Dear Sir:

You valued letter of the 5th inst has just been received. I did not of course know that Studeman and Fuller too 8ated out with any such intentions as you mention. I joined them at Savannah, by their invitation, after they had been in conference with the citizens and went as near with them, without an hour's delay to the Sea Islands. I may be mistaken, but from what I heard I got the idea that they had modified their views as to the wantings of the Bureau. S. S. T. both told me that the leading citizens of the State spoke kindly of myself, and if the wantings of the Bureau and I knew the citizens of the State kindly of Osborne, as I heard their remonstrances. 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 can speak in a just manner in this respect. I only fear that no one might think it right to resign.

For the same reason I cannot shrink from defending my opinion in relation to the same question of which I am a part of the matter to which you refer. Since I did right, I have the duty in my opinion to unswervingly and in a manner to prevent bloodshed. It would be an act of shame cowardice for me to fail to do so. The statement of Braxton, which public opinion and the action of Congress is based, is false. Braxton knew it was false. It is intensely mortifying, to my mind, for years I seemed to be content to defend myself from such views.
from an indirect individual who, when a part of the bureau, knew many of the agents and now neglects or refuses to pay the notes of 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 freedmen. I then also stop to defend myself against the lying, sneaky, but for the importance given him of Congress and wish while he is so deluded that it has turned his head.

In proof of this, I enclose as a copy of his paper of the whole and of a letter of his, which he threatened to publish unless I would submit to his impudent demands. It seems that his conduct was henip being, for he has written desperate letters to try to force a collision with the military authorities and bolster up his failing cause.
becoming a martyr. His paper of the week is full of lies. The colonel
spokesman at the meeting held last
Sunday called my name in the one
accord and in the strangest manner
induced and approved of my action and
that of my subordinates. The Bryan
suppressed and suppressed the colonel paper
with reference to elaborating the views of the colonel
due to candid my opinion. This is a
false, for although I knew Bryan
had passed the meeting, still I
relied on the good sense of the
colonel paper to endorse what they
knew to be right, and they did
as I anticipated. I can purify
such. Steadman Fullerton Jr. office
and citizen present that so far as
the responses and the voting went it
was largely in my favor.

Dr. J. White
Colonel mayor, chairman of the Finance
Committee of the Local League and
who voted against me under the influence of Bryant. He swore to me that upon learning that I had been employed at the request of my case, he offered me all the leading intelligent colored men in the city. I sent a copy of Joseph R. Davis affidavit as proof of the assertion—publishing the statement that I represented the matter before the meeting differently from what I had previously stated. This is a deliberate gross falsehood. As also is the statement that the teachers were not informed of the proposition made by the Mayor. I can state with much truth that I called upon Mr. Tucker 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 friendly relations between the races. Enclose this statement. This statement fact is that Bryan is a strongly bad man who will stoop to any means to accomplish his purposes. Some of the more ignorant and violent freedmen have already been so outraged upon by the influence of their papers as to make threats of violence. Every white citizen without exception and the officers of the Army and of the Bureau as duty bind and the leading colored men almost without exception condemn this man Bryan as a dangerous to the safety of the community. I am told that the civil authority are about to present him before the Grand Jury. I am ready to say that it is proper, good reason for this action. I am Yours Truly, Daniel Gillson.
C. S. Another fact has just come to light showing that what mean tricks and subterfuges the ward Bryant will resort. The first part of the issue of this paper of the ninth (9th) last contains remarks at some which were taken out of the paper in the latter portion of the same issue intended for further circulation. His statement that I was wanted upon and asked not to bring this matter up at the meeting is also false. They came to me to request that these stories had appeared the meeting for that time. They did not mention my objection to my bringing up the affair at the meeting. D. T.
Headquarters, Assistant Commissioner,
Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,
SOUTH CAROLINA.

Charleston, S. C., June 9th, 1866.

Major General O.O. Howard,
Commissary

Dear General:

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

In the first place, reports of speculations and thieving Narratives are coming in daily to an alarming extent and I have no power to relieve them, and these Sickles is as much as ever opposed to the issue of wages to either Whites

...
or blacks, and I am merely a district Commander and have no more power than I had before, in fact any power is more limited and circumscribed than it was before I was made Military Commander, as General Sickles assuming that under the Order Commanding 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 communications to Washington, in Bureau as well as Military affairs. Also Dr. C. B. Smith, the Medical Director, orders Dr. Pitts being 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
Guil Sickle's jurisdiction in regard to
Burman matter, and whether he is to
be made the channel of my communications
to you.

