Dear General,

I have this day made application to the War Department for an extension of my leave of absence in view of the profound grief and drudgery of my wife. Since her death the little one has been to ill for me to leave and as yet I have no place to leave the little creation. I have therefore had no time to do any duty in my pay. And would most respectfully ask that you may do anything you think best and what you can think will for in having the extension granted.

Thanking you for what you have already done for me I only ask you feel that this request is.
Making May 1st. Have you and yours. His hand has been laid heavily upon me but yet how tenderly and how gently. Oh that I may love and understand better.

May he cause his face to shine upon us.

Yours affectionately in Christ Jesus our Lord.

M.E. Hillwood
Danville Va. July 30th 1863

General,

Dear Sir:

I am very much disappointed in my expectations concerning opportunities for getting work easily

In the little town to which I proceeded when I left Washington Work of every kind is very dull and when it is obtained the pay is not sufficient to give a man what he can really eat. 10 marks pay per day is 50 to 75 cents and he is to buy his food and clothes with that. I notice the streets are very much messed up it seems that
I propose to all persons that have a character worthy of her privilege, White or Black, some that I left when the war cloud was far superior to one. Who since my return have said they would like to change positions with me on the account of my superiority to them. Now I have had many compliments for my progress in learning by both white & colored, as they heard my views on different subjects, I attributed it all to the God of our Salvation through those to whom I had been appointed to the work of the institution. I hope you are enjoying good health. Excuse my approach to Your Majesty Regrettably

Enoch Grady
Gettysburg July 26th 1863

My dear General

Although I have
not yet had the pleasure
of meeting you personally since
the 1st of July 1863 at your
quarters on the Battle-field,
I yet feel that a common
Bond of sympathy compels
me to address this note specially
and invite your attention to the
Subject of the enclosed Resolu-
tions by my letter of invitation.

Upon President Lincoln's
request there should be a
memorial of the part your corps bore in the
Battle, and every portion
of that field should have
memorial to bear of what
the corps did wrought as it
faced the Point of greatest
struggle of July 1863.
The cemetery is complete. The just tribute to the dead has been paid. To get remains to write in enduring characters upon the fighting ground of the corps. The story of what the living and the dead nobly did. Will you not General? Secondly, our suggestion give up count of movement among the officers of your corps so as to effect their removal here in the last week of August? Without this concert and cooperation of the officers of each corps, this consummation cannot be effectually reached which is desired.

Sincerely yours,

M. Conahy
OFFICERS
OF THE
Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association.

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GETTYSBURG, Pa., July 26th, 1869.

GENERAL:
The Gettysburg Battle-field Memorial Association, organized soon after the Battle, since incorporated and holding in absolute tenure the more important portions of the Battle grounds, being memorial and historical in its purpose and character, has unanimously adopted Resolutions, which accompany this letter, determining to proceed to indicate the Field with enduring memorials constructed of the Granite from its hills, and thus to permanently mark out the positions and movements of the Armies, Corps, Divisions, and important commands in the Battle.

Its object is to perpetuate the history of the Battle in its simple truth and to that end to make the Battle-field its own interpreter. It seeks to preserve this Field, truly indicated, as an enduring historical memorial of the military events of the 1st, 2d and 3d of July, 1863, as a school for study in practically illustrating the art of war, and an ever eloquent though silent exponent, alike to citizen and foreign visitor, of the Battle of Gettysburg.
The more effectually to accomplish this its purpose, and before proceeding to erect the indications, the Association desires to derive the important requisite information from authentic and original sources. It earnestly realizes that justice to themselves and fidelity to the truth of history entitles the officers, who commanded the forces in action, to designate the positions and define the movements thus to be perpetuated.

With this high historic purpose in view, I am instructed by the Board, as Secretary and on behalf of the Association, to invite you, General, to co-operate in this work of indication, and to attend a reunion of the officers of your Brigade, Division, Corps and Army, upon the Battle grounds, there to confer together and determine the positions and important points proper to be thus enduringly designated.

