

New York Oct 2^d 1837

Cogn. Ohs

I received your letter a week ago and should have answered it before had I not got hurt ~~quite~~ ~~bad~~ and from which I was laid up until this morning. I now enclose you the stamps as you requested and hope will reach you safe.

Uncle John arrived here last evening with wife and son. I have not seen them yet but shall this coming altho I am almost sick with a bad cold beside the lame arm. Jenny Lind is still in Boston singing to crowded houses. She will be ^{here} in the course of a week or two again.

This morning I received a letter from Montreal from a person who I once saw with a note enclosed of Miss Jenny Lind which I shall deliver as soon as it returns then I'll be in town sure.

Frank will go down sometime this week. he is well and sends love to you. Eps has got very well underway and has every prospect of doing well and I hope he will.

I received a letter from Brown the other day he wishes to be remembered to you and sends his best wishes. Mother will go down East to stop this winter with Sarah they will stay at Hallowell they are both quite well or were when I last heard which was a week since. Mass is well and also sends his love. he is at home and doing well.

Eps and myself are still at the Pearl st House
but shall move as soon as we can get a good place
at a reasonable price we think of going to the United
States Hotel direct your letters to the Care of Mr
David T Lannan in future for I may move any day
Please excuse haste and believe me your
Friend and aff. Coy

Silas A. Lu

Robert Oliver D Howard
West Point
N York

Dear Brother

144
Barnmouth Oct 5th
[1850]

Sunday you know is always the day to write letters - for the student and the laboring man - So after attending the morning service I sat myself to answer your kind letter. Mr Jewell received a letter from you the same day that I did. I should think that your duties were tiresome and perhaps quite difficult - but I don't know as they ^{are} much more so than to be shut up in school houses as Messrs Jewett and Perley are - Mother seems to reflect considerably upon your being at West Pt and thinks you do not enjoy yourself there - These are the words she uses in a letter to me. "I think his daily routine of duties ^{comes hard} on him - Today after funeral I rode over to Ensigns and read Laura's letter, putting hers and ours together makes me think he is working against nature. He is entering on a course he never can like." The funeral she speaks of is that of Miss Margaret Herrick. I hope Otis that you will labor to remove such impressions as the above - and that without letting her know that I wrote you this. For even if they are correct (which I do not believe) it is of no possible benefit for her to cherish such thoughts. You know how it is with her if ~~she~~ she thinks you are happy - she will be happy and if you as miserable she will be miserable.

She wrote me (Wednesday) of the death of 8
of my acquaintances in Leeds Maria Howard
Margaret Herrick. L. W. Gilmore ~~Walter~~ Bates
and a child of Mr Careys, and unusual no of
deaths in Leeds for so short a time - I suppose when
you return in 2 years you will many of your old
friends departed - I like Mr Robinson more
and more as a teacher - and I am very sorry for
his and Mr Jewetts sake that they do not have
more scholars, 40 for two of them is something
like £0 for you last fall - We have had two excellent
sermons today from Rev Mr Alden - I wish you
had been here to hear them - I found your name
last Sabbath marked on the seat I sat in
but looked in vain for it on the cupola,
Mr Jewett got the news of Mr Thompsons death
the day before yesterday - Is he not the first
of your class that has died? Mr Hawkins passed
through ^{here} on his way to Brunswick the other
day, he wished me to give you his respects,
Mr Kendall passed through here also a few
days ago and stopped all night - Mr Jewett
was in Portland 2 weeks ago and found Mrs
and Miss Waite well - Percy was boarding with
them which I should think would be very pleasant
to them and himself. I am getting along pretty
well in my studies - I have finished the
~~Geologies~~ Bneolies and most of the first
Georgies - I find the Georgies rather hard to understand

but Mr Robinson enlarges so much upon
their beauties, that we are compelled to believe them
beautiful - we have a chapter in the Greek
Textament every Monday morning to recite,
besides our regular lessons in the Greek Reader,
I don't know as I have any news except that
Doc Carey is coming here to live in a few
days - When Mother wrote, all the folks
were well at Leeds - I enclose a little slip
from the Portland Transcript - making some
remarks on the last Commencement,
I have not been after the shirt yet, but
received word the other day that I could have
one - from a source that would ~~be~~ doubtless be
more pleasant to ^{me} ~~you~~ than ~~you~~ ^{me} - I shall go
into Portland in a week or two - I remain
as ever, your affectionate brother,

