83

U. S. MILITARY TELEGRAPH.

9 am

Sept 24th 1868.

16 WC

By Telegraph from New Orleans 23d 1868.

To

Bt Maj Gen Howard
Com'r &c

The affair of last evening is being investigated and I will report.

The excitement is high at this time, I called on Genl Rousseau and told him of the feeling which exists among the colored people, The great democratic procession occurs tonight, If any disturbance takes place will telegraph at once. I have telegraphed to Gen Hatch, will write officially tomorrow

83

U. S. MILITARY TELEGRAPH.

From

Date Sept 24th 1862.

Received from New Orleans Aug 31st 1862.

To

Gen Wm Sherman
Corinth Miss

Office of last evening
being investigated and
will report.
The excitement is high
this time, I called
Gen Ransom and told
him of the feeling which
exists among the colored
people. The great demonstration
meeting comes tonight.
If any disturbances take
place I will telegraph at
once. I have telegraphed
Gen Starkweather, will
write officially tomorrow

84

U. S. MILITARY TELEGRAPH.

.....1865.

By Telegraph from.....1865.

To.....

Everything, Please acknowledge receipt-

B. F. Hutchins
Bt maj USA
Capt aaag

65 Dr 1590 Collect-

24

131

New York City
Sept. 24 - 1868
25 East 31st St.

My dear Sir.

I rec'd a letter from my son a few days since, in which he informed me, that he had the pleasure of meeting you recently in New Orleans, and that you were particularly kind to him —

I am much indebted for your attention to him and will be pleased to see you, should you visit N. Y. —

Very truly
R. B. Cook

Major Genl.
C. C. Howard U.S.A.
Washington D.C.

[C3 - Sep 24, 1868]

Genl
O O Howard
Sir I wish
you to come or send &
take your old John Bull
away from my premises,
he is now lame and it
seems despicable meanness
in you; to throw him off
on me; now that he cant
work for you, he shaked me
out of rent last spring; and
so did several others, that
have been in your employ,
and you; your Brother; and
Perkins; promised my wife
for three months that you
would see it paid and the last
time she called on you; you
had the meanness to insult
her; and she found your promises
no better than the negroes

please release my promise
of your bell and save me
the trouble of drawing time
off

J. H. Minnie

I have heavy taxes to pay
help keep up the funds
the Treasury M

132

Schenectady 24. Sept. 1868.

Maj. General Howard

Dear Sir

I am obliged for the permission to visit you, and will take the earliest opportunity to do so. The Communion service of our Church will be next Sabbath, and two young daughters unexpectedly are to leave for Paris next week & depend on me to protect them to the Ship. If therefore I do not meanwhile hear from you to prohibit me, Providence permitting I will arrange to be in Washington some day during the week beginning

Shireenhurst Co. Sept. 1st 1861

Mr. George Stevens

Dear Sir

Our office for the communion & visit you, we will take the earliest opportunity to do so. The communion service of our church will be held shortly, we expect shortly superintendent to leave for foreign work & then we are to protect them & their flock. At therefore do we sincerely hope from you to receive, Reverence, perhaps will answer it be in keeping for our day during the week following

with Sunday October 4th Unless I am prevented by your engagements it may be a matter of convenience to me to leave uncertain which of the days of that week. But, if you are to be absent all or any part of it, pardon me that I beg the favor of you to let me know what day you will be at home Unless I hear from you to the contrary please expect me then.

Truly & respectfully
yours J. Humphrey Backus.

133

RECEIVED

NATIONAL METROPOLITAN BANK,

WASHINGTON, 24 Sept. 1868

My Dear Gen.

The last note given by you on 1025 I am now able to let you have as follows:-

Face of note	$1.775.21
Off for present pay't	316.07
Leaving	$1.459.14

for which please send me a check and I will surrender the note. This is the same rate paid for the others.

There is one other note held by Mr. Joshua Pierce which falls due in July next. I am unable to secure this except on payment of face of note and interest to date. If you desire to take it up in that way I can secure it for you.

Yours very truly,

Moses Kelly,

Gen. O. O. Howard,

Supt &c. &c. &c.

Washington
Sept. 24th 1866

Gen. O. O. Howard.

I enclose you a letter from Mrs Lipson Catlett. Will you not help and aid me? I assure you, necessity compels me to make this application. Nothing else could. You have been over our Country of Virginia and know full well what hard war has made.

I know there is great difficulty in getting these places but I know also your influence is great.

Very resp. Indian Walch

P. S.

If I should not see you please leave an answer No 276 2d Street

At Mrs Macomb's

Abbeville, South Carolina
September 25th, 1868

My dear Sister

So as to give you a faint idea of the condition of affairs, & just how we are situated here, I have got Willie to make a rough copy of a paper he to-day sent in, which I enclose; but for the sake of the safety of the man's life who made the affidavit, do not on any account let his name be made public. It is generally threatened here now, that no colored man shall be allowed to vote, unless he does so for the Democratic Party; & on the day of election the roads leading to the 'Polls' are to be guarded, & every Freedman shot down who attempts to go to either of them, without intending to

vote the Democratic ticket.

