
3550 5/14/1866 *From:* Saml W. Bailey

To: Major Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-3500

New York

Source: Bowdoin

[34, 35]

New York May 14 / 66

To Major Genl. O.O. Howard;
Dear Sir:

Certain utterances of yours before the Bible Society, relative to the education of the Freedmen have led me to question whether, with a little additional labor, in the same line that I have chiefly wrought in during our great national crisis, would not furnish a desideratum in the great work of mental & moral culture which comes under your direction, and forms a part of your official charge.

Several years ago an educated German expressed the wish that I would prepare a book in the English language like one which he had been wont to read in as a schoolboy in his native country; and he expressed his wonder – that no more prominence is given to the Bible as a school-book by a people so religious as we are.

Quite a period elapsed before I found time to devote to that work, which was suggested to me by the aforesaid gentleman, whom I met at a watering-place; but about five years ago I sought and found, in a German book-store the very work which he mentioned and two others constructed on the same plan & for the same purpose. It was a small book, about the size of a common spelling-book, and when I thought of the reasons for making a book on that plan – which was a compilation of some of the more important and attractive parts of the Bible interspersed with appropriate selections from the religious poets – it seemed to be altogether too meagre an affair; and I resolved to compile a duodecimo of from 250 to 350 pages with the hope that it might become at some time a reading-book in schools. When my original plan had been carried out, we were in the heat & commotion of our great struggle, and it was no time to publish. And as I was physically unable to endure the exposures incident to the work of a chaplain in the army, the question arose whether I could not expand my work so as, by a thorough research of all the poets, I might not make a book that would serve to make all the great facts and features of the Bible attractive to the <young> men of our country in that grand & glorious future which I was ever-confident was in store for us as a nation.

The work was subsequently undertaken and the result will be a large octavo volume of about 600 pages, entitled “Nahbiou; or the Bible in Epitome – Illustrated by the Poets of Christendom”. More than 250 poets, from Shakespeare down, have been made tributary, by their choicest gems, to the work.

After that compilation was completed, I again set about preparing a book according to my original plan but with more simple illustrations, which is also in an equal state of advancement. The thought occurred to me when this last work was nearly done whether it would not be well to make a small book about as large as the German model, which has been originally suggested to me. but I forbore, because I was in doubt whether it is well to bring children first into contact with the Bible, by the toil & difficulties of learning to read. But on hearing your speech the other day, and calling to mind the peculiar traits of negro character – with which I had become familiar – by several years residence among them, I resolved to consult you as to the expediency of compiling the small book to complete the series.

I am now preparing for a final revision of the two compilations, and it will not cost me very much extra labor to prepare the third, with a view to blending weighty & attractive truths with simple poetry, should you deem such a volume to be desirable in this new department of education.

I would thank you to favor me with your views on this point at your earliest convenience.

Faithfully & Respectfully yrs
Saml W. Bailey
No. 128. East 16th Street.

3551 5/14/1866 *From:* N. W. Dwight

To: Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-3501

Brooklyn

Source: Bowdoin

[36]

Brooklyn, May 14th / 66

Gen Howard

Dear Sir

I made great efforts to obtain an interview with you while you were in this region, & when you kindly consented to see me in Fourteenth St. the time was too short to allow me to get to you in season – a conversation would have been very satisfactory & less troublesome to you, as I doubt not you are flooded with troublesome letters.

You will perhaps recollect that I spoke to you in Washington of a brother of mine, William Fiske, who was at that time laboring among the Freedmen in Louisiana, where it was very unhealthy, he was obliged to come North to recruit & when he returned he found his wife very very ill so that for weeks her life was despaired of, & he was so long detained from his post that he lost it. It was about the time when they reduced the number of teachers, superintendents &c. now that the Freedman's Bureau has assumed a more tangible form than it has had since the veto I am anxious to know if there is not some department that he could fill better known to you than to him. He <loves> the <work> & upon truly christian principles, he is a man of strict integrity. His wife also, who is much younger than he, is an excellent teacher had the advantage of some of the best teaching of New England. My brother was at Pensacola when I last hear from him, but not doing enough for the support of his family. I feel great sympathy for him & a great desire to have him where he can accomplish the most good. At the same time be enabled to support his family without being continually distressed – he has two children.

I understand that our mutual friend & cousin Perry Lee is much pleased with his situation & doing well. I am rejoiced to hear it. I was not able to attend your lecture here on account of a recent indisposition but a daughter of min grasped your hand for a moment intending to speak to you but you were in such demand that she found that quite impossible – she saw you <circled> by a party of gentlemen & borne away to speak on the other side of the water.

Should you have time to communicate with me please direct to Mrs. Wm R Dwight care of George L Dwight 49 Murray St. New York. It would rejoice my heart greatly to be instrumental in benefitting my brother. Still I know it may not be in your power to help me. my regards if you please to Mrs Howard & believe me very sincerely

Your friend
N. W. Dwight

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

Brooklyn, May 14, 1866.

