

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,
Office Act. Ass't Commissioner, State of Georgia,

Augusta, Ga., June 9th 1866.

Dear General

Your valued letter of the 5th inst has just been received. I did not of course know that Stedman and Fullerton started out with any such intentions as you mention. I joined them at Savannah, by their invitation, after they had had their interview with the citizens and went at once with them, without an hour's delay to the Sea Islands. I may be mistaken. but from what I ~~saw~~^{heard} I got the idea that they had modified their views about the workings of the Bureau. S. & F both told me that the leading citizens of the State spoke kindly of myself and of the workings of the Bureau in the State. and I know the citizens of Fla spoke kindly of Osburne. as I heard their remarks. I never

doubted for a moment that you
would do what you thought to be
right. You have proved that to the
satisfaction of the world - nobody dare
speak ill of you personally in this
respect. I only feared you might
think it right to resign

For the same reason I
cannot shrink from defending General
Braman ~~even~~ in relation to
the course pursued by him in the
matter to which you refer. General B.
did right, did his duty in my
opinion well and wisely - and in
a manner to prevent bloodshed.
It would be an act of more
cowardice for me to fail to do
General B. The statement of Briggs
upon which public opinion and the
action of Congress is based, is false.
Briggs knew it was false. It is
intensely mortifying, ~~to~~ after nearly
five years of service to be compelled
to defend myself from such verities

from an ~~undisputed~~ individual who ¹¹⁶ when
a paid agent of the Bureau lived
among of negroes and now neglects
or refuses to pay the note - a
cold blooded hypocrite who came here
to take advantage of the influence
he had gained, while an officer
of the Bureau, to live off the
ignorant friends of the - I should
not stoop to defend myself against
this lying sneak but for the
importance given him by Congress
and with which he is so delighted
that it has turned his head.
In proof of this I inclose you a
copy of his paper of the week
and of a letter of his which he
threatened to publish unless I would
submit to his impudant demands.
Knowing that his conduct was being
and that his power to get money from the negroes was passing away
suddenly he has with desperate reck-
lessness tried to force a collision
with the military authorities and so
bolster up his failing cause by

becoming a martyr. His paper of the
week is full of lies. The colored
speakers at the meeting held ~~to me~~ last
Sunday called my name of the one
accord and in the strongest manner
indorse and approve of my action and
that of my subordinates. This Bryant
suppresses and says the colored people
~~at~~ with reference to clearing the names of our color
did not indorse my action. This is a
false. For although I knew Bryant
had packed the meeting ^{against me}, still I
relied on the good sense of the
colored people to endorse what they
knew to be right - and they did
as I anticipated. I can prove by
Genl. Steadman & Fullerton by affidavits
and citizen present that so far as
the responses and the voting went it
was largely in my favor. W. J. White
already a colored man, chairman of the Finance
Committee of the loyal Georgia and

who voted against me under the influence
 of Bryant has since told me
 that upon learning, and the fact
 he appears of my course ^{and this is done} ~~and~~
 all the leading, intelligent, colored
 men in the city. I enclose a copy
 of Jacob R. Davis' affidavit in
 proof of this assertion. ^{Bryant's} ~~His~~ published
 statement that I represented the
 matter before the meeting differently
 from what I had previously stated
 to him is a deliberate gross
 falsehood. As also is his statement
 that the ^{and other interested} Teachers were not informed
 of the proposition made by the
 Mayor. I can state with oath
 that I called upon ^{sup. of F. S. School} Mr. Herbert,
 and in a very emphatic manner
 told him of the offer made by
 the Mayor and directed him to
 go and inform the Teachers - and
 earnestly advise them to accept

the kind office of the Mayor - is the
 very best way to promote and cultivate
 kindly relations between the races. I
 enclose his statement. This ~~simple~~
~~fact~~ in that Bryant is a thoroughly
 bad man who will stoop to any
 means to accomplish his purposes.

Some of the more ignorant and
 violent freedpeople have ~~already~~ ^{been} already
 been so wrought upon by ~~the~~ ^{his} influence
~~of the man~~ as to make threats
 of violence ~~in~~. Every white citizen
 without exception - all the officers of
 the Army and of the Bureau as
 duty binds and the leading colored
 men almost without exception condemn
 this man Bryant as a danger
 to the safety of the community.

