
3651 6/19/1866

From: H. Sweeney
Capt. Co. H.
U.S.C.I.
Genl. Supt. R.F.A.L.

To: Hon S.C. Pomeroy

OOH-3618

Source: Bowdoin

Bureau of Refugees
Freedmen and
Abandoned Lands,
Office of General
Superintendent for
Eastern Arkansas
Helena, Arkansas

U.S. Senator
Washington, D.C.

[137, 138]

[Letterhead]

Bureau of Refugees Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,
Office of General Superintendent for Eastern Arkansas
Helena, Arkansas
June 19th 1866

Hon S.C. Pomeroy
U.S. Senator
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

I am exceedingly sorry to trouble you with my private affairs, knowing the many and arduous duties of your high station, but some base and malicious false reports have been sent to Major Genl. O.O. Howard regarding my conduct both morally and officially by some person to me unknown, but with the evident intention of getting me out of office, and placing some friend of theirs in it.

Maj Genl. J.W. Sprague has been here during the past few days having a full and public investigation and has taken the Depositions of nearly twenty persons both leading Union men, ex Federal Officers, and Colored men. All of who testified in the same spirit and to the same effect as expressed in the enclosed letter of the Hon. Jack Hanks, Judge of the 1st Judicial District of Arkansas.

I ask you dear Sir, as the powerful friend of the oppressed, and as a matter of the very greatest personal favor, if you could conveniently and without giving yourself too much trouble, to let Major General see the testimonials which I have forwarded you, at various times, from our old Army Officers and Others.

I feel very sensitive my dear Sir, about the matter, as I value my reputation as any old Soldier should, having served our Government and Country faithfully and honestly for twelve long years, without being censured once, and doing the past eighteen months labored hard in the cause of humanity and justice.

I presume Major Genl Sprague will make a report of his investigation to Genl. Howard giving the testimony adduced, which will prove that the confidence of my Superiors has not been misplaced.

As you promised to be friend me I take the liberty of addressing you on the subject.

Respectfully asking you to return me Judge Hank's letter after you have read it as I prize such testimonials a desire to keep them.

I remain Dear Sir
Your Respectful & Obt. Sert.
H. Sweeney
Capt. Co. H. U.S.C.I. -
Genl. Supt. R.F.A.L.

[Summary written sideways in the left third of the back page, in a different hand.]

Helena Ark

June 19th 66

Sweeny H

Capt & Genl. Supt.

Bureau R.F.&A.L.

Concerning malicious charges against him by some person unknown.

[Response written in the middle third of the last page.]

Referred to Maj. Genl. Howard

The writer so far as I know –or have ever heard - is all right. I cannot believe any well grounded charges can be made against him. I am

S. C. Pomeroy

3652 6/19/1866

From: Alex. M. Davis

To: Maj Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-3619

Office of The Tribune
Raleigh N.C.

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[190, 191]

[Letterhead]

Office of The Tribune
Raleigh N.C. June 19 1866

Maj Genl O.O. Howard
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

We anxiously await the forming of the Court Martial; and, the rumors that Genl Turner will not come reach us with doleful moment.

Perhaps it is not inopportune that I suggest that Genl Ruger is rather a bad selection for Pres. or even a member of the court as I'm inclined to believe Genl W. will wreak his testimony on his defence, and besides I know him to have a decided personal dislike and prejudice toward Chaplin <Glaois> from his remarks to me last summer while here relative to a Tribune letter from Goldsborough. No doubt the Administration propose to crowd the evidence for prosecution and take every means of conviction even by sophistry. <Hence> a fair and unprejudiced court is all that's wanted, hence the propriety of perhaps suggesting the change.

I don't desire you to infer I wish to garble the fact to a "radical view". I intend as my employers desire to give impartial, clear definite facts. Hence as one of the means through whom the public will form its opinions. I trust to start in the work riping up Bureau affairs with correct auspices.

I make the suggestion in all candor.

The union men are taking fresh impetus and life anew since Senator Fessenden's report, and are now happy in the expectation Congress will relieve the pressure that the over lenient policy of the President has placed them under. If only true union men on every hand could get the government patronage what a blessing it would be to promote the healthy belief our country cares for its adherents. But unfortunately special agents & else pander and hob nob with mild & water influence until at last drawn into the vortex of rebellious associations who clean them of all influence. Why should we find men nominated who cannot take the oath.

