23½

[Oct. 1868]

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard &c
Dear Sir

I was about writing to you when the paper arrived with your address, & have been cultivating my eye the last-hour in reading it. – You give a very clear, but I have been led to believe a too favorable account of the state of affairs in the South. Your address will do much good.

It seems to me that nothing short of Gen. Grant's election will effect any good down there. Now have the loyal people will

be sure of protection to be emboldened to speak when the truth may crush us. It seems to me that we can only rely on an overruling providence to save us by direct interference

I was about to write again about my young friend the Commander. He has just received another promotion intuitively and the last he can get as a home commissioned officer. The officers over here have shown their appreciation of him by taking him to the highest post within their power. And have

Commander Sergeant

solicited his appointment.
. The age limit is
not a law but a regulation
and I suppose can be
waived, as the Two
Years service was last
spring in case of an
other young man in
the same regiment —
Mr. C. has a wife
and child dependent
on her own exertions
& friendly help, as
half of his pay has
been lost in the mani
festo insurrection while
en route to her

I would be much
indebted to you if you
could aid me in this case

Yours truly
J V Merrick

Mr. 2 Years have about
expired

Maj Gen O. O. Howard.

54 N 6th St Phila
Oct, 186

Dear Sir,

I have now in press, a manual of worship for such Colleges Academies & Schools, as desire to give a prominent place to religious culture, & to make each student take a personal interest in the study of divine truth & the worship of God.
The book consists of 253 pages, & embraces an outline of Christian doctrine & duty, especially arranged to meet the wants, & interest the minds of the young in view of their immediate & prospective responsibilities.
Allow me to call your attention to the plan of the accompanying page, which fairly represents every other in its arrangement.
1st — The title at the head of the page in italics, is the key to all that follows in the lesson.
2nd — The selections of Scripture (in the preparation of the book) were next made in illustration of the subject announced.
3rd — The Psalms & Hymns were then chosen in the same manner
4th — The Music was finally adapted to the Psalms & Hymns.
I wish now to procure for each page a written prayer, suitable for an assembly of youth at any time, but especially in harmony with the sentiment of the lesson it accompanies.
In order to secure this unity in each lesson, & variety in the entire work, I propose to place each page in the hands of leading religious educators, & others who take a deep interest in the Christian training of our youth, with the request that each, entering into the spirit of the lesson, would write a prayer of about 450 words, which may be used with the lesson.
One edition of the book will have the prayers interleaved, so that each will face its appropriate lesson.
Will you be so kind as to prepare, & send to me in the accompanying envelope, a prayer for the enclosed page. I will be especially obliged if you can furnish it at, as early a day as possible.
The number of words suggested is to secure uniform completeness of page as far as ~~[illegible]~~ practicable.
Hoping for an early & favorable reply to this

I remain with Christian regard
Yours truly Wm T. Wylie

Tula. Oct. 1861

Mylie W. [illegible]

asks Gen. Stewart
ont a prayer
a book he
getting up

Oct 1861

Cincd. Nov. 27, 1861

Boston, Mass. Oct. 1st, 1868.

666

Maj-Gen Howard

Dear Sir This letter requires no acknowledgement of any kind, nor is there any need of haste about reading it. The letter and all the contents of the envelope can wait weeks or months, but I should like to have them read sometime. I am the Mrs. Howard who wrote you, some time ago, for documents relating to the freedmen. I am greatly obliged for them, and especially obliged for the very kind note accompanying them which was not necessarily in the programme. I should have been satisfied with the documents; with the letter I am gratified. It was particularly valuable to me because it gave me your autograph, and I shall keep it as long as I live, unless you enter into an alliance with Stockholders and Copperheads. In that case I shall "mince, mangle, mash it." I fancy this is a perfectly safe threat so far as the safety of the autograph is concerned. I told Mr. Colfax that after I read over the letter I sent you, there was so much steam and sarcasm in it that I did not dare send it without referring to him. I have had a delightful letter from Mr. Colfax since

I was delighted with your letter & the Colonel's conversation.

his engagement and he is as usual in a perfectly suitable state of mind I think that is the great charm about Mr. C – he always feels as you think he ought; such friends are the most satisfactory in the world. I hope he will be very happy and I incline to the belief that he will, although I know nothing about the lady except what he has told me – that is of course entirely couleur de rose. I was so much grieved by the domestic unhappiness of Mr. Sumner who is a very dear friend of mine, that I feel particularly solicitous in regard to other friends. A woman of sense and moral principle, in other words, a womanly woman could have lived happily with Mr. Sumner and could have made him happy. It is one of the saddest cases I ever knew.

