

ace from obeying its dictates -

The Secretary of War, Genl. Belknap,
has assuad me of a place but is
slow in the fulfillment of his promise
& my pecuniary embarrassment is
so great that I am compelled to ask
if you can give me a place, I can
not what it is General, & will
convince you of my gratitude by
my earnest endeavor to merit it.

I am able to refer you to the
Hon. Senator Morrill of Vermont,
Senators Nye & Conkling who will
tell you of the infamous treatment
I have received through those to
whom I would be generous & impute
no unworthy motives if silence
would not be an injustice to my-
self - I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.

E. H. Benson

B - 21² - Ms. 2. 1870

629. Pa. Ave.

Washington D.C.

January 19th 1870.

My Genl O. O. Howard

U.S. Army.

General:

I have the honor to state
that shortly after my return from N.Y.
where I met you at the Astor House in
May last, I had the misfortune to be
deprived of my situation in the Office
of the Genl. Grant where I had for some
time been employed faithfully and
honorably discharging the duties
which were assigned me, as the Enclo-
sed letter of Genl. Meigs and Copy of
Endorsement of Genl. Grant will show,
and to which I have the honor very
respectfully but earnestly to invite
your kind attention, also to the fact
that of the number of Clerks discharged
from the Bureau where I was employed

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& which is under the supervision of General A. D. Terry, every one had been soldiers in the Army, while several were retained who were known to have been not only in sympathy with the rebellion, but had at the early stage of the war aided and abetted its progress. This with other proofs of injustice & the names of several disloyal parties, were afterwards presented to the late Hon. Secy of War, General Rawlins, who immediately caused their discharge.

When of those who are sent to another and doubtless a bitter world, we speak in terms of praise, as all (who in their thoughts & actions are governed by those principles which characterize the conduct, and regulate the deportment of all good people) must do - in speaking of the late General Rawlins, it may not be deemed an unwarrantable one

of his name for me to state that he personally assured me of a place, the enclosed copy of a letter recently given me for General Belknap, Secy of War, by the Pay-master General who called upon the late Genl Rawlins in my behalf, will show his kind intention to provide for me -

I have General, suffered more than can be expressed rather than regard to this esteemed necessity of soliciting your sympathy & interest in my behalf because I have felt ashamed to approach you, notwithstanding disgrace in my life contracted and obligation to anyone which I regard more as a debt of honor than the one for which I am still indebted to you, please do not think unkindly of me, my heart is good, my Conscience clear of any willful intent to wrong anyone, but misfortune has presented



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A. S. Patent Office,

Washington, D. C., Jan 19, 1870.

Dear Gen:

Will you
please give me the
full name of Mr
Carliss of Providence
who subscribed \$500
for our church.

Very truly yours
L. Deane

May Gen Howard,
Washington.

R. S. Vol. 1. 1870

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Washington D.C. Jan 19th 1870
Dear O. O. Howard.



Dear Sir.

I learned a few days since, that you desired to purchase a one horse carriage. If you are still in want of such an article, I should ^{be} pleased to have you examining one at Messrs Wallis and Durham's Shop on 6th St. near the Canal, that I desire to sell at a bargain to the purchaser.

Very truly yours
J. C. Robbins

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B-16-206 1870 21
January (Sextu) 23
Jan 20. 1870.

Massachusetts

Dr General

The Methodist Conference
(North) met here last Sabbath
and is over. The mass of
ignorance in the ministry ^{is} ~~is~~
of which an colored
man heart-breaking. I dont
speak of Collegiate Educa-
tion. That is not to be
expected of them - but in
the most elementary parts
of education they are
almost wholly deficient.
Report too are greatly to the
prejudice of their moral
character of many of them.
Want of Charity in their
great deficiency while
their ministers are unchaste.

much elevation of the female character cannot be expected and what can be expected of the rising race while Mother are misuse. My brother! the Freedmen must have a pure ministry before much elevation can be expected of them! In general the more intelligent of the colored men have no raport for the colored ministry. It is over the woman they exert an influence; and in many instances I fear a very pernicious one. Can not a pure ministry randomly done be furnished the freedmen of Texas? I don't ask for learned but a pure ministry and a ministry who have "added to their faith some knowledge".

