

RETURN AFTER 5 DAYS TO
G. W. BALLOCH,
P. O. BOX 557,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

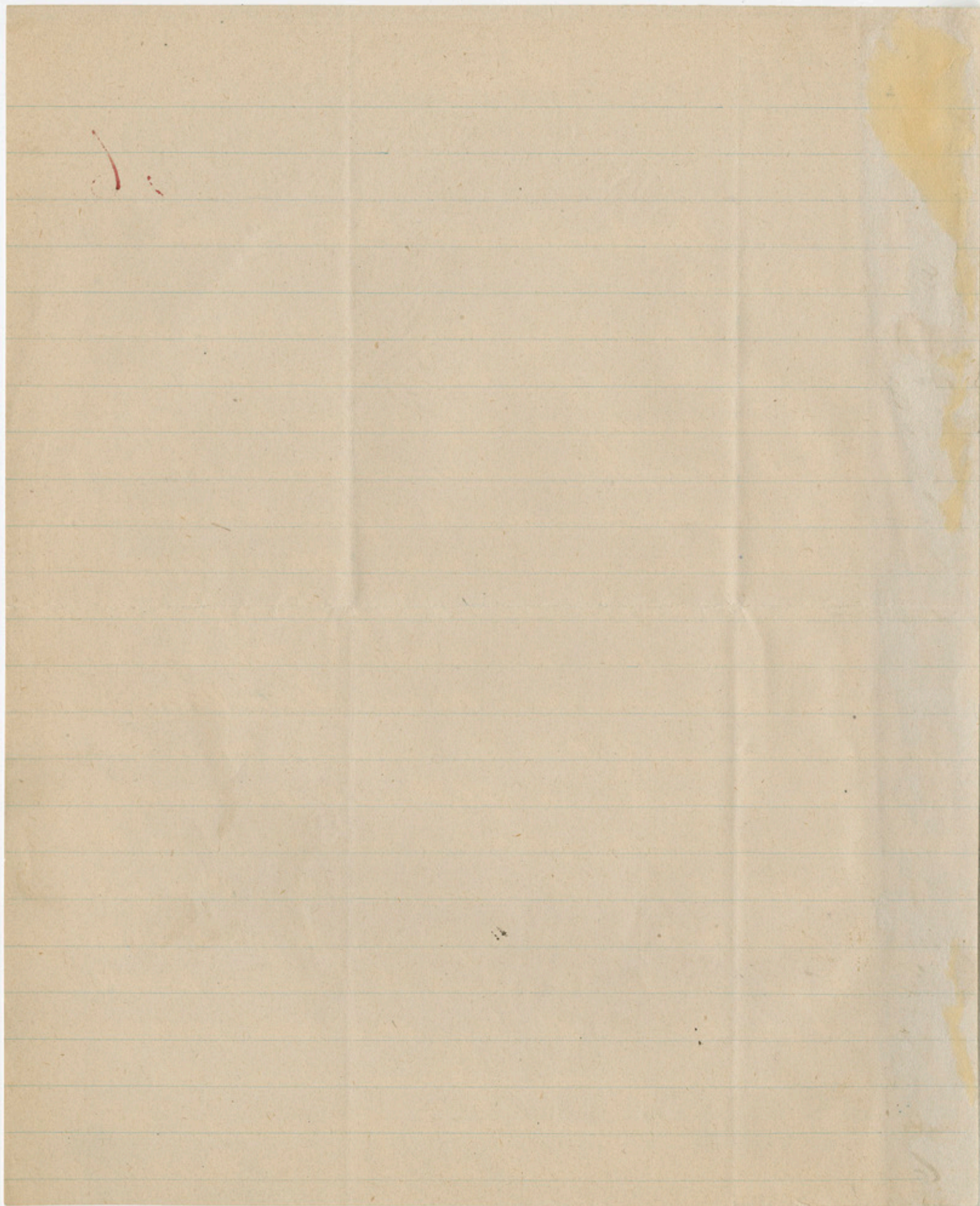
Personal

735

Washington D. C. Feb: 15th 1896.

