

Gen. W. T. Sherman
1872.

the matter of that Amer. and I
don't know if I will be named
for the Congress. I had to pay
yesterday a thousand dollars for "con-
vict" made against my consent -
so we all have our own troubles
and I instate the case to show
that you are not alone. in having to
pay dearly for a mistake. in under-
taking an impossibility - as you
say put in is the only advice any-
body can give - soon there will
be a new shuffle & a new deal
of the Political Card. but what
we are to be benefited or worse
is yet in doubt - Your boys will
be able to repay you for the Education
and they will relieve you of much
the burden that now appresses
you

My best love to them & to Mrs Howard
Headquarters Army of the United States,
Sherman

Washington, D. C., Feb 1 1872
431

Gene O Howard.

Portland Oregon.

Dear Howard -

Your letter of Jan 18
was received yesterday, and I
spoke to the Attorney General
Judge East about it. He said
he had promptly assented to
any application you had made
as to the Charge of Pension
from Oregon to Washington,
but intimating that he could

up to prosecute all cases his duty to call the attention
against officers. When their Chief of the Society to say thing irregular
submitted matter of accusation - one that arose in the Examine-
ment Board or his Clerk and him of the Record of your old
prosecute you. but they can't Roman. You have as you know
have asked among the old my heartfelt sympathy. but how
Anxious of the Freedom Roman I can shield you against the
and first Sufferers & Sufferers - Lawyers I do not see. I have
by Subordinates. which the law paid them my full share. for
Constructing the Principles to be incidental liabilities. No body
leave for. When I arrange to pay me a Cent & yet I
I bricent for prosecuting him to say any claim that
you. he solemnly disclaimed any body chosen to pay. This
any personal animosity. but in the penalty - see one position.
protected that it was made and Grant made use of me in



433

433

Lt Col Yellowstone Command
Montana Territory
Feb'y 1st 1877

Dear General,

I presume there may
be a vacancy among the Brig. Gen's
in the course of a few months
and some of my friends will make
an effort to have my name
favorably considered. If you can
assist them you will do me
a very great favor - for if I am
so fortunate I should prefer
it on purely military grounds.
I believe it was my good fortune
to command larger bodies of troops
during the war than any man

of my age, and to render
important service during the war
of reconstruction, since the war it
has fallen to my lot to successfully
engage larger bodies of Indians
than any other officer, and to
have gained a more extended
knowledge of this remote frontier
than any living man. I feel
that I have earned it and
should prize your endorsement
very highly. If you please you
can communicate with Sub. Sherman
on the subject.

With kindest regards to Mrs.

Howard I remain Sir

With great respect

Nelson A. Miles.

USM.



HANSON, ACKERSON & CO.

Manufacturers and Dealers in

429

Lumber and General Merchandise,

Tacoma, Wash. T. Feb 1st 1877.

Gen O. O. Howard,

Dear Sir,

The young man Woods whom you sent over, we have let go as our work was getting scarce, and the work and influences, I did not think just suitable for him, he was willing and ready to do whatever he was put at, but think he is better away. When shall we have the pleasure of seeing you?

Yours Truly
John W. Ackerson

John H. Tell me

Feb. 17. 1771.

- file -

Almira Knight
And oh! dear friend of humankind
will you not grant this request
or discharge? Please oh! do not
send me away without it, after
I explain all to you, for I am
with an ^{almost} breaking heart that
ask it of you. It is not the
romantic whim of a young
girl, who knows not what
she wants, I assure you, for
the heart of a woman, who
and implores you to grant this
boon. I am almost twenty
eight-years of age, and have
much sorrow, have lost a dear
Father and two Brothers, one of whom
was drowned in the Columbia
river, so I know what it is to suffer.
I have a dear Mother and Brothers and
Sisters still living. Mother and
some of my Brothers, and some
are living here in town; our
family is well known here, and
respected, I can assure you.

answered
by an interview
0.0.0.

(Confidential)

430

CC-2-Feb. 1, 1877]

Vancouver, Clark Co. W.T.

Gen. Howard,

Dear Sir:

You will perhaps be surprised
at receiving this letter from
an entire stranger, but I
will soon explain.

Please pardon the boldness
if it can be so considered, I
trust however it will
not be so considered by you.

