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Department of the Interior.
PENSION OFFICE.

Washington, D.C. March 18, 1874

Sir:

I have the honor to request of you any information you may have, or can give by way of reference to other parties who may know the facts relative to the sickness and cause of death of one Charles K. Ferro, who is alleged to have died at Montgomery, Ala, while acting as clerk and assistant superintendent in the Bureau of R. F & A. L. The Adjutant General, U.S.A., reports him as serving in the above capacities from Oct 9. 1865 to Jany 6. 1867.

His mother who applies for a pension (claim No. 190.747) states that you visited her son a short time before he died, at Montgomery, Ala, at which place he died

Jany 9. 1867. She says that at the time you visited her son, he was very low and not expected to recover and that you talked with him about his approaching death, and she requests that you be called upon for any information you can give, as she has exhausted all other means of procuring evidence touching her son's death

With your reply please return this letter.

Very respectfully

P M Baker
Commissioner

O. O. Howard,
President,

Dept. of Interior
Mch. 18. 74

H. B. Baker
Comr

Asks information concerning cause of sickness & death of Chas K. Ferris.

Hand by the bearer.

H. D. Beau
~~[illegible] W. [illegible]~~

Counsellor-at-Law and Attorney for Claimants against the United States.

330 Four-and-a-half street, near City Hall.

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Washington, D. C. March 19, 1874

Genl O. O. Howard
Sir

I have been making a rough estimate of the amount of labor involved and time required to go over the records in the Freedmen's Branch A.G.O. in the manner suggested by you & have come to the conclusion that to look over the Letters sent, six or seven vols. then Letters Received 16 or 17 vols. taking a memorandum of & reference to everything which might have a bearing on your case, particularly with regard to assignment of officers & appointments of Agents in Bureau, and all relating to payment of bounties & disbursement of moneys, looking at the filed letters when necessary; then going over the boxes of letters received by C. D. O. & the press copies of letters sent by him in the same way & with the same view, together with his volumes of letters sent & received; looking over our Special Orders & Circulars which contain appointments, orders for inspection &c, & making a note of all regulations & orders issued by yourself by letter, Special Order or Circular in regard to the Bounty & Disbursing Branch, to say nothing of making copies of any documents which might be found of value by your Counsel, would in my judgment take at least one month of the hardest kind of work. And I think further that to get up all that the Bureau records show in relation to those officers especially named in the Secy. of War's charges as Genls Ballock & Runkle, Mandeville & O. C. French would take about two weeks of the same kind of work.

If I were to undertake this labor I would have to leave my office & business entirely unattended to, during the time required. The work to be done is not in my judgment professional but clerical work of the most difficult kind. And I could not afford to engage in it unless I were distinctly hired for a specific sum which would be, in proportion to the time consumed, at the rate of not less than $200 — per month.

I thought it would be

letter to advise you in regard to this so that you might if you thought best get some one else to do it who has not at the same time any other or professional business to attend to, and who could perhaps afford to work for a less salary.

Very respectfully &c

H. D. Beam

Washington D.C.
March 19th 1872

Beam N. R.

States that to re-
unite the record to
referred to would be
a great task.
And also that he would
not attempt it for less
than $200 per month.

Peekskill, N.Y., March 20/74

O. O. Howard, Esq.
Brig. Genl. U.S.A.

My Dear General;

I did receive yours of the 14th after writing you, and will have it read at the concert tonight. It will be satisfactory, though a disappointment.

I have delayed writing, hoping to be able to say that Mr. Beecher will take your place. We shall know this P.M. I suppose.

I desire you to know that many friends whom you do not know personally regard your "trial" simply as one of the "persecutions" to which all who will "live godly in Xt. Jesus" are exposed

Very truly Yours
John B. Thompson.

[C2 - Mar. 20, 1874]

There is a rainbow in the sky,
Beneath the arch by tempests trod,
'Twas written by the Hand on high;
It is the autograph of God.

