New York, Aug. 24, 1867

Gen. O. O. Howard
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

A young friend of mine, wishes to visit Fort Point, and understands that a permit from a General Office is necessary. I will esteem it a personal favor, if you will send him such a permit, for himself, Capt. P. Russell, and a friend, Chas W. Gregg. They would like to see all that may be seen,

I will vouch for their respectability, and good behavior. Please address your
Reply to
Sam'l P. Russell
11 Bridge St.
Newark,
New Jersey.
He has been in our rooms,
and interested in the Brethren's
cause.

Very truly,
Yourself,
G. Whipple
C. of A.
New York
Aug. 24th 1867

Whipple Rev. George

Requests that Gen. Howard will give a permit to a friend of his to visit West Point together with two other young men.
Reply to Sam'l P. Russell
11 Bridge St. Newark N.J.
Toledo, Ohio
Aug 24 2871

My Dear Sue,

I see by the telegram that you are to go overboard—and that an order has been published which will just about destroy the efficiency of the Bureau of Forns. I hope you will be permitted to remain—I write to say that if there is any way to help Ben Scott in South Carolina I hope it will be done.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

[Address]
Lona Landing, Ark
Aug. 24th 1867

Maj. Gen'l O.P. Howard
Respected Sir;

As opportunity did not seem allowing me to call on
or write to you while in Washington in consequence of an somewhat hurried
departure, I take the liberty of embracing the first opportunity of thanking you
for your kindness. It is in doing for
Dr. Benson what you have, though I
find words are inadequate, I will
depress all the gratitude which I
feel towards you, the instrument in
God's hands, of assisting us in our time
Dinu Sanduig Ark.
Aug. 24th 1865

Benson, Mrs. S. D. L.

Returns thanks to you, Howard, for his kind assistance to Mr. Benson,
states that there is equal opposition to the School and cannot secure any place for the holding of the same. Regret this very much and asks what can be done.
of trouble. If God still grants us health
and strength we will soon have paid
the rent, which we incurred during
the time Mr. Benson was without employment.
I hope this will not seem to you too
in this expressing thanks of which my heart is
indeed full everard God and yourself,
I have opened a little Sunday school
hoping I may be instrumental in God's hands
of sowing some good seed. There is not a
church or a school in the whole county
since the war, which is (I think) much like
difficult, I have had (and still have) much
I encounter, with my little school, having
been so I had denied a place to hold it, the
owner of the office will not permit W in his
room in consequence of Mr. Benson having
objection to enforce the law with him connected
with the town, and there forbidden we held
it in the quarters by the owner of the plan.
tion where we live, nor yet on his grounds, they seem to be afraid. I will make them colored children act improperly if allowed. This blessed privilege, therefore I shall this Sunday be without any place, I have the expectant little colored children and so anxious to learn the right way, appeal to you, S. J. B., what am I to do if it is unlawful for me to have these little children spend two hours every Sabbath afternoon learning the way of God? You Ben Ison has done all he could for me, he is unprotected here himself, and has a great deal I encountered in the discharge of his own duties, as there is no guard here of military force and the people are very tender. I received the hope you sent to Mr. B., and I am very much obliged. I shall distribute some books.

Yours much Respect,
S. J. B. B.,

Yours very Truly,

Mrs. S. E. L. Benson.

408, 13th St.

Dear Sir:

As I am intending to go home in a few days, I would like to recover the hundred dollar seven-thirty bond which I loaned to you in June, for the benefit of the church building fund. Perhaps you can make arrangement so that I can call at the bank and get the bond on Tuesday next.

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you for the effort you made to assist me in getting employment.

[Over]
I hope that by God's favor the work for the Church edifice will go on prosperously and that the building will be completed in due time. I would be glad if I had a prospect of seeing it when it arrives at that state, but that is not at present the case.

Very respectfully,

Horace Silsby

403, 13th St.

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard,

Com. & c.
WAR DEPARTMENT,
Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands,

Washington, 24 August 1867

Major Genl. O. O. Howard,
Comr. B. & O. R. F. A. S. O.

Dear General:

I called to see you today to explain why I did not call months ago when I desired to do so at your residence. The death of a sister and other domestic afflictions, together with pressing personal matters, prevented. And since my return from the South, a fortnight since, I have been too unwell.

