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Washington D. C.
Feb. 11, 1868

Maj General C. C. Howard.

Feeling deeply the importance of a suitable place, where some of the rising generation, among the population of this District, at least, may be properly trained for all household duties, which shall fit them for stations into which many are now being called, without any preparation or qualification for such service as the demand requires. I am led to ask what can be done for this class? whose homes furnish no opportunity for any desirable attainments in the culinary arts &c

Many for lack of the necessary means of subsistence, go forth to earn their daily bread, in a most shiftless manner; going from place to place for want of being educated so as to perform their allotted part well, and often, no doubt, taxing the patience of their employers far beyond what they bargain for.

In the meantime these inexperienced ones may, I fear, oft times become sadly disheartened with a sense of their inability to serve acceptably, and many of them, ignorant of the true position of usefulness to which under favorable circumstances they may

rise, are sometimes in danger of losing their ambition
to make themselves proficient in these matters; to
avoid which, and in order to increase their means of
prosperity &c as well as to contribute largely to the com-
fort of those in whose service they may enlist. I should
rejoice to see such an Institution started in some
neighboring State, as would recommend itself not
only to such as these; but to the community in general
as likely to result in a blessing to many: and where
before careless habits become fixed, they may be sys-
tematically and thoroughly initiated into the various dom-
^{estic} and with good principles instilled into their hearts
they may go forth to fill an important part, in the
life, and realize, more fully, that they have a growing
power within, for usefulness and true independence
which may stimulate them to excel in whatever branch
they undertake, bearing in mind that "What is
worth doing at all is worth doing well"

In order the more speedily and effectually to ac-
complish such a work, I would recommend its being
started just far enough from Washington as to remove
the subjects from surrounding influences and
associations, which tend so much to impede their
advancement. Many, I find, who are hired out by

the month are in the habit of returning to their homes for the night.

Now while the Freedmen's Bureau is administering so liberally to the temporal wants of the destitute; and the demands for clothing &c to fit out many of this class to go out to service, are promptly responded to when investigation proves that they are proper subjects for such relief, yet there is an unsatisfied feeling, and degree of sadness which creeps over one, as we behold many of them thus gratefully clothed, but at the same time so little prepared for the path before them. And the question arises, Where are the benevolent hearts that are willing, either in this city, or elsewhere, to take such novices into their families and instruct them, or cause them to be patiently instructed in all the routine of domestic duties? We fear, alas! that there are too few.

To make up for this deficiency, and to supply what seems to be a great need of the present age, I would recommend that an Institution, for this purpose, be established in Pennsylvania, where, I believe, that not a few would now gratefully embrace the privilege of being thus taught —

respectfully

E. H. Valentine

March 11

Valentine E. W.,

I led to inquire what
can be done to instruct the
young generation of
colored persons in the
culinary art. The want
of this instruction hinders
most of them from securing
good places.
I would advise that an
institution for this pur-
pose be established, as
sufficient distance from
Washington to neutralize
its influence.

The Bureau can do per-
manent benefit by aid-
ing in this enterprise etc
etc, etc,

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Washington, D.C., February 1st, 1868.

Major General O. O. Howard,
Commissioner, Bureau R. F. & A. S.

General:

I am already under so many obligations to you, that I prefer with diffidence this request for an additional favor; but I trust that the circumstances in which I am placed, will plead my excuse for intruding upon you at this time.

Through your kindness in appointing me to an agency in the Bureau at a salary of \$750 per month, in October last, you opened up a brighter prospect for me; and, I was in hope, that this salary, together with what I might derive from the Evening Classes in Howard University, would enable me to support my family comfortably. You are, I believe, aware of the misapprehension under which I was laboring as

to the terms upon which I took charge of those
Classes, - a misapprehension which was not
officially corrected until the 24th ult. I have
thus been necessitated to depend mainly upon
my salary from the Bureau for the support
of a family of eight persons, including myself,
and that, too, while compelled to meet debts
incurred by the removal and establishment
of my family here. I have been in hopes of being
somewhat relieved of my burdens, by finding
a situation as teacher for my eldest niece,
but thus far, there has been no response to
the application for that purpose.

