War Department,
Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands,
Washington, April 15th, 1867

Dear Sir:

Finding from the tenor of your note to one that you have unintentionally misconstrued my intentions in writing to you before, I conscientiously feel it my duty to prevent, if possibly, you from entertaining such odious opinions of me.

Dear Sir,

I have too much respect for your Christian character to solicit a favor from you that I know you could not conscientiously grant, for I have frequently witnessed manifestations of your goodness to persons to ask you to countenance orScreen wrong of any kind, nor the contrary. I know that you regret my necessities (condition) nearly as much as I and it is as much to account of your feelings as my own that causes me seek better feelings of persons.

That the charge against one is widely known I doubt not, and the nature of this speeding incident, Girl has been the cause of its publication, and from what I have told here prior to this difficulty about your Christian character. He intimated that the writer works for my removal, by appealing to you as a Christian. Certainly General had I been guilty of the charge he made against one, he would not
have been compelled to resort to more severe means which seemed to be the height of this ambition.

I enclose you some letters of recommendation from various sources, one of which affords much hope. As you are aware they have been in the War Department and although the Chief Commissioner was from some of our oldest friends I was forced to (after a great struggle) finally give up all hopes and withdraw my papers because I had no one of influence to urge my claims.

Send as I am actively in want of what to do. I did not ask you to retain one hand but asked you to give one employment anywhere within the scope of the duties of your command.

I am personally acquainted with Genl. Starks & Genl. Johnston and remain with you whether I can yet be employed or otherwise. Put upon the occurs influence of an uncharitable people, and instead of any prompt conduct reflective upon you. My future behavior shall convince you that through your forgiveness I have been able to improve my character and become a moral and Christian man and a still greater comfort to my afflicted mother & Orphan sister whose comforts depends on my success.

 yours ever,

Harry A. Benton

I respectfully ask that this letter be confidential.

As ever with the greatest respects

Yours,

Harry A. Benton
Dubuque, Ia.
Apr 15th, '67

To Maj. Genl. Howard:

Dear Sir—

Mr. James L. Daggart,

who held rank in your personal staff. I think, in the later stages of the war now relived here, I had sought the place of a suitor to my eldest daughter.

As I came here while he was absent in the army, I have no means of knowing his visible character before these few last months. I as he
refer me to you for his army reputation may I beg of you. Dear Sir to inform me as a parent ought to know—in connection with such a proposal of his part—I am soon to engage your pressed attention to so personal a matter. The cause at stake—I hope may be an acceptable reason I shall address in reply. Yours truly Rev. Lyman Whiting. Dubuque, Ia.
P.S. A universal regret

Induced the announcement

that you could not illustrate

here (in F.B.) & in any

house, that we could

enjoy the offices of hos.

pitality to you. May you

sometime find your way

to our ears, as long ago you

have to our hearts.

Yours,

C. Whitig.
Dubuque. Sa. April 14 29

Hunting. Kindly may

[Signature]

[Signature]

Answered

Apr. 19 1867

Read. April 19 1867
United States Senate Chamber.

Washington, 15 June 1867

dear friend,

In the

set aside my

day of long delays

for the long trip

off the scene

adieu of it, I shall

lay every year to

Visit here, probably, you

May the 20th.

M. L. Ward
Headquarters, District of Texas,
Galveston, Texas, April 15th, 1867.

Major Genl. C. O. Howard:

Dear General,

I have been delayed in answering your letter in reference to Mr. Wheelock by the pressure of work. You will see by my roster of officers that I have placed an army officer in charge of any department which I did for the sole purpose of getting free from any世俗 influence. I showed Mr. Wheelock the publication & he replied that he wrote it before or about the time Genl. Sites was relieved and it was not intended for publication. That Genl. Sites & Mr. Wheelock did not get along harmoniously is no secret. Indeed the Bureau when Genl. Sites retired was considered in a mess, but it is due to the General to say that in a just measure it was not his fault. bowing to events over which he had no control—When I assumed the duties of the Bureau there were twenty nine agents covering about 29,500 square miles. to-day there are only five agents covering nearly all the State. The December reports showed only 370 five hundred children at school. to-day there are
Suppose we are, for without the military I should be powerless and your department would suffer from the day the two are separated. I thought I had sold the San Antonio tanney for $37 00 00 but I fear that the buyers will not come up to the mark. My advertisement was too loosely drawn up and I shall have to care for other bids.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Bottineau
I think our furn'ls and - The facts are not all in -
The freedmen are at work generally, though the state - Even
the reb's admit they are working will very where, better
now than could be expected - Whilst I have been given
and dealt with all I have tried to be just and chul'd
feel happy to any inspector at any time - From the
best information I can obtain over three fourths of the
land usually titled is under cultivation and should be
a favorable season this year the crop will be much
taller than last.

