Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,

Headquarters, Eighth Sub-District of Virginia.

54

Wytheville, Va., Dec 8 1868.

Genl Howard

Dear General

I received your kind and welcome letter; also one this morning from Genl Brown informing me that Genl Stoneman had applied for me to be made Mil Commr. & that the application had been forwarded to the Secy of War This in case the Bureau breaks up as contemplated by your order. Dec 31. 68. I suppose a word from you to the Secy of War now would effect my retention here.

I hardly know how to thank you enough for your continued kindness I can only wish I had an opportunity to reciprocate either towards you or yours I should certainly try in my small way A recurrence the last three days of my old malarial troubles with the keen ~~pains of~~ physical suffering it always brings. ~~speaks~~ me I assure you a reclaiming sense of gratitude

Although any offer to reciprocate in my comparatively humble position might savor strongly of the ludicrous, let me at

least say that it will be my pleasure should I be continued here as Military Commissioner to do every thing in my power unofficially to promote interests of the colored race in their struggle for education & a higher morality

With Respect & Esteem
Your Friend & Servant
W. Thomas

P.S. I respectfully enclose one of my circulars to the churches in my own City begging help for the people here. You see I have asked them to send the money to you not knowing where I might be. ~~Should~~ I have asked for $300 of the Bureau (Thos.) Rev. Mr. Manley. There has never been a cent of Bureau money put into a building in any of the six Counties of the ~~Division~~ Bureau Division of which Mythetville is the centre & principal town & I on that ground I have hoped for an appropriation

The Colored People of Mytheville Myth Co Va, where I am now stationed have been endeavoring with all their energies to build a church, They have bought & paid for a lot. They have bought paid for & hauled a part of the lumber unto the lot, They have but $40.00 in the treasury. They need a $1000.00 to $1.500.00 to finish their place of worship & have no further means. This is the principal town in South West Va. The church will serve week days as a School house as well, Without a building of their own I fear the School may go down. Besides the general need to any population of a church, The mere fact of owning one will tend to increase this Peoples Self Respect & dignity

I can hardly imagine $1.000 to $1.500 better spent Every dollar sent will go toward the church, nothing is required for an agency fee & or my successor as the Corts officer on the spot will find it a pleasure as well as a duty to assist them in having the necessary plans procuring labor & material at the lowest rates,

My hope is that my native city will contribute sufficients to enable me to call the church the Portland church, The character of the people here warrants me in saying that the church

when built will not be molested.

Should your congregation see fit to aid in this work I cannot for my part think too heartily [illegible] assure you of the fervent gratitude of the Freedmen whom you assist.

Anything you may contribute had better be sent to Chas. Howard (Cav) for the Colored Church at Mytheville Pa. or Chas. Wm. Wheler. In this way should I leave here, it will be sent to whoever succeeds me in the Educational Dept of this work.

Respectfully
H. S. Thomas
Br. Brig Genl U.S.A.
Sub. Asst. Commissioner
Bureau R. F. & A. L.

Mobile Dec. 8th
[1868]

Maj Gen. Howard

Dear Sir: I enclose you a copy of a letter upon the subject of immigration to the South, being the substance of the ideas you endorsed when here.

I should like to be in New York at the time suggested for the meeting but being lost everything I will not be able to do so unless I can get transportation. When you were here you stated that that matter could be fixed and if it can I shall be greatly rejoiced.

Please let me know as soon as possible whether or not you can furnish me transportation and also if you will take hold and aid help the movement forward

Yours, Respy

Albert Griffin

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**Lattimer, Carmichel & Co.,**

Westerly, R. I., Decr 8 1868



Major Gen. Howard.

Dear Sir. Your very liberal proposal to deliver a free lecture is accepted - & I telegraphed you the 7th. We shall throw open our doors & try to give you such a reception as will in some degree compensate you for stopping in our town.

Very respectfully Yours.