Crown Point Centre, N. Y.

Dear General

It would afford me pleasure to add YOUR name to my collection of Autographs of distinguished Military Men of America.

With confidence in your indulgence,

Yours very truly

Hi Buck

Late Lieut 34. N.Y. Vol

ADDRESS,

Lieut. HI' BUCK,
Crown Point Centre,
Essex County, N. Y.

In duplicate, please!

Gen. U. Grant Centre N.Y.

Hi Buck

Wants Autograph

Office of C. H. HOWARD & CO., PUBLISHERS,
151 and 153 Fifth Avenue,

Chicago, Mar 21 1874

Dr Bro. – We get no word of how the trial goes on – Is it public? Do Worth & Lopez have testimony? – Give my regards to Col. C. P. K. & ask him to write me if he can – I want also, to hear how Mrs. Smith is. Did you see your letter in "Adonai" "around our table"? Affly

C. H. H.

Rosalind called Sat & Sunday –

United States Postal Card.

WRITE THE ADDRESS [illegible] SIDE—THE MESSAGE [illegible] THE OTHER.

CHICAGO
MAR
[illegible]

U.S. POSTAGE

[illegible]

Washington
D. C.

2½ P. M.

Office of Edgar Ketchum,

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No. 12 John Street, (near Broadway,)

New York, March 21st 1874

Dear General Got in at the new Depot – Wandered where I was and tho't I had put me into the wrong place, but all found right. Found my sky berth and telling my friend your old asst in Nicaragua, Th. W. Conway of my efforts at the hotel office a young man next – me had the kindness to say the flor berth was his and he'd help to do as he'd be done by, and not let an old gentleman (!) climb up above while he lay below, but rather exchange. And so he did. We conversed some afterwards and I found he was a nephew of Johann of Lawrence Kansas. Had a comfortable trip, with short sleep and long time, reaching here at 9¼ instead of 6 o.c. a. m. So I breakfasted at the table we did, in the Times building instead of at home, where I hope to be by and by. And now I have Scott's Digest of the Mil Laws of the U.S., very good — And I have given to Alick an account of events in Washington and Montréal during the week. This a. m., leaving the cars at Jersey City I met Congressman Potter along with — I am pretty sure (think I word for Schurz!) General McDowell in citizens' dress — who spoke kindly and shook hands and said. "So it was good for

you the court adjourned over Saturday" – Pres: responding heartily in the affirmative. I have very good impression of the week's work in its relations to yourself; – very good impression of our Col: Dyer – and of our Judge Advocate; and of the Court: – the Court is magnificent! I value above diamonds my week's attendance upon that Court; – to have been such men, so near, so long!

I have been atoning this A.M. for absence by picking up many things suspended, and am just going homeward but could not leave without reporting to you in at least a brief letter.

My love to the dear children

My regards to your wife & hearty thanks with all them to yourself from

Yours most truly

Edgar Ketchum

New York
March 27 1874

Ketchum Edgar

Friend & Lawyer

9-30 A.M.
Oct. 23/74

My dear General:

Will you be able this Eve. (& every other day) to dictate to Capt. Sladen or Wilkinson a report which I can give out & from which I can make a "varnished" copy — I think the Tribune is all right — Will also see the American Pub. Ass.

Believe we will teach Boynton that he does not own the Pub. of this country — The copy need not be a nice one but a good fair legible hand — Will try to be at E P O room this Eve. at half 3 & 4 but if should not see you could the matter be left at my P O box 174. or at my house 407 Mass. Av. Faithfully Yours A. J. Canine

Office of **Thomas Wilson**, Attorney-at-Law,

Columbian Law Building, Fifth Street.

Washington, D. C., March 23rd 1874.

Genl O. O. Howard.

Howard University. Washington D. C.

Dear General,

I see by the papers what they profess to be doing in your Court. If it becomes necessary to show the difficulty of making payments to the proper men, and the great liability of making payments to the wrong men it may be that I can help you, with my testimony. If so, I am entirely willing.

