



Bureau of Industrial Resources,
STATE OF ALABAMA,



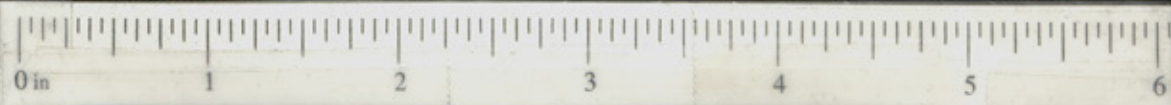
Montgomery, Septem: 19, 1868.

Genl. O. O. Howard

Commissioner of

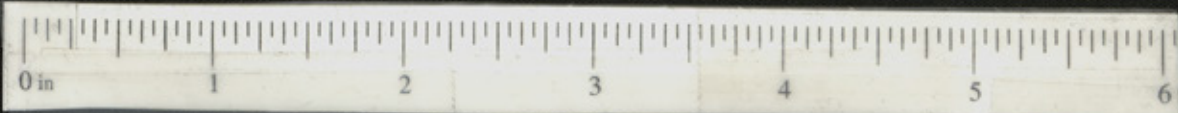
Dear Sir,

Mr. Griffin has shown me the enclosed letter, the subject of which has been the theme of many conversations between us. Almost every day I receive letters of inquiry from Northern men asking advice about coming South to live. I cannot invite any man to come and settle down alone, with the knowledge of what would be in store for him if he would not surrender every sentiment of love for the downtrodden and oppressed, every principle of justice - every desire to carry into his political life the precept of the Golden Rule. Few men are so happily surrounded in the home circle as I am, with



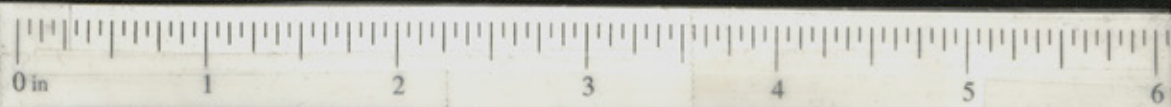
a large family every one of whom strives only to outdo the others in maintaining "Love at home"; and yet I would not go through the outrages, wrongs and persecutions I have endured, and my dear ones have suffered through me, and in their isolation from all social life outside our own home, - if I were to begin again, - for the ownership of a whole country.

We owe it to our country that these States conquered in war, shall be saved to the Union in peace, and the Missionary spirit of the Northern people should be directed to bringing this about. We need organized effort to this end. Whole countries can be bought at \$3 to \$5 per acre with improvements, excellent facilities of communication, mineral wealth and abundant water power. There is no better country on earth for a good, intelligent Christian people to live.



than this State of Alabama affords. But those who come here from the North should come in numbers and settle in neighborhoods, so as to have their own social life, and educational and religious advantages. They would not fail of pecuniary success, then, and I cannot help believing that the results would be far beyond the expectations of the most sanguine.

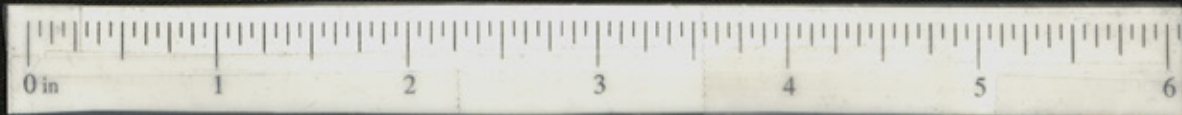
When treated as human beings have a right to expect to be treated, the colored people make the best peasantry in the world. Their natural genius is obedience, and they love those in authority over them by instinct. A firm, kind and wise rule, brings out their affections in a most extraordinary degree, and they serve others with a personal zeal and goodwill that those who have had to deal only with such domestics as we



have to deal with in the North cannot imagine.

It seems to me that a whole settlement of Northern people, possessing their own resources of social, educational and religious life, and commanding the unskilled labor of these warm hearted and stronghanded colored people, in the finest climate and the most productive country within the Union, would be a model for imitation to the most intolerant and prejudiced of the Southerners, an agent of civilization more potent than a million of books, and a blessing in every respect to those who might help to compose it.

Do I write like an enthusiast? There is no more practical, common sense man among your acquaintances than I am, and I hope that I may be able to prove so by the realization of the anticipation I have here indulged in. Yours truly
John C. Keffer



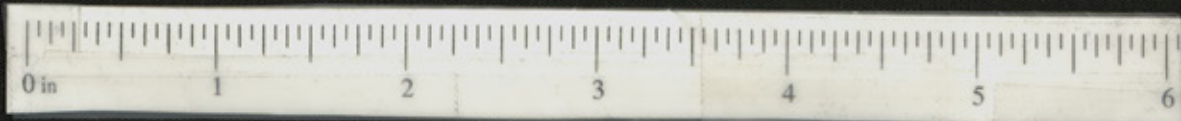
As a specimen of many tracts offered for sale I annex a description of one received today on which the improvements have cost more than the price demanded.

