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STATE OF ALABAMA,

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION.

Montgomery, Ala., Aug. 14th 1868.

Maj. Genl. O. O. Howard.
Commissioner

Dear General.

Genl. Ruger has relieved Genl. A. L. Shepherd. Genl. Shepherd and staff left last night for Mobile. Before leaving the General gave me an unofficial & confidential letter addressed to you with reference to the removal of the Bureau from Montgomery to Huntsville. He desired me to present this letter to you in person at Atlanta, accompanied with certain verbal statements & explanations.

In accordance with this request of Genl. Shepherd I expect to be in Atlanta on Monday Evening next & hope to have the pleasure of meeting you at the National

Please regard this letter as confidential.

With great regard
Your Obt. Servt.
R. W. Harper
Supt. of Education.

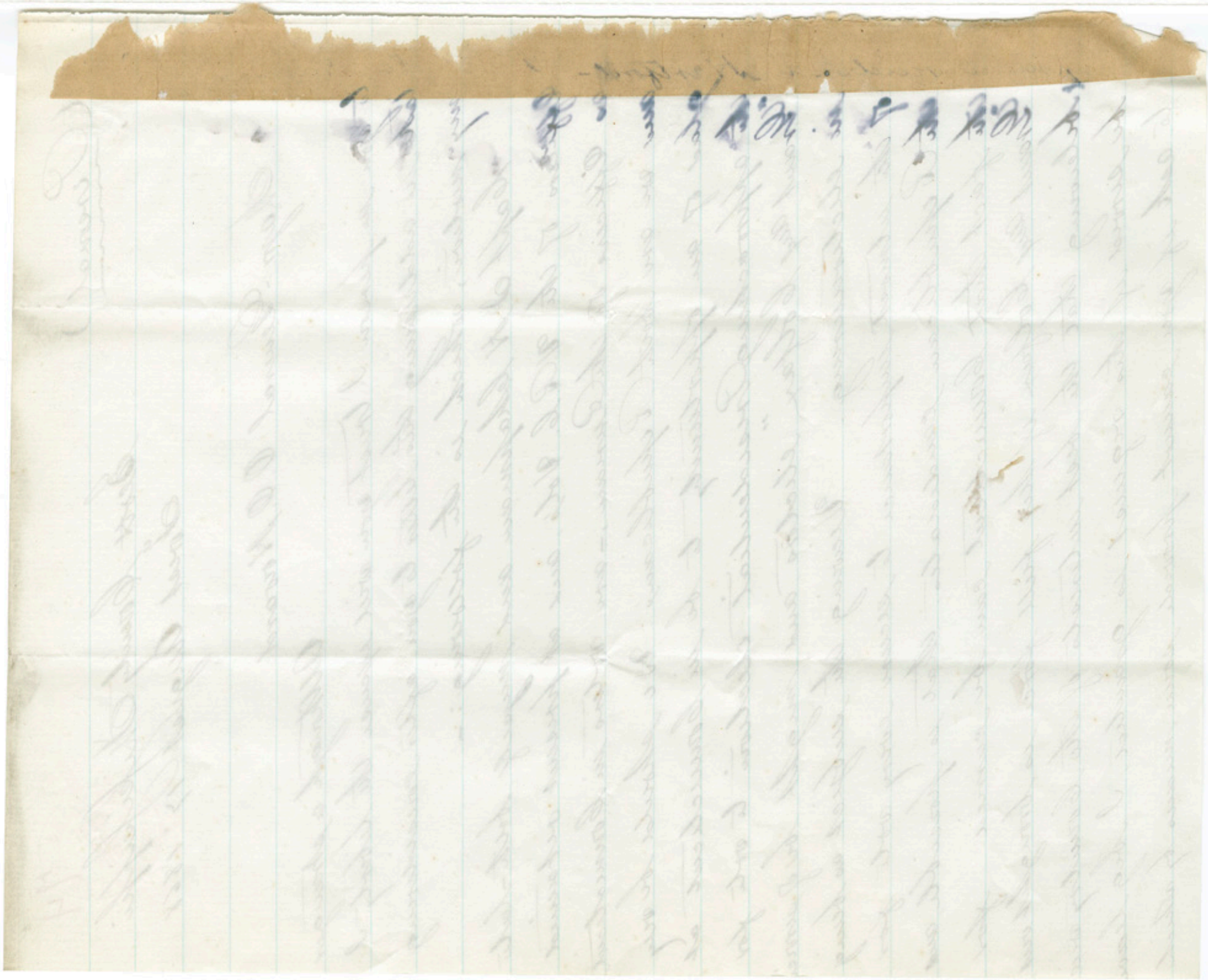
(Personal)