The time fixed for the meeting is the week commencing with the Twenty-third day of August next. The place of meeting is the Gettysburg Springs Hotel, upon the Battle-field, where the accommodations are ample and excellent.

It is requested that, at the same time that they reply to this invitation, the officers invited address the surviving ranking Officer of their Corps, and express, if practicable, their intention to be present; and he is also requested to communicate with the Secretary.

Arrangements are in progress to secure to the visiting Officers the courtesy of free travel to, and probably also from, this Reunion, over the Railroads leading thither.

The Association has also arranged for the commutation of the Hotel charges to a very moderate price, while securing comfort and every desirable attention.

The Press of the country has also been requested to further the consummation desired, and is generously responding.

The Officers and Directors sincerely hope that you, General, may find it both agreeable and convenient to accept the invitation hereby tendered to this Reunion, which will be an occasion of great personal and public, as well as historic interest.

Awaiting your reply,

I am very respectfully yours,

D. McConaughy,
Secretary of Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association.

The Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association.

Resolutions relative to indicating the battle-field.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association, having accomplished its first purpose by securing the tenure of the more important portions of the battle-ground, and thus preventing the change of the physical aspect of the field by private interests, will now proceed with the next purpose of its organization, the indicating of the field with plain but enduring memorials constructed from the granite of its hills.

Resolved, That the indicating of the more prominent events of the three days' struggles, with the positions of the forces, the corps, divisions, and brigades, by permanent memorials, making the field of battle its own interpreter, is the best method of recording and perpetuating the history of the battle in its simple truth, and of furnishing a practical illustration in the study of the art of war, thus popularizing military science, and affording alike to citizen and foreign visitor a ready acquaintance with this battle, which perhaps better than any other illustrates the greatest wager of battle of the century.

Resolved, That in thus proceeding to permanently indicate the battle-field, this association deems it due to the generals who commanded armies, corps, divisions, and brigades in the battle, that they should be invited to furnish the information required, in order truly to designate the positions and events to be perpetuated; and that now, before death or absence prevents it, the association instructs its secretary to invite the generals and officers of the several corps to visit the field in the week of August next, and confer together and determine the points to be indicated; and that the secretary cooperate in making such arrangements for their reunion at Gettysburg as will promote this object.
Davenport, June 30, 1857.

Sir O. O. Howard,

Within is a list of names of our freedmen. Would it not be well to give them liberty in some parts and in some not. You are at liberty to add or subtract as you desire. I want facts:

Please do not use my name!

Immediate aid is urgently needed. Someone should immediately be sent to

Yours truly,

[Signature]

[Name]

Hampton (Texas)
Derby, Conn., July 21, 1869.

DEAR SIR:

Will you not use your influence to make known this effort to counteract political corruption.

Yours respectfully,

THOS. L. CORNELL, Prest.

EZRA SPRAGUE, Sec.
ORDER OF THE EAGLE.

Derby, Conn., July 21, 1869.

SIR:

The political corruption of our land is well known. As a people we do not love our country as we should. We do not have that pride in, nor that feeling for our flag which other nations have for theirs. Bribery and corruption seem to be linked with politics. This should be checked, otherwise it does not require a prophetic eye to foresee our doom. All other Republics have failed—we fast follow.

To arrest this downfall of a nation the Order of the Eagle has been established, its object being to instill into the young men of America a high spirit of honor, a respect for our country, a love for the flag. To this end it is proposed to organize societies with an oath for members that they will support the Constitution of the United States, vote for the best men irrespective of party, and if ever elected to office never to accept a bribe. The motto is Dedit amor patriae. Branches of this order are to be established, with a system of correspondence, in every city and town throughout the Union, all working together for the common good. It should be distinctly understood that this is not a secret organization. There are many things that could be attached to keep up the interest—a reading room, or gymnasium, or perhaps a rifle corps.

Will you not aid the good cause by using your influence to organize a branch in your city or town.

For the constitution and further particulars address,

Yours respectfully,

THOS. L. CORNEAL. Prest

E. SPRAGUE, Sec.
Clinton, July 21, 1869.

Dear O. H. [Name]

I beg to inform you of our recent visit to the late General of the Coconant Sufferings of our Freedmen. If you were on the ground, I am sure you would have seen and heard what I did, and I do not think you would think my solicitude too great.