I am going to ask
a favor of you, which
if granted, I shall consider
you my Benefactor, and
will ever bless your name.
It is a favor easily granted,
and I truly believe it will be.

It is this: Almost a year ago I became acquainted with a young man, who is a "Boy in blue", and joined the Temperance Lodge here at that time. He drank very hard before that, and was on the brink of ruin and despair. But uniting with our Lodge, he formed new associations, and ever since that time, he has been a good Temperance man, and remained true to his pledge. He is noble and generous hearted, and well liked by those who know him. He is a printer by trade, and writes well, reads, and is intelligent.

I became very much interested in him from the first, and tried in every way to encourage him in his efforts to reform.

I'm a strong lover of humanity, and take great pleasure in reformatory movements of any description. but I soon learned to take more than friendly interest in this young man, and in a short time we became devotedly attached to each other. This is a long introduction, but please be lenient, and try to have patience with me. I am very sorry to trouble you so much, but this is a subject dear to my heart, and one of vital importance, to more than one person. It is no easy matter for me to come to you with this story, just assured, but one of the most trying things of my life, and I do it as a last hope of rescue.

hard to manfully live and this allotted
time in the Army, it is a sad thing
to one of his impulsive nature
and he has worried over it so much
at times he is almost crazed thinking
two years seem like a long long time
to him. He says often many things
pass and he scarcely sleeps at all
but this can not last, it will have
very bad effect upon him in some
way, I'm sure of it. I feel as though
him meaning a dreadful price,
and if he falls, he will never rise
again. I am confident; each
day he seems drawing nearer, nearer.
Please do not think this is overdrawn
for I'm telling you the truth, and
like seeing my own soul going
to destruction, or worse even.
Oh! friend, if you believe in
saving souls, (and I know you
do, for I heard you deliver one of
your sincere sermons at the M.E.
Church here in Vancouver, some
ago, and I said to myself you must

5
I'm not telling you these things
about myself to be egotistical
or presuming, but so you may
better understand me, and
if you should doubt my
sincerity or truthfulness, in
regard to what I may tell
you, I can prove it in
some way, but I truly hope
you will not, for I can say
with all my heart, that
my motives are pure, and
I'm speaking the truth.

Rev. P.S. Knight of Salem,
is my eldest brother, you
must know of him I
think. I can tell you more
if you wish it, about our
family, but think ^{you} must be
tired of that, so I'll proceed with

the balance of my story.

The young man I speak of who is a soldier, enlisted in New York, three years ago, and of course has nearly two years yet to serve, unless he can be released, I will state that he was in a dejected state of mind, and partially under the influence of liquor, so a person is hardly responsible for what they do under such circumstances. But he does not censure any one but himself for his present condition, and says it is all his own fault. I am not saying any of this, because I have one sword of reproach against the Government, or Republic, for he is a staunch republican, and so am I. Army life has had

a very bad effect upon him,

although he has tried very hard to do his duty, and has, but he is in a very gloomy, disconsolate state of mind, and unless he can be released, I firmly believe he will be a ruin, a wreck. He is very impulsive in his nature, and sensitive in the extreme, and all this makes it so much worse; a great change has taken place in him in ^{the} last few weeks, which rends my heart to see. He tries very hard to appear calm and cheerful for my sake, but it is only forced, and he suffers very much mental anguish.

He seems to have lost nearly all hope of being released from his sad condition, and has tried so

assistance.¹² So he deserves credit
for being what he is, for he has
never had a home. His father
is getting aged, he resides in the States
and of late has asked for and wanted
that assistance, which, in his present
condition he is unable to give him.
Of this much I feel sure, he will make a
good citizen and work faithfully at his
trade, for he is industrious; but if he remains
a soldier much longer, he will become a total
wreck, and be useless to the army, lost to
society, himself, dear friends, and I who
love him so dearly. It seems as though I shall
go mad if you refuse me, my happiness ruined,
and life a failure; Oh! Gen. please do, release
him, for it is easily done, and will make us all
so happy. I have written this, for I was afraid I should
break down telling you. Respectfully, Almira Knight.
This is his signature at the bottom of the page.

