Washington City, D.C.
March 27th, 1867

To Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Columbia Hospital for women and girls, held at the Hospital Building on the 21st inst., you were unanimously elected a member of the Board of Incorporation, and also a member of the Board of Directors of said institution.

Respectfully yours,

J.R. Coombs
Secretary.
Bowdoin College March 27

Major General Howard

My dear Sir,

I am indebted to you for repeated tokens of mincereence, the last of which was the letter from Mr. __________ containing the Act of Incorporation of the Howard University. I have been greatly interested in all that has happened to you and which you have had concern. I think you have perhaps had seasons of trial and discouragement since the surrender of Lee's army, more severe, at any rate more annoying than any during the war. I feared, at one time, that the Bureau would be entirely overthrown. Your guiding hand has sustained you in a course of unpleasant duty, labor, I judge, that the country appreciates, in good measure, what you have done and are doing in behalf of the cause of righteousness.
between man & man.

Your efforts in behalf of the Congregational Church in Washington, I see, promise to be successful. I received the circular which you sent me. I trust you will believe me, that, had I the means, I would gladly contribute to so important an object. & when an opportunity presents, I shall do so in a small way. We have been kept on rather close rates, these several years. & I have, regarding events, been compelled to regard the old review named scepter. "The best before you are geniuses."

The establishment of a Congregational Church society in Washington is a most interesting event to me. you may be sure.

We are having some religious interest in the region about, & in the College. A morning meeting for prayer is well sustained. There are several places in the State where religious work is of some very remarkable interest. We of the College are hoping from our new President that a manifest impulse to the general life
When College, quite as much indeed, to its literary, scientific, as to its religious life.

I take the liberty to express to you my personal thanks for all you have been permitted enabled to do for our common country, for the sacrifices you have made, the distinguished service you have rendered. With kind regards to your brother Charles, I am, my dear General, respectfully, cordially yours sincere friend,

A. S. Packard

writing in haste I have omitted. Therefore, my chief wish in this note, it strikes me that if politicians will let it alone, the leniency which bears your name will be of incalculable importance. I see in Peabody this gift is to be appended very much in common schools. It seems as if the times were coming, when the colored people will be educated far beyond the mass of the whites.
Baudoin College
Mar 27 '67

Archives A.

Thanks Prof. Howard
for using papers tax
friendy letter.
Richmond, Fort Bend  
County, Texas  
LEO March 27, 1863

Maj Gen A.P. Howard  
General

I have the honor to report that I arrived home safe with my freedmen on the 26th ultimo. I found considerable trouble on the way at different places to prevent people from pursuing my people from leaving via and when we arrived at Mobile and had awhile some persons tried to persuade them that I was going to take them to Cuba, in fact when I had to take some of my oldest men to Gen. Shelby head quarters to satisfy his mind that I had no such idea, they are all perfectly delighted with this country and those who left friends and relatives behind regret that they did not come and with them and have written to them to come if they possibly can. I am very much pleased with my hands. They are all well behaved and good disposed and industrious. The only regret I have is that I was not able to get
As many as I need. If I could get more, that is if there was a certainty of employing a hundred good hands and could get the transportation for them, I would return immediately after them. They could get out him in good time to look the crop. We have just had a sick and bad storm which has killed all the corn and cotton that has been planted and will have the effect to make the crop very late, whence an additional amount of labor will be in demand. I am in Washington and I submit to you, Robert, that if they are still in the notion to colonize the land I propose to donate to the Government. I would like to hear from you in addition to the half league I propose to donate. I have a fine farm that will donate the half of another to the land. I propose to donate is in the district of country in which New Brunswick is situated (my land is in Blaine County). You will see by reference to The Iowa Almanack for 1867, The Agriculture of production.
of that country. I will send you a copy of The 1835 Almanack as soon as it can proceed on which you will find gives pretty general information on all subjects relating to this State.