I see General, that rumor hath it that the malignant guillotine of Mr. Johnson is being whetted for your official head. All right— for the more malignant he is, the briefer will be his existence. I see the Chicago Tribune has surrendered to the flood-tide of popular odium, and now favors impeachment. — By the
way, General, I very much desired to ask you for some papers in my name (recommendatory papers relative to a consulate) which I understood, from Ismail Hisk, that he sent you last spring. Let me say to you, confidentially, that except my correspondence, I am out of employment; and I desire to use those papers to obtain something to do. My family, compelled to be in the West by circumstance, is suffering for what my lack of employment precludes them having. Could you not have the papers sent me this evening, at my rooms, 385 6th St., West, by N. G. H. Smith (new Patent Office). I am suffering from fever, or I should call at your house this evening for the papers. I shall feel especially obliged for them now this pen. As I repeat to write a friend who can help me.

Very truly, J. D. Thompson.
Washington, D.C.
Aug. 21st 1867

Thompson, J.C.

States that he called to day to see Genl. Howard
explains why he has not called before.

Requests to have sent to have some papers in the
Guns possession recommending him to
a consulate and which he understands from Genl.

The R. arrived in the
Genl. last Spring. He claims
there he and his are get-ting something to do

RECEIVED
AUG 24 1867
Grantville Mass
Aug 24, 1867

Bry. Lee Howard
Chairman Buildy Comm.

Please find enclosed P.O.
Money Order for $10.00 being
Contributed by the
Grantville I. School to
the fund for Building

Reg Trust Yours

Albion P. Clark
Treasurer.
May, 1867
Rosebury

Dear General,

Telegrams from Washington to the public journals are very current, that your removal from "The Freedman's Bureau" is a measure decided upon; and I cannot resist the impulse of expressing to one of my old and honored commanders, the regret I feel at a measure, which
I regard as so injurious to the interests of the country - its highest and most honorable interests. The Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau is vested with functions which elevate him above the ordinary level of administrative duty. The moral element, of a high standard, must ever be present to promote in her government, give shape to application to all his acts. Party politics overlook much.
in the conduct of public men, who develop brains & trained skills in discharging their duties. But the freedman - suddenly redeemed from a degrading & life long serfdom imposed by our organic laws, the consequences of a contract to which you & I and our fathers were parties, can only be made good men & citizens by a law of morals and humanity, not found in any party political code.

We made them what they morally and dependent are as fellow creatures, under our flag. Our political & industrial systems kept them...
ignorant & barbarous - shut out from them the light of a surrounding civilization, designedly, because slavery would lose its essence by being exposed by the influence of education, the source and incentive of rational reflection. Ignorance made them docile and thoughtless. The national safety and unity required and made necessary the proclamation of emancipation and education in civil and moral duties can alone fit the freedman for his new place in the national community. I recognize this duty towards
him. Having kept him for generations in a condition of forced labor for others, relieved from all care for self that care and ambition which makes man look up and forward, always seeking for improvements in, at least, material things - having hung this mill stone about his neck, we are under a sacred obligation to the negro, to give him our help to recover from depression, for certainly one generation.
As yet, he does not know how to do for himself; he can work, but having all his life been worked for the benefit of others, labor is in his eyes, only another system of slavery; he must work for his heretofore boss master. Certainly, a white man, and he distrusts the whole race of us. Can we wonder at his suspicion?

The freedman must own and till his own land, as far as is practicable. We must help him to commence.
life with the gift of a few
seed tools, a pig &c. We
must make them feel
independent of others, give
them manhood suffrage;
be they feel the dignity of that
view of it, and if not
better for it now, the
fiction of daily life &

instruction of free speech
the intelligent blackman
will soon make them up
to questions of public policy.
at least, they will learn
who are right guides as
we march along. Make
a police guard of these poor
creatures to guard their
own camps, with the ballot.
they can do it—will do it
if made to feel, that they
are independent and have
a comfortable home to guard.
What could the still rampant
spirit of secession do against
the watchful patience of
the freed slave? How long
could it live before the
fierce indignation and
wrath of his aroused mem-
ories of wrong & oppression?

