Unofficial

128

Head-Quarters District of Alabama,

Montgomery, Ala., June 8= 1867.

Major General O. O. Howard

Commissioner &c

Washington D. C.

Dear General

I was a good deal pained by your letter of 22d ult, yet I am glad you wrote to me so frankly, and I trust I shall not cease to deserve like confidence of you. I do not propose to put you, at such a distance, upon proof of your impressions in any particular as to neglect of this duty in this Office, but only to ask of you specific intimations as to the particulars in which you think it has been neglected that a patient effort may be made to set them right. When General Sewall was here, I inquired of him, and afterwards requested him to write me when

his inspection was concluded, if he found any thing wh
he thought should be changed. With regard to yo
recommendation that the operations of the As
sistant Commissioner should be recorded sepa
rately from those of the Commanding Officer; fo
some time past they have been so kept, kept by
entirely different persons in different rooms, an
there is no authority on the part of one to interfe
with the other in the least. The correspondence of
the Bureau outside of the Staff departments is unde
the charge of Col. Kiesman who has also the pre
aration of Returns, Reports, &c. After he left your of
fice he went home for about a ~~month~~ fortnight
his first absence in twelve months. Since his retu
he has been somewhat unwell. If he is in fault I
shall not scruple to correct it, but he is regarde
on all hands here as one of the most able and
faithful business men that we have ever

known, and I should be very loth to lose him. In the matter of failure to send you "personal reports of Bureau operations" as I am myself seriously in fault, partly from ignorance. I will exert myself at once to make this good. There has not been however any stock of "Bureau operations". Immediately after the passage of the Reconstruction Bills I set to work to increase the Efficiency of the Bureau, employing new agents, sending inspectors to the jails of various counties to release persons imprisoned for vagrancy &c, abolishing the chain gangs, and providing a method of release for persons improperly apprenticed, and in other ways. I trust that I shall not forget that my chief usefulness lies in those duties which I came here to attend to, and which indeed have still the strongest hold upon me.

Your letter was put into my hands just as I was starting for the cars. Since then I have been

on the constant go between Mobile and Atlanta except when overrun with the convention here. This last I knew to be outside my strict official duty, yet I thought myself plainly obliged, as I could materially contribute to the harmony and right direction of the movement, to take hold and do so, since its success seemed to me essential to the restoration of the country. I was an active member of the committees on organization and on resolutions, which determined the result of the whole matter. The influx of so many persons from a distance, nearly all of whom had business with me, has caused me to be incessantly engaged until this moment. The coming week I trust will enable me to give you a plain full statement of all Bureau matters such as will enable you to understand and to direct all matters.

Very respectfully and truly yours

Wager Swayne

Maj: Genl

130

Washington, June, 867
June 8, 1867

Gen.

I have made a check for the pay of the Bearer to your order that he might not be defrauded by any one

Respectfully
Your obt Servt
J. M. Potter
Pr. M. U.S.A.

130

Mulberry Grove, Nov. 14/

Dear, I have much or about the
letter of the Reports & Tyler
matter. I feel confident that he
will succeed if our friends
have the courage to stand
firmly by the Democratic party.

55

New York June 8th 1867.

Major Genl. O. O. Howard.
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir.

In accordance with your suggestion, that other Gentlemen be associated with You, in appropriating the "National Offering" fund, to be placed in your hands, for distribution, I have the pleasure of enclosing to You, a correspondence with two of our leading Citizens, who have kindly consented to act in conjunction with you. Hoping the association will be mutually agreeable, I am Genl. Very truly,

Your friend,

Geo. W. Thomas.

Metropolitan Hotel,
Washington D.C.

58

New York June 6th 1867.

Genl Prosper M. Wetmore &
John H. Griscom M.D.
New York City.

Gentlemen.

I herewith have the satisfaction of presenting to You the letter of Major Genl O. O. Howard. Commissioner, accepting the appropriation to be applied as a National Offering, to relieving the distress attending the Southern section of our country. In compliance with the wish expressed by Genl Howard. "that other Gentlemen be associated with him." May I ask of You Gentlemen, (Fully appreciating your sympathy with this National Philanthropy,) to act in conjunction with him, in the disposition of the same.

I am Gentlemen
Very Respectfully, Your Obdt Servt.
Geo. W. Thomas.

(Copy.)