I had the case of James Payne, of doubtful identity and a claim of double payment made by the Freedmen's bank. Mr Tracy took it after me and defended the suit brought in New York, by the James Payne of Poughkeepsie. He will remember all about it, and if it will be of any value to you, you may call me.

Yours truly

Thomas Wilson

Thomas, Richard

W. D. Beaw

Counsellor-at-Law and Attorney for Claimants against the United States,

330 Four-and-a-half street, near City Hall,

Washington, D. C. March 24th 1874

Genl O. O. Howard

Dear Sir I have seen Mr. Hall & looked into his case. What he wants is to borrow money on his claim for cotton taken by the U.S. which has been decided adversely to him by the Court of claims, & in which he has taken an appeal to the Supreme Court. He wants money to pay costs & have the appeal docketed. If docketed it may be reached in about a year, but if he is successful he can hardly get his money before 18 months. There was no question in the Court of claims as between Hall & the Govt. The U.S. had taken the cotton in question & the proceeds (about 9,000.00) are now in the Treasury. But the question was & is as between Hall & one Roach who claims to have been the owner both of Hall & this cotton. The case of Hall vs U.S. & of Roach vs U.S. were tried together & the majority of the Court held that Roach did own, (at the time when Hall says the cotton was sold to him by Roach) both Hall & the cotton, & that Hall being a slave at the time of such alleged sale could acquire no title. Judge Nott in a dissenting opinion held that Hall was not a slave & hence could & did acquire a title. The Court gave judgment in favor of Roach because it was shown in evidence that while Hall was born free, of a free mother, yet he was actually living in servitude, as a slave of Roach & his father before him for many years & was so held in servitude when the alleged sale took place.

I think he has good grounds of appeal to the Supreme Court at least enough to justify him in testing the matter there. Hughes Denver & Peck are his attorneys. Hall proposes

to assign one half of the claim after deduction of Hughes & Co's percentage for fees for the sum of $400. = say 3000 ac claim for $400. This would be buying into a litigation. I dont know whether you want to go into such a speculation or not, because it is precarious. But I told Hall that I thought you had no money to invest. I dont think I would invest my own money in it, if I had it to invest. ~~But~~ except out of sympathy – if at all.

I have been extremely busy & have not had time to see you personally.

Very respectfully &c

H. D. Beam

Mch 24.

Beam, H. D.

Washington, D. C., Mar. 25, 1874.

Gen. O. O. Howard,
Pres't. Howard University,
Dear Sir:

Not having rec'd my salary for services rendered during month of March, I desire you to receive said ~~such~~ salary when it shall be authorized to be paid.

Respectfully,
Marcus A. Ward.

Washington D.C.
Mar. 27th 1874

Genl O. O. Howard USA
Washgtn DC.

My Dear General

This will introduce Prof B.P. Worcester of New York City who is an old friend of mine. He is a gentleman of extensive travel & intelligence & gives lectures of travel illustrated by a series of beautiful views I have given him this, letter thinking arrangements might be made for the Professor to give a series of lectures before the students of the University

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I shall esteem it a
personal favor if you can
aid him in this matter
The Prof has the very
best endorsements & no
words of mine, from a
personal knowledge, can
be sufficiently commenda-
-tory of his highly instruct-
-ive & interesting entertainment
With great respect
Your friend
W. A. Mercer Smith
(1)

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Genl O. O. Howard USA
Howard University
Wash D.C.

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS,

Publishers, Booksellers, and Importing Stationers,

Association Building, 4th Avenue and 23d Street,

New York, March 28 1874

Mademoiselle. I write in a 6 min time, in haste – Your good letter reached there safely – Thanks! It all looks well. Yesterday at 1. which was Papa and with another Brandy day! all well & happy even so much. My week has been a wonderful week for engagements & labor & they have compelled me to appointments for next week too. What shall I do. How well you get along – why and me? The day the little one came A-P.K was jostled out of his Collector's Saddle by an Ex

March 28 1874

Ketchum, S.

centuri[illegible] ago, and fell right into the Indian Customs office of appraiser in place of Joseph Hopeborn, Hilyer retiring!

