
Dear General,

I was very sorry not to have seen you on your visit here a few weeks since, but was prevented by matters beyond my control. I am glad you visited the dear old Church, and saw what we have been doing the past few years to improve it internally. The town will come next in order. Almost everywhere in the Church Edifice was a history fraught with self-denial and sacrifice, and it was our privilege to have aided in its construction. At our Westfield Anniversary a short time ago I told the audience some things they had never heard before in relation to the early history and struggles of what is now the grand First Church, with its one thousand members. It has been in the past, and is now a power for good vitally. There is no uncertainty about its position on all the great questions of the day, and with such a pastor as we have, our future influence cannot be measured. He is just now giving us a series of lectures on "What is Congregationalism," which are scholarly, instructive and timely.
Dear General, how come I ever repay you for your kindly notice of me in the December num-
ber of the "Vermont"? I have not words to express
my gratitude on my own account, and my family are
also very much pleased, as publishing it at that magazine
becomes a matter of history. During all these years
it was my good fortune to see with you. I always
try to do my whole duty. The habits of promptness, energy
and perseverance for which you gave me credit, came
from lessons learned at home, or learned supplemented
by my subsequent experiences in the Railroad service.
It was a delight to be with you for you showed me
more with the details of my department (nor let any one
else) but gave me full covering to run it my own
way, trusting to my capacity to do it. You confi
confidence in me. Sound me to you by this that cannot
be broken. I hope many years of usefulness are still
before you, and may our Father God in Heaven,
have you always in his holy keeping.

Sincerely, truly,

J.W. Ballard
Norwalk Ile Feb. 15th 1896

My dear Sir,

Your article in the National Tribune that includes an account of the capture of the works on the Sabbathday Lake is before me as I write out from my window over a land covered with tobacco, smelling warm, the scene brings back the memories of that eventful afternoon of Feb 3rd 1866.

I belonged to Co. A 32nd Ill. Vol. Inf., while our Brigade advanced on more than one tack across this River. My Regt. was in advance of the others. Why I say this. I saw Wells, Higginbotham, Bellnap and R. F. Potts, along with Col. Col. Rider Commanding the Regt. as they charged across, and heard them laughing and talking about me having to cross 25 smaller streams across the overflowing bottom, I saw them again after we had gained a footing at the foot hills
On the opposite shores the scaling party landed with the plan the only crossing we could see was in the distance. My company went there for supplies and breakfast. On coming at these foot paths we encountered a force of the enemy which were armed down to the line our only defense were those known as bayonets. We crossed the river and were ordered to fortify the head and shoulder. There was a desperate order taken. No money would induce one to go through. The name again nothing short of patriotism. The water was so cold that many of the men had to be carried out on the little islands and in some places it was to help us had to carry our cartridges from on our shoulders. We had to reappear the ground while crossing the north Eddie. Feb. 12th 1865 above the town of Orangeburg, S.C. With more exposure however there was much fire in the water that chilled to the bone— The 32nd I.I.L. was detailed alone to make a
Crossing some 2 miles above Trenton. While the
real-Crossed in front and below. I was told then
when we arrived in town at dusk, that Gen'l. J.B. Palmer
of McPherson's. Tennessee was in Command of the place.
and that he was routed as being the home of Barnwell
Rhett who had been a noted member of the 2nd Corps
before the war. Feb. 1st 1863. My Brigade drew up a mile
off pile Columbia's S.C. while the 15th Corps which was ordered
came in from further up the River. Gen'l. Belknap
and Co. of the 32nd deer and a Co. of the 15th deer under
Command of Col. Kennedy of the 15th Deer. Across on
across and take possession of the city. The colors of the 15th
Deer was halted above the State House, and those of the
32nd Deer over the city. I was within a few feet
of Gen'l. Belknap. who was watching the progress of this operation
with his field glasses. and when those colors went. Gen'l
Belknap threw up his cap and one round of longs
rout the air. I was with the Right. Among its 49 or more
Companying. Had only one flagstaff which was a section
feeling to relate an incident that happened to you myself in Savannah, Georgia. While screening one of our Union enemy forces fell upon you in the street - both going down in the sand and it appeared to me from which I was killed - your staff and body guard ran over you, of course. This was not the case. There is one item I wish to bring to your notice so you are a great philanthropist and feel kindly to the old Union. I was pensioned for 15 years while at Memphis, Tenn. Aug. 1862.

