ASHLEY HOUSE,
G. A. SMITH & CO., Proprietors.

Bloomington, Ill., Dec 20, 1869

Dear [Name],

My stay away was too short that I thought I should receive a letter from you; but as I have written a few lines in answer to letters received, it is now fair to send them. Please note you can write a few lines to keep your C.H. Wilson and Charley to your own Galesburg. I did have a nice time as Pres. Williams' T as Rev. Mr. Sheffield. He is the son of the Rev. Mr. Sheffield. Thus fell upon my arm at our Detroit M.E.C. A. convention & died soon after. He was twice in the field under the Christian Commission and is full of the espresseness. He
in a delightful Christian companion, who
wished to train him a little for being
absent-minded as you do see. I knew
for a wander at his female demean-
our of Knox College after Brande.

Rev. Mr. Ed. Beecher of the
Beecher. He is quiet,
an old man now. His wife is a quiet
lady, about fifty years old. Their
home is far beyond my ken. Beecher has
left by the 5 o'clock
train, which was back towards Chicago as
far as Mendota, then by the
Illinois Central to this place
Bloomington. This is a large city.
I had been at Kendall's Smith's Hotel
but a few minutes. When, who should come
in his old college mate Robinson.
He was in his own post missing mine.
His married in Los Angeles, around here several
years ago. (Sunday evening) I knew that
a day busy day. I went by a steam
steamer boat on the Illinois (2 miles north)
When I attended a Chinese church with a young man (his wife) whose name is
Dr. Wann, formerly with us in the Army attached to the Signal Corps. After service, I stood by signs
and addressed his Elderess in a house
full of people thereon in. This afternoon
I repeated this exercise (of
speaking through Mr. Wan
speech) at the Methodist Sunday School.
This evening after having tea with an
Army Chaplain, a New Englander, I
went to hear a converted Glover
speak on behalf of his people. I
was surprised to find that seven
years have been converted to Christ
since a few years past. Most
wonderfully the Scripture is being
fulfilled. I was introduced to him and
asked him many questions about the year
in which I have long been deeply interested.
His name is Rev. Van Hoof of the Congregation
at Chinese Church. He is now laboring by
his letter to Germany to his mother to bring him to acknowledge that the
president has really come. Last night I had a good lecture — though the lecture
must be very deep and personal here and the lecture dwelt upon how
we could get in for the country. I was a very attentive audience — feeling
"Christian experience is the thing". I
received a thunderbolt from the audience which
had our passage badly but did not
mourn more than did the first
friend near by who I was speaking of
Vickers. He is rather hard and to the
mother & uncle sudden & inconsiderate
interruption. Read little "Cahp. Not in
the least attention this morning or chang
ing his body. I am worrying a little about
your courage, how it is not well — for people
who do not care for it, daring, for the
father and all the children — My hand is
very weird — can't half wash it. The
love to all the children will be more
almost as soon as this letter. If I
spend in Alliance this night — shall
start to find them tomorrow for how
I feel happier in the Methodist Church
than I have for a long time. My
 Worksheet think upon call

Truly yours
Daisy
New Haven 20, Mar. 1869.

Gen. O. O. Howard
Dear Sir,

I take the liberty of saying a word about the Normal & Agricultural Institute at Hampton, Virginia. From the first, I have been particularly interested in it, as it has been greatly instanced by the ladies of New Haven, and of late I have been the more interested in it as my acquaintance with it has increased by means of frequent letters from a daughter of mine who is employed there at present. Every way the
institution seems to be doing a good work just the right work.
Not understanding at all what the Freedmen's Bureau can do or cannot do in
the winding up of its affairs I may nevertheless be allowed to say as one who
had been interested for almost half a century in the welfare and improvement
of my colored people that if there is anything which the Bureau before
its expected dissolution can do toward perpetuating the Hampton Institute if
these are still at its disposal any funds which can be applied in that
way it seemed to me that
by so doing the Bureau may gain a new title to the gratitude of coming generations. Measures ought to be taken now if possible, to secure the permanence and the independence of an institution so much needed just there and already so successful. A Normal School is more than a School, it is a School-maker. An agricultural or industrial school will produce after a while, more wealth than a gold mine for the region within its influence.

I greatly read in writing thus, and believe it wise. Dear Sir,

Yours with great respect,

Leonard Bacon.
Albany March 26th 69
10 P.M.

My Dear General: As you have been undoubtedly made aware, a Committee of the Grand Army have been corresponding with you clerk in Washington with a view to secure your valued services to deliver a lecture in our Old State City until within a few days we expect you in Washington.