For Sale - Barrs Plantation - in Monroe County South Alabama, - on the Alabama River, always navigable for Steamboats - 120 miles by river and 60 miles by land from Mobile. This place contains 7000 acres - has two miles of river front, with two good and long established Steamboat landings and wood yards. It is not subject to overflow. 600 acres are cleared, the remainder well timbered with fine and ~~oak~~, and all of it well watered.

The soil of one half of the plantation is alluvial, that of the remainder sandy. The whole has a Limestone substratum, and limestone can be quarried any where on the place. It is thought that proper exploration will develop coal also. This place is not subject to overflow. The alluvial part is well adapted for agriculture, and will produce Corn or cotton, and fruits - apples, peaches and grapes without manuring. The sandy land cannot be excelled for pasturing purposes, and is equally good with the other for agriculture when manured.

The timber, both for wood for steamboats, and sawed into lumber for Mobile and foreign markets,





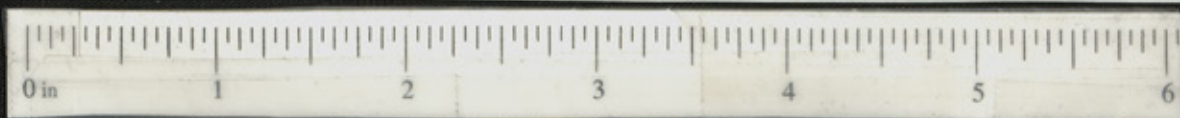
is profitable and inexhaustible. It is also well adapted for stock raising, the range for grazing being excellent all the year round.

About half the tract is a virgin pine forest, conveniently located for transportation of lumber or timber to market. This place as before stated, fronts on the Alabama river. Running through it and dividing it equally is a beautiful creek, supplied entirely by springs, furnishing abundant water power for mill or factory purposes, at all seasons. On this stream are two excellent mill or factory sites, with dams already partially constructed, and on one of the sites a saw and grist mill building framed and partially finished. This stream has a fall of 10 to 14 feet every half mile for four miles. A volume of water 14 inches thick and 11 feet broad pours constantly over the dam.

There is also on the place a new, and excellent steam saw mill (circular saw) in full operation, capable of cutting 1000 feet of lumber per hour: also a tan yard with vats and bark mill all in order - an inexhaustible supply of good oak bark close by on the place.

There is one large family mansion house in good repair, and two other good and comfortable dwelling houses, with two good orchards of apples and peach trees.





also good stables and sheds for stock and 12 or 15 good quarters for laborers or tenants. also good blacksmith shop and tools, and farming utensils of every kind.

There are also on the place and will be sold with and as a part of it, 50 head of milch cows and young cattle, 100 or more of sheep - 100 or more of swine, 12 or 15 head of good mules well broken to work, and 10 yoke of good work oxen - with wagons, log carts, timber wheels and all appurtenances for carrying on farming and mill business.

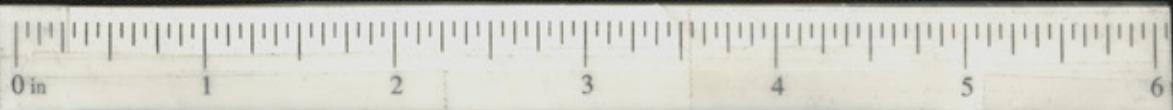
The location is healthy. Since its occupancy by its present owners, (three years) with an average population of 100 souls, not a death has occurred.

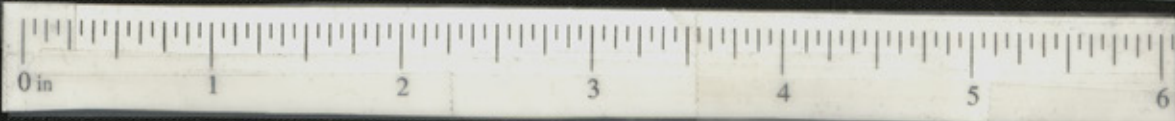
Villages and Post Offices within convenient distances. Under the new School laws of the State schools will soon be in successful operation.

This place is well adapted for division into small farms for a colony, giving each settler plenty of wood and water - or it is well adapted for a single firm for farming and wood and lumber business.