I could indicate several parts at which such a ministry could obtain support and as midgoon Can they be obtained?

Genl Providence seems to have raised you up specially to devote the Freedmen and Suppl to you as their special friend. Can't you make the way by wh we can be supplied with a pure ministry brother.

I see that a newspaper is to be published at Washington City for Freedmen - an excellent idea! Please send me Prospectus & specimen copies. Any Report or other documents you care for we afford will be thankfully received. Yours truly,
James Park

C. S. Vol. 1. 1870

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Washington Jan 25th '70
Gen O'Sullivan
Sir

at the War
Department I here now say that
you thought Army officers were
sometimes too severe on Contractors
and Bonawmer you also said
to me any thing you could
do to assist me through
the difficulty you would gladly
do for which I feel thankful
now my case is before the
Judiciary Committee Gen Butler
is on that Committee I intent
a letter to the Gen expressing the
same view as the War dep

and if you have learned
my history enough to speak
in my behalf in this case
I think it would do me on
our cause good we have done
no wrong only made a
mistake I do not want you
to know that I have asked
to write but all this you
understand better than I do
will confer a great favor on
me by writing on my behalf
soon

Hastfully yours
C Cooper



C. S. W. I. 1870 73
Quartermaster General's Office,

Washington, D. C., Jan'y 20 1870

Brigadier O. O. Howard
Commissioner Freedmen's Bureau
Washington. D. C.
General:

There will be a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Print Stock Company J. M. C. at the Banking House of Jay Cooke & Co - on Monday Jan'y 24th at 3 P.M. when
consider a claim of the Con-
tractor for \$17,517.85 - for
extra work - Your Obd. Servt

James A. Ellsworth
Secretary



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J. H. M. 1. 1870

Genl. Howard

This little
note is from
a son of Rev
Mr Bascom of
Princeton -
when you know
well - He is
a fine young
man - Graduated
very high at
Beloit this..

He is a
fine fellow, and
I think will be
a good teacher

Is there any
opening for
him?

I am &
S. L. Penney



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Princeton Dec. Jan'y 20 1870

Dear Uncle,

I am now
ready to enter on the
duties of a teacher
in Howard University.

And as I have nothing
else to do just now I
am ready to go almost
any where to teach.

Perhaps Mr. Howard
has something which I
might do.

I should like to go
South, but should prefer to
teach languages. In want
of such a place I am ready