Now I close — more in a few hours — Yours affectionately & in high hopes

Edgar Allan Poe

Red Cloud Agency Dak. Territory
March 30, 1874

Dear General:

I have been during the past three weeks, as one of the Board of Indian Commissioners, associated with Bishop Hare Rev S. D. Hinman and Dr Bevier Indn Inspector, at this and Whetstone Agency, fifty miles distant. We have labored under peculiar embarrassments in having to deal with a large mass of Sioux or wholly hostile Indians in connection with Military authorities seemingly quite as desirous of active hostilities. I think however, our mission has, on the whole, been reasonably successful.

My object in writing, just now, is especially, to speak of one of my associates here, Mr Hinman. Bp Hare mentioned to me an investigation, partially at your instance, into

charges of impurity, which he says he caused to be thoroughly investigated, the result of which in his judgment was a complete vindication of Mr. H. The Bishop, however, had the impression in some way, that you were not entirely satisfied as to the impartiality of the investigation.

Of course I know nothing of the facts. I could not have been more surprised when I heard the charges. One of the first things I learned on reaching here, was that on a visit of a month ~~at these agencies~~ here, last summer, Mr. Hinman induced every white man and half breed at these agencies, living with Indian women to be married. In the recent intimate relations, we have held since meeting him, now, I do not think I have ever been more impressed with the ability of a man to do good in any sphere than of that of Mr. Hinman, among the Dakota Indians

He speaks the language as well as the Indians themselves, and his excellent judgment, earnestness, frankness and personal magnetism accomplishes more with these people in an hour than any man through an interpreter could do in a month. I cannot believe him guilty of the crime charged, and I am convinced that if you knew him personally, you would believe any other result of an inquiry into a charge of impurity, impossible. He does not belong to our particular mission, but, he is laboring in the same cause of our dear Lord with us. and if it is true that he can accomplish and does accomplish more than ten new men can, among these poor savages, I know that you will be glad to give him not only your hand, but your heart and entire confidence. — I have written this letter of my own instance, and without his knowledge thinking that you, who

know how easy it is for the character of a man to be blackened in public estimation through the malice of his enemies, would be glad to know in what light a brother under like circumstances appears to one intimately associated with him

I am entirely satisfied that the present Indian policy can never have a fair trial while the military forces in the Indian Country are in the control of men who make no concealment of doing every thing to thwart it. Indeed I became so impressed in this direction during my week's detention at Cheyenne before coming here that I wrote to your brother Gen O.O. that as soon as his delivery came from his persecutors in Washington, I should insist on his coming in charge of this Military Department. I leave in a couple of days for a trip to Puget Sound and would be glad to hear from you at San Francisco, Care of Hon E.D. Wheeler US Dist Judge, should you care to write

Yours Very Truly
Francis H. Smith

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OFFICE OF

Henry R. Searle,

ARCHITECT

No. 710 F. Street, Opposite Post Office Depart.t

Washington D. C. Mar 30 1874

Dear Sir –

If you are willing I should very much like your autograph on this circular which I propose to have printed by Photo-Lithography –

Very Respectfully Yours
Henry R. Searle

Answered

O. D. H.

Mch 30. 1874

Seale, H. R.

Unofficial

United States Consulate
Nassau N.P. 31st March 1874

Sir,

Desiring that the enclosed letter should reach Mr. Douglas and not knowing his address, I have, - at the suggestion of the Hon'ble Mr. Cocker of Mass: who is sojourning here for his health, - transmitted the same to you, with the hope it will be forwarded to him at your earliest convenience

I am Sir,

Your obdt Servant

Mahlon Chance
U.S. Consul.

To

Maj. Genl. O. O. Howard
" " "
Washington
D.C.

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