Respectfully offered by
Your obdt Servt
Alex. M. Davis

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

Raleigh N.C. June 18th 1866

Davis, Alex. M.

Gives his views of affairs in North Carolina.

Recd June 21, 1866

3653 6/19/1866 *From:* John Chester

To: Major General [OO]
Howard

OOH-3620

Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[192, 193]

Washington June 19th 1866

Major General Howard
Sir,

Permit me to state, that I have ascertained from Rev Mr Fey, who has been over the road, that Oxford is but fourteen miles from a station on the Baltimore & Phil'da RR. called "North-East". Leaving here on Thursday morning at 7 ½ you would reach North East about 11 oclk & Lincoln University at one. Mr Fey says he has often made the trip in an hour & a half.

If time permit, the Secretary of the Board of Education will try to make arrangements for a carriage from Oxford to be at the North East Depot, on Thursday morning. If he succeeds, will telegraph you to that effect. If he fails, they still hope, you may find it convenient to be present, as he states it has been announced in all the religious papers that you would be there, and your presence would be a great help to this noble cause.

Very respectfully
John Chester

The Excursion train from Phil'da leaves at 7.20 A.M., from Westchester depot corner of 31st & Market Sts, - returning leaves Oxford 5.45 P.M. arriving in Phil'da at 9. P.M.

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

Washington DC

June 19 '66

Chester Mr. John

Facilities for travel –train time &c from Phila to Oxford & Lincoln University.

3654 6/19/1866

From: J.B. Kiddoo
Bvt Maj Gen Vols
Asst Com

To: Maj Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-3621

Source: Bowdoin

Headquarters,
Bureau of Refugees,
Freedmen and
Abandoned Lands,
State of Texas
Galveston

[194, 195]

[Letterhead]

Headquarters,
Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,
State of Texas
Galveston
June 19th 1866

Maj Gen O.O. Howard
Commissioner
&c &c &c
General:

I have the honor to report that I have taken the proper steps to procure the information required in your communication of the 4th ult, but Gov Hamilton as well as Gen Gregory with whom I send this Communication will inform you as to the almost impracticability of getting the report you want in the form prescribed in this State. As to the matter of "destitution" referred to, I have to report that there is comparatively none except the small amount indicated on my ration return to which I respectfully refer you. I have some apprehensions that some destitution will result from the extensive overflows in certain portions of the State, but against which proper precautions have been taken. The reports required as to the number of rations necessary to prevent destitution will be promptly furnished.

I will immediately make an extended report of affairs in this state. Have not done so sooner because I had not been here sufficiently long to learn the exact state of affairs.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
J.B. Kiddoo
Bvt Maj Gen Vols
Asst Com &c &c

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

Galveston Texas
June 19th 1866
Kiddoo J.B.

Bvt Maj. Genl. & A.C.

Concerning reports on the matter of destitution, referred to in Genl Howard's letter. There is comparatively little destitution in Texas.

3655 6/20/1866

From: Clinton B Fisk
Bt Maj Genl, A.C.
Bureau Refugees,
Freedmen and
Abandoned Lands,
State of Tennessee
Assistant
Commissioner's Office,
Nashville, Tenn.

To: Maj Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-3622

Source: Bowdoin

[199]

Personal

[Letterhead]

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,
State of Tennessee
Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Nashville, Tenn.,
June 20th 1866

Dear General,

I am in receipt of your favor 16th inst touching the application of Dr. A.L. P. Greene to rent monies ordered restored to him by the Federal Court. I have refused to obey the order of the Court, and shall of course continue to do so, unless authorized by yourself or the Secy of War to make payment. Dr Greene will visit you in person with the next few days to favor his claim. I gave him a letter of introduction in which I commend him to your confidence & liberal consideration. I esteem him personally –but do not ask for him any special consideration over other sinners.

Very Respectfully
Your Ob't Sert
Clinton B Fisk
Bt Maj Genl, A.C.

Maj Genl Howard
Comr &c
Washington, D.C.

