80

NATIONAL METROPOLITAN BANK.

WASHINGTON, 28 Jan: 1868

My Dear General,

If you will be kind enough to give the name of the party in whose favor the deed for the lot, south of the Capitol is to be made, I will have it prepared and executed. I am expecting in about a week to leave for a brief respite and should be glad if agreeable to arrange this before that time. I should also

be glad to confer with you as to one or two other interests, if convenient and I will try to call on you for that purpose unless you drop in here for a moment when passing this way.

Yours very truly,
Moses Kelly,

Gen. O. O. Howard
Supt. &c. &c. &c.

Ridgway Fairfield Dist S.C.
Jany 18th 68

My Dear Sir

Since I wrote you a year ago times have sadly changed Cotton planting last year was a ruinous business I sunk several thousand Dollars on it as I employed a large number of freedmen My failure was partly owing to their indolent habits

On 1st Jany summing up all my losses I discharged all save three hands to make a small crop of bread stuffs on my home place I can scarcely feed these I have abandoned the plan of working gangs of hands here and have made tenants out of the families of freedmen I have also white tenants all on the same terms I taking part of the crop as rent The freedmen I have as tenants were formerly my slaves

The cotton, Mr Cockrane I have is in
Richland Dist. This year I will have
to abandon all gear not having
the means at my command to cultivate
it. I have permitted the freedmen
mostly our former slaves to remain
it - offered to rent it to them for
a low price in money or 1/4 in kind
of the crop but they say which is true
that they are unable to cultivate it for
the want of means and beg me to
employ them and work it. But no
planter here can purchase supplies on
credit the repayment being based on
free money labor. I went to Columbia and
had an interview with Maj Hutchinson
Chief of the Freedmen Bureau there to see
if he could aid either the Freedmen
or any refugee of mine. He informed
me that Genl Scott hoped to be able
to do something to aid planters but
from the resources on hand which he
knew of I fear planting a crop this

for aid from this source would be a precarious business

From some activity I saw in the papers I was led to believe that you had aided some planters at the South last year and wished to know if such is the fact & to ask if you have any power over funds that you could advance me from 500 to 1000 in money or supplies This would enable me to produce from 6 to 8000 Bushels of Corn as my Watered place is one of the best Grain plantations in the state I rented it out last year to a Cotton planter & hence it is I am without the means to cultivate it By the fall in price & failure of crop I lost my rent I am tho cured of planting Cotton & going into Grain almost exclusively If I could carry on this place I could give employment to nearly all my freedmen Provided I could secure a certain promise of supplies by the 10 to 15 of Feby

My letter to you General is private it is from Sep Black to Sep Howard formerly of Lafayette If you can do any thing for me I will do all I can for you I can with your aid The only text I speak political cam from is let bygones go to the devil & let us try to do right and do good to all men in the future I have tried to follow this rule ever since the war I fear many in this country will act as slaves without aid before harvest In my opinion over half of the laboring population in the country are out of employment

I met John McCleary & Lozelle lately They are both on duty in this state If you have leisure let me hear from you

Your Lafayette friend

J. L. Black

82

Headquarters Department of the Missouri,
FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS,

January 28th 1868.

My dear General:

I see by this Morning's telegram in the "Leavenworth Conservative" dated Jan 27th (yesterday) that in accordance with your Circular of December - All Officers and Agents - with the exception of Superintendents of Education - are to be dispensed with after the 18th of next March and Officers of the Regular Army substituted, in certain States.

Closing of the Mail &c. - Mrs Respects to Mrs Howard & Mrs Hayards to you Cousin & his Bride.

I remain Very Respectfully & Sincerely,

W. M. Duke Lt C

Capt &c

If you consider that my services would be satisfactory, and I can be designated as one to be detailed for this duty. I should be very glad.

I think with the experience I have had in the Bureau and the interest I feel in its successful operations I could do probably better than most officers of my rank who feel less interest.

I have only time to send this to the Office before the

Headquarters Dept. of Missouri.
Fort Leavenworth Kansas
Jan. 28th 1868

Beebe Wm M.
Capt., etc.

Learns that, in accordance with a circular from the Commissioner, all officers and agents, except Supt. of Education, are to be dispensed with after the 15th of next March.