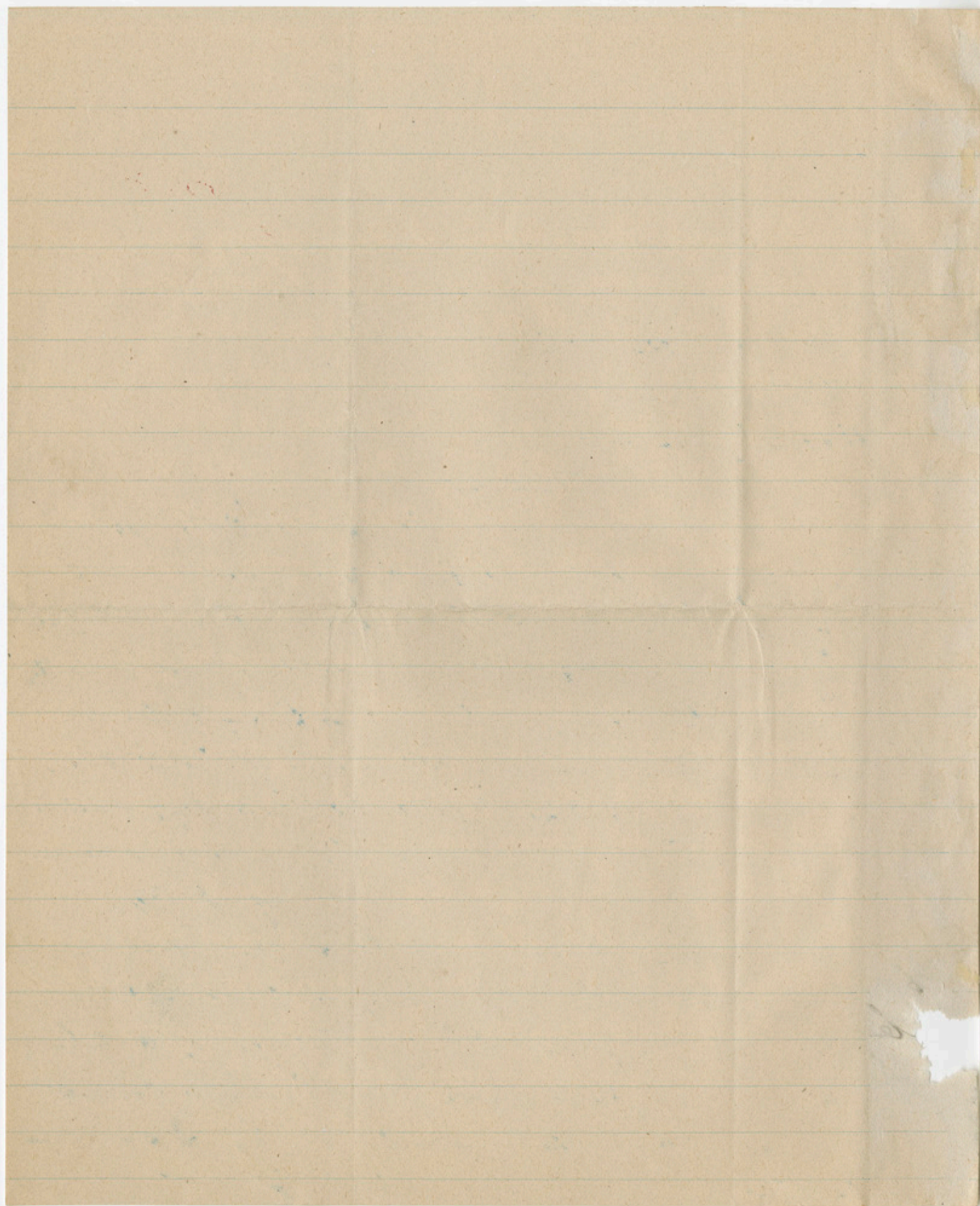
Dear General.

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 year since to improve it internally. The tower will come next in order. Almost every brick in the Church Edifice has a history fraught with self-denial and sacrifice, and it was our privilege to have aided in its construction. At our thirtieth Anniversary a short time ago I told the audience some things they had never heard of 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 in this city. 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 sermons on "What is Congregationalism", which are scholarly, instructive and timely. -



Dear General, how can I ever repay you for your kindly notice of me in the December number of the "Vermont Herald". I have not words to express my gratitude on my own account, and my family are also very much pleased, as, published in that magazine it becomes a matter of history. During all the years it was my good fortune to serve with you, I always tried to do my whole duty. The habits of promptness, energy and self reliance for which you give me credit, came from lessons learned at Norwich University, supplemented by my subsequent experiences in the Railroad service. It was a delight to serve with you, for you never meddled with the details of my department (nor let any one else), but gave me full swing to run it my own way, trusting to my Capacity to do it. Your perfect confidence in me, bound me to you by ties that cannot be broken. I hope many years of usefulness are still before you; and may our Father who is in Heaven, have you always in His Holy Keeping.

Sincerely Truly
S. W. Fairbank



239

Normal Ill. Feb. 15th 1896
Major Genl. Howard
Washington D.C.

My dear Sir

Your article in the
National Tribune that includes an account of the
Capture of the Works on the Salkahatchie River is before
me, as I look out from my window over a land
scape of ^{covered with -} melting snow, the scenes bring back
the memories of that eventful afternoon of Feb. 3rd 1865.

I belonged to Co. A 32nd Ills. Vol. Infly. unless
our Brigade diverged on more than one route across
this River, my Regt. was in advance of the Column

Why I say this. I saw Genls. G. A. Smith,
Belknap and B. F. Potts. along with Lt. Col. Rides
Commanding my Regt. as they passed across, and heard
them laughing and talking about us having to cross 35
smaller streams across the rough bottom, I saw them
again after we had gained a footing at the foot-hills

11



770 2

822

On the opposite shore the Genl. Officers shared
with the men the only Coaming for the night; (the
Canopy of Heaven) My Company sent them a portion
of their ration for supper ^{not sent about} and breakfast - On crossing
at these foot-hills we encountered a force of the enemy
which were soon driven back - but our only defensive
works were those thrown up by our tin pans, a place
was even excavated in the sand sufficient - to protect the
the head and shoulders - That was a desperate under-
-taking - No money would induce me to go through
the same 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
so deep we had to carry our cartridges boxes on our
shoulders. We had to repeat the same, while cross-
-ing the North Edisto. Feb. 12th 1865 above the Town of
Orangeburg. S. C. With more exposure however, there
was much ice in the water, that chilled to the very
bone - The 32nd Ills. was detailed alone, to make a

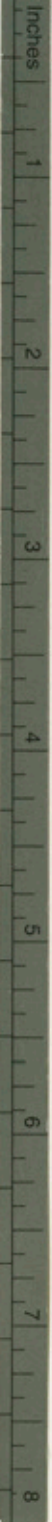
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Y B G