Dwight, N. W.

Friendly letter

[STAMP] BUREAU R.F.&A.L. WASHINGTON REC'D MAY 16 1866

3552 5/14/1866 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: Dear brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-3502

St Nicholas Hotel
New York

Source: Bowdoin

[37, 38]

St Nicholas Hotel
New York
May 14 1866

Dear brother

My leave expires today but I wish to stay over to see the Paymaster tomorrow to try and get Dexter Howard's pay. The Paymaster in Boston told me I could, he thought, get at least a month's pay for him here. Dexter has not had any pay for seven months and cannot get it himself. Is not expected to live. I wish also to stop in Philadelphia as I have some packages from Leeds. I would have telegraphed but found it cost a good deal and believing that there is no pressing need for me I will take this time unless I hear to the contrary from you at William Merrick's. Probably will reach Washington Thursday. Left all well at home; and at Mr. Webbs this morning. Was too late to see the Paymaster here tonight and did not find John Weir at home.

Saw your letter to Mrs. Whipple in the Tribune today.

The President's revelation of himself to the Loudon Times Correspondent are the worst I have yet seen.

Would like a word from you or Maj. Ketchum at Philadelphia. Is there any errand I can do for you there? I intend to see Rice Rutter & Co.

Your affectionate brother
C.H. Howard

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

New York
May 14 / 66
Howard CH
Bvt. Brig. General
Requesting to have his leave extended a short time.

[Note. Dexter Waterman Howard, their second cousin, died 20 June 1866 from wounds he received during the war. He was Captain in the 128th Infantry Regiment U.S. Colored Troops, of which CH Howard was the commanding officer.]

3553 5/14/1866 *From:* Thomas W Conway *To:* Genl [OO Howard]

OOH-3503 242 Broadway
 New York

Source: Bowdoin

[39, 40]

[CHECK ORIGINAL. The tape on the right side of page 2 is difficult to read.]

242 Broadway
New York
May 14th 1866

Genl:

It is clear now (as it has been to me for months) that the President is determined to strangle the Bureau. In his assault via Fullerton and Steedman, you suffer unjustly and meanly.

The man who could do what Fullerton did in New Orleans is just the man for Johnson's wicked work. He will fill the Herald with "highly-colored stuff" tempered so as to suit the President and serve the President's policy. Your best friends (though you acted as if you did not know them as such) Saxton, Thomas, Gregory and myself, were the natural enemies of the cruel policy of the President. We were true to liberty but could not stand. We had to fail and give way to "conservatives" that is, to men who will cower at the policy of Mr. Johnson. Fullerton and Steedman will do you all the harm possible; and the Herald and kindred sheets will join in the attack.

A policy that would sweep from the Bureau the truest friends the Freedmen <have> will soon seek your disgrace, and, though I am far from forgetfulness of your treatment of General Saxton and myself and from the conviction that you were not without blame, I do contend that you deserve well at the hands of the friends of liberty, and that all good and true men should shield you from unjust and wicked assaults.

I have two chapters in my work "The Great Exodus" on you and your course, and I am sure you will give me credit for a faithful exposition. They are written as one friend of justice would write of another.

I am yet confident that before the expiration of the present Bureau Congress will find it necessary to provide for its continuance notwithstanding the civil rights law or the prospect of equal suffrage. Don't you think so?

Yours most truly
Thomas W Conway
742 B'way

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

New York May 14th 1866

Conway, Thos. W.

Concerning the Stedman - Fullerton reports.

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

3555 5/16/1866 *From:* J.H. Willard

To: Maj Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-3504

Troy, NY

Source: Bowdoin

[41]

Troy May 16, 1866

Maj Gen Howard
Dear Sir

I have just been informed that it not improbable that you may attend a meeting of the national convention of Y.M.C. Association to be held in Albany about the first of next month.

If you should do so it would give the greatest pleasure to myself and family to have you come to the Seminary and remain with us during the sessions of the Convention.

It will be very easy for you to go from here to Albany to be present at the meetings as all our own delegates will <go> and return after they are completed.

Mrs Willard and the children join me in very sincere thanks to you for your services for the country in the field and in the bureau during the past five years, and in congratulations for your eminent success.

Very truly yours
J.H. Willard

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

Troy, May 14, 1866

Willard, J.H.

Invites Gen. Howard to visit him, when he comes to Albany.

Recd. May 18th 1866

3557 5/17/1866

From: Geo. Whipple

To: Maj Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-3505

Source: Bowdoin

American Missionary
Association,
No. 62 John Street,
New York

Commissioner Bureau
Washington D.C.

[44, 45]

[Letterhead]

American Missionary Association,
No. 62 John Street,
New York
Rev. Geo. Whipple, Sec.
Rev. M.E. Stieby, Sec.
W.E. Whiting, Asst. Treas.
May 17 1866

(Confidential)

Maj Gen O.O. Howard
Commissioner Bureau
Washington D.C.
Dear Sir:

A gentleman has just called on me who says he thinks the Chaplain G.O. Glavis mentioned in the report of Generals Fullerton and Steedman, was from Newark, N.J. and if so, is entirely unworthy of your confidence. If you wish to make farther inquiry, you can do so of Gov Marcus L. Ward, Trenton N.J. or of Rev Dr. Poor, (pastor of a Presbyterian church) Newark NJ.

