

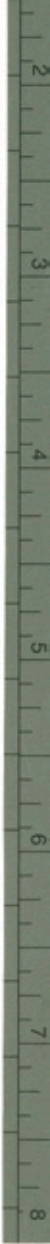
Philadelphia November 27. 1866
 Major General Howard
 Dear Sir

I arrived here on Friday
 last, and had made up my mind
 to go to Washington last night when
 I learned from our mutual friend
 Mr. Grotte that you are likely to be in
 this city about the 2^d of December.

I hope at that time to have an
 interview with you, and if necessary
 to go on to the city of Washington. I
 am desirous of entering on some
 field of labor, where, while doing
 good in other respects, I can be
 also engaged in that highest
 sphere of usefulness: The preaching
 of the Gospel.

Your friend
 Hermann Bokum

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Nov 27th 1866

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard.

Dear General,

The letter, which you said had been sent in reply to my last, has not reached this office. Be so kind as to remedy the defect.

Permit me to remind you of our meeting in Philadelphia, on Sunday Dec 9th next. I have already announced you. You can do our cause no harm and the work generally meets good. Many of our churches are doing nothing at all. Thanks for your noble Christmas address on last Thursday. I shall write you again next week from Philadelphia. Please let me hear from you at once.

Yours faithfully in Christ

Wm. Smith
Secy

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL FREEWOMAN'S COMMISSION
10 Bible House, New York.

Nov 27th 1882

My dear O. V. Howard,
Dear General,

The letter which
you sent me has not yet
been sent out as to
the defect.

It is a matter of
our meeting in Philadelphia, on Sunday
Nov 27th next. I have already
received your plan for our
uniform and the work generally
good. A copy of our charter is
now waiting at all. Thanks for
our Christian address in last
I shall write you of our
Philadelphia. Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully in Christ

Wm. W. ...

Brunswick Nov. 27. 1866

Dear General

I do not wish to bore you, but I will venture once more to consult you. Some months ago I invested a little money in a Company called the "Southern Turpentine Company". In my absence the Directors elected me President, & they now desire me to sign the certificates of Stock which are to be sold. I have declined to act in the matter, not feeling quite secure against another raid and arrest on account of engaging in private business.

Of course, it would not interfere with any military duties

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Either present or prospective, but
my natural caution is large, and
after the Experience of the last
six months, I am not inclined
to run any risk. If you think
there is the least objection to
^{my} ~~my~~ appearing as President of a
Boston Manufacturing Co., I will
not accept the position.

Please let me hear from you
a word or two on the subject.

My family all well.

Yours truly

C. F. Hittler

[Cambridge, Mass.]
[ca: Nov. 27, 1866]

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Major Gen O. O. Howard,

Dear brother,

I am going to New Orleans
next week, to aid in the installation
of Mr. Van Wostrand.

I am desirous to avail
myself of the opportunity of look-
ing into the affairs of the Negroes.
Will you be so kind as to give
me any kind of introduction
and authorization which you
can properly furnish me.

If possible send it to me
this week, as I commence my jour-
ney on Monday next.

Yours most truly,
Edw. M. Kirk,

(from Postmark)

Cambridge Mass
Nov 24 - 1856

Dear Rev. C. N.

Intending to visit New Orleans
wishes to investigate the condition
of the negroes and asks a general
letter of introduction or authoriza-
tion

Yours truly
Wm. L. G. S.

Recd Nov 28/56

Private & Confidential

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Lumberton N. Carolina Nov 28th 1866

Major General Howard
Bureau of R. & A. Lands
Washington, D. C.

General

If it is not asking too much I would like that the courtesy with which communications from the meanest and poorest in our country are received by you, should be extended to me in the perusal of this letter. I am aware that you have been very much prejudiced against me by the slanders and misrepresentations of the Southern people, and that it will be more difficult for you, on that account to bring your mind to a patient reception of the facts in my case. The manner too, in which I take upon myself to address the Head of a Department of the Government, in this semi-confidential, semi-official style, (violating as it does the well known dogmas of official etiquette) militates against my receiving that attention which I otherwise would, were ^{all} the circumstances different from what they now are, I hope however

ever, for better things from one to whom all the true
Christianity of the Country, looks with confidence
and trustfulness in the present and trying periods.
You will remember that during last winter
I presented at your office certain papers in
relation to services rendered to the Bureau
and certain claims for money disbursed for
medical aid to freedmen, for Stationary Office
rent, and clerks hire during my connection
with your Bureau, as its agent in this place.
The papers containing these claims were sent to
your office, and were returned with the endorse-
ment that my appointment was irregular
or illegal and that therefore nothing should
be paid me, I know General that technically
speaking and acting, this may have been the
only course open for you at the time, because
it was, and is now, I suppose, the line, the only
line, that runs at all parallel with the red tape
line of office; but in this letter I am not address-
ing either the Courtier or ^{the} official, but General
Howard the Christian Gentleman, who has
reason to know that I performed the service
for the Bureau and disbursed three hun-
dred dollars for ^{the benefit of} his wards, the sick and dying
freedmen, of this County. What are the facts
in the case, during the summer of 1865, that
negroes were meeting with very cruel treat-

