Baltimore Association
for the
Moral and Educational Improvement of the Colored People,
N.W. Corner of Courtland and Saratoga Streets.

Baltimore, April 8th, 1869.

Major General O. O. Howard
Com. Freedmen's Bureau &c
Washington, D.C.

General:

Allow me to return you my sincere thanks for your
very kind letter recommending me to the Secretary of the Treasury for
appointment to the position for which I am an applicant.
It is my desire ever to merit the approval of such gentlemen
as yourself by a faithful discharge of duty; and if I am so fortunate
as to receive the appointment I will endeavor to measure up to
the full standard of your very flattering recommendation.

I have the honor to remain, General, your much obliged and
Obedient Servant,

[Signature]
Baltimore Association
for the
Moral & Educational Improvement of the Colored People,
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Baltimore, April 8th, 1869

Maj. Genl. O. O. Howard,
Freedmen's Bureau

General: It being generally believed that from the inefficient manner in which the business of the Educational Department has been conducted, that its present incumbent will be removed and a better Executive Officer put in his place, one who will give us our own Educational Statistics instead of those of Prussia, and who will help to build up a thorough system; I would respectfully inform you that in case Dr. Barnard is removed the Rev. Dr. Van Boshel will be an applicant for the position. Those who know Dr. Van Boshel are fully aware that a more efficient gentleman for the office could not be had. I take the liberty of making this statement to you believing you will be called upon for your opinion as to who would be a suitable person for appointment.

Your Ob'dt Servt,

Washington Apr. 3 1869

Mrs. GREG.

I became so much interested in your school yesterday that I take the liberty to draw them the enclosed letters, Mr. Sooni's long one and any short one. The provoking printer's errors in both will be palpable. In Sooni's they put the Proclamation of freedom to the colored race in 1868 instead of 1863 &c. In mine among other errors they get "Institute" instead of University.

Please send to the desk of the Principal & oblige.

Yours &c.

P. A. Gray
God.

The "Baptist side" are bitterly down on "the Howard" to stay away yesterday for deciding that anybody can vote whose conscience will let him.

Charity is now exhausted.
Hadn't you better haul off and join the Baptists! We can manage you!

By the Bye. My chance to become 5th Asst. P.M. God is just at its crisis. A "feather" was just to turn the scale. If you have that "feather" to spare, please put your breath behind it, and blow it in the face of God!

Crosswell

Ever as Ever

M.T. Gray
Leavenworth, Maine April 8, 1869

Mr. Gen. O. O. Howard
My Dear Sir: The papers inform me that you are about to appoint a Superintendent of Freedmen's Schools for each Southern State. My object in addressing you is to ask if I can be of service to you as a Superintendent or in any capacity connected with the Schools. You kindly with Chief Justice Choate and Vice President Colfax gave me commendations as a Secretary of the American Freedmen's Union Commission when I went to California for the Commission two years
ago—I had previously been to California on the same errand and to Europe and have raised a large sum of money for the freedmen. I should be glad to serve them still and can furnish any recommendations necessary. I am in perfect health, and should he glad to serve you for the freedmen.

Very respectfully yours,

D. C. Kayne
The FISK SCHOOL was founded by the American Missionary Association and Western Freedman's Aid Commission, in January, 1866. While conducted as a Public School, there was an average attendance of 300 pupils. In August, 1867, the City of Nashville having provided Public Schools for all classes, a charter was secured for a University, and the Academic and Normal Departments were opened the following September. The number of pupils in attendance for the first term was 319.

FISK UNIVERSITY,

Nashville, Tenn., Apr. 15th, 1869

Dear O.O. Howard,

My dear sir,

Your letter of 1st inst. I have but this day received, and am sorry I cannot write you what I have long felt to be necessary. You must suffer our infortune. We are so situated in reference to the dedication of Howard Chapel on the 16th inst., that we cannot get along without you. You I fear have but a faint idea how necessary your presence is on that occasion. Our best expectations and hopes that have been set up against the ten thousand difficulties that have beset us will all be crested if you and the other dear friends whom we have relied disappointed us. Our work will be immeasurably impaired. It seems to me that nothing short of sickness or death should keep you from the dedication of this Chapel. The work is at New York with us is immune. But the damage from disappointment now will be almost insurmountable. Therefore I say at once My dear sir and let us publish you in our programme.

