29 YW

73

Blank No. 1.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

The rules of this Company require that all messages received for transmission, shall be written on the message blanks of the Company, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

O. H. PALMER, Sec'y. 3 WILLIAM ORTON, Pres't.

Dated, Wilmington Del May 18 1868

Received at Willards May 18

To Maj Gen O. O. Howard

Commissioner

Bu R. F. & A L

19th & I Sts

Zion General Conference have invited you and Mr Alvord to visit them Thursday morning eleven (11) o'clock

Wm Howard Day

Supt of Schools

16 Wi 64 Pan

Wilmington
May 18th 1868

Day Wm H.

Telegraphs that
Zion General Confer-
ence invites the Gen-
eral and Mr Alvord
to visit them on
Thursday at 11 o'
clock

64

Young Men's Christian Association,

Washington, D.C., May 18 1868

Dear General

Will you be good enough to deliver the report on the operations of the Y.M.C.A. to Brother Sleigh, or still better send it to me at room No 1 Register's Office Treasy Dept and oblige.

Yours very truly

C H Merwin

Maj Gen O O Howard
Freedmen's Bureau

(8)

69

Camp McDowell, A. Ter.,
May 18th, 1868.

General,

Today I start for California for recovery of health. In fact I long for a field of labor where a larger work for Christ exists — to be somewhere in closer sympathy with the breathing world. Can such a place for me, proportioned to my poor abilities be found in your Bureau? If so please write me where addressing letter to Napa City, Cal. and I will ask to be sent to you. Or will you ask for me?

Yours Faithfully,
C. W. Blake.

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

Blake le Fu,
Napa City, Cal.

Desires to know whether or not the General has some position in the Bureau to which he can be assigned. etc

Personal.

68

Pr

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,

Head-Quarters Assistant Commissioner, District of Virginia,

Richmond, Va., May 18th 1868.

Major Genl. O. O. Howard
Commissioner,

Dear General,

Can you give me any information in regard to the qualifications of Lieut. L. A. Nesmith, 12th U.S.I. and Bvt. Lieut. Col. W. P. Lynch, Capt. 42d U.S.I. (V.R.C.) who are ordered to report to me for duty.

If they are good men they will be required for duty as Military Commissioners as well as Bureau agents.

I am, General
Very respectfully
Your obt. Servant
O. Brown
Bvt. Brig. Genl. Vols
Asst Comr

S. [illegible] Vol. 1, 1868

Richmond Va May 18th 68

From O.
Asst Comr

Can the General furnish information, in regard to the qualifications of Lieut. E. A. Nesmith, 3d Dpt Lieut Col. W. F. Lynch.

If they are good men they will be required for duty as military commissioners as well as Bureau agents, etc

New Haven, Ct., May 19th 1868

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

Dear Sir,

Enclosed, please find ($10.) ten dollars, Draft on N.Y., contributed by the Westville Cong.l S.S. for the Cong. Ch. Building (Fund) Washington, D.C. Please acknowledge the receipt and oblige

Yours Truly
A. B. Wiggin
Superintendent

[C3-May 19, 1868]

The Congregational Church in Washington D.C.

To the Congregational Church in — —

Sendeth Greeting:

Dear Brethren:

Whereas, unhappily a state of things exists among us which in the judgment of a large minority of this church renders it expedient that the relation between us and our pastor be dissolved — yet he and and a majority of the church decline to take action for such dissolution and refuse to submit the facts to a mutual council for advice although such council has been twice asked for in the legal and usual manner by the said minority:- and

Whereas, the deacons of the church have been removed without specified cause or hearing and the vacancies thus attempted to be made irregularly filled, which proceeding we desire to see rectified —

Therefore, we affectionately invite you by Pastor & delegate to assemble at the 1st Congregational church edifice in this city ~~here~~ on Wed. the 17th day of June next at eleven o'clock A. M. to examine the facts & advise us in the premises & take such action therein as you may deem proper.

Washington D.C. May 22 1868. (Signed)

[Note. The ~~other~~ churches invited to this council are the Congregational church at 1. Marietta O. 2. The Tabernacle church, New York City; 3. Church of the Pilgrims and 4. Plymouth Church, Brooklyn N.Y., 5. Mt Vernon Church & × Phelps ~~Ch~~ Church, Boston, × Centre Church New Haven Central Church Philadelphia, 1st Congregational Church × Baltimore, & 1st Unitarian Ch. St. Louis. Delegates will be met at the Depot in this city.]

Copy of
Call for an Exparte
Council.

Charleston S. C. May 20, 1868.

