

name-sake who will one day  
have Col. Taft's sword, and not  
only for our own satisfaction do  
we desire now to obtain every  
recollection of him, but I desire  
that the story of his death shall  
go down with his sword.

Could you tell me at what hour  
of the day Col. Taft died, and  
also at what time of day he  
entered action? I have learned  
that he lived about an hour after  
he fell. Could you also give me  
any account of the action he was  
engaged in at the fatal hour?

There is no portrait of him  
which would not be treasured, and  
most gratefully should we re-  
ceive any word you will be so

52. Summer St.  
Haverhill, Mass.  
16 Dec. /82-

Gen'l O. O. Howard.

I have been informed that you re-  
tain some recollections of Col. J. B.  
Taft, who fell at the battle of Mis-  
sion Ridge, Nov 25: 1863. I and  
others would be very grateful to  
you would you at your convenience  
give us what you can recall of  
him in those last days of his  
life. It seems as if we ought  
to have obtained every  
possible particular, but in the  
crowd of events immediately  
following his death it seemed

as if we could not press for more than came to us. Col. Taft was born in Mississippi & served in '54. as; his father & he himself were ar- dently devoted to the Union cause, and labored to prevent the secession of Texas, - but when war was declared Col. Taft fled from the South and went to New York City, where he studied tactics in a military school until the summer of 1862. when he accepted a salary & drilled the N. Y. 143<sup>rd</sup> vols. & was commissioned Major of that Regiment; his position was especially trying - separated from home & his family, and almost a stranger at the north, while he fought against relatives & friends.

In one of the last letters written to a friend he said he had been ordered by you to take command of the 78<sup>th</sup> P. Vols. - temporarily; it was while leading that Reg- iment that he fell. I do not learn recently that Gen'l Swigg wrote - took. Rept. during the war - might give me all desired par- ticulars. Gen'l Swigg (Hugh) has kindly written me that his note books were destroyed while <sup>he was</sup> in Europe; he furnished me, however, with a few facts - not before known. Col. Bauschbeck <sup>who</sup> was the brigade commander is, in Eu- rope, and his address I cannot obtain. There is a little

Kind as to favor us with —  
With great respect.

I am yours very truly  
Mary L. Wilson  
52 Summer St.  
Haverhill  
Mass.

Wilson, Mrs M. J.

Lancaster, Mass.  
Dec 16. 1882

Answered by the  
Genl. Jan 12/83

# Howard University,

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REV. WM. W. PATTON, D. D.,  
President.

J. B. JOHNSON,  
Secretary and Treasurer.

Washington, D. C., Dec 16<sup>th</sup>, 1882

Rev W. W. Patton D.D., LL.D.

President &c - Dear Sir. In the matter of the unpaid interest of the \$10,000<sup>++</sup> pledge of Gen O. D. Howard find that it appears from the books as follows.

There is due on the year ending June 30 <sup>th</sup> '76 -	\$ 340.00
And for the entire year ending June 30 <sup>th</sup> '77 -	600.00
Total	\$ 940.00

The University - advanced to Prof Bascom the sum of \$340, but declined to pay the less named sum of \$600, until it was received from Gen Howard.

Very respectfully  
J. B. Johnson  
Treasurer

Dear General Howard,

The above, from our Treasurer, covers the ground of your request. While Prof. Bascom remained, up to June, 1877, he had pledged to him the interest on your note, as part of his salary. Yours truly  
W. W. Patton, President



E. S. Turner—Insurance & Real Estate.

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Newburgh, N. Y., Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> 1882.

Gen. O. O. Howard,

My dear General:

On January 1<sup>st</sup> the balance of your note (\$400.) and interest for 6 mo's @ 5 1/2 percent amounting to \$11., or a total of \$411. will be due. It can remain longer if you wish, or you can send me check and I will forward the stock to you.

I hope that you have found pleasant surroundings and good friends in your new home.

Yours truly  
E. S. Turner

Newburgh, N. Y.  
Dec 16. 1882

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
S. Bridgman, Mrs.

Plymouth, Me.  
Dec 17. 1882

Answered by the  
Genl Dec 28/82

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Plymouth Dec 17. 1882

Mr Howard

Dear Sir.

Doubtless you will be somewhat surprised to receive a message from Mrs S. A. Bridgman Emretts wife. But we were speaking of you only a few days ago. thought we would like to see you. and know of your wharabouts. So to-day I take the opportunity to pen you a few poorly written lines; It is with reluctance that I write you what I am about to write.

But at the present time I am in advers<sup>ed</sup> circumstances. I have seen many dark times and seen trouble. but now seems darker than ever before. as my health is poor late years and 6 in my family to work for. and my eldest daughter

has been quite sick about 4 months.  
So we had a great deal to pay out Drs  
Bills and all the rest. made it very hard  
indeed for us. So Cousin Otis on  
the whole I feel that I would like to  
be befriended. (By the way) I do not  
know how you are situated. at the  
present time. But I am in want of  
a frint dress very much and other  
things. and as it is most Christmas  
I did not know but. you could make (Address.)  
me a Christmas Present. if you could  
help me if it was not but a little. I  
should be very thankful. Knowing that  
you are a good Christian man. And as  
none of my folks nor Cuiretts are able.  
or at least I did not like to ask them for  
help. I thought I must tell you how I  
am situated. If I had known of any  
other way to have got along. I would not  
have asked you. for I am proud spirited.  
But if you could send me a little. I

will try and reward you some day  
in the future. if I cannot. God will  
bless you. I hope and trust. I know of  
no nurse to write you Cuiretts health  
is not very good. I am in hopes to  
receiue an ans from this. for I wish to  
hear from you. I guess I will close as  
it is getting late.