I take the liberty to enclose a sketch of James Otis which I have written lately which I feel very sure you will like. Col. Forney reprinted it in his "Washington Chronicle" and Mr. Sumner and Whittier both wrote me expressing their warmest approval of it. I selected James Otis because I think people have vague ideas of him and his period. Col Forney has just sent to me to send him

a full woman's letter for the campaign. I could not get up a letter but I have written an article for his "The Press" entitled "An Irishman's Record". It is a little thing written under my whole name and I hope you will see it as it is quite black. Now I am coming to my real object in writing which was to call your attention to the review which I enclose of Mr. Davis's book. The writer of the review Miss Charlotte L. Forten is a particular friend of mine she has a tinge of Africa in her face, and a dash of Africa in her blood. I made her acquaintance four yrs ago at the request of the poet Whittier who told me he would consider it a particular favor to him if I would call on her. He had no hesitation about asking me to call, for he knew I had entirely overcome the American prejudice against dark people of African extraction. I made the call to please Whittier, but continued the acquaintance to please myself, and she is now on my list of friends. You know the prison of Slavery has corrupted our literature to a fearful extent, and I think Mrs Forten's analysis of this writer is very clear

and discriminating. I thought I could call the attention of your lady and other friends to the review, and it would do some towards calling attention to this and similar faults in regard to the African race among our writers. And I want to tell you a little more about my friend Miss Foster. I must not neglect to say that she is very handsome. She is also highly cultivated although you ought not to judge her by this hastily written review. Yet I think you will say from this that her style is fine. She is a fine French scholar & admirable translator and she is also favored of the Muse, for though I have never seen any of her poems. I do not write obs[illegible] her because I want you to do anything for her but I thought all that in some of your schemes for the elevation of the African race such an ally might be just what you would wish to secure — for a person of her blood who has attained high culture is, in the present state of public opinion towards the black race worth half a dozen white people

cause the fact that one is thus cultivated is a living refutation of the charge of intellectual incapacity which so frequently and so unjustly is brought against them. I desire that every body that can add eclat to the fortunes of that race may be made prominent. If you should ever want me to write anything or if there should ever be an African paper in which her talent could be brought to bear upon the elevation of her race it would be well for you to consult Col. Higginson of Newport R I whom I presume you know. He is her champion and friend and has the highest opinion of her literary ability and style.

Now one subject more, still a black one, and I am done. This is in regard to "Howard University" about which I am somewhat infatuated. It also has a bearing upon Sunday School literature which I know you must be interested and as you have been in such hard service du-

ring and since the war you will overlook it, I know, if I assume you have not read the books about which I am going to say a few words, and if you are too busy to read them yourself, perhaps you can call the attention of some lady friends to the subject. You see, that although I never saw you, I assume that your lady friends abound that is because I judge them by myself. I confess to a weakness for soldiers, and also that stoneday straps are not without their effect upon me, and I dare say the ladies you know are quite as human as I am. These books, three of them, appeared during the War, and are entitled respectively "Record of an obscure Man" "Tragedy of Errors" and "Tragedy of Success". They are written by Mrs. Mary Lowell Putnam a sister of James Russell Lowell. She is a lady of really marvelous culture, understanding Greek, Latin and Hebrew; all the modern languages of western Europe, and

Swedish Danish and Sanscrit. She has in these books brought all this culture to bear in favor of the African race and shows more clearly, than any writer whom I now recall, that it is his position and not his blood which has made him what we find him in slavery and her culture is not in the least obtrusive - it only appears as a blended and delightful flavor, and in bringing forward facts which are not within the scope of ordinary knowledge - and her analysis and appreciation of our own race is equally clear and the crowning glory of the books is that the everywhere defers to the Bible and Christianity. Her books are fountains of pure Christian philanthropic and patriotic thought. She is almost the only writer who satisfies me in regard to all races and the Bible. I am rather sensitive on this point for I am constantly thrown with people who are wildly radical in their

ology and as I make a
subject of laboring with all
labor for the Negro, and
I am not at all combative
by nature, I sometimes
myself in a difficult
situation. I am tolerably
hardened but between
native orthodoxy and radical
infidelity I do sorely long for
the "Kingdom Come." I am
constantly roasting by
or the other of these fires.
you can understand how
welcome such a writer would
be to me and the reason
call your attention to her
much at length, is that I
you to see that Mesa, and
last work "Fifteen Days"
in the Library of Howard
University. This last took
written with great power,
as a New Englander you
glory in her analysis of the
character. It would also add
your interest in this last work
"Fifteen Days" when I tell
that the "Mary" of the story

Last page

a
all portrait of her own son William
and uncle Putnam who was killed
battle the battle of Poolsville Md.
as these books are published by Tick
cultor and Fields Boston.
I wished like very much to see
Cousin, we have so many dis-
radests in common, and if
ever should ever be passing
through Boston during the
next two weeks of January
ins-ventu, you could hear of
being located, and possibly
we would see by calling at
easing husband's office next
hour to Music Hall in Central
t I place out of Winter St. We
and he at present boarding up-our
s" furniture partially stored etc
ward I cannot give you the
took hospitable invitation I should
, and be to Boston, but it would give
you very great pleasure to meet
the people with whom I have so
add many points of sympathy.
Maine With great respect
lendidly Yours Truly
tell you election?
ed for you in par-
as well as very
in general.

A. W. H. Howard.

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

No. 432 W. 22nd Street
New York Oct 2/68

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

Dear Sir

Knowing you to be a true worker in the cause of Total abstinence, as well as in the cause of Christ, both of which are dear to me, I venture to ask of you a small favor altho. I know that your time must be fully accupied with your official duties yet I trust you will pardon me for this request. On Wednesday evening next Oct 7th I will act as Installing Officer for Howard Div No 97 S of T of N.Y. in the absence of their regular D.G.W.P. who will be engaged on Court martial duty on that evg. he being Adjt of the 84th N.Y.S.N.G.

