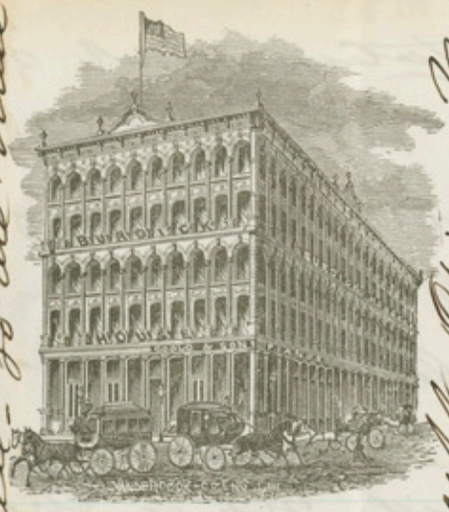

BURDICK HOUSE,

Cor. Wabash Ave. and Adams St.

MUNGER BROS. PROPRIETORS.

Chicago, Dec. 16 1873

Dear Brother

After a tiresome day in Chicago, running about, counselling with Chas about the Advance & you, writing a little for that and an editorial for the Inter-Ocean (which I fear will be mutilated) about your "case", I think I never was so grateful to God, as well as glad for myself, to have a nice room on the first floor of a neat hotel and a little time to say to you, God bless & helps you Otis, & I will do all He enables me to to sympathize, pray for & aid you against Heir enemies & your own. I was at Glencoe with Mother Chas & Kittie when your good letter came. The same thunder is more than wood for you. But nothing, except desertion & slander & poverty tests friendship & love better than illness. Then God loves you!! if we may judge by his chastisements. I fear you have a Judas near you & you will have a number of Peters to deny you. but be not afraid of them

On the floor & for all claims about how those children are well & so are mine

Well Otis - I
Now you stay
for me as the
Family messenger
Check close to
Geoff Mo
Rankin

I get home at
1 P.M. tomorrow

who can damage the reputation but not touch the character, who can kill the body but not the soul = Mother does not worry as I the used to - She said, "all that I have I want to use if necessary for any necessaries that Otis & Lizzie & the children may need" = She arranged with me to send Grace the money she needs in March - She may not go to Princeton for the winter = She so dreads the cold journey = Charles is well and earnest prosecuting plans to "carry" the Advance in which he has embarked about all he has - I can help him but not with money - I can help you too. but silver & gold I have none, nor anything corresponding - My church is prospering as well as usual - I send your letter to Gen Thomas & Charles wants Gen. S.s letter to you immediately - Helen is well and is just the reliable "lovable" and companionable Christian woman than I supposed = Laura writes that she wants to hear from you & your family - Chas sends her the Advance gratis = Give much love to dear Sister Lizzie & the children - Smith has not come from Minn: today as we expected = Eyes humble her, clothes her a cough & a blistered chest - She has a nice cosy room at Chas Chase's Hairs white her old parlor carpet

Committee on Military Affairs, H. of R.
Tuesday, Dec. 16, 1873.

Sir:

I am instructed by the Committee on Military Affairs to request you to be present at a meeting of the Committee which will take place to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A.M.

Very respectfully,

John Cabell
Chairman.

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

Office of THE ADVANCE,

No. 107 FIFTH AVE.

HOWARD, TURNER & Co.,
Publishers.

Chicago, Dec 16 1873

Dear Brother

Rowland has written since he came — We were glad to get a word from you — R. wrote something Mr. the Inter Ocean will print tomorrow — He will send you a copy —

Robert Sherman's letter to you & will state substance of yours & give his verbatim if I get it in time.

Your loss, as I need hardly say, our deep sympathy — I had not shown mother the letter of Mr's letter — Our Saviour's greatest suffering, I have long since concluded arose from the unmerited injuries from those who should have been his friends — those who represented

[illegible] united them within,
a Cause — I hope it will help
you the better to bear your
sufferings when you remember
this — and May God strengthen
your spirit by the free
communication of his own
unto you.

I believe Robinson & Pleight
have the necessary material —
Please just up Pleight to see
all the Sunday schools in
West Virginia, Clarksburg
& as many as practicable in
Baltimore for our Bible
Studies — We allow him
10 cts Expenses as pay — Orders
of 50 50 at 40 cts each & he
makes $5.00 I can send more
speaking copies of Thou & Adam
if required — I have sent you Adam
free for one year — Yes, they tried to

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Office of THE ADVANCE,

No. 107 FIFTH AVE.

HOWARD, TURNER & CO.,
Publishers.

Chicago, _____ 187

involve me & Rev. Williams in a recantation against Mr. Smith.