The sick people are all doing uneventfully well. This year all the plantations I found in good order when they have suffered labour. Our labour is 20 hours that people have resorted to by stratagem to yet hands from going so far as to entire labours away from employes. After contract I found on my return that some of mine that I left at home and have contract with had been induced to leave for some of my neighbours that sort of thing has a very demoralizing influence and makes the labour uncertain and hence reduces the price of labour. Hoping General that you will excuse me for thus lingering upon your time but feeling that I owed you a debt of gratitude.
Thank you for the assistance you rendered me of filing my papers to report back the result of my trip. I concluded to pay you this bill in acknowledgment of what I have now done judgment, by referring to your absent friend, Lord James Mitchell. I send the copy of my report that I left with you that has been forwarded to Courthouse. The court for this county I am.
Washington D.C.
March 27, 1863

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard
Pres't Y. M.C.A.
Washington D.C.

General:

Will you authorize me to call a special meeting of our Association on Friday evening next to consider the resolutions adopted at the recent meeting of Pastors held at Assembly Church recommending our Association to canvass the city, hold public meetings in Hall of House Representation in behalf of the suffering South etc.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servt

A. S. Brown
W. Pres't Y. M.C.A.

P.S. Judge Chase tells me he will meet the Board of Trustees of the Building Association any night this week at 8 P.M. at the Rooms of the Association.
March 27, 1872

Washington, D.C.

[Handwritten text not legible]
HEAD-QUARTERS
Military District of Mississippi,
Vicksburg Miss., March 27, 1867.

Dear General,

I have received yours of the 16th. Making inquiry in regard to the position of the late Col. McFallen, late adjutant and questioning the name of Col. McFallen late adjutant.

I have been able to secure the services of a proper man in whose competency I had confidence for that position, I have performed the service myself. I am sure Col. McFallen has your confidence as regards qualification for the position. I will employ him with pleasure. Please inform him to that effect.

There is another subject general upon which I have contemplated writing to you unofficially for some time. The moral condition, want of the freedpeople.

The rising generation.
Dear General,

I have just received your order for the immediate evacuation of the garrison of Fort Moultrie. I beg to state that the fort is now in a very critical condition, and that immediate action is necessary to prevent its capture by the enemy.

The fort is surrounded by the enemy's forces, and they are in a position to cut off our supplies of water and provisions. The situation is desperate, and I feel that it is my duty to recommend that the fort be evacuated at once.

I am confident that the men of the garrison will do their utmost to resist the enemy, but I fear that they cannot hold out much longer. I therefore request your immediate action to save the fort.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
receive and are profiting by the instruction of many well-organized schools in this State especially those at this place Natchez, Jackson, Lauderdale & Brookhaven, as well as many smaller institutions. The minds of the young, active and expansive and capable of improvement. But the adult, and especially those beyond twenty-five or thirty are not I fear susceptible of profiting by the instruction imparted in the schools. There is however a branch of instruction by which I think they might be immensely benefited. The system under which they were reared was not conducive to morality. Virtue or honesty, they could see no wrong in lying to avoid punishment after尝merit, then ger often drove them to theft.
that was not the case, they concluded if punished they had expiated their crime. The frequent separation of husband and wife by sale, almost forbade all ideas of constancy and virtue; their condition in this respect was not improved by the large gathering of them into the cities, "contraband" camps of our armies.

Can anything be done to improve their moral condition? What they require is plain, simple instruction in the sentimental principle of morality and Christianity, that they must speak the truth, be virtuous, preserve the marriage vows, refrain from stealing, fulfill their contracts not only because of the laws of the State but because it is the command of their God. His lack of instruction of this kind...
to the adult is indirectly injuring the rising generation by association.

There never was a more inviting field for the missionary. TheNegroes profoundly grateful to those who have conferred on him his freedom, would listen to them with attention and profit by their advice. There never will be a time when it is favorable, as time advances he will become more self-reliant, and less susceptible to admonition and advice.