ment in this village and in the surrounding country. These unfortunate people were coming ³⁰ to me in crowds, for protection, and showing the wounds and bruises, which they had received, not only from their former masters, but from any white man who choiced to attack them. Compassionating their condition, I undertook at my own expense, a journey to Raleigh. I laid the case before Col. Whittlessey, who at that time had not a single officer ^{his} at disposal to look into the matter. There was no officer of the Bureau at that time in the City of Wilmington, the nearest point to my region of Country.

Col. Whittlessey, however, wrote a letter to an officer whom he had appointed, and whom he expected to be at his post in Wilmington before my return, ^{advising said officer} to give me charge of the interests of the freed men in the Co. of Robeson, until a proper officer could be designated, for the place. Mean while General Ames commanding at Wilmington received from this section, which was a portion of his Mil. District, several complaints against the returned rebels for cruelty to the freedmen. On my return from Raleigh to Wilmington, the officer of the Bureau had not yet reached his post. I waited then on the Commanding General for advice and showed him Col. Whittlessey's letter. There

upon General Ames immediately appointed
me a sub-agent for the County of Robeson until
the arrival of the regular Bureau officer in
Wilmington, I returned home and commenced
my labors for the freedmen from that moment
under the Military authority given me by
General Ames. Some weeks subsequent
Major Wickersham arrived in Wilmington
as the agent for the So. Dist of N. Carolina
and I immediately surrendered into his
hands the appointment of General Ames.
But instead of dismissing me then, before I had
disbursed any money, he involved myself
in difficulties for the Bureau, Major Wickersham
reappointed me by a regular order from
his own hand, until further orders, I was told
that I was entitled to a clerk for I had much
writing to do, and I hired one, I was told that
I had every right that pertained to the agents
of the Bureau in any other portion of the State
to succor and provide for indigent and sick freed
men, and I exercised those rights because I
saw much suffering and disease around
me, And now the Government of the U. S.
says that because of a technical flaw in my
appointment, it will take advantage of that flaw
and deprive me, a poor man with a large
family to support, not only of 3 months of my
time, but also of the money I paid out for the

Bureau, The red tape line of officious rigidity
may run parallel with such a disposition of the
question, but I am sure it does not with the
line and plummet of the Bible if the matter
is left as it now stands, I am not however ap-
pealing to the Head of the Bureau, but to the
heart and sense of justice of the Christian
I might by a recital of the condition of ~~that~~ fam-
ily, and what it has, and is now, suffering from
lack of many of the necessaries, & state
of things brought about by the persecutions
and slanders of bad men, move that Chris-
tian heart to do something for my relief, but
such is not my object, I am entitled in the
sight of God and men for compensation for
my time and services, and no number of flaws
in the letter of my appointment, can release
the Bureau from the moral obligation, that
rests upon it to discharge honorably my claim
for the same, And as to the refusal to refund
the money that has been spent for the Bureau
for the benefit of sick and indigent negroes in
this country, I have nothing to say, General
Howard as a Christian can not allow a poor
and struggling Minister of Christ who is
still laboring for the benefit of the black
man, to lose his own hard earned moneys
because of some technical flaw in the appoin-

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went under which he acted in disbursing this
money, I am various causes, family and
pecuniary, I am in great want at the present
time, to God alone would I be willing to reveal
the extent of that want, Suffice it to say I
feel that never before in my life was I placed
in such straits as I am at this moment.
It is unreasonable therefore to presume that
nothing earthly would give so much relief
to my home and family as this money which
is honestly due me, but there is something
that presses still heavier on my heart
than even the distribution of my funds,
While in Boston last winter trying to secure
a sawmill and a printing press for the
use of the negro population of this place
I received a telegram from North Carolina
informing me that my wife was at the
point of death, I had just arrived from
Washington where a few days ^{previous} I had a con-
versation with yourself and your brother
in the rotunda ^{of} the Capitol for a few
moments in relation to my claims, The
original Freedman's Bureau Bill was
then going through its triumphal march
through Congress, and you spoke so encourag-
ingly of my prospects in relation to my
claims being early and readily adjusted.