57

New York June 6th 1869

George W. Thomas Esq

Dear Sir,

In accordance with your request of this date, we cheerfully consent to act in the matter to be referred to us in conjunction with General Howard

Respectfully
Your friends
Prosper M. Wetmore
No 28 West 20th St

Ina H. Viscera M. D.
42 E 29th St

126

Phila. June 8th 1867

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

Dear Sir.

The Annual Meeting Board Trustees of Lincoln University of which you are a Member - will be held in the Library - on Commencement day - June 19th at 12 o'clock M.

Business of importance is to come before the Board, & your presence is especially desired

Very truly &c
Thomas McCauley
Sec. Bd.

Philadelphia Pa.
June 8th 1867

McCauley Thomas

Notifies Genl. Howard that the annual meeting Board of Trustees of Lincoln University will meet on Commencement day June 19th at 12 O'clk M. Important business to be transacted.

Attended to

F. A. Ferris John J. Cape

263 265 267
BROOME ST.

F. A. Ferris & Co.
Commission Merchants &
DEALERS IN PROVISIONS
263, 265 & 267 Broome St.

127

New York June 8. 1867

My dear General

In response to an appeal by Mr. Wm Arnax in behalf of the Freedmen Mission School of Washington the S. S. Missy Ass.n of the 14th St. Presb.n Church of this City instruct me to send you an order for One Library.

We trust the books may aid in the prosecution of the good work in the success of which we are much interested.

With sincere regard.

Yours very truly

F. A. Ferris
Secy

Genl O. O. Howard
Washington
D.C.

New York
June 8th 1867

Ferris J. A.

Encloses an order for one Library of one hundred Volumes to Gen. Howard for the use of the Canal Mission School Wash.n D. C. from the Sab. School Miss. Asso. of the 14th St. Presbyterian Church New York City

West Point 10th June '67

132

Dear General Howard

I have invested three tickets in the "Presentation" of "Kennedy & Co's Drawing, that was to take place on the 25th of last month and have sent the tickets to Willie Bube - but have heard nothing from him or whether the Drawing had been postponed again - If you will be so lovely as to ascertain for me whether he ever received them if he is there - or ask for a letter addressed Col. William M. Bube Jr Washington D.C. & remail it to me - (if Willie is not there) I will be so very grateful! I was afraid I sinned in sending money to it but I needed some so much to pay debts & interest - that it was a great temptation! Ever gratefully & affectionately

Mrs Grey

West Point N.Y.
June 10th 1867

Gray Mrs.

States that she invested three tickets in the presentation of Kennedy & Co's drawing that was to take place the 25th of May last and has sent the tickets to Willie Beebe, but have heard nothing with regard to the matter. She desires Genl. Howard to ascertain whether the tickets were rec'd. and if not to ask for a letter addressed to Col. Wm. M. Beebe and return the same to her.

133

Washington City D. C.
June 10th 1867.

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard;
Chief Marshal &c.
General:

I have the honor in behalf of "The Washington Temperance Society," to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular of 8th inst relative to the postponement of the Temperance Mass Meeting & Procession until the 4th day of July next, and have to state that at a meeting of said Society held last evening, it was resolved to concur in the action of yourself and assistant Marshals in selecting the 4th of July next, as the day upon which to hold said demonstration.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your obt servt.
J. H. Thompson
actg Secretary

134

Private

Washington, D.C.,
June 10 1867

Major Gen. O. O. Howard

Dear Sir —

I am informed that an attempt is to be made to obtain, if possible, some other expression with regard to the $10.000 appropriated to the N. Sec. Inst and Univ, than the one contained in your letter to the Committee, with the view of creating ground ~~for a plea~~ for applying the amount to other purposes than those for which we supposed it was given.

Allow me, in justice to myself in view of any representations which may be made, to state briefly a few facts relating to the Institute and University at the time the appropriation was made.

1. With Washington as the locality for its central Institution, it was within its purpose and plan to establish schools or Institutions of different grades in different sections of the country.

But you were correct in your impression that but "one or two" schools with a regular, clearly defined course of study, had then been organised, outside of Washington. In fact, the school on St Helena Island, S.C. was the only day school, besides the school here, which was in operation. This was in charge of a young man and his wife, with night exercise in addition to the night classes — all the pupils being in the primary branches.

The school which had been started at Nashville, had, early in the spring, as far as it had even been regularly organised, been taken in charge by an independent Board of

Trustees. The School at Augusta, Ga., although one of promise, was in its incipient state, and was being conducted, as best it could be, as a night School. In Washington and vicinity and elsewhere, a goodly number of night schools, each with a single teacher, and furnishing such instruction as the case seemed to admit of, had been organized.

