

Dear General: On the fifth of the present month  
I left New York. On that-day Col and Mrs Bay-  
er came to see us. Both desired me to present  
to you their kindest respects. They spoke of  
passing the summer on Staten Island, where the  
Col: is stationed as Medical Director

Truly &c

John Estlin

July 28. '66

Genl. Tilden

Augusta Ga.

on the appointing of Commissioners. It will be seen by the  
latter portion of the 4th act, that it is "under the duty of  
of the U.S. Circuit Courts" to appoint the Commission-  
ers. This shows that the appointment is to be by the  
"Court" not by the Court, or the Judge. As you are not  
of the legal profession, I hope you will pardon me if I  
appear pedantic, when I mention that when an Act of  
Congress requires something to be done by a "Court", it  
implicitly says, it shall not be done by a "Judge". We  
include in the acts of a Judge of equal dignity in law -  
unless expressly given by statute - with those of a Court.  
I have held the District Court for the Southern Dist

Nunan Carter County Ga  
July 28<sup>th</sup> 1866

Maj. Genl. Davis Tillson:

U.S.A. &c &c

General:

Your communication of the 18<sup>th</sup> in reference to the immediate appointment of Commissioners under the Civil Rights Bill, is just-at-hand-forwarded from Sav. by Maj. Dickson U.S.M. Ever since the passage of the Act, I have been reflecting on the appointing of Commissioners. It will be seen by the latter portion of the 4<sup>th</sup> sect, that it is "near the duty of the U.S. Circuit Courts" to appoint the Commissioners. This shows that the appointment is to be by the "Court" not by the Court, or the Judge. As you are not of the legal profession, I hope you will pardon me if I appear pedantic, when I mention that when an Act of Congress requires something to be done by a "Court", it implicitly says, it shall not be done by a "Judge". We indeed are the acts of a Judge of equal dignity in law unless expressly given by statute with those of a Court. I have held the District Court for the Southern Dist

but not the Circuit Court. This will be held early in Oct:  
 or either by myself alone, or associated with one of  
 of the Supreme Court of the U.S. My opinion is and  
 this than the concurrence of distinguished jurists—  
 that the appointment of a Com<sup>o</sup>, under the Civil Rights  
 Bill, cannot be made until the Circuit Court term.  
 For this very reason I have not appointed any Com<sup>o</sup>  
 under any Act of Congress—because, in all instances, the  
 statutes require their being appointed by the "Circuit Court."  
 I will look further into this matter, and if I find that  
 I am in error, I will correct it by appointing before  
 the Circuit term. And I will esteem it, General, as a  
 personal kindness, and as a public good, if you will, in  
 the one or two, make inquiry as to who, in the Southern  
 Circuit, can, and will, best fill the position. I tender  
 to you my hearty co-operation in the carrying out of  
 the noble work of equal civil rights to all men in  
 our country. The U.S. Court for the Northern District  
 hold on the 2nd M. in Sep. Some two weeks ago, I replied  
 to Mr. Dunning of Atlanta, that upon your recommen-  
 dation, and my own belief of his loyalty and fitness, I  
 would appoint him a Com<sup>o</sup> under the Civil Rights  
 Act, just as soon as is possible. I will appoint him on  
 the first day of the Term, or before then, if I change my

present views in regard to the appointing power.

I go to Savannah about the last of next week - if my wife is not then too feeble for me to leave her. On the 14th Aug. I hold the Dist. Ct. at that place.

On yesterday I read, in a newspaper, an extract from a letter written by you, giving a brief account of the heinous murder, and other crimes lately committed in Stewart Co. These barbarities call aloud for punishment. I will, however, make no comments, as these matters may possibly, at some time, come judicially before me.

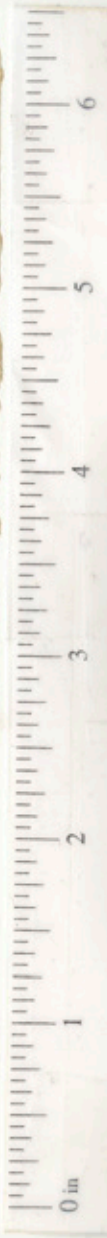
With sincere respect, I am, dear  
General, your Obedt. Servt.  
John Erskine.

