

Head Quarters, Middle Department, 8th Army Corps,
Baltimore, November 11th 1864

My dear sir

I enclose you a copy of general order no 112 [] from these Head Qrs, which has thrown this quiet village into considerable excitement. The Club House alluded to is in the most fashionable part of the city—in the midst of the most rabid secessionists. The Club was closed some time since by General Schenck on account of its disloyal proceedings etc.

The general has been [] by a large number of the citizens who protest loudly and strongly against this “outrage,” but so far the General will not yield to their importunities. One gentleman says “Why General, I have a daughter living opposite—think of it. The General replied, You don’t say so. Another one says, Why sir, it is within the midst of our churches and would be offensive to us. The General replied, Gentlemen that is an argument in my favor. Show me a Christian—a truly pious one—who feels that to care for these poor helpless outcasts, to provide a home for them [], is offensive to him, if you can find one, I will revoke the order. The pressure is very great, and will be carried to Washington without doubt.

The General is very unpopular with the rebels here, and quite popular with the Union men.

We had a very exciting time here on the 8th and expected to have considerable trouble, but thanks to the [], we escaped without any extraordinary trouble.

The rebels closed some of the polls, but the [] opened them after a few hard blows. Had it not been for their pluck this state would not have done so well. Honor to whom it is due.

I expect to pay a visit to New York, as I have been doing double duty for some time. Col Lawrence’s AAG will return tonight. I hope this will relieve me of a great deal of hard work.

Present my kind regards to Mrs Roosevelt and to the young ladies and particularly my best wishes to the boys.

I am []
Sincerely yours
Oliver Matthews
A.A.G.