

A. "13" 1865-1

Piney Baracks Balt. Jan 29<sup>th</sup> 65

Augusta A. J.  
Surgeon 7<sup>th</sup> U. S. C. Troop

States that Colored passengers  
are charged the same  
on the B & W. R. Road, as  
White passengers,  
and are forced to go in  
the front Cars which  
is very disagreeable,  
Requests that this and other  
extorsing practices may  
be attended to.

One Enclosure,

Recd. Dept. Hd. Qrs. Jan 28<sup>th</sup> 65

Birney Barracks

Balt Jan 20/65

Major General G. Wallace

Commanding Middle Dept.

8<sup>th</sup> Army Corps Balt. Md.

General,

I have the honor to lay before you a disability that the colored people have to labor under, in travelling between this City and Washington which I am of the opinion if you will be kind enough to call the attention of the President of the Balt and Ohio to, will be removed.

The company exacts of colored passengers the same fare it does for white, and then huddles them together in the front car with all sorts of persons, where smoking of pipes and segars continue all the time, and where they are subject to insults. It makes no difference how respectable a colored lady may be; how disagreeable smoke-

-ing may be to her; or how ill she might be, the Employees about the depot will not permit her to enter any other cars, and should she by chance get into another and is found there, she is rudely thrust out.

The following occurrence took place with me to day. I accompanied my wife and another lady to the depot, that they might take the three thirty train for Washington and procured their tickets, after which they entered a car, when a man whom I learned to be one John Wright, followed them, and compelled them to leave that car under the penalty of being put off the train, and go into the front one, where they were nearly stifled, by the fumes of tobacco, . . .

They were obliged at the risk of taking cold, to hoist the window in order to breathe. In fact they both felt quite sick. Just behind them sat two rough white men, who indulged in insulting language. I appealed to the ticket agent and he said

Had nothing to do with the cars. I then spoke to a person by the name of Showacre whose duty it is to superintend the seating of passengers, and he stated that, that was the only car colored persons could ride in. Lastly, I appealed to the Conductor, and he said the President made the rules and they had to carry them out.

Now General, I submit that it is unfair for the company to practice such an outrage upon us, and I most respectfully claim your protection in the premises, as a United States Officer.

Now is that the only company that practices these impositions upon us, for all others, whose trains leave the city, does the same.

At the Baltimore and Philadelphia depot there are certain trains in which they will not allow colored persons go on at all. Notwithstanding, their business may be ever so urgent.

Another great inconvenience is, they refuse to sell them through

tickets to New York, thereby often times  
putting them to an extra expence,  
and detaining them in Philadelphia  
from ten to twelve hours. Should a  
strange colored, not acquainted with  
these regulations, come there at the hours,  
which they are not permitted to go on,  
a policeman is standing by backed up  
by the Provost guard to put him out.

Only a few weeks since an alter-  
cation took place at the Washington  
depot, and I apprehend that unless  
a stop is put to these outrages, a seri-  
ous difficulty may occur.

Hoping General, you will use  
your good offices to remove these  
unjust rules,

I remain

Your obedient Servant

A. L. S. J. S. S.  
Surgeon 7<sup>th</sup> U. S. Regt.

A. L. S. J. S. S.