Some parties who have a heart to sympathize with the negroes should be appointed to go on the ground and investigate personally their condition and wants, and report the true state of the case to you. Then an intelligent relief would be afforded.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

John W. [Name]
apart of that part which the legislate a legg.

I have a purpose to do, and I will urge the consideration of it again. I have a purpose to do, and I will urge the consideration of it again.

I am not Christian men with a real

And feeling toward the Negroe, so fitted

to be the Wkmen of both a class.

I think an effort should be made to the Freedman to

made to the Freedman, every

to make a fresh effort to and in their present unaccompanied, for a not too late a large filling. I am the business of which will be made

For their Education, Education, Education.

Let this appeal be made through negro to the Negroe, every where in and out of the States. They need and care to uncum to have a year, while making an effort.

I should be pleased to communicate any information you may have in regard to this important matter.

Yours truly,

James Parker.

H.Court (NY) Sep 22, 1859.


Dear Sir:

Purdy, I must to

apologize for so frequently troubling the opinion

Statement of an above individual who can advance no other than a mere intruding

acquaintance — but yet Helena, W. H. star.

I have your note, and appoint me to the office

Station and a locality, in the place of Mr. Douglass and an agent of your society. I have now to communicate with the colored people of the State. That same Providence has

made you Chief of Freedmen, Douglass in whose position you have more influence over the moral, religious, welfare of the freedmen, than any man on the American continent.

Don't know it is our duty to communicate any facts of interest to the freedmen

in relation to the movement to them by the large uncolored free state the art not yet been learned, but it is necessary.
numbe— I should not be surprised if its...—

number. I must leave fully fifteen thousand and...—
have been greatly diminished—ten—half...—

that number have lost their all—adv...—

at the cream of our...—

and...—

and therefore exposed to the dangers...—

consequent upon the exposure...—

under the sun in the middle...—

summers. So...—

and...—

distribution. Doubtless many will be...—

the feelings of the whites (not new any nov...—

Toward the poor and unfortunate slaves...—

and the number of their race must...—

greatly increase...—

Cut here...—

of appointing such a man who...—

who...—

with them in the sufferings...—

plea of alike—few have been...—

ing with them medicine, and to...—

of...—

I would require several active...—

Christian charity requires, should be done...—

promptly. The Freedmen have been...—

the cause of the nation. I join in the...—

for their wants. I thank you...—

fallen into each good man. I feel confident...—

That so far in your power...—

officials and permit, they will be aided...—

I have always viewed the President...—

That you are placed in...—

May God continue to...—

the requisite wisdom...—

We hear...—

Freedmen. I now...—

William Cobb, let that be your...—

Me...—

Me to continue...—

Appropriation, from that fund distributed...—

of the PM, would effect...
Yank of the facts, in this case, that the Freedmen on farms have, during the past season, worked well, and demeaned themselves with marked propriety! Previous to the over-flow their prospects were flattering in the extreme for realizing a most abundant yield of the various products they were engaged in cultivating—the first-average crops since emancipation! Now to have all their prospects thus suddenly blasted, and they and their families reduced to absolute want is to them, disheartening in the extreme. Shall they not be aided? And that at once! Without prompt and systematic action in their behalf many of them, for anything they can now see, must perish for want of the actual necessities of subsistence. Have we no kind—be the feelings of the whites among whom the Freedmen are located—and it is hoped there is much of such feeling—the necessities of three or four persons of their own color will claim their first attention, and an unprecedented overflow in Texas property to the value of several millions dollars annihilated! Most of the valley lands of Western Texas inundated and the growing crop and much valuable property destroyed!