This Division was named [illegible]
as a tribute of esteem to yo[illegible]
and as they are at the pre[illegible]
time somewhat lukewarm [illegible]
the good Cause, they are ne[illegible]
cold nor hot, a bad condition [illegible]
Sons of Temperance, as well as [illegible]
tions. It is my intention [illegible]
give them "a good stirring up"
and I feel sure that if you [illegible]
find time to write me a few
lines of advice and encour-
-ment to be read to the Division
on that occasion, it would
be productive of much good.

We have started our first
Colored Division in this City
which I have the honor to [illegible]
Deputy. We are working so the[illegible]
slowly yet but I hope to plant
good seed among that long
oppressed and much injured
people, that are now [illegible]

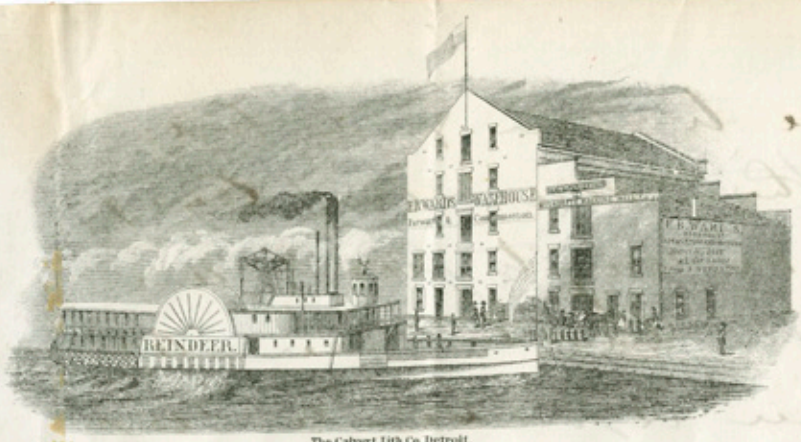
thirty Colored Divisions under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Div. of Eastern New York, and it is designed to give them a Grand Div. of their own at the annual Session in October

I long for the day when all who love the name of Jesus, will be actively engaged in fighting this great Curse of intemperance

With fraternal and Christian regards, I remain:

Your Obt. Serv.
W. MacKenzie

P.W.P. Saint Andrew's Div No. 300.
S of T. of Eastern New York



The Calvert Lith. Co. Detroit.

Office of E. B. Ward

Detroit, Mich. Oct 7 1868

Hon O. O. Howard
Dear Sir

I was pleased to receive your note of the 30th inst

I have never made the broad charge to which you refer. The only thing I have said is contained in my report to the Cleveland Convention a copy of which I send to you. In the first place I believe with your friends who know the most about you and your official operations that you are honest and mean to be faithful to your trust. But I think with others some of whom have traveled extensively south that many of your agents have played false

to the govt & false to you & that in many places the Beauregard party have been more willing to feed & aid the traitors than the loyal men and this evil has been represented as being quite extensive, I have also been told that you were often grossly imposed upon by the power-seekers who have been appointed to fill important positions.

Mr J M Forbes of Boston travelled through seven of the secession states and corroborated to a considerable extent these statements, but so far as yourself & your agents at Washington are concerned. I have never heard an expressed a sentiment calculated to throw suspicion on your transactions, but I still believe there is much truth in the reports about a good many of your agents, who are stationed in the south.

Respy
E B Ward

Address of E. B. WARD,

OF DETROIT,

DELIVERED BEFORE THE MANUFACTURERS' NATIONAL CONVENTION,

Held at Cleveland, May 27th, 1868.

GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION:

I am pleased to meet you here once more, and am gratified with an opportunity to give you a short outline of the operations of your delegates during the first six months of your organization.

The duties devolving upon your delegates, if pushed to their final complete success, are by no means light. To reform the corrupt abuses, and reduce the oppressive taxation of this great Government, is a task of no easy accomplishment. Taxation cannot be much reduced without a corresponding reduction of National expenses, and the moment you trench upon any of the expenditures of the Government, you are met by those who have been profiting by these expenses, and you have not only their opposition, but the opposition of all who are conscious that their services or their contracts, could be profitably dispensed with by the government.

Our first efforts on arriving at Washington were directed to the repeal of the 5 per cent. manufacturing tax. Several of your delegates were there, and we used our time in personal interviews with committees and members of Congress, all of whom treated us with respect and attention. Yet there seemed to be a great lack of real interest in the objects of our mission, and with a view of reaching all the members of Congress and with the hope of exciting more immediate action I wrote the following letter, which I addressed to each member of Congress and of the Senate. The letter was too pungent and I used a little too strong language to suit all our delegation, who preferred not to sign it, and I sent it to them over my own signature:

WASHINGTON, January 16, 1868.

SIR: The conviction is forced upon every observer that the people of the United States, who now pay for local, State and National governments nearly twice as much per capital as any other people in the world, are becoming earnestly restive under their burdens. As a representative of the manufacturers of the United States, including the Iron and Steel Association, I wish to call your attention prominently to a few of the reasons why this restiveness and anxiety exists.