Dear General:

The Union men of this State do not yet despair. They look to Congress as the "pillar of fire" which is to guide them through the long night of tribulation, to the dawning of a brighter day, when they may repose, at last, under the shadow of equal and impartial justice. —

Providence is, at last, smiling upon this portion of what was once, the great moral desert of America. There is a better promise of large Cotton, Corn, and wheat Crops, than has been known in this State for many years. This result is due almost entirely, to the timely and judicious aid furnished to planters by the Bureau. General Scott is most careful and discreet, both as to the amount of subsistence that he furnishes, and the parties to whom aid is rendered. He makes a rigid scrutiny into the characters both of the employer and the employed, before making any advance of provisions. In all cases he takes a properly executed lien upon the entire Crop, as security to the

Government for a full reimbursement of its outlay
The Crops, thus advanced on, are then diligently
watched, by active and reliable Agents, who report
their Condition, and the Conduct of the laborers
to the Asst. Commissioner. By this system a wide
spread disorganization of labor, and pauperism
are prevented, and at the same time, the Govern-
ment is, in a great degree, secured against
loss. It has, at least, all the security ever de-
manded by the most discreet private "factors"
in making their advances prior to the rebellion,
while it meets a public necessity which cu-
not be avoided, without material disaste
to this entire section.
General Scott designs gradually contracting
system of relief, so that it will pass away
without the slightest shock to the agricultural
interests of these people. It is of vital impo-
tance, however, that his estimates should be promptly
met, as they are always placed at the lowest
possible figure, and any failure to meet th
will furnish a good, legal, pretext, to many
for failing, or refusing to discharge obliga-
tions already incurred. I have written t

you freely upon this subject, without any knowledge on the part of Genl. Scott, but solely impelled by my deep interest in this vital matter, and knowing that the Character of the Bureau, and your own reputation, as its administrative head, are deeply involved in the result. Both, you may rely upon it, are safe, so far as Genl. Scott is concerned.

I enclose you a letter showing the treatment still accorded to Union men in this State. Mr. Bigelow is a gentleman of high character, and strictly attentive to his duties as a teacher.

Trusting that you and your's are well,

I remain, dear General,
Your's faithfully,
T. J. Mackey.

Maj. Genl. O. O. Howard.
Washington
D. C.

Chapter 5 F.

May 20th 1861

Mackey T. J.

Writes in regard to the distribution of relief by General Scott, respectfully suggesting that the estimates should be promptly met, etc, etc, etc, &c

Encloses a letter in reference to the discharge of a teacher, showing still the treatment that Union men receive.

70

Evergreen - April 20th 1868

Mr D. Bigelow,

Sir,

The undersigned beg to inform you that our connection with you as Employers, must cease from and after this date: and in justice to ourselves we deem it proper to give you some of the reasons which have induced us to this course.

In the first place, to insure satisfaction it is necessary that there should be a mutual confidence and good understanding between Teacher and Employer; which, in our case has been entirely destroyed by your conduct. You have cut yourself loose from all the respectable and law abiding White citizens of our Country, and have allied yourself with a Party utterly opposed to all that is conducive to our best interest as a Nation, or ourselves as men and gentlemen of honor.

In addition you have failed to give attention to your duties as a Teacher, and appropriated time not your own to the advancement of your schemes and Political affiliations: and we wish you to understand that we can no longer in honor add our countenance and support, to one who is looked upon as a disgrace & foul blot upon this community.

I am

Yours &c

N. C. Woodrow

J. B. King

A. W. Head

W. H. H. Head

E. K. Hewitt

B. L. Turner

Asgar Hutchison

Wm. R. Hatchel

71

Washington May 21. 1868

Maj Genl O. O. Howard

Dear Sir

Please allow me to know if it would be agreeable to you to accompany me to Howard University to day at half past 2 P.M.

Yours Truly

H. A. Martin

Washington D.C.
May 21st 1865

Brewster, E.A.

Desires to know whether the General can accompany him to Howard University today at 2½ P.M.

72

Washington D.C. May 22, 1868

Major Genl. Howard.

My Dear General.

This is to solicit your presence and service on Monday evening next, at 8 o'clock precisely at Israel Church, for the purpose of presiding over an anniversary meeting of the Parent Home & Foreign Missionary Society of A.M.E. Church

You will also increase the usefulness of our Missionaries by sending us an addition of 50 more copies of the Manual on School Houses and Cottages.

With sentiments of high consideration,

I am dear General

Yours Obediently

Payne

WILLIAM H. OWEN. THOMAS WILSON.

OWEN & WILSON,

Late "CORWIN, OWEN & WILSON,

COUNSELLORS-AT-LAW AND SOLICITORS OF CLAIMS,

~~203 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.~~ No 2. 4½ Street

73

Washington, D. C., May 22 186 8

Genl O. O. Howard

Dear Sir.

Enclosed please find copy from letter press of letter sent this day to Messrs Pratt & Turner Insurance agents notifying them of incumbrances on your property insured in their two Cos. Phoenix and Yonkers.