R. G. Lattimer
for Temp Mem. Christian Assocn

L. 14, Dec. Nov. 1, 1866

58

Lincoln Barracks.
Dec 8th 1868

Dear Howard.

Will you give me a list of the Officers of the 44th you contemplate returning to my command San Pedro or thereabout

I have 5 companies of the 12th Infy & 8 companies of my own to care for & I have to look out for the quarters of Officers. A little attention on my part will prevent trouble to the families

Truly yours.
Webb.
Lt Col &c.

350

Navy Dept., Dec 9th 1868

My Dear General

In accordance with your suggestion, I enclose a testimonial in favor of Capt. Pingree. If you will add whatever you consistently can, as to his services while connected with the Bureau, under mine, & return it to me, I will be happy to forward it to him.

Respt. & truly yours
H. H. Tilley

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard
Comr., &c
Washington

# Navy Department,

*Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting.*

*Washington, Dec. 9th, 1868*

To whom it may Concern

This is to certify that Captain George E. Pingree, late U.S.N., served with credit in the late War for the preservation of the Union, (being severely wounded in the right arm at Williamsburg, & knocked senseless by the explosion of a shell at Fredericksburg, where he also lost his only brother,) and has, since the war, filled the position of an Agent of the Freedmen's Bureau in So. Carolina. I take pleasure in commending him to any one in need of the services of an energetic & reliable man, such as I believe him to be.

N. N. Tilley

Note
Mrs la on

(Private)

Editorial Rooms.
Herald Office, New York
Dec. 10, 1868.

My Dear General: – I desire to secure your good offices in behalf of Helen M. White, of Middletown, Frederick County, Virginia. Her case is a hard one. The war has left her utterly destitute with a helpless aunt upon her hands; but this, ~~is not the cause~~ you may say, is nothing to you. But it is, though, when I tell you that ~~the~~ if she were reimbursed for the time and the means she devoted in the care, as a nurse, of sick and wounded Union soldiers during the war, she would be comfortable. Last winter I raised her by ~~subscription~~ small contributions from Generals Banks, Butler, Wilson, Halpine and other parties, some seventy or eighty dollars, which helped her through. She calls on me again, and refers to Charles Howard as one who might assist me. I prefer to call on you as Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau. Surely you can do something for her. The Postmaster at Middletown will verify her claims. She belongs to a respectable family, & I believe she is a good deserving young woman. Holding you, General, to be a true patriot & a good man, I have faith in this application. She would jump at any little clerkship in the Treasury; but there, I have told her there is no hope. I have no means for the supporting, or she would not starve, firmly believing, as I do in her claims upon Union men, though I have not seen her since she was a child.

I hope you will do something for her. Take your own course - either through me, or by direct relief to her. Please, also, answer me at your earliest convenience, and believe me General, in the cause of the Union, loyalty, justice & humanity,

Yours, truly,

Geo B Wallis

Gen. O. O. Howard,
Com. Bureau F. R. & A. L.
Washington

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Hotel Pelham.
Boston.
Dec. 10
1868.

Dear Sir:

I shall be very much pleased to receive 6 copies of your reports from Freedmen's Bureau in Europe. Now that your services in the Freedmen's Bureau are drawing to a close permit me to tender our sincere thanks for the zeal & fidelity with which you have been

performed. I believe that you have been every friend of the United States & of humanity under the deepest obligations to you.

I have the honour to be,
Dear Sir,
Your obt. servt.
Wm. W. Burnside
Major General.

O. O. Howard
Commissioner &c.
&c. &c.
Washington. D.C.

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B. 84. O.O. Hubel. 1. 1868

Newton Dec 10 1868

Dear General

From the first indications of Dr. Boynton's strange course & his resistance thereto as appeared from the papers, I soon wished to express to you my sense of his downright betrayal of the cause & of all the pledges given or implied.