While I do not wish to be understood
to complain of difficulties that appear
to exist themselves, I must say that
I fear the result of too many officers
wishing to take part in the affairs of
the Burman. And feel confident that the
Act Comm. 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.

Dear Sir,

By reply your att. Surt

W. Scott
My dear Brother:

dropping letter, and with

them all official indications, I answer

your note as frankly as 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 appre-
cation 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.

It is because I am so

sincerely 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 success. I had large and complete success. I had previously confined with three others, perhaps with four or even five, every
Your grace, prudent, large-minded Christian ministers who seek
donot let 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 inestimable privilege to
introduce to the Christian people of
this city. I have repeated all the
good things I ever heard of Dr.
Boyar in town, without abatement or
drawback—that you will agree with
me that no man ever achieved
a brilliant reputation upon so small a
capital. And while I was in Wash-
town I did all in my power—within
consciences 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 me Thompson, then to yourself, and beyond these two conversations I maintained absolute reserve.

Mr. Thompson assured me with promptness and spirit, that if the truth had been the call would never have been agreed to, and lamented the lateness of my frankness. You thought the ecclesiastic structure of the church of no primary
37 importance, and your reply at least doubled my fear. For if you are indifferent where 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 me more than I do. And if I were but at liberty I would offer to try to join you in a covenant to make a tour which should not end until the last penny of the $50,000 was raised. I should challenge you afresh to make the strongest appeal your heart would sanction, if I would assist it! For I do want a Congregational Church at Wash-
I do not mean such a church as the Vice Street Church of Cincinnati, with a depot for a pastor, or a regular Presbyterian session for church business.

Now I am but one of three thousand ministers, I but one of 200,000 Congregationalists, yet one of whom would give one penny toward a church at Washington which proposed to install Dr. Boylston as its pastor, while after they should know what I know of the man.

And do you think, my dear brother, that we hold back because we do but trifles when we say...
that our hearts is as your heart toward the success of the enterprise? May you muster and 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 county, is it necessary to take a Presbyterian perchet, where you confess may at tempt your progress? 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, to 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 enterprise in his own hands? How membership now more than that of any other church I know? and in the country of equal rank in the country, constantly changing; the minister almost alone remains.

Finally, you must believe that we who upon just occasion frankly express our views in the premises, are no meddlers in other men's matters, matters to begin with the regnant idea of the Church as first recognized by the Church
itself, and afterward by the denomina-
tion 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, it almost on no
other, the church appeals to the
denomination to build for the
denomination a house of worship
in which members of the denomina-
tion tarrying at the capital for long
or shorter periods may worship
God after the manner of their fathers.
We listen to your request, I reply:
"We are ready to plant a Congrega-
tional 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, I upon this condition only, that you do not install your present preacher, but secure an able representative Congregationalist whose word is above question.

I have not lifted my arm, it stronger or weaker, against the enterprise; nor shall I ever do it, so long as I remain sure, but against the installation of Mr. Boynton, 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 considerable aid toward your building.
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 have written this to any one else without severe pain. Of all these duties none is so distasteful to me as opposition to a pastor. Pastors are already like hunted partridges, if all my instincts are on their side. But this case is altogether exceptional: the minister has no shadow of a claim to this place, it has already been suffered long. It is only necessary for that
his word should set 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?

Accept me this, my dear brother; give me your "strong reasons" 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 I work with both hands with one heart until the walls are all built.

Sincerely and affectionately,

[Signature]
Mobile Ala
June 10, 1866

Gen. O. O. Howard,

Sirs:

Immediately preceding the war I was engaged in investigating the laws in reference to Revolutionary Pensioners, to ascertain if my brother was entitled 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 very many during the war, and since, owing to the indigent condition of the South, it is quite difficult to recoup and if my brother had any claims of that nature, I should be qualified to prosecute them to success. She is growing old as you well know, and the advantage of sufficient means to make comfortable her declining years.
would be a source of great pleasure, 
then you assist me. There it is no 
difficulty in establishing the claim provided 
that the law covered the case.

First, if there are any laws which make 
provision for the children of revolutionary 
Soldiers?

Second, if so, does it have any reference 
Is the date of the decease of the party? 
My Grandfather died in 1802. I 
believe I do not expect you to give your 
personal attention to this matter, but 
merely offer me directions how to 
proceed. Perhaps you could send me a 
copy of the laws in reference to 
peninsular. Is there any of our old friends 
about Washington?