It is a question, whether, in attending
prisoners' cases before justice of the peace,
without having taken out an attorney's license,
as required by the Internal Revenue Act, I do not
render myself liable to prosecution; and Mr.
H. Browne, Esq., has advised me to take out a
license. Other friends, too, both here and elsewhere,
have advised me to apply for admission to prac-
tice in the U. S. Supreme Court. Neither of these steps
can I take on account of my inability to pay
the requisite fees.

The charge of attending to classes four or five hours per night during three nights in the week, after six hours spent daily in office business, is rather a trying one, - taxing severely my physical powers, and exacting time which I would gladly spend in my family circle. Still, I am interested in my classes, and, although inadequately remunerated, am willing to endure for a time this sacrifice which they demand. But I would respectfully suggest, that my daily detention in the Solicitors' Office ought, of themselves, to enable me to support my family, involving, as they do, the performance of professional services meriting a higher compensation than that which I now receive. In this opinion I have the concurrence and sympathy of A. H. Browne, Esq., who has kindly permitted me to refer you to him in this matter.

In view of the facts herein presented, I would respectfully solicit, General, an increase of my salary as an agent of the Bureau. Trusting, that you will look favorably upon this request, I have the honor, General, to be,

Very Respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

George B. Boston.

February 1st 1868

Dear Sir

Enclosed please find
of pay. etc, etc, etc,

Charleston, S. C. 1st Feb. 1868. 86

Dear General:

The Rev. Mr. Porter of Charleston, who is already known to you, thinks it may be satisfactory to you to have the testimony of another touching his work in this city, among the colored children, in which you have heretofore manifested so much friendly interest. It is not necessary to say any thing to you about the importance and value of the work to which Mr. Porter has so zealously devoted himself. In my judgment it is second to no other now pending, for the restoration and redemption of the south. Mr. P. has gathered together more than eight hundred children, who without his efforts would be growing up in idleness and ignorance - candidates for the prison and the pillory - and who are now daily receiving such instruction as will fit them for the duties and responsibilities of life. I have visited the schools and have witnessed with much gratification

Mr. Porter's white school, and found it in successful
operation, and promising the most gratifying results.
He has, in addition to these schools, just opened
a home for orphans, and this enterprise commends
itself to your favorable considerations. I trust you may
be able encourage Mr. Porter in his Christian labors
by substantial contributions to all these establishments.

the industry of capacity and fidelity in the
teachers and of industry and aptitude on the
part of the scholars as shown in the profi-
ciency already made in their studies. The
success has been wonderful, and God has
indeed blessed this effort for the cause
of morality and religion in the city and the
state. The building occupied by Mr. Porter
could accommodate five hundred additional
scholars, and these could readily be had,
if the means for employing teachers were avail-
able. I cannot forbear expressing the hope
therefore, that you may be able to add
still further to the generous contributions
which you have already made, as I am
persuaded the funds must be well and
wisely applied.

Respectfully and truly yours,
C. P. Kingdon.

Major General C. C. Howard,
Washington,
D. C.

Charleston S. C.
Feb. 1st 1868

Kingsbury C. P.

Testifies concerning
the efficiency of
Mr. Porter of that
place, etc, etc,



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Aurora, Ills

Feb. 1. 1868

Dear Genl.

Excuse the liberty I take in addressing you. But I am engaged writing a History of the 8th Regt. Ill. Cavalry, with which you became acquainted during the winter of 1861 & 2 when we lay in Camp California near Alexandria as also during the peninsular & Maryland Campaigns, and until you left the Army of the Potomac. The regiment have always entertained the highest regards for you and a few paragraphs from you embodying your opinion of this Regiment I solicit for insertion in the history. As I know it would gratify the surviving members for whom the work is being written.

Hoping you will comply with this request I remain

Sincerely Yours

A. Hard

Late Surgeon 8th Regt Ill
Cavalry

Maj. Genl

O. O. Howard

Washington D. C.

Albion 20

February 1st 1868

Wm. A. L.
late Surgeon 8th Regt.
Ill. Cavalry.

I state that he is writing a
history of the 8th Regt. Ill.
Cavalry, which the General
became acquainted with at
Camp California in winter
of '61 and '62, etc.

Requests the Gen. opinion of
the Regt for insertion in
said history etc, etc.