Aside from the public debt, pensions, and bounties, all of which the people will cheerfully pay, we find the Secretary of the Treasury asks for appropriations, as follows:

For the War Department, exclusive of bounties and pensions	$95,000,000
For the Navy Department,	36,000,000
For civil Service	52,000,000
Total	$183,000,000

The whole expenses of the Government for the same service in 1860 was—

For civil list	$ 7,077,000
For War Department	16,563,000
For Navy Department	11,514,000
Total,	$35,154,000
Difference between the estimates for 1868 and the actual cost of the same items in 1860	$147,846,000

The estimates for 1868 are over five and one-third times as great as the actual cost of the same service in 1860, while our national wealth and population have increased but about fifteen per cent. since that period. The inquiry becomes eminently pertinent. Why does this country, in time of peace, with no prospect of war, require five times more expenditures, in proportion to its population, for the Army, or the Navy, or of the civil list, than before the rebellion? Why is it that ten thousand men are under pay at our Navy-yards, at a cost of $10,000,000 per annum, while the Government is selling its ships, and when the commercial tonnage we have to protect is vastly less than it was before the war? The belief is becoming universal that most of the men are kept for political, and not for practical purposes. Is it not plain that the war has fastened upon the country a vast horde of employes and contractors, in every Department, who are supported from the public treasury, and at the expense of the tax-paying community, thousands of whom are of no practical benefit to the Government? There is a large force of revenue cutters on the lakes and at sea, the gross benefits of which would not pay for the fuel that one of them uses. The Treaury Department admits its utter uselessness, and pays over one and a quarter million of dollars per annum for its support.

Our system of taxation, conducted as it is, by men whom the Secretary of the Treasury admits are too corrupt to collect the legitimate revenues belonging to the Government, is used, in numerous instances, to oppress the ignorant and to relieve the knave from fair taxation. Why are these abuses so common here and so rare in despotic Europe?

Our foreign trade has drained this country of its precious metals, and is still taking every dollar produced from our rich mines. It has taken over a thousand millions of our securities, and is steadily creating a foreign mortgage on our whole national estate.

We have imported during the year 1866, over $300,000,000 of silks, $67,000,000 of wool and woolens, $30,000,000 of cottons, and $20,000,000 of iron and steel, while our own factories and forges have been comparatively idle. While our ability to pay taxes has diminished rapidly and largely, the demands upon us are kept far above what the real interests of the nation seem to require.

The people demand an early repeal of all taxes on American productions, except luxuries, and such an adjustment of the revenue laws as will secure to American citizens, the benefits of National industry.

They especially demand that men who are to be intrusted with the money of the Government shall be thoroughly examined before appointment, and that fitness and honesty shall be essential elements for their confirmation.

History with all its warnings has been impotent to divert this Republic from the quicksands that now surround it, and upon which all former Republican Governments have foundered. Nothing but wisdom and firmness can now avail to shake the dragon of official corruption from the National throat, and the people look to every member of Congress to do his duty. Should this Government pass wholly into the hands of its enemies, no one can predict the humiliating troubles and disasters yet in store for its earnest friends. But a restive people, suffering under present evils, may be led to commit the destinies of the country to those whose hands are yet stained with our blood, and whose history shows that no barriers that laws or constitution present will deter them from accomplishing the behests of their leaders.

I sincerely beg your indulgence for the earnest expressions I feel impelled to use; but the cause and the occasion seem to warrant the use of liquid fire, if by such means Congress can be but partially impressed with the duties and the perils that demand their attention.

Respectfully,

E. B. WARD.

Delegate from the National Manufacturers' Convention, and President of American Iron and Steel Association.

This seemed to make some impression on members, but not enough to suit our wishes, and I determined on making an appeal to the tax-payers and producers of the country, and through their direct appeals to their Senators and Representatives, try to accomplish what seemed difficult with our limited force to bring about. I caused 25,000 petitions to be circulated, accompanied with a letter which you have no doubt read. These petitions were signed by all parties, as much by Democrats as Republicans, and their pointed truthfulness backed up by a vast constituency and addressed to a willing Congress aided much in prompting the repeal of the 5 per cent. tax.

We found, however, that our work was but half done. Without a great reduction of the expenditures then going on in the Government, the tax would in some form be re-established, and our efforts were directed quite as much towards the wastes of the Government as to the subject of taxation. I am credibly informed that the Commissioner of Revenue has recently said that our taxes would have to be increased to meet present expenses. I now come to a point where I beg the Convention to indulge me in referring to political men and measures, as they are so intimately blended with the objects of our Convention that they cannot be separated and give you a fair history of our transactions. While canvassing Congress for advocates to our plans and measures I found one of the firmest, staunchest and most out-spoken friends to our whole programme to be the Hon. B. F. Wade, of this State, and as there was a reasonable probability that he might be made President for a short time, I did the best I could to secure his sympathy and support, hoping that we might have the executive as well as the legislative branch of the Government working together for our common good.