Oliver A Howard

Oliver A Howard

My dear Son,

Leeds Oct 28/50

We were very happy in the reception of your letter. I think I am some thankful, that your health is good and you feel capable of performing your daily routine of duties. there is always something to be regretted in all situations in life. I am glad you still continue one of the Bible Class, for I think there is language of the Bible well calculated to keep before our eyes the vanities of life, and if you could say to your Mother that you were "a meek and lowly follower" of Jesus, and felt an assurance that your heart had been made new by the grace of God, I think I should be rejoiced, for death is every where present, and to die in the Lord is gain, but even in long life to be in the service of the Lord is a great ^{new} service indeed; Doct. Lord left Leeds yesterday for his destiny, tell him when he comes to see you, that Mother felt when passing his boarding house as she would where the remains of a friend had been carried a way to the grave. I called last evening to see your Aunt Aurelia she appeared quite weak but walks about house and conversed though with weakened voice, I believe I mentioned in my last letter she had bled at the lungs we had a letter from R. B. H. last eve — g. full of life and hope, I hope he will not loose sight of the great object of knowledge, to make us better members of society, think of him often His and his best good, I have seen Warren a number of times he will take a small package to you he thinks highly of you, I would write more

Warren

but I must go and camp my package

after I go to Hallowell I intend sending you more letters
stamps, I shall send you a pair of Wool mittens to wear on grand
cold nights give my love Mr Browne and, Langdon
in haste Oliver Gilmore

C. A. Howard

Col. John Gilmore
South Leeds
Maine



Old Howard

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West Point N.Y. Oct-10th 1850

Dear Mother,

I have been thinking that I might have given you a wrong impression with regard to my situation here, while I was a little sore from sharp scolding, and a little angry, from having my pride so often touched. But now it is different; every one treats me like a gentleman. I stand in the first section in every thing, and with the good will of my new classmates, enjoy myself as much as I ever have in any situation. I have to study hard; but this has, now, become a pleasure. You cannot imagine how different the character of every thing seems, from what it did for the first few days. But, like a foolish boy, that I was, in my momentary vexation, I forgot that I was making you unhappy by enumerating my petty grievances, and enlarging upon them.

Enough to say then, that I am now contented, and am laying the foundation for a thorough, & practical education. Those things, which floated like shadows through my mind, become by degrees tangible & real. If then I have conveyed the idea, that I was acting against my will & my nature, or that the situation did not suit my taste, and was very disagreeable, be assured that I have given a wrong impression. What I have written has been not much the momentary feeling of one, who had

been accustomed to flattery & attention, and now at once deprived of them. Now reflection returns; it shows any & every situation in life full of what is insame & laborious. Here every rule, regulation & exercise, have been formed by the wisest men of our country for good reasons, for the best advantage of those young men, who are to take no small part in the affairs of their country. My prospects begin to brighten up. Four years spent in hard study can do me no injury; and on the contrary, it must be greatly for my advantage.

I am pained to hear of so many deaths in Leeds since my departure. It must be hard for Betsy to part with her little girl: but we have to believe it for the best. Death has taken her away in her innocence & youth, before the temptations & frivolities of society have tainted her heart, and gained its homage. She has escaped much unhappiness, of which all who live, & act, I think must have their share. Give Betsy my best wishes. Mack Ward, has not been a second time to see me. He wrote me a letter, saying that he should come as soon as possible. I have had two letters from Bowland. He is getting along very well. I should judge from the tenor of his letters. I do not get much time to read here, not so much as I ^{had} thought. I study upon the manner in which I shall recite, the language I shall use in demonstration. This is necessary. It will not do, here, for a person to mean right alone: he must always convey what he means: is for any one who intends to stand high

I have not made a ~~poor~~ recitation yet, but I think I made the best I have made at all to day. I shall pull steadily, and, methinks, that, those who keep square with me will have to study. When we have proceeded a little further, the studies will be more familiar to me, while they are growing harder for others.

