American Freedman's Union Commission,
No. 30 Vesey Street.—P. O. Box 5,733.
LYMAN ABBOTT, Cor. Sec. J. M. McKIM, Cor. Sec.

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RECEIVED MAY 27 1869 PRIVATE.

New-York, May 25 1869

My dear General

I send you here=with a copy of "the address" of which I spoke. Please read it remembering that it was the first official report with the exception of E. L. Pierce, made to the public in regard to the Freedmen.

I had great pleasure in looking into your University Enterprise, & have had equal pleasure in reading your address upon the duty of government to the Freedmen. It will take in any "address," that I was (in my former way of estimating) a scene bounded by any daylight=O Z. Farnsworth who was my much esteemed friend, Colt in Tennessee & Wakeman & Gen. Howard in making this available

Very truly yours
O. Howard Oliver

fine in telling my
friends in Orlando
a little of its prospects,
and of the Freedmen's
prospects through it.

I like and almost
believe that the "Howard"
will be the Howard of
the new dispensation
(social & political) on
which the country is
entering. And to
be frank until now
I never had any
faith, & not now dare
much hope that it

will prove to be anything more than
another, one more college, of which
the country has already a surplus &
abundance.

But I want to find me the Freed-
man's school for in general to cf.
my wife & truly powerfully & the
true & wholesome spirit- and I am thankful
for it for that I accept pro-humanum

Private;

Soldiers' Memorial Society;
Boston, May 25. 1869.

Gen. O. O. Howard;
My dear Sir;

I cannot expect that you will remember me personally, but I have had occasion once or twice to communicate with you regarding the free schools established by this Society at Richmond, Wilmington & Chesapeake.

We should like your advice now, upon a matter relating to similar work.

On a visit to the Cold Harbour National Cemetery lately, I found the grounds in charge of an intelligent New-York soldier, placed there by the government. I asked him if his children went to school, and he said no,- that there was no school within four miles,- and that chiefly for black children. He said however that there were in that immediate neighborhood fifty or more children

who ought to go to School.

If there are as many as that in that desert, - it seems as if near each of the National Cemeteries, at least as many, however isolated the place.

I conceived the idea there of the establishment of a Free School at each Cemetery, - for the children of the neighborhood. The Board of Directors here have given it some form By the appointment of sensible teachers, who would not outrage the feelings of the neighborhood but who would maintain a true religious and loyal influence, - we should secure the presence, by the side of each Custodian, of an intelligent man or woman, - who would do a good deal to see that the graves of the dead should be respected, - that visitors should be civilly and kindly received, - and that the rising generation around the battlefields should know something of the Eternal principles which conquered in the war.

On the other hand, of course,

the balance of general considerations would induce us to establish our schools, not in wildernesses like so many of the battle fields,- but in large towns.

I am instructed to ask you how the plan I propose strikes your feeling and judgment. If an Officer like yourself thought such a plan feasible and desirable, we should be very glad to go forward to carry it through-

Our plan would be, wherever the neighbours of the government would supply a suitable School-house on such a ground, that we would furnish a proper teacher, say for four months in the year. We believe the old New England system of a winter school the true system in such localities. We would also, provide, so far as was necessary the requisite school books.

I shall be greatly indebted to you if you will consider these crude suggestions,- and give us the benefit

of your experience and observation. I cannot
to have no difficulty in spending our money
in the charities and the education of the large
towns.

Very Respectfully Yours
Edward E. Hale

Philad.a May 25 1869

Major Genl O. O. Howard

RECEIVED MAY 26 1869 PRIVATE

&c &c &c

General

I am about proceeding to Pekin for the purpose of organizing a Division of Native Troops in the Imperial Service — Should your acquaintance with Mr Howard lately appointed Ambassador to Pekin China admit of your introducing me to that Gentleman in his Official Character, permit me to trespass upon your amenity so far as to solicit such a letter in view of my ultimate movements. Please allude to the fact, briefly, of my 20 years residence in Asia during the chief part of which period I was engaged in military pursuits — I organized a Division of the Cabul Army, cast their Artillery, armed them & drilled them in European discipline — led them into Tartary across the Caucassian mountains & fought the Battles of the Prince Dost Mahomed Amir of Cabul terminating a successful Campaign within Seven Months — I was also in the Military & Civil Service of Runjeet Sing Prince of the Punjab of Northern India for a period of Seven years — In his service I commanded a Brigade of all arms & was at the same time Civil Governor of Noorpore & Pesrota in the Himalayah mountains & also of Guzerat — I commenced my Career in India as an Army Surgeon in the Honble East India Company's Service during the first Burmese war at the Conclusion of which I received an honorable discharge —

