Please address EDWIN LEE BROWN,
Cor. Sec. "Associated Western Literary Societies,"
46 RIVER STREET, UP STAIRS,
CHICAGO, ILL.

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☞ See CIRCULAR of objects and aims of this Association on the OTHER SIDE. ☜

Chicago, Ill., July 18 — 1866

Major Genl. Howard,
Dear Sir,
Your kind favor of the 14th was duly recd.
In reply would state, that I shall be able to send you a list of the Societies desiring to hear you, within a very short time. I have only a very few more Societies yet to hear from, and will apply to you as soon as I hear from them.
I am gratified to learn that you intend coming West.
Yours Most Respectfully —
Edwin Lee Brown.

Associated Western Literary Societies.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, CHICAGO, ILL.

The "A. W. L. S." is an association of about thirty of the leading Literary and Lecture Societies of the West, formed for the purpose of joint action and mutual benefit (both to themselves and the Lecturers) in the matter of obtaining Lecturers &c., &c. By this combined action they trust to become enabled to obtain the *very best talent*, by offering to the Lecturers regular *routes*, of greater or less extent, thereby making it more of an object for them to come "out West" than has been previously the case, when only detached engagements could be offered to them, and those very often widely apart. We hope, also, to be of benefit to the smaller and "weaker" Societies among us, by enabling them to obtain Lecturers whom they otherwise could not hope to obtain, as many Lecturers will lecture for them in an extended *course*, at somewhat reduced figures, when else they could not afford to do so.

The particular advantages we offer to *Lecturers* consists in the fact that, instead of dealing with *several* persons in making their engagements, they deal in this case with only *one*, (the Cor. Sec. of the "A. W. L. S.") who will arrange their *routes*, so that they may give the greatest number of lectures with the least possible loss of time, &c., &c., thus saving them a very great amount of trouble in the shape of correspondence, or the expense of employing an *Agent*, if they have been in the habit of doing so.

Of course, some Lecturers receive more applications from the Association than others, and the Cor. Sec. is instructed to apply only for those Lecturers receiving *five* applications or upwards: although he will, *by particular request*, apply for any of those receiving a less number.

It is understood, that in applying for Lecturers, they are to come, if at all, some time during the *regular Lecture Season*, or between the first of November and the fifteenth of March. When Lecturers *cannot* come within that period, but *can* come at a *different time*, they will please say so distinctly, in which case their propositions will be submitted to the different constituent Societies.

Lecturers, in their answers, will please give their *lowest terms*, stating also whether there will be any *additional expenses* in the shape of traveling or hotel bills, &c., and if so, exactly what, and how much; they will also state the *exact time* they can come, the *whole number* of Lectures they can deliver, also give the *titles*, in full, of their different Lectures:—in short, they will please make their answers as concise and definite as possible, so to save time and trouble to the Corresponding Secretary.

Each Lecturer will be paid the price agreed upon by the Cor. Sec. of the "A. W. L. S." at the close of his Lecture, by the Society before which he lectures.

There is a wide field for improvement, both intellectually and physically, in the Great West, and its people are ready and anxious to hear *first rate* Lectures, and are willing to pay for them; such can do *good* here, and we sincerely hope that *all* of those to whom we apply will consent to come, even at the sacrifice of a little personal ease and comfort.

Respectfully,

EDWIN LEE BROWN,

(Prest. Y. M. A., Chicago,)

Cor. Sec. "A. W. L. S."

☞ See other side.

Ark
July 18th 1866

mas
Col. Troops

on the political

Helena Ark July the 18 1866

Mr Dear Friend of the united States of America At the head quarters of the united States I hope that you will See this Bill of this State of Ark and I hope that the loyal Men will voter Before the Rebel of this States And All other States of the united States Thomas Jonell the Fifteen Six ns lo I and I mean know horse of it But I hope that you will know it Mr President Johnson Will know that I Do not mean every horse to tel you Mr know it

Washington D.C. July 24 1866

But I Dont know and I
was Born in Pike County
Missouri near Spencer Burg
And Mey name is Thomas
Donell be I be and if I
See any Rebel
Ace in the State where
I Live at I will let
you know it the rebel
were think the Coorled
Pepele are Slave yet
Sir now At this
Pesen time So I will
Bring my letter So I will
Stand By the union
Pl Dear tak Place

St. Louis, Mo. July 19th 1866.