Please preserve this notification as it might be important in case I find to show that notification was given them

A stitch in time &c &c

Yours truly

Owen & Wilson

Thos Wilson

O. I. Vol. 1. 1868. (O.C. 26)

No 2. 4½ Street
Washington D.C.
May 22nd 1868

Orren and Wilson

Enclose press copy of letter sent to Messrs Pratt and Turner, Insurance agents, notifying them of encumbrances on the Generals property insured in their two co's - Phoenix and Yonkers. etc etc etc

74

No 2. 4½ State
May 22d 6

Messrs Porter & Emmons
Agents Yonkers & Mt.
Insurance Co
467. 14th Street
Washington D.C.
Gentlemen
Enclosed herewith
directed to transmit the
enclosed policy in this form
in your Co. for endorsement
same as made on the Phoenix
policy on same property. When
done please return to us.
Please take notice also on
behalf of Yonkers Co &
also Phoenix Co of a deed
of trust made by Emil Hon
and to Charles Stone in trust
for Geo R. Smith to secure
the sum payable in 4 equal

494

annual instalments.
Also a deed of trust on
same premises & also
on the whole Howard
University farm of 250
acres for $12,000 given
by Howard University to
Walter S Cox & another to
secure said sum to Geo
A Smith. The latter is
due in two equal annual
instalments.
The first deed is dated
May 1. 68 and the latter
May 28. 67.

60

Yours truly
Devlin & Walker
Attys for Geo A Howard.

Houston, Texas May 22d 1868

75

O. O. Howard
Major Genl &c &c
D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am highly gratified at the receipt of your excellent letter of May 5th. I am glad to know that Providence has wisely placed, in so commanding a position as you occupy, a thoroughly evangelical Christian gentleman — one who so fully sympathizes with the poor down trodden freedmen. I rejoice in the appt. of a christian gentleman to the head of the Educational work in Texas. I shall take much pleasure in cooperating with him, in any way in my power. I will also cor. with Dr. Sears of Peabody Fund.

I feel a deep interest in every thing appertaining to the moral & spiritual welfare of our Freedmen. I regret to say that but few of the my fellow citizens of the South sympathize with me in this interest. I fear the ~~fam~~ feeling of mutual hatred between the two races is daily growing stronger. Outside of the Cities and larger towns, but little is doing for their mental moral or spiritual culture. I have examined into this matter thoroughly & speak from my own knowledge. Their preachers are (with few exceptions) colored and exceedingly ignorant and unqualified for the duties of the ministry. Very few of them, I fear, possess that first qualification for the ministry — piety. The most charitable could not hope for much good from their teachings. Very few white

(over)

Ministers of any denomination pay any attention to Freedmen. Their excuse the Freedmen do not desire their services. It may be that, in some cases, this is true. Be this as it may, the Freedmen in Texas are well nigh without an adequate ministry of any denomination. I am inclined to think the Congregational Church of New England owe them a debt which they have not manifested much disposition to pay. With a view to enlist their energies in that direction, I have commenced a Cor. with Cong.l Recorder of Boston, which, if published, I design to continue. If you have access to that paper allow me to call your attention to the Correspondence.

Very little reliance can be placed on the religious people of Texas to do any thing for the spiritual welfare of the Freedmen. Their aid must come from abroad. Therefore I do not regard their spiritual condition as better than in the days of slavery. Fully three fourths (3/4) of their rising race are growing up in idleness & vice. The females are very unchaste and but little inclined to industry. Just think of such as mothers to the next generation of Freedmen!! What kind of people will they be?

Through Texas the gospel is to be introduced into Mexico. Hence the importance of thoroughly evangelizing Texas. Freedmen are destined to have an important influence over the future religious character of Texas. Hence our interest in their evangelization. Hosts of pious gentlemen should come out Texas next autumn and identify themselves

with us as teachers, and aid us in general efforts to evangelize the Freedmen! A male teacher could (on Sabbath) superintend a Sunday School, and even preach (tho he might be a Layman) to the blacks on Sunday. He might, in various ways, labor to evangelize the Freedmen. The Females might aid, efficiently, in S.S. labor; and in various evangelistic efforts. Cannot the same Union which sent forth Harriet Newell & Mrs Judson to the Heathen send ~~a~~ Missionary teachers &c for Freedmen?

Allow me to suggest that you use your influence as you think best in stirring up the Cong.l Churches of N.E. to action on this subject. It was by the prayers & labors of N.E. Churches for near half a century, that the Emancipation of Slaves was effected — Shall not the efforts of the same people be put forth for the emancipation of those they have aided in liberating?

There remain, in Texas, much land yet to be possessed. Who will come over & help us?

Yours Truly:

James Burke

Recd. 00 Jun 1 1868

Burke James

Acknowledges receipt of the General's letter of the 5th inst.

Writes in reference to the interests of the negro.