You have probably heard the grave charge laid at the door of Mr. Wade that he was a conspirator. This charge, serious as it may seem, is to my certain knowledge true. He had entered into a conspiracy against the assumed rights, and certainly against the interest of a vast army of our patriotic fellow citizens, and if Johnson had been removed that deep laid plot would have been developed in all its huge proportions.

First in order and most important in amount was his design against that incorruptible set of patriots called the "Whisky Ring." He had learned from his extensive observations that no man who was simple enough to pay the whole whisky tax could manufacture whisky at all, and he conceived the base idea of compelling the payment of the whole tax on all the whisky manufactured, or the annihilation of the delinquent distilleries and the incarceration of these pious men in prison. This plot, would if carried out, take from the whisky thieves about $60,000,000 per annum.

His next wicked plan was to wind up the tobacco ring and save if possible $15,000,000. The third plot was to make an effort to get some honest men in the custom houses, if such articles could be found, and to reduce them to the number necessary for the work performed. This project would save to the country many millions of dollars.

His next plot was to insist upon a reduction of the navy to about fifteen light cruisers. This would save to the government at least $15,000,000 that is now being squandered in gaudy bravado in foreign countries. Another of his schemes was to reduce the army to about 17,000 men and to have the paymasters and officers reduced to the complement needed for full regiments. This wicked design would have saved in the pockets of tax-payers $20,000,000 of money now being squandered in useless shoulder-straps and on gilded and expensive idlers.

But of all vile schemes this arch-conspirator devised, none seemed to cut the patriotism and devoted self-sacrifice of our noble Fessenden and numerous others of his associates so deeply and keenly as the projected decapitation of the army of lazy relatives and political hucksters, who got tacked on the government during and since the war, and whom you and your representatives have had to support ever since. I tell you, gentlemen, in all sincerity, that you have paid at least $100,000,000 annual taxation since the war closed that ought to have been avoided, and I tell you further that of all the men who took a deep and honest interest in the correction of this terrible evil, Ben. Wade was the strongest and best, and if in the bitter conflicts of party strife he had come into Executive power, you would have seen the most radical revolution in the character and capacity of the public service that ever occurred in this or any other country.

One of his most practical projects proposed, was to allow each leading trade in the United States to appoint an agent who was to be authorized to examine into the apprisals of all imported goods, with a view to prevent the immense undervaluation, which enables our Stewart and a few other favored importers to undersell all other traders, and whom the public believe have made their vast fortunes through this indirect means.

At least 39,000 men who are now eating the bread that you earn and pay for, would have been released from their idle lives and compelled to have supported themselves as we do. This, gentlemen, was the great unpardonable conspiracy, this is the real reason why Andrew Johnson is now occupying the high office of President of the United States.

I make these remarks from no partisan motives, for I am sorry to say that numbers of men professing to be Republicans, are as deeply involved in the scandalous work of corruption, as the worst Democratic demagogue of the five points, and Johnson keeps them in office when he knows they are thieves.

You can now see a small share of the labors that have devolved on your delegates, you can from this brief outline judge of the immense power that this great army of blood-suckers, whose sole object it is to get and hold office for the mere sake of

leading jurors lives or [illegible] expense, among [illegible] against any measures of reform which we may attempt. One hundred millions of dollars a year is a wonderfully efficient engine and a most potent power, to thwart the efforts of a people who are writhing under oppressive and extortionate taxation, and nothing but the resistless force of the millions who bear this great burden can meet the exhausting hordes of idle and sinecure officials with the least prospect of success. Your delegates did all they could by personal appeals and individual efforts. But this seemed like dipping the ocean dry with a spoon. You will perceive that we have only made a good beginning as yet, and if you expect justice to be done, and your taxes reduced to a fair standard, you must never cease your efforts until the rivers of waste to which I have referred are staunched, and the income tax, the $2 tax, and the gross receipt taxes, are all abolished and the expenses of the government reduced sufficiently to correspond with the income from other sources of national revenue. I believe, gentlemen, that our whole financial machinery is basely corrupt from centre to circumference, and unless some potent check can be inaugurated that will reform the abuses that now exist, its utter demoralization cannot long be avoided. Our miscellaneous expenses that in 1850 were a little over $3,000,000, and if governed by the increase of population would now have reached about $5,000,000, has increased to the enormous sum of almost $34,000,000. This is the account to which a very large proportion of the moneys paid for spies and political idlers of all kinds is charged. The Freedmen's Bureau, that was designed as a most beneficent engine of good, has been so perverted from its original object that it ought to be abolished at once, and the cost of it maintenance saved to the country.

When we see hundreds of men who during their previous lives have been too thriftless to acquire any property above their mere necessities, obtain office, and in a few months or years, without any visible income above a salary, accumulate a large fortune, you may be sure they are in some form defrauding the people, and this rule will apply with equal force, whether a Secretary of State, or United States Senator, a judge of the court, or a tobacco or whisky inspector, or any other officer who has sold his time and talents to the government for a salary, and then through his official claptrap is suddenly endowed with a huge estate. Look over this broad country and apply this rule. Let it center at Washington, where the largest fortunes have been acquired, and we shall no longer wonder that the example has been followed from Maine to San Francisco. And what have we to hope from any political organization as now constituted in this country, unless some stern and able man who sees the evil and has the will and the energy sufficient to apply a remedy, gets possession of the executive department of the government.—Who believes that the great party so fully represented at the Chicago Convention will ever make a serious attempt at reform when it is quite probable that nine out of ten of the delegates are either office holders or expectants of office or profit under the prospective administration. And if their opponents should succeed, with treason, repudiation, and past examples as a guide, who would have the least hope of reform from them? New York city is probably the most expensively and worst governed city in the world, with its fifty thousand Democratic majority; and the same evils exist in all districts where their rule is supreme.