Yours truly, John W. Day.
CIRCULAR LETTER.

Fisk University,

Nashville, Tenn., 1869.

Dear

We send you the foregoing Circular, believing you to be personally interested in the education and consequent elevation of the masses of the people of the South. This, you are aware, cannot be done without competent teachers, trained specially for their work. Hundreds are trying to teach now, whose qualifications would not be tolerated, were it not that no better can be found. The schools and the country are suffering from this cause. This ought not to be; especially when opportunity offers for preventing it.

Now we say to you and to all who desire an education, whether for teaching or not, that this school is organized with special reference to removing these difficulties just as soon as possible. It proposes to train a class of Christian teachers who shall be able to cope with these difficulties. Its opportunities and advantages for doing this are not excelled by any in the country, either in respect to merit or cheapness. The advantages are first class in all respects, while the expenses are about one-half ordinary rates; and it is the determination of those having charge, to render them better and better every year. We therefore urge upon you, as you regard the welfare of the people who have been so long in ignorance, either to avail yourself of these advantages, or to aid some others in doing so, remembering that the gratitude of the nation will be due those who aid in spreading abroad the blessings of intelligence and virtue.

Please send us the names of those who are anxious to become teachers.

JOHN OGDEN, Principal.
Dear Superintendent,

I have been following your policy to encourage the use of the government's educational materials. I am very impressed with the results of the experiments to date and feel that we can now expand our efforts. Our educational program has been so successful that we have decided to introduce a new series of experiments. These experiments will be more advanced and will require more sophisticated equipment.

I have attached a report on the progress of the current experiments. Please review it and let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

John Oden, Principal
FISK UNIVERSITY
AND
NORMAL SCHOOL

ORGANIZED SEPTEMBER 14TH, 1867.

THE CURRENT YEAR opens with increased numbers in the higher departments, and additional facilities for boarding and instruction.

THE PRESENT OBJECT of the School is the special training of teachers for schools in Tennessee and the South, for which object we have special advantages. To the most rigid and searching class drills in the branches of study, are added

I. A DAILY STUDY of the Science of Education and Art of Teaching, as developed by careful and systematic tests and comparison of methods.

II. A TEACHING EXERCISE in the Model School, one half hour per day, by every member of the teaching class—25 in all—under the direction of the Principal, for the purpose of acquiring skill in teaching and managing schools of the various grades.
With respect to the efficiency of this course of training, the Board of Examiners make the following statement in their

REPORT:

1st. "The examination (which was in teaching exercises) was very satisfactory, and was conducted in a manner calculated to reveal the real merits of the members of the class."

2d. "The proficiency of those examined was gratifying, and indicates the wisdom of the efforts here made to prepare competent teachers for all the duties of instructors."

3d. "We commend these efforts to the approval and liberal support of all who desire the highest welfare of the human race."

4th. "In view of the skill and requirements of many members of this class, we take the liberty to suggest that they be immediately accepted and employed as teachers."

"JOHN EATON, Jr., Supt Pub. Instn Tenn.
"Chairman Examining Committee."

As further evidence of the efficiency of this plan, more than a dozen of this class have already been employed as teachers by County Superintendents and others, at salaries ranging from $35 to $45 per month; and the demand for this class of teachers is so rapidly increasing that four times this number could have been employed at the same rates, if they could have been furnished.

BOARDING ACCOMMODATIONS, ETC.

A large two storied Dormitory, capable of accommodating fifty young lady boarders—two in a room—has just been completed, and is now ready for use. Twenty-five occupants are already on the ground; twenty-five more can be accommodated if application is made soon. Other similar accommodations are in readiness for young men. A beautiful brick Chapel, 40x50, has also been erected for the accommodation of the School.