General;

There are oath bound and secret associations being formed among the colored people of this & adjoining States, by late Volunteer officers of the U. S. Army. These ex officers profess to have authority, from some higher source, to form these associations. The chief actor ranks himself "next to General Howard" in these organizations!

The ostensible objects are, Mutual benefit — to act in concert to gain civil and political rights — to establish schools, Academies & Colleges, Newspapers &c.

During the rebellion I was constantly active — as a volunteer Minister of the Gospel — in the army in Va. Ky. Tenn. & Alabama, and for the last two years as the Chaplain

of the 12th U. S. C. Infantry.

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Having done much, for some time, to aid the blacks in the establishment of schools - & having a large experience as a teacher I have been invited to join this League and to become head of an Educational Bureau. The deep interest I feel in the present condition of the race lead me to desire such a position; but the doubts ~~that~~ entertained of the truthfulness and disinterestedness of the leaders cause me to hesitate.

I, therefore, write to know — if the good of the service allows you to give the information — whether such associations are formed with your knowledge and approbation.

Very Respectfully,
Your obt. Servt
W. W. Eaton.
St Louis
Mo.

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard,
Chief of Freedman's Bureau
Washington, D. C.

St. Louis. Mo. July 19. 1866

Genl O. O. Howard
Washington, D.C.

States that there is a secret organization in this West which proposes that Gen. Howard is at the head. Asks if such is the case.

answered July 24 '66
per P.S.B.

(Confidential.)

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Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,

Office Assistant Commissioner, State of Georgia,

Augusta, Ga., July 19th, 1866.

Dear Gen:

It has been intimated to me that a change in the Bureau in this State is not improbable; and I, therefore, take the liberty of addressing you in regard to my own position. I am anxious to hold it so long as the Bureau exists, if I so long properly discharge its duties. In expressing such a desire I do not pretend to say that there is nothing selfish in it, yet I will do myself the justice to say that, in seeking to retain my position under the present Com., or any one who may succeed him, I seek also the interests of those for whose moral and mental elevation I am laboring.

I believe I have gained the entire confidence of the freed people of this State, as well as that of some of their white friends here, and also the confidence and hearty coöperation of the Aid Societies which have extended their efforts to this state; and I have arrangements on foot now by which a strong force of teachers and missionaries will be brought into the field in the fall.

That you may know what is thought of me by those who have known me since my early childhood, I enclose the recommendations upon which I secured my present position.

In explanation I will say that Mr. Stewart, whose letter I enclose, was a member

of the XXXVI. Congress, is one of the ablest lawyers of Western Pa., and is now the Republican candidate for Judge of the judicial district in which he lives.

I refer you also to Hon. Geo. V. Lawrence and Hon. W. D. Kelley M.C's. from Pa.

I go North in a day, or two, to confer with the Societies in N. Y. Boston, Phila. and Pittsburgh in regard to future operations (those of the coming school year) and should like to visit Washington to have a personal interview with you, but I may not feel able to bear the expense and shall therefore be obliged to ask you to address your reply to this letter to my home — New Brighton, Pa.

My recommendations you will please return until I

write for them or you can return them to me with your reply to this letter, as may seems best to you.

Requesting a reply at your earliest convenience

I am, Gen, very respectfully,
Your obt. servant,

J. S. Oberhart.

State Supt. F. S. Ga.

Augusta Ga - July 19 - 66

Eberhardt - Gl
School Supt Selma -

Desires to be retained
in the Bureau -

— the least contempt seems no
thing at most or use - Even if he
did he asks for the appt of Supt
or asst Comr.

Answered by BRB

Secretaries:
GEORGE WHIPPLE, } New York.
MICHAEL E. STRIEBY, }
JACOB R. SHIPHERD, Chicago.

AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION:
29, Lombard Block;

Chicago, July 19/[illegible]

My dear General:

Mr. C. Thurston Chase is a man of sagacity, prudence, modesty, diligence & eminent faithfulness to the higher good.

