You are cordially invited to be present at a

*RECEPTION*

to be given to

Mr. Robert Weidensall,

Secretary of the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Associations,

on his

Fiftieth Birthday,

At the Parlor of the Chicago Young Men's Christian Association, 143 Madison St.

Tuesday Evening, April 20, 1886.

Please Reply.

Committee.

C. H. McCormick, Jr.,
J. L. Houghteling,
Members of the International Committee.

W. A. Douglass,
Chairman State Executive Committee.

J. E. Brown,
State Secretary Illinois Y. M. C. A.

J. V. Farwell, Jr.,
President Chicago Y. M. C. A

A. T. Hemingway,
Gen'l Sec'y Chicago Y. M. C. A.

Geo. B. Townsend,
Financial Sec'y Chicago Y. M. C. A.

W. W. Vanarsdale,
Editor "The Watchman."
COLUMBUS, LOWDES COUNTY, MISS., JUNE 27, 1885.

We, the colored people of Lowndes county and the State of Mississippi, have done and will continue to do all in our power to educate ourselves, our children and our children's children. We have erected a building 80 by 70, two stories high, with a large wing 60 by 40, on a beautiful plot of ground, costing in the aggregate $4,000. The land is out of the buzz of the city and in a beautiful situation, where the air is fresh and pure.

The Organization of the Academy.—The School was organized A. D. 1866, by the best of white Northern teachers, sent and supported by the American Missionary Society. This state of affairs continued until A. D. 1875, when the democracy ordered the teachers to go North. But the Academy did not stop; the Northern Missionary had planted the educational seed in the mind of the negro. So we caught up the work and carried it on.

Capacity.—The house will seat 600 pupils.

Attendance.—The School has from four to five hundred pupils per annum. For this year, ending June 20th, the average attendance was five hundred and fifty.

Teachers.—We have eight female teachers, and the President, a gentleman of fine culture and discipline—all well educated at the various colleges of Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Pennsylvania and Mississippi. The religion is strictly congregational—no sect. Methodists, Baptists, Christian, all attend and worship. Books and studies are modeled after the Atlanta and Fisk Universities. Books used, mostly, are all of Eastern authors. Term of School, commencing September 22nd, 1885, and lasting nine months.

The School intends to do all in its power to break down ignorance and superstition, and stand our race of people upon their feet in a scale of civilization as high as our means and talents will allow us to do, God being our helper.

The Race.—As a race of people, we have not had the advantages of our white brethren, as every reading American citizen well knows and as the history of the races bears out.

Endorsements.—“I hope you God-speed. Enclosed please find $——. George William Curtis.” “Your people should be aided by all the good people of the North. I send you $——.” “The Academy at Columbus is a good School, and should be helped by all thinking people.—J. L. Lowrey, Governor.” “I endorse the above.—Gen. J. A. Smith, State Supt. of Education.” “I hope all popular friends of education will give something to the Academy at Columbus, under the Presidency of Prof. A. M. Middlebrooks.—Hon. John R. Lynch, late temporary chairman of the Republican National Convention.” “The colored people need and must have help at Columbus, for they have shown themselves worthy by their work in erecting the Academy at Columbus, under the Presidency of Prof. A. M. Middlebrooks. Hope our Northern friends will aid them a little when applied to for aid.—Frally, T. M. D. Ward, D. D., LL.D., Bishop of African Methodist Episcopal Church, Miss. District.” Prof. A. M. Middlebrooks is well known throughout the South, East and the North; he has been North in the interest of the School and did well. He was a member of the two National Conventions (Republican), convened at Chicago in 1880; he was from the 7th Congressional District of Georgia, and was an ardent supporter of Mr. James G. Blaine. Again, in 1884, he was alternate delegate State at large, doing service in battle for Mr. Blaine and Mr. John A. Logan.

Now, reader, you see our true condition. We are doing what all nationalities must do, struggling to overcome ignorance and superstition, to establish ourselves among the “rolls” of honor. Should you decide to give us a little, send it by Money Order to Prof. A. M. Middlebrooks, Columbus, Miss.

Respectfully yours,

B. J. Louis & John Louis,
Trustees of Providence Academy.
A. M. Middlebrooks,
President and Treasurer.
Dear Sir, I have known your and your good wife many years, We expect
you and your family to be here on Sunday, December 17th, We
will have a good time and will be glad to see you and with the very best,

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Col. James A. McKay

[Signatures on the page]
Dear Mr. Howard,

May dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your note of the 25th inst. and have just written again to Mr. Lincoln referring to the immediate action in the Morse matter. I fear we must know that nothing will be accomplished within the time named by you. Judging from his action in the past, that would be the result. We must be clear that this must not amount to inactivity.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]
Washington, D.C.
March 15th 1846

Fitch, Jos. B.
Bond received.