Did you see my denial. I pronounced Welch; charge a groundless falsehood and we therefore prepared to prove he told a base lie.

I hope your Convention will not continue.

We wish much to hear from you & from sister Lizzie.

Dedicated Mr. Smith some time this week.

I gave a letter to Mr. Hoberton of Minneapolis who has been very kind to me & is a fast friend to Mr & Mrs. Smith.

Yours Affectionately
C. H. Howard

Chicago
Dec. 16th 1879

Howard M.

A friendly letter.

Millbrook Ills
Dec 17. 1873

DEC 22

Dear General

When I wrote the enclosed last Sunday I felt utterly disgusted with the way they are treating you. I sent the original to Genl Logan for I know soldiers (brave ones) feel the most sympathy for one another.

I feel just as I have written, and sincerely sympathize with you in your persecution. I shall watch the result anxiously, but feel confident of the result if they give you a fair hearing

Truly your friend
J. B. Littlewood

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Millbrook Ill
Dec. 17 1873

Littlewood J. B.

Friendly letter.

Millbrook,
Kendall County, Illinois

December 14. 1873

Gen. John A Logan
Washington DC

Dear General:

In the Chicago Journal of last night I found Secretary Belknap's letter to the House, as he says, "calling attention to the defalcations in the accounts of General O. O. Howard of the Freedmen's Bureau."

Now I believe that General Howard has a friend in yourself, and it is for that reason, as well as your being the Senator from my own State that I now address you in his behalf.

While I was in the Army I was of your 3d Division (20th Ills. Infty) and very often employed on Courts Martial, in fact on nearly all ordered by you or Genl. McPherson. It was on this duty that my acquaintance with General Belknap began at Vicksburg, and on the appointment of a Judge Advocate for the Army of the Tennessee I was retained permanently at those Head Quarters. In this manner I was with General Howard after he assumed the command until his assignment as Commissioner at Washington. He then selected me to assist him in his new duties, and I was in time appointed Chief Clerk of the Bureau.

Thus I was brought intimately into connection with both the present Secretary & the Commissioner and from my knowledge of affairs up to the time of my resignation on account of ill health, I am

firmly of the opinion that come to sift the matter thoroughly the same conclusion will be arrived at as was before; that Genral Howard has deserved the thanks of the Country.

Secretary Belknap is not friendly both Genl. Howard to begin with, and instead of caring for the records of a Bureau which has done so much and cost so much, on its dissolution the books and papers, as you will find on inquiry, were carelessly piled in wagons, and as carelessly dumped on their arrival at the Adjutant Generals Office. The books and papers of the office while I was in charge were kept in a manner that I was proud of, and I endeavored to so arrange them that every subject which had ever been before the office could be traced step by step, and, if the papers had been filed in the office or not, the result found. I have no idea that it could be done now if they have been no better cared for since their reception than the style they were removed in.

The defalcations of Agents is the same in every Department. They have embezzled in the Treasury, but you have not called the Secretary before Congress for trial for it as for petty larceny.

There is a standing effort on the part of Fernando Wood to muddy General Howard's reputation in some way, and at the bottom of it is probably some trick of his that has been exposed by the General.

What General Belknap is so opposed to him about I do not know, only, I have known for about two years that any recommendation of General Howard's going to the War Dept would injure instead of helping a case. This persistent attacking of the General could not be worse if he had been spoken of as a candidate for the Presidency.

If Mr Wood or Secretary Belknap cannot unravel the accounts, call on General George W. Ballach who paid them and he can probably explain them satisfactorily to any unprejudiced mind. Let an inspection of the accounts be made by Genl. T. L. Lewall, and Major S. R. Clark who were Inspectors of the Bureau, and the misapplications specified will be shown in their true light. I do not ask any but the most rigid investigation, and that every fact be brought out that bears on the case, and when opened keep it open until the country is satisfied; Florindo Wood mean will see

There were no precedents to guide General Howard, but he sought advice, in every doubtful case where payments had to be made, of the officers of the Treasury Dept. before acting, and often obtained the written approval also of the Secretary of War, but much had to be decided by his own judgment, and in my opinion he always tried to do what was honest and right.

I hope his assailants will come out at the final investigation as well as I believe O. O. Howard will, for in all my intercourse with him, both official and personal, I never known him to act otherwise than a conscientious Christian.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
(Sd) James B. Littlewood M.D.

Copy.

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Washington D.C.
December 17th 1873

Hon. John Coburn,
Chairman Committee on Military Affairs
House of Representatives,

Sir:

In accordance with the request of yesterday, received from your Committee, I appear to make answer.