I am told that the civil authorities
 are about to present him before
 the Grand Jury. I am ready to
 say that I personally know of good
 reason for this action. I am Yours Truly

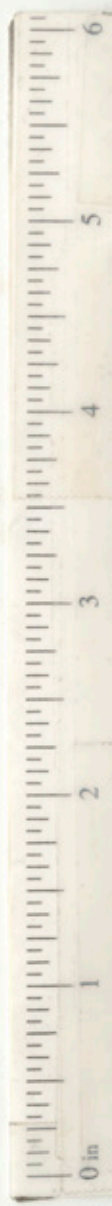
Reason
 Maj Gen O. O. Howard
 Comm R. T. & L.
 Washington D.C.

David Wilson
 Bt Maj Gen U.S.A.

P. S. Another fact has just come 113
to light showing ~~the~~ ~~to~~ to what mean-
ings and subterfuges the Ward
Bryant will resort. The first part
of the issue of his paper of the
Ninth (9th) not contained remarks about
me which were taken out of
the paper in the latter portion of
the same issue intended for further
circulation. ^{see Capt Deans certificate enclosed} His statement that
I was wanted upon ^{by Christian colored men} and asked
not to bring this matter up in the
meeting is also false. They came
to me to regret that Gene Stoughton
had appointed the meeting for
that time. They did not mention
any objection to my bringing up
the affair at the Cemetery.

P. T.

1843. I have just the year
 I have been thinking of the
 book and looking up the
 papers and notes. The first part
 of the volume of the paper of the
 first (91) but contains remarks about
 the other were taken out of
 the paper in the last portion of
 the volume. I have been looking for
 the "The Great American Republic" that
 I was wanted upon, and which
 was to bring the matter up in the
 meeting in New York. They cannot
 be sure to report that the Street
 have appointed the meeting for
 that time. They are not sure
 any objection to my bringing up
 the affair in the country.



Headquarters, Assistant Commissioner,

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,
SOUTH CAROLINA.Charleston, S. C., June 9th 1866.Major General O. B. Howard,
Commissioner

Dear General

I have the honor
to write you this unofficial letter
to let you know of some of the
perplexing questions which are daily
arising in my path.

In the first place
reports of destitution and starvation
are coming in daily to
an alarming extent and I have
no power to relieve them, and General
Sickles is as much as ever opposed
to the issue of rations to either Whites

or blacks, and I am merely a District
Commander and have no more power
than I had before, in fact my power
is more limited and circumscribed
than it was before I was made
Military Commander, as General Sickles
assuming that under the Order Consolidating
the two States, he has charge of the Bureau
also, and directs me to forward all
my reports through him, and to make
him the medium of all official com-
munications to Washington, in Bureau
as well as Military affairs. Also
Dr A K Smith his Medical Director Orders
Dr Pettit Surg in Chief of the Bureau
for this State to report to him.

I have therefore respectfully to ask
for official instructions that cannot be
misunderstood, as to the extent of

Genl Sickles jurisdiction in regard to
Burrau Matters, and whether he is to
be made the Channell of my Communications
to You.

While I do not wish to be understood
to complain of difficulties that appear
to present themselves, - I must say that
I fear the result of too many Officers
wishing to take part in the affairs of
the Burrau, - And feel confident that the
Asst Commr of a State should not be controlled
in its immediate Management, or in
carrying out its details, - and if found
incompetent should be replaced by one
who could discharge the duties to
Your Satisfaction.

I am General

Very Resp^y Your obt Servt

RK Scott

Charleston S.C.
June 27th 66

Dear F. H.
Dr. May. Dear

My unofficial letter
concerning difficulties in
S.C.

Secretaries:

GEORGE WHITTLE, }
MICHAEL E. STRIEBY, } New York.
JACOB R. SHEPHERD, Chicago.

AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION:

29, Lombard Block;

Chicago, June 18ff

My dear Brother:

dropping titles, and with
them all official induction, I answer
your note as frankly, its openness
invites.