Last week Commodore Barton, Chairman of our Action Committee commenced the correspondence, his letter being written only 24 hours after Capt. Saffords the reply to Mr Saffords letter gave
I am great hope of your coming, but the reply to Comrades Burton's letter seemed to drive it away. As we lost the field one hour after Victory blazed from the enemy where everything seemed lost, we determined to write again to ascertain if you could possibly come before April—any time—today we receive the welcome intelligence that by telegraphing on your part it is secure your presence for the 26th day, as there seems to be some doubt about your lecture at Alliance.

Dear General, Smith was face to face with you. I think that you would surely come. Well, me to day, as you are undoubtedly


amend telegraphed, but lest you might not receive the telegram, have thought it proper to write myself to Springfield to command Burton to appear.

The money realized will go directly to the worthy Widows, Orphans remaining in our county, not otherwise provided for. Our cause, it is good, as a Christian, we call you to aid us. The citizens will fill the boxes in which you listen to their appreciation of your Cincinnatian services, take no second rank. The Legislature (now in session) will to a man cordially hear you. They hail your coming with high anticipation.

If you have not signified your intention by telegraph, before receiving this, please do so upon the receipt of this letter. Yours very respectfully, R.A. McCulloch, Committee. 3d Dec. 38.
Louisville, Ky., March 20th 1869

Genl. Howard

My Son Capt. 1st Lt. of Co. I 5th
Cavalry, now on the plains with Capt. Gill Efford, served during the late rebellion as Capt. of 3rd. The cavalry is a good settled officer expects to remain in the regular army. But entering the service in his 16th year and having remained in it over 15 years except a short time in 1865 when he was deprived of the benefit of a west point education he is fond of active service but ambitious to perfect his military education as far as possible when not needed in active service. The Indian war is about ended but I think men desire some duties and place in staff duty. When when not engaged in such duties may be able to be fully instructed as a soldier officer. In as much as I will write proper art make his work in time he is a good Staff officer having served from my first enlistment during the rebellion
and on Pottsgrove Road since I see that you
are pleased to consider it again and
dhave your staff to make up, I will be
grateful if you can give him a place
on your staff. I give him undependable
military service, but he will be loyal to
with him in any way you may
please him. You will have now that
man's name as soldier & merchant.
If your staff is full all his wishes to get
a staff appointment with some West Point
Gentilman, and you will confer favor
on him and on me your Commissions to
become in the army of Cumberland only.
Georgia After forty
W. J. Ward Capt
Please your decision to

Gentilman now in Washington encamping
your probable promotions in relation to

W. J. Ward
Albany, N.Y., Nov. 20/69

Maj. Genl. C. C. Howard
Aberon, Ohio

Dear Sir,

I send you merely a copy of my letter to Springfield, Ohio, fearing that I might have sent it to the wrong Springfield, there being two others in that state.

Agreedly to my telegram of today directed to Lincoln, III., I write thinking that you might not have seen my letter of Nov. 16th directed to Washington, D.C.
In case your answer is favorable, the proceeds of this lecture will go to the treasury of Post No. 5, Dept. of N.Y. Grand Army of the Republic, Albany, and be applied in disabled and wounded soldiers who could not be aided a great deal, and many soldiers, widows, and orphans who could be helped and educated if our treasury was in a proper condition.

Our Post is just aware of the importance of these duties, and means to "push things."
Can you inform us at once the subject of your lecture, in case you consent to lecture for us.

Very Respectfully,
Your Ob't Servant,
John E. Burton
Chairman of Lecture Committee Gr. A.R.
Cherooted 20 March 1860

General Howard

Dear Sir,

I take liberty to introduce Rev. Mr. Vatt Reese, who has been called to the charge of the Riddle Institute in North Carolina, and desires the benefit of your advice. Mr. Vatt Reese has been a missionary in Kansas, and is now the pastor of the church in Ballston Spa. Do me the favor to give him with some usual frankness as full a view as in your power of the fields proposed to him, favorable and unfavorable.

We have no President for the College yet; nor any good prospect. Believe me, General, truly and respectfully your friend,

J. Rummel Backus
لا يمكنني قراءة النص العربي من الصورة المقدمة.
May I ask O.O. Howard
Chicago, Ill.

To me, I am in receipt

of your favor of the 18th inst. I ass cheerfully
accept your proposition to Lecture for us
Friday evening March 26th for one half of the
proceeds. Providence favoring us
we will have you a good House
Our Lecture will stop at the Sonnibick
House.

I am very respectfully,
A Camp Corso. 3/20, 64.
March 31st, 1869

Camp vicinity J. T.

Generals,

We have today received the welcome intelligence of your assignment to the Command of this Department. Although the news has reached us only in the form of a rumor as yet, we join it with cordiality.