If so, he would like to be designated as one to be detailed for duty in the Bureau.

Thinks that, from past experience in the Bureau and sympathy therefor, he could do better than most officers of his rank, etc, &c.

The Congregationalist and Boston Recorder.

W. L. GREENE & CO.

EDITOR,
H. M. DEXTER.

MANAGING EDITOR,
C. A. RICHARDSON.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS,
E. P. MARVIN, D.D.
HORACE JAMES.

No. 15 Cornhill, Boston,

98

28 Jany. 1868.

Dear General,

Your note was duly received and surprised me as much — though not perhaps as painfully — as mine did you. And the more I have reflected upon the whole matter, the more puzzled I am. The only thing which is clear to me, is that there is a radical misunderstanding between yourself, Mr. Boynton, and the functionaries of the American Cong'l Union.

The only course which seemed open to me was to address Rev. Dr. Palmer, the New York Sec'y of the Union, and convey to him your understanding of the case. I accordingly forwarded to him (to be used confidentially) a copy of your note to me.

Again begging pardon for troubling you, but seeing no other way of emergence from the perplexity.

I am.

With great respect,

Faithfully yours,

Henry Chichester.

NB. Inclose $10.00 left here for you.

prefaced by a copy of mine to you which you answered.

Please find within (1) a copy of my note to him, (2) a copy of his reply to me.

I do not know how to explain Dr. Palmer's statements herein, into consistency with Christian integrity and fair dealing on the part of Dr. Boynton. And I do not see how to explain the attitude of your mind toward the subject except on the theory that Dr. Boynton has entirely misled you, as to the prominent facts.

I feel that I ought to lay all this before you, and hear from you, before taking any further step in the matter of public appeal. There can be no good in further public appeal, until all that is unpleasant between the enterprise and the "Union" has been explained and settled.

No 15 Cornhill, Boston.
January 28th 1868.

Dexter Henry M.

I'm still completely puzzled over the matter in correspondence. Only sees one thing clearly, that there is a radical misunderstanding between Mr Poynton, Commissioners and Officers of "Union."

Enclose copy of his note to Rev. Ray Palmer, and Mr Palmer's reply. Does not know how to explain the Dr's statements.

Thinks that this whole unpleasant matter should be settled before further appeal is made to the public. etc, etc,

(no. 1.)

(Confidential)

The Congregationalist and Boston Recorder.

W. L. GREENE & CO.

EDITOR,
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ASSOCIATE EDITORS,
E. P. MARVIN, D.D.
HORACE JAMES.

No. 15 Cornhill, Boston,

99

25 Jan, 1868.

Rev. Ray Palmer, D.D.

Dear Brother,

The correspondence which I enclose will mainly explain itself, and will indicate the reason of my sending it to you.

Please find, first, a copy of a letter addressed by me, on the 15th inst, to Gen. O. O. Howard making statements of facts which stand in the way of my endorsing to the public an appeal recently received from him for renewed aid to the Washington enterprise, and asking for his explanation of the same.

Please find, second, a copy of his confidential reply to my

letter.

Having read these in their connection, will you be good enough to answer these questions from ~~your~~ the stand-point which you occupy, as it is my earnest desire to comprehend the subject in all its details, exactly as it is.

1. Were any of my impressions in regard to the action, or feeling, of the "Union" in the premises, as gathered from Mrs. Cushing and related to Gen. Howard incorrect?

2. From the tenor of Gen. Howard reply is it obvious to you that there is, at the present time, any radical misunderstanding between Gen. Howard and the Trustees of the "Union", in regard to the matters under consideration?

3. Are the Trustees of the

"Union" now prepared to enclose to the public Gen. Howard's fresh appeal, a copy of which I also enclose (marked no. 3) and if not, why not?

An early answer will much oblige,

faithfully yours,

DMO.

per G. M. S.

N. B. Please return my copy of my letter to Gen. Howard - (No. 1) and the "appeal" (No. 3.)

(No. 2)

100

49 Bible House, N. Y.
Jan. 27, 1868.

My Dear Brother.

Let me state by way of reply to your inquiries the entire facts in relation to the Washington Church so far as the Am. Cong. Union is concerned.