Between the 12th and 17th July the most widely extended and destructive overflow, which has ever occurred in Texas since that Country has been the abode of the Anglo Saxon race, extended throughout the river valley lands of the section south of the Brazos, including some of the lands on both sides of that river. The extent of the damage is not yet known, but enough is already ascertained to establish a loss and misfortune unparalleled, heretofore, in the history of our State, and calling for the heart-felt sympathy of the humane, and the substantial aid of the moral forces of the community, not only in Texas but throughout the U. S.
If the loss is as great in sections yet unheal-
ted as in those whose damage is ascertainment-
ed, it will reach an enormous sum—many millions of dollars and (it is feared) a few
lives of human beings. The overflow penetrated a part of the country in which the negro
population was most dense; consequently, it has in its effects upon them and their in-
terests, been most fatal, destroying their
props, their culture, and whatever they may
have possessed in the way of stock, household
furniture &c., leaving them homeless and home-
less, without a shelter from the scorching rays
of the summer sun—without food and scanty
supply with the means to procure a subsistence for them-
seives or families, and, it is feared, with but
few to sympathize with them in their growing woe—fear still reuniting the ailing
and the disposition to relieve their necessities
to go to prevent their actual starvation.

Their only mode of sustaining life is to
obtain employment in picking out cotton in the region of Country not overflowed, the
influx of immigration into which will, doubtless, be so great as to cause quite a
depression in prices. The towns and cities can afford them no remunerative employment, so
the misfortunes of the interior will have a re-
proach influence upon them, causing all branches
of trade and mechanisms to languish.

Now in this emergency, what shall be done for
the immediate relief of the destitute and
suffering Freedmen? This is a question which
must be met and decided at once.

It admits of no delay! It is suggested that
when the subsistence of the mulatto, that much
dickness of a fatal character, will inevitably
occur, the Freedmen are destitute of the means
either to procure proper medicine, or bury
doctors' bills. Shall they be permitted to lan-
guish and die without the hand of Christian
charity being stretched forth for their relief?

It is the concurrent testimony of all, cogniz
absorb much of their existence. So that the Freedmen can hope for but little aid from this source. It is to their Northern friends they must chiefly look and upon their charities they must rely for relief. And shall they appeal to them in vain? We trust not! We believe not! With that system and promptness, characteristic of Northern benevolence, their conditions and wants will be ascertained and relief at once afforded.
An appeal for aid for the Freedmen of Texas

By an unprecedented overflow of several of the water courses of Texas, a large number—some have estimated it as high as ten thousand—freedmen have lost their all—have been thrown out of house and home and have nothing but the proceeds of their daily labor on which to subsist.

This overflow recurring in the middle of July, the season is entirely too far advanced to plant another crop. Besides fences are washed away, houses destroyed, farming utensils lost, and the farms in no condition for cultivation even if in season. In the sections of country devastated by this overflow not more than one third of a crop has been realized since emancipation. So that—however industrious they may be—they have no chance to accumulate property.

Very few of them possess homes of any kind. They were generally cultivating rental land, or farming in shares with the owners of the soil. Few received wages, and fewer still were owners of the soil they cultivated. So the disaster occasioned by the overflow has left them entirely destitute and in a truly deplorable condition. Their former owners, for whom
Many of them were working, sharing in the same misfortunes, are not in a condition, even if they were ever so well disposed, to aid the freedmen. In the effort which will doubtless be made to assist the owners of the soil, the reeler, Crapper and kindling blackjacks will to a great extent be overlooked and the poor freedmen will be left in his poverty and deprivations to bear his privations and sufferings as best he may! It is to be feared that sickness will run rampant upon the rising of the waters, and that many for want of the actual necessaries to sustain life, will die—especially in regard to women and children who will be exposed to the infection, to the infected atmosphere without food to eat or clothing to protect them from the sun or rain. The white population in their vicinity is unable to aid them, and they make our humble but urgent appeal to the sympathizers with suffering humanity everywhere for any aid they may be disposed to render to this unfortunate portion of the human family. Immediate action is desired! To lend a hand be haste!
Albany. July 22, 1847.