I wish you had told me what is
the "blight" on your "grain" at Boston,
& whether you couple it with our
talk at Willard's because you think
I have been preparing some "blight"
for your "grain" at Boston or elsewhere.
For if you think so, you were never more
mistaken in all your life. There is not,
inside or outside the Congregational
Church of the United States, a man
woman or child more thoroughly appe-

ciative of the merit, or more profoundly in earnest for the success of the Washington enterprise than a certain outspoken man who talked with you at Willard's of his fears.

It is because I am so solemnly in earnest that my opinions are definite, positive, and active.

I told you what I feared. I have since compared notes with three men, all of them like yourself, profoundly anxious for your large and complete success. I had previously conferred with three others, perhaps with four or even five, every

One of them grave, prudent, large
minded Christian ministers who seek
sought only the success of your
enterprise. I have always spoken
hopefully - as hopefully as I dared;
I have insisted upon the opportunity
and the possibility. I have not
withheld expression of my abundant
faith in a noble soldier whom
it was my memorable privilege to
introduce to the Christian people of
this city. I have repeated all the
good things I ever heard of Dr
Boynton, without abatement or
drawback - & you will agree with
me that no man ever achieved
a brilliant reputation upon ^{a smaller} ~~less~~
capital. And while I was in Washing-
ton I did all in my power - within
conscientious limitations of silence -

to strengthen his hands with his people, to give the best results to his labors. I broached my objections only after I learned with surprise that it was proposed to install him as the permanent pastor of the church. I broached them first to Mr Thompson, & then to yourself, & beyond these two conversations I maintained absolute reserve.

Mr Thompson assured me with promptness & spirit, that if the truth had been ^{known}, the call would never have been agreed to, & lamented ^{only} the lateness of my frankness. Now thought the ecclesiastical structure of the church of no primary

3 importance. And your reply at least doubled my fears. For if you are indifferent when your pastor is not merely zealous but imperative — can there be a doubt of the result?

Now, the whole thing is in a nutshell. You want a Congregational Church at Washington. You cannot possibly want one more than I do. And if I were but at liberty I would offer today to join you in a covenant to make a tour which should not end until the last penny of the \$50,000 was raised ^{upon every platform}. I should challenge you afresh, to make the strongest appeal your heart would sanction, & I would outdo it! For I do want a Congregational Church at Wash-

ington. And by Congregational
I do not mean such a church
as the Vine Street Church of Cin-
cinnati, with a despot for a pastor
& a regular Presbyterian session
for church business.

Now I am but one of three
thousand ministers, & but one of
200,000 Congregationalists, not one
of whom would give one penny
toward a Church at Washington
which proposed to install Dr Boylston
as its pastor, & after they should
know what I know of the man &
his record.

And do you think, my dear
brother, that we hold back because
we do but tifle when we say

4/ that our heart is at your heart
toward the success of the enterprise?
Nay, you must find charity enough
to believe the unqualified assertion
that it is the depth of our zeal
which works in us this wholesome
jealousy and reasonable caution.
You say: "we will stand firm,
if he doesn't."

Why, my dear brother, when
you have the choice of the best
Congregationalist pastors in the country,
is it necessary to take a Presbyterian
pervert, whom you confess may at-
tempt your perversion? Is there not
enough at stake to justify entire
insurance?

And then, dear brother, who
are you that promise to stand firm?
Are you not men every one of whom

may, & a large proportion of whom
certainly will be citizens of some
other place within a few years? Do
you not see that a zealous, active,
persistent settled pastor at Washington
has the entire Antislavery in his
own hands? More membership
more than that of any other Church
of equal rank in the country, &
constantly changing: the minister
almost alone remains.

Finally, you must observe
that we who upon just occasion
frankly express our views in the
premises, are no meddlers in other
men's matters. ~~whether~~ To begin with,
the regnant idea of the Church
as first recognized by the Church

Itself, and afterward by the denomination at large, is the idea of an essentially impersonal representative church, precisely analogous to the elective government in its various branches. Expressly on this ground, & almost on no other, the Church appeals to the denomination to build for the denomination a House of worship in which members of the denomination tarrying at the Capital for long or shorter periods may worship God after the manner of their fathers. We listen to your request, & reply: "We are ready to plant a Congregational Church as you ask; to build it with our own hands." Those of us who know Dr Boynton are bound before God to add, "provided

always, & upon this condition only;
that you do not install your
present preacher, but secure a
able representative Congrega-
tionalist whose record is above ques-
tion."