for almost anything

Truly Yours

Jno. Clark Bascom

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Boston
JAN 24 1870

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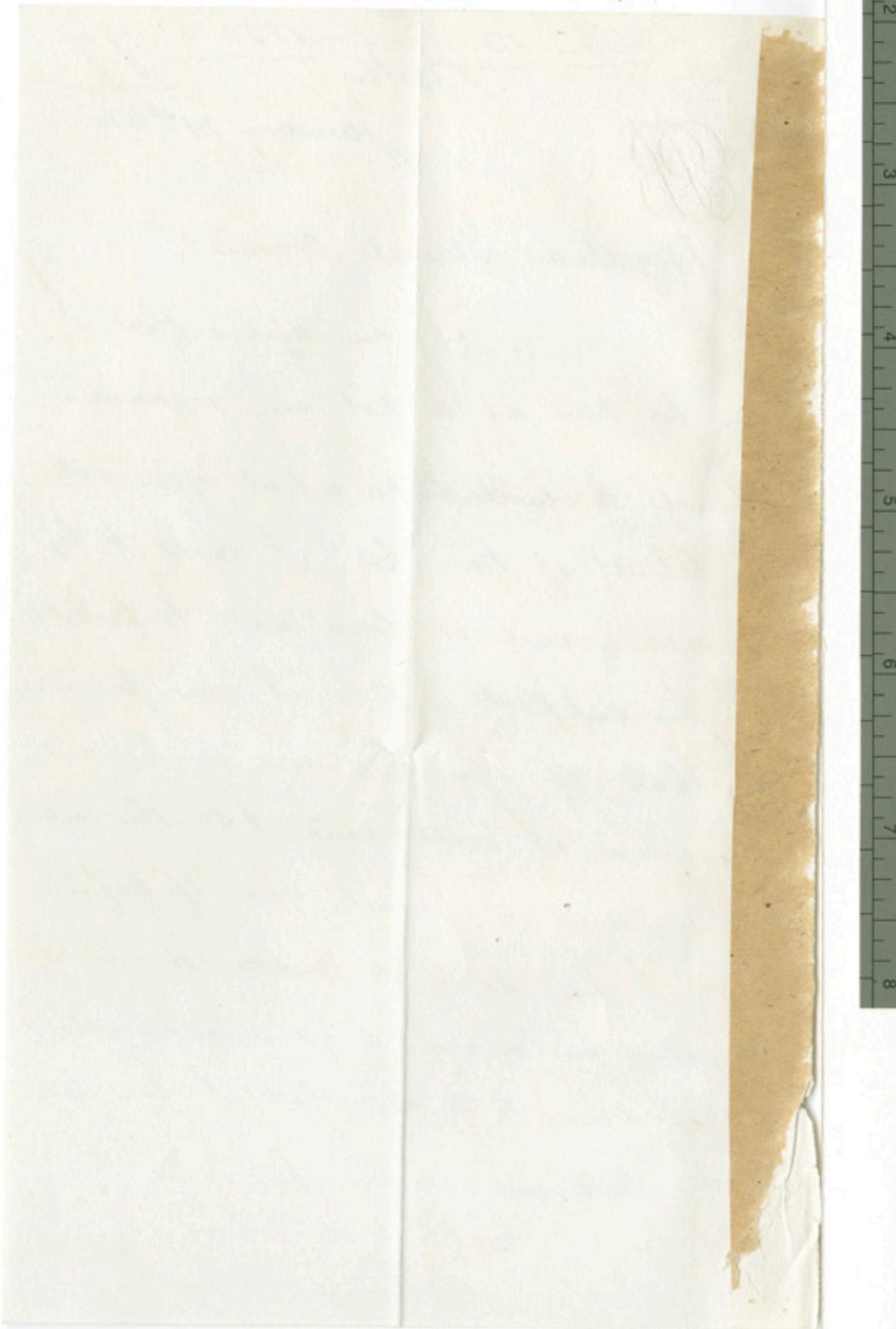
January 31st 1870

BB

My dear General Howard

I am afraid that I
am too new at a not very vigorous
church to undertake what you ask
in behalf of the Lord. I could be by
no means sure of being able to provide
for his support - all I can promise
is that if the rest can be raised
elsewhere I will send \$50 this year
and continue it next year if possible.

I am sorry to make so unsat-
isfactory an answer to your application
but it seems to be all that I can say
now - With much regard I am
most sincerely yours
William Brooks



P.S. This call, with similar request,
is forwarded to eminent clergymen
of all denominations, including
Bps. Simpson & Scott of the M.E. Ch.
Bps. Blanchard, Cong. Bishops
McIlvaine and Huntington.
Prot. Epis. Dr. Miner of Boston, N.H.
Prof. Taylor Lewis, Reformed, &c.
all of whom have previously
given their cordial support
to the proposed amendment.
I send it also to the Superintendents
of Public Education in the
different States.

Please address as above
and add postage.
I will do my best to
see that it reaches you
as soon as possible.
Yours very truly
John D. C. Jones



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1329 Vine St. Philada.
January 21. 1870.

PRIVATE
Gen. O. O. Howard,
Dear

Dear Sir:-

Allow me to

place in your hands a draft of
a Call for a National Conven-
tion, with the request that you
will append to it your signa-
ture.

