My Dear Friend:

Being debarred by custom from making New Year’s calls upon the families of the parish, I desire in this way to convey to you personally, the greetings and
good wishes which my lips would delight to utter, had they the opportunity. May
the new year, upon whose threshold we stand, bring to you even more of good
than you dare anticipate — health, home, friends, comforts, honorable success —
all that can make you glad and thankful.

Doubtless you have not passed out of the old year into the new, without indolging
in some sober reflections. With these, so far as they concern the past, I
have nothing to do; of what you may regret and deplore I can know but little. In
your future, however, I claim a share of interest, and you will allow me, as a
would-be helper of your joy, to express my strong desire that, for the coming year,
you may make, as never before, a sincere offering of yourself to the service of God.
Especially do I entreat you, as a member of the church to which it is my privilege
to minister, to remember that “the Lord hath need of you,” having given to you,
as well as to me, something to do in the service of recalling men to a filial and
humble obedience.

You show a good degree of interest in the regular services of the sanctuary by
your presence, attention and cooperation; are you as watchful and prompt as you
might be to welcome the transient worshipper, particularly if he be a stranger, and
invite him to come again? A friendly hand-grip and salutation may do him more
good than the whole sermon. Are you doing as much as you might to sustain the
Sunday School, by encouraging attendance upon it and giving yourself as an earnest
student of the Word? Are you always wide-awake to pick up items and thoughts of
interest for the Thursday evening meeting, and careful to bring a happy face to
the front seats? Are you forward to call upon all new-comers and the sick, and to
see that the pastor is early informed of such cases as need his attention?

It would take more space than is at my disposal to recount the special blessings
received by us as a church even during the twelve months gone. If the experience
of both material and spiritual good be any indication, our young organization en-
joys the approval of the Head of the Church. But if, through a growing sense of
security, we allow the Scriptural ideal of a working, praying, helpful church to be-
come degraded to the notion of a “religious club,” supported by voluntary tax for
our personal culture and enjoyment, without much effort to bring in the uninterested
and unsaved world, we shall at once cease to enjoy the divine approval. “But,
beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things which accompany sal-
cration, though we thus speak.” Only we have need to see the utmost watchfulness
and diligence, that the cause of the Master suffer no loss at our hands.

May we all continue to show in more marked degree in the future, that spirit
of mutual concession and forbearance which has characterized the past history of
our church, bearing in mind that we are all members of the one body, though not
all members have the same office. There is almost no limit to be placed to the
success in doing Christ’s work, which may be had by a church conducting its
affairs in this unvarying spirit. Earnestly desiring noble things for our Zion, and
wishing you again a very Happy New Year, I remain

Sincerely your friend and Pastor,

James D. Eaton.
Dear Sir or Madam,

Please accept cordial best wishes for yourself and family and a happy New Year for you, self, and family. From

[Signature]

J. W. Sprague
San Francisco Jan 2nd 1878

General C. C. Howard Esq.

Dear sir,

I thank you for your kindness that you have shown towards me and would have written to you from Astoria but I was very sick. I send you a description of my service both in the Army and Navy you will be kind enough to see into as you told me you would and confer a favor on your humble servant.

Los Angeles Cal. Description as follows:


Captain Greenleaf Hammond in Co. Major Drew—Major of the regiment

A. Louis Bell. Acting Assistant General

Transferred from army to navy on board the receiving ship Minakota.

Fortress Monroe. Drafted from said Minakota to the Gunboat Macinnaw.
then on the James River sent from said Gun Boat to Portsmouth Navy Hospital and there Discharged for Disability enlisted in 1863 and finally Discharged in the latter end of 1864

Dear friend and General

hoping that you will interest yourself in my case and let me know at the earliest the Period I am your Humble Servant

James Anderson

Direct to Los Angeles Cal
in care of C. H. Burrell

Ans. D. Jan. 15-78

C.S.W.
Lyon, G. M.

Jan. 2, 1878.

Lewiston, F. J.
Jan. 2, 1878

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Gen. O. C. Howard

Sir:

I have just returned from over north where I have been looking for land. I have received my vouchers for which I am under strong obligation to you. I send you a very fancy letter but I was angry at being treated the way I was. How I will give you some information the Pioneers are buying all of the ammunition they can get and they plenty of white men to sell it. Mister will go on
the spring if you do not get home before the grass grows and the pomps get fat they will fight if they get a chance. Hoping you will forgive me for that letter. I remain yours

Mt. Vernon

G. M. Lyons
Washington D.C.,

Jan 2, 1878

Gentleman:

I have received your communication of the 9th instant and incline an earnest request that you will examine carefully the question of the removal of the military reservation on the grounds contained in the report. I assure you that I will be glad to make any suggestions which may be subject to your favorable consideration.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

[Stamp: Received Jan 15 1878]
Dear Sir: There is a matter of very great importance to me, which a brief note from you, would I think, go far towards enabling me to secure the desired result.

