Perkins Institution and Massachusetts Asylum for the Blind,

Boston, April 11, 1870.

Mr. Dempsey B. Sherrod.

Sir:—I have received a pamphlet, made up, mainly, of certificates of persons whom you have persuaded that you are honestly trying to promote the education of the Blind in the United States, by printing embossed books.

The first, is one written by me, before I knew you personally; merely wishing you success in your undertaking.

This is a dishonest use of my name; because, if my opinion is worth anything to the public, you should print the one I formed after observing your course; and which I gave you, to your face, two years ago; to wit: that I had lost all faith in you, and in your professions.

You have been at work many years, professedly to print books for the Blind. You have raised thousands of dollars.* You have lived upon the fat of the land. You have procured the passage of one of the most extraordinary acts ever passed by a Legislative body — the act by which you and your sister (who is not blind) are quartered for life upon the Mississippi State Institution for the Blind. An act utterly inconsistent with the object of that Institution, which is mainly for the education of young blind persons. An

* The Trustees of the American Printing House for the Blind, established in Louisville, Ky., are eminent and reliable gentlemen. There is much significance in the following passage from their last Report:

"Mr. D. B. Sherrod acted as Agent of this Institution for a few weeks in 1859 and 1860; but he was not authorized by this Board to solicit donations, nor did he ever make a financial report to the Board, nor pay any money to the Treasurer of this Institution. The Trustees of this Institution deem it their duty to the public to state distinctly that no person has ever been authorized to use the name of this Institution, the name of this Board, or the name of any member of this Board, in connection with any printing institution for the blind, except the "American Printing House for the Blind," which, by the united action of several States, has been permanently established in Louisville, Kentucky."
act against which, the Trustees of that Institution have been obliged to protest; because it is one of scandalous favoritism.†

In all this time; with all these advantages; with all this money — you have not given to the Blind any books at all. On the other hand, you have done harm to the cause of their education, by raising false hopes; by bringing them into disrepute through your life and example; and by keeping honest and earnest laborers out of the field.

With due consideration,

Yours,  
SAMUEL G. HOWE.

† The Trustees of the Mississippi State Institution for the Education of the Blind, in one of their Reports, say:—

"We would respectfully request the repeal of the act approved Aug. 12th, 1864, for relief of Dempsey Sherrod, said act placing said Sherrod permanently in the Institution, and also his sister, a young lady with full sight, twenty years old, to be educated and boarded by the State, free of expense so long as he may choose to enter himself as a pupil.

We know of no reason for granting such special privileges to Mr. Sherrod, rather than to any other respectable blind person in the State.

Mr. Sherrod deserves great credit for his efforts in raising by subscription, &c., large sums of money, to print books for the Blind; but it has always been understood that he was well paid for his services as agent, by the Trustees of the fund so raised. If he has not been so paid, the Trustees should at once pay him a fair reward, out of funds now in their hands.

His claim for support is on the Trustees of the fund so raised, not on the State, which contributed very liberally to the fund, nor on the Institution for the Blind, which has never received any benefit from said fund, either directly or indirectly up to the present time.

Mr. Sherrod finished his education in this school many years ago. He has entered himself as a pupil, for the last five years. His sister has been educated in the Institution as a day pupil, two years, and for two years has been furnished with board and tuition, free of expense, making four years in all."
New York 11 April 1840

My Dear Sir,

Yours of the 7th inst was duly received, and I perceive you had not enough in the "Freedmen's Relief Fund" to meet the engagement of yours of the 21 January, but hoped to have it before you would turn over the Bureau to another if Congress should pass the pending bill. I also note you wrote me again soon.

I am indignant at the attack made upon you by Fernando Wood in the House, which I suppose he has been instigated to do by some of those who took so active a part in the church difficulties some time ago. It is a great trial of faith to have our efforts to do good misrepresented, and our character maligned, especially by those who have once been our friends, with whom we have taken sweet counsel, act to the interests of the Kingdom of Christ. Such however, appears to have been the experience of many of the Children of God from David's time to the present, including our blessed Savior, who was the most conspicuous example, and assured us the servant was not alone his master.

You have my deep sympathy in this trial, and I pray that God will turn "the counsels of your enemies into foolishness," causing you to triumph over them, as I doubt not that he will.

Most sincerely yours,

C. F. Blake
I am not sure what you mean by "remarke as soll wijll" and "De ontvanger." It is unclear what you are trying to convey in these sentences.

The other part of your letter is difficult to decipher due to the handwriting. It seems you are discussing something related to work, possibly mentioning "de belastinge" and "de belastinge." It could be about obligations or responsibilities, but the context is not clear.

If you could provide more information or clarify your intention, I would be better able to assist you.
Col. Office H.R.N.S.
Washington, D.C. April 11, 1870

(Confidential)
Genl O. O. Howard

As John G.,
General a clerk in
your bureau, please
inform me of the
bearer Mr. Holson

[Signature]

Please also inform me
on above recommendation
in our appointment.
House of Representatives, Committee Room
Education and Labor, April 11, 1870

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard

Sir: I am instructed by Hon. E. M. Atwood, Chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor, to forward you the accompanying copy of the Rules adopted for conducting the investigation of the charges preferred against you by Hon. Fernando Wood, of New York, and to notify you that the investigation will be commenced, in the room of the Committee, on Wednesday, the 18th inst., at 10 A.M.

Respectfully,

A. F. Boyle
Chairman

Agenda of
Hon. E. M. Atwood
Chairman
Richmond, April 11, 1870.

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

Sir:

You are respectfully invited to attend the Celebration of the Adoption of the Fifteenth Constitutional Amendment, to be held in this city, on the 20th instant.

Please signify your acceptance of this invitation.

JNO. OLIVER, Ch'n Com. Arrangements,
PETER WOODFOLK,
ALBERT BROOKS,
W. H. LESTER,
JAMES BURRELL,
E. V. CLARK.

LANDON BOYD, Sec'y.
Dear General,

I am anxious to serve you in any way in my power. I was on duty at Arlington (formerly Fort) where you were first placed in charge of the Bureau of R. E. A. and since that time I have done no other duty, have served as an officer under you.

My experience at Arlington might perhaps make me an important witness before the Congressional Committee and if so I will be very glad to attend.

I am, truly yours,

[Signature]

May 4th, 1870
Washington, D.C.
Sirs,

Certain papers are about to be sent to Mr. W.T. Wood, in reference to yourself and brothers, who, if made public, will materially affect your characters. The information was reached through a servant, whom I am induced to believe can obtain possession of them for a trifling sum.

I shall of course be prudent enough to call his names at present, and wait to hear from you on the subject. What is done must be done within five days, at which time I hope to hear from you by return mail.

Your friend,

[Signature]

Richmond, Va.

I give no list of names for presidential reasons.

Address, P.O.
Ruckle Pt., Me.
April 12th, 1870


Dear General,

I was extremely pleased to see the attack of Fernando Wood upon you in the House. It was a distressing thing, but it will result in good to you by enabling you to vindicate your integrity in office. Our trustees and myself feel alike with regard to the matter. We can, I can, reassure you of me or two of the charges, and I of course, gladly do whatever is necessary to do so. You may command me in any way. I have the fullest confidence in your Christian character and integrity and all my knowledge of you goes to strengthen that confidence. Such a man as Wood cannot understand either your nature or acts, and if he could, would bluster you for political purposes, I have known about your enemies, and I

[Signature]

[Stamp: RECEIVED APR 14 1870]
Bury fame in the byrum and understand your purposes which are right and honorable. I know all the circumstances of the transfer of property to Washington to one school and in it. There was nothing that any person can unto properly evidence.

I believe in you and nothing that any one could say would lift a load man, can shake my confidence.

God will sustain you and make your righteousness as clean as their morning.

Make my kind regards to all around.

Let me hear from you, I do only a line.

If I can be of any service in the investigation, I will cheerfully under it.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
Washington, D. C.,
April 12th, 1870.

Gentlemen,

Sir. The Citizens' Committee of One Hundred and Fifty will meet at Union League Hall, 9th st., near E, on Wednesday evening, April 13th inst., at half-past seven o'clock, to hear the report of the Campaign and other sub-committees, and to transact other business that may come before the meeting. A full attendance is requested.

GEO. P. FISHER,
President.
Washington, D.C.

Apr. 12, 1870

My dear O.C. Howard, M.C.

My dear friend,

I arrived in town last night, having been summoned by a telegram from a friend here who informs me that an effort is in progress to have an amount from the position of Postmaster at Culpeper, C.H. set aside. I shall make an effort to see you before I leave town.

I learn that Mr. McClellan has been from the list of Gettysburg, the person who is urging the thing on behalf of a gentleman by the name of Jenkins of Culpeper, C.H. He is not friendly to the present administration.

Yours truly,

[Signature]
any and all charges that may be brought against me. Will you do me the kindness to either see the Postmaster Genl or Camp Genl and mention my behalf. The best that I can do to hold position under the B. of T. is what has brought this whole movement. I shall try to see my Blaine & clap.

I am Sir,

Very truly &
Respectfully,

F. H. Mac
P.M.

Capt. Busrest &
Capt. B. of T. will at
Washington Va. & elsewhere
28 London Block
Chicago, April 12, 1870

My dear brother,

Your kind letter giving me some idea of Maj. Eldredge's feelings and what he treasures in his mind as my errors seem to come yesterday. I could not feel pleased or grateful that anything I had done or seemed to have done or said should reflect against the cause of personal religion, injure my own influence for good with any living soul and especially tend to disfigure the Christian name.

But I have never intentionally injured any person and did not know until now that Maj. Eldredge thought so. I will make any reparation of my own in my power. I felt great that Maj. Eldredge seemed (from his writing to speak with me) to cherish her's feeling of some kind, but I think not know the exact nature of them.
I will later up each matter mentioned by you as they are in your jurisdiction officially. I was not considering guilt of a man, bring action in any one of the instances named. You can throw this to Maj. E. or not as you may see fit. I write with him & letter and desirous to which you may present to you write in person.

As to a "promin" I retain him if course it is a matter of memory as to exact words used and I make me at bestowed to recollect but I know I never promised any employee what I was commission to have employed what I was commissioned I had not the power to fulfill. He was mistaken in his understanding of me. I dis not even promise myself that I would be returned - I hope having the chance leniency on an act of personal kindness and not that there were not many offices and not that there were not many offices - his act of appearing in act, which conexao a loss to the Government, and which I did not approve was only the occasion of his immediate discharge from a c. c. c. officer. Again act of feeling of sympathy for him to his family I second...
(3) to place for him at the Hospital. I did this with considerable difficulty, getting the ill will of others who thought was preferred to them.

As to insinuating manners, I confess, it is not remember anything of the kind and words have been saying. The next moment if I am a heart of injustice I utter on unkind word — in the way of these times when I was particularly disposed at the act referred to I might have taken with harshness — I used often to feel sorry for injustice which I knew was going in my official life at Washington.

I never charged him with bribery. If I could have proved it that would have been preferred to some非常多的 must have furnished his mind to the extent, and I never believed he was bribed. I might have had a suspicions thought when I found there in my own office had proved untrustworthiness. Sometimes I used to think almost no one was to be trusted. Prevented him from doing mileage — here he is mistaken — The statement I will remember.
he dared to write with a lot of
form and freedom. There were
other reasons, but to accompany them
and other agents were ready to go. My
officers were miles - I formed his
squad enough were required to escort
the envoy - as the Ensign to bring back his
family. Finally an order was
taken (but not very cheerfully) from
the Ensign - 

Agent General Miles - My

I did go but I was a bit doubtful, he
(Elbridge) thought I might have secured his
support for him. I feel some doubt whether I
ought to have the matter in as much as
my agent cared as the business. But I
was promised by no unkind feeling toward
Elbridge. As to my former Miles

I never had anything to do or say about the order.

Agent of the & I always some
was written to inform of the order, always some
it me. I believe Elbridge's appointment was as an
agent. As to going to Maine I ne-
quarters in order to accompany the freed people to Brownsville where we
first stopped - going there. I hoped to find
rooms for a large number from the
representatives of the owners. I was always
sad I went personally because I did
not find the homes such as to warmth
and fancy. I also was a bit of
conclude to provide for the instances
of that kind - and to look at certain de-
lays of suffering of freedmen in court.
I never made a trip more fraught with
good to the people whom I was trying
to benefit. I believe I spent our day (Sunday)
with my wife. — As to homes
I used the last quarter term both for
public & private letters — writing often
my business with my pleasure ideas as
you are well aware — taking my family
& Brown home to where I had occasion
to go — I did not go beyond the vicinity of
all other General Officers. As I knew I
generally had one or three months being there
more or less. Constantly in the pub-
lic service — At one time (to which Maj. E. etc.)
...and I had a private room at
with a copy of the police at the Bridge

did not present any difficulty for my own
The public houses were frequented by the

I afterwards bought an

I have seen a copy of the statement for I

I have not made one.

I have just received a letter and card from

I have not received a copy of the statement for I

I have not received a letter from Mr. Eldridge, I have

I have not received a letter from Mr. Eldridge, I have

I have not received a letter from Mr. Eldridge, I have

I have not received a letter from Mr. Eldridge, I have
Boston Apr 13, 1870

Dear C.C. Howard,

Dear Brother,

I am sorry not to come as I
be at the installation
of Dr. Rantow, but I
think I must go to Chi
go, the week following.
I do not see how it
is possible to be absent
for two weeks. I shall be
with you in spirit.

I am not at all surprised to see
Nord's charges against
you. I know no man
who has been trusted
with such unlimited
money as myself. Any
Corrupt laws we feel sure that you must make to keep us out of capture still if they.
He cannot conceive of any other result of seceded opportunities. But I do not expect that even the small fire will be found in our demands. Nor will the people suspect you or fail to back from me. I do like to hand by you, more it necessary in any way in all they's. This was the way what is necessary to bring out what you have done, what our liberties confidence has been placed in me of how faithful I have this hour.
April 13, 1870

Washington, D.C.

Mr. 13th, 1870.

Dear General:

You have a fine morning, on which to begin your visit to the Committee. We are all full of sympathy for you, not to say for your successes & complete vindication. Meanwhile, I want to transcribe some of the words that came from some of our delegates. Dr. Melis, who will not be here, says: "I should like to take Gen. Howard by the hand, I say to him, "Your devo-
strangers are dear, I believe.

A lawyer in Boston, who will be here as delegate writes: "Let the man have the sympathy of all good people here. We hope and believe that he will come from the furnace, without as much as the smell of fire upon him.

May God of Jacob shield you, as in the day of battle, in the midst of prayer of

Your affectionate Father,

E. C. Hawthorn
The colonel intends to this and the other districts, Designating the passage of the 15th Amendment, in order to its adoption as a part of the Constitution of the U.S. on Tuesday the 25th.

I beg to honor your attendance on that occasion and participate in its festivities in each manner as shall be more agreeable to your interest and wish.

Very truly yours,

R. H. Folger
Corresponding Sec.
“What will a man give in exchange for his soul?”

Rooms of Young Men’s Christian Association,

Indianapolis, Apr 15, 1870

Genl. O.O. Howard,

Washington,

Dear Sir,

You are probably aware that the next Convention of the Y.M.C.A. Association meets in this city during the 4th week in June. We are very anxious to have you present with us on that great occasion and would extend to you a very cordial invitation to come.

An early answer would greatly oblige.

Very truly yours,

John Dixon

Chm.
Howard Metes

April 13, 1870

My Gen. Howard

Sir: I beg to inform you that the Commission for Education and Labor arrived a package of books from your bureau, this morning, except Mr. LeGrand W. Pierce, of Miss., owing probably to the fact that his name does not appear in the Congressional Directory.

Will you be kind enough to see that a similar package is sent to him to-morrow morning.

Respectfully,

A. E. Boyles

Washington
Washington City, D. C.

Gen. O. O. Howard

The pleasure of your company is respectfully solicited, on Thursday Evening, April 14, at 8 o'clock, at the private residence, No. 374, cor. 10th street and Massachusetts Avenue, to partake of a glass of wine, and to witness a Dramatic Reading by a distinguished Amateur, who is anxious to exhibit his powers to a few friends, preparatory to a Public Exhibition in behalf of the Orphans of this city.

Respectfully,

W. S. Huntington, Esq.  R. B. Lloyd, Jr.
Cashier 1st Nat. Bank.
Hon. James S. Negley, M. C.
Hon. M. C. Hamilton.  John Van Rie, Esq.