Hartford Conn.
June 10th 1866.

Maj Gen O. O. Howard Comr B. R. F. & A. L.
General.

I respectfully forward herewith copy of communication and endorsements to which I referred in conversation with yourself on Wednesday last. I am obliged to believe that the officials in the Bureau at Charleston are quite aware of the facts in the case.

I am preparing a communication to yourself respecting Bureau Affairs in So. Carolina, and the present needs of the freedpeople. I prefer this course for the present, since it is possible that any suggestion tending to increase the efficiency of the Bureau, may be taken as an attack upon it. I make no claim to extra sagacity but could not work for a year or more, without gaining some practical knowledge. The Commission at Charleston is

published articles

extreme is the credit of my work. Not since Noah hundred ~~the~~ all he could and upon the islands actually prevented his full accomplishment I cannot be supposed to favor a policy so much more damaging to the freed people than to the whites.

With sincere regard for yourself and heart interest in all that tends to make independent men and women of the freed people

I am yours very truly

James C. Beecher

Bt Brig Gen late Col 35th U.S.C.T.

Copy.

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Hd Qrs 2nd Sub Dist M. & C.
Summerville S. C
August 31st 1866

Bvt Maj Genl
R. Saxton.
Genl

In order to make report from my command it is of course necessary that I have reports from the Agents of R. & B. on Edisto, Johns and Wadmalaw Islands also from any one claiming to act under the Bureau on the main land.

My order for such reports is not complied with by any of these agents.

In any other case I should simply arrest the parties for disobedience of orders and expel them from the Dist. As it is I respectfully suggest that ~~there~~ an order be issued to these men to report as ordered so that I may know what they are about & be able to report accordingly.

Yr Resp't obt Servt
James C. Beecher Col Cavy

Hd Qrs 2nd Sub Dist S.C.
Summerville S. C.
Aug 31st

Respectfully
Bureau Refugees Freedmen
& Abandoned Lands.
So Carolina Georgia & Florida
Beaufort S. C Sept 4th 1865.
E.B. 73. Asst Comr B.R.F.&A.L. Bft.

Respectfully
Col 38th N. S. C. T.
Comdg 2nd Sub Dist
& Sub Asst Comr

Respectfully refer to Col Beecher. The Agents on Edisto, Johns and Wadmalaw Islands are not under Col Beechers jurisdiction.

E.B. "9" B.R.F.&A.L. Bft. 65

Respectfully request that the Agents of B.R.F.&A.L. in this dist may be ordered to report.

Copy

To all others in Col Beechers vicinity orders will be issued to report as desired.

Enclosed is a copy of Gen Shermans field order for information.

By order of
Bt Maj Gen Saxton
Geo Stuart McTaggart
A.A.G.

Rec'd & ab.o B.R.F.&A.L. Sept 4th 1865.

Copy

Boston 749 Tremont St
June 15th 1866

Maj Gen Howard

Dear Sir

Please accept the accompanying volume entitled "Four years of Fighting" — not a history, but a volume merely of personal observations.

I have endeavored to place Chancellorsville in its true light, also Gettysburg.

I shall esteem it a great favor if you will inform me of any errors, that I may correct them in future editions.

I have given many incidents which have never been in print, & have endeavored to make it a volume which will keep alive the fires of patriotism in the hearts of the people.

If, after turning it over you can conscientiously commend it as worthy of a place in the family homes & hearts & libraries of the land, I shall be happy to receive a line to that effect as it will be of much pecuniary ~~benefit~~ benefit.

Allow me to express my thanks for the many courtesys I have received at your hands.

With many regards
Yours truly
C. C. Coffin

Maj Gen O. O. Howard.

Boston Mass
June 15th 1866

Coffin C.C.

Transmitting a
Book entitled "Four
Years of Fighting"

1866. 1867.