Turning as you do General, my preference is fully under your care and as near you as I can. You will not I trust think me indelicate in writing to you instantly, upon hearing that you are to be our Commander, soliciting a position on your staff as aide de camp or in any capacity in which I might be useful. My Company has too good clients (one of whom is in New Mexico awaiting the Company’s arrival there) and the Company
itself is in such a healthy state of discipline that it could not
suffer if I were detached.

I write this General, with the hope that the sense of the
interest you have always manifest in my welfare as an Officer
would make you do nothing for me or any one not consistent with your judgment.

I have scarcely heard from
your brother Charles since his
marriage, and it not for a correspondent I
have in Maine. I might still remain in ignorance of his having a son.

With regards to him and his family, I am
truly yours. I am General,

Very respectfully yours,

M. Connel
Capt. 38th Ind,
Livesmore, Mar. 22, 1869.

Dear Otis, I received a letter Sat. night from Brooklyn, N.Y., requesting me to try to get the appointment of Master Gates in the N.Y. Navy yard. Can't you render me some assistance in securing this appointment? Hon. Sidney Perham, from our Congressional District, told me that he had received two petitions in my behalf, for this position, and that he had them placed on file in the office of the Navy Dept, with his recommendation. His term has expired, so he will not be able to do anything more. Mr. I. stated that he thought it would be of no use to attempt to get a wrong sighted, until the Government had passed into better hands. We believe it has at last, or in some branches of it! There are some branches of it that need cleansing, to clear it from the Copperhead poison.
and especially the N.Y. Navy yard, where corruption takes the highest rank.
Copperheads rule there, I know that. Soldiers who have served honorably through the war have been discharged, while others who did all in their power to prevent our putting down the Rebellion are kept in their stead.
I have had several letters from N.Y., expressing a desire that I might get the appointment; and even before I came away, a great many told me to make an effort for it, as soon as the Government changed hands. I understood you to say, in your letter to me, that the Secretary of the Navy depended upon recommendations from the officers of the yard, for any appointment. If such is the case, how can corrupt and unprincipled officers be removed, when rascality is defended, as is the case at the New-
York Navy-yard? It has been suggested to me, that, I get the influence of my friends, with Hon. Senator Tilton in the matter.

I know very well how it would appear for me to say that I could work the Department better than it is now worked; but this much I will say, that I would be very well satisfied, as a salary, with what it now takes to pay Dead-Heads, Copper-heads, Rebels, and Loafers, in the Calker's Depot alone! I do know that such need less expense would be put a stop to, if nothing more could I have the charge there, as Mather Calker!

But perhaps I say too much, or at least, it may appear so to a person who does not know how shamefully the people's money is expended there, but had the opportunity of showing to a fair and unbiased Committee how matters
are conducted there, I am all to think some of the officials would be ashamed of themselves.

And now all I will add is allowing that it could be bought about for me to obtain the appointment of Master Carpenter of the N.Y. Navy Yard, there would be more than one heart made glad, if we can believe, people to say, and I have no doubt, the sincerity of those people who have expressed their desire that I would strive for the appointment.

I wish to express a word of love and respect to you, and your family, those lovely children, and especially little Ann, who took so much pains, and seemed to spare no trouble to make my visit to her home pleasant, and to give me good opportunity to see all the sights of much value at our National Capital. And also to all the inmates of your home, I found a kind wife when I got home, and she is not well now, but somehow I am not able to do any work yet, however! I thought it most strange when I came home and found master empty, since.

Most Respectfully to, Eden C. Waite
My dear General,

My eldest son is anxious to embrace the profession of arms, and entreats me to take the necessary steps for his appointment to a Cadetship. In his youthful naiveté he entertaines the innocent notion that there are no particular difficulties in the way, that his wishes can be easily complied with.

Although I know the hopelessness of the thing, I wrote to several members of Congress of my acquaintance. Three did not answer at all; one (Smiley) wrote, that he had no appointment to make, but hoped I would find somebody who would accede to my request.

At last I addressed a few lines to Secretary Rawlins asking for my boys appointment at large by the President. My letter is either on file or has wandered with thousands of like import into the waste-paper basket. And now, my dear General, I take the liberty to ask you, whether you can further the views of my sons. I do so most reluctantly, for I am probably correct in the supposition, that you have your full share of indemnities arising...
out of requests addressed to you. However, for my boy's sake, I will disregard this consideration. On account of his really sterling qualities he is very dear to us, and it would give us more to see him favored in an object he has so much at heart. He is an earnest, industrious student, pure in morals, a devout Christian, and with well-developed feelings. I feel confident he will make a conscientious, brave, loyal officer.

Of my own affairs I cannot tell you much of interest. I have steadily worked on my geographies. They will make their appearance in July. The maps are all engraved. The text is nearly set up in type. The prospects of a financial success are very flattering. Miss Wilson, librarian of Cincinnati, the largest school-book publishing house in the country, have very high expectations in a business point of view.