I have not lifted my arm, be-
it stronger or weaker, against you
Enterprise; nor shall I ever do it,
so long as I remain sane: but
against the installation of Dr
Boynston, I shall protest to the end:
and so long as he continues the
approved pastor of the church, I
cannot so far violate the clearest
conviction of Christian duty as to give
or advise others to give any consider-
able aid toward your building.

7 This has been no pleasant letter
to write. Until recently I should
have preferred not to write it,
even to you, whose friendship I
esteem more highly than you
probably know: - and I say even
to you because, as you know, it
is easiest to be frank with those
in whom we most freely confide.
I could ^{not} have written this to any
one else without severe pain.
Of all their duties none is so dis-
tasteful to me as opposition to a pastor.
Pastors are already like hunted
partridges, & all my instincts are
on their side. But this case is
altogether exceptional: the minister
has no shadow of a claim to this
place, & has already been suffered
long. It is only necessary ~~for~~ that

his word should get abroad
to make you infinite trouble,
at any time. You walk over
a mine, which any chance
spark may spring. Why not build
upon a solid foundation - upon
a rock - from the first?

Answer me this, my dear
brother; give me your "strong reason"
for running so great a risk, & if I
am wrong I will not stay wrong a
single day.

Do not let us be parted, in this or
in any other good work. Either set me
right or let me set you right; let us
come shoulder to shoulder & work with
both hands & with one heart until the
walls are all builded.

Paternally & affectionately,
Jacob R. Shipman

Mobile Ala

June 10 1866

Genl. O. O. Howard;

Sir:

Immediately pre-
ceding the war I was engaged in investiga-
ting the laws in reference to Revolutionary
Pensioners, to ascertain if my Mother was en-
titled to a pension. I had not concluded
the same, but remember that some doubt
arose in my mind as to whether she was
entitled to one. I lost every thing during
the war, and since, owing to the malignant
sanction of the South, it is quite difficult
to recuperate, and if my Mother had
any claims of this nature, I should be
glad to prosecute them to success.
She is growing old, as you will know, &
the advantage of sufficient means to
make comfortable her declining years

would be a source of great pleasure,
Can you assist me? There is no
difficulty in establishing the claim provided
that the law covers the case.

First, is there any law which makes
provision for the children of revolutionary
Soldiers?

Second, if so, does it have any reference
to the date of the decease of the party?

My Grandfather died in 1802 I
think.

I do not expect you to give your
personal attention to this matter, but
merely afford me directions how to
proceed. Perhaps you could send me
a copy of the Laws in reference to
pensions. - Is there any of our old friends
about Washington?

I did not wish to employ a Lawyer
as my experience in past years in these
matters assured me that it is unnecessary.
If the Law exists and the facts can
be produced, a fair representation
to the proper Department always ensues.

a just decision, I think that
there must be some ground upon which
to base her claim, as Sawyers has pro-
posed to undertake the case for one half
provided they recovered,

Formerly I had some correspondence
with a gentleman by the name of Whiting
who was in one of the Departments.
Is he there now? and if he any
relation to Jasper Whiting, who was in
the class above us,

Will you be kind enough to snatch
a few brief moments from your ar-
duous labor to afford me such in-
formation on this matter as you
may think will be of advantage?

Wishing you success always and a
long and pleasant life,

I remain

Yours truly
James L. Hoole

Miss K. D. 1866. 1866.

Mobile, Ala June 10th 1866.

To
Wrote, James L.

Requests information and
assistance to enable him
to obtain a pension for his
mother.

Received July 20. 66

Reply. September 2.
James L. - Report of the
bureau. Can you
not do something in this
case.