Scott County Mississippi
Forest August 17th 1868

Major-General O. O. Howard.

Although a stranger to you in person I trust you will excuse the liberty I take in addressing this letter to you, after considering my motive; which is the following:-

Capt J. H. Chapman and myself both,-late Officers of the U.S.C.T. Vol's, and at present retained as Officers of the Freedmen,-are voters in Connecticut, and we are both Republicans: We should be very glad of an opportunity to be in Connecticut at the approaching Presidential election to vote for "Grant and Colfax" electors, and might be of service in electioneering. Viewing the subject as being of the utmost importance to secure every vote for the Republican candidates, that is possible, and the fact that Connecticut can be carried for "Grant and Colfax" if her full force is brought out, & believing that the best interests of the Country will be served if this request is granted, I beg leave to ask if you cannot provide some means by which



Capt Chapman and myself can be in Connecticut at the election without our being required to give up our positions as Officers of the Bureau or to bear our traveling expenses.

If this request should meet with your approval, you may be well assured that the request is made, and would be carried out in good faith: and whether approved or not please consider this communication as originating only from good motives. Capt Chapman is on duty at V. Burg and he is not aware of this request, but I will answer for him. I do not suppose General Gillem would approve the request if he should have the opportunity to express his opinion.

If you should wish to inquire after my character &c I would respectfully refer to General N. M. Whittlesey, your chief Q.M. who is acquainted with, me, and Chapman also.

I am General
Very Respectfully
Your obt servant
Geo. W. Corlis.
(Lt Col Brvt Major USV vice.)

Chapman resides in Hartford - I at New Haven.

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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. WILLIAM ORTON, Pres't.

Dated Washington DC Aug 18 1868

Received at Atlanta Aug 18

To Genl O O Howard

Genl Meade

Prefer not to go to Alabama as assistant Commissioner but will cheerfully comply with your wishes—

J A Sewall

16 W Pacific

1040

MR

95

Bath Aug. 18th. 68
Tuesday A. M.

Dear Mrs.

Your telegram forwarding the Gulch reached me last evening, to which I at once replied.

I my mind prefer not to go to Ohio, and hope the Gulch will not insist upon it, tho' of course I shall do as he wishes. If I know myself, I do not think that am exactly suited for the place at this time. I am too radical, and have not sufficient patience & forbearance with rebels. I fear I shall not succeed to the Gulch satisfaction and the interest of the Bureau. I am gratified

at this season Expression
Gen'l. Howard confidence
me. I do not want to
on my record at this
day in my life.
I think you are com
Jones, Mr Wm do bette
than I. I think, Dennis,
in Gen. Warren do use,
he can be spared, or perh
Maj. Rankin now in K
Either have Lank Crawf
and an officer of the Ar
I shall probably be detained
in this but a short t
and it would be a sev
disappointment to find me th
for a month or two, and
it would be an incontinuan
expense to me. I hope you
will advise the Gen'l. otherw
Tho. I shall cheerfully go

he doubts, as long as I am in the service.

I would leave for Washington day, but can not do so without embarrassing political appointments, which it is now too late to cancel. I will (with God's aid) start Thursday, and hope to reach Washington Friday.

Please explain and convey to the Genl. my absence from Washington. He evidently thinks that I am there.

Yours very truly
F. Stickney
Col. &c. &c.