My Dear Sir: Howard,

I suppose where you have not forgot that when
I had the pleasure I met you at Judge Harris', where you were so kind as to intimate
your willingness to render such aid as might be convenient
to you in making out my Autographic Collection, illustrative of the War of the Revolution. I have been upon the
points of writing you the half a dozen times since, but have been delayed by the apparent
reason that the Juries de
volving upon you were too in
portant to justify me in taking the slightest draft upon

W. H. Schuyler
Jan 14, 1859.
if you will allow me to send you the names of those whose autographs I already possess. I suppose were prominent on both sides, with a request that you will correct the list, either by adding to, or subtracting from it. And I will even venture to say that if you have any unimportant letters in notation from eminent individuals connected with the war, not included in my list, which you can spare with perfect confidence, I shall receive them with thankfulness. I only add that you will confer an additional favour upon me if you will suggest some.

For the favor I am asking, if gives me great pleasure to follow you in your philanthropic labors about the country. I have read I have the very pleasing testimonies which are being constantly circulated in respect to your useful, Christian life. May a kind Providence spare you long as an example of high military energy, & skill in connection with an earnest & devoted religious character.

I have been in the civil list for a week or two past which must be very apologize for writing this letter. By an announcement, I trust
Leavenworth, Kans., July 22, 1869.

Gen. O. J. Howard
Washington, D.C. Dear Sir: I am requested by some of the leading colored men of this city to write to you to ascertain upon what basis a Civil Company could be organized here, with the privilege of using muskets for the purpose of drilling etc. or has the general government made any provision for the purpose of granting arms to such Civil Companies who are organized with the sanction of the governor of the State and the Mayor of the City. The colored people of this city are anxious to have a Civil Company organized on such a basis.

Finding that you will answer this letter at your earliest convenience have the honor to be your most obedient,

P.M. Lyons.
Portland, July 22, 1869

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

Sir - I feel that I am invading an valuable time, and taking a liberty, but I will endeavor to be brief, and hope you will not think it ill in me addressing you. I was born, converted to God, through Jesus Christ, last April. Since then I have had a strong desire to become a minister of the gospels. I know it is a great thing for a human being to look forward to, but I do believe love once frustrated all my desires if they are better not accomplished, and will aid one if I am in the right. Believing this, I write you for advice, and I beg of you to bear with me a little if I intrude a part of myself upon your attention. I am twenty-four years of age...
My friend, I feel the necessity of giving you a truthful account of myself in regard to a college tuition. Having
only escaped from the ruin of it, experience in regard to a college tuition being
and that, even, may come we well at some necessary in the entering a theological
future day. Of course I regret all the by-
gones, but I also strive to forget them. I
had once the privilege of attending college
and was partly gifted, but never dreamed
that the man would ever live to mourn
the lay's folly. I left school for drugging it will take, and if I am thirty-
years of age before I begin to spread
and today, I've just myself to start
with and no more. This is what I am.
I hope during the coming two years to
be enabled to get myself for college
out of unused time at the store and
if any health permits and do it, and
also lay by something to start with.
Now I intend to make the plunge
and endeavor to swim through all the
difficulties or drown. Does it seem sen-
timental, I ask you, sir? I hope not, I write
you from my heart. Remember of me
only what I have written you can you

Yours very sincerely,

John J. Blair.
Jan. 4th, 1869.

My dear Mr. [Name],

I desire, if possible, to engage you for a lecture to be delivered in this city some Friday evening during the next winter, or early spring. If you are able to secure it, please let me know upon what terms, and also supply me with your "subject." The course on which I am arranging will include lectures by Geo. W. Curtis, E. H. Chapin, Geo. H. Hepworth, Anna Dickinson, Geo. Vanderhoff (reading), Rev. A. Manning, and (we confidently hope) H. W. Beecher. We are very desirous to add to the

[Signature]
the list, and hope to do so at an early date, as may be practicable. The
rights not yet taken are as follows: Oct. 19, Dec. 14, Dec. 28,
and Jan. 18. If you prefer to go later in the season than the date last given
please name any Thursday night after
words, measuring by fortnights from
that time. If you cannot possibly
accept any offers of the Thursday I give
you please name some other Thursday
between Oct. 19 and Feb. 1, 07.

Of course you understand that I prefer the rights named.

July Louis,
Frederick Crane.

Gen. Howard.