The price is \$5 per acre, including every thing on the place except the household furniture.

The Steamboat Landing for those wishing to examine it is known as 'Daniel's Lower Landing'.







Philadelphia Sept. 19. 1864.

Gen O. O. Howard

My Dear Sir.

I am as you are
aware from previous letters
anxious to follow up my
efforts among the Freedmen
in behalf of temperance.
I am here for a few days
and have encouragement
from the friends of temperance
here to continue in the work.
A few lines of endorsement
from you may help me in
securing the aid I need.
A statement of facts also on the
subject of intemperance among
the colored people will be of
service to me. My temperance
pledge is much prized by the

Freedmen and will have a
great influence with them
in connection with organizing
Temperance Associations.

I should be glad to follow
up my efforts if the means
can be obtained.

Your endorsement of my
labors in behalf of the cause.

Very truly yours.

G. S. Stockwell

P.S. I shall return to Richmond
in a few days and hope to
be able to enter upon the work
again at an early day.

Address care of J. C. Ford Esq.
127. 4th St Philadelphia, S. S.

...and will have an
...with them
...with regarding
...affairs.
...to follow
...of the house
...be obtained.

...of my
...of the cause.

Very truly yours,
J. A. Mitchell

I shall return to Richmond
in a few days and hope to
be able to enter upon the
...of an early day.
...of J. A. Mitchell
...at Philadelphia, Pa.

LYNCOLE

TEMPERANCE

ASSOCIATION

"WE ARE COMING
FATHER ABRAHAM"



"THREE HUNDRED
THOUSAND MORE"

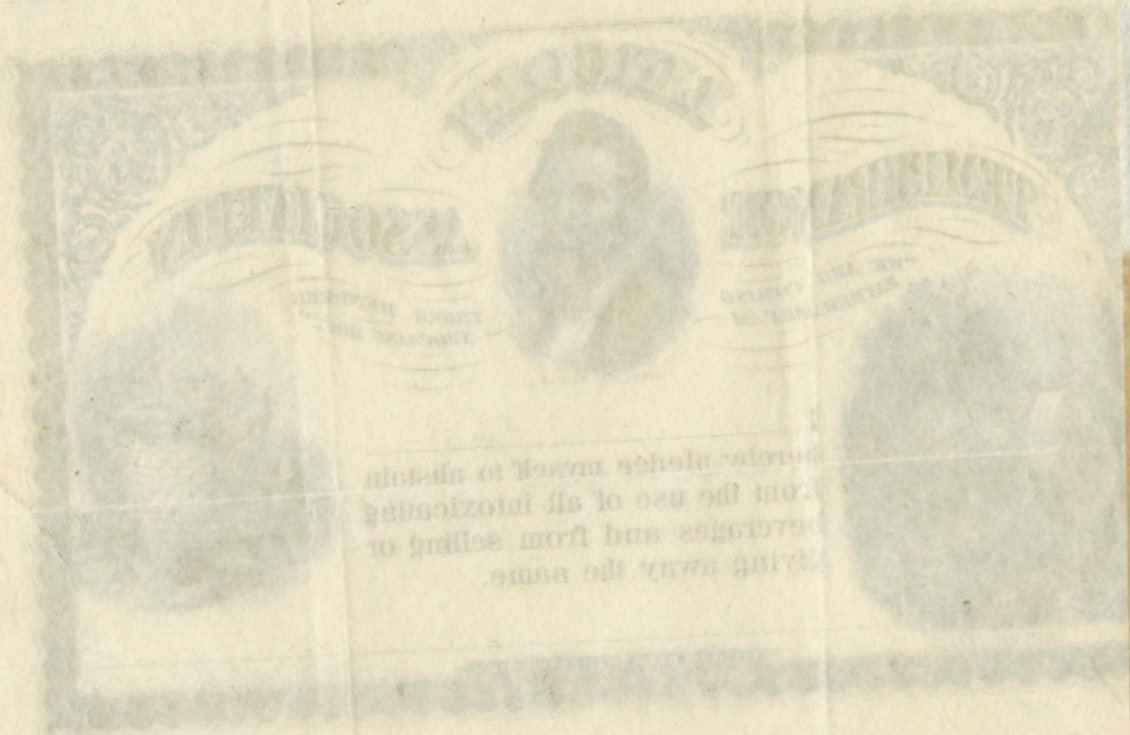


TACHIANIC FALLS

I _____
hereby pledge myself to abstain
from the use of all intoxicating
beverages and from selling or
giving away the same.



NATIONAL BANK NOTE CO. NEW YORK



...from the use of all intoxicating
beverages and from selling or
giving away the same.