[Handwritten text continues on the page]

[Further handwritten text on the page]

[More handwritten text on the page]

[Additional handwritten text on the page]
Fort Thomas, Minn.

March 1, 1866.

Sir,

I send you for your information a copy of an argument before the question of our relative rank in the army. I have sent a copy of it to the Adjutant General to be laid before the Hon. Secretary of War.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

General O. O. Howard, U.S.A.

Omaha
Fort Spelling, Miss.
March 1st, 1886.

Dear, Genl. A. H.,

Deeds copy of our argument upon question of ranks.

Acc. Mar. 15th.
Troy Grove, Ill.  
March 1st, 1885.

Peck, Prof. Rob.  

Troy Grove, LaSalle Co.
Illinois

March 1st, 1885

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

My dear Sir & Friend in Christ:

If you have not forgotten
the "converted Jew" whom you knew
in San Francisco and whom you befriended
21st in New York City in 1882, then it
is the same one who writes you to-
day from a Christian man's house
and one who knew you as a
soldier. I am still treating Jesus
as my Messiah and am here
preaching His career and

Ann. March 6th.
I am a soldier too and still carry my crutch, but – a soldier of the cross.

In 1879 I resided in1 Amaha and re-established the Y.M.C.A. I preached in all churches safe the Roman Catholic. The Pastors were then \& now as yet my friends. I read in various papers that you are likely to succeed General Hancock, late deceased. I am praying for it. Your friends wish it and my pen shall not remain silent. The good Lord grant it. You deserve it in every way. This comes from the very bottom of my heart. 

I trust you are enjoying good health. Thank God I am very well and the Lord crowns my humble efforts as an Evangelist. I am almost to become Pastor of two churches. Frequently I can’t help but quoting you in my sermons of Revival when speaking of “Soldiers of the Cross.” Woe to him that every soldier in the U.S. Army were lovers of Him like you.

Bud bless you. I shall be glad to have a few lines of cheers from you.

With sincere regards

I am cordially yours

Prof. Robert Peck.
Wichita, Kans.
March 11, 1886.

Campbell, Phila.

I could not help agreeing from talking to me. Had nothing to do with it. I shall make a statement to the Secretary of War when I hear from you my post record request is brought forth. I will call upon Colonel Parker and Maj. H.B. Sayler for witness to my being a soldier. I can prove by the officers that I was a soldier and will. I shall make an affidavit to the Secretary of War as a few days before a Judge I will state everything. Col. Olmsted told Robbins the only way to get rid of what few old soldiers.
that war... the 1st on the
is to give them a bottle
of whiskey, they know to
munch this 1st, we're staging
the boys, and after men made
complaints, it was laid the old
soldiers were the cause of the
new men dodging; about
their ration. I know they didn't get enough
so, I have bought a water
jug to munch in the
army. I know what it
takes to feed a company; I will
explain more soon and
there is no court in
the world that can pass
sentence for a soldier
so be dishonorable without
charges and without trial
and satisfaction from Amer.

He told me Lee broke
court, decided that I
should be dishonorable
discharged. I shan't write
to the Secretary of war
room I have stipulated
statement to make and
the copies, affidavit which
will put before the Secretary
and if the day 21 is lawfully
day form the rules and
regulations they are no
good. If I receive a
dishonorable discharge
I should of been tried by
that same court. I know
a little faith in an officer
who says he would not
give himself an ext country
I hope to hear from you soon.
Very Respectfully,
Sedle & C
Indianapolis Arsenal,

Indianapolis, Ind., March 12th, 1883.

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

Dear General,

I am somewhat uneasy about an assertion I made in my letter to you last week, which I ought to have explained; at least in part. "I know that things have been done in a corner,"
The "Powers that be," to which I referred, should not be taken to mean the President directly; who has the disposal in your case; but did refer to officials so close to him as to leave little doubt as to higher initiation; yet so directly opposed to all the professions of fairness and justice to the weakest of all government employees, (women and children) as to be simply disgraceful;—this under cloak of CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS. It matters not if they be widows and orphans of men who died, that the United States might live; rather worse for them, because these are least likely to be DEMOCRATS.

I see that Gen Terry and Gen Miles have both been east, probably trying to get that to which they have no proper claim. I hope not; I would rather retain a higher opinion of both, but ambition often
causes men to do strange things.