I am familiar with the Persian language which is Co-relatively prevalent in Asia with the French language so extensively used throughout Europe! In China the Communities of Parsees or Fire Worshippers are a scattered remnant of the Antient Persian

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Persians & followers of Zoroaster - they are always found in the maratime Cities of China engaged in Commercial pursuits & invariably possess a thorough knowledge of the language of the Countries where they have become domiciled - This fact will enable me to be of service to our Ambassador in effecting a Secret & confidential means of Interpretation totally distinct from the Corrupt medium of translation derived through the medium of Chinese interpreters !! - Our Ambassador will doubtless appreciate the great value of a Confidential means of strict literal Construction when the medium of an Interpreter may be essential to Diplomatic Success !! -

Should the Ambassador feel at liberty to give me the position of Interpreter upon his Staff - or - otherwise place me in his Suite in the character of some nominal Charge I shall at least secure a free passage to my destination & at the same time secure a prestige in the China Community which will promote my object - With many apologies for this intrusion of my affairs upon your notice, I am General

Your Most obt Humble Svt.

Josiah Harlan

Late Col. 11th Penna. Vol. Cavalry
Formerly General & Commander in Chief of the Cabul Army & aid de Camp to the Amir Dost Mahomed

address No 402 Room 4 Locust St. Philada.

P.S. a reply is solicited at the earliest convenience of Genl. Howard

Respectfully
J.H.

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San Francisco May 25th 66

Genl O O Howard
Washington D.C.

My dear Cousin

I wish very much to have a Copy of the Report of the Committee on the Conduct of the War", and as I fear Senator Cole has left Washington, would like you to have a Copy mailed to me, if it will not give you too much trouble -

There have been 6 volumes published already -

Cousin Roland was thoughtful enough to send me a Copy of his notice of Cousin Marcus Wodrow

I was very thankful to have
for it. I made a notice
for the papers here from Rolands,
as he had a great number
of acquaintances here in this
State —

We were fortunate enough
to be able to see much of
him when he was here.
just before leaving for the East
the last time, he spent about
10 days with us at Saco —

We are all very well.
all desire to be affectionately remembered
to you & Fanny

Yours ever
Addison Martin.

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,

STATE OF TENNESSEE.

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Personal.

RECEIVED MAY 31 1869 PRIVATE.

Office Superintendent of Education,

Nashville, Tenn., May 25th 1869

Bvt Maj Genl O. O. Howard.
Commissioner: Bu R. F. & A. L.
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request a favorable consideration of the accompanying application for authority to rent quarters for myself at this station and respectfully state the following reasons not embodied in my official communication.

Within the past two years I have broken up my household — in consequence of orders involving changes of stations — four times, and each at a pecuniary loss incident to the sale and repurchase of furniture &c of not less than two hundred dollars and once by shipment my loss was nearly one thousand dollars.

In the recent change of station from Raleigh N. C to Nashville, Tenn. it being impracticable to transport my private horses so great a distance I was subjected to a loss of One hundred and ten dollars in the sale

of one whilst I shall in all probability be charged with the transportation of the other from Raleigh, N.C. to Baltimore, Md.

I have made full inquiry and find that to "quarter" myself and family at the Barracks beyond the City of Nashville, Tenn. - so far distant from my proper place of business -, will involve an expenditure for myself and the care of horses, in the City, which in addition to my regular current expenses, will entirely consume if not exceed my present pay, to say nothing of the impracticability of a proper discharge, under such circumstances, of the duties connected with my office.

Very respectfully
Your obedient servant.

C. Compton.
Brt Lt Col U.S. Army.
Supt. of Education

Kiel

Kiel

Rev. EDW. P. SMITH,
Gen'l Field Agent.

American Missionary Association,
No. 53 John Street,

New York, 26 May. 1869.