My revised edition of Harris's Physical Geography is out a meets with favor. I send you a copy, but would ask you not to hold me responsible for all you find therein. It is true I wrote the text, but the proof-reader, a young professor here, whose influence in the introduction was to be secured by the publishers, {Cousins} of Co., has during my absence, inserted some paragraphs, a modified others, which are scientifically incorrect or otherwise objectionable.
on account of a distasteful vein of pedantry.
My family have resided this winter in New Haven. If you remember my eldest daughter
who was as a little girl in Stafford Court House,
I may add, that she made her debut in society
so the youngsters grow up!
I remain, my dear General, as ever,

Wm. Earl O. O. Howard
Washington  

Your most sincere,
A. E. Shimer
Clerk of J. B. Lippincott & Co.
Portland.
No. 3125, le 12th
Washington, D.C. le.
March 22nd, 1861.

General A. D. Howard.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir: May I ask if you would not like to procure a Dr. who would accompany you to New Orleans? As I have lived in that city for eighteen months prior to last winter and have had the yellow fever, and should you fall a victim to that disease during the coming summer, I might be of inestimable value to you besides being qualified for the duties you would assign me to. I have the best of character, and am originally from Harris, N.Y. Hoping to hear from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

W. F. Colganell

Drs. Hospital, U.S. lb. Staff, Blinde, N.Y.O. 80.
dear to all classes shall press on though oppo
ed. Trusting that God will raise up friends who will come to our help.

Yours Respectful

P.M. Fortt

P.S. I am told to say that Prof. Lamar has obtained aid from the Education for some of the colored boys who are studying for the m

Maryville East Indi
March 22nd 1869

Gen. O.O. Howard
My dear Sir:

I was sorry not to find you when I called at your office a few days since. In conversation with Dr. Geo. Thalby I was informed that it had been reported to you that colored students are not admitted to Maryville College.

I find an Cecil as an interest on the part of Prof. Lamar and my brother that such a spirit had li
I am happy to report that one of the Colored Societies has aided it in two colored students. In view of these facts, it is a matter of surprise that any one should have suspected you that the blacks were excluded from the institution. Prof. Lamar has curiosity now to design to know the author of the report. We shall soon fix upon a plan to effect it to Col. This person is as soon as possible make contracts for brick limestone. In advance of all the old institutions of the South, already so far as opening the
Brooklyn, March 22, 69

My Dear General,

Col. Trany, one of my efficient U.S. District Attorney has just returned from Washington, he says that all is well with us. He also says that if you wish the proposed grant of land to 266 acres in Santa Ana, that I shall be glad to support it, otherwise not. The grant shall be made to the U.S. His Excellency by the U.S. Senate.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Gen. O. O. Howard
At Washington Mch 20th 1869

General O.O. Howard

Secretary of Refugees

Washington - D.C.

Your reply of 16th was not read until Saturday evening (20th) having been west on business. I regret that you could not attend my evening but the 27th and is difficult getting an audience on Saturday evening. If you can feel at content to attempt come evening in April, or at any future date we will be happy to hear it.

With very great respect

Your truly,

Thomas Bell
Albany Dec 22nd 69
May, Gen's. O. O. Howard U.S.A.

Dear General,

Anticipating your consent to come and lecture for us, I have thought it best to send you a synopsis of the armory & leaving the different R.R. Stations. These may slightly differ from the present tables but in the whole will not affect the possibility of your arrival here Saturday and still enjoying each other's society. Of course by leaving Atrom on the evening you lecture, you will arrive proportionately early. Altho' by this time after Agenals you may have decided your or mays.
William Golding

[Handwritten text not legible]
allow one to express upon you the great opportunity of doing good, that your acceptance will initiate the funds derived from the lecture and cause the formation of remedial measures of relief to our named comrades and the widows and orphans of those who dropped out of the ranks, pierced by rebel bullets, while battling with ease for those principles of humanity you now please to support (at our expense) stating which may you soon come, and on what train,
I am General
My Respectfully
R. Mitchell
Of the Committee on Lectures, G.A.R.
Albany, N.Y.
Washington D.C.

Mar 22 '69

Dear Brother,

I found one case of the horeum—Lizzie has quite run her cold.


Wilson says he had Edematous Dept. of the Bladder continued with understanding that you should see to it through wedge and that you ought to remain. It is generally remarked that Hoth Coor—
not come under the recent order without losing his place in the Army. In view of this latter fact and the interest of the freedmen which will suffer by your leaving them, you will be willing to remain? I find that Hatch's family do attend the Methodist Church.

I fear for the highest interest of your corner. Please assure me, what can you plan to within letter from Powell, the in the interest of Protestant American Missions?