The Rev. Mr. Gurney's call on the President in your behalf, last week night, to have a good effect.

Sincerely yours,

John A. Kneer

Indianapolis, Ind.
Moore's, Coln., Aug. 31, 1862.

Krewe, Calif., Aug. 3.
Ill Fulton St., Troy, N.Y.

Tuesday March 2, 1856.

My dear father:

Your good letter of Feb 27th came to me this morning. I just write to let you know about the lots in Chest Troy as soon as I can get to see them. At present I am busy reciting from early in the morning till dark in the afternoons. I must use my Saturday for extra work - bridge plans &c. Sundays I cannot attend to the seeing the lots. But I shall hear it constantly in mind & so soon as possible go over & see them.

My studies were succeeding...
How now, I am almost out of money, and I have to keep my head up. Every day, I would not dare to get anywhere behind in any orject. We advance with such speed that there would be no opportunity to make a last lesson in a poor one-up. Your aunt will welcome a check for $40, come safely. I shall first pay for my table bound for Deb. Then I shall pay for a pair of pants. There are books, drawing papers, etc. I am extremely careful for I know the full value of every penny. Then you can dispense with your please send it, but not when you think other expenses of more importance. Any board room funding bill can wait a little at this when necessary. I must get more to my night study. It is 7 1/2 o'clock P.M. With love to all from your Jennie.
Dear Sirs and Sirs in the City of Washington:

Gentlemen:

Please find enclosed five dollars to cover my bill of about $10. I have sent the book to you.

Yours truly,

M. M. Marshall
Omaha, Nebr.,
March 23, 1886.

Mearsfield, M. D.

Requests $9.00 for one
Grant's Memoirs.
Freedmen’s Hospital,

Major Gen. O. C. Howard,

My Dear General:

Enclosed please find a clipping from the National Republican of Feb. 27, 86. Prof. Gregory sent a letter inviting you to be present as a guest of the Alumni. The members regretted very much that you were not present.

It must be a source of great pleasure to you to know that Howard University is in its prosperous condition, the Alumni point with pride to their Alma Mater as a monument worthy of the life and character of its distinguished founder. We contemplate giving a dinner every year and we will never consider the banquet complete unless you favor us with your presence.
The young colored men who have graduated from Howard University Church your memory and look upon what you have done for them as the foundation of their present success and future prospects.

A few years ago, I heard you speak at the University. What especially pleased me was the following expression: "During the past ten or fifteen years, I have been persecuted, but there has never been a black arm raised against me."

This was a very high compliment to the colored people.

I hope that you are enjoying good health. May God will spare you to see the wonderful progress which the Emancipated race will make during the next twenty years. I am most respectfully

F.J. Shadd
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA,
INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,

FORT SNELLING, MINN., March 3rd, 1886

My dear General,

Yesterday afternoon about half past three General Fong arrived at my hotel and was congratulated by me upon his promotion, so the thing has been done. In the report upon the money here nothing regarding this matter is given. I am supposed to keep the officers free from all complaints, and I think I have done so. On the other hand, I have been made aware of some complaints against the settlers, and I was not willing to publicize them where I thought they should not come to public notice. I don't know who or where I have felt more deprecated for.
for I had seen before against
hope that the President would
do the right thing and not just
it quick process long
but be for him—John C.

nice of your long and brilliant
service with a military mind
bequeath. Compare by any of the
Generals on the action list,
second indeed only to that
of Sherman. I am great: sick
with the ingratitude of our
government. Is there no man
in the Senate who will raise
his voice against this thing,
must it go without protest?

Our sincerely your friend
Cullen R. Thorne
Dear Sir,

My cousin Henry K. Green—a valued clerk at Tiffany's in New York, writer in behalf of a friend for some autograph. He has an idea that I have quite a lot of your letters. This as you know is very unfortunate.

I therefore pass on his request feeling assured you will kindly and promptly gratify one of your many admirers at one

Glad to say my cousin is in the days he is aware you are to have one of the vacant Major Generalships!

Did you note a few days ago the Baptist conference in New Orleans some of the brethren tried to get an endorsement of your for the promotion, which move was antagonized by the suggestion that you were a Congregationalist and Schoolsfield, being the son of a Baptist, had the best claims on the Baptist denomination, and so the matter was laid on the table!

I saw considerable of Roland while he was here in my travels and enjoyed my conversations with him very much.

With my best regards.

[Signature]
Tompkins, Gen. O.H.
Lee referred to his son, Capt. L. Tompkins.