At Washington, on the other hand, a day School with 70 on its list as students, and 35 as the average number in attendance, had been in successful operation for 13 months.

In connection with this School the Ex. Com. had established a full course of Academic and Collegiate instruction of six years, the studies of each separate year, with text books, names of authors, etc. being properly arranged and fully

fully indicated. Thus all this had duly become matter of record. This course of instruction had been adopted with special and exclusive reference to the Institution at this point.

2. It was on the ground of such an organization, with such a course of instruction already adopted to be carried into execution at this point, that application was made to Congress for the privileges of a University.

This application was made by the Corporation, and its action to this effect is on record, both in its own book of records and in that of its Executive. The application thus made was granted by Congress for a University in the District.

Such are the recorded facts with regard to the acts of the corporation, and the acts of Congress and the intent of those acts, in responding to the corporation's request. Such is the present position of affairs as viewed in the light of those acts.

Yours with great
respect
E. Turney

Washington D.C.
June 10th 67

Turney C.

States that he has learned of an attempt to be made to obtain, if possible, some other expression with regard to the $10,000 appropriated to the National Theological Institute and University than the one indicated in Genl. Howard's letter to the Committee. States further in justice to himself in view of any representations which may be made, several facts relating to the Inst. & Univ. at the time the appropriation was made

Washington D.C.
June 10 1867

My dear Sir

In order to complete the congregational church in this city thirty thousand dollars will be required in addition to what we already have. Now if each cong. Church & Sunday school will send me at least ten dolls. each, the work already far advanced will be speedily finished. I beg for this contribution to our patriotic, national & christian enterprize. Will not your church and sunday school send me ten dollars each as soon as it can be collected. Believing this to be the Master's work, in his blessed name I solicit this aid.

Affectionately Yours.
O.O. Howard
Maj. General
& Chairman Bldg. Com.

135

Washington City D.C.
June 10 1867.

Maj Gen. O.O. Howard:

General;

At a meeting of the "Washington Temperance Society" held last evening, it was unanimously, Resolved "That Maj Gen O.O. Howard be invited to address the Society at Temperance Hall on Sunday evening next, and that the Secretary apprise you of this invitation".

In behalf of the Society, I sincerely trust, General, that you may make it convenient to honor us with an address on the occasion alluded to.

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully
Your obt. servt.
J. H. Thompson
Acting Secretary

136

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,
Head Quarters Assistant Commissioner, State of Virginia.

Richmond, Va., June 10th 1867.

General:

Your instructions of the 7th inst. through Genl. Sewall, that, in your opinion, my presence ~~was~~ is not longer required in Virginia, reached me on Saturday. It had been my intention under Genl. Brown's advisement to spend a few days in Prince Edward County in this State; but with your opinion I am ready to concur. My time has been and is wholly occupied here in the interests for which I come. My last report was forwarded to you on Friday, and my Note book is filled with memoranda from which I can at any time render you a Confidential Communication relative to affairs connected only incidentally with the Bureau Department. I have already once or twice informed you of the necessities which keep me here. Of the $200 advanced me by Genl. Balluck I ~~advanced~~ loaned Mr. Thompson with whom I had

been associated in the unfortunate Leader enterprise nearly $100. The remainder was only sufficient to cover my own necessities at the time. Receiving your orders I preferred to come to Richmond at once, with the very small means I had in my pocket, and commence duty. This I have performed as diligently as possible, as my papers in the future will show - if my reports already rendered the Bureau are not satisfactory. Mr. Thompson has not been able, as he hoped, to forward me any part of the funds loaned him. I am therefore under the necessity of depending upon the Bureau for funds required for present expenses, transportation &c all of which I shall keep careful account. I am desirous to leave for North Carolina at the earliest possible moment. If you are pleased to telegraph Genl. Brown here to allow me required funds, I will be off at once, reporting further from my notes on Virginia, at a future time. Very respy Your obt Servt

Wm. F. Armstrong.

Genl O. O. Howard
Washington D.C.