Crossing some 2 miles above Orangeburg. While the
boat-crossed in front and below. I was told when
we arrived in town at dusk, that Genl. J. B. Palmer late
of Memphis, Tennessee was in command of the place
and that it was noted as being the home of Barnwell
Rhett, who had been a noted member of the U S Congress
before the war. Feb 17th 1865. My Brigade drew up directly
opposite Columbia S. C. while the 15th Corps, which we could see
were coming in from further up the River. Genl. Belmapp
sent Co. C. of the 32nd Ills and a Co of the 13th Iowa under
command of Col. Kennedy of the 13th Iowa across in
prows and took possession of the city. The Colors of the 13th
Iowa, was hoisted above the State House, and those of the
32nd Ills over the City Hall. I was within a few feet
of Genl. Belmapp, who was watching the progress of the expedition
with his field glass, and when these colors went ^{up} Genl
Belmapp threw up his Cap and one round of muskets
went the air. I was with the Regt. during its 49 months
campaigning. Had only one furlough which was a Detention



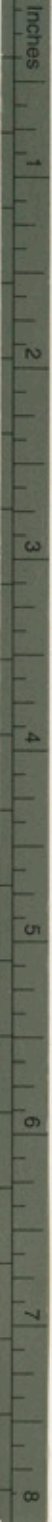
[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is mostly obscured by the paper's texture and the ruler's edge.]

No 4

200

Furlough I wish to relate an incident that happened to you
-self in Savannah Georgia. While reviewing our Division your
horse fell with you in the street - both going down in the
sand and it appeared to me from where I was that
your staff and body guard run over you, of course this
was not the case. This is one case thought I wish to
bring to your notice as you are a great Philanthropist
and feel kindly to the old Veterans. I was pensioned
for Sam Stokes while at Memphis Tenn. Aug. 1862.

^{Original} My Pension Certificate read, Pensioned for disease of
Nervous System and ^{heart} disease result of Sam Stokes - And when
I was allowed \$4.00 more per month, Discharging my pension
10.00 per month - which is all I am drawing, My Certificate
was changed reading like this, Pension for disease of Nervous
System & left wind - I tried in vain, to have it to
include disease of heart, result of Sam Stokes, as it
originally read - I have disease of the heart which at
times incapacitates me from doing manual labor
of late years many times I have been lying on



Handwritten text on lined paper, mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through. The text is written in blue ink and appears to be organized into several paragraphs or sections. There are some faint markings and a small blue dot near the top center of the page.

No 5-

241

Kealy ration, and what is very strange, that
a Soldier serving only 90 days and perhaps never
left his State should be granted a Pension without
much effort - I feel that I have great reason to
Complain of the Commissioners of Pensions - and were
my case to fall in the hands of a Special Examiner
quite likely, my funds would not have a chance to speak
favorable to the claim - If I was to die to day I
would not have the means to give one a decent burial

I am liable to drop off any moment, as that
choking pain in the region of the heart fortells

Please answer this I am Yours

in F C & L

John B Palmer

Late 1st Lieut. Co. H 32nd Ills.

formerly of Co. A.

Inches
1
2
3
4
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6
7
8

14/11
No. 2
The following is a list of the
names of the persons who
were present at the
meeting of the
Board of Directors
of the
Company held on
the
14th day of
November
1911.

West Shore Railroad,

N.Y.C. & H.R.R.R. CO, LESSEE.

No 5 Vanderbilt Avenue.

J.D. Sayre
General Manager.

New York. February 15, 1896

5/15/96

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.

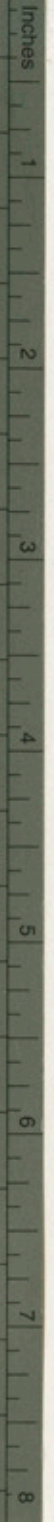
I shall be glad to know that this has reached you safely. With kind regards,

Very truly yours,

J. D. Sayre

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

Enclosures.



Mr. Wm. Brewster

1122 W. 11th St. S.E.

Washington, D.C.

February 18, 1898

My dear Sir,

Thank you for the
copy of the

My dear General:

I take pleasure in enclosing the page 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 same.

I shall be glad to know that this has reached you

and with kind regards,

Very truly yours,

J. C. ...

Gen. G. O. Howard,
No. 122 College St.,
Washington, Vt.

Enclosures.

THE NEW YORK, CHICAGO & ST. LOUIS
RAILROAD COMPANY.

S. R. CALLAWAY,
PRESIDENT.

CLEVELAND OHIO, February 13, 1896. *248*

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,

S. R. Callaway



The New York, Chicago & St. Louis
Railroad Company

S. R. CALLAWAY
PRESIDENT

CLEVELAND OHIO, February 13, 1888.

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

My dear Mr. Layne:

I enclose you a pass for General Howard and one, with please-
ure. 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,

W. Callaway



Burlington, Vt.
Feb. 16. '76

My Dear Mr. [redacted]

The enclosed papers seem to be for your signature so I sent them at once, that they may be settled. Your letter from No. 1 came this morning, with one from Harry enclosing the N.Y. Central pass. So you both met at Jamies office. Glad to hear that Adeline is better. I think you did not expect to delay in New York - was on account of trains. Harry would have liked to have