My dear General.

Capt Sladen's note referring to an invitation for you to address the "Soldiers Memorial Organization" was received this morning.

I find in calling on Mr. Bourne that your letter declining to give the address was only received.

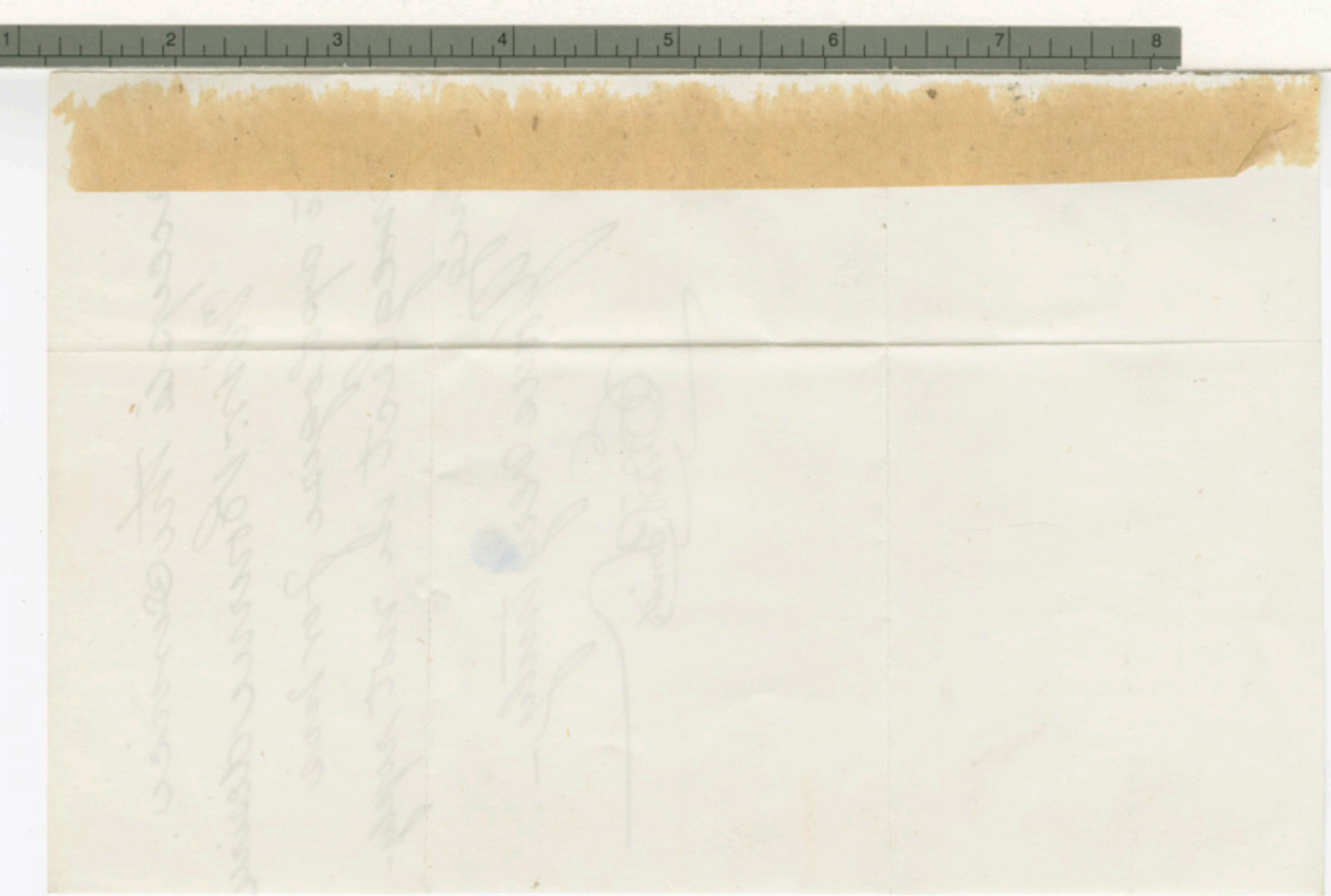
Lieut: Gov. Woodford

accept the service.

Mr. Bourne desires to apologize for his neglect in not replying.