I hope the deep interest I take in this subject will be considered a sufficient apology for this intrusion. Let me assure you that any action that may be taken in the work of improving the moral condition of the freed people will receive the sincere support of

Your truly, Abraham C. Gillem

Baltimore, Md.
Private

Washington City,
March 27, 1867-

To

Major General O.O. Howard,
Commissioner.

My dear General:

I took your kind note to
General Thomas yesterday afternoon, and was referred to Genl.
Canby, as my papers had been recommitted to the Board of
claims. I learned at Genl. C's office that he is out of town
and expected to be absent several days. This seems to be
the beginning of another round of the circle, and series of
official conflicts, which makes me hesitate to give you
any further trouble about the matter of the claim. I have
pursued it thus far, as much for other parties who are
injured by the delay, as for myself, and at an outlay
which comes wholly upon me, to which I am little able
to bear.

I am an applicant for a position in the Pension
Bureau in Washington, for which the past year I have
been the disbursing agent in North Carolina. If I obtain
such a position, so as to render my subsistence secure
and open the prospect of ability in course of time, to
meet my obligations, I am disposed to pursue this course no further.

I became responsible for these accounts, and settled them as far as I have been able; a portion I have settled since the presentation of the claim, but under stress of law, and with a portion yet unsettled. I have not only been annoyed, but harassed in a manner that has embittered the recollection of all my labor during the war, and has rendered life odious, or, if that is too strong an expression, has cast one to a shadow which money cannot dispel. I am inclined therefore to let the claim drop, and shoulder in the "waste places" of the War Department.

The personal sacrifices I have made during the war, of which this is a part, are, all told, but a bagatelle, compared with that of those who came out of the conflict scarred and maimed. But my efforts were join. We yearned in a channel best calculated to render my weak strength efficient in attaining the object for which we were struggling, and I am anxious, as I think is natural, to bear some testimony that that eventful period was not passed by me in inactivity, nor in a selfish appropriation of the misfortunes of my country to individual interests. The blood that flows in my veins is from a fountain that, on one side of the house, flowed at the Battle of Bunker Hill, and the subsequent conflicts...
of the Revolution to the Capture of Cornwallis, and on
the other side, was equally true to the County, in the
operations on the Northern Frontier, which resulted
in the Capture of Burgoyne. The early impressions made
upon me by the Revolutionary Stories of one of these ancestors
of which he was himself a part, & whom I Remember in
my Childhood, as for several years the last surviving
soldier of the Revolution in my Native Town, these im-
pressions were freshened & intensified by the scenes of
the recent Conflict, and sustained me in the part
I acted, little fitted as I was for Service in such
times. And perhaps they may now account in
part for the Solitude I Show on the Subject I am
now trying you on.

Relinquishing this claim, I would take, in lieu
of it, and of any pecuniary recompense, an honorable
recognition from the War Department, of the Services ren-
dered. What I would most Court, would be an
Honorary Oath Commissioner, entitling me from May
1864 to the close of the War, to the Constructive rank of a
Volunteer Surgeon in the Army.

I was engaged heart and soul in the service from 1861
to the breaking up of the military Hospitals. This Staff
Appointment of Superintendent of White Refugees, was
the only military position which I held, on which such a recognition as I desire could be based; and it brought upon me, especially in the period of the Rostker and at the advent of Sherman's Army, multitudinous responsibilities, which one man could hardly have sustained in any other than military times. In civil times I have said as Moses did to the Israelites: 'How can I myself alone bear your burden and your burden and your Strife?'

Without some such recognition of services I came into the War with nothing to show for services or sacrifices. I would be satisfied that it should depend on such voluntary recommendation as may be obtained from the General Officers who were successively in command of that Department: Generals Burnside, Foster, Peck, Palmer, Hazen, Parke, Sumner, & Paine, and Generals Schofield & Sherman, who were more or less cognizant of the work.

If such a testimonial would be in style, I would be glad, General, to have you favour it— and I address this to you partly to obtain your opinion.

I shall not call this morning as I promised, as nothing can be accomplished until I see Gen. Carlyle,

Very Respectfully,

W. D. Page