William B. Patterson,

B and 21st Infanterie

Fort Vancouver

W. T.

9
be a noble generous hearted person,
your sermon had so much heart
and soul in it.) Oh! then I implore
you not to let this opportunity
pass, for you can save him I
know, by granting this discharge,
that I so earnestly appeal to you for,
I come to you because I have
so much confidence that you
will grant it, and save him, and
oh! how happy he would be at
the thought of being a citizen
once more, and how he does
speak of it, and long for it. You
must excuse me if I'm too
impulsive, but I have thought
so much about this matter, that
I'm almost distracted myself
at times, and this is a very trying
ordeal coming on this errand,

10
and did I not see the necessity
of it, and know it will be
the means of saving him,
and perhaps the only way,
I could hardly have undertaken
so hard a task. Oh! please do not
crush my hopes, and his, for I
have so confidently hoped for
your assent. If you could only
know all the circumstances as
I do, and fully understand the
case, you would not hesitate
a moment, for others have
received discharges, who I'm
sure were not in so perilous
a position as he is, if he remains
in the army, he will become
thoroughly discouraged, he will
go to ruin, and be unable to
rise again, he has so much pride,
and honor, that he could not
bear to face society again. I know

11
his disposition so well, and
we all know that many noble-
hearted men fill the drunkards
grave, when perhaps a little
assistance, or encouraging
words at the right time, they
could be saved. I know he
will make a good citizen,
he is considered one of the
best printers on the coast,
by those who are in that
business, and can make a
good living at it. Oh! how
much better to be an honored
citizen, than a ruined
soldier - for he can do good
in ^{the} community, and cause
more than one heart to be happy.
He has supported himself since
he was a child, his Mother died when
he was small, and his Father has
been unable to lend him much

Office Indian Agent,

NEZ PERCE INDIANS, 432

Lapwai, Idaho Territory, Feb 1st 1877
Genl O. O. Howard

Dear Sir

Yours was duly
received. We cannot find anything
of the book you refer to. I do
not remember seeing Mr Steikney
reading any book while here.

I wrote you a few days in
regard to instructions received
concerning the arriving N. P.

I have heard nothing yet
from Joseph as soon as I
do will let you know.

Truly Yours
J. W. Bluntwick

J. B. Monteith.

Feb. 1. 1874.

file.

days will cover all the
leaves I have had in that
time, I left the officers
out on duty with it.
One since has been detai-
led as an instructor in
some college learning
too with it now. I suffered
so with a ~~acute~~ Rheumatism
in San Francisco that I
am satisfied I would
be of very little service
in Lima. When I came
to Washington believing I
would be here some time
I commenced the course
of law at the Columbian
Law College and to be
compelled to give it
up now would be a
great loss to me, which
to be allowed to finish

My studies would not
only be of great ad-
vantage to me but
also to the service. I do
not think an officer
can learn too much. This
is the first time in 16
years that I have been
able to have my mother
with me and as I am
an only child and she
getting along well in
years I am anxious
to be with her. Gen
Schreifer promised that
M Co (of which a greater
portion has been in Alaska
since 1874,) should be
ordered down this spring
as it then would have
completed as long a
tour as any company of the

RECEIVED
FEB
3
1877
O. A.

Dear General:

I promised Capt. Miller that I would come to his boys funeral with Doctor Atkinson. It is a good time to go to Oregon City.

Please excuse me from my desk today & pray for us to morrow.

Will return for business Monday.

Respectfully & Sincerely
W. Atkinson.

Saturday Morning. }
2-2-77 }
Feb 2, 1877

Feb. 2. 1897

File



437

Office of the Chief Paymaster,

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA,

Portland, Oregon,

Feb 3 1877

General,

You may find something
in regard to Silver-bears in "Revised
Statutes" pg. 701. &c Sects. 3518-3521.

Respectfully

J. H. Eaton
over

J. W. Eaton

Feb. 3. 1877.

Personal

Gen. Howard.

Private

File.



EC2-Feb 3, 1877
[?] Editors and Publishers receiving this "Call" are requested to publish it at LEAST TWICE. Others receiving it are desired to cause it to be published in the local papers; and read in Schools and from the Pulpit.

Fifth District Convention of the Iowa Sabbath School Association.

The Fifth Annual Convention of the Fifth Sabbath School District, comprising Linn, Johnson, Benton, Iowa, Tama, Poweshiek and Marshall Counties, will be held at Toledo, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 15th, 16th and 17th, 1877, commencing Thursday afternoon.