My Pension Certificate read: Pensioned for disability due to nervous system, and disease, recall of same年起. And when I was allowed 400 per month, Brightening my pension 1000 per month which is all I am drawing. My certificate was changed reading like this: Pension for disease of nervous system. I left with - I tried to Save to have it to include, disease of heart which I have been of the heart. What at times incapacitates me from doing manual labor. Of late years many times I have been losing sun...
Healy, Patience, and what is very strange that a beloved person, only 70 days and perhaps more left, his state should be granted a pension without much effort. I feel that I have great reason to complain of the Commissioner of Pensions and lose my care be put in the hands of a Special Examiner. It is likely my friends would not have a chance to speak favorable to the Claim. If I was to die today I would not have the means to give one a decent burial.

I am liable to drop off any moment, so that clustering pain in the region of the heart for tells. Please know this. I am yours.

E. C. L.

John B. Palmer
late 1st CA T. 32nd A. L.

formerly V.C. A.
My dear General:

I take pleasure in enclosing the pass you desire for yourself and one on a line between Buffalo and Chicago. You will note that I have obtained this from Mr. Callaway, a friend of yours, and in order that you may see how freely it is given, I take the liberty of enclosing also Mr. Callaway’s note enclosing the annual.

I shall be glad to know that this has reached you safely. With kind regards,

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Gen. O. O. Howard,
No. 156 College St.,
Burlington, Vt.

Enclosures.
J. D. Layng, Esq.,
Gen. Mgr., West Shore R.R.,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Layng:

I enclose you a pass for General Howard and one, with pleasure. The General was a neighbor of mine at Omaha, and I have a very sincere admiration and affection for him and his family.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

Cleveland Ohio, February 13, 1896.
The New York Chicago & St. Louis
Railroad Company

Cleveland, Ohio
September 15, 1930

L. D. Sayre, M.D.
Gen. Med. West Shore R.R.
New York City

My dear Mr. Sayre:

I enclose you a press for General Hospital any one with please.

The General was a neighbor of mine at Omaha and I have a very

sincere appreciation and expression for him and his family.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]
Burlington, VT.
Feb. 16, 1876

My dear Otto,

The enclosed papers seem to be for your signature so I send them at once that they may be settled. Your letter from No. 1 came this morning with one from H. E. enclosing the N.Y. Central pass. Do you both meet at Jamin's office. Had to hear that Kelley is better. I think you did not expect to delay in New York, was an account of trains. It was the time I should have liked to have seen you.
been with you at Brockton and
looked over the grave of his ancestors.

Then one other hand just came in
for their Sunday school (a small
class) it is pleasant to think that
soon on the next time we reach the
end of their long journey. Our last
news was for Woodland. It had a
pleasant time, good sea and
sunny.

Satisfactory. All were well, and the
birds no trouble. We have quiet in
deep snow now, one snow plow
has made several trips about the
little walker, and another on the
electric car tracks. Now the big brush
follows. Snow on the roof melting

This afternoon going to some
troubles inside in new places.

I wonder we shall go any after
while. It someone ought to come
into the house occasionally.

So will not get away from here before
Lst. night. She was looking better.

Dernie and I chatted them on Colie's
Birthday and again last Friday.

The children are slowly getting one
the winter cough. Dernie seems to
be quite well. We have the chickens
made out all right. I forget when they

come to the house. This letter should
reach you before you leave Chicago.

As I will put it in the Post Office tonight.