YOUNG MEN'S LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,

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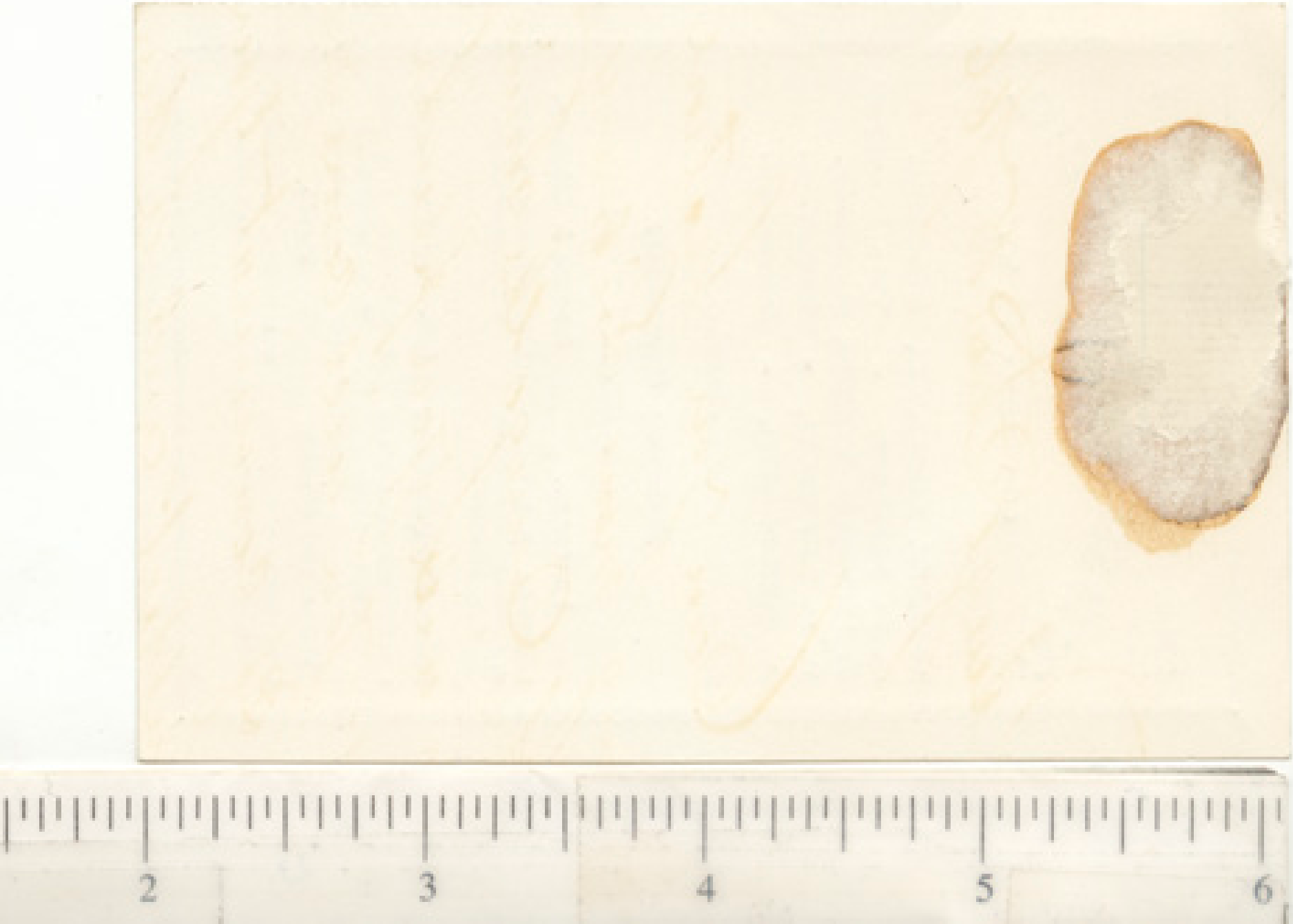

Owego June 15th 66

Dear Sir

Can you lecture before the Young mens Library Association of Owego the coming season - If so will you please write me that you will come and your terms - If convenient you can name subject and a day you will positively be here or we will leave the date and subject for further settlement - Our society and Citizens generally would be very much pleased to hear you -

Respectfully Yours
John Fuller
Chmn Lect Com

Maj. Genl O. O. Howard
Wash D.C.

[COMMUNICATED.]

TO THE PEOPLE OF BUTLER COUNTY.