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No. 3. Bible House

New York Feb. 1. 1868

Major Genl. O. O. Howard

Dear General

I have recently

returned from a visit to Charleston S.C. where I was enabled to see to some degree what is being done for the Freedmen - From Genl. Scott and the Rev. Mr. Porter I received many attentions, for which I feel deeply indebted to both of those gentlemen - As to the former I would say that from all I could learn he is administering the affairs of ^{the} Bureau with great wisdom and effect - So far as it will do to entrust power to any official I hope it may be given to him - for it is perfectly manifest that the shortest and easiest

road to the restoration of peace
ity to that desolated region
is to be found through the exer-
cise of what under other cir-
cumstances would be called
arbitrary power - Genl. Scott
evidently has right views
is of a practical turn of
mind and has the confi-
dence of both the white and
colored population -

After a good deal of ex-
amination and inquiry I an-
ted to think that the Rev
Mr. Porter is doing con-
sistent and important
work - To my surprise he
seems to be the only clergyman

resident in Charleston who
is at all active in cooperating
with the efforts in behalf of
the Freedmen. He speaks
in the highest and warmest
terms of yourself and of
Genl. Scott.

I have felt it is due to
these gentlemen that I should
bear this testimony - I might
speak of many things I saw and
heard bearing upon the great
issues before the Country, but
you have other sources of informa-
tion and therefore I will not
trouble you.

I am very respectfully yours
H. Dyer

(over)

I should not probably trouble
you now were it not that
you once did me the honor
to call and converse with
me about the work for
Trudmen in Charleston
and particularly Mr. Potts
connection with it



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Gen. Howard,

The name
of that gentleman is

C. B. Smith;
now employed as a
Clerk in 2^d Auditor's
Office, Winder's Building.
His place of residence
is 372, 10th St. between
L. and M Sts.

M. Coucut.

Feb. 1, 1868.)

Washington Feb. 1st 68

Enant M.

Gives name of
C. B. Smith

Clerk 2^d Auditor's Office
Henderson Building.

Residence,

372 Fifth St. bet.

Lnd M. Sts.



Washington, D. C.

February 1, 1868

Dear Sir:

Enclosed I hand you
\$10. a subscription towards the
building of our Church from Mr.
William Hinwood a gentleman
in the Office of the Treasurer U.S.

We desire the prosperity
of the Church in all that pertain
to the welfare and rights
of man and the Kingdom of
the Highest.

Please acknowledge receipt
by return and give Mr. Hin-

Wood credit for the amount.

Will you also send a few
copies of the Resolutions of the
Church sent Sunday morning
with Protol attached.

Yours Gilfillan -

To
Messrs Geo. O. O. Howard
or Mr. Charles Howard

Treasury Department, 91

Office of Internal Revenue,

Washington, Feb. 1, 1868.

Gen. Roward,

My dear Sir,

Returning to the office this morning after an absence of two days, I found the inclosed Note from Mr. Fletcher.

I shall be surprised if nothing more prompt has been recd. by yourself.

The purport of the note evidently leaves the way open for selecting an individual of known classical attainments, such as you specially wish to secure. And I certainly feel relieved of some anxiety, on that account.

Very truly yrs.

M. Canant.

Washington Dec. 7. 1868

Courant M.

Enclose letter from
Mr. Stetson. Hope that
the Commissioner has heard
from him.

Thanks the way is clear
now to select a man
of known classical at-
tainments. etc, etc,





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State Normal School,

CASTINE, ME.,

January 25 1868.

My Dear Mr. Conant

I have heard from you through Mr. Boyden, also from Gen. Howard in regard to the Freedmen's Normal School.

I regret that I am not able to respond to the General's invitation to "come immediately to Washington".

The Freedman's cause is a noble one & I feel a deep interest in its welfare.

We are pleasantly situated here, our school is young but it is growing in numbers & favor.

With the Legislature it
is yet an experiment, how
many Normal Schools are
needed in the State.

I have presented Gen.
Howard's application to the
State Supt. of Schools & it
may be possible for me to
get relieved from my duties
here at the close of the term,
the last of February, if at
that time a better man has
not been secured for the
Washington School.

Accept my thanks for
your kind remembrance
Mrs. F. writes in sending
regards to Mr. & Mrs. Coman.
Respectfully yours
G. J. Flinn