Thomas Lincoln B.

Pa - July 28, 1866

Dear Sir

Concerning the  
operations of your  
Rights-Title



Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,  
STATES OF ~~KENTUCKY AND TENNESSEE.~~

Perman

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, 167

Nashville, Ten. July 28 1866

Dear Genl Howard

At last the bill  
has become a law. + the Bureau  
has continuance for two years.  
I congratulate you upon the  
results of the protracted struggle  
and the admirable manner  
in which you have handled  
our furniture during five months  
of continued storm. You have  
covered a most excellent Board  
for the revision of regulations +  
we can I trust henceforth build  
with more certainty -

I am getting  
along very well - am pushing  
the civil-law quite successfully  
Genl Thomas and Stone man  
both do all they can to aid

me. and the high Civil officials of  
the state co-operate heartily -

I have written you  
of my desire to extend Educational  
facilities with the miscellaneous  
fund I yet have on hand. I hope  
you will think it best to grant my  
petition. I want to cover up the  
state with schools next autumn.  
I wish you would take pains some  
day to tell Genl Grant how econo-  
-mically I have been able to con-  
-duct my district - You will remem-  
-ber his fear that I would be most  
too extravagant &c -

I was very grateful  
that you escaped so wonderfully  
the other day. from serious bodily  
injury. You might not to go out alone  
taking such risks -

I have just returned  
from a two or three days stay  
with my family. My Fort

was very desirous to know of your  
 good wife's welfare "about these days"  
 + bade me send "you all" much  
 love when I wrote you -

Leah Steadman + Fullerton  
 never gave me a call ever -  
 my strict must either be of no  
 account in their estimation. As  
 they conclude we make no mistake  
 in this quarter - I can assure them  
 that we do make some -

Overtw is again pressing  
 for his rent + I have forwarded  
 his petition with recommendation.  
 I would like to get it settled  
 before Judge Briggs gets his court  
 in session again. as he will  
 undoubtedly give judgement against  
 us for the entire rent <sup>real</sup> before  
 + after pardon. + order me into  
 prison for contempt of court for  
 not paying over as heretofore ordered.  
 Are you coming west this season



Cant you visit St-Louis? - You would  
have a hearty welcome there -  
We rejoiced much over your  
Success at the Ophian Fair -  
May you never have to buckle  
w the sword: but may you love  
to wear out a hundred dancing  
gowns - Please remember me  
kindly to your loved ones -  
believe me to be

With great Respect

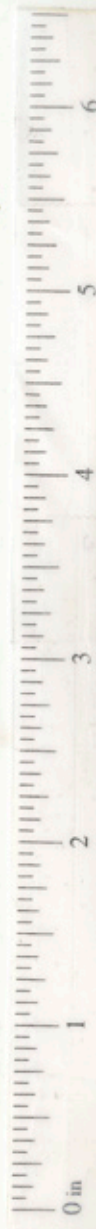
Your Faithful Friend

Jonathan B. Stick

B<sup>ts</sup> - May Sec<sup>y</sup>

Received by the American Board Nov 10 1835

Accepted by the  
Foreigners on 1835



Wetzel

New Bern July 28<sup>th</sup> 1866

Major General O. O. Howard.

Commissioner Bureau of R. F. &amp; A. L.

Honored Sir.

Your communication of July 24<sup>th</sup> in reply to my letter of July 17<sup>th</sup> has been received, and contents noted.

I am extremely sorry that nothing can be done for me at present. I thought the little capacity I had, might be better suited for the special duties of Inspector - which would suit me better, than any other, inasmuch as I could then be kept moving around. I am, however, content to await a more favorable moment. Trusting that you will keep my request in mind.

For the expressions of confidence in me, in my present position, and the good opinion you have of my value as an officer. I sincerely thank you; they are more truly valuable to me, coming from you, than any officer, under whom I have ever served, and will but be an incentive for the greater exertion on my part - to merit the continuation of your good opinion.

In reference to my family moving to this place, I can not consider the matter seriously for a moment,

185

1851

London July 22 1851

My dear O. D. ...