Respect for the advice of those whom I know to be my sincere friends, alone induces me to make this explanation; for in the discharge of what I believe my duty, and I assume no duty that I have not well considered, I ask no popularity, and fear no influences. I respect that popularity which is based upon truth and a scrupulous love of justice; but I hold it in contempt, when it is founded upon the arts of the demagogue, who never takes a stand till he finds out how it will do in public opinion; who twists, and turns, and doubts and hesitates, and consults his grandfather and first cousins, to know whether it will affect his prospective elevation, and his official hopes.

I was honored some time since with the request, to ascertain and report upon the cases of proper subjects for the benevolence of Government, in the way of rations. The duty has been an unpopular one; and required great trouble and firmness. It is impossible for any human being to attain a standard of excellence in anything in this life; but I have as faithfully traced the path of impartiality, as was possible. My principle has been to keep the charities of the United States in a proper channel. I have always thought that this dispensation tended to nourish a spirit of indolence and licentiousness; and believe that the very best boon, that could have been conferred upon the people, would have been, never to have dispensed rations at all. Self-reliance is better than pork and beans; and begging, begun in the case of temporary destitution, degenerates into a habit of perpetual bondage and degradation. Still, I have tried, diligently, to do what was strictly just, and recommend the really destitute, without regard to sex, character, age, or color. Yet, with all my care, the officers of the Bureau, and myself, are frequently deceived. But I deny that, in any case, except deceived, rations have been recommended, where a person was able to work or had employment. Notwithstanding all this, I am beset, on every hand, with all the misrepresentations, that stupidity and perverseness can engender. One furious patriot assails me in my office, for daring to give rations, out of his taxes, to a crippled negro, eighty years of age: a strong minded woman tells me the officers of the Bureau and I, have pilfered, as she "is CREDITABLY informed," two thousand gold dollars, out of the commissary meal barrels!

What interest is it to me? Does any one with a scruple of reflection suppose, that anything but public spirit could induce me to hold a position, that brings me no pay; that gives me no opportunity to steal; that takes half my time, that requires the patience of Job, and that keeps me constantly struggling against a strong current of unpopularity and abuse! If I am asked why I retain the position, I answer, because I have a stubborn determination to perform what I believe my duty, the more men revile and vituperate.

I now desire to inform the people of the consequences of drawing rations. The Legislature of Alabama, by act of last session, makes it the duty of every public officer, to report to the Probate Judges, the cases of all children, under eighteen, who either are orphans, without visible means of support, or the children of parents who cannot, or will not support them; and it is made the imperative duty of the Probate Judges, to bind them out. Now when a person draws rations, it is an admission, that the parties are not able to support their children; and they must expect these facts to be reported as evidence against them.

I admit the calamity which has fallen upon the people; but the destitution of the country has been grossly exeggerated by those who love to suck at the public teats, and who go about fomenting discontents, and who find that running to and fro, and inflating their cheeks to puff out pretty things about charity and the hungry poor, are good easy stepping stones to public office.

I pray the people to cease crawling to the Freedmen's Bureau for charity. The stream of private benevolence will never run dry. No one will be allowed to starve in this country; and it is better to endure poverty, and sorrow, and contempt, with independence, than to fatten upon the bounty which bring humiliation and shame.

BENJ. F. PORTER.

Greenville, Ala., June 12, 1866.

to all moneys and securities of every k[illegible] which are to be transferred from o[illegible] point to any other point in the United States. Gold coin and bullion is to be transported at one-half of a cent per mile for $1,000 for distances not over 500 miles, and distances exceeding 500 miles, one-quarter of a cent per mile per $1,000; silver coin and bullion at twice the rate above specified, freight on silver coin and bullion to be paid in coin; all other moneys, United States Treasury-notes, &c., twenty-five to fifty cents per $1,000, according to distance, &c.

It is the financial opinion in New York, that if the political complications in Europe should result in a war, a general suspension of specie payments will be inevitable, and that the drain of gold from this country will cease, as well as the return of our government or corporate securities for sale. Should there be no war, the momentary crisis will be safely passed, and gold will flow back to this country, or at least accumulate here from our own products.