Our safety too, then demands
immediate
for the freedmen, organization
into the great body politic
and present and efficient
helping hand to make him
A hopeful man—to give him an object in life. I talked with negroes of all classes and ages in and around Richmond, when lately there-entirely about their views on prospects of life, men of politics. I found, that those who had worked land, paying rent in produce, were bright, cheerful and full of hope. Hope! That General is the desire we must plant in the negro heart; it needs expectation and generally wins in life.
What is a man worth who goes into lines of battle without hope? Put the negro in a situation to hope, he'll come to something you may be sure. To-day, in Richmond, crowds of stout, hearty fellows lounging at street corners, stealing or begging from day to day—because they have no hope. They must have schools and churches, teachers and pastors, or my poor colour is necessary, and at present, it would be from our purse. What of that?
Why, I never talked in Richmond with negroes of both sexes - intelligent, well mannered and well-dressed people as one would wish to know or be satisfied to know, who understand "the situation", practically as well as you and these wonderful people. See how both of years ago.

I do. When I spoke to one woman. The future position of your race depends upon education. School & Church training, she replied, certainly! My children go to school. Certainly! was said with a strong emphasis.

Yes, the children of today will be the men & women
of twenty years hence, and they will control, or have a large, bulleted influence in public affairs, in all the future. Therefore, begin education now, send the hand in hand with help to organize industry, individual industry. Politically, these men will be a unit for well! tell memory be worn out; fear will make them so; fear of forgetting their freedom. They must learn to have confidence not only in themselves, but also in the public men of the country, and in strongly rooted conviction in their economic material prosperity.
give both. They will see that they are self supporting and will naturally turn to those who have made them so.

These things require time and labor. A wise, zealous and believing head must give direction to their accomplishment. We commenced wrong. We established your Bureau for the benefit of the freedmen and made unwashed shareholdes, new State Governments. The two elements of administration were in antagonism.
It could not be otherwise for all southern men believe that slavery is the normal condition of the negro; you believe, as their all men are by divine law, free.

Military Government for the conquered rebels, till they can accept and live up to our standard of republican institutions; so best. Under it and it only, can a Freedmen's Bureau exercise its functions energetically and faithfully.

I am sorry, therefore, to have any change on the
organization of your department. I have faith in you, your intelligence, ambition, humanity, and I hope to know what manner of man will succeed? The law limits the Bureau to 1868. If its term of life should not be prolonged—what a fact we have been acting more, what a crime we shall commit. The negroes will relapse into hopeless and helpless desert, and our abandonment of him will be more criminal than the original offence. We have no peace yet—only a cessation of hostilities in the field of armed war.
This quiet state of peace will take a leap peaceful from its objective point. Now, the Bureau officers keep watch and this man and the military commandes afford protection, prevent outrage. Abolish the watch, and the military commander comes in to punish outrage. Who can stop a cannon ball with his foot? He can keep up in a state of rest. The armor plate of resistance is prevention. I shall fight for the Bureau. Expect this long rumbling letter. It is a private one from a private, not a public man, and always believe me, your friend.

My dear Sir,

I think I can aid you in finding employment for a considerable number of colored men as laborers if the matter be taken in hand at once. I would call to see you in reference to it but am alone here and cannot leave. Perhaps you can spare time to call on me during the day; or, if it would suit you better, I would be glad to confer with you at my house (487 E. St.) at such hour after 5 P.M. as you may name.

Yours very truly,

O. C. Howard

Present

NATIONAL METROPOLITAN BANK,

LATE

Bank of the Metropolis,

Washington, 24 Aug. 1867
Office of the American Painting Society
Boston, Aug. 21st, 1869

Dear Sir,

Silver and gold from mines into such as I think I gave a document called the Black Valley Rail Road which I intend to give a mail this day. This document has been circulated largely in the Army and I trust has done good. From what I know of the colored men I think it would be useful among them. Mill
You please crossing it and let me know what you think of it. I send you a specimen of each kind. If it could be gotten up in large quantities the expense of it would be very much reduced. Please see the picture which I send in such a way as you see fit.

God bless you in your great work among the Indians in the emporium of your tribe.

W.W. 