Frequently visit Warren Luthrop Saturday afternoons. He has been here to see me a number of times. He is not allowed to come into ^{our} Barracks during study hours, which last about all the time. No person is permitted to enter the Barracks except during the hours of recreation. Bleg has got a pretty good situation; but I think it doubtful, whether he has a much easier time than F. J. Our shoes are blacked for us, our fines built & tented: and in the main there is no essential distinction between classes. The United States could not invent a system better fitted for ^{the} mental & physical training of young men. Give my respects to all who may inquire for me. Give my love to Charlie, Nellie, Pansy & John, I have not written Uncle yet, but shall soon. Remember me to father & Phoebe. Has Grandmother come to Leeds yet? We are now having fine weather here. Some of these "biting" mornings remind me of what I am to expect. This must be a much colder place than any in Maine - so open to the North wind. Write me all you can. Tell Charlie I shall write him as soon as I can. Yr affectionate son,
Oliver C. Howard.

Washington presents many attractions, with its disadvantages Congress, and the general atmosphere of a political metropolis are of no small account towards introducing a young man to the machinery of our Government. I had the opportunity as I was here the 26. Sept. of hearing and seeing many of the celebrated men of Congress. Clay. Benton Cass Hale &c.

I have been to Mt Vernon also, and visited the residence and the tomb of Washington and it is a great satisfaction although there is not much to be seen as the whole of the mansion is not open to visitors. I should like to see you here. but I suppose it is quite uncertain if I ever see you here. As you are not often away from your post. Write me soon won't you and give me an idea of things as they exist at Mt Point
In haste

Yours very truly

P. H. Townsend

Please direct to

Treasury Dept

Washington DC

Washington Oct. 14. 1850

Friend Howard

You know how we laid plans together a few months ago when I thought of going to Washington, of going together and of writing each other when we should have become fairly established at our respective places of abode. I was disappointed as you will know in my expectations but now have a much better situation than that would have been. You have probably heard of my appointment, as clerk in the Comptroller's office Treasury Department.

I have often thought of you and wondered how you were progressing, yet could hear nothing either directly from you nor of you through anyone else. Perhaps however I might have heard from your friends in Leeds or Port. You must write me now you are informed of my whereabouts. and tell me all about your situation and what advancement you are making.

I find myself situated in an office which is by no means a sinecure. I have to keep busily at it for six hours every day of the week. and it is somewhat tiresome & trying to the eyes. which I do not like very much

I should prefer to have my mind ~~taken~~ more and my eyes less. My labor is principally copying accounts. — bills ^{in favor of} against U.S. principally connected with the Army department. pay of soldiers — officers. pensions &c. all these have to be recorded by double entry in books, showing at a glance how the several acct's stand. I have also the copying of all letters of the Comptroller. all which business is not laborious at all but when I stick to it closely I find it tiresome to the eyes.

I, of course, have some leisure out of office hours and if I should follow the course of vast many in Washington I should spend all my salary in riotous living. Here it is considered no disgrace for a fellow to get tight on a spree if they have a good time with a company, nor is it at all disreputable for them to keep the company of bad women or even nigger wenches. Washington is indeed a miserable hole, when you speak of it as a place to live in. Give me a pure Country village, where the majority at least are for good morals, where dissipation and riot ~~are~~ bring disgrace on the participants. I would not live here if it were not for the twelve hundred a year which I get. And if I thought I could not lay up \$80.00 per month I would not stay a moment. My board costs me 16 dolls per month. And if I become a sot or a dissipator in any way, I shall

curse the day in which I first set foot in the city. The only way for me is to get into a small circle of the first society in town, which I shall do if possible. But it is a hard chance for clerks to do so. hence the result, they rush to destruction, taking the surest road to Hell, making friends of wine and bad women. I board at present in a German establishment for the purpose of learning to speak the German. I am going thro. Ollendorff's system and reading and writing and speaking a little every day. I have fine opportunities for hearing the pure Germ spoken. The Congressional Library which I have access to is full of the choicest books: and any one has liberty to sit and read in the library of the Smithsonian Institute. I see the necessity of a man's keeping himself perfectly enamored with business in order to keep upright, and to have some fixed aim, and some definite ~~aim~~ end to be attained. I mean to read law, enough to make myself perfectly acquainted with the fundamental principles. And perhaps in a future day I may make it my profession.