The cholera at the New York Quarantine is said to be of a very malignant type, and is principally confined to the German passengers. Eighty-four cases have been admitted on board of the hospital ship Falcon, out of which number fourteen have died, leaving seventy patients at the last account under treatment. A revenue cutter is shortly to be stationed in the lower bay for the protection of the Quarantine vessels and to prevent the passengers detained there from escaping to the shore.

A correspondent of the Herald says that General Scott, about twenty-five minutes before his death, addressed his hostler, Allen, saying, "James, how is the horse?" "He is well, General." "Take care of him, James;" and that these were the last intelligible words he uttered.

The President has approved the bill to prevent and punish kidnaping. It entails a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years, or b[illegible] on any person convict[illegible]

Should you be of the opinion that this provision will have a tendency to injure the sale you will advise me without delay.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) H McCulloch
Sec of the Treas.

A G Mackey Esq
Collector of Customs
Charleston S.C.

New York June 15 1866

Gen O O Howard
My dear Genl

Allow I send you a copy of the instructions which the Dept has kindly furnished me with. A friend here has authorized me to buy to the building while we make efforts to raise the money. I am sorry the Dept has put in the restriction as I fear it will give the impression of not a bona fide sale & cause a want of interest in the matter. He does not know me, & I see does not fully trust me. I can pledge the truth of my Christian character that we will form no combination with any one we will go to the sale & take our

Copy Treasury Department

June 15 1866

Sir You are hereby instructed to sell the U.S. Marine Hospital building and lot in Charleston S.C. at public auction to the highest bidder, subject to the acceptance of the bid by the Secretary of the Treasury upon the following terms viz One thousand dollars Cash the balance in equal payments of 30, 60 and 90 days. A certificate of sale will be given at the time to the purchaser and a deed upon the completion of the terms of sale and the final payment. You will please insert the inclosed advertisement in such Charleston papers as you may deem desirable for 30 days immediately upon the sale You will please inform the Department in relation to it, giving your opinion as to the price and competition & making any suggestions you may deem proper. The object of the Department in reserving the right to accept or reject any bid is to prevent any combination by which the property may be sacrificed, & will not be exercised if the sale is a fair one. In deciding which the Department will confer upon your report.

chances, he expect it will be little or nothing & could not buy it if it does not seem compensate its cost. I conceal nothing from the Sec. I am persuaded it will not go high & the Collector will advise it is about time to sell & not to take the bid. He is not of the model of men who can see to the vacancies. I think both the Sec & Pres felt the moral gain made the material a mere question, if there is any hitch that you help us to unloose it. I send you Mr Wermiles reply as you know I could give a favorable reply but cannot as agent of the Episcopal Ch nor ought make application officially to a Genl board as it would be bad taste. I have written him if Episcopalians individually can use their influence to get an appropriation that is all well. if you would take so much trouble a line from you to Dr Markey might put him on the right track. I assure you Genl there is no speculation or selfish end in this but for the glory of God, the good of the Freedmen & the peace of our Country - I am yours very truly & Joonas Porter my address is, 132 Pearl St care Mr H M Leonard.

Revd. A. T. Porter

Dear Sir

I have been in the City yesterday & to-day, relative to your proposition, & find the best disposition towards it. and nothing wanting, but the Reactivity to reap the crop. after consulting the Welsh & applied to the Trustees and to take the matter in hands as it requires some organisation. Yesterday I had the matter before them and while the members generally moved and it was thought too more or less public in them, as a General Association, to prominently step forward in aid of a sectarian movement - I urged that, on the contrary, that every sectarian movement ought to be checked because while forwarding the purpose they had in view "education of the black" - They would be the cause of so much permanent work - I think that this view fairly set before them would prevail as I know them to be Gentlemen

of intelligence and of expanded views. That declamation was not to be considered at all as the subject was now with only Gen'l Howard's letter before them and no one to explain your views upon it and only a verbal explanation in general terms from me to the Secretary. They meet on Monday at their office 424 Walnut at 3 P.M. And I think if you can spare time on that day to see them & give such explanation as may be broken they will take the matter up seriously. I enclose a note to the Rev. Freedmen Aid Soc of New York, - whom you have better see before you come on to show Gen Howard's letter which I enclose. If you obtain an introduction to Dr. Byng, he can aid you.