We desire to see a distinct acknowledgement of Almighty God and the supreme authority of his moral laws, in the National Constitution because the Constitution is the highest sovereign act of the nation, and it is therefore not only proper but in the highest sense necessary that in that act we make some acknowledgement of the Supreme Governor of nations from whom we have our national Existence and to whom we are, in our public capacity account-

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relative to ant past
political powerfull
Howard D. D. my
indwell
own worth
effort is about now in vain.
now I do not know if it is
anyhow important all these will
expire very soon I need go this
matter is all at once off our
should of themselves and the
protection would not be
available at all time but
it will be a great convenience if
there is no cause consideration
expirations here will be valid
and in time another will follow
whatever record I do not know
that process comes before
one before we have had in
with themselves and the
way which to now and enough
so much now and the number
we are without now and
thus so far as nothing is being done in

longer retaining other than this until I can
able. The rightfulness and propri-
ety of such acknowledgements
on the part of governments
was distinctly recognized in
all our early state Constitu-
tions and is still in most of
them. At the time of its formation,
the National Constitution was the
only document of its kind, ~~in the~~
which we had ever framed without
such recognition. The recent
efforts to exclude the Bible from
the public schools and the fact
that, even with a large class of
christian people, the silence of
the Constitution on this respect
is a chief argument in favor of
such exclusion, indicate with
sufficient plainness that the time
has fully come to supply this long
tolerated defect.

Hoping you will take please
use in adding your name,
I remain Yours truly,
F. P. Stevenson
Genl of Howard. ^{Co. Lee} (over)

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CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION
*Of Almighty God and the Christian Religion in
the United States.*

CALL FOR A NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The Constitution of the United States makes no acknowledgment of Almighty God, the Author of national existence; nor of Jesus Christ, who is the Ruler of Nations; nor of the Bible, which is the fountain of law and good morals as well as of religion. This has from the beginning been a matter of deep regret. It may have been an oversight, but it was, and it is, both an error and an evil. It does not reflect the views of the great majority of the people upon these great matters. It dishonors God. It is inconsistent with the character of nearly all our State Constitutions and with all the precedents of our early history. It has introduced views and measures which are now struggling for a baneful ascendancy in State and national politics: such as, That civil government is only a social compact; That it exists only for secular and material, not for moral, ends; ~~That it is not the province of government to suppress wickedness, as a moral wrong but only as an injury to man;~~ That Sabbath Laws are unconstitutional, and that the Bible must be excluded from our Public Schools. It is easy to see that laws for the prevention of Intemperance, Blasphemy, Impurity or Cruelty, may be objected to on the same grounds. And indeed we may expect that Law itself will be defined to be the mere advice of the majority, with no proper penalty but the disapprobation of the public.

The National Association which has been formed for the purpose of securing such an amendment to the Constitution of the United States as will remedy this great defect and indicate that we are a christian nation, invite all American citizens who favor such an amendment, without distinction of party or creed, to meet in convention in Pittsburg, on the ~~22d~~ day of ~~February~~ next, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

*Probably March
1st.*

(WILLIAM STRONG,
(Late of Supreme Court of Penna.)
President of National Association.

*The undersigned concur
in the foregoing call:*

T6



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Arlington House

Thursday evg

[C.R. Jan 21, 1870]

My Dear Friend,

Could I have
felt sure of finding you at
home this evg I should have
driven out to see you,

I am here with Mrs
Strat, Mr & Mrs R L Strat
and Mrs Dr Hale and am
all anxious to pay our respects
to you but fear we may
not be able to command
the time, as we have much
to see to-morrow, & leave early
on Saty. We have been



so occupied since our
arrival that we have not
yet been able to see either
House of Congress and must
get there to-morrow after
visiting the Smithsonian Institute,
If I do not get out to
see you I will thank you
to kindly remember me to
Mr Howard. He has

Yrs in X² love
Geo. H. Strat.

Mr W. E Dodge & Lady are also
at this house & occupy the next
room to us -