From your Cousin

Lallie A Bridgman

Plymouth  
Maine

Fig

Dec 17<sup>th</sup> 1882  
63 & 125<sup>th</sup> St.

my Dear General Howard  
 you have not given  
 me a line since you  
 left West Point have  
 you and Mr. Howard  
 got so much absorbed  
 in the west that you  
 have forgot me Entire  
 ly. I wrote Mr. Howard  
 but no Reply then  
 do I think of you  
 as well as Columbian  
 Colledge in Washington  
 and look on your  
 Picture & would much  
 like to have Mr. Howard's  
 Picture & with kindest  
 love to you Both Ever  
 sincerely  
 B. Richardson

Richardson, B.

New York  
Dec 17. 1882

Ans'd by Gen. N. Dec. 22. 1882.

Cowley, L. P.

Spokane Falls  
Dec 18. 1882.

letter to Mr H.  
Pillard sent  
Dec 30 - 1882

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Spokane Falls, W.T.  
Dec. 18. 1882

Gen. O. O. Howard  
Omaha, Neb.

Dear Sir:

The N. P. R. R. Co. are proposing to buy the claim of Enoch Silignonyya, allowing him two thousand dollars, and he has consented to accept it and take a farm over the river. You may perhaps, recall the fact that I am located partially on his place, and have considerable improvements thereon. In 1876 I made application of the R. R. Co. to purchase three forties, in case Enoch should sell out, so that I should not lose my improvements. The Company entered into a contract to sell what I asked for on condition that I should put on sufficient improve

ment to indicate my intention to purchase when the land should be put upon the market. The previous management of the Co. have, however, held that my claim must come under their resolutions of '79, reserving lands suitable for town site purposes, and so they arbitrarily cancelled the contract to sell which they had made three years previously.

Under the new management, Dr. Atkinson thinks I will have a show of justice and suggests that I present the case to Mr. Villard, asking you for some testimonial as to my usefulness to the settlement of the region during the Nez Percés and Bannock wars.

My own impression is that the presence of my family during those seasons contributed somewhat to prevent the depopulation of the

existing settlements and made their condition much more endurable. If you will kindly forward me your judgment on the subject, to be presented to Mr. Villard, you will do me a great favor.

The Deep Creek colony is prospering although Govt is doing very little for it. This past season through a clerical oversight at the Lapwai Agency I have had no salary, except \$300 from the A.M.A.

These Indians all mention you with great regard and affection and we all remember you with gratitude for your kindly interest in us

Very respectfully  
H. J. Cowley

Form No. 1.

# THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions limiting its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following message. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison, and the company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of Unrepeated Messages, beyond the amount of tolls paid thereon, nor in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after sending the message.

This is an UNREPEATED MESSAGE, and is delivered by request of the sender, under the conditions named above.

THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager.

NORVIN GREEN, President.

NUMBER

SENT BY

REC'D BY

CHECK

150ch Ja I 10DL

Received at

Omaha 244p

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Dec 18 1882.

Dated

Blairsville Pa

To Gen O O Howard

Miss Gertrude is spending her  
vacation in New York & Boston  
T R Ewing

Worcester, Mass.

Plainville  
Dec 18, 1887

*unofficial*

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

Dec 18<sup>th</sup>, 1882.

General:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of December 12<sup>th</sup>, marked "confidential", in which you enclose a copy of a circular purporting to be issued by Mr. E. A. Packard at Fort Meade. It is an extraordinary document, and I am obliged to you for sending it to me.

A number of petitions of the character contemplated by the circular have been

received: but I have seen no reason to recommend to the President a revocation of General Order No 24, of 1881, (which, as you will remember, was an Executive order,) and I have no present expectation of doing so.

I am,

Very respectfully yours.

*R. M. Meade*

Gen. O. O. Howard,  
Omaha, Neb.

Lincoln, Nov. 19.

Washington  
Dec 18. 1882

File

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

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Silver Reef Utah

Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> 1882

Gen. O. O. Howard Omaha

My Dear Friend

I send to you to day  
a box of ore specimens from our Sandstone  
mines. Please accept of them as a little token  
of my appreciation of your kindness and assist-  
tance to me, in behalf of baby. I am so glad  
that I met you General; it is seldom I meet  
anywhere one who has so much faith and goodness  
of heart as you have, and it strengthens my  
belief in God and man to meet so good a Chris-  
tian. I shall always have a kind remembrance  
for you, and hope some day to have the pleasure  
of meeting you again. If it is ever possible for  
me to do a kind act or render you assistance  
I shall be most happy to do so, and hope that  
I may have an opportunity some time. you  
made one warm friend at any rate while you

were in Utah. Shall I say <sup>thank you</sup> yes rather a thousand  
thanks are none too many, which please accept  
from both my husband and myself. Addie's  
wound is entirely healed, but has left an ugly  
red scar. we think however it will probably grow  
out and leave none, the brow does not droop  
as it did when first cut; she often gets a pencil  
and paper and says she will write to the Gen.  
and tell him her eye is getting well. It has  
gotten along remarkably well from the first.  
Please give my kind remembrance to Captain  
Sladen. I wish you all the happiness and pleasure  
through life that it is possible for you to have

With kindest regards for you.

I remain truly your friend

Di Robertson