2

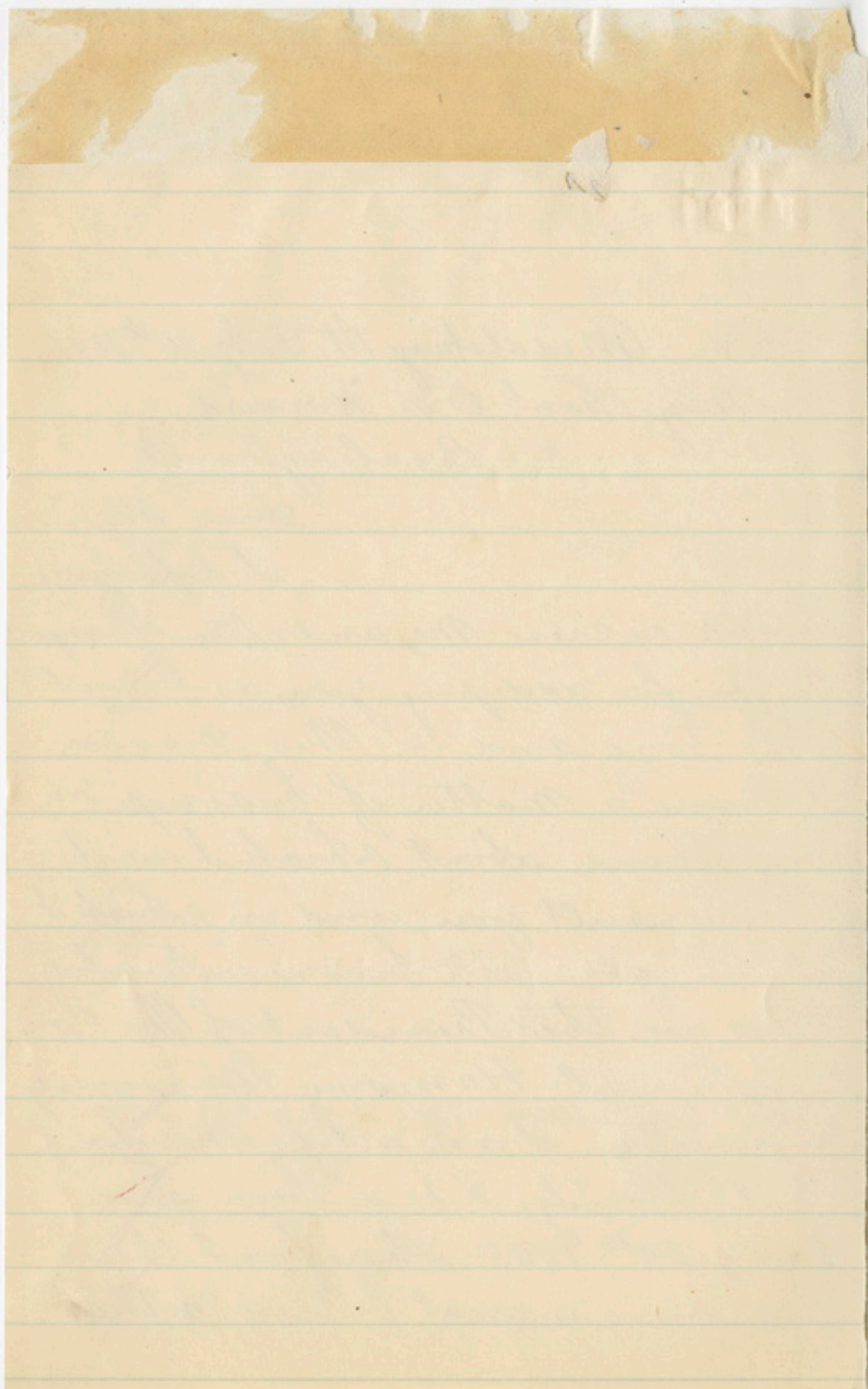
been with you at Bracketon and
looked over the ground of his ancestors.
Helena and Elsie have just come in
for their Sunday school (a small
class) It is pleasant to think that
Grace and the rest have reached the
end of their long journey. Our last
news was from Omaha, they had a
pleasant time, good cars and service
satisfactory. all more well, and the
birds no trouble. We have quite a
deep snow now. our snow plow
has made several trips about the
side walks, and another on the
electric car tracks than the big brushes
follow. Snow on the roofs melting

this afternoon giving us some
trouble inside in new places.
I suppose we shall go away after
a while, but someone ought to come
into the house occasionally.
Guy will not get away here before
Sat. next. He was looking better.
Bernie and I dined then on Elsie's
birthday and again last Friday.
The children are slowly getting over
the whooping-cough. Seamus seems to
be quite well. We have the checks you
made out all right, I forget when they
came to the house. This letter should
reach you before you leave Chicago
as I will put it in the Post office to night.
We are both quite well
Yours
Lizzie