If you are wanting some one whom it will be hard even for the captious to find fault with; some one who will not undertake more than he can thoroughly do; some one who gets up with a headfull of fresh common sense, & goes to bed with a clean conscience — you will go a long journey before you can do so well as to employ him. So I think, & I know somewhat of the man.

I think he might be especially useful in looking after the school-buildings authorized by the new law — thank God & Congress for it!

But he is a man of varied talent. It would especially gratify me, if his own consent could be obtained, to find him representing the Bureau in some influential post in the Mississippi Valley.

Always, dear General,
Very faithfully yours,
J R Shipherd.

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard, &c.
Washington.

Washington July 20, 1866

Major Gen O. O. Howard
Moses Sweetser
C A Pitcher

Gentlemen
The
request for a collection
in behalf of the Portland
sufferers signed by
yourselves as Executive
Committee appointed by
ladies at a late meeting
held in Dr Gurleys Church
was this morning received.
I would say in reply
that the Calvary Baptist
Church took up a collec-
tion for that object last
Sabbath morning and

I have already placed the amount raised in the hands of Mr Huntington Cashier of 1st National Bank of this City

Yours Respectfully
T R Howlett
Pastor of Calvary Bapt. Ch.

Holmes Hole, Martha's Vineyard, Mass
July 20th 1866 –

Dear General

A letter — the essential portions of which are, literally, as follows — has just reached me.

"My dear friend

"I understand confidentially that Drew has made an application to Gen'l Howard for the promotion to Chief Clerk, instead of yourself, and that he has suspended the case until investigation is made as to the proper one for receiving the promotion.

"Drew claims the rights on the ground that his 1st Class regular appointment in the Quarter Master General's Office invalidates your temporary appointment as 4th Class. Such an argument appears to me perfectly ridiculous, but he has certainly talked to the General in such a manner as to effect its furtherance, at present. I should feel quite sorry to have you lose the place and therefore write you this note that you may be on the lookout, for you have always

been a good friend of mine.

"Please don't let any person know that I have written you anything on this subject as it was told to me in private conversation.

"Drew has acted very ungentlemanly, I think, in the matter and not only Drew but others, whose names I will not mention unless I see you, have been implicated and are urging the appointment before your return."

As suggested by the above, permit me General to say, briefly,

It is difficult to perceive how the former possession of a $1200 "regular" clerkship in the Quarter Master General's Office, gives one a claim to the Chief Clerkship of the Freedmen's Bureau, which is — quite as much as the other clerkships in the latter Bureau — "temporary". Or, if the fact of an existing appropriation makes the Chief Clerkship (and for similar reasons all the other Clerkships) of the Freedmen's Bureau "regular" then it is still more difficult to perceive how anything but present regular rank in the Bureau can avail a claimant for promotion.

The fact that at about the time the claimant

for promotion over my head, was a 1st Class Clerk in the office mentioned. I was Captain on the Vol Staff and successfully performing both my Departmental duties and those of A.D.C. to Genl Alex Webb, in the Wilderness, at Po River, at Spottsylvania and generally through that campaign, which found me an enthusiastic participant until I could no longer sit my horse from illness, would seem to afford, in itself, reason for my receiving as high a clerical appointment under the Government as my capacities would warrant.

If there is any force in the new and ingenious quibble brought forward in my absence I would respectfully ask you, General, if you would have promoted the Major of a Volunteer regiment over the head of a competent Lieutenant Colonel for no stronger reason than the fact of that major holding a 2d Lieutenancy in the regular service?

I will conclude, at once, by saying that, resolute as I always am in the vindication of my rights, I attach a much greater value to your appreciation and friendship than to

even the promotion you have promised and I so long looked forward to.

Upon the equity of the propositions I have submitted, above, upon my unwavering fidelity to my duties and to yourself, upon my record throughout the past as well as in the present and upon your strong sense of justice, I am quite content to rest my case.

I have the honor to be, General,

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant and faithful friend

Fred. Wooster Owen

Major General O. O. Howard

U.S.A.

Commissioner Freedmen's Bureau

Washington D.C.