

War Department

Washington City.

December 30th 1868.

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Dear General:

Since writing you yesterday I have seen Mr. Van Derburgh.

I would like to have a meeting of the Committee to-morrow at 10 o'clock A. M., at my office, when Mr. Van Derburgh will have a full opportunity to explain his theory of the failure of the material in question.

Will you be good enough to notify the members of the Committee, who are within your reach.

Very truly yours

Gen. O. O. Howard
&c &c &c

Asst. A. Hardie
Insp. Gen. U. S. A.

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Washington
D.C.
December 30, 1868

Dear General
I have been very busy lately
and have not had time to write
you. I am sorry to hear of the
failure of the Committee to secure
the necessary funds. I hope
that you will be able to
secure the necessary funds
and that the Committee will
be able to carry out their
plans. I am very much
interested in the work
of the Committee and
hope to be able to
assist them in some
way. I am very much
sincerely,
Your friend,
Wm. C. Brown

War Department
Washington City,

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Decem. 30th 1868.

My Dear General,

Please do me the
favor to come in and see me at the
office tomorrow morning before 12
o'clock, if possible.

Mr. Vandenberg
has not yet made his appearance, and
I have not therefore summoned the
Committee, because I want him to
make a statement before the full Commit-
tee, if possible.

S. Craig has been ab-
sent until within a day or two, but he
will proceed at once to make the an-
alysis of the material, and will report

Wm. D. Wharton
Washington City

Dec 20 1866

My dear General,

Wishes to see the

form to come in and see me at the

office tomorrow morning before

a clock if possible.

Wm. D. Wharton

has not yet made his appearance, and

I have not therefore summoned the

Committee because I want him to

make a statement before the full Council

too if possible.

I have the honor

to remain, with a very respectful

and devoted attention to the

business of the National

thermopow at an early day.

Prof. Henry
has been called upon to test the
power of the material to resist
pressure.

Very truly yours,

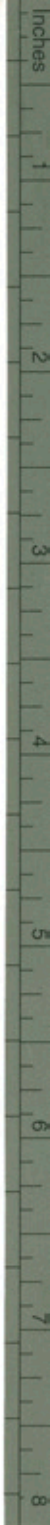
Jas A. Hurdie
Inspector General
Bottell's General
U.S.A.

Gen. O. O. Howard, {
Washington.
D.C. }



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theropod at an early date.
Prof. Hensley
has been called upon to test the
power of the skeleton to resist
pressure.
Very truly yours,
Wm. B. Hensley
Geological Survey
Washington, D.C.
1891



Department of Education
Dec, 30th 1868



Major General O. O. Howard.

Dear Sir: I concluded my history of Colored Education in this District yesterday and the last sheets go to the Printer tomorrow. I was anxious to move the opinion of the Examining Commission in the matter of the Building Blacks as I desired to say the best thing that facts would justify me in saying. If you will call at the Office of Mr. Dr. Barnard on Thursday - to day - and inquire of the clerk for my Manuscript you can see what I have written and any note from you in the matter of modification of my statements or language will be especially regarded. I am anxious to be very just and I have much confidence speaking

as an individual, in the Black
Barnard is absent but the Clerk who
is helping me in fixing up my
copy will show you the paper
which you ~~may~~ desired to see.
I have given quite an extended and
detailed history of the University
from the very first inception
and in fact conception of the
enterprise. The whole history of
the Beloved Schools will form a
volume of considerable size
and I think it will attract
great attention. This belief
makes me exceedingly anxious
to present the Harvard University
with accuracy and fairness
presented.

I wrote you some weeks ago
in regard to the different fund
used for educational purposes to
the Bureau. I presume the person
whose duty it is to answer such
matters has neglected to do so

as I am sure you cannot
have deemed me troubling you
with useless interrogatories. I talked
with Mr. Barnard on the subject and
he thought it quite desirable to
introduce an accurate statement
of the various donations in money
made to literary institutions and
the best method from your Bureau -
the dates and amounts and the
"Funds" from which made -

In your Reports the
following names are applied -
"Refugees and Freedmen's Funds"
"Freedmen's Funds", "Retained
Bounty Fund" and "School Fund"
I understood the nature of these "funds"
to some extent but not clearly
enough to describe them as the
President - "The Freedmen's Fund" Confuses
me however in connection with the
Refugees and Freedmen's Fund - You
stated to me in the street the other
day that the Commercial buildings

more and some very exceptional in
their conditions in which they have
been created by the Bureau. I think
the facts on that point in many
sketches by all means.