The stereotyped resolutions that are usually passed at all political gatherings are got up to delude voters, and are entirely meaningless. It is the tax-payers and producers whose interests are involved in an honest administration of the Government. The politicians' interests are to keep as large an army of paid hirelings, subject to party control, as possible, and now that army consists of over 40,000 men of all grades, whose whole living is earned by the sweat and toil of those we represent, but whose bread and butter depends upon the cohesive power of public plunder. The cost of these officers ranges from $1,000 to $13,000 per annum each, and when you realize that every $1,000 of waste confiscates the clear net earnings over expenses of about twenty working men you can then imagine the great wrong it inflicts on the people. Had the conspiracy in which Ben Wade was engaged been successful, and the affairs of all the departments been placed upon a business basis, as they would have been, I have no doubt that at least two thousand political hucksters would have been relieved from their indolent seats in Washington alone, and probably not less than five hundred of the one thousand men now being supported by the New York custom house [illegible] been di[illegible] and [illegible] carried out throughout the country, would of course have been met by every species of denunciation, a bitter, indignant howl would have reverberated from Maine to Texas, from forty thousand throats whose empty hearts and lazy hands have been supported for years past by the toil and sweat of the millions of workers throughout the land. It is true that the appropriations for this year have in many instances been reduced; but we see no efficient move made to cut off the cause of these needless expenditures.

Twenty light and cheap running cruisers is all that our ocean service requires; 17,000 men, with officers for full regiments, is all the army we need. The waste that has existed in the navy department, owing to the conceited ignorance of its chief engineer, has been frightful, and has produced a larger number of utterly worthless ships and monitors than was ever before constructed by any other nation on earth. Twenty monitors were built at a cost of $10,000,000, that are not worth the ordinary cost of scrap iron. Our navy engines are the heaviest, most clumsy, and the most expensive to operate of any in the world. A boast has been made that a regiment of U. S. troops cost less than a regiment in France, and great credit is claimed for economy on that score. The explanation is that a French regiment consists of two thousand five hundred men, while a U. S. regiment consists at present of but five hundred men, with officers allowed sufficient for one thousand.

I have related but a small number of the numerous avenues of waste that exist in the government; they are ramified into every corner of this country, and into every other country where our government sends its agents. Every attempt that has been made to reduce the burdens of the people has been met by the executive department of the government with objections. Instead of reducing that taxation might be lessened, the Secretary of the Treasury has opposed the reduction that the wastes that now exist shall be continued. It requires the co-operation of the executive and the legislative department, in order to produce any marked reform. Plunder, waste and corruption are so thoroughly organized in the executive department, that legislation alone, with its present limited power, cannot reach it. Congress is now in excellent temper to do all that you can ask, but the executive power defies its interference. Had you been so fortunate as to have had Mr. Wade as President, even for a few months, he would have set an example in the line of economy and retrenchment such as this country has needed ever since the advent of the corrupt theory that to the "victors belong the spoils," was first enunciated for the corruption and demoralization of the government. And if he had yielded to the temptation of offering the chief offices of his administration to those who defied the law and the evidence that Johnson might remain in office, the men who voted for his acquittal would undoubtedly have changed their votes and put Wade in, but the stern and honest man had rather return to private life with a clear conscience, blessed with the conviction of having done his duty, than to enjoy the more than regal power of the presidency with honor and conscience tarnished, and the people's interests, which he has never abandoned, lying at the feet of the corrupt political clans who prefer place and plunder to all other things under the sun. Mr. Wade intended to place business men in some of the departments of the government, and hoped by this means to inaugurate business principles, instead of political influences, into some of the most important portions of the public service.

This country has fully proved that we need but a small army and less navy in commission in times of peace, and I hope it may yet prove that two-thirds the public functionaries now employed can, if properly selected, carry on the government better, safer, cheaper, and far more creditably than it is now conducted.

First in importance of all measures for the renovation of our government expenses and the character of its offices is Jencke's Civil Service Bill. This, if launched by honest, capable men, will purify a vast amount of the corruption and waste now going on.

The measures of economy that this Convention should press upon the Government, are, in my judgment, the following:

Reduction of the army to 17,000 men, with officers sufficient for full regiments of 1000 men each; reduction of the navy to fifteen light cruisers for ocean service, and perhaps five or six other vessels for the Naval School and other home service; reduction of the men employed at the Navy Yard to a sufficient number of men to repair and equip the few vessels to be kept in service.

[illegible] politic of the Freedmen' [illegible] have its unfinished work turned over to the army officers.

Thorough revision of the custom-houses, and the officers reduced to such a number as the real needs of the service require.