Yours very truly —

Edw. P. Smith



OWEN & WILSON,
COUNSELLORS-AT-LAW AND SOLICITORS OF CLAIMS,
No. 2 Four-and-a-half Street,
WM. R. OWEN,
THOMAS WILSON.

Washington, D.C., May 26th 1869

Dear General

My Father James Wilson has made application, and I have for him, to be appointed a Clerk in the Interior department. He has the recommendation of his entire congressional delegation & the certificate of Mr Pomeroy that he has but one clerk from his district in all the departments & ~~[illegible]~~ earnestly requesting this appointment to be made.

There are no M. C's from his State in the city & the Secty is about making his appointments - was at it today & will continue until completed, the appointees to commence the first of June. If it were called to his attention I feel certain my father will get his appointment; if not I have fears that it will be overlooked.

I have never asked a favor General of you though you have in some way been very kind to me, for which I thank you, yet this kindness emboldens me to ask of you that you call on Governor Cox tomorrow and ask him

to make this appointment, if consistent with his duty, & hear what he may have to say about it.

My father is a man about 57 years old received a liberal education, writes a better hand than I, is a member of the Society of Friends and a man he can depend upon for honesty & integrity. He has always been a Republican, but his three sons went into the army, lost two, one falling at the head of his company in a cavalry charge.

He is not a broken down hack who has to get an office or starve. He is not rich but has retired from the active, hard labor in which he has been engaged all his life. He does not desire to lay down and fold his hands & I confess I am desirous on account my ~~desire~~ wish to have our family united that he should come here. There are none of us left but the parents & my sister left.

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OWEN & WILSON,
COUNSELLORS-AT-LAW AND SOLICITORS OF CLAIMS,
No. 2 Four-and-a-half Street,
Washington, D.C., 186

WM. H. OWEN.
THOMAS WILSON.

If you will be kind enough General to do this & get his appointment ~~made~~ among the many appointments to be made I shall feel very grateful. If I shall fail in this I shall feel that the great, almost the greatest disappointment of my life has or will have overtaken me. If they come here it will give me a home and some one to live with & love & care for me, none of which I have now, without which life is robbed of the most of its ~~sorts~~ happiness & pleasure.

I am ~~to~~ Truly yours
Thomas Wilson

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Boston. May 26 '69

Genl O. O. Howard.

Dear Sir.

I take the liberty of writing you to ascertain if possible the address of a much valued friend from whom I have not heard in some years and of whose whereabouts I think it not impossible you may be informed. I speak of Miss Clara Barton formerly connected with the army of the Potomac. If you could give me her address or put me in the way of ascertaining it I should esteem it a great favor.

Accept. Sir. my sincere regards and believe me

Very respectfully Yours
Chas. B. Newcomb.

[CB - May 26, 1869]

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"Dear Sir" This is a true Statement of my Case you will see I have not made mention of all the Battles although up to the Time I was Wounded my Regt had been in 10, Regular engagements, I Received a Slight Wound at Bull Run, and was hit 4 times at Gettysburg but only one ball entered, which I carry to day, I will try to get a letter from E. H. Moore M.C of my district in Ohio and some good men here, Please let me know when I could see General Cox and when Gen. Schenck will return to Washington,

I am Very Respectfully
Wm H Francis

Care No 4 St Paul, Ill"

Augusta Ga. May 26th 1869.

Genl O. O. Howard
Washington D.C.

Genl Sir

At the suggestion of my Father I take the liberty of asking a favor at your hands - But before I proceed it may be well to make a brief statement - Since the close of the late War I have, to the best of my ability, assisted in trying to place our State in the Union - For this offence I have been thrown out of employment and to day could not obtain from any Democrat in our State the most menial position - I have a wife and two children to care for and appeal to you to assist me in getting any position North, East or West whereby I can discharge my duty as Husband and Father - I have a great desire to leave the South - and care not where I go - only desire to be located in a portion of our country

where it is not a crime to be loyal to our Government.

Hoping, Hon.d Sir, you will give me your assistance and with Respects from My father (Jacob R Davis)

I remain, Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
William R Davis

P. S.
I have applied to Hon Jacob Martin 6th Auditor of the Treasury Dept for a position as Clerk - With your assistance I may meet with success

W R D