135

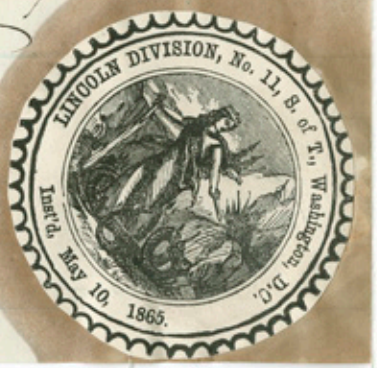
Lincoln Division S of T
Washington June 11 1867

Dear Sir & Bro

At the regular meeting of Lincoln Division, held on the 10th inst — the reccommendation of the Marshal & Asst Marshals relative to the proposed Celebration was non-concurred in, a Majority of the Members present, being of the opinion that a larger 'turn out' would be secured, if the Celebration was fixed for some day other than the 4th of July

I Remain With great respect
Yours in L. P & F.
Joseph F. Wills R.S

To Maj Genl O. O. Howard



137

Saratoga Springs June 11. 1867

Maj. Genl O. O. Howard

Dr Sir,

On Making a call upon the Grand Worthy Patriarch of the Grand Division of the Sons of T. of Eastern New York at his office in N.Y. the other day I was pleased to learn that you proposed to attend the convention to be held here on the 24th & 25th of July.

I shall be most happy to meet you, a great actor in & advocate of, the causes which I have endeavored to do some little to promote, viz. religion liberty & temperance —

and my wife & self, (my wife a Maine lady), extend a most

cordial invitation to you & wife to make our house your home, while you find it convenient to remain here -

We have quite a flourishing Division here which we think is exercising a very favorable influence, of which happen this quarter to be W. P. -

We shall be much gratified to entertain you & will endeavor to make your stay pleasant will invite in a few good friends of the cause, Ex. chancelor Walworth, Hon J. B. McKean etc -

Very Truly Yours
Silas P. Briggs

Hartford June 11, 1867.

139

Hon.
O. O. Howard

Dear Sir

I am devoted in the interest of the Congregational Church building in any opening in our land.

I am now under promise of $1,500. $1000 of this sum is to aid a new Congl. Church at Saratoga, which they must have.

Say to Bro. Howard that I had $20,700 taken from Hartford Bank in U S Bonds Robed which I have not received from the Robber ~~any~~ ~~any~~ any bonds. I should be very Glad to help the Church in Washington but I do not feel able at this time. I hope that the Congl. Churches will take up

Collections for your Chemist
My regards to Rev Alvord
and for yourself ~~my~~
I pray that your enterprise
will go forward to completion

S Wilcox

140

New York, June 11. '67.

Maj Gen. O. O. Howard.

Dear Sir:

I have left the Herald and associated with the two houses of Messrs. Demas Barnes & Co and Messrs. P. H. Drake & Co.

These are peaceful-easy-times and "every man" is a hero. Even the most arrant rogues say they did wonderful things in war times, although they cannot prove it. You know, in the war, I did work hard and was faithful. Can you drop, for me, at my request, a note to Mr. Demas Barnes, 21 Park Place, this city.

I leave to-night for Wheeling and first

New York, June 11. 1897

Rev. O.O. Howard.

Dear Sir:

I have left the Herald and associated with the firm of Dawes & Co. and always. Brooks & Co.

These are fearful times and "every man" is a fool. Even the most sensational things they did years ago, at the time of the Tweed frauds, in the room, I did not feel and was faithful over all, so we, with many others, shall leave the City, at Port Chester, this city, I have to visit for selling and fraud.

other large cities as any agent of the firm have named above. A little pressure will, without doubt, help me along amazingly. I shall ever remember the kindnesses you have and may extend to me.

The last place, (on the present list,) I shall go to, will be St. Louis, Mo.

Yours Truly

Theodore C. Wilson

New York
June 11th/67

Wilson Thos. C.

States that he has left the Herald and associated with the two houses of Messrs Demas Barnes & Co. and Mess. P. H. Drake and Co. States that he was faithful and worked hard during the War. and asks Gen. Howard to drop a note for him to Messrs. Barnes & Co. at his request.

143

Northampton June 11. 1867

Gen O. O. Howard
&c &c

143

In response to your wish I enclose draft for $75 — of which $50 is from myself & $25 from my wife Mrs C. L. W.

Having had recently several extra contributions in our church in addition to our stated monthly collections, it is not thought advisable to take up one for your Comp'd Church in Washington —

With high respect for your noble & cordial interest in your enterprise I am very truly yours

A. S. Wilcox

165

Northampton

June 11th 67

Williston J. S.

Encloses draft of $75 of which fifty is from himself and twenty five from his wife —