Commissioner of the ...

London

Your communication of the 17th ...

has been received and I am ...

glad to hear that you are ...

and I am sure that you will ...

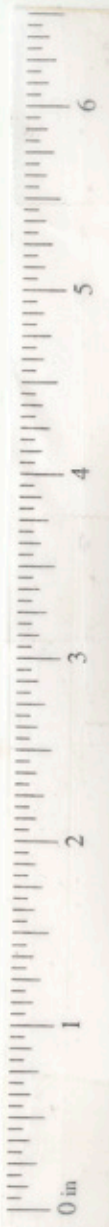
be successful in your ...

endeavour to secure the ...

of the ...

of the ...

of the ...



This place is very unhealthy, and there is no society - even if there were, my family would be studiously insulted & smugged - because I am an officer of the Bureau -

I could not (even were I selfish enough to permit them to come) provide at present, a suitable home for them, and I am too well satisfied, that my wife, weak as she is, could not endure the fatigue of 2 days or even one days journey -

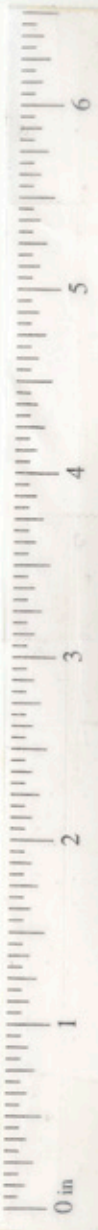
Placing my implicit faith & confidence, in the all wise, care & mercies of Providence, and conscientious convictions of my duties - I patiently await the consummation of the requests I have made -

Again asking pardon, for the informality of my action in this matter, and thanking you for the generous impulses of your nature, in ~~not~~ noticing my informality - and with the assurances of the prayers of myself and family for your health & success -

I remain Sir,

Very truly & sincerely  
Your most obedient servant.

*W. H. Wiegert*  
Bt Col & Supt



New Concord N. H.  
July 28<sup>th</sup> 1878

Friend Mrs  
Boston Mass. Suffolk

Dear Mrs I have forwarded  
to you that our opportunity  
may even occur to place  
ours in your hands duty  
further north

Yours  
Sincerely

Wm. W. W.

Received July 31st 1878

THE AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY, having the everlasting Gospel to preach to all of every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people in North America, solicits your hearty co-operation, your liberal contributions, and your effectual and fervent prayers.

Contributions may be forwarded to Rev. J. S. BACKUS, 39 Park Row, New York, for the support of Missionaries, or for the Freedmen's Fund, to support teachers South, or for the Church Edifice Fund, to aid in building meeting-houses. Any Baptist Church that pays Ten Dollars can be represented by a delegate at the annual meeting. Thirty Dollars will constitute you or your friend a Life Member, and One Hundred Dollars a Life Director. Give as you love your country. Give as you love Christ. Give as Christ gave for you. Give while you live; and before you die say in your Will: "I give and bequeath to the American Baptist Home Mission Society, formed in the City of New York in eighteen hundred and thirty-two, the sum of..... dollars, for the purposes of the Society." For all of which we give you credit, and give to God the glory.

Brig Gen

New York,

July 28, 1866

ROOM 16, No. 39 PARK ROW.

O. Q. Howard

Chief of Bureau

169

General

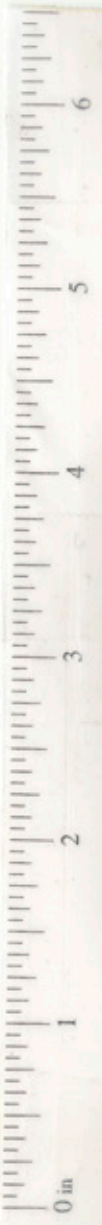
We are very happy to know that we had been thus informed. That the burning of Church & School Buildings in Synobling Va. was not the work of an incendiar or of persons opposed to our Missions & Schools

We appreciate the efficiency of the Bureau and are happy to give it all the support in our power

Very respectfully

Yours

J. S. Backus  
Secy



New York April 25. 1866

Bakers. F. J.