We are both quite well. Yours Liz.
Middlebury At Feb 16th 1876

Maj. Gen'l C.G. Howard
Burlington At

Dear Sir,

I hope you will excuse me as an entire stranger to you, for addressing you as I do at this time and in this manner, I have a matter of business on my mind, about which I wish to consult you, and in which I think you will become interested. You are the President of the Congregational Home and Foreign Missionary Society, I am a life member of that Society. I have been since Jan 28th 1865. Therefore I think we have a great interest in the
Prosperity of that society
I will now state the case
and tell you why I write to you.
In 1874 my wife was possessed
some property she expected sometime
by her father's estate, and knowing
the uncertainty of all earthly things
she thought best to make her will
willed her property to me, to use as
I needed it, if I should outlive her.
But if I did not use her property or
whatever or so much as should be
left at my death, was to be equally
divided between the Home Mission
ary Society of N.Y, and the Amer-
ican Tract Society of N.Y.
At that time I was living in the
Village of Middlebury and engaged
in the Tin, Stove and Hardware bui-
ness, in co with three other men.
On the morning of Sept. 11th 1875 our
...time with all the good of every kind was ruined by fire. In March 1876 I bought the Home Farm from my father in law's estate and as my business affairs looked to me at that time, I thought best to have the farm deeded to my wife. In Nov 1880 she was taken sick and aica in Aug 1881. During her sickness by my request, deeded the farm to me so that I own the farm at her death and her will was never proved. I notified the two societies which were interested in her will of her death, but never received any reply to my letters. About the time that my wife made her will, I made a will to correspond with hers. I was at time, and of course am now a life member of the...
I have not been able to do much work for several years and my health is getting poorer, I am some in debt so that if I should live until April 97 I now think that it will be best for me to sell the farm and I want to sell it for as much as I can so as to have enough to pay all my debts and enough to carry me through life have as much as possible to go to Home Missions & Tract Society.

The farm is south west of the village of Middlebury on road to Cornwall a little to the left of direct road. On an elevation of land which makes the situation of the house and its surroundings very pleasant.

My neighbours say that it is the pleasantest location in the town we can see at my house around it within a radius of 1/8 mile.
laying in twenty five towns in it
and to the west a very fine view
of the Adirondacks in New York.
Now what I would like is to have
you come here some very pleasant
day before the foliage is out in
Spring, and when the atmosphere
is clean and look the landscape
over. Not to locate an army but to
decide if it would not suit some
of you. Many friends who may
be looking for a summer home
away from the city.
It is about a little less than two miles
from depot. Five Churches two hotels
Court house & jail. (Any one want
to visit that place) Stores, Mills, &c.
about one mile to Graded School
+ lep than one mile to the College
buildings. The College buildings
are in plain sight of the house
I would like to hear from you and also see you here. If I could know whether you would come or not I would make arrangements with some one at depot to bring you to my house. If you wish to argue about me, I will refer you to any of the leading men in town—lawyers, doctors, ministers, deacons, etc. Yes Darwin Rice, hotel keeper. A.J. Marshall at depot or M.W. Eaton, Prof. in college, T.C. Boyce, etc., M. B. Monroe C.E. J. H. Chapman, respectfully yours Henry J. Wilcox
To General C. C. Howard:

Dear Sir:

Not knowing your present residence, I had to inquire first, yet, had I been aware that you still lived in Washington City, I would not have been at ease to address a letter to you to that town, for any letter carrier 24 hours old in the Postal service would have found your residence sure enough. About 30 years ago I was personally acquainted with you. For about the first day of Jan. 1866 until the first day of April my headquarters were every third day on the same floor with yours, in the Freemen's bureau, on the right side; when you left the bureau on the evening, I took possession of it and held it, until your clerks came back next morning, when I modestly retired to my own quarters in the basement, as a member of the Corporals Guard of Co. H 8th Reg. U.S. V. (as much as I can remember of you). You were a dignified gentleman minus one arm, I believe the left, but in no way imperious.

While like Helen of Troy or Terpsichore could dwell the destruction of Charlage, I claim I could see a little further ahead than just to the end of my nose. When the last Administration came into power and the Secretary of the Treasury with an empty U.S. Treasury before him, at least as far as gold or goldstein were concerned, went to work to ask the Bankers to help him out with gold, I more well aware than already, they would help him out, not with gold only, but out of gold consequently. For I consider it,
As Sir, excuse one for taken your address to be Buckland As. Washington D.C. instead of New York.
to be a golden rule for any one to adopt in practical life:

"Reach your little finger to the devil and he will take you in soul
and body." Since then I have not like Helen bewailed the condi-
tion of our Sovereign People, but have put myself up on the
warpath. — To give you first a little brighter view of my own life I
will tell you. In the month of July last 1895 I left Montana for the east,
while I had been for the last five years, what People call out there an
honest place as Goldminer; that is: Men that perform hard and dirty work
for the least pay, even the first two winters I had to leave my grounds, it
being 40 feet deep and not well enough open that I could strike out any gold-dust,
nor desiring to stay and run in debt. The first winter I worked once more in
a Coalmine, a hundred miles away, the next I chopped Cordwood on contract
for rather low wages yet I paid my way, yet always poor I was most
independent, but when I found that our People as a Nation had lost their
Independence, it were trampled under feet, by the cohorts of S—— in
Wall-st. I considered I had a Mission to fill and for that purpose be
more close to Washington D.C. before Congress again convened, I expected to
run as peacemats stand somewhere, yet I felt no inclination for doing my business
on small scale, yet I were trained as a boy for to turn out to be a
Merchant or Banker once. Finally drifting to Milwaukee I accidentally
got a view of the National Soldiers Home. Knowing that in my study
of practical life for 40 years, I could hold my own with any Boss of People
and permit no one to reach right over that little Ass, I could do the
same thing with the old veterans. I applied Aug. 1st and got finally admitted as a member of the Home, and found it my duty to give you my ideas of the workings of the Home. If all the seven National Homes are managed like this I must admit: The Members here the old Veterans are well fed, well clothed, well quartered, and have all the medical treatment they require gratis, those what are not disabled to a serious degree, as I happen to be one of them, even get once a week the allowance of a Packet of Tobacco or part of a Plug, those what have $6, $12, or $16 dollars a month besides pay for pension, you may think can be perfectly happy even if they had before they entered the Home only the boxcars on a Railroad Train for their lodging Place, and a handout from a farmers wife when they were hungry on the road traveling; but not much. There is an other golden rule the People at large so little obey; Be moderate in all things. "The real happiness in our life. During the six months of my stay here I have times and again helped out these pensioners with part or all of what I had to spare, because before one month was up after payday, these men were even without a dime to buy there own Tobacco. I consider the seven National Homes to be the greatest Monument the Nation has build. As the memory of our Heroes that have bleed and died on the battlefields of the late war, and now rest in piece in nameless graves, for the living survivors to be occupied as a comfortable Home As there dying day if they will only be man enough to retain it.
Yet our Home is surrounded with Home comforts, even Man which hold from 6 to 10 dollars Pension and are much more able to do a days work than I am, can if they like to work a little, earn beside from 3 or 4 dollars p. month in the Horn, they seem to be not satisfied; whenever they get the weekly National Tribune, there whole interest seems to be centered in Pension Legislation, if there be any new Pension in view or an increase of an old one. I consider the Membership of a National Home to any old Veteran, to be an equivalent of $12 p. month Pension. Do you consider it a more and generous Legislation to allow old Veterans that can not get along inside or outside of a Soldiers Home with $12 p. month $5 or $6. and thereby ruin our Government once more into dissolution and Bankruptcy? I consider more Statesman like and less squaw like Legislation would look much better. Men on to 70 years and more, old and feeble in the far west that served 3 and 4 years in actual war, are now dropping of in the there graves in old age without one doll. Pension in there favor, but perhaps they are too far away from the polls on Election day, therfor of little consequence.