Genl. E. Whittlesey

Private

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Washington D.C.
August 19th 1868.

Genl Chas. H. Howard

Dear General,

I have been hoping to see you in order to give you my views regarding the new building which is being erected for the Colfax Industrial Mission.

When we at first planned for a permanent institution the religious part of the work was naturally the most prominent in our minds as the Sunday School was the means of enlisting us in the work first of all.

As our experience has extended however, and particularly since perfecting our organization in view of the new building in which to carry on our operations the necessity for more extended industrial

Effort has become very apparent.

The Sabbath School alone will n[illegible] do what we want done for their p[illegible] nor will the ordinary public scho[illegible] We need an institution which will [illegible] the most promising of the colored p[illegible] children and adults and prepare them for and secure for them a higher [illegible] of industrial occupation.

For instance there are some good co[illegible] ers in this city but they are ignor[illegible] of many things which are essential to real success. We want to se[illegible] them at the head of their business [illegible] with a little instruction in methods of drawing up specifications etc. [illegible] they would reach it.

Again there are many very promi[illegible] children connected with our schoo[illegible] These should be pushed forward [illegible] as their parents do not realiz[illegible] the importance of keeping them

at school or because they need their labor we find some of the best of them deprived of their advantages. Now I hold that the way to elevate a race is to elevate the individuals of that race or as many as possible they in turn raising their fellows with them.

The large class of vagrant colored newsboys and bootblacks for whom there exists no organization call for great effort else a very dangerous and worthless set of vagabonds are being educated in vice —

I believe it is the mission of the "Colfax Industrial" to reach these classes and to do it effectually and successfully. To aid us I believe ~~we~~ we shall have liberal donations from northern and eastern churches.

To do this work however will require more room than we are getting

in our new building. The large audience room will be admirable for Sabbath Schools, meetings etc. but not adapted to the other important parts of the work which require smaller rooms and more of them.

We find that a second story can be put on the building in the shape of a French Roof which will give ample accommodation for all these purposes. If we had six months to canvass the matter I believe the Trustees could raise this amount or at least enough to secure the shell leaving the inside finish for some future day but we have no time in which to make the effort and of ourselves we cannot do it.

I have presented these views to you in the hope that you would see some way by which you could build the extra story for us.

I am, Very Respy Yours

John H. C.

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Treasury of the United States.

Washington, Aug. 20th 1868.

My Dear Sir;

Will you again do me the favor to take charge of the enclosed am't ($20.) subscribed to the Building Fund of the 1st. Congregational Church of this City, and obtain from the proper party a rec't therefor.

"The gold and silver are His", loaned to us, not given, therefore I cheerfully apply this - with the hope of advancing His cause - extending his kingdom, and hastening that time when His will shall be done on earth as it is in Heaven"

Respectfully

Wm. Hinwood.

Nashville Tenn.
Aug. 20th 1868

Dear Mat – We are just setting forth for Petersburg – propose to go by the way of Lynchburg, thence to Lynch Junction – Gordonsville to Petersburg – I have attended the Teachers Convention found my Brother of our University here. He will give you quite an account of my visit. Speech &c – I wanted to get time to write you a long letter, but have been very busy. Mother is not in very good condition here – I some fear an out-break, by the Kentucky

clemency. Give much
love to all the Children
I write by Hunter you at
length from Vicksburg - I
hope to get a word from
you on V - or at New
Orleans — Mr Rainwater

Sincerely Yours
Otis

Mr Rayburn presents
his regards —

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Washington Aug. 20. '68

Dear General

I enclose a letter from Gen. Sewall, in which he speaks for himself. He has delayed in Maine with my approval to help in the campaign.

I wrote to you some ten days since about Gen. Baird and Wm. Howard Day. Gen. B— is willing to come here, but evidently expects to be stationed in this city.

Day desires to go to S. C. He is now discharged, as your order was positive discharging all invalids except Von Schriach & Montillé on the 15th. But if you will Day assigned to S. C. I will apply for

his reappointment. Some complaints are made against him, of treating his divorced wife badly, borrowing money years ago, and not paying it.