I direct to Messrs  
Hill-Hill, Architects  
of their School -  
house - workmen  
the work of m -  
Duck and

Recd. Aug. 3. 1866

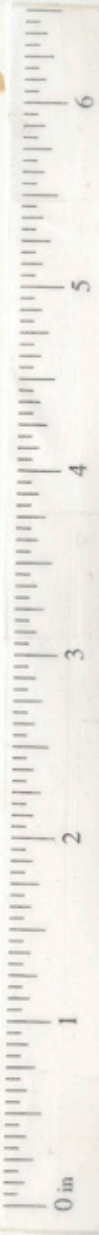
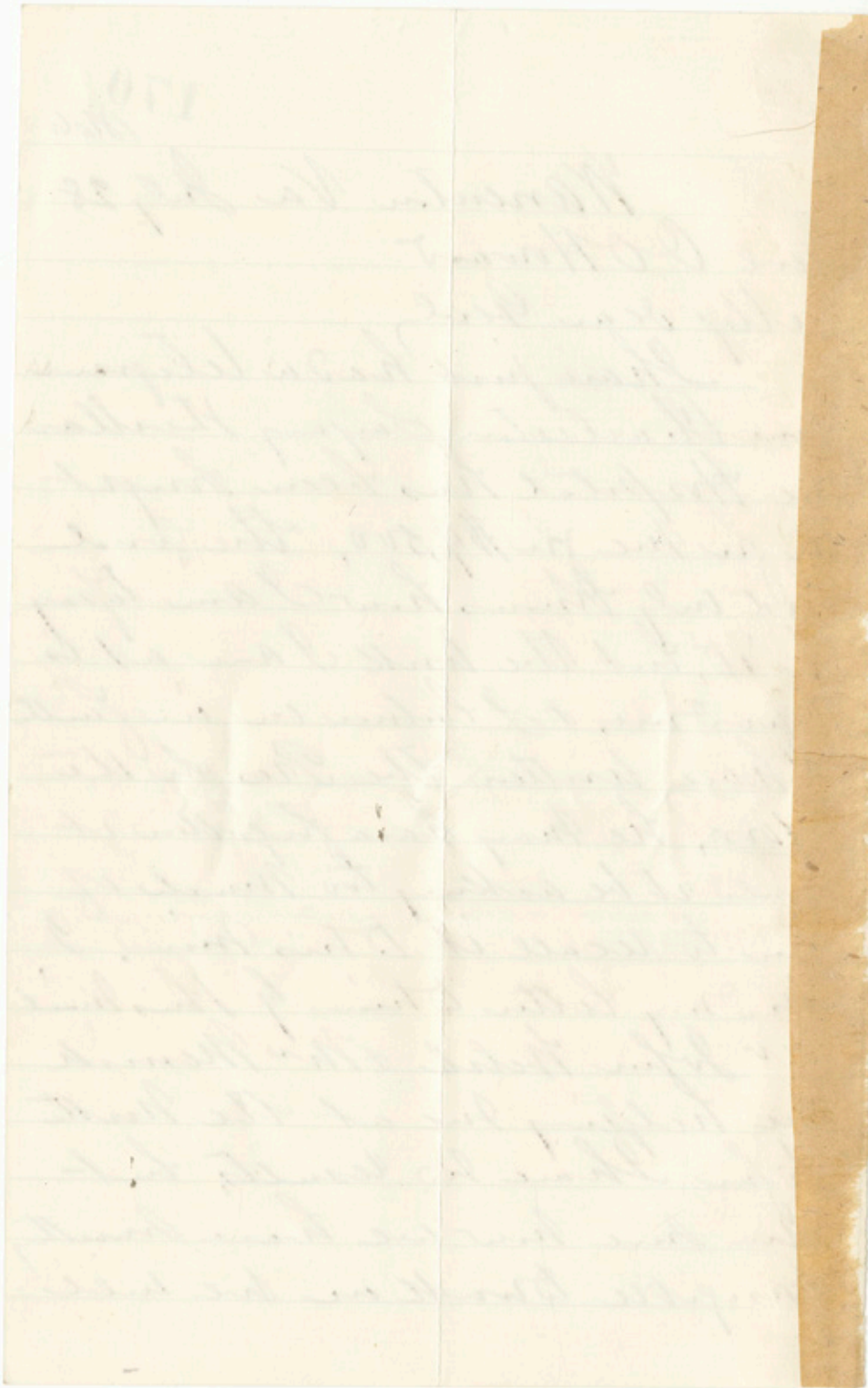
170  
1866