that when I left for Boston I had no other
 idea than that on my return to Washington
 I should receive all that was due. This
 was the conviction on my mind when I re-
 ceived the ~~telegram~~ from home; and for
 weeks afterwards, until my agent at Wash-
 ington informed me of your adverse de-
 cision. When summoned to, what I expected
 would be, the death bed of my wife, I was out
 of money, or had not sufficient to carry me
 to North Carolina, I called on the Hon.
 A. Lawrence of Milk St. Boston and told
 him my circumstances, and he generously
 loaned me \$50,00, to be paid in a short
 time in Washington. I was disappointed
 in the funds I expected to receive from the
 Bureau, and my pecuniary circumstances
 at that time, and since ~~the period~~ have
 been of such a character as to render it im-
 possible for me to return Mr Lawrence
 his money. Now General if the laborer
 in the service of the Government is not
 worthy of his hire he ought at least to have
 his own money returned to him, but if neither
 of these can be done, Will not the Bureau
 allow me salary enough for the three
 months I served it, and enough of the money
 I loaned, ~~it~~ to pay Mr Lawrence of Boston

\$500.00 with interest since Feb 1866

This crushes me more than all my other troubles, will not the Bureau take this load off me, I claim from the government of the U. States, for three months hard service where I carried on the business of the Bureau 61 miles distant from the nearest military post \$400.00, for monies disbursed for private funds some of which were borrowed, clerk's hire stationery & office rent, \$282.00. Without a word of encouragement from any one, and with much personal abuse and persecution I taught a free school for negroes in this village from the first of May to the end of this year, I never received a cent from any one for so doing, but I do not claim anything from the Bureau for this, I do for my other labors during 1865, ^{and} I think that the friends of humanity and of the negro ought not to leave me struggling alone with poverty and persecution in this place, My father the Rev. J. C. Sinclair is also engaged in the work having been enlisted by me during last year, and now all I ask the Bureau is that General Howard to take off the weight of my Lawrence's debt from my shoulders. Nothing else can be done for me.

Respectfully and sincerely yours
James Sinclair

Germantown 11/28.66.

Dear Friend

Genl O. O. Howard

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I shall take
the first available opp^y to see thee
about the school & buildings on
19th Dec. This may not be for several
days yet

Respectfully

Yardley Warner

Edwardine Child

Am. 25 1884

James Buckley

Will our best friend in
a few days concerning
the school buildings on
19th

File

Rec'd Dec 1st '84

Brookline, Ms. Nov. 28th 1856.
General.

While on a visit recently to New Smyrna, Florida, I was informed that it was in contemplation to send 500 freedmen to that place to assist in clearing up wild lands for families about settling there from the North. That Enterprise seems to me to be in the hands of men who are not at all practical & in consequence are greatly misleading the public. If freedmen or white persons go to that region I cannot see where good land enough is to come from for their needs, it being for the most part in the hands of actual residents or owned by non-residents who do not seem disposed to part with it, holding it at exorbitant prices. I hope no more families of white or black people will be induced to emigrate there till they see the other side of the picture, as I am certain that it cannot be done except at great expense

& suffering. He who should, from motives
of interest, assist in bringing about such a
catastrophe would be Criminal.

I felt it to be my duty to say thus much
for I would not wish to see these poor col-
ored people doomed to the disappointment which
has fallen to the lot of some white people
who, through the representations of interested
parties, have recently visited that region.

I am inclined to the opinion that
the "Land & Lumber" Co. there is bankrupt
& that their scheme is an ill-judged one.

I am told that they can get no good
title to the land they occupy.

Always at your service,

I am,

very resp^y &c.

Frederick J. Williams,
formerly a Supt. of Plantations
under Gen. Saxton at Port Royal,
S. C.

Major General Howard,
Freedman's Bureau,
Washington,
D. C.

Wellington. Lomenes Ohio
Nov 28 1862

Major General G. V. Brown

Dear Sir - I
take the liberty of sending you a
copy of my work, entitled Personal
Recollections of Sherman's Campaigns
in Georgia and the Carolinas,
which I hope you will be kind
enough to accept. You will see
by a cursory view, that it differs
from any book of the kind about
every Corps, Division, Brigade
and even Regiments are noticed
in detail. The strange omission in
Colonel Nichol's Excellent story
of the Great March, of the John E. Smith's
third division, is here supplied, due
references are made to all the
divisions of Sherman's renowned
Army. The full account of the
Grand Review, found in no

P.S.