Gen. Schofield has returned from the funeral of his oldest son at West Point. I see him often.

Mrs. H— & I attended the funeral of Mrs. Senator Trumbull Monday.

Mr. Blaine wishes you to go to Maine and work for the Reps. I have informed him that you are on the way to New Orleans.

The family are all well— and anxious to see you home again.

I have serious fears about the tower of the University. The cracks increase, showing a settling of the foundation.

Everything in the office is going on smoothly.

Yours truly
A. F. Wheeler

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War Department,

BUREAU OF REFUGEES, FREEDMEN, AND ABANDONED LANDS.

Washington, Aug. 21st, 1868.

Dear General

I have your letter of the 18th dated at Atlanta. The case of J. M. Robinson Ag't at Americus Ga was reported some weeks ago, and I have been trying to find him in vain. He is probably somewhere in Miss. If he can be discovered, I will apply to the Sec of War to order his arrest. But after a careful examination of all the papers, I do not think we can prove anything against him.

The application for Billette having been once refused, I fear we shall not be able to keep him; but I will

try again. wou

The contract for the Universal building does not include gas pipes. It is now about time Gen. just than in, and no one here can authorized to contract for the job. Perhaps you can instruct all Asst Comm. to do it. I

Gen Ballock is in fear lest he shall overpay the Contractor he having already paid out for mat terials & work on the two buildings nearly $100 000. I tell him to pay as fast as possible in your absence

The roof is begun on the U.S. and all looks well, but the Tilly which looks very insecure

I directed a letter yesterday to New Orleans, supposing you

would go there first via Montgomery and Mobile. Chas also wrote to you at Montgomery. I will telegraph Gen. Ruger to forward all letters to New Orleans.

Mrs. Howard and the children are all well.

I hope you will order Gen. Reynolds to meet you at N.O. & save yourself the labor & expense of the long journey to Austin.

Yours truly

O. Whittlesey

a.a.a.g.

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard

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War Department,

BUREAU OF REFUGEES, FREEDMEN, AND ABANDONED LANDS.

Washington, August 21, 1868.

Dear General

I laid before the Sec. of War your request to have Gillette retained in Mobile. But he replied that Gen. Reynolds is in so great need of good officers, that he thought it better to let Gillette go. Another officer has already been ordered to relieve Gillette viz. Lieut. E. H. Weirman 4th Artl.

The Sec. approved your appointment of Col. Beecher Asst. Comm. of Ala. and I have sent to him & to Gen. Ruger copies of the orders.

Gen. Sewall returned this morning. There is nothing for him to do

here, unless I turn over to him my work, and take my depar to Maine.

All well at your home.

Yours truly

E. Whittier

A. G.

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN, 1868.

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NEW YORK GRANT AND COLFAX BOYS IN BLUE

STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

At Large.

Gen. H. A. Barnum.
Gen. John Cochrane.
Gen. George H. Sharpe.
Gen. Daniel E. Sickles.
Gen. Alfred Pleasanton.
Gen. Craig W. Wadsworth.
Gen. James Jourdan.

District Delegates.