Hoping that you will not regard this as an interference with your official duties, I remain

Your Most Obt Sert
Geo. Whipple
Cor. Sec.

[Summary written on the last page, in a different hand.]
New York May 17, 1866
Whipple, Geo
Cor. Secy
Concerning Chap. G.O. Glavis.
Recd May 18th 1866

3558 5/17/1866

From: J.W. Chickering

To: Dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-3506

No. 1 Bulfinch Place
Boston

Source: Bowdoin

[46, 47]

No. 1 Bulfinch Place
Boston, May 17 [1866 [Written in pencil.]]

Dear General,

Is it not possible, "comfortably with the public interest" for you to be with our "Suffolk (Christian) Temperance Union" at Park St. Church on Tuesday Ev'g 29th inst.

You can hardly imagine how much good the mere announcement of y'r name would do – or what an influence even a few of your earnest words would <excite>.

The connection between temperance & Revivals, and the hindrance to conversion resulting from various uses of strong drink, has been strikingly illustrated of late.

Can you not "come over and help us".

Even the secular press is beginning to ask "Will not Gen'l Howard come to the Anniversaries".

Y'r expenses would be most cheerfully paid; & our Committee, our Society, & the whole community would be greatly your debtors.

Please reply by next mail, if possible, & oblige

Yours truly & fraternally
J.W. Chickering

[Summary written on the last page in a different hand.]
Boston May 17th 1866
Chickering J.W.
Invites Gen. Howard to be present in Boston 29th inst.
Recd May 19th 1866

3559 5/18/1866 *From:* H.L. Wayland

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-3507

Kalamazoo College
Kalamazoo Mich

Source: Bowdoin

[50, 51]

Kalamazoo College
Kalamazoo Mich
May 18, 1866

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard
General

"The Soldiers Memorial Society of Kalamazoo College" is composed of students & graduates of the College who served in the war, & is <desirous> to secure the erection of a Memorial Building in honor of the graduates & students of the College who fell in the service. At their request I write to invite you to lecture in this town, at any time that may suit your pleasure. We will gladly pay whatever sum you are accustomed to receive for lecturing, say \$150, & any avails over & above w'd go to erecting a monument as above referred to.

We should also be glad to arrange with you for six lectures (say) to be given in different parts of this state. May I beg that you will give your favorable consideration to both these proposals. For such a course of six lectures, we w'd gladly pay a suitable sum, say \$1000.

Permit me to add that I should be most happy to hear your sentiments of Christian patriotism listened to by the people of this state. I w'd gladly add more, but thru' fear of obstructiveness, I forbear to express the reverence which in common with all the patriotic & good, I cherish for you.

As I have not the honor of being known by you, I venture to add that I served for twenty eight months under Gen A H Terry & Gen. (now Gov.) Hawley, with both of whom, I have the honor of a somewhat intimate friendship. I have also the honor of knowing Messrs Foster, Anthony & Harris, of the Senate of the United States.

I have the honor to remain, General,

most truly yours
with great respect
H.L. Wayland
Late Chaplain 7th Conn. &
Pres. of S.M. Soc'y of Kalamazoo College

3560 5/18/1866 *From:* S V Merrick

To: My Dear Sir [OO Howard]

OOH-3508

Source: Bowdoin

[43]

My Dear Sir

I send you editorial from todays North American.

I am pained to see the attempts being made to get rid of your bureau. I suppose these generals are "<> policy men". The Army officers have to have a great <house burning> after the charge of the negroes.

The association that the N Carolina - superintendents are using the government property to feed & cloth the negroes working for themselves is very damaging to yourself as well as the bureau and I send these papers lest you may not have seen it. Hoping that you may in some way give an official contradiction to the charge.

From accounts I have heard of Col Whittlesey I put no faith in the assertion of those gentlemen.

Very truly

S V Merrick [Samuel Vaughan Merrick]

Tue 18 May [1866] [Note. The year was written in pencil. It is certainly 1866. However the 18 May 1866 was on a Friday.]

3561 5/18/1866

From: J. L. Chamberlain

To: Maj. Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-3509

Brunswick

Source: Bowdoin

49]

Brunswick May 18 1866

Dear General,

Your favor of the 5th inst enclosing circular of the "National Fair" is received, and in accordance with your suggestion submitted to the faculty of the College.

The object is certainly most worthy, and will have the cooperation of all who cherish the memory of our fallen defenders, or the cause in which they offered their lives.

I am glad to hear of your health & prosperity.

Truly yours

J. L. Chamberlain [General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain and President Bowdoin College.]

Maj. Genl O.O. Howard

&c &c