Mr. Sherlock is a useful man to me and as he
has nothing to do but obey orders, I propose to keep him
so long as I cannot do better - Mr. Allen agent of the
American Freedmen Aid Commission is an industrious and
energetic man but he lacks ability. Could teach an
excellent school but when it comes to managing 20,000
scholars, for I times to have this number he is not quite
equal to the task - I have made up that I will accept
the aid of all benevolent associations in diffusing knowledge
of the colored people and the more laborers there are
the more work can be accomplished.

I see by today's paper that Mr. Rossean will probably
be sent to bed. Should this be the case I will ask that
the same boat that brings him bring someone to
None of these things is very significant. I can't say much about it. It's not very important.

If you don't mind, I'd like to talk about something else. Maybe we can discuss something new.

I'm not really sure what to say. It's hard to come up with anything interesting.

But if you want, I can try to think of something. I'll do my best to come up with something.

Let me think about it for a little while. I'll try to come up with something interesting to talk about.

If you have any ideas, please let me know. I'd appreciate it if you could give me some suggestions.

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Let me think about it for a little while. I'll try to come up with something interesting to talk about.

If you have any ideas, please let me know. I'd appreciate it if you could give me some suggestions.
Dear Gen. O. R. Howard,

Com'r Bureau of F. O. A. L.

Sir:

My attention has just been called to an encumbrance on the property proposed to be sold on by Mr. J. H. Smith, which, unless removed or modified in kind, is likely to cause much trouble.

I refer to Mr. Smith's lease of two acres of land to Thos. Boyle for purposes of getting sand. As the lease now stands, Mr. Boyle is not restricted to any particular two acres, but may follow the sand veins wherever they may in such an area as that he retains it at his own risk. Moreover, though in the agreement he binds himself to fill up the holes before the expiration of the lease, if he does not do so, you would have the remedy of an action against him, which you would not have if he remained with the property after the sale might not avail if he had no property interest in the vegetation.

Considering the large amount of interest

Respectfully,

[Signature]
Mr. Smith will receive for this property for
Can well afford to buy Coyle off. In my
opinion should be excused. To do so it
would remove all encumbrances. As a condition pre-
cedent to the completion of the sale. My under-
standing is that you agree to purchase the property
free from all encumbrances.

If so, Mr. Smith is not sufficiently assured
to make the sale. To do this he you are willing to
take the property with such an encumbrance.
I would require Mr. Smith to effect a new
agreement with Coyle whereby he would be
restricted to certain two acres. Further to give
bond with securities to fill up & grade the
larder he has made, before the expiration of his
lease - I would then require this lease to be
assigned to the trustee.

Unless Mr. Smith fulfills one of these
conditions I would not take
the property, because as Coyle's lease now stands
he might give you a great deal of trouble.
Lest wait your order in the matter.

Very respectfully,
Your old friend.

C. H. Owen
Washington, D.C.
Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard,

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in introducing to you my friends, Mr. & Mrs. Hubbard (R.G.) of Cambridge.

They have spent some months in Jamaica, and are desirous of being as much as our own emancipated people are freeable within the line of their travel.

May I request you to forward the Mr. Hubbard a note to the Bureau of Refugees in South Carolina.

Your very truly,

[Signature]

[Date: Apr. 15, 1866]

Edw. W. [Missing last name]
General:

I have the honor to ask that you will be so kind as to grant me an interview at your earliest convenience this morning, in order that I may lay before you the peculiar situation of myself, and over Two Hundred Field Men, Women & Children who are dependent upon me in Mississippi. It is a situation which causes me the greatest anxiety and sincere distress.

I would therefore gladly avail myself of an opportunity to explain it to you fully, in all its circumstances and bearings. This being done, I should feel confident, General, that you would cheerfully extend that assistance in the special case I present, without which, incalculable injury and suffering to individuals and families must ensue - and without which, increased expense must be incurred by the Government.

I have the honor to be,

Most Respectfully,

Your Ob. Serv.

