85

THE CONGREGATIONALIST,

No. 15 Cornhill, Boston,

Jany 11th 1868.

Major Genl. O. O. Howard,

Dear Bro.

I enclose to you a check for One Hundred Dollars, which in better times & with better prospects pecuniarily I subscribed to the Congl. Church Fund, but which I still desire to pay. I pray the Lord to bring you through the breakers, and establish you as a church, strengthen you, settle you, and cause his glory to abide upon you evermore.

I remain affectionately your brother,

Horace James

26

Newark, N.J.
Jan 11, 1888.

Gen. O. O. Howard:
Dear Sir:

I am just completing a history of New Jersey's part in the late war — a work comprising over 800 pages, for we were associated, more or less during the war, with New Jersey troops. If you can say anything favorable to her efficiency, heroism and patriotism, I would be glad to have you do so. Of course, I desire no mere random approbation, but only such criticism as may be deserved.

Having had the pleasure to meet you at

Lt. Jackson's several months since, I take the liberty, at the suggestion of Dr. S. Grant, of intruding upon you with this enquiry.

Very sincerely yours

John Y. Foster.

Newark N.J.
Jany 11th 1868

Foster, John G.

States that he is just completing a history of New Jersey's part in the late War, and requests Genl. Howard to write him, with regard to the efficiency, & heroism of New Jersey troops, as he had the opportunity to know something about them.

With great pleasure I introduce

27

Columbus Georgia January 12th 1868

Dear Sir

Will you pardon and allow me to recall myself and the rebuilding of the Mississippi Levees to your recollection. I take this liberty in consequence of my people of the Yazoo Valley proposing proposing to send me to Washington again, to ask the help of Congress, by an endorsement of our Levee Board Bonds. It is our last hope to save the Valley from relapsing into a wilderness. And Sir if you could see the the utter destitution of both the black and white population your heart would prompt you to one more most vigorous effort to give them dry land on which to labour. This last summer the water did not leave my neighborhood till late in July. I did not make, in consequence, a bushel of corn or a pound of cotton & my place must be sold for Taxes And such is the condition of most others

You Sir drew up the first measure ever submitted to the Government for the second reclamation of this Valley I have made known to the people there that good deed and they bless you both black & white. A number of blackmen the past fall offered, if I would feed them, to give, each a month's labour to the Levee. Now Sir let me, on behalf of these people both black & white, most earnestly solicit

you to make one more effort in this, the cause of hu-
-nity. If you will make the effort & succeed shou
crown it, you will win more true Glory, mori
-ple will bless you, than for any battle you ever
Senator Henderson introduced a Bill, last Sess
for such an endorsement and would again
-ve it, if we could give him some assurance it
pass the House. Now Sir will you take the lead
use your influence with Mr Stevens, General B
Judge Kelly and other great Leaders of the House an
get their consent to let such a Bill pass. I told my
that you only could get such a measure passed and
they instructed me to intercede with you on their beh
to do so. It is only the endorsement, the credit of th
Government we would now ask for. Our law makes
provision for paying principal and interest by a Tax
the land re-claimed

Will you do me the great honour to reply to this
if you can help us, — if I shall come on with the
-ments necessary to the measure

I will wait here (Columbus Georgia) where I
receded in the hope of an early reply. I address y
this with the less reluctance as you once did me th
honour to invite me to write to you

I know your heart will again interest you in this meas
No cross can be made in 1868. and to get one in
it is necessary to act at a very early day. It will
a length of time to get such a measure through Co

— then to sell the bonds, — then to build the Levee. This last should be commenced immediately on the subsidence of the Flood of this spring, so as to "settle" and get the requisite firmness to hold-back the flood of 1869.

The work is long & laborious and is worthy of your abilities & humanity combined.

In the hope of an early and favorable reply I have the honour to remain yours most truly

General O O Howard
Washington D C

J. A. Strother

Columbus Georgia
Jany 12th 1868

Strother, J. A.

Desires Genl. Howards aid and influence by endorsing their Levee Board Bonds. States that it is their last hope to save the Valley from relapsing into a wilderness. Desires Genl. Howard to write him and say whether he can help them provided he comes on with the documents necessary to the measure.

29

"University at Lewisburg,"
Lewisburg, Pa., Jan. 13th 1868.

Gen. O. O. Howard;

Dear Sir:

At a joint meeting of the Literary societies of this University, the Euepian and Theta Alpha societies, it was unanimously

"Resolved, That the secretary of this meeting communicate to Gen. Howard the earnest request of the societies that he deliver an address before them at their next Anniversary, Wednesday evening, July 29th 1868."

Hoping that you may be able to return a favorable reply to the wish expressed above, I am, dear sir,

Your most obedient,

Newton Keim,

Secy.

Press
The United Presbyterian of Pittsburgh Pa.

REV. R. D. HARPER, D. D.

This brother, whose release from his congregation in Xenia and the pleasant accompaniments were announced in a late number, has been appointed Superintendent of Education for the State of Texas. The appointment is by Major General Howard, Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau. No better appointment could be made. Dr. Harper's address and executive ability eminently fit him for such a trust. His eloquence, too, even in the moderate exercise of it which his health may impose, will be of great value to the interests he will represent.