D. D. Brown
Maj. Gen.



Answer

East Boston June 10th 1866

General Howard

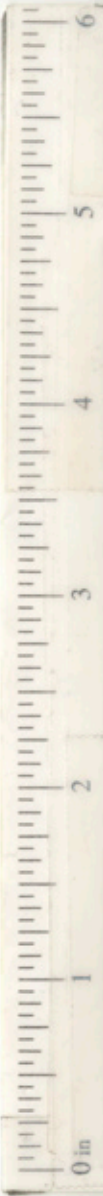
Dear Sir

while reading my weekly paper the independent,
I learn from the speeches made by several
ministers and yourself, that there is an effort
being made, to try to raise by Contributions
a sum of money for the purpose of Building
a Church in the City of Washington,
would you please accept 5 dollars from a
Soldier who lost one of his legs at the battle
of Gaines Mills. only a few miles from where
you lost your Arm. I thought I would
like to give this as a thank offering. to the Lord
Jesus Christ who has been a friend to me all
my lifetime. particularly when I was a prisoner
in Richmond. I Cheerfully Contribute this
Small amount.

in kindest regards and Christian
fellowship I am very respectfully

yours, Thomas Boardman

128 Summer St East Boston Mass



128 Summer St. East Boston Mass

Yours very respectfully

in kindest regards and Christian

friendship

Wm. Brewster

My affectionate friend, I am a

free Christian and as such I am

glad to give this as a thank offering to the Lord

your last year. I thought I would

of genuine value, and a few more from other

brothers who lost one of his legs at the battle

would you please accept & deliver from a

a Church in the City of Washington

a sum of money for the purpose of building

long made, to try to save by Contributions

ministers and yourself, that there is a right

I learn from the Standard made by church

while reading my weekly paper the independent

Dear Sir

Yours truly

East Boston June 10th 1861

Headquarters, State of South Carolina,

Charleston, S. C., June 11th 1866.

Major General A. A. Howard
Commissioner &c
General

Your telegram in regard to Dr De Witt was received that A.M. and rather surprised us, as Genl Scott never had an idea of removing him, but on the contrary thinks most highly of his abilities, and efficiency. Dr De Witt was not announced as Chief Medical Officer of the Military Command of S. C. because Dr Smith the Medical Director of the Department claimed the right to appoint an officer of his

arrow choosing, and was upheld in
his claim by Genl Sickles, So Dr. DeWitt
remains still as Surg in Chief for the
Bureau in this State.

Gen Scott was obliged to relieve
Major Saxton on account of an order
from Genl Sickles to report the names
of all General Staff officers who were
performing such duty as could be
performed by Officers of the Vet Res Corps
and to set a date for dispensing with
their services, before making this report
Gen Scott relieved Major Saxton and
Ordered him to report to you in order
to save his name from being sent in
by Genl Sickles for Muster-out, The
new change is slowly taking place
and my fear is that the Bureau
will become too much incorporated

with the Military, The Bureau should
never be made subservient to the
Military, as tis a much greater
and more important Command,
The duties of the two commands
make my labors very arduous,
but I am never so happy as when
busily employed, and the interest
I feel in the Bureau makes me
more anxious to see things done
as you would desire them, and
all that I can do shall be done
to make things go on smoothly,
to a certain extent Genl Scotts being
the Military Commander helps us
some but then General Sickles assuming
that he is responsible for the carrying on
of Bureau Affairs, & ordering us to
report through him, neutralizes the

the benefits that would otherwise accrue
to us by the change, as we are not nearly
as independent as we were before, as
yet Gen Sickness has given nothing but
verbal orders in regard to Burrau affairs,
so we are just ballancing on the fence,
do not think that there is much
kind feeling down here as yet.