Middlebury Vt Feby 16th 1896
Maj Gen^l, O. O. Howard
Burlington Vt

Dear Sir,

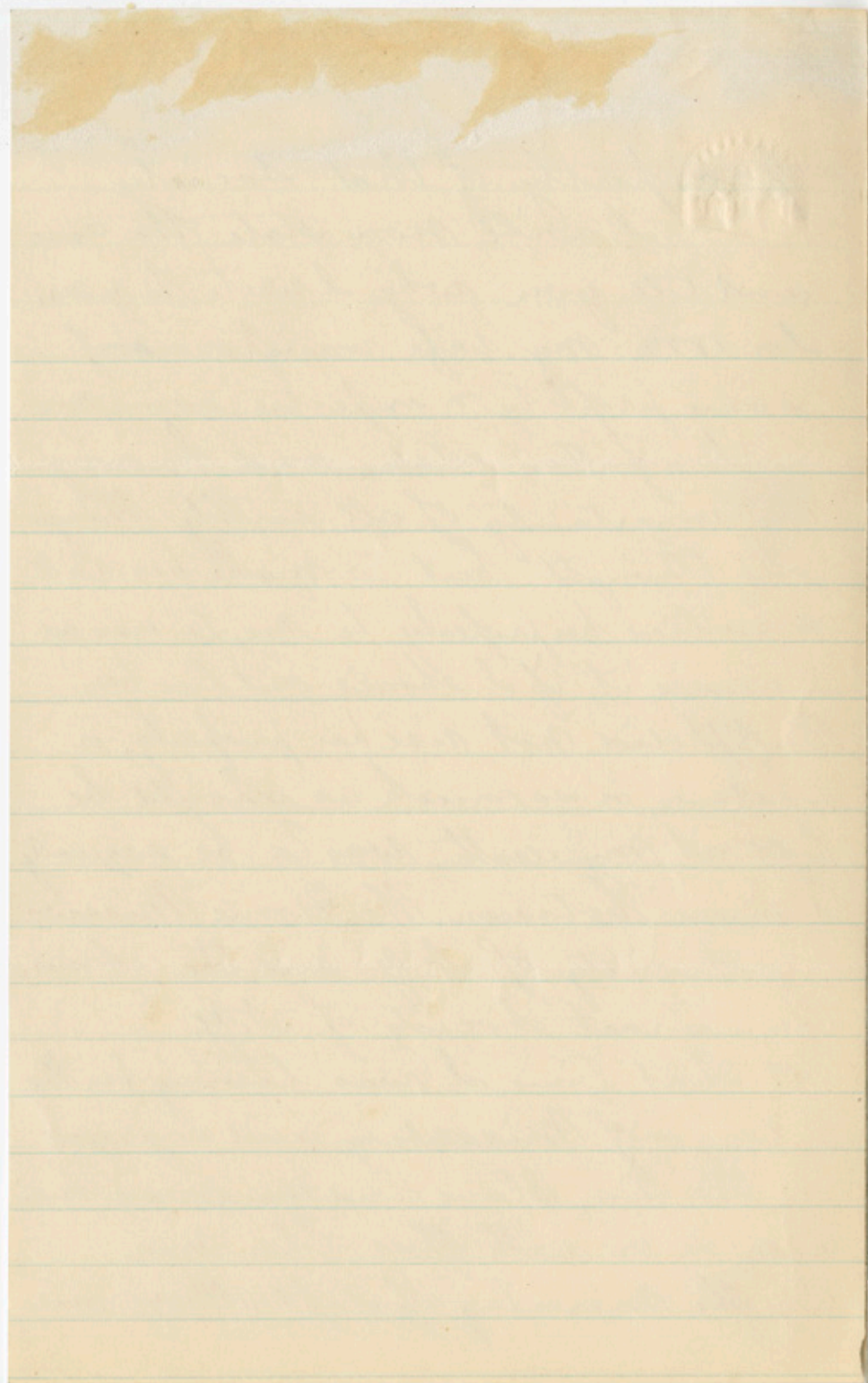
I hope you will excuse me, an entire stranger to you, for addressing you as I do, at this time and in this manner, I have a matter of business on my mind, about which I wish to consult you, and in which I think you will become interested, you are the President of the Congregational Home Missionary Society, I am a life member of that Society, I have been since Jan^y 28th 1865. Therefore I think we have a great interest in that