March 4, 1886.

Chicago, Illinois

Headquarters, Military Division of the Missouri,
Office of Chief Quartermaster,

My dear Mr. General:

I have just heard from General Scudder that he will transfer my son to the Army. I expect his promotion will go into effect at once, as my information came by a telegram. I am inclined to doubt if the new orders to Fort Scott and Fort Wallace will be in time for the beginning of the term in April. I am left to his fortune.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Dated March 4, 1886.
This affect (most of which are at Geami) and be ready to start as soon as he receives his orders from Washington. Please consider this confidential.

Very sincerely yours,

Chas. Sumner

Gen. O. O. Howard

U. S. Army
New York, March 4th 1886

Dear Sir:—

I venture to trespass on your indulgence with a request for your autograph to add to my collection. You doubtless receive many requests of this nature, and therefore I trust— you will not refuse, but will find opportunity to gratify my desire.

With great respect,

Mrs. A. W. Eastlake

To

G. H. Howard.
New York City,
March 11, 86.

Eustache, Mrs. A. W.

Requests audit of
Gen'l. H.

Acc. Mar. 8. 86
Fort Barrancas, Florida -  
March 4th, 1886 -

My Dear General,

It is not unlikely, I think, that you will go to Governor Island, to command the Division of the Atlantic. If so, it may be in your power to do me a little favor - a great favor to me. I cannot ask you after you get in command, so I thought I would ask now. I want very much to be on some duty at Dept. or Div. Headquarters. While Gen. Arnold was there he was an Acting Assistant Inspector General. He held the Line Rank of Major. Just before he died he was promoted to be Lieutenant Colonel of a regiment in California. Then his regiment seen in this Div.
I suppose his being a lieutenant colonel would not have prevented his acting as Inspector General. His position would not have been affected by his regimental rank. In other words, my being a lieutenant colonel would not prevent my acting as Inspector any more than his being a Major did not prevent General Arnold acting as such.

I have served in this country till I am heartily tired of it. I came here (to Florida) first in 1854. Served in the cavalry at Fort Dallas, in the Big Cypress, and on the Caloosahatchee till late in 1856—being in a fight at Billy Bowlegs' Village. I came back to Florida in 1861—was in Fort Pickens (right opposite my present post) thirteen months, being engaged...
in one fight and three bombardments - hence I went to Ft. Jefferson, Dry Tortugas, where I stayed about half a year longer and then went to Beaufort, S.C. I came to Florida again in 1864, went up the St. Johns River, got into a fight at Olustee, lost a third of my battery, and was subsequently blown up by a torpdeo while going down the St. Johns from Palatka. I came again to Florida in 1872, took command of Tortugas (second time I was there) lost 17 men and one officer from yellow fever there, in 1873 and the following year came here, opposite Ft. Pickens. I was stationed here in 1875 when the yellow fever broke.
but and I buried 32-1
The command, besides some
outsiders, reading the service
over every one myself — and
often assisting to fill in the
graves. During the last few
years, while in command of
the 1st New York and stationed
at Washington Barracks I have
had to move into camp
every summer — twice camped
at Gettysburg. Once at
Hardee Springs and last year
at Atlanta. I would much
prefer the regiment should
be sent to Arizona — than to be
subjected to these eternal changes.
And moreover, I want to put
my son at school, if possible
near or in New York City.
Of course, I would
prefer to command a post.
to being on duty elsewhere.
But the Inspector's duty is
a military duty and the
position an honorable one.
I have never asked such
a favor before. I was with
my company during the whole
17 or 18 years I was its captain
except the six months I was
in Egypt and an absence
while acting as Judge Advocate
of a Detachment of a General
Court. Since my promotion
I have been constantly
hard at work. I was absent
it is true while Recorder
of the Warren Court, a position
which I did not seek and
in which I nearly lost my
eyesight correcting proofsheets.
May excuse my
troubling you with this long letter — I hardly think Abbie Jones would object to my assisting him if you have not promised his place to someone else. Take the kindness to give my best respects to Mr. Howard if she says me the compliment to still remember me.

Very sincerely,
Yours,

Koomi de Lengton

27. Septem.
March 14th, 1886

Genl. O. O. Howard, Omaha, Neb.

My Very dear Sir,

I am indeed grateful to you for your kind letter, informing me of your appreciation of my hand cotton gin, spinning wheel, and Loom. I well know this machinery will be a blessing to Liberia and to America through the

**Anna Morris School,**
Arthington, Liberia, W. Africa.

The enclosed circular fully sets forth my equal desire to supply the needs of the poor cotton planters in our Southern States—and to this co-equal end your letter is of great value to me in its broadest signification, and will be made public by Negro Editors—Rev. and School Teachers.