1. The Union advanced $13,000. in payment for the lot.

2. It gave up its anniversary meeting a year ago last May to an effort for that Church which gave it $5,871.44. almost $6,000. more.

3. A year ago the present winter Genl. Howard came on and with the heartly concurrence of the Union and its friends raised in Brooklyn — I think, some six or eight thousand more. I have not the figures. A large part of this was virtually taken from us; as but few of those who gave it

would contribute again last year to our treasury to any considerable amount.

The Union have therefore helped this church directly to the amount of nearly $19,000. and indirectly to the other amount collected as above; so that they really have from us and through our influence from twenty to twenty-five thousand dolls. at a moderate estimate.

4. Then they asked the Trustees to transfer to them the title to the lot; and the Trustees distinctly understood that if this were done they would be able to raise the money to complete the house; and so consented to give them the title taking a lien on the property for their own security. It was supposed we had done with the matter.

5. But in a short time Dr. Boynton

came on and saw the treasurer and myself and said they must go to the Churches for $20,000. and desired our endorsement. We told him the views of the Board and stated that this endorsement was impossible, that as we had or were certain to have this year, from seventy-five to one hundred churches asking us to help them, we could not ask the churches to divert a sum equal to all they were likely to give in the whole year, from our treasury. Dr. B. afterward wrote me from Washington and the matter was laid before the Board and they decided that they had done all that they could for the Washington Church and could not allow it to go to the churches in their name. Dr. Boynton then wrote me saying they would not press the point. But he immediately prepared his

circulars, and took an endorsement of Mr. Langworthy's given to help the enterprise some three years ago or more, and no vote to give such is on the records of the Board. a paper which we had effectually told him the Board would not consent to his using - and has gone with this to the churches in [illegible] name. We think this is sharp practice to say the least, for a christian man in aid of a christian enterprise.

This is the whole matter. We have no controversy and intend not to have any with any body in Washington.

But the question to be decided is simply this. There are nearly a hundred churches, which have received nothing, appealing for aid in erecting houses of worship. These houses are, many of them, in different stages of progress. The

churches appealed to will not probably give this year <u>in all</u> to church-building more than $30,000. Shall the churches give this whole sum to one church that has already received so much, and deny the rest the aid which would secure the building of seventy-five or eighty churches at very important points? I am sure there can be but one answer to this. We cannot as churches at the east leave our struggling brethren in so many places without assistance, by giving the money which they are suffering for, to finish a hundred thousand dollar church in Washington. We think we here ought not to do it and that we cannot ask the churches to do it. We earnestly hope that you will not give your influence, or that of your paper to such an effort.

We deeply sympathize with Gen. Howard and the other good men who are interested in the Washington church. We would help them if we could justly. But I am fully persuaded that the $30,000. they need should be obtained from wealthy individuals, or at least in some way that does not involve a fatal embarrassment to the Union and the Churches whose applications are before the Board – fatal I mean to our success, if the churches do what Dr. B. desires.

I believe I have fully answered your inquiries and placed all the facts before you. That these are the exact facts of the case, the documents are all here to show. You will know what course to take. It is not for us to say that Dr. B. shall not ask anybody he pleases to give to the Washington

Church, but we have a right to say, most certainly, that he must not go to the churches in our name and so take their contributions from us and the Churches whose pressing wants we know.

Yr very truly yours
Ray Palmer.

per C. M. S.

79

Melrose Jan. 28th 1868.

Maj: Gen O. O. Howard

Dear Sir.

It has just occurred to me that I have been remiss in the common civilities of life, and that I have failed in my ordinary routine of duty. Be pleased at this late day to accept the sincere and hearty acknowledgments of the "Melrose Independent Army and Navy Association" for the very generous and acceptable records sent by you, in response to our solicitation for "War Records", and I beg that your kind forbearance be extended to me for this very evident breach of courtesy.

With sincere regards
I am, very truly your obt. Servt.
Wm. N. Tyler
Cor. Sec.

Melrose Jan 28th 1868

Tyler Wm. N.

Cor. Sec Independent Army and Navy Association.

On behalf of his Association expresses sincere thanks for "War Records"; desires to be excused for breach of courtesy in not acknowledging receipt of them before this time