

BALTIMORE, 1st Month, 14th, 1864

LIEUT. COL. W. E. W. ROSS,

Chief of Freedmen's Bureau.

Respected Friend:—We would respectfully call thy attention to the following facts consequent upon the adoption of the new constitution of Maryland:

Thousands of women and children (many of the women who are soldiers wives) have been thrown out of homes and are now very destitute. Our association for the aid of freedmen, have labored zealously in behalf of these people, but owing to the strain likely to be on our resources, and the limited space from which we are compelled to draw our supplies, we find more suffering than we are able to alleviate. We learn that it has been the custom for General officers to issue rations to refugees, and we would respectfully request the Commanding General, through thee, to grant us some temporary aid in the way of provisions.

We would not ask this aid did we not really need it, and as it is only temporary we trust our request will be granted. Signed on behalf of the managers of the Friends Association in aid of Freedmen.

JAMES BAYNES,
F. S. CORKRAN,
REBECCA TURNER,
E. ELLEN RILEY.

Endorsed—"Requests temporary relief in the way of rations for Freedmen."

JOHNSON'S STORE, January 24th, 1865.

Dear Sir:—I am directed to appeal to you to get redress in a matter between Mr. James S. Wilson and myself, in which case he holds two of my children as slaves, having had them bound since the adoption of the present Constitution. I, at one time, some four years ago, lived with Mr. Wilson myself, and after I left him, he would not allow me to come on his place, and I have not seen my children for two years. I got Mr. Webster to write to him for permission to come after my children, after the adoption of the Constitution, and enclose