Please to direct one of your subordinates
to state what you have done
for the General leading National
interests in the District together with
the nature of the funds from which
the aid was estimated giving dates
and amounts - If I were
certain to find you I would come
personally to your office but you
are harassed with work and I
am very much overwhelmed with
this work for which the District
is waiting -

Yours with great respect

P.S. General Ballou has at 3 M. B. Guadalupe
difficult times given me detached statements but they
do not amount to what I desire to put into my report

Washgta Dec 30th 1865



Dear General

I am going to let you
at your word and ask your
influence in obtaining a position
under Government. I did in-
tend to go into business - but
fail to get in debts and money
due me, and fear I shall be
obliged to give it up -

If I could secure a loan of
two thousand (\$2000) - I would
securely as I can give. I would
start & prefer to start a business for
myself - failing in that I
shall try for some appointment.
I cannot live here without
business - I am informed,
that the present Collector
of Internal Revenue for Alexandria
County Va - is obnoxious to
the loyal people of that district
he - not having taken the
oath of allegiance to Government.

and having made an
enquiry - desirous men

Could you - or would
you. bring to bear your
influence in the Treasury
Department - to aid in
convincing me - that a
similar opportunity?

I desire to go away
from Washington - for I
need some money
prospecting business -

I am confident will
pay me - but the
want of money might
prevent me from
working at present

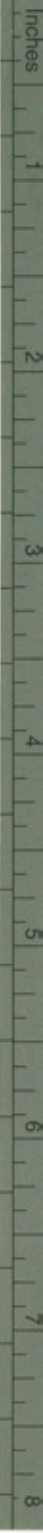
I really think that my
services during the war
and since entitled me
if any person can claim
anything at hands of
Government to a good
position -

And indeed I must
My salary - during my
detention in Gov - Bureau
have only paid my ex-
penses - of living - and the
little household property -
I have got into a bad
way - when here - and
I can ill afford to
draw upon the latter
I had before -
I would prefer to
position - relative to my
profession - but can
descend no opening in
that way -
I trust you will
pardon me for thus
addressing you - but
I feel compelled to ask
the influence of some of
my friends -
Yours truly

Wm. H. Howard
Mr. E. O. Howard
in B. R. R. & Co.

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[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper]



Brooklyn N.Y. January 11
Dec 30. '68

Gen A. A. Howard

Dear Sir

I am very desirous to obtain your good office in behalf of Leopold Von Gilsa who was Col of the 41st Regt. one of the regts that in the 11th Corps participated in the Chancellorsville and Gettysburg campaigns under you.

Von Gilsa (whom I know) has a friend a relative of mine - who some time ago asked me to write to the War Dept soliciting the Brevet of Brig and Major General - for him for his gallant and meritorious conduct on both above occasions. It was not of course - proper for me to do this without personal knowledge of the facts. I wrote therefore to Gen Schurz and Barlow - under whom he served whilst Commanding Brigade - and filed these strong recommending letters therefor in the War Dept last May. and nothing has been heard of the matter since then.

It probably would have been better to have sent these first to you for approval - but I supposed

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~~They~~ would be so referred - as usual which
from being more regular would be more
agreeable to you.

I have little ^{draft} Col. Kelton. has those
documents and that if you approve that
a very proper and simple reward will be
conferred on one certified to have been
one of your best and bravest officers.

It will be an act of justice to one
who craves the honor but seems to be
too modest to speak for himself.

I mention Mr. Block as my brother
to obviate the difficulty of being a stranger
to you but this should matter
so the facts herein speak for themselves
and the act is requested one which
be congenial for you to perform.

I am with great Respect
General Your Obedt Servt
Gerrish Oak
Post Major Genl
Aug 13 1864

Kenia Dec. 31st 1868.



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Major Genl O. O. Howard.

Dear General.

As my connection with the Bureau has closed permit me to thank you most sincerely for the appointments you have given me, & for all your personal kindness. Eight months were spent most pleasantly in your service without an unpleasant remembrance. Nothing but a sense of duty to my congregation compelled me to withdraw from the Bureau. My health, however, is not firm, & it is probable that I will accept the appointment recently made by the Regents of the University & return to Alabama. If at any time I can be of service to you in connection with the Bureau work, or in any other way, it will afford me pleasure to do so.

With best wishes for your personal welfare, & for the success of the work in which you are engaged, and hoping to be numbered among your friends,

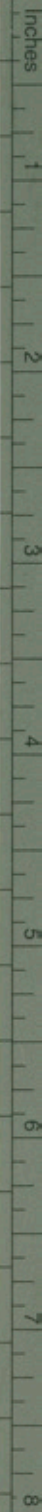
I am, dear General,

With great regard,

Yours Sincerely, R. W. Harper.

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Washington, Dec. 31, 1868.



Gen. O. O. Howard,

Commissioner B. R. F. & S. L.

At a special meeting of the Trustees of Howard University, on the 29th inst., it was voted to request the Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau, to publish if he can consistently do so, in his educational work, 1000 copies of the address of Prof. Lafayette C. Loomis, at the opening exercises of the Medical Department of the University, for general circulation.

Attest:-

E. W. Robinson,
Secretary.

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