Of late I have noticed an Obituary of J. P. Morgan in a Milwaukee Paper, the great Banker and Philanthropist, the great Banker, who was already an English Banker in a Jew, born in Massachusetts, April 17th 1837, my Father was born in that day but he was anything but a Banker or a Jew, I myself was born just 2 days sooner the 15th of April 1837, therefor claim to be an older Banker than J. P. Morgan, as a Royal Citizen, only cemented to the Sovereignty of our People, while he is cemented to a foreign Element that is dangerous and hostile to our Institutions. As a Gambler in Government and Railroad Bonds, he may be even if a generous and
Philanthropy turned meantime. For myself have met in my travels Gambling that the might before have bled their neighbors out of several thousand dollars in favor or fortune, would the most slay generously thrown out offer or gold, and, when called up on by the Sisters of Charity. Now that Gambler J. P. Morgan seems to one has had his own way in our finances since 1875. Therefore that Monarch of a Devilfish had his Tarrnasels in every Act of Congress since on Financial Question. Most likely the gold reserve made nothing but a rotten bull mark of the monsters of Wall St. to drive our Government one more to dissolution and bankruptcy, when ever Congress would dare to pass an Act to even tax them on their ill begotten millions as they have proved since that income tax law were in construction. I've had our Secretary's of the Treasury from John Sherman on till John Carlson since the greenbacks were declared a full Legal Tender for all debts public and private even for duty on imports, never paid out a single dollar in gold for their Exchange out of the Treasury while we had back all along the Gold Standard since the war, our plain Legal Tender notes would have been just what they now are in pair with the Gold Dollar as a Unit and the Redemption money of its own redemption for it would have been a criminal offense for them to run their par value down inside the boundary of the U.S. Stocks in the Treasury. They knew it, and so mistified our Financial System that a flag could not well find its way out. While the U.S. without a dollar in the U.S. Treasury with only the golden Harvest of our Wheat fields the Herds of cattle and flocks of Sheep on our Plains, is capable to float 500,000 Millions of plain Legal Tender.
Notes on par with the Gold-dollar as a unit, without ever attempting to redeem a single dollar of it in Gold, it can already in two years time be redeemed by the Government in collection of taxes on par with the Gold-dollar as a unit, and while we purchase one and all Commodities on par with the Gold-dollar as a unit. Therefore we present Silver-dollar and Gold-dollar. Legal Tender notes are nothing but an act of simplicity and duplicity in our Treasury Department, the one reducing a dollar down to 50 Cts, while the other is doubling the People's money from one dollar up to two and three by the time that Devilish in Wall-street got his good work in on them. My experience in farming in Oregon I have paid 10 per cent interest on some money due on the farm, and know that at the same time some of my neighbors in the Willamette Valley paid 8 to 10 per cent interest on their farms on heavy mortgages to the Scottish Comp. while their wheat brought only 80 Cts. per bushel in Portland Oregon. As a Banker I might persuaded any those farmers what owned them a farm there worth 20,000 dollars and a clear title to it, in 1886 and 1887, to give them 10,000 Dollars on a first Mortgage on their farm at with 10 per cent interest to pay, inside of 5 years I might call that 20,000 dollar farm my own and tell that Farmer to pack up and leave with his family without a dollar in his possession. That is just about the way that noble J. P. Morgan has been treating Uncle Sam's farm with one mortgage after another selling Grover and Carlisle, it be a good thing to raise the credit of the Nation, by dumping one hundred Million Gold dollars after another like a bucket full of water over a sieve in to that large Elephant the Gold reserve.
By mail I send with this letter a copy of my own Sound money doctrine and ask your kind consideration. Yet I must trust that you will guard that it will not come before the public for that is not its purpose. It is No. 6 for I am now since Jan. 4, 76 in the Halls of Congress, one with the Executive Department. I have recommended that if hence the Ten Commandements be observed by them in general and my Sound money doctrine specially as the Eleventh, the country may prosper yet. Therefore I would like to see an Act passed in Congress which I have recommended to J.G. Carlisle in July 1894 already once. That 10 Million Silver dollars be paid out of the U.S. Treasury annually to pay one half of all Pensions quarterly payments in Silver coin. While the biggest half of all Pensions receive less than 250 doll. p. Annual it will be in no way inconvenient to them. As those Silver dollars are to be paid out as a full Legal Tender for all Debts public or private they will buy just as many dollars worth Commodities as a Gold dollar or underwritten Legal Tender would with a Gold dollar on his back, as a circulation medium they will be redeemed by the Government any time for Taxes or Revenue in par with the Gold Dollar as a unit. It shall be done with the motto: On God we trust and the Supreme will of a Sovereign People: all Laws or Standing Acts of Congress contrary to the proper working of this Act shall and are hereby repealed. Now General if you will give me the moral support of the old Army at large, I will write a letter to General J.N. Walker my Comander in Chief G.A.R., for the moral support of that order I think we will make a success. It would mean: stand by our God as Sovereign People and fight the Devil in Wallstreet. Please let me hear from you soon. You only send a good typewritten form of an Act of Congress along with your letter, and your order.

Yours truly  R. W. Miller.

National Home, Wis.
De Witt Miller

Dr. Marcus 1617

Philadelphia

are sent herewith.

The Union League
Philadelphia

17 Feb
[1896]

His showe
be fun. Howard's pleasure, on a
blistref of the
book on Mr.
Lincoln wh. went
to him a day
or so
also, to write
alice or
about "father
Abraham" and
also his
name the place
and the date,
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ified and
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