I am ever so much obliged to your great and good brother Rev. Roland B. Howard for calling your attention to my single-handed labors in Africa and here.

Yet one day again, thanks from

Yours most truly,

Edward Morris.
Maurice D. Rodwell, Esq.

Cowan, Cannon & Ward

February 17th, 1886

My dear Mr. Rodwell,

I am writing in regard to the progress of your plans to build a new school in this area. We understand that the site has been selected and that plans are underway. I would like to offer my assistance in any way possible, as I believe that education is fundamental to the future of this community.

Please let me know how I can be of service.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Anna Morris School

Arthington, Liberia, W. Africa
If I only had time I would like to ask about another smaller on my mind and to think that I have concerning you of a thought that 1 have concerning you. It is in regard to temperance bill. In the past I want you to play in it in connection with a movement now on foot. Will say my say soon. L. C. H.

March 4th, 86

Dear General,

The papers this morning announce that the President has named Jerry for Hancock's place. For this moment I have this moment sent off a letter to Senator Harris of Tennessee. and urged him in it to vote against the measure if he can see the facts as
I have just them to him.

Of course I am careful & discreet.

But I am going to New-York and get

The list of benevolents.

And write to all

and write to whom I have

written to whom I have

acquaintance, or my

acquaintance.

Father has in other days.

It may do no good

But it will make

me think. Look into the

many look into the

ways of this Catholic

influence and the

Therefore.

...
Westchester, Chester Co. Pa

Mar. 4, 1886.

My dear Mr. Howard,

Respected friend,

I greatly desire to add my signature to my collection of letters and autographs of distinguished persons and lastly, pardon for the intrusion. May this letter grant me cordial favors.

Thrice lucky.

Peter I. Green
The Farm, Field and Stockman,
156 and 158 Washington St.

Chicago, March 4th, 1868.

STENO.

GENERAL O.O. HOWARD,

OMAHA, NEBRASKA.

DEAR BROTHER,

I need hardly say we are all pretty blue over the injustice done you by the President. Some think it the army influence, rising from the fact that you have never been willing to drink whiskey like the rest. Some think it is owing to your connection formerly with the Freedman's Bureau and Reconstruction. I am inclined to the latter view. The Confederate Brigadiers have great influence now in the administration. We have seen how lately they defeated the promotion of Merrill. They certainly have no very good feeling towards you on account of your connection with Reconstruction. S. S. Cox' book alone would indicate what the old Copperhead and Rebel feeling must be towards the Bureau and towards you as its head.

I went to see John H. Jewett today to see what we could do about furthering your promotion in place of Pope. I think all your friends should now work to their utmost. The President and his advisers should be led to feel that thousands of people would be intensely disappointed. For that is a fact, and there would be more feeling if you were again overcharged than there is at the present injustice. Did you see the letter in the 'Inter Ocean' of yesterday morning? There were some mistakes in dates evidently in the manuscript as I received it. Sometimes fort
FISHER WAS REFERRED TO AS JANUARY 16TH AND SOMETIMES AS JANUARY 15TH.

I CORRECTED THESE CONTRADICTIONS, BUT WAS NOT CERTAIN WHETHER THE
FORT WAS TAKEN ON THE 15TH OR 16TH.

I WILL NOT TRY TO WRITE MORE TONIGHT, BUT DESIRE TO SAY
THAT WE ALL DEEPLY SYMPATHIZE WITH YOU AND ARE DETERMINED TO DO WHAT
WE CAN. MOTHER AND I ARE PATIENTLY TO

EFFECTUATE YOUR DESIRES. EVER AFFECTIONATELY YOURS,

Hope John got home O.K.

Hannibal, March 31, '66
Chicago, Ill.
March 17, 1886

R. C. R. M. J. S.
'Governess.'

---

Chicago, Ill. Mar. 4, 1886

Rev. Howard:

Having a letter of introduction to you from Rev. J. E. Smith of New York City, I take the liberty of addressing you thinking it but to have the advice of one resident of Omaha before venturing to seek employment there. Do you think there is any possibility of a position "governess" at the "Ingles" in Omaha? I am capable of teaching small children in English branches.

Anna, March 8, 1886.
This is my first attempt at earning my own living being back two months enough to do what

Hoping you will favor me with an early reply. I remain

Respectfully,

James E. Locke
333 Michigan Ave
Chicago