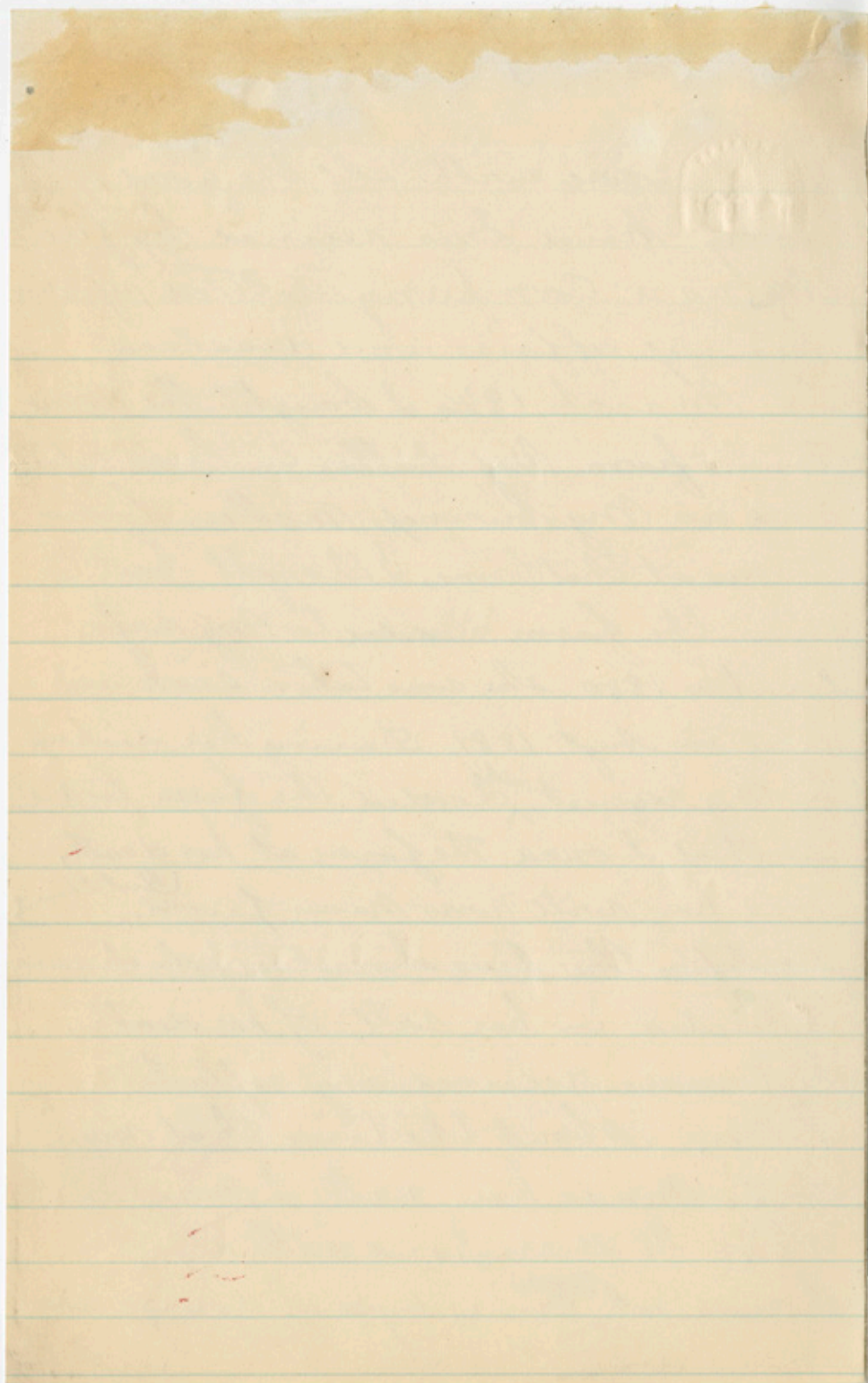
prosperity of that Society,

I will now state the case and tell you why I write to you. In 1874 my wife was in possession of some property & expected some more 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 Missionary Society of N. Y. and the American Tract Society of N. Y.

At that time I was living in the Village of Middlebury and engaged in the Tin, Stove and Hardware business, in co with three other men. On the morning of Sept 11th 1875 our



-ture with all the good of
 every kind was ruined by fire.
 We, as a Company settled upon our
 business affairs and dissolved,
 In March 1876 I bought the Home
 Farm from My Father in Law's estate,
 and as My business matters 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
 died in Aug 1881, During her sickness
 by My request, ^{she} deeded the farm to me,
 so that I owned the farm at her death,
 and her will was never proved, ^{But I have it,}
 I notified the two Societies which were
 interested in her will, of her death,
 but never received any reply to My
 letter. About the time that My
 wife made her will, I made a
 will to correspond with hers,
 I was at ^{that} time, and of course am
 now a ^{Life} Member of the A. T. Society

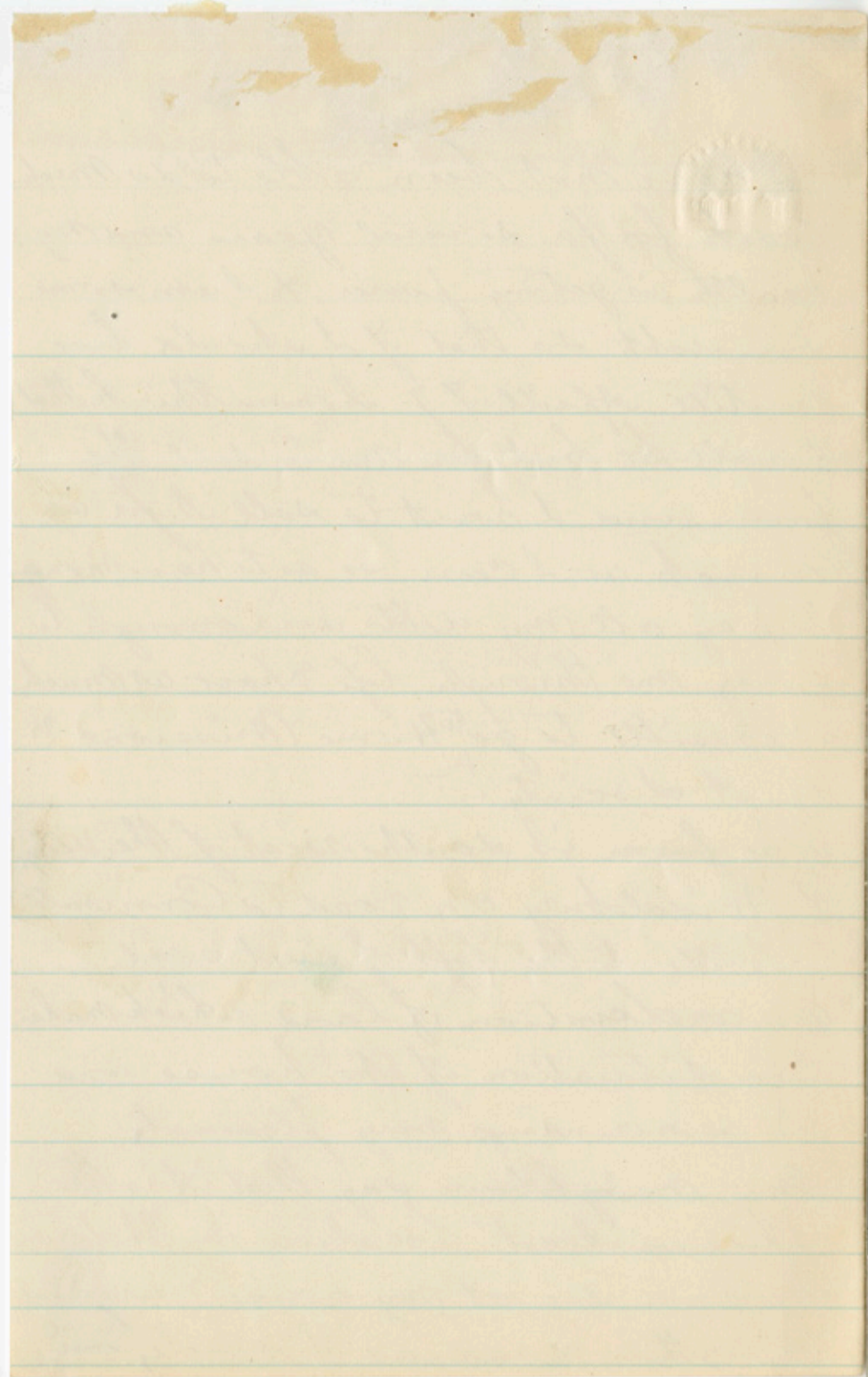


I have not been able to do much work for several years and my health is getting poorer, & I am some in debt, so that if I should live untill April 97 I now think that it will be best for me to sell the farm and I want to sell it for as much as I can so as to have money to pay all my debts, and enough 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 $\frac{1}{8}$ mile, ~~and~~ ^{land}



Laying in ^{over} twenty five towns in Nt
 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 forage is out in
 spring, and when the atmosphere
 is clear and "look the landscape
 over". Not to locate an army but to
 see if it would not suit some
 of your many friends who may
 be looking for a summer home
 away from the city.