I suppose you are diving deep among mathematical pearls, and are driving a strong business at French &c. Well! success to you, old friend. I hope you will find it to have been a wise choice, your going to West Point instead of going immediately into the Law. I have heard as yet nothing from any of our class. shall expect to hear in a short time. You doubtless hear often from them

Pittsfield 17th Oct^r 1850O. O. Howard Esq^r

My dear Nephew,

I returned home in the 10 O'clk train this Evening I left you. My family are well with the exception of your Cousin Augustus who is no better, his complaint as I mentioned to you is epilepsy and so complicated that as yet it has baffled the skill of our most eminent Physicians. Previous to his entering the the Bank as t^lk. he enjoyed remarkable good health, we attribute this decline to that circumstance, and I have no doubt had he remained in active business that he would at this moment enjoyed good health, But the ways of Providence are mysterious and we are in duty bound patiently to submit, He expresses great anxiety to see you and I can assure you it would be gratifying to all my family to receive a visit from you.

I am unacquainted with the rules & regulations of the Military Academy at West Point but presume from the character of the Institution they are very strict, And I have no desire that a relative of mine more especially one I so much esteem as yourself should in any degree solicit privileges incompatible with such regulations for I am

aware of the necessity of close application and
the strict observance of all such rules
and regulations, to entitle you to the merit
and approbation of The Professors. But if
constant, and you can obtain leave of
absence, a short visit from you would be
highly gratifying to your afflicted Cousin
And Affectionate Uncle
Wm. P. Howard

Portland, Oct. 22nd 1850

Dear Chum

For thus I consider I have still the right to call you and though another may claim you for a Chum now I shall regard myself as Chum "for excellence" and claim a place a place in your regards above all other Chums wherever they may be or wherever found. And though Ours in our four years cruise together you found me often morose, unaccommodating and disagreeable, which fault ought to be laid partly to myself and partly to the women yet after all I doubt some if you find another who in all respects will suit you much better than I did. Those old college days for though we are but just out they look already distant to me, it does really seem as though we ought to have enjoyed ourselves then and so in fact we did though neither of us enjoyed ourselves so well as we might. They are over though now with all their ambitions, their rivalries, their animosities, their heart-burnings,

their jealousies, their loves, their friendships,
their aspirations - their longings, their joys and
sorrows. They are among the things that
were - we have left them behind us and
here's farewell to them and "now for the strife
of the battle of life with a firm heart and true"

I am sorry Howard that you do not
have a more agreeable time there than
you seem to - it must be laborious and
hard on many accounts but you have
one consolation amid it all which
is enough to sweeten anything almost
and that is it will do you good.

I feel confident that you will take
a high stand as a scholar and if you
have to work hard for it it is no more
than every one has to do to arrive at
any eminence. You have had some
blue times there I dare say but you
must take "nil desperandum" for your
motto (in fact I believe it has been)
and hope for the best. By the way I read
Dane's "Logic and Utility of Mathematics" not
long since and liked it very much.

Bull & Pinderster passed through here about
a fortnight since on their way home and
Butler and Smith in company with them
so you see our class is getting scattered

as well as those who have gone before them. Ingraham is out south somewhere. Butten nor Smith had engaged places but were going to depend on the hospitality of their Southern friends till they could obtain situations. Butten took me out one side and showed me a new miniature of his lady and said it was all right. All right! I guess she will find some things one of these days that won't be all right after she is married.