[illegible] money wasted
By extravagant Irish cooks?)
Who cuts the daily expenses
With economy sharp as a knife,
And washes and scrubs in the kitchen:
"Wanted, a minister's wife."

A "very domestic person,"
To "callers" she must not be "out,"
It has such a bad appearance
For her to be gadding about;
Only to visit the parish
Every year of her life,
And attend the funerals and weddings:
"Wanted, a minister's wife."

To conduct the "ladies meeting,"
The "sewing circle" attend
And when we "work for the soldiers,"
Her ready assistance to lend.
To clothe the destitute children
Where sorrow and want are rife,
And look up Sabbath-school scholars:
"Wanted, a minister's wife."

Careful to entertain strangers

30

Austin Jan. 13. 1868.

Maj: Genl. Howard.

My dear friend.

Your appointment to Superintend work of Education in Texas was received on yesterday.

Please accept my grateful acknowledgement of your personal kindness in this matter. I shall endeavor to discharge the duties connected with my position to your satisfaction.

As the field is wide & the duties both new & difficult I must ask your indulgence until I become acquainted with the work.

I would be happy to receive a word of advice from you at any time.

I expect to start for my field of labor on the 20th inst — one week from this date.

With great regard

Yours Sincerely

R. O. Harper.

31

Washington D.C.
Jan. 13th 1868

General,

I have learned from Mr. Sturges the substance of the conversation which you had with him on Saturday and it confirms the suspicion, which I have entertained for some time past, that you desire me to leave the Bureau. This suspicion has of course given me much trouble and it is a great relief to have it changed to fact, however unpleasant that fact may be.

I have now but one course to pursue to tender my resignation. The pain which, under the circumstances, this costs me is almost counteracted by the facts that I know it will be for my own good, and that your uniform kindness to me leads me to believe that my own good has had at least

a little influence in inducing you to
wish me to leave.

I am anxious, especially for the s
of my family, to go under the best
possible circumstances. I am afraid
that a sudden, unexpected resignation
might cause the most harassing susp
from which, if I can, I would like
to be free. I wish therefore in offering
my resignation to have it take effect
from the 1st of March and to be
granted leave of absence for at least
a portion of the intervening time.
Whether my past services have been of
so little value that this request is
preposterous in me I cannot judge. I
must leave that with you and I do
so with perfect confidence in the justice
your decision, however unfavorable that
may be to me.

What has caused you to wish m
to vacate my position is, I suppose, m
personal habits. I have never attempted

to decline you with respect to them and I do not wish to do so now. But it is my honest belief that they have been ex-aggerated to you and very greatly exaggerated. Why and by whom this has been done I cannot tell, but looking at my past actions as impartially as I can I cannot help believing so. I have tried to be a faithful agent of the Bureau and I think my habits have not interfered with my duties. In these things I may flatter myself. It is very natural that I should, but I can only write what I think.

I trust, General, that you will favor me with an early answer to this note. I wish to tender my formal resignation as soon as possible and only wait for your decision as to the time when it shall take effect.

Please accept my warmest thanks for the very many kindnesses you have shown me heretofore.

Very respectfully

Washington D.C.
January 13th 1868

Fowler, Wm

States that he has learned from Mr Burges the substance of the conversation he had with Genl Howard and it confirms the suspicions that he had that the Genl desired him to leave the Bureau. States that he has tried to perform his duties as agent of the Bureau and does not think that his habits interfered with them.

RECEIVED JAN 14

Maj. Genl. O. O. Howard
Commr. &c

Yours obt. Servant
Wm Fowler

Hs. of R.

Jan. 13. 1868

Genl Howard

Dear Sir,

I have today introduced a bill for continuance of the Bureau and there has been a bill also offered concerning abandoned lands about which I wd like to see you. I shall have the Committee together on Wednesday or Friday - Do you think you can without inconve-

Mince see me at my
rooms tomorrow (Tuesday)
evening at six o'clock –

Will you not also
enquire if there is not
a vacancy in your
force? You thought there
was not. But per-
haps on inquiring it
may prove otherwise.