It is a little less than two miles
 from Sept. five churches two hotels
 court house & jail. (if any one want
 to visit that place) stores, Mills, &c
 about one mile to Graded school
 & less than one mile to the College
 buildings. The College buildings
 are in plain sight of the house

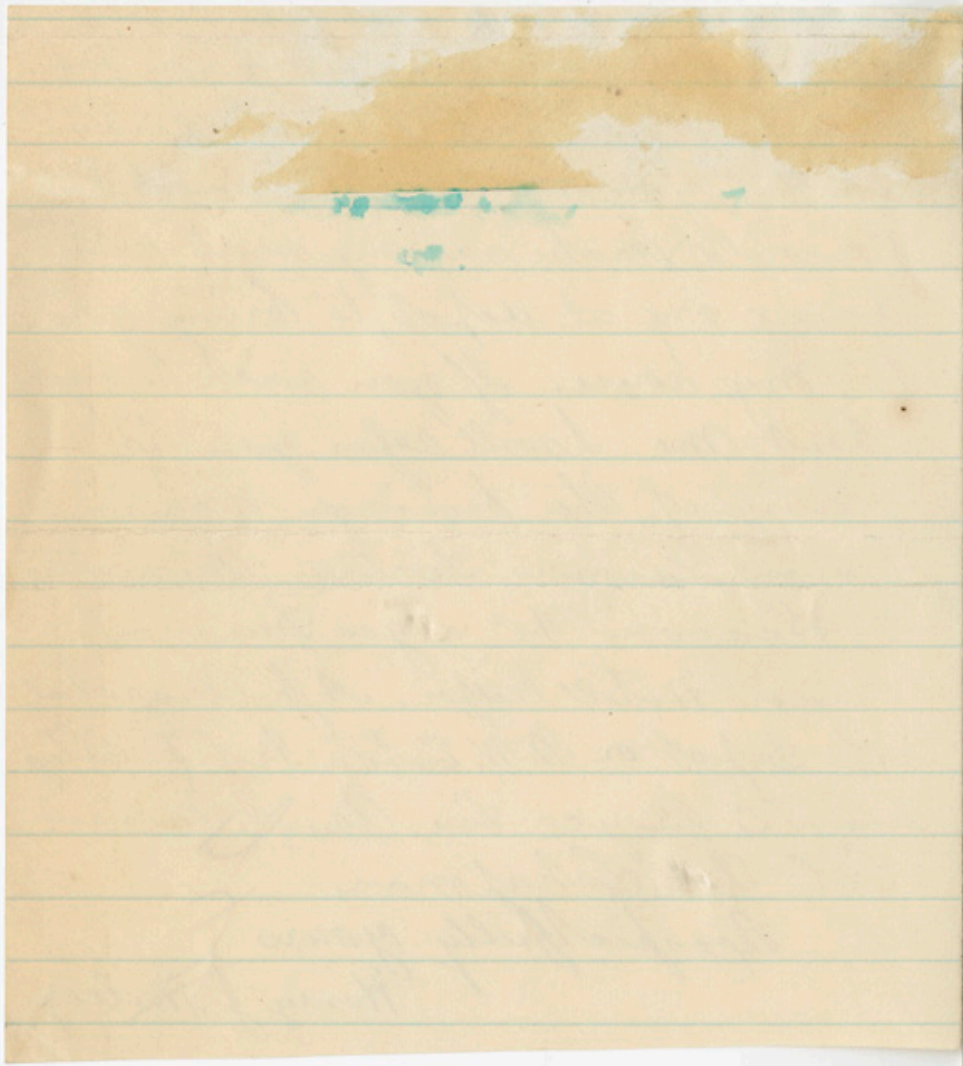


I would like to hear from you and
also see you here, if I could know
whether you would come or not I
I would make arrangements with
some one at depot, to bring you
to my house. If you wish to enquire
about me, I will refer you to

any of the busings men in
town Lawyers, Doctors, Ministers
& Deacons & C. J. Yes Darwin
Rider. Hotel keeper, A. J. Marshal
at Depot or W. W. Eaton Prof in college
Sea T. G. Boyce. Sea. M. A. Monroe
Col. J. M. Chapman

Respectfully yours

Henry J. Wilcox



Febr. 17th 1896.