I must now close please make
my kind regards to all your staff
and with feelings of the kindest regards

Remain General

Very Sincerely Yours

A. W. Smith.

Bot Lieut Col Xaa

11

Brooklyn N.Y. June 11th 1866

Obice my Dear Sir: will you be so very ^{kind} as to call yourself personally; or if it is inconsistent for you to do so; will you do me the very great favor to get some one that will be likely to have a good influence to call on the Secretary of the Navy, (he it is, I believe, that has the appointing of the "Boys" in the Navy-yard,) and ascertain whether there is to be a "Boss" Caulker appointed for the N. Y. Navy-yard? I have heard it rumored that there is to be one appointed, and if there is, I wish to have my just claims considered, and taken into the acc't, which I consider to ^{be} sufficient for the appointment ^{of myself} to that position; I am now acting as Quartermaster in the Caulker's Department, under the Naval Constructor, (Mr Delano) and am content to remain so unless there is to be a change, and a "Boss" appointed; and if there is, I calculate the position belongs to me; for the following reasons viz. 1st I have risked my life by coming here to work for Government on the instant of my finding out that a combination of caulkers in N. Y. and Boston, was making a desperate effort by a strike on the Navy-yard to bring our National Government to their notions, whims, and blind schemes, and driving every body away that attempted to come to work on the Navy-yard by their desperate threats, and misisery, and succeeded in doing so in every such attempt for more than two months, ~~before~~ before I found it out and came here myself. And being myself so very much unaccustomed to know when I am in danger, have succeeded in staying

And have received no particular personal injury, as I am aware, except from foul mouthed tongues; I have been threatened with assassination, but somehow, I can't seem to make it worry me much; I can't tell why. But I have somewhat drifted from what I was saying were the reasons why I think I ought to have the position as 'Boss' Caulker, if one is appointed, for the N.Y. Navy Yard. My next reason is, that after I came here, and learned the whole facts in relation to the affair from the Commandant and Capt. of the yard, I told them I would engage to go out and get any number of caulkers which they would authorize me to get, on the condition that I should have the full charge of them when I got them here, subject to their orders. (The Capt. & Commandant, I was authorized, and employed, by them, and went out and hired a crew of most excellent workmen from the State of Maine, being very particular not to get any but 1st class workmen. And I feel proud to say that I have, I think, the best crew of men, take them in any sense of the word, that can be got up in the United States, according to number. And the Assistant Naval Constructor says himself that the work has been done since I have been here with my gang of men fifty per cent less than the same could be done when the old strikers were here, I say old strikers, because it seems by what I have learned since I have been here that they, (the caulkers that used to be here, I will not say ~~worked~~) were in the habit of knocking off on very slight pretences, if every thing did not go just to rule their whims, and notions. Now I do not wish to

be understood as suggesting a change here
in relation to a "Boss" Caulker being appoin-
ted, but merely say if there is to be one, I
most respectfully ask for the position myself;
and for myself; If it is required that I give
any references as to qualifications, or any
thing else, I would be highly pleased to know
what, and will be happy to supply any
requirements in relation to the matter;

If any petition should be required from
my men, or any body else, I will obtain
that also; Since a rumor has been afflout
that a "Boss" Caulker is to be appointed, it has
been suggested to me that I apply for the
position, hence this humble request;
I can give other reasons if necessary, but ^{I will} say no more at present.
Now Olice, you will pardon my simple
manner of addressing you, will you not?
And, believe me Your most sincere
Will you be so kind as and humble
as return me an answer? Friend if no more.

My Address is Navy-yard N.Y.

Eben. C. Waite

(Caulker's Department)

To May. Gen. O. O. Howard, Washinton D. C.

Brooklyn N.Y.

June 11, 1866

Wm. A. C.

Wm. A. C.
in procuring a
position at N.Y.
Army and Navy.

Recd. June 12th 1866

Whitestown, Oneida County, N.Y. June 11. 1866

Maj. Gen. C. C. Howard,

My Dear Sir,

Could you lecture
twelve times, to Ladies Freedmen's Aid
Societies, in Central New York —
during the month of February next?
This question is of course, with the
understanding, that you are able to
make the proposed tour. The Ladies
of Central New York will delight
to hear you.

Your Obedient Servant
Augustine Root.

My dear friend,
 I have just received
 your letter of the 10th inst.
 and am glad to hear
 that you are well.
 I am also well and
 hope this finds you
 the same. I have not
 much news to write
 at present. I am
 still in the same
 place. I have not
 yet received your
 letter of the 15th inst.
 but I hope it will
 come soon. I am
 very truly,
 your friend,
 Wm. Lloyd Garrison