One point made by the Rev. Freed's was, if will they employ Northern teachers or solely South'rn. To this I replied that you were indifferent - when the time came now if they desired it.

another more serious. You should be prepared to answer

? Are the blacks to be educated gratis or according to Southern ideas

That means. ~~are~~ is the doctrine to be inculcated that the blacks are an inferior race to be kept under servitude or do you mean to give them a good plain education and let their status be fixed & settled by the measure of intellect which the Almighty has vouchsafed to each individual. The first consideration of this idea will not meet much sympathy here. as we think it is the province of God and not of man. to assign the social & moral & intellectual position of all his creatures. Tho' I did not put the question directly I judged from the general tenor of your conversation that we agree on this point. but you must be prepared to meet it. You cannot expect us to furnish all you want & therefore it would be well to lay your lines in N York & Boston

The people have been

heavily drawn when to meet Southern women, for whom there is much sympathy & but pleases are gradually closing under the feeling of hostility, indicated by the press of the South and the Anti American sentiments which so generally prevail in the late rebellious States.

I wish you would read General Howard's letter after forwarding Yourself after was a copy which may be called by some known name (as and

Respy

S F Mercer Jr

Phila 12 June

It would be wise not to publicly announce your view of purchasing the Marine Hospital as some antagonist interest may be set up - but say some large building

office of Freedmen's aid Society Rooms 424 Walnut, Ground floor. Send card in to the Secretary or Dr Parrish. who will be there from 10 to 3 o'clock P.M. - Monday

Executive Dept S. C.
Anderson 29th May 1866.

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My Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 19th Inst brings me the first intelligence which I have rec.d of any interference with the Freedmens School at Lexington in Charge of Mr Simons. I have very recently returned from Columbia where I remained for upwards of a month (I left on the 25th Inst) and no information or report of any violence has ever reached me officially or unofficially and you will remember that Lexington C.H. the alleged scene of the outrage is but fourteen miles from Columbia. The whole affair is either fabricated or exaggerated in my judgment.

I write to day to Gen Lem Boozer the State Senator from Lexington making enquiries of him concerning the affair.

I have given every assurance in various Co Addresses that the freed people should not be molested in their schools and churches and I am glad to be able to say they have flourishing schools in most of the towns & villages in the State.

As soon as I get a reply from Col. Boozer I will communicate further with you and if any violence or outrage has been committed the offenders shall be brought to punishment.

Very respectfully Your
James L Orr
Gov of S C

Rev
A Toomer Porter
New York

Livonia Washington Co Ind.
June 15th 66.

Major Gen. O. O. Howard
Dear Sir,
I am very thankful to you for the kind letter in regard to Gen. Kimball which you were pleased to send me. "The life and services of Gen Kimball will soon appear."
Please accept a copy of my work the Iron Furnace of which I send you per this mail. I enclose a testimonial from Gen Kimball which vouches for my loyalty &c. In consequence of my adherence to the Government I was

compelled to escape from
Central Miss. My goods
I boxed up and sent to
Goodman Depot on the
Miss Central R.R. in
Holmes Co. Miss. After
my departure and as
soon as it became known
that my goods were at
Goodman two Elders
of my Church went to
court men and seized
my goods and sold them
at auction What they
did with the money I
know not I suppose
that they gave a part
to the Rebel Government
and retained the remain-
der. My library was worth
150.00$ They sold my
wifes clothing as well as

mine. My churches
owed me 6 or 7 hundred
dollars besides. My
house I sold since
the war but they are
determined that I should
lose it. I had the deed
recorded but upon
examination the rec-
ord does not appear
it is doubtless cut out
or erased. And the deed
was with the papers
which my clerks seized
and is perhaps destroyed
My life would be in
jeopardy were I to go
down to Miss to attend to
the matter and the ex-
pense would be great
From affluence I am re-
duced to poverty. While

my slaves have made money
by their course. Would
you be so kind as to in-
form me whether I can
obtain redress through you
as Com. of Refugees. &c
I would not trouble
you but I know not how
else to secure a part of
the property of which the
secessionists have robbed
me. Yours truly.

John H. Hughey

Livonia

Washington Co.

Ark.