Next to his betrayal of the spirit & principles & traditions of Puritanism, along with the plainest & most unmeaning bee usurpations of

power I am su-
prised at the mi-
monthed style of
yr Ex Par Council
What do they mean
by calling the h-
his conduct of C.
"injudicious"? Why
call that such ou-
the whole spirit, -
form, & precedent
law, more injudi-
cious? I think
such smooth & so
church & eccle-
& ecclesiastical
aggression, unfai-
fulness & tyran-
amounts, almo-
to a parliamentary Cri-
nic. Perhaps I sh-
how that differen-
if I had been the

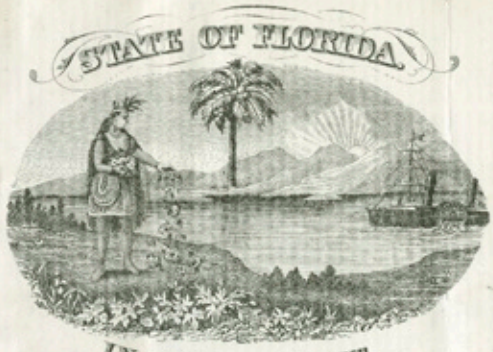
but so it seems to me at this distance. As a Puritan minister I desire to thank you & the faithful men & women that have stood with you in resisting this most unexplicable betrayal at Washington.

May you all have grace & strength to stand firm for the right come what ~~you~~ will.

But what means it that you have any concern about a hearing before a Mutual Council? How can such a Council avail for one moment, the fullest

investigation of the
case? Can there
found a majority
large council that
will dodge the
privileges of the
minority? But how
in sore you from
counsel mutual
ex parte if such
doings at home
slaughter suffer
hit you, are to be
termed merely "in-
dicious" or "hasty" or
"irregular." Very sin-
cerely your friend &c
A. Bal Mann

B.86. O.H.V. Vol. 1, 186

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# Executive Office,

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Tallahassee, Fla. Dec. 10. 1868

Sir

I take pleasure in introducing to your friendly consideration my friend Jon^a C. Gibbs Ex Secretary of State of Florida, who visits Washington in behalf of state interests. He is a gentleman of intelligence & high character, a graduate of Dartmouth College & possesses the confidence of the people of the state to the fullest degree. Any facilities you may afford him will be in the interest of freedom & Republican gov^t & will be gratefully appreciated by him & also by

Respectfully your ob^t serv^t
Harrison Reed
Governor of Florida

Gen^l O. O. Howard
Washington D.C.

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Private

WILLIAM WHALEY.
JULIAN MITCHELL.
W. D. CLANCY.

LAW OFFICE
WHALEY, MITCHELL & CLANCY,
No. 48 BROAD STREET.

66

Charleston, S. C., 10/14 December 1868

RECEIVED DEC 12 1868 PRIVATE.

To Major Genl.
O. O. Howard.
Com'd'r Freedmen's Bureau.
R. F. & A. L.

General.

Your order "appointing the commission to adjust the matter of the advances to the sea island planters, and to determine who shall have relief, has been received for some time and altho all the commissioners have accepted. It has not not yet been convened. The Asst Commissioner is still preparing his collections. I write you this letter privately in order that you may appreciate of the fact, & take such steps as you may deem fit to carry out — & your kind intentions towards unfortunate planters of the sea islands. I regret that I have had to give you so much trouble and trust that you will attribute it to my anxiety on their behalf.

With great consideration I am
General yours faithfully
William Whaley

W. 42 Corr. Oct. 1, 1866

Boston Dec 10th

Dear Sir

I take the liberty of addressing you this note, to ask if you can give me the name and Post Office Address of any of the family of the late Gen. Stephen H. Weed, who, I believe, was a class-mate of yours at West Point.

If you can furnish me with the above information you would greatly oblige

Yours
Philip C. Lockwood

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

Address { P. C. Lockwood
P.O. Box 3416 Boston Mass