Wilson can at any time also get the affidavits of persons who have complained to him, to that effect. There have been three colored men murdered, & about six shot, & white men, since we have been here, & the proper officers of the law cannot be got to make any arrests. Some of these men had their houses broken open, & were shot in their beds, at night. Others have been taken out of their beds at night, & whipped, given from a hundred lashes, & on their running off, also shot at, all because they claimed to belong to the "Republican Party."

As this is written hurriedly & at night, you must

excuse it, — &

Believe me ever

Your Aff't Sister

Rose H. De Knight

— " — " —

P.S.

I forgot to tele you that some of the white people — I suppose in order to incite some evil disposed person to put him out of the way — have reported it about that Millie is urging the negroes to kill all the whites & burn their property, so as to get possession of their land. Is this not dreadful? I have no peace day nor night —!

Rose

State of South Carolina, } S.S.
Abbeville County }

Aaron Mitchell - freedman - resident in the State and County above written, on oath declares, that he was present at a political meeting of the the Democratic Party of Abbeville County, held at Gordon's Mill, about 13 miles from Abbeville Court House, on or about the 9th day of September, instant, at which Wyatt Aiken (so called Colonel) was one of the Speakers: That in the course of a public speech then and there delivered by the said Wyatt Aiken, referring to Wm F. De Knight, the Officer of the Bureau of Refugees Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, then and now stationed at Abbeville Court House, in charge of the Office at that place, he declared that - "never did a damneder rascal sit in a chair; that while his predecessor, "Genl". O. H. Hart, was a perfect gentleman, he, the said De Knight, was a no-body; that he was doing all he could to injure the white people of the County, by telling the negroes a lot of damned lies, and thus influencing them to vote against them; but, however, there was no wonder in that, as he had lately understood that he, the said De Knight, is a son-in-law of the man General Grant, and he, of course, very naturally wanted to get as many votes for him as possible; that through just such scamps as he they were being crushed to the earth, and unless they bestirred themselves and did something, they would be utterly destroyed; that as for paying the taxes in=

posed by the pretended Legislature now sitting in Columbia, to defray the expenses they were creating, they should lose their last drop of blood before they did that; and, again referring to the aforesaid W. F. De Knight, that he ought to be taken out and hung "(the distance here stated not remembered) between heaven and earth", &c, &c.

And Deponent further sayeth, that by the use of this and other such incendiary and inciting language — which was loudly applauded by nearly all present —, Samuel Davis, and Robert Hadden, two white men, forming part of the assembly, were then and there induced to draw each one a revolver, which he had upon his person, and express themselves to the effect, that if they were only let do it, they would go to the door of the Office occupied by the aforementioned W. F. De Knight, at Abbeville Court House, South Carolina, and, with said revolvers, put six balls into his head; and that one of the party then going up to him, deponent, placed his pistol on and fired four shots over his shoulder, saying he wanted to shake the Radical out of him, &c.

And Deponent still further testifies, that there was a great deal more such like language used, both by the aforesaid Aiken and others there present, tending materially to incite to violence generally, and against the hereinbefore named W. F. De Knight in particular; and it is his Deponents firm conviction and belief, judging from what he has himself actually

heard and seen, that too great precaution cannot be taken on the part of the said W. F. De Knight, to preserve himself from injury at the hands of a large class of the white people in this, Abbeville County.

In conclusion, Deponent emphatically declares, that he has never known the above named W. F. De Knight to take part in or be present at any political meeting whatever, or to take a public part in politics in any manner since he has been stationed on duty in Abbeville County; moreover, that although he has himself had frequent conversations with him, in his Office, and been also present when he has been conversing with many other freedmen, who have sought his advice, he has on no occasion ever heard him counsel any one of them in any way that would not, as he conscientiously believes, conduce clearly to their own permanent interest, and the welfare of the County at large, according to his best judgement and honest conviction; and that while he has never heard him use any language calculated to excite the passions of the freedmen towards the whites, he has, on the contrary, invariably heard him earnestly counsel forbearance, moderation, and the cultivation of good feeling on all sides, and the preservation of a state of perfect tranquillity, even under the infliction of the grossest outrages, where even the life of the colored man has been taken, and nothing has been done on the part of the proper Officers of the law to effect the arrest of the white murderer.

State of South Carolina }
Abbeville County }

Personally appeared before me, James A. McCord, a Magistrate in and for the State and County above written, Aaron Mitchell, and made oath, according to due form of law, that the foregoing statements, by him made, are true.

Aaron his X mark Mitchell

Sworn and subscribed to before me this twenty-fifth day of September, One thousand eight hundred and sixty eight

James A McCord
Magt

136

Rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association,

Over Metzerott Hall, 318 Penn. Avenue, bet. 9th and 10th Sts.,

Washington, D. C., Sept 26th 1868

General,

Our Daily Prayer Meeting is growing every day in interest; last evening was the best of any yet held. We commence at 6 instead of 6½ P.M. We are all anxious to have you with us to night.

An adjourned meeting of the "Board" is to be held this eve at 7½ P.M. to especially consider the matter of our finances.