Warrenton Va July 28  
Genl O O Howard

My dear Genl

I have just had a telegram  
from Charleston saying the Mar-  
ine Hospital has been bought  
by you for \$9,500, the good  
Lord only knows how I am to pay  
for it, but the bank I am at is  
against me, & I labour on in faith  
I have written the Pres for the  
\$1000, he may have forgotten it  
would it be asking too much of  
you to recall it to his mind, I  
send my letter to him by this mail  
Mr John Welsh & Mr Merrick  
are helping me at the North  
John I have no results, but  
am sure now we have something  
tangible to work on we will





go ahead better, Cant You do  
 something for me, Have you  
 no disposable funds to let  
 go this way, we will have  
 to repair & fix up the building  
 but you know well it is  
 a good bank & I ask your  
 advice cooperation & any  
 form of assistance you can  
 give us for it is a big bank  
 for us you as well as we &  
 with the obstacles which only  
 energy & determination can  
 overcome - please let me  
 hear from you Yours truly  
 A. Turner Pitts

Went to Charleston

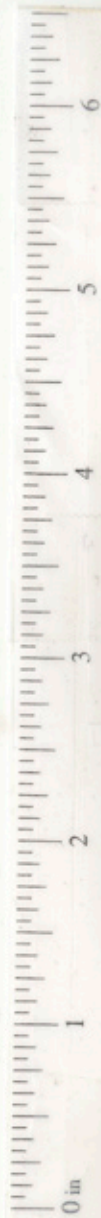
Will be there in a few days

Harrods, Va. July 28. 66

Porter, Post A. T.

Desires assistance  
to pay for  
the U. S. Marine  
Hospital for  
use of Freedmen  
in Charleston S. C.

Might aid him  
by doing something  
for him in the  
course of service  
I perhaps more  
when I see what  
C. S. P. in S. C.  
Recd July 29. 1866.



REV. ADAM FOK, D. D., President.  
LEVI COFFIN, General Agent.  
REV. R. S. RUST, D. D., Corresponding Secretary.  
J. F. LARKIN, Treasurer.  
THOS. KENNEDY, Assistant Treasurer.  
HON. WILLIAM PENN NIXON, Chairman Board of Directors.

P. O. BOX 932.

WESTERN FREEDOMEN'S AID COMMISSION,

NO. 87 WEST SIXTH ST.,  
OHIO MEDICAL COLLEGE.

172

Cincinnati, O. July 28th 1866.

O. O. Howard.  
Washington, D. C. Major General, Commissioner.

Dear Sir,

We have the impression that the new " Freedmen's Bureau Bill" authorizes the Commissioner to provide proper buildings for purposes of education whenever benevolent societies shall, without cost to the Government, provide teachers and means of instruction.

Our great want in the Mississippi Valley is school houses. The cry comes from city and plantation send us teachers, and we might respond favorably to many more of these appeals, could we secure buildings in which to hold our schools. What is the policy of the Bureau under this section. We greatly need buildings in Memphis andicksburg for our High Schools. The rioters destroyed our school houses and burned up five or six thousand dollars worth

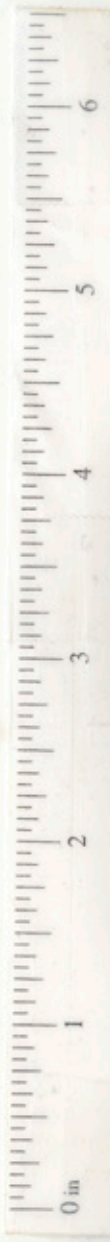
WESTERN BANKNOTES AND COINERS  
NO. 27 WEST BROAD ST.  
NEW YORK

P. O. BOX 233

Receipt of J. J. ...

