Maj Genl Howard
Dear Sir,

I reached home on last saturday. I have the pleasure of informing you, that I found my orphan refugee children in good health, and making rapid progress in learning.

The colored school had an exhibition, on last wednesday the pupils done credit to themselves, and their teachers, Miss Howard, and Miss Townsend. These ladies when I left home in March, had twenty orphan children under their care, and support. On my return I find they have given up that part of their labor. I am now taken care of the children, and several women who are unable to work, I find among the colored people a number of women, in a delicate condition, destitute, unable to work and no friends, to care for them. With these exceptions, the colored people are doing well. Those who can obtain work, work willingly and without any trouble.

I remained at Washington some days after I was at your office, making an effort, to have congress make me a donation for my services, and money expressed, to enable me, to place my orphans home on a firm basis. I did not perfect the object, as I wished, but have not given it up, and I may return to Washington in a few weeks. I can not think of giving up, a permanent orphans home here, it is so much needed for both classes. Fifteen children left the home in my absence.

Ten were placed in good homes, five was claimed by their mothers, seven full orphans have come in since.

Yours very truly
Mary Phelps

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

Springfield, Mo. May 6, 1866

Phelps, Mary

Concerning "orphan's home" at Springfield Mo.

[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D MAY 15 1866