I did not wish to employ a lawyer 
but my experience in past years in these 
smaller matters assures me that it is unnecessary. 
If the law spells and the facts can 
be produced, a fair representation 
be made to the proper department always successful.
a just decision, I think that
there must be some ground upon which
to base her claim, as lawyers have suf-
ficed to undertake the case for one half
provided they succeed.

Formerly I had some correspondence
with a gentleman by the name of Kirby
who was in one of the Departments.
It he there now, and of he any
relation to Jasper Whiting, the case in
the class above you.
Will you be kind enough to snatch
a few brief moments from your en-
devourable labor to afford me such in-
formation on the matter as you
my think will be of advantage?

Wishing you success always and a
long and pleasant life.

Sincerely,

Yours truly,

James L. Hook
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
Headquarters, State of South Carolina,
Charleston, S. C., June 11th 1866.

Major General O. O. Howard
Commander-in-Chief

Your telegram in regard to Dr. B. V. Witt was received this
A.M. and rather surprised me, as Dr. Scott never had any idea of
removing him, but on the contrary,
sends most highly of his abilities
and efficiency, Dr. B. V. 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
own cheating, and was upheld in his claim by Genl Sickles, so it
remains still as Surg in Chief for the Bureau in this State.

I am obliged to receive Major Saytow 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 disbanding with their service before making this report.

In Scott Island Major Saytow and ordered him to report to you in order
to save his name from being put 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 it's a much greater and more important command. The duties of the two commands make my labor 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 civil science being the Military Commander helps us, and the General Sickles assuming that he is responsible for the carrying on of Bureau affairs, ordering me 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, and yet your sickness has given nothing but trouble arising in regard to business affairs do we are just balancing our books, do not think that there is much kind feeling down here as yet.

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

Armain General

Very Sincerely Yours

A. N. Smith

Botdint 06 xaxa
Brooklyn, N.Y. June 11, 1861

My dear Sir: Will you be so 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, that it and believe that he may ascertain whether there is to be at Beaufort appointed for the S. N. Shipyards? I have heard admonished that there is to be a naval appointment, and if there is, I wish to have my just claims considered, and taken into the act which I consider sufficient for the appointment to that position. I am now acting as Quartermaster in the Caucasus' Department under the Naval Constructor Mr. Dolan, and am content to resign so unless there is to be a change, and a 'bail appointed; and if there is to calculate the position belongs to me for the following reasons. I have devoted my life by coming here to work for Government on the instant of my finding out that a combination of Caucasus in N.Y. and Boston, was making a desperate effort by a strike on the Shipyards to bring our National Government to their notions, mine, and blind themselves driving every body away that attempted to count to work on the Shipyards by this desperate threat, and misrepresentation having been in doing so in every such attempt for more than two months. Before I found it out and came here myself, and being myself so body much mistreated and 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; was the reason why I think I ought to have
the position as 1st in command; it was in dispute,
I suppose; my next reason is that
after I came here, and learned the whole
in relation to the affairs from the Commander
and Capt. of the yard. I told them I would engage
to go out and get any number of canthors
which would authorize me to get, on
the condition that I should have the
full charge of them when I got them
and subject to their orders. The Capt. commanding,
I was authorized, and employed by the naval
 sonst and hired a crew of most exc-
elent 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, the men
in any sense of the word, that can be got up
in the United States, according to myself.
And the Assistant Naval Constructor says,
themselves that the work has been done since
I have been here with my gang of men
half per cent less than the Board couldn't
ask to be done when the old Strikees were
here. Say old Strikees, because it seems to what I
have learned since I have been here that
the Strikees that need to be here, I will not seem to
more in the habit of knocking off on their little
measures, if every thing did not go just to suit
their whims and notions. Now I do not wish to
be understood as suggesting a change here in relation to a "Boss" another being appointed, but merely say if there it 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 anything else, I would be highly pleased to know what, and will be happy to supply any requirements in relation to the matter.

If my petition should be required from any men, or any body else, I will obtain that also. Since a rumor has been afloat that a "Boss" another 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 say none at present. Now Olice you will pardon my humble manner of addressing you, will you not? And believe me Your most sincere will you be so kind as consider me an answer. Friend of none.

My address is New-york N.Y. Oberl. W. White

(Carrier's Department)

To Mr. Sir. O.O. Howard, Washington D. C.
Miltonboro, Anclela County, May 11th, 1864

Maj. Gen. C. O. Howard,

My Dear Sir,

Can you get twelve persons to Ladies' Aid and 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.

Yours Obediently,

Augustine Root.