To General O. O. 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 afraid 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 were 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 Freeman's Bureau on the night shift; 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. 8 Reg. U. S. V. V. etc. 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 Hellen of Troya or Troja could beveil the destruction of Charage, I claim I could see a little further ahead than just to the end of my nose. When this 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 Goldwin were concerned, went to work to ask the Bankers to help him out with Gold. I were well aware than already, they would help him out, not with Gold only, but out of Gold consequently. For I consider it,

1028
MB Please Sir, excuse me for taking
your Address to be Bulloud Str. Washing D.C.
instead of _____ Vt.

to be a golden rule for any one to adopt in practical life:

"Preach your little finger to the devil and he will take you in soul and body." Since then I have not like Hellen bewailed the condition 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 forepart 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 placer or Goldminer, that is: Men that perform hard and dirty work for the least pay, even the first two winters I had to leave my ground, it being 70 feet deep and not well enough open that I could take 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 were most independent, but when I found that our People as a Nation had lost there Independence, it were trampled under feet, by the Cohorts of S - - in Wallstr. 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 a peanuts stand somewhere, yet I felt no inclination for do any 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 70 years, I could hold my own with any class of People, and permit no one to walk right over that little Ass, I could do the

same thing with the old Veterans. I applied Aug. 1st and got finally⁽³⁾ admitted as a member of the Home. and find it my duty to give you my Tolea 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 feed well clothed, well quatered and have all the medical Treatment they require gratis, those what are not disabled to a pensionable degree, as I happen to be one of them, even get once a week the Allowence of a Packet Tobacco or part of a Plug, those what have \$6, 12, or 16 dollars a month by side pay for pension, you may think can be perfectly happy even if they had befor they entered the Home only the Boxcars on a Railroad track for there lodging Place, and a handout from a farmers wife when they were hungry on the road trawling; 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 those pensioners with \$6 and 12 pension, with my allowence of Tobaccu part or full Packet what I had to spare, because before one month were up after payday, those men were even without a dime to buy there own Tobaccu. I consider the seven National Homes to be the greatest Monument the Nation has build to the memory of our Heroes that have seed 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 to there dying day if they will only be man enough to retain it.

Yet our Home is surrounded with Home comforts, even men what hold from 6 to 10 doll. Pension and are much more able to do a days work than I am, can if they like to work a little, earn by side from 5 to 10 doll. p. month in the Home, they seem to be not contented; 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 equivallant of \$ 12 p. month Pension Do you consider it a wise and generous legislation to allow old Veterans that can not get along inside or outside of a Soldiers Home with \$ 12 p. month \$ 50 or 60. and thereby run our Government once more in to 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 to there graves in old age without one doll. Pension in there favor, but perhaps they are so far away from the Polls on Election day, therefor of little consequence.

Of late I have noticed an eulogy of J. P. Morgan in a Milwaukee Paper, the great Banker and Philanthropist whose father were already an english Banker or Jew, born in Massachusetts. April 17th 1837 my Father were born on that day but he were anything but a Banker or a Jew, I myself were born just 2 days sooner the 15th of April 1837, therefor claim to be an older Banker than J. P. Morgan, as a loyal 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 of a generous and

(5)

Philanthropist turn once a while. For I myself have met in my travels Gamblers that the night before have bled their neighbors out of several thousand dollars in Faro or poker, would the next day generously throw out a fifty or 100 DOLL. bill, when called up on by the Sisters of Charity. Now that Gambler J. P. Morgan seems to me, has had his own way in our Finances since 1875. Therefore that Monster of a Devilish head his Tantrachels in every Act of Congress since, out Financial Quarters. Most likely the Goldreserve were nothing but a rotten bulwark of the monsters of Wallstr. to drive our Government once 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. For had our Secretary's of the Treasury from John Sherman on till John G. Carlise 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 had all along the Gold Standard since the war, our plain Legal Tender notes would have been just what they now are, on par with the Gold dollar as a Unit and the Redemption money of its own redemption for it would have been a criminal offence for them to run their par value down inside the boundary of the U.S. States fosterin on to Treason, they knew it, and so mistified our Financial System that a Hog 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 Wheatfields the Herds of Cattle and Flocks of Sheep on our Plains, is capable to float a 1000 Millions of plain Legal Tender

Notes on par with the Gold dollar as a unite, without even 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 unite, and while out purchase one and all Commodities on par with the Gold dollar as a unite. Therefore our present Silver doll. 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 30 Cts, while the other is doubling the Peoples money from one dollar up to two and three by the time that Devilfish in Wallstr. got his good work in on them. My experience in farming in Oregon, I have paid 10 prct interest on some money due ^{up} on the farm, and know that at the same time some of my neighbors in the Willamette valley paid 8 to 10 prct interest on their farms on heavy mortgages to the Scottish Comp. while their wheat brought only 50 Cts p. bush. in Portland Oregon. As a Banker I might persuaded any those farmers who owned than a farm there, worth 20 000 dollar and a clear Title to it, in 1886 and 1887, to give them 10 000 Dollars on a first Mortgage on their farm ~~not~~ with 10 prct. interest to pay, inside of 5 years I might call that 20 000 dull. Farm my own and sell 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 Sams farm with one mortgage after an other, selling Gruber and Carlise, it be a good thing to raise the credit of the nation, by dumping one hundred Million Gold dollars after an other like a bucket full of water over a sieve in to that white Elephant the Gold reserve.

[Handwritten signature]

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 7 are now since Jan. 7. '96 in the Halls of Congress, one with the Executive Department, I have recommended that if hence, the ten Commandments 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 what I have recommended to J. G. Carlisle in July 1894 already once: That 70, 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 Pensioners receive less than 250 doll. p. Annum 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 counterfeit 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 on 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 Commander 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 a Sovereign People and fight the Devil in Wallstreet. Please let me hear from you soon. You may send a good styl form of an Act of Congress along with your letter. ^{and your Polwise}

National Home, Wis. Yours Truly R. W. Miller.

THE UNION LEAGUE
PHILADELPHIA

17 Feb 5
[1896]

Dewitt Miller
Oramer 1612
Philadelphia
are sent by
herewith.

It is shown
be for. Howard's
pleasure, on a
copy of the
book on Mr.
Lincoln wh. went
to him a day
or so

ago, to write
a line or two
about "Father
Abraham" and
to add his
name th. place
and th. date,
Mr Miller
wonder

bealike grat-
ified and
grateful -
Postage stamps
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