(2)

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text in cursive script, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*



REV. ADAM POE, D. D., President.  
LEVI COFFIN, General Agent.  
REV. E. S. RUST, D. D., Corresponding Secretary.  
J. F. LARKIN, Treasurer.  
THOS. KENNEDY, Assistant Treasurer.  
HON. WILLIAM PENN NIXON, Chairman Board of Directors.

WESTERN FREEDMEN'S AID COMMISSION,

NO. 87 WEST SIXTH ST.,  
OHIO MEDICAL COLLEGE,

P. O. BOX 932.

(2)

173

Cincinnati, 186

of school property - Can it be recovered?  
Can you aid us in its recovery? Can  
you aid us in erecting a High School  
Building in Memphis?

Our schools have accomplished a  
noble work during the past few years,  
it seems almost miraculous, but we  
are pained to be compelled to  
refuse <sup>so</sup> many earnest appeals for  
schools on account of the low  
state of our funds -

Can you help us! I  
await your reply with solicitude  
as the time for opening our Hall  
Schools draws near -

Respectfully Yours  
R. S. Rust.  
Cor. Sec. W. F. Aid. Com.

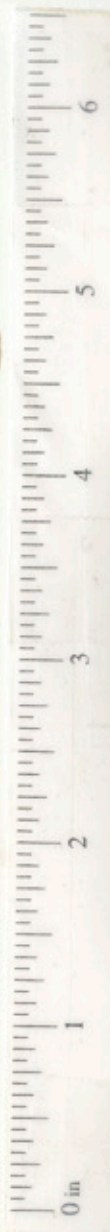
Document 1865

July 25, 1865

Genl Geo. P. S. S.  
for. Secy W. D. St. L.

I was to know the prices  
of the Demans in regard to  
furnishing schools & buildings

Geo. S. Davis 31st July 1865



Fort Wayne  
 Detroit Mich.  
 July 28 1866

General  
 Having been introduced  
 to you at Springfield Mass. &  
 knowing your relation to my wife  
 I take the liberty of addressing  
 you. to ask a favor hoping  
 you will see fit to acco-  
 mmodate.

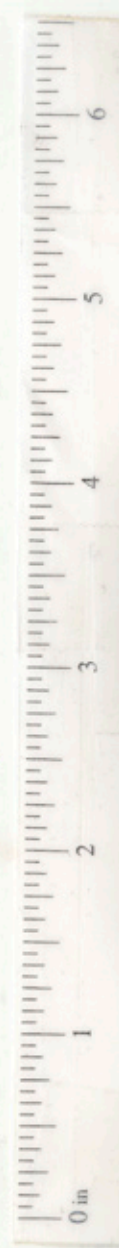
I see by the Washington  
 Chronicle, a certain number of  
 officers getting Brevet, and  
 knowing some of these officers  
 have hardly served a Month  
 in the Field. I ask it as  
 a favor if you will get  
 the Army I merely want  
 a reward for my services if a



176

193

I have been thinking  
 of you at intervals since  
 I left the library of alderman  
 in your year of 1851  
 I was at the  
 in a certain number of  
 after a feeling of  
 have passed since I  
 in the latter part of  
 a form of you that  
 has a thing I would  
 a reward for the service of a



Print may be called a sword  
I entered the Army -  
in Sept 1861, and served with  
My Regt, from Dec. 1862 to  
18 Aug 1864, in all the Camps  
and signs of the Army of Potomac  
Excepting 2 weeks of Grants  
last Campaign -

Trusting you will  
pardon me - For addressing you  
~~but~~ I have no one else to write  
to for any favor -

Mrs Emerson Mr & Mrs Hicks  
are well -

Hoping you will my  
General & get me a Print and  
consider this a final letter I remain -

Yours truly

Jama. I. Emerson

Capt. 7. Infy

Maj. Gen. O. S. Howard

Fort-Myne-  
Detroit. Mich.  
July 28. 1864

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Emerson. James J.  
Capt. 17. Diftly.

---

Asks for assist-  
ance in obtain-  
ing a brevet.

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Recd. Aug. 1. 1866.