This is a MASS Convention, and all Sabbath School workers are invited; but experience has shown that unless schools are particular to *choose* and *send delegates* they are liable not to be represented.

The invitation from the Christian people of Toledo is urgent and cordial. Their hearts and homes will be open.

Send your name to REV. G. RINDELL, JR., Toledo, by February 12th, for entertainment.

The Central Railroad of Iowa will give reduced fare.

Cedar Rapids, Jan. 12, 1877.

R. H. GILMORE, President,
Cedar Rapids.

ETHAN W. ALLEN, Secretary,
Marshalltown.

We are all nicely. Spent
Christmas with Edith &
Walter & Charles & family at
Gloucester.
R. H. G.



WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER



O. O. Howard
Portland
Oregon

Senator Mitchell. As the matter now stands I am utterly bereft of all hope of bettering my condition in the department. Then too, while my position barely affords me the means of livelihood, the fact stares me in the face that I will soon lose even that relief.

Genl., can you not do something for me, or hold out some hope that will enable me to keep up under this terrible blow? For God sake give me the benefit of your great influence and help. Now that Senator Mitchell has acknowledged his inability to assist me, I turn to you as the last and best friend in my extremity. I have kept up with wonderful spirit in the fond hope that my promotion would enable me to get rid of some of the debts that are pressing me so hard, and at the same time lessen the pain that has fastened upon me since our return to Washington; but the crushing effect of this last blow has added

Washington, D.C.
February 4th 1877.

My dear General:

The one solitary hope that has all along lightened the burden of my income position has just been dispelled by the action of the Post Master General in his refusal to promote me to a clerkship. A few days ago I was directed by the Capt. of the Watch to make an application to Genl. Thos. J. Brady, 2nd Asst. P.M. Genl. for promotion to a clerkship of class one in his division. I did so, and my application was endorsed by Genl. Brady and sent to Judge Tyner for approval. The latter refused positively to promote me. I'll give you the reason directly. While the matter was pending I hurried away to Senator Mitchell to tell him of my opportunity and to get his assistance. The Senator told me frankly that he

had had several interviews with the P.M. Genl. in my behalf, and had urged upon him with all the eloquence he possessed to give me a position that would afford me that relief which my family were so much in need of; but the P.M. Genl. said in view of certain information that had reached him, he could not under the circumstances show me any preferment—adding that my dismissal was only a matter of time, governed by the delicate condition of Mrs. C.

I must now tell you, Genl., that about two months ago a wretch, ~~who~~ Jos. P. Shillenn, who married my eldest sister, wrote to the P.M. Genl. informing him of that long past event in my life with which you are familiar; and also of the Patent Office affair. What other charges the letter contained I do not know, nor will the Post Master divulge. After the letter reached the P.M. G. he directed Col. Burnside

to send for Shillenn. The Col. sent his card which fell into the hands of my sister. She, suspecting ^{something} wrong from the repeated threats made by her husband against me, called on Col. Burnside, who in company with her had an interview with the Post Master. The latter stated that he had got such a letter from her husband and that it contained some very serious charges against me. He then asked her if the Richmond affair was true. She replied that it was and stated the mitigating circumstances of the matter—the lapse of time—my youth &c. &c. She also gave reasons to the P.M. G. showing that the letter was the result of petty spite on the part of her husband towards me. I saw Burnside subsequently and gave him the note you left with me. He told me not to worry myself for Judge Tyner did not intend to trouble me. This assurance gave me great relief until my last interview with

the historical feather to the camel's back.

I wrote you a cheerful letter a week or so ago in reference to the birth of our boy. Little did I then think that upon an event that brought us so much joy hung my tenure of office. Besides the additional responsibility of this little stranger, we have again the care of my father who is living with us—making a family of five, three adults & two children. To be turned out of work with the welfare of all these helpless one in my care makes me shudder.

Oh, General, I do hope you may see your way clear to make some arrangement that will place me above these trying changes of fortune and suspense.

Mrs. C. joins me in love and good wishes to you all.

Truly your friend,
W. B. Cruikshank,
31 - P. O. Dept.

Feb. 4. 1897

file