Revision of all the civil offices of the government, weeding out the dishonest and dismissing the inefficient until the service becomes what it ought to be, a business and not a political machine.

Revision of the Judicial Districts, dropping the useless and retaining the valuable districts only.

Insist upon Congress restricting its appropriations to useful and profitable expenditures until all our most objectionable taxes are abolished. With these reductions and reforms, our import duties, whisky, ale, tobacco, stamps and licenses will pay all the expenses of the government, the interest on the public debt, and leave a balance to apply on the reduction of the principal every year. Your only hope is in and through Congress. The executive branch is hostile to every reform that can lessen taxation or purify the Government.

Congress is now fully alive to the importance of meeting your wishes, but the whole executive department opposes every change that will in the least lessen its patronage or curtail the vast revenues it needs to corrupt its minions, and perpetuate its despotic power. No one can foretell whose hands we shall fall into another year. Either party, when elected, will be in great danger of favoring the ruinous and bankrupting theories of free trade. For this reason I would advise great caution until after the new administration shall have clearly indicated its policy. There is a case before the Supreme Court involving the validity of our greenback currency, and as the Court now stands, it will be decided unconstitutional. The ground taken will be, that as a war measure it was constitutional; but in time of peace it is not. I hope the manufacturers of this country will heed those two last ominous features; there are vast interests and agencies at work for their accomplishment, and no adequate means in existence to counteract their operations.

Our Government, unlike all other highly civilized nations, has been fickle, uncertain and unjust towards its industrial and manufacturing people, and it seems that nothing but occasional bankruptcy of all interests, through semi free trade, has from time to time opened the eyes of the people to the folly and the ruin it invariably occasions.

The masses of the Democratic party are in favor of free trade. Gen. Grant's opinions on that subject are not developed, but his bias is towards free trade, and those who brought him first most prominently before the public, as a candidate for the Presidency, were the head and front of New York free traders. The Convention that nominated him at Chicago are silent upon the subject. These grave facts are full of meaning. The present rates of import duties are not now sufficient to prevent a constant and exhausting drain of specie and bonds to keep up our exchanges, while any considerable reduction would soon result in the indiscriminate ruin of a large proportion of those now engaged in manufacturing, and in the rapid depreciation of all the capital now invested.

The importers of our Eastern cities, whose incomes and fortunes are national in their magnitude, are at all times prepared, with ample concentrated capital, to press their views with energy and potency, while the puny efforts of the disorganized and scattered manufacturers are scarcely felt. Our people have not fully appreciated the fact that foreign trade enriches a few in the seaport towns, while it exhausts and sends abroad the choicest of our wealth, and that every manufactory built in the United States increases and adds to the wealth and happiness of the masses of the people, ten-fold what it accumulates in the pockets of the capitalist who invests his money in the undertaking, and in the face of these truths the free traders are constantly prating about the rich profits of the manufactories of the United States, and use this argument with effect among the ignorant, who themselves live upon the enterprise of the home manufacturer, and induce thousands of them to vote in direct conflict with their own interests. The free trade farmer who thinks his iron or his cloth will be temporarily lessened in price by free trade, only realizes his error when all the operatives of the manufactories are driven into agricultural pursuits, annihilating at the same time the farmer's best market and reducing the price of his own commodities below the cost of production.

Begging your indulgence for the time I have occupied, and thanking you for your attention, I trust your deliberations may result profitably to yourselves and the country.

Washington D.C. Oct 2nd 1868

Genl. O. O. Howard:

Sir: I have not had the honor of making your acquaintance but having heard your address on Southern affairs, and by some mistake failed to get a copy of the Chronicle of yesterday containing it, I take the liberty of applying to you for a copy of the speech, — as I learned at the Chronicle office you had taken all on hand.

I am a South Carolinian, and will only say that the picture as seen by you exhibits some dark spots, but that you have seen, after all, only its brightest side.

It was my misfortune, perhaps, to have been in the South before, during and since the war — and, although

I have not felt safe there for the last fifteen years, on account of my devotion to freedom and the Union, yet, I do not hesitate to say I have felt my life to be in greater danger there this current year than ever before.

Your suggestion as to settling the south by squads of capitalists and others from the north, is the only plan, it seems to me, to be practicable now. The wealth and intelligence of the people of any state will always govern it — and unless the friends of freedom — of humanity and God can bring capital in the hands of loyal men to their aid in the different counties of the states south in a very short time the rebel democracy will control a sufficient number of colored votes to place them in power. When that time comes, all loyal white men will

be compelled to leave the south, and the colored population will gradually pass into a condition worse than slavery itself. For a quarter of a century I have pleaded for the rights of man, and the union of the States, and think I can safely say that I am almost, if not quite alone as a South Carolinian who has a life record against slavery and secession. I feel that I have done what I could to aid both races in the south to a peaceful and practical solution of the difficulties which meet us there at every turn, and after all, it seems that nothing short of another bloody contest, and after it a confiscation of all the property, excepting homesteads, will effectually and forever settle the question at issue. It seems that the old leaders of the south are bent on a war of races, if they cannot get

the colored vote, and in that contingency they expect the government to stand idly by, under Seymour's administration, while their democratic friends of the north aid them in reducing the negroes to their "normal condition". Of course, the wheel of progress cannot be rolled backward, and those who place their shoulders against it will be pressed to the earth and will lose all, while the wheel will roll on until God's work is accomplished in this as well as in all lands.