There was quite a contrast between the looks of Pain and Bell and Smith and Butten the former looking joyful and the latter rather dolorous. I was with them about an hour. Jewett and Rob. have about 40 scholars. Old Jackson down to East Pittston has a school of over 20. Pretty well that for old Jack. in a new school. Jewett has been in here once since I have been here. He went up to the U. S. and had a smoke and I tell you what it seemed like old college times again. He corresponds with Miss Knight to kill old Nat. Cottrill was here and stopped with me almost a fortnight. He wished me to tell you that he was going to write to you as soon as he

gets settled. He is engaged to teach
South Berwick five months
Rowland was here last Saturday
and stayed over Sunday. I think
some of going out to Gormouth
next Saturday. There are 45 in the
Freshman Class at Bowdoin, Gormouth
As for myself Howard I have a fine
note place here on some accounts
I don't get great pay but have an
easy berth - have Wed and Sat. aftern
to myself and then is a grand chance
here to loaf. I enjoy myself much
I find Liz a damned good girl. That
we quarrel some, occasionally
I tell you what Chun you are fortunate
to have now the heart of such a girl
fortunate to have such an incentive
to noble endeavor as to know that she
loves you. Fortunate I said you meet
and so you are but not so fortunate
I not in but "out of" the love of the girl
I tell you what I have seen both sides you
"been there and stayed all night" and I tell you
the fellow that loves may be fortunate the
fellow that don't is a damned sight more

will answer very well for Tom Moore
by "O there's nothing half so sweet in life
as love's young dream" but still I could
tell him and you too that it is
- the half a touch to love's old dream.
- much for experience. But alas this
- fitment you cannot appreciate. To you
- denied the pleasure of looking back
- on an old affection and realising the
- that love like all things becomes
- followed by time and hollowed by
- remembrance. Byron could say
- 'Tis sweet to know there is an eye
- that will mark our coming and grow brighter when we come
- he should not forget that it is sweet to
- know that the eye that looked coldly and
- steadily on our coming not tearless notes
- give departure. To be requested "to call again"
- sounds pretty from fair lips at eventide
- when stood by the door and after it a
- low trips home sort of happy thinking
- hugs, kisses and caresses and of still more
- various ones in time to come of which
- some are but the earnest; but "not to
- call again" though it sounds a little
- thrashy at first a fellow will trudge

home afterwards with a wiser and really
happier heart though his head maybe
a little lower and his hands a little
deeper in his breeches pocket. His
heart may be less light but it is not
more sad. His brow may be more
shaded, his mood a little changed,
for the world, everything has suddenly
and strongly attached to him but he
grieves not nor does he wish it
otherwise. He would not leave the earth
and all within it robed again in its
fair hues of enchantment. He would
not it should again greet his vision
as of old though it were not so fair
proportions or so beautiful hues to
the naked sight as when viewed through
the magic mirror (and strangely
magic it is too) of love and youth.
He would not again on this dull earth
enthrone his ideal for he knows it can-
not here be realized. He would not
again if he might see an angel in
a fair haired blue eyed maiden, whom
eyes declare her such but most wofully
believe her - nor wishes to believe again
of earth that a heart beats beneath every
round, full, snowy bosom.

Like the true student he would not give up his knowledge though ignorance were bliss. He feels as one who has just woken from a pleasant dream. He would not have had it last forever. He realizes that there is something higher in this world than hugs & kisses and though a girl's lips & not of more gloriously sweet she sipped their "honeyed wealth" more than once and now she may yield to another and he d-d to them! But here I have been running on about the women till I guess you are about tired of it but I tell you what Chum! when I get on the subject of the women I hardly know how to leave it forgetting that you and others are not so much interested in this subject as I am. But as I always found you a willing listener and to my foolish talk and really sympathizing with me I hope this Epistle will find you as in the good old College days disposed to be lenient and we will not bore you in this wise next time. But Chum I want you to bear in mind the truths I have here endeavored to set before you and especially I want you always to remember the first couplet of that song which we sang among others on our last journey to Leeds which runs thus
"There was an old nigger and his name was Ned
And he lived long ago, long ago."