Ever yours
C. D. Eliot

33

Mansfield
Jan 12 1868

Maj Gen Howard
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

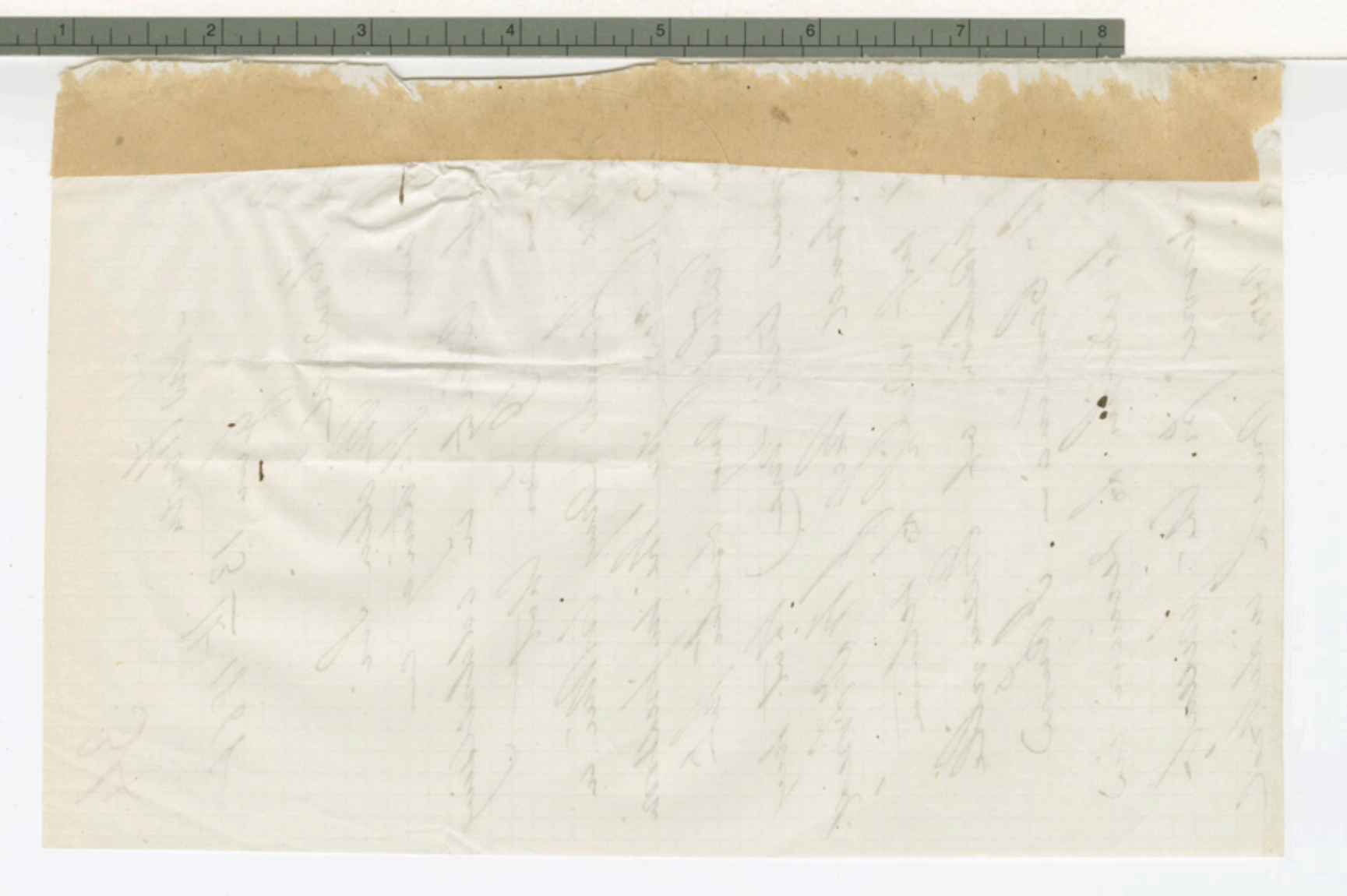
We are desirous of kindling an interest in the Bible cause in this vicinity & putting money into the treasury of the Society among other plans I have thought a lecture by you would be productive of good & after consultation with Rev E. W. Smith, the A B Society's Gen Agt for this portion of the State have concluded to address you upon the subject. I will pay you $100. for a lecture, you to choose your own time & theme; the lecture to be given however within two months. Yours truly

W Day Pres.
Richland Co B.S.

34

New Haven
Jan 13th 1864

Gen Howard
My dear Sir
I am taking a great liberty in addressing you — I hope that Judge James (my brother in law) has given you the impression (from what my sister Mr James tells me) that my husband Mr J W De Forest did not wish to retain his position at Greenville South Carolina — I know that he wishes to remain in the service for the present. He is very much indebted



to you for having
retained him so long
my William-in-law, knowing
how anxious we are
to see the Bt Dr Forest-
& may have expressed
our wishes instead
of his —

I fear I have
offended, — I beg you
will forgive me for
expressing what I know
to be my husband's wishes

Sincerely
H. S. Dr Forest

New Haven Conn.
Jany 13th 1868

De Forest, Mrs. A. J.

Fears that Judge James (her brother-in-law) gave Genl. Howard the impression that her husband, Major J. W. De Forest did not wish to retain his position at Greenville South Carolina.

States that she knows her husband desires to retain his position at present and is much indebted to Genl. Howard for having retained him so long.

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Hyde Park, Mass. Jan. 13th 1868.

Gen. Howard.

Dear Sir.

We received the circular which was issued by you in June of last year. We are endeavoring to erect a house of worship too. and know something of the work connected with it. we can therefore sympathize with you. and wish to add our mite. in securing so worthy an object. Herewith please find $10. The sum contributed by the "Hyde Park Cong.l Sabbath School". Wishing you speedy success in your enterprise. And praying that Gods blessing may attend you.

I have the honor to be your fellow laborer.

In the cause of Christ.

Timothy Foster

Supt. "H.P.C.S.S."