1. Col. Alfred Wagstaff, Jr., New York.
2. Col. George B. Lincoln, Jr., Brooklyn.
3. Major George D. Weeks, Brooklyn.
4. Col. M. W. Burns, New York.
5. Private J. Murray, New York.
5. Col. Chas. S. Strong, New York.
6. Gen. Charles K. Graham, New York.
6. Col. J. W. Marshall, New York.
6. Capt. Charles W. Nelson, New York.
6. Major J. B. Forbes, New York.
7. Gen. D. F. Burke, New York.
8. Col. George F. Hopper, New York.
9. Col. George B. Van Brunt, New York.
9. Gen. J. B. McIvor, New York.
10. Capt. R. A. Dimmick, Mount Vernon.
11. Capt. Charles H. Lyon, Newburgh.
11. Col. W. D. Dickey, Newburgh
11. Gen. Charles H. Van Wyck, Middletown.
12. Gen A. B. Smith, Poughkeepsie.
13. Gen. Theo. B. Gates, Kingston.
14. Major S. C. Clobridge, Albany.
15. Gen. W. H. Lawrence, New York.
16. Gen. Moffat, Plattsburgh.
17. Capt. Peter Robertson, Ogdensburgh.
17. Major W. D. Brennan, Malone.
18. Gen. J. B. McKean, Saratoga Springs.
18. Col. A. D Baker, Saratoga Springs.
19. Gen. Ferris Jacobs, Delhi.
20. Gen. John B. Van Petten, Fairfield.
21. Lieut. L. H. Rowan, Oneida Co.
22. Col. W. W. Wermerskirch, New York.
23. Major Theo. L. Poole, Syracuse.
24. Major J. H. Kemper, Arcadia.
25. Col. George Hyland, Jr., Dansville.
26. Capt. E. B. Gere, Owego.
26. Gen. R. A. Cameron, Phelps.
27. Gen. H. M. Crane, Hornellsville.
28. Col. John G. Klinck, Rochester.
28. Col. J. A. Reynolds, Rochester.
29. Capt. T. E. Ellsworth
30. Col. M. Werdrich, Buffalo.
31. Gen. George W. Palmer, Jamestown.

OFFICERS:

H. A. BARNUM, President. MOSES H. GRINNELL, Treasurer. CHARLES W. NELSON, Secretary.

THEO. B. GATES, Chairman Executive Committee. ALFRED PLEASANTON, Chairman Finance Committee.

HEADQUARTERS, ASTOR HOUSE, ROOMS 16 AND 17,

New York, Aug 21st 1868.

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

Dear Sir.

Believing that the balance of power in this state, rests in the freedmen, we are making energetic efforts to guide them in the proper path. There is no doubt but that 3/4 of the boys who wore the blue are

desiring of seeing the principles for which they fought for on the battle fields sustained at the polls — To helmp the duty of seeing that they are properly organized a enthusiasm stirred up which bring over to our ranks all dissatisfied ones.

To do this we must appeal to them through their old leaders and we therefore desire to know if you can devote a small portion of your time to our cause in this state — Please reply at your earliest convenience stating when you can speak for us if at all — We desire to place your name on our list for at least 2 or 3 speechings.

With great respect I am
Truly Yours

L. D. W. Milam
Notary Public
N

Private.

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Wilmington, Del., Aug. 27th 1868.

Major Gen. O. O. Howard,
Commissioner,
Washington, D. C.:-

General:-

I am undergoing a very severe siege of chills and fever, but as I am able to sit up to-day, I beg the privilege of laying before you two or three important considerations.

I learn that a man named Palmer (in this city) has written to say that I owe him some money and the inference is that I do not mean to pay him. I do owe Mr. Palmer a certain amt. of money, but have never denied the claim, and have always intended to pay it.

I have had a load of debt to carry many years - and I am now relieving myself of it. Every year, as I had money, I paid here and there, to lift the load. My debts were mainly contracted for in connection with my Newspaper "The Altoona American"

"Americans", an Organ for the Colored People, and I had to bear all the burdens.

But since 1858 there are only three years in which I have had salaries, viz:- in 1859, $600, 1866-67 (parts of two years, making one year and 16 weeks) $480.- and from Sept. 1st 1867, under your direction, in the Bureau.

Permit me to state that since August 1st 1867, I have paid $589 upon my debts, besides having to pay $90 per month to support my aged mother, my sister, and her three children, and for my own expenses.

I submit, then, respectfully, General, whether, with such a record (all of which debts were contracted long before there was a Bureau) and with a proposition if my position be continued (to pay Mr. Palmer four months and to pay to another party 150. per month of my salary) I am not rather to be praised than blamed for my present action.

Very Respectfully,

Wm Howard Day,

Lately Supt. of Schools
Dist. of Col.