I repeat this to myself many times each day when things do not go to my mind and as I think of Ned's ~~deprivations~~ misfortunes and sore trials "I take heart again" You know that

"Lines of great men all remind us
We may make our lives sublime
And departing leave behind us
An old bell toll out our Chime"

And I think Ned affords an excellent example of the cheerful, quiet resignation of a great soul.

I have delayed answering you for some time but it has not been because I do not think of you now nor because I did not think your letter of any importance. On the contrary when I shall always remember you and if we shall ever cease to correspond with each other it shall not be through my fault. You and Jewett and Perry have become endeared to me as no others now or can be and of this noble trio you are not the least. We have come out now into the selfish, business world and I doubt if any of us form such attachments again as we did in college or in college fit. You cannot complain of the length of mine when if you do of my delay so when here's good night to you and a blessing rest on you. Sir sits here and looks so sweet and good I know you would like to kiss him and in truth I should like to do it for you but I suppose you would feel no better satisfied

P. S. Parley



Col. John Gilmore.

South Leeds

Maine

Bellevue Warren is in New York City.
He was well when I last saw him. 150
O. Howard

West Point N.Y. Oct 25th 1850.

Dear Mother,

Again I commence the pleasant task of writing you a few lines, knowing that it will give you as much pleasure to hear from me, as it does give me to receive letters from you. It is a rainy day & Friday afternoon. I rejoice at the prospect of a rainy afternoon, for then we can have no drill or "drip parade", and I can spend my time in studying or writing. Our little "Squad drill" has ceased, and we September youths, have been put in the Battalion. I have made some gross mistakes since I have been put in^{to} the Battalion, but I seldom make the same mistake twice. I am learning fast. We are now in what I call the hardest part of the Mathematical course — at least I have never found any thing so hard to understand and explain, is the proof of the Binomial Theorem in Algebra. I am obliged to apply myself constantly, much more than I would have believed it necessary before I came here; but as we are paid for it we can afford to work, and especially as every effort contributes to our mental wealth. Uncle Ward was here about a fortnight ago, and I was enabled to make his acquaintance. I found him a ^{man} much different ~~man~~ from what I had expected. Very intelligent, giving signs of rather a superior education, and very gentlemanly. You can't think how much he now in his older years, resembles Grandfather Howard. Well! to return; he had

many questions to ask, about all his former acquaintances in Maine &c. &c. He told me that his son Augustus was out of health, and wished to see me. Therefore I asked him on his return to write me to this effect-- that my cousin was very low & desired me to come & see him. This he did: and by means of his letter, together with some trouble & solicitation I made out to get permission to be absent from Saturday noon, till evening. — Hence, last Saturday, I crossed the river to Strong Point, and went down to Duckskill in the cars, & soon found Uncle & his little family. His oldest daughter is with him, & both his sons, Augustus, & Lucius (who is about 16.) Augustus is a fine looking young man: he is a little taller than I, with my forehead, my hair & my eyes. He talked, walked, and ate chestnuts with me all the afternoon seemingly in good spirits: but five or six times during the afternoon he had those spasms -- One would ^{catch} him while he was walking; I caught him or he would have fallen to the ground: it passed away in a moment or two. It seems horrid to think of a young man, otherwise in good health of mind & body, so entirely deprived of the pleasures which others enjoy, and of the prospects which make it easy to endure a little pain & suffering. He cannot go into society: he is not allowed to read, but is ^{much} set idle & ~~stagnant~~ brood over his lot, with little to hope ^{for} & little to cheer him. He had a good situation in the Bank at Duckskill, where he was making high wages, when he was suddenly deprived

of his health by an attack of this disorder. My cousins took much pains to render my visit pleasant. They said, I was the first male cousin, that they had seen of ^{the} name of Howard. Uncle showed me the place where father traded, while at Duckskill, told me that he had seen the time when he himself had owned nearly the whole village of Duckskill, but said that he was now poor. But I find that he owns a large & profitable Stone Quarry, opposite New-Burg -- & has much other property. I see also that, by the papers, that there is some prospect of the Democrats setting him up as a Candidate for Congress. So much for my relations in New York! Oh! I met with a lady at Uncle's, in the evening before I left, who claimed to be my father's cousin. I believe her name is "Knox," but am not certain. She resembles Aunt Lucrecia; but ^{she} is not so tall. I returned Saturday evening to my confinement, much refreshed by the short respite. — I received a letter yesterday from Thomas Bridgman, from Abington: another a few days ago from Mr Townsend at Washington. He has 1200,000, per annum; what I should call doing splendidly. He writes an excellent letter, and, for a man of so little energy, seems to be favored by Fortune. Give my love to all, and tell Charlie to write me something in every letter of yours. If I had time to spare I should write to him personally: but I am obliged to write you all together. His time is in his own hands, but mine is not. — Your affectionate Son — Otis —

