In Conclusion—Brethren, we urge you to continue the good work we have
 spasmodically commenced. Form committees in your respective Counties, sus-
 tain and encourage them by your irreplicable conduct, by your industry and
 observance of the Christian virtues. Encourage also our State Executive Com-
 mittee. Give them to know that you place confidence in them and they will
 repose the same in you. And now, Brethren, farewell. May God keep and pre-
 serve you in the paths of usefulness.

Organization of the State Executive Committee

The members elect of the S.E.C. who were in Sacramento, held a prelimi-
 nary meeting on Saturday, the 24th October. Present, Basil Campbell, Jas.
 Cefos, Richard A. Hall, Moses L. Rogers, John J. Moore, Wm. H. Harper, Philip
 A. Bell, Edward E. Duplex, and Richard P. Shorter.

J. J. Moore was appointed temporary Chairman, and E. P. Duplex, Secre-
tary.

After some consultation it was agreed that the permanent officers of the
 Executive Committee be a President, Recording and Corresponding Secretaries,
 and a Treasurer.

Moved, by P. A. Bell, that Wm. H. Yates be elected President. Carried.

Moved, by R. A. Hall, that J. J. Moore be elected Recording Secretary.

Carried.

Moved, by E. P. Duplex, that R. A. Hall be elected Corresponding Secre-
tary. Carried.

Moved, by J. J. Moore, that E. P. Shorter be elected Treasurer. Carried.

Moved, that the first regular meeting of the Committee be held in this
 city on Monday morning next, at 9 o'clock. Carried.

Adjourned.

E. P. Duplex,
Temporary Secretary.

Meeting of the State Executive Committee

Sacramento, October 30th.

Present, Wm. H. Yates, President in the chair, Messrs. J. J. Moore, R. A.
 Hall, Basil Campbell, M. L. Rogers, Wm. H. Harpers, E. P. Duplex, J. Cefos,
 P. A. Bell.

Moved, that the officers of this Committee form an acting board for the
 transaction of general business. Carried.

Moved, that the election for County Executive Committee take place before
 the first of January, 1866. Carried.

It was stated that there were two vacancies in the Committee, and it was
 moved that I. P. Gibbes, of Sierra, and Wm. Bird, of Amador, be elected members
 of this Committee. Carried.

Moved, that the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated to P. A. Bell,
 Secretary of the Convention, for compiling the minutes. Carried.

J. J. Moore, Secretary.

Copy in the Harvard University Library and the Library of Congress.

REFERENCE NOTES

1. The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands was created as
 a Federal agency under the War Department by an act of Congress, passed March
 3, 1865. Its existence as a separate branch of the national government was ex-
tended by various acts of Congress until June 30, 1872. It was administered by
 a commissioner in Washington, assistant commissioners in charge of districts
 in the South, and agents on the assistant commissioner's staffs. General
 Oliver O. Howard served as commissioner throughout the life of the Bureau.

The duties of the Freedmen's Bureau, as it was popularly called, were to
 administer abandoned and confiscated plantations, to provide clothing, shelter,
 medicine, and rations to Negroes and to destitute whites, and to adjust labor
 relations in the South.