RECEIVED
SEP 19 1868
113
Superior letter
Sept^r 19ⁿ 1868.

Maj Genl C.C. Howard

Commissioner Bu P.F. & A.L.
Washington D.C.

My dear General.

Thinking that the
number & street where my wife is stopping
might slip your mind, and as it will
afford me great pleasure, & be a source
of great gratification to my wife to see
you I would state that she is stopping
at the residence of our friend Mr Wm
Hoover 209 Sixth St

I have written her about it
and she will try to see you (should it be
impossible for you to call on her) either
at your H^o or residence -

I am General

With great respect

Yr Obed Servt

Wm A. Maculley

24th 19. 1868

Genl Geo. Stinson

Commander Genl P. A. A. I.

Washington D.C.

My dear General

Thinking that the

number of letters which are stopping

might help you in some way as it will

afford you some pleasure, and a source

of great satisfaction to my wife & me.

I would state that she is stopping

at the residence of our friend Mr. Linn

at 509 North 2d

I have written for some

time, but will not see you (I think) as to

impossible for you to call on me either

at home or in the city.

I am General

Very respectfully

John W. Brown

RECEIVED
SEP 25 1868
PRIVATE

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Montgomery

~~Mobile~~ Sept. 19, 1868

Maj Gen. O. O. Howard

Dear Sir,

When you were in Mobile I suggested that upon your return you should issue a circular inviting such gentlemen as you thought would aid in the undertaking to meet in Washington or New York, to talk over the condition of the South for the purpose of adopting such measures as would secure a large migration of Northern men to certain Southern states which it might be agreed upon to protect in first.

I wish merely to remind you of the fact and to beg of you not to abandon the idea. The salvation of the South depends upon its receiving a sufficient number of Northern immigrants, and the work should be commenced as soon as possible. The Hon. John C. Keffer, at whose house you stopped in this city, is the Comr of the

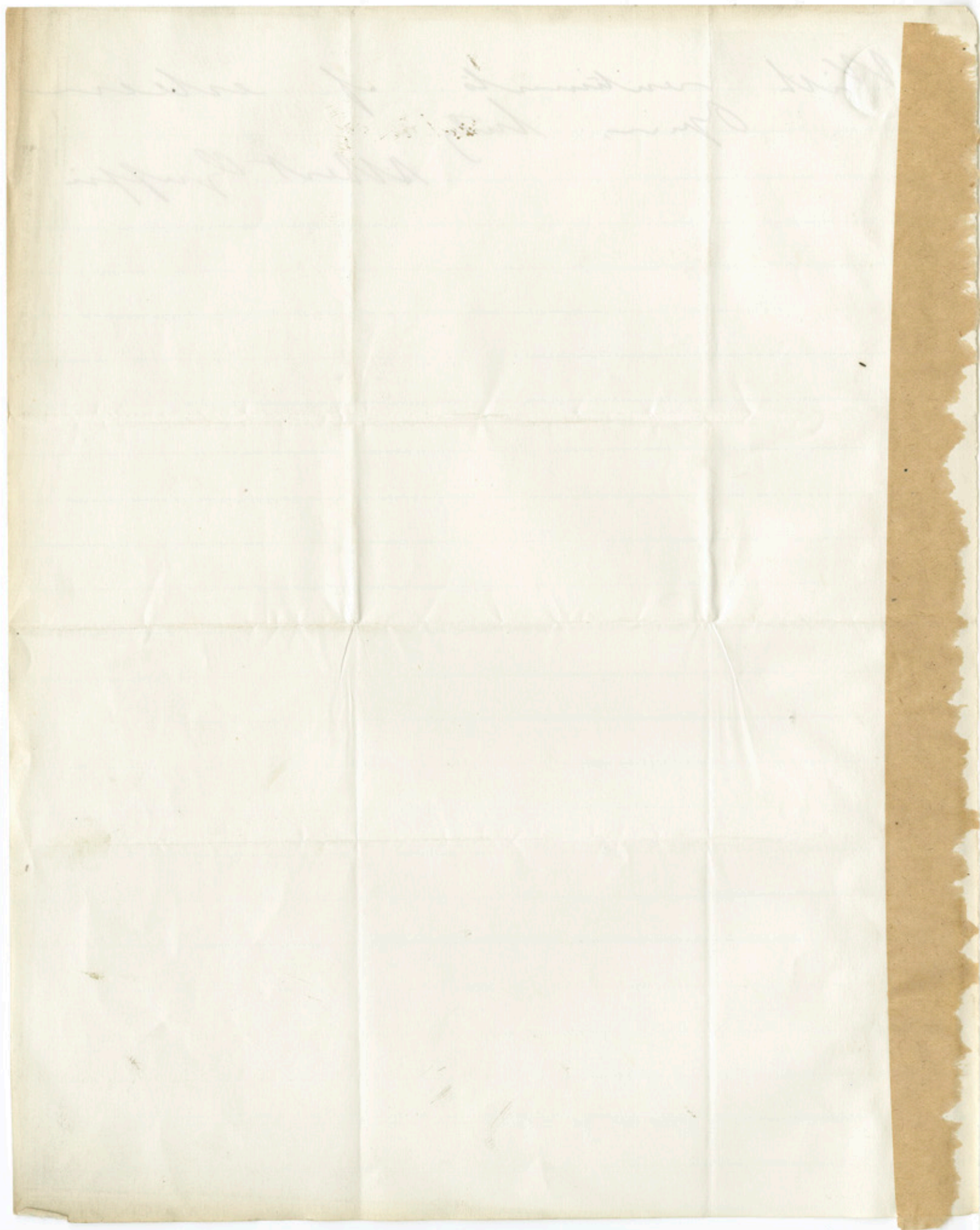
Bureau of Industrial resources" in this State, - is deeply interested in the subject and would be a valuable member of such a gathering. Though like the rest of us, he has spent his all in reconstruction, and cannot now travel on his own expense. A