In brief, my youngest brother, John J. Fitzgerald, has had his heart set on an appointment to a Cadetship in the Military Academy for several years, of being the one object of his course of study. I have written to the President asking him for an appointment for my brother as a cadet in the case of failure of any one of the 10 original appointees, to pass the preliminary examination. If you can, consistently with your
Ideas of what you would care to do in this direction please write briefly to the President, according my request, and I will consider myself very deeply indebted to you.

Well considering the appointment would be had just in view of our family losses during the late war. Of four brothers in the service (and only) three died from galletria incident thera. My father death also occurred during that time. Since while the limited resources of my brother and younger brother and sister has made it necessary for me to assist them more or less.

To conclude, I ask only that the appointment of my brother be made subject to the contingency of failure, on the part of one or more of the original appointees to pass the requisite preliminary examinations.

Both my kindest regards General.

I am your very respectfully and sincerely yours

Capt. S. P. Gruelle
GEO. W. DYER,
Attorney and Counsellor at Law.

519 Seventh Street.

Lock Box 100.

Washington, D. C. January 3rd, 1878

Very O. O. Howard,
Portland, Oregon. Dear General, I have

Today by our letter of the 21st ult. and answer at once.

1. Influence such as you can exert, is played

out on this administration, which in my opinion

is drifting into the hands of the Opposition.

2. A fair trial in the courts would settle forever the

questions relating to your responsibility, integrity, and

the honor of your administration, and a foredoomed

settlement would be at all subsequent periods open

to newspaper and other investigation.

3. W. Raynor is soliciting the Treasury, and with

Distressed Attorney, and I have no doubt am strongly

friendly to me, but they fear the press.

4. You cannot make a settlement unless after

long delays, and for a large sum of money.
Washington, D. C.

but I am sure in my opinion, I think the matter will succeed, and do so as an early day.

S. In my view of the matter, it would be to your advantage to have your cases tried at the present Criminal Term of the court, which will hold to the middle or latter part of February. The reason why the court got into the Criminal court was that the Civil Court is two years in arrear, and Judge Carter transferred the U.S. cases, 18 in number, the Criminal Court, so as to ensure a speedy trial.

6. I believe that the suit upon the bond, and the suit upon the retained bounty can be tried as well without you, as with you, and with vastly less notoriety, as Ballard is familiar with all the facts, as also Ferry and others who are now here and living, and I believe these cases can be better tried now, than they can be probably at any future
Washington, D. C. 187

As to the third suit, that on the interest act, the Treasury official are making a new transcript, and that care cannot be forced along by the court for that reason. Until that transcript is furnished I cannot advise about that case.

Finally, and it is a most unwelcome topic. I do not see how these cases can be tried to advantage without ready money. Yet looks is associated in the Bond suit for Shepherd, but cannot be depended upon for hearty work. Sumner Butler has expressed to the request of a New Yorker a willingness to advise in the matter. Mr. Ketcham has made some effort, and is probably making it now to raise funds, but I do not know how he will succeed. My judgment would be to join with myself, some good Democratic lawyer, who knows the funds, rather than a very prominent Repub. leader.

Sincerely, Geo. W. Dyer.
GEO. W. DYER

Jan. 3, 1878

[Initials]

[Stamp: Received Jan 17 1878]
C. H. Griffin, and Co.
ATTORNEYS AND SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS,
Office—Pointe Coupee Parish, near P. O., and 14th St., New Orleans, La.

CLAIMS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
For Bounty, Additional Bounty, Arrears of Pay, Pensions, Prize Money, or for Property Destroyed during the late War,
COLLECTED IN THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

PERSONS DESIRING TO ENTER 160 ACRES OF LAND.
Under Act of Congress, June 8th, 1872, giving Homesteads to honorably discharged Soldiers, Sailors, their Widow, Father, Mother or Orphan Children,
CAN DO SO BY ADDRESSING THIS OFFICE.

New Orleans, La., January 3rd, 1878

General O. O. Howard
Care Adjt. General U.S. Army
Washington D.C.

Dear Sirs,

The Second Auditor of the Treasury has informed us that you were paid by Certificate No. 496,271, on the 4th day of February, 1869, the Bounty money due H. W. Clelland, late of Co. "F," 76th Regiment U. S. C. T. — Will you please advise us what disposition was made of the same, and how to obtain it?

Respectfully yours,

C. H. Griffin
Attorneys for the Claimants.