



Ayres & Wynn

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LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

EXHIBITION

OF

LEFT-HAND PENMANSHIP.

\$1,000 DOLLARS IN PRIZES.

[This collection of nearly three hundred Manuscripts, written by Soldiers and Sailors who lost their right arms during the late war, was made in response to an offer of prizes for the best specimen of Left-hand Penmanship, proposed by the Editor of the "SOLDIERS' FRIEND," New York.]

COMMITTEE OF AWARD.

His Excellency R. E. FENTON,
Governor of New York,
Rev. H. W. BELLOWS,
Pres. of the U. S. San. Com.,
WM. CULLEN BRYANT,

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS,
WILLIAM E. DODGE, Jr.,
HOWARD POTTER,
THEODORE ROOSEVELT,
WM. OLAND BOURNE.

LETTER OF MAJOR-GENERAL O. O. HOWARD.

WAR DEPARTMENT, BUREAU OF REFUGEES, FREEDMEN AND ABANDONED LANDS, }
Washington, February 27th, 1866. }

REV. DR. H. W. BELLOWS—*My Dear Sir*: I am grateful to you for the kind letter just received from you, and hasten to reply. I was invited to write for the prize, but for two reasons I abstained. First, I was too deeply engrossed in my present peculiar work, and secondly, I was conscious of my inability to write a fair hand. However, my penmanship is quite as good as that formerly with the right hand.

I heard a lady in the cars lately detailing the sufferings, mortification and repinings of a young man who had lost his right arm in the service. He said at first everybody received him kindly, showed him sympathy, and gave him aid, but now it had come to be an old story, and he received no special attention and found it difficult to find a position where he could gain a livelihood.

I will say to you, my dear sir, that there are times when the deformity and inconvenience come across the mind, and disturb the equanimity of those who are full of ambition to make the best of whatever befalls. I do not believe that even the plaudits of a grateful people, or the conscious pride arising from the glorious rewards bestowed upon patriotic efforts, will be enough to sustain the one-armed man so as to make him cheerful, hopeful, and happy at all times, so as to enable him to forget all the nervous pains and sensitive feelings that constantly assail him.

My only prescription is a complete surrender of the heart to Christ.

Affectionately,

O. O. HOWARD, *Major-General.*

Time Received 2:35 A.M.

United States Military Telegraph,

War Department,

Washington, D. C. Sept 14 1862.

H^r Dr. Frederick Sept 13, 12 Midnight.
The Presdt.

I have the whole
Rebel force in front of me but
am confident and no time
shall be lost. I have a difficult
task to perform but with Gods
blessing will accomplish it. I think
Lee has made a gross mistake &
that he will be severely punished
for it. The army is in motion
as rapidly as possible. I hope
for a great success if the plans
of the Rebels remain unchanged. We
have possession of Cotoctano. I have
all the plans of the Rebels and
will catch them in their own

18408

Time Received.....

United States Military Telegraph,

2 War Department,

Washington, D. C.,.....1862.

trap of my men are equal
to the emergency.

I now feel that
I can't count ~~on~~ them as of old,
All forces of Rema should
be placed to cooperate at
Chambersburg. My respects to
Mrs Lincoln. Received most enthus-
iastically by the ladies. Will send
you trophies. All well and
with Gods blessing will accomplish
it.

Geo B McClellan.

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