My idea is that New England, for instance should take hold of Florida and South Carolina; New York Pennsylvania, and New Jersey pour their surplus into Virginia and North Carolina, - but especially Va., - while Ohio and her sisters of the central North should pay their attention to Alabama and Mississippi.

The States I have named - (excepting N. C.) are those in which a given number of men would exert the most influence for good upon the destinies of the States and the nation.

Hoping that whatever you do in the matter will be done quickly, and that you will keep me posted (at Mobile) I remain

With sentiments of esteem
Yours truly
Albert Guffin



117
Y^{rs}
Washington Jail
Sep. 20th 1863.

Friend, Gen.

Sir Having a few leisure moments
of thought, I would drop you a few
lines as it has been sometime since
I have had the pleasure of meeting
you, I will be plain with you & tell
you the truth you gained my good
will. The first day I met you when
you also requested me to write to
you if I went to Albany thank God
I have not Gen. Sher. Yet if I should
I will endeavor to drop you a line
now & again if allowed to do so &
and to let that they only allow prisoners
to write once a month if that is the
case I cannot promise to address you
often. as I have a mother whom
believe to be a Christian and as I

Believe you to be the same, know,
you will not have me neglect Her
& hope, may not have to go so long
at all if I do know, will have a clear
conscience. You can find, one of
my Brothers at the City Post Office
if I should have to go, if you
wish to hear from me.

Hoping to see you, must
close,

I remain,
Your obt. servt

P. S. excuse all ... Levin Tharpin
mistakes as I am in trouble

1868
Albany 20 Sept. 1868

General

D. D.

As one of the Trustees of
Union College and, with the exception
of my absence for some five years
(as ~~steward~~ to Denmark), one of the
finance committee of that College,
I take the liberty of writing you
inasmuch as your name has
been mentioned in connection with
the presidency of that Institution.
The alleged action of the Board
of Trustees in July last was premature,
as no name was before the board.
From some circumstances I am
induced to think that the
use of your name in connection
with that College was without
your concurrence and if so the
Board of Trustees should know it.
My duty as one of the Trustees
prompts the enquiry how you
stand affected to the College, and
what your decision is, or would be.
in

relation to it, premising that this ought
information is for my own action
and will be discreetly used without
complicating you, and situated
as I am, I think you will see
the propriety of this enquiry; and
I should ^{also} say, that it is not
prompted by any opposition to
you or as a candidate for the
presidency, if such be the case;
for I fully appreciate your
services for your country, and
the great work you are now
engaged in, for the Freedman.

As I am a stranger to you,
Senators Mayan, Sumner or
Wilson, or Chief Justice Chase
will inform you, as to myself.

I remain, with high respect
Yours truly &c

Bradford R. Wood

Wm. Geo. Howard

Washington

the best of friendship that this
letter is in for my eyes as the
will be the least need with
the writing you have written
I am glad that you will be
pursuant of the writing, and
I should say that it is not
a letter of any of the kind
as a correspondent for the
reading of books is the case;
I shall appreciate your
services for your country and
great work you are now
engaged in for the future.
I am a stranger to you
and to your father, James
and a Chief Justice of the
the nation you are to a great
I am, with high respect,
Yours truly,
Charles R. Root

Wm. H. Howard
Washington, D.C.