Probably you will remember me, when I state that from the
minister who received you escorted on towards
& secure the use of the Methodist Church for the meetings,
I am in a note to the Rev Mr. Wain. which secures the E
church. A native of distant and beloved Isle, I am so
deeply affected by the responsibility of the citizens of my independent
Republic when in 1848 the Green Island was butchered with a
slaughter, and darkened with a desolation which a cruel war
itself could not produce. Then the noble people of the land
Set forth their ships of war to stay the scourge - to have
learned to this great Providence sustain all through the
terrible storm that had threatened to wreck and strand the
fragments in the Ocean, a prey to the scepter hands of
Gentlemen sure we count the highest

other volume, as I think quite a ~~description~~
 Hospital scenes and sketches
 of brave soldiers are also to be
 found in this work. The Jews Papers
 of several States, and many prominent
 Military men, speak of it in terms
 of unmeasured praise. A second edition
 will soon be published, and some of your
 Eastern News, and some of type and part
 will be omitted. Would you to secure your
 opinion of the work. Green Cox of Ohio
 not only a Military soldier, but an accomplished
 scholar has published a letter, speaking very
 highly of the character of the book. I am a Chaplain
 of the Michigan, entered the service in 1861 as
 Captain, then for two years as Chaplain
 and Lieut. At the close of the war was
 recommended by General Soper and other
 Officers for a Commission in the Regular Army
 this recommendation was based on meritorious
 services, ~~but~~ personal bravery and
 devotion to my profession. I am ever pleased
 to see your papers - will be very glad to have
 your views on my ^{work}
 most respectfully Geo. W. Peckham

Wellington Ohio
Nov. 28/1846

Refter Geo. W.

Desires Genl. Howards opinion
upon his book entitled
"Personal Recollections of Sher-
mans Campaign, in Georgia
and the Carolinas

and by Genl

Recd Nov 30/46

N. J.

Newark, Nov. 28th 1866.

My dear General,

Your letter, announcing the successful result of your request in my favor, was received only day before yesterday, on account of my absence on a fortnight's excursion in the West.

I desire to thank you most sincerely for your kindness. It will always be to me a source of gratification and pride to have been the recipient of such a valuable testimonial from the Government, and at the same time to be assured that my

services were such as to merit the unsolicited recognition of my commanding officers.

I wish that I could definitely promise that the sum you have apportioned for Newark, to assist in the erection of your church, could with certainty be raised. There is no doubt among our citizens as to the appropriateness and nobility of the work, yet many find themselves incapable of following their inclinations and rendering pecuniary aid, on account of the many local demands and appeals made in behalf of Churches and Societies, hav-

ing their expenses both in
 this city and New York.
 I will however again see
 Mr. Brown and will cheer-
 fully cooperate with him
 in any plan he may
 suggest towards securing
 the desired amount.

My Mother and
 the other members of our
 family unite with me
 in very kind regards.

Please also remember me
 to your Brother, formerly
 upon your Staff in the
 West, and state to him
 that, it would give us
 pleasure to see him upon
 any occasion, which may
 call him in this vicinity.

Yours very respectfully,

To,
 Huntington W. Jackson,
 Maj. Genl. C. O. Howard.

Newark N. J.
Nov 28/11

Jackson N. W.

Thanks recd, Howard for his aid
in procuring a valuable testimonial
from the Court, - also concerning
collections for the Cong. Ch.

also

want to write

Recd Dec 1 "11

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen & Abandoned Lands,

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS OFFICE, STATE OF KENTUCKY.

Louisville, Ky., Nov 28 1866.

My Dear Sir

I take the liberty of introducing to you Br. S. C. East & Col. Rice Capt. & P. S.

Col. Rice is the Bureau Supt in the 2nd Dist Lexington Sub Dist comprising seven Counties of the Central blue grass region of this State.

He is a gentleman of Culture and an Officer of good record and high standing for the purpose of securing a Commission in the Regular Army; your valuable aid in the matter will be duly appreciated by his many friends.

Respectfully Your friend

Major O. Howard

Washington D. C.

S. C. East

Wm. E. D. C.

Cleveland Nov 28th 66

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard
Washington D.C.

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Dear Sir

The

Cleveland Freedmen's Union Commission
are desirous during next month
to hold its anniversary & to have
at the same time a large &
influential meeting.

It is quite important for the
cause. And we know of no one
who would interest our people
as much as yourself, or whose
attendance at that meeting would
be as valuable to us, & I am
instructed by our Board to write
you & enquire whether you would
come over to Cleveland for this purpose &
what time would best suit your engagements
Very truly
Walter King President

me
 Portland, Nov: 29th 1866

Genl. O. O Howard

Dear Sir

Yours of 24th
 is received the package of R-R
 Bonds. arrived last evening -
 this being Thanksgiving day
 business is generally suspended
 I will attend to collecting and to
 forwarding the interest due on the
 Bonds soon as possible - by Mail

Shall I return the R-R Bonds
 by Mail or by Express - it seems to me
 the Express charge is much too high
 \$5⁵⁰/₁₀₀ was the Express charge which
 I paid -

with kind regards

To Your Self & Family

E. White

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Portland Me.
Nov. 29th 1866

Waite C.

Concerning R. R. Bondre

answered by letter

Recd Nov. 30/66