Edward P. Jones

Majr Genl., O. O. Howard
Dear [Name],

I hope this message finds you well. I just wanted to let you know that I am doing [activity]. I've been [activity] lately and it's been quite enjoyable. I've also been spending time with [friends/family]. It's been a nice change to get out and do things.

Please let me know how you're doing. It's always good to hear from you.

Best,

[Your Name]
Washington, D.C. Apr. 13, 1867

General:

Pardon me for again troubling you with my affairs. I was suffering from pain in my head this morning, and from the effects of morphine to such an extent that I could not do myself justice, and did not fully disclose to you the extremity of the position in which I am placed.

If I can keep my hands as laborers, together this year, I can make a fair crop, and will be hereafter a successful and wealthy planter. But if I should be compelled to discharge my present employees (three-tenths of whom are my old slaves and have manifested the greatest personal confidence in and attachment to me) I must lose all my present prestige, and cannot expect ever again to organize in a successful engagement with other freedmen.

Under such circumstances, the importance that I should command the means to sustain my planting operations the present year, becomes excessive and paramount. I know General, your kindness of heart, and have had ample proof of your generous sympathy with those who struggle under misfortune, and difficulty.

Allow me then, to presume...
Just any Conceptions of your Character, and to inquire you is time to my relief personally, or officially, if you possess can, I am perfectly willing to pay for the amount necessary to my operation this year a bonus of Three Thousand Dollars to be paid out of my first corn sent to market, or I will pay 25 per cent upon the amount I need not to exceed $20,000. To make all this secure I will give a prior lien upon my Crop of Cotton under the act of the Mississippi Legislature of which I kept a copy some how a two ago.

I will besides deposit collateral worth over $40,000. to make good my engagements, the difficulty with one is not to give the security but to find the party who holds the money without his control, for the next 8 or 10 months, selfish, in my anxiety to keep my laborers together this year I have been very munificent to them have allowed them to gather about their homes, partly and old stock and if they be compelled to leave their old homes, the moral pecuniary and physical injury to them, and their families will be perfectly irreparable.
As they never would hire to any other priest — and as I was before the late, ever to be lamented civil war, regarded by one of the reputable, and perhaps, the wealthiest man in my County, I only quote their own language, to you, when I say that, "We'll never again have any faith in any other White man." Shout their old reliance and best friend, now fail them.

It would seem to me, General, that you might allow me to use a portion of the funds for deposit or subject to your draft, out of the appropriations by Congress, in your Bureau, to sustain my operations, for the next 8 or 12 months. This I would return with large interest, before the whole will be needed.

And thus save the debt, expenses, and enable the means at your Command.

And enabling to give the whole of my cotton planting profits this year, in order to keep together my old people. They are in families, and their dispersion, and travel to the South, in support, at this season of the year, would lead to their utter mental and industrial ruin. From such dissemination, and the grief of such a separation, I know them well enough, to feel sure they would never recover.

General, I now, in conclusion, implore you.
to do whatever you can, to prevent these lamentable consequences.

If you cannot temporarily aid me in your official control of funds, I beseech you to use your individual and personal influence with some capitalist or person acquaintance, to induce him to make me a loan upon my giving him ample security.

I am at the National Hotel in this city and beg that if another interview will be of any use that you will advise me when and where I may attend you. Be pleased if possible to let me hear from you this evening.

Humbly begging your General to make due allowance for my unhappy position and to forgive me in this pecuniary difficulty. I express the hope that you will recognize my case as one peculiar in so many of its circumstances, that it cannot be made a precedent for others, so as to embarrass you hereafter should similar applications ever be made of which there is probably no likelihood.

Trusting you will remember my petition and conclude to extend the favor in accordance with the honor, favor, and regard with greatest respect.

Yours very ob. serv.

Edw. P. Jones.

P.S., It is a part of my agreement with my Freedmen that I am to keep up a school for the education of their children and to support an agent a Twice-Weekly who is regularly to preach to them in that neighborhood. 1873.

Next year I will divide, and leave them.

My regards.
Westboro: April 15th, 1867

Ge'tl' A. A. Howard:

Dear Sir:

Our Lyceum Association direct me to write to you, extending an invitation to address us, some evening during the next lecture season. We are endeavouring to make our engagements, thus early, even if we cannot obtain specific dates.

Our town lies on the 13 W. R. R., twelve miles from Worcester, and we can give you an audience of six to eight hundred to speak to.

If accepting, please name me, your terms, and if possible, the month, we might expect you.

Yours very truly,

William R. Warner,
Westboro,
Mass.