I did not intend to say as much when I took my seat, and you will please pardon the intrusion upon your time

Very truly Yours

S. Corley, M.C.
3rd Dist. S.C.

No. 25, 4 1/2 Street, Washington

American Missionary Association: 18

No. 53 JOHN STREET.

PRESIDENT—REV. E. N. KIRK, D. D., Boston, Mass.

REV. GEORGE WHIPPLE, *N. Y.*
REV. M. E. STRIEBY, *N. Y.*
REV. J. R. SHIPHERD, *Chicago.* } *Sec's.*

E. KETCHUM, ESQ., *Treasurer, N. Y.*
W. E. WHITING, ESQ., *Asst. Treas., N. Y.*
REV. E. P. SMITH, *Gen. Field Agent, N. Y.*

New York, Oct 3, 1868

Gen. O. O. Howard,
Commissioner &c.

Dear General

Can you not send me by return mail, an affirmative response to our invitation to you to be present at our Annual Meeting, at Springfield, Ms Oct 28. & 29? We want to give notice in the local papers that you will make an address on the occasion.

Springfield is about five hours from New York. The meeting will open in the P. M. of the 28th, and the P. M. & Evening will be occupied with reports

& sermon.

We should be glad of your address Thursday, or Thursday evening.

Please favor me with a reply, and oblige

Yours &c
Geo. Whipple
Cor. Sec.

Headquarters Principal Depot, G. R. S.,
Fort Columbus, New York Harbor.

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RECEIVED OCT 1868

Oct. 30. 1868.

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

My dear Sir:

Captain S. Walker, late of the 22d. V. R. C., reported to me yesterday for examination, and at his request I granted him a week's delay for preparation.

I think there will be a favorable report made of his case to the War Department.

I am, General,
Very truly Yours
R. D. Mallet,
Bt. Brig. Gen. U.S.A.
Comdg.

Office of Delaware Assocn. &c.,
Wilmington Del. Octr. 3. 1868.

Maj. Genl. O. O. Howard U. S. A.
Commissioner &c. &c.

Sir:

The Executive Committee of the Delaware Association for the Education and Moral Improvement of the colored people feel that your attendance at a public meeting in this city convened to promote the objects of this Association, and the erection of a handsome commodious and suitable building in this city for graded Colored Schools would have a happy effect.

We believe that such a meeting, if addressed by you would awaken a deeper interest in the cause both among the white and colored friends.

We desire also to have you press upon our City Council the importance and rightfulness of taking our City Colored Schools under Municipal pa=

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=bonage and control, and of their repaying in a measure, the taxes heretofore levied upon the colored people without corresponding privileges and rights.

We earnestly request you to accept this invitation and we promise you a cordial welcome to our city at such time as your public duties will enable you to visit us.

We are in very pleasant co-operation with Gen. Chas. H. Howard and anticipate most satisfactory results from his official connection with our association.

We have the honor to be,

Very Respectfully Yours

Thomas Kimber Jr. Chmn.

Saunders Harrington Sec'y.

Asper Lee,

Hanson Robinson

William V. Willis

William Aikman

Edwd. Talnall Jr.

Executive Committee

Petersburg
Oct 4 1868

Gen O Howard

Dear friend,

I love to call you friend — for you are unfalteringly the friend of mankind.

I rejoice in this good news you give me regarding the "Howard University". Our colored brothers will not be slaves again — most certainly not, if we hasten to teach them to read.

I am speaking for Genl Colfax as much as I can.

With the highest regard
Your friend
Gerrit Smith

Fort Concho Texas
October 4th 1867

Maj. Genl. O O Howard

Sir

Having made application to all; my previous Commanding Officers for Recommendations for Service during the War; would most Respectfully ask if consistent a testimonial from you; to assist me in obtaining a Brt of First Col. and Brt of Colonel U.S.A. have received very excellent Recommendations from Gen Sherman, Gen Geary, and Gen Jones; who in addition have mentioned me for the Brt of Colonel and Brig Genl Volunteers; I received my Commission as Colonel of my Regmt (73rd NY) being the Lt Col, but on account of not having the sufficient number of Men was unable to be Mustered as such.

The above Officers specified the Brevets in the U.S.A. for gallant Service in front of Atlanta for the Brt of Colonel for Service from Atlanta to the Capture of Savannah Geo

In the Volunteer Service the Brt of Colonel for Service in front of Atlanta

The Brt of Brig. Genl for Service from Atlanta to the Capture of Savannah Geo

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If General you should grant my request, would you please forward the testimonials to me, as I wish to forward all together.

Genl Hunter has also added kindly his name to the rest I have

I have the honor to be
Your Obedient Servant
Chas C. Cresson
~~1st Lt 35th U.S. Infty & Brt Maj. U.S.A~~
~~late Lt Col & Commdg 73d Pa Vol Vol~~

P.O. Address
35th U.S. Infty
Fort Concho
Texas