Barnmouth, Sunday Oct 2nd 1880

Dear Brother

I have just been writing a long letter to mother describing my visit to Portland and as you probably are a little interested in said visit, perhaps something in regard to it might not be entirely uninteresting to you. After a fine ride in the cars, which perhaps may partly be accounted for by my having very agreeable companion (a young lady who attends school here and lives in Portland) and after looking round a while I found Mrs Waites and was welcomed at the door by your own Lissie. I found them both in excellent ^{health} and spirits. I think they will be contented to remain in Portland as long as Perley does. On the Sabbath I attended meeting all day and in the evening with Miss W. in the evening we heard Mr. Kellogg of Harpswell preach - I like him very well but not as well as I expected. Perley was out here yesterday afternoon and said Mrs and Miss W were well. It was a week ago that I was in. Mrs Waite says she intends to be her daughters guardian herself - I should think it would be too much care for her to do ^{much} business, as she will be compelled to but I suppose she has relatives who will render her all the assistance she may require. Perley said he wrote you the first of last week. When going into Portland I saw Mr Fuller and wife and a number of other Wayne people. he said that all our acquaintances there were well, that they had a prosperous school of about 35 scholars, an interesting

Leyceum &c - Doctor Carey and family have moved
here and live with Mrs Stockbridge. I saw the Dr on
Friday he said his family were well - Before he left
Wayne he gave a supper in the hall to his friends, about
200 of whom attended - I believe William and Joseph
are coming here to keep store - a life which I should think
in Vermont would be lingering death, I am getting
along pretty well here, we shall finish the Georgics and Eclogues
of Virgil this term, we are now in the third Georgic.
The class have read Cicero and I shall have it to make
up this winter. Mr Jewett has gone to Brunswick today
morning for Mr Arthur who is recuperating here, but some of
the boys ill-mannerly suggested that he would call on Miss
Knights while there, which I should of course you do not
believe. Mr Robinson was at Brunswick to the inauguration
of Prof. Stowe. he represents it as ^{having} been a grand affair,
speeches by the President - D.D.s - and Professors, I have not
heard from home since I wrote you although I have
written twice. They have a class of over 50 at Brunswick
which I believe the Sophs have ~~thoroughly~~ initiated,
we begin already to dread the discipline we shall have
to go through with 50 Sophomores to take care of us.
Have you been and become acquainted with Uncle Ward
yet? - if so how do you like him. Why dont you write
are your duties so pressing that you do not find
time. I believe this is the first time I have ever written
two letters to you one - and to to punish you (if
it is any punishment) I subscribe myself to this
short letter. Your affectionate brother, Rowland

Leeds Oct 28. 1850

Dear Cousin

Yours of the 9th was duly received and very glad was I to hear from one I esteem so highly, ye dear Cousin I feel interested in your welfare and look forward to the day when you will be a bright ornament to society. I know you must feel lonesome away from ^{all} of your friends, and among strangers, but there is one privilege left us of conversing with the silent language of the pen and I hope we shall improve every opportunity, but you know how negligent your cousin is therefore I will beg to be excused, this time and in future will be more faithful. Many changes have taken place since you left Leeds, some have died and some are married, The death of Tharria Therrick was very sadden the day she was to be married was the day she was buried Franklin takes her death very hard and can hardly be reconciled, Merilla Howard she is gone, Pamela Woodman was buried a fortnight ago there has been quite a number of old folks died since you left. Gustavus and Anna Jennings are married I saw the bride last Sunday, I expect to be very lonesome this winter have not got Otis or Thomas to call and see me, the Doctor he is going away this winter to attend the lectures at New York and Philadelphia, and all the young folks have gone to Mass Thomas is teaching in South Olington now, He had a very pleasant school in our district this fall, Mr Borrowes teaches our school this winter, your Uncle Ensign was at Thollwell last week, Mr Chickland has gone to Portland