THE HOME.

The teachers and students boarding on the grounds are organized into one family, or home; and by a system of detailed labor established, and a rigid economy observed, the expenses, including boarding, washing, fuel, lights, room rent, (rooms furnished,) and all other necessary expenses, have been reduced to $2.75 per week. By this means, not only better boarding can be furnished, but the students are trained in matters of housekeeping economy, and are brought under all the social, refining and elevating influences of a Christian family and home.

TUITION AND TERMS.

In the High School and Collegiate Studies, $12 00 per annum.
In the Model School, 10 00 " "

Payable quarterly in advance, or by the month.

Provision is made for twenty-five free scholarships for those in the most advanced classes who devote one half hour per day in hearing and conducting recitations in the Model School.

By the help of a small fund placed in the hands of the Trustees, through the munificence of the Peabody Educational Fund, we are enabled to render assistance to a limited number of those who are preparing to teach.

The next Term will commence April 5th, and close June the 17th. The Fall Term will commence September 13th, and close December 24th, 1869.
Mobile, Apr. 8, 1869,

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

Gentlemen:

I send you by mail a copy of pamphlet on Saving Banks, written more directly with reference to familiar exposition of the operations of the Freedman's Savings & Trust Co. in the southern states.

Any favorable expression of your opinion will be highly appreciated by me.

Very respectfully,

C.R. Woodward.
Kents Hill, Me. April 8, 1867

Gen. Howard,

Dear Sir,

Your brother has written me with regard to the presidency of your noble Institution. I thank you kindly, for the favorable consideration you have given me. Should your Board of Trustees, through your kind recommendation, offer me the place, I shall gladly accept it, unless the Trustees of this school positively decline my resignation. I have long felt a change of climate, of school, and of general relationships would add to my usefulness. I have an offer from a College in Penn., and from one in Ill.; but I should prefer one connected with your College. I desire to work awhile for the colored people (copy).
The relation of the school to your church would not in the least be objectionable to me. All the aid, directly or indirectly, rendered your church by the prosperity of the school it has founded, is properly devoted. Beside, I am so far understand as to feel that I equally promote the welfare of man in aiding Congregationalism or Methodism.

Your trustees may desire a few facts concerning me, as a teacher. My age is 49. I have had charge of this school 25 years. I have had under my care over 6000 different students.

Most Respecfully Yours,

H. B. Jones

Maj. Gen. C. O. Howard
Montis Hill, Me.
April 5th, 1867.

Jervis W. B.

If the Board of Trustees should offer him the Presidency of Harvard University, would accept the position.
538 D, between 83 9 streets.
April 8th, 1869.

Dear Sir:

I would like to call and see you on Monday, if you will be kind enough to drop me a line, stating where your office is, and at what hour I can see you.

Ruecky Love,
Mrs. Mary P. Hooslow.

Washington, D.C.
Washington, D.C.

April 8th, 1869

Gen. O.O. Howard
W. J. Baconsby.

Dear Brethren:

As the control of society matters has passed into your hands, I think I ought to have an understanding with you in regard to the position to which I was elected at our last meeting. I am extremely anxious that our church edifice shall be finished and that the church and society may be prosperous and useful. I have no intention of leaving it, as I think every member ought to stay and work for its prosperity if they can do so without the sacrifice of principle. To this end I ask you to tell me frankly if you wish me to be treasurer. In many things my views have been and still are opposite to those you hold and you may wish to have some brother with whom you can have perfect sympathy.
and confidence.

I leave the matter in your hands - am perfectly willing to abide by your decision if you will be kind enough to give it, and whether as officer or member, shall do all I can to help the enterprise in which we all have so deep an interest.

I shall be happy to meet you at any time and place you may designate. I can have an interview with you alone in my room at the Treasury Dept. (No. 74) if it is convenient for you.

With sincere respect,

[Signature]

A. L. Stevens.