Open Air Meetings are being held each evening. and last evening after the service one man so broken in heart burst into tears and begged us to pray for him. God is with us in a gracious manner.

Yours in haste

Geo. A. Hall

Williamsport Pa. Sept. 26, 1868

10

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

Dear Sir, — On behalf of the Y. M. C. A. of this City I addressed you a letter some time since asking you to deliver a lecture under its auspices at any time to suit your convenience during the coming winter. I now, in obedience to the wishes of our Association as well as our people generally, repeat the request and sincerely hope it may receive a favorable response. Our association is struggling to maintain itself, and to that end we are endeavoring to secure a popular corps of lecturers for the coming season. We have already some very prominent names on our list and we greatly desire not to complete it without your own. Please give us an early answer, with terms, time, etc.

I am with great respect

Very Truly Yours

H. C. McCormick
Sec. Com.

Raleigh, N.C.
Septr 26th 1868

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard,
Dear General,

Yours was duly received. The Trustees, as I assured you, will take great pleasure in accommodating you in the money matter. Your letter, however, is not perfectly clear to us.

You propose to deed us a part of a square in Washington, but you do not mention whether for the $4500, which you proposed to borrow, or for the whole fund, promised us from the "Barry Farm." Please be explicit.

We are pleased to loan you the $4500, and hope you will at once be able to have the use of it. Do you propose to deed us the property you mention in consideration of the $4500? Arrange the matter to suit yourself. Of course, we rely upon your judgment, and can rest on your word. What you propose is fair.

Dear General, cannot there be some action of the Trustees of the Barry fund securing to us in pledge one third of

Welch, W.Va.
Sept. 25th 1918

Mr. Sam. G. G. Wrenn,
Dear Sir,

Yours was duly received. The Trustees, on 3 different occasions, have taken great pleasure in considering your request in the matter, but they feel, in our opinion, it is not justifiable, given it as.

Your letter I closed as a final decision in the matter, but you do not state whether in the 1918 which you expect I know, or in the future. Please answer as you like "Yours truly" Please [illegible]

We are pleased to know you are [illegible] and hope you will at once be [illegible] to have the use of it. Do you [illegible] it due to the furnishing of the uniforms of the 1918? Anyway, matter is entirely of course, we [illegible] upon your judgment, and can act [illegible] you wish. What you believe is fair.

Dear Sir, Cannot then be some [illegible] of the Trustees of the Times Land company to see us today on letter of

that fund which you have promised us. There certainly should be some action taken. If you live and carry out your wishes in the premises, all will be right. But the thing ought not to be in uncertainty.

Of course, the deed should be made to the "Trustees of the St. Augustine Normal School and Collegiate Institute," located at Raleigh, N.C.

General, we must leave the whole matter to you with reference to validity of title, &c.

Yours, faithfully
J. Brinton Smith
President & Bus Agt

147

[CS - September 26/1863]

Maj. General Howard,

Sir. I beg you will excuse this intrusion - as in that light you may consider this communication. You are acquainted with that branch of the "Educational Society" for the benefit of the Freedmen - under the control of Mrs Isabella James of Phila? I was engaged by this "Association" to take charge of those "Colored Schools" at Petersburg Va. some five months ago. The first decision was that I should go down in July this was revoked until Sept. I held myself in readiness to enter upon my duties at that date. I had been Mrs James - received the

transportation papers furnished
by you - and was to go
on the 23rd on the afternoon of the
twenty second I called upon
James for the female direct-
ress that lady informed me
that I was not to go - the de-
termination was revoked until
an indefinate date. I must fail
in telling you how bitter was
my disappointment. "Ha" the
different "Churches" forwarded the
amounts promised the schools
might have been opened - as
the two or three years of Cala-
Among this neglected and con-
sequently degraded class
literally thrown away. The ground
may be tilled - but the seed is
to be sown - and then seed on
such soil may not yield fruit
until many harvests shall have
come and gone. My paper is

tering rapidly filled but I have
not yet arrived at the request I
wish to make of you. I have
properly no right to do so - but
you have been represented to me
as a kind and humane person
and I write hoping to have you
confer a favor on me. It is now
too late to enter a school as
teacher as almost if not all have
opened - those which are not as
yet have their corps of Instruc-
tors engaged - therefore efforts
in that direction would prove
fruitless. I am an Orphan and
have resided, when from School
with an Aunt, this Aunt closes
her house, at the furthest,
in two weeks. - This movement
obliges me to make earnest efforts
to obtain a position in which
I shall feel settled for the Winter
My object in writing to you is

to ask you if you know of any family desiring a Teacher or of a Lady wishing a Companion — or of any position which a Lady might fill — I am able to give superior reference from prominent persons of this City. I trust Sir, you may know of something of the kind which I have named. I most earnestly speak of the urgency of the case requiring me to take this unpleasant step of writing to an entire stranger. I hope I may hear from you at your earliest convenience. Thanking you most cordially for perusing this lengthy epistle I remain Sir

Yours [illegible]

[illegible]

321 [illegible]

Phila. Juliet Warren