they have broken up keeping house and his wife boards
at the Hollowell house, there ~~has~~ a family moved in to
take care of your grand mother and she thinks she is a
going to have things more to her mind now; Sarah and
her beau have been to Calais on a visit; they did not visit
Leeds; your Uncle John is at home now he expects to return
this winter; William was out and made a short visit; I often
think of you dear Cousin and the happy hours we spent together
last winter, I little thought then that we should be so far
from each other but so it is friends cannot be always near us
it is ordered by and all wise Providence and shows us that
we must not set our affections on any thing earthly
but still we that are young look forward with bright antici-
pations to the future and think there is better days ~~for~~ us
and it is right that we should, but our chief end and aim
should be to glorify our Father in heaven and in so doing
we shall find true happiness. I feel very thankful for your
good advice for I am apt to feel jealous some times but I
will try in future not to be so, it must have come hard
for you to submit to all their requirements and I often
think of you and wonder how you must look in
uniform, your folks are all well, Everett has moved back
to Leeds and lives with Aunt Aurelia, keep up good courage
and think of the reward and it wont be long before you
will be free again, Give my love to Uncle Wood and family
when you see him it is growing dark and I must close
write as often as you can for I take great satisfaction in
reading your letters yours in love Laura B Howard

Ernest O. O. Howard

West Point
N. Y.

South Abington Oct 28. 1850

Dear Cousin

I am in So. Abington & purpose to commence a school here next Monday, to continue ten or twelve weeks, wages \$28 per month & boarded. I was happy to receive your very kind letter in which you were so good as to inform me of ~~your~~ the strict discipline to which you were subjected; strict indeed it is, but yet I see nothing in it which is not conducive to health, it certainly must be very repulsive to ones feelings, especially if he is in any measure inclined to be lazy or a great lover of luxury. I suppose the future presents to your mind many bright and pleasing prospects or rather your ambition & enterprise excite fond hopes of future success & emolument, but I trust you will remember that uncertainty is written on everything earthly; I would by no means say anything to discourage or daunt you in an enterprise in which you are conscientious that you ^{are} rightly engaged, but feeling interested for your welfare in every point of view, you will allow me to recommend the contemplation of such truths as are calculated in their very nature to benefit all men, in all circumstances.

It certainly must have been very tedious for you to have sustained the position you were obliged to do, especially one in which you were required not to move a muscle, I believe I should die being broken as they say of the horses

but no doubt all these things are
necessary in order to be a good officer.

I saw your mother at church last sabbath
& showed her the letter I recd from you
by which she was very glad to hear from
you, although she had recd one not long
before; your friends in Leeds were then
all well; you may have learned before
this ^{that} Harriett Herrick was buried in just
a fortnight from the sabbath she & Franklin
Lane were published, & Marilla Howard
died very soon after, about a week I
think; Miss Pamela Woodman died too
before I left home; it has been very sickly
in Leeds since you left, but the sickness
I am happy to say is now subsiding.
Laura was in good health & tolerable
spirits, although she complains very
bitterly of the young folks leaving
the place; the doctor was well, & thinks
of going to Philadelphia to spend the
winter, if it is not too sickly, he says
he wants to see what is going on out of
Leeds, & wishes to have a respite from
his labors. Well, Otis, I suppose you have
put your hand to the plough & never
intend to look back; I wish you good
success, but hope you will remember
me & all your friends, & write me
as often as you can & it is perhaps unnecessary
for me to enjoin it upon you to write
to your mother as often as you possibly
can. I expect you have seen Uncle Ward
by this time & presume he was right
glad to see you; this is all of importance
that I have to communicate now.
Remember & write Affectionately Yours
Thos W Bridgman