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

Nashville Tenn. June 20, 1866
Fisk, Clinton B.
Maj. Gen.
Friendly note
June 24th 1866

3656 6/20/1866 *From:* W.E. Harris

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-3623

Washington

Source: Bowdoin

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Washington June 20th / 66

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

Sir

I have the honor to make the following statements in regard to the Priders trial school under my charge - which were organized about three months since. We have furnished employment & instruction to one hundred (100) monies, & six hundred <gurnies> to have been completed. We have felt very much energized in the improvement made & really feel as though we were seeing the fruits of our instruction. The only draw-back to our work is the wants of material, for it takes a large quantity to keep twenty five women employed even four or five hours per day. Beside they are all poor & many of them very destitute, so I have thought it best to pay them very literally from their work in clothing &c. & have also distributed about fifteen hundred garments among the sick & needy.

In consideration with our school we have a Sunday which we are trying to make useful both in the way of instruction & pecuniary aid to those <> are here to benefit.

Hoping that this brief sketch of our work may meet with favor, I remain

Very Respectfully Yours

W.E. Harris

Agt. Rvd Free <>

3657 6/20/1866 *From:* A.N. Rankin

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-3624

P.O. Box 5, 733
76 John Street
New York

Source: Bowdoin

[197, 198]

P.O. Box 5, 733
76 John Street
New York, June 20 / 66

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard
Dear Sir:

The circular, referring to the "Congregational Church" at the Capital of the Nation, addressed to Rev. Lyman Abbott came duly to hand.

Mr. Abbott, for the purpose of recuperating his health, which has been seriously impaired latterly, has gone to the State of Maine – to be absent a few weeks.

As soon as he returns your paper shall be placed in his hands.

You will perhaps remember that I informed you at Mr. Beecher's church, the night of the "Congregational re-union," that Mr. Abbott was sick – he has never been well since.

God bless and prosper the Washington Church enterprize is the prayer of Yours Truly
A.N. Rankin

[Summary written on the last page, in a different hand.]
New York, June 20, 1866
Rankin, A.N.
Friendly letter
Recd June 21st 1866

3658 6/21/1866 *From:* A J Barnet

To: Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-3625

New York

Source: Bowdoin

New York June 21 1866

Genl O.O. Howard

Dear Sir

You will remember at the meeting of the Trustees for the Freedmens Savings Bank in our city last month, I took upon myself to introduce to your acquaintance Mr L.B. Chittenden of Brooklyn (merchant of this city) and alluded to the effort being made here in behalf of the new Cong'l Church in Washington and expressed my regret to Mr Chittenden, that he did not listen to your earnest appeal the Evening before in Mr Beechers Church.

Will you pardon me if I suggest to you, that you write Mr Chittenden a few lines putting forth thoughts of your worthy enterprize & the want of such help as he can give, and make an engagement to meet him at his office, (or his house which would be preferable) at a time suited to your convenience. I feel quite confident, that a personal interview of Genl Howard with Mr Chittenden, will secure a handsome subscription for the Church. Knowing your deep interest in this enterprize, and having a deep sympathy my self in its progress & success, I have taken this liberty of addressing you, & remain with great respect

Yours Very Truly,
A J Barnet

3659 6/21/1866

From: H. Van Aernam

To: Maj Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-3626

Source: Bowdoin

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

[200, 201]

[Letterhead & engraving of the U.S. Capitol]

Thirty-Ninth Congress, U.S.

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

June 21st 1866

Maj Genl O.O. Howard

General

You will allow me the pleasure of introducing to you the bearer of this Lieut F.J. Foster, and I cheerfully invite your most favorable consideration of his application. This is the young gentleman I commended to you personally a short time since; and as the appropriation for the "Freedmen's Bureau" has now passed the Senate, I should have taken the liberty of again pressing this case upon you personally, but am prevented from doing so, by being called home on account of alarming sickness in my family.

I am the more earnest in this matter, because I know the Lieutenant would suit you.

I am General

Very respectfully Yours.

H.[Henry] Van Aernam [U.S. Representative from New York]

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

Washington D.C. June 21, 1866

Aernam, H. Van.

Recommends Lt. F.J. Foster for position as clerk in the Bureau

Recd. June 23, 1866