As preliminary to a formal rebutting of the charges contained in a letter of the Honorable Secretary of War dated Dec. 4th 1873, and referred to your Committee, permit me to state.

1st That I court the fullest possible examination into all the subjects therein named.

2nd Having never been averse to a trial by any proper tribunal, civil or military, upon official charges with any shadow of foundation, I deprecate the statement of my accuser that "a general court-martial became barred in part under statute of limitation", and if it be legally possible so to do,

I wish to waive all rights and privileges accorded me under such statute, to the end that the "public benefit" may receive no detriment.

3d. In considering the alleged irregularities and violations of law in the conduct of the late Freedman's Bureau, I am confident of my ability clearly to prove that, acting as Commissioner in an administrative capacity, I am neither morally nor legally responsible for either of the several counts set forth in the Secretary's letter; am therefore not personally or officially accountable for any portion of the sum which makes up the aggregate therein charged. Certainly it is against the usage of every department of the Government to hold me pecuniarily accountable for the defalcations of subordinate officers, where no collusion whatever is even claimed.

With this brief statement, I shall gladly submit to the examination and judgment of the Committee the work of the late Freedman's Bureau (or such portions of it as may be necessary): the manner of its performance, & my own record, official and personal, connected with it, with a view to a final & complete settlement of the questions at issue, which have been so annoying to my friends and such a prolific source of public scandal.

Very respectfully
W. P. Kimball
Brig. Gen. U.S.A.

(Copy)

Kingston, Tenn.,
Dec. 18, 1873.

Dear Sir:

I would respectfully call your attention to the fact that I have this day forwarded the Petition of John T. Brown, to Hon. Horace Maynard, to obtain Compensation for said Brown, for carrying the Burnside dispatch. You said in your letter of Sept. 25/73 & Nov. 3/73 that you would gladly give your testimony in his behalf.

Yours, truly,
W. H. Dietz,
Atty.

Genl.
O. O. Howard,
Washn.
D. C.

Madison Wis
Dec. 18th 1873

My Dear Genl

I enclose today a copy of one of our City papers in which you will find a short article from my pen - called forth by the democratic attacks on yourself - I anticipate a follow up from some of these papers here and unless they change their course shall give them as good as they send - I myself and all of your friends have have implicit faith in you and believe that you will come out all right - Gov. Washburn speaking to me this morning of the article referred to said that "it was just the thing and that he believed as I did that "you had been grossly deceived in some of your subordinates - upon whom the whole thing should rest". I write this and send this hoping thinking that a word of cheer from a friend may not be out of place at this time - Sorry wish that

I had it in my power to do more - Remember that I am ready to write for the papers on any at any time anything that I can that will be of service to you in this matter -

Mrs. Chase yesterday presented me with a fine healthy boy - our second child, Florence whom you will remember being born about five years ago. Mrs. Chase is as well as could be expected under the circumstances, and wishes to be kindly remembered to you -

With the sincerest confidence in your and with the earnest hope that this new loss will be but the prelude to a more glorious and happy future, in this life, than the past has been, I remain

Your very sincere friend
Walter H. Chase -

Genl O. O. Howard.
Washington D.C.

P.S. Col. W. R. Hunt formerly of your staff here and has just served the army and will say that he fully endorses all that I have said -

Chase

Office of A. ANNAN,

No. 40 BURLING SLIP.

New York, Dec 19 1873

Genl O. O. Howard
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir

I am induced to write to you ask if you have any influence with the Admistration since I am seeking Employment of some kind. Business with me is at a stand - nothing doing I would not ask you to interest yourself in my behalf - but my excuse is, I have no political influence besides I am in want of Employment to assist my family - My reference is - Genl W. H. Emory Dept Gulf

on whose [illegible] served
I might add some
position under the Gov't
in this - or the City of
Brooklyn, I should like
Respectfully Your
S. Arman

Georgetown Dec 19. 1873
(137 West Street)

Genl O. O. Howard
USA
Washington D.C.

General.

Under ordinary circumstances I would not think it my right to obtrude, but perceiving that you are surrounded by hostiles, I desire to say that I hold you in the highest estimation as a man and as a Christian gentleman.

Perhaps our limited acquaintance would not necessitate this expression, but the arrows of envy hatred, & malice, are flying thick, and I prefer to show my colors.

I am, General,

Yours truly
George

IRVING HOUSE,

Woolman Stokes & Son,

917 Walnut Street,

Philadelphia, Dec. 20 1873.

Dear General:

I feel it a duty under the present unusual of unfounded and malignant charges affecting your administration of the Freedmen's Bureau to tender to you, with undiminished respect, my hearty sympathy with you in this your day of trials.

I pray you keep up a good

good heart, will
eventually come out bright-
for you in the estimation
of every decent person in the
whole country.
It is a shameful thing that
there should be found any
person, whether in official
or private station, ready
to wound and tear the reputa-
tion and sensibilities of
one whose whole aim has
been patriotic and unselfish
as I know you have steadily
been. I write Eng & Chang

today, and he will write you
words of sympathy and cheer
more valuable a thousand
times than my poor expressions of
faith & confidence, but none
more sincere –

I sent you copies of the Bulletin
of yesterday and today containing articles of a pith and
humanity tone. You have
multitudes of warm friends –
I feel it was wisdom & yes –
also merit on a premature
effort to wear down and
discourage by charges against

given fair power.

I only wish that some means could be found to secure necessary & conspicuous retribution in this world for such cruel and villainous assaults.

Please give me your hearty aid for this intending my work JAN 5 1874 against this consummate wickedness.

Remain, as always,

Truly & respectfully yours

W. P. Dean

Rev. J. T. Hume.

Phila Dec 20th 1873 –

My Dear General –

I must introduce myself to you, as the person introduced by our mutual friend John Wanamaker, — It cannot but be gratifying to you to know that in the severe trial through which you are now passing, that you have not only the sympathy & prayers – but the unabated confidence of your christian friends – Under the manipulations of personal Enemies – a malevolent press, & wicked partizans – the record may be made against you – But your friends can never be made to believe, that there was intentional wrong on your part – We are praying for you – Let that sustain you – May our blessed Saviour sustain you & enable you to come out of the furnace, without the smell of fire on your garments – Excuse this liberty, of a Comparative Stranger –

Yours in Lord & hope

John E. Graeff

I fully join in the above – H. V. Reed

Dec 20 - 1873

Orneff Jno C.

Friendly letter

ALEX. WHILLDIN & SONS, COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

TUB, FLEECE, PULLED } WOOL. 20 & 22 S. FRONT ST. and 21 & 23 LETITIA ST. YARNS. { COTTON, WOOLEN, LINEN.

COTTON.

A. WHILLDIN,
L. M. WHILLDIN,
A. WHILLDIN, Jr.
J. S. WHILLDIN.

Philadelphia Dec 20th 1873

Dear General

I am constrained to drop you a line, & feel assured you will pardon what might seem an intrusion of myself upon you, but I know, I shall feel better after expressing something of the indignation I feel at the vile persecution to which you are subjected — but never fear, the Lord is with you, & He is stronger than all your enemies, & you have the prayers of His people, that you may have grace & strength sufficient to your day — the best portion of the people are all with you, & I have not heard a single individual, that has not expressed themselves in your favor, & felt that the nation owed you a debt of gratitude, both for your conduct in the war, & since, in your noble efforts in the cause of humanity & religion — but my dear friend you must not expect to fare better than our blessed Lord who said, "If they persecute me they will also persecute you" — — — furthermore, you can now claim his special benediction "Blessed are ye

When men shall revile you & persecute you
and say all manner of evil against you falsely
for my sake — Rejoice &c — — — —
I am sure you will
be fully vindicated here, indeed you are
so already, public sentiment has decided
that you are honest, & knowingly have done
no wrong, no matter how bad men may
endeavour to warp & twist every thing against
you — What a comfort it is that the
Christian can appeal from fallible man
to the infallible God & however he
may be misjudged by his fellow man
he can like Peter appeal to his Saviour
& say Thou knowest all things thou knowest
that I love thee — — — — —
How short the time will be
ere the weary Pilgrim will be at rest,
where the wicked cease from troubling —
In bit of bonds
truly your friend
L A Mitchell

MEMORANDUM.

From FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

To Messrs A. S. Pratt & Son
City

Washington, Dec 20 1873.

Gentlemen

Herewith please find note of O O Howard taken up by new note for $800 & check for 117.60 You neglected to have the new note made with int so I have put it on the new note

respectfully
[illegible]
for Recr

Dear General:
Enclosed find the old note above referred to cancelled
Truly
Fred W Pratt

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Washington, D.C.
Dec. 20, 1873.

Pratt S.W.

Note enclosed

File

War Department

Washington City,

December 20th 1876.

General O. O. Howard. U. S. Army.

Howard University.

Washington D. C.

General:

I have respectfully to request, that you will arrange with General Ballock to accompany you to this Department, in order to an interview with you both, on Monday the 22nd instant, at One o'clock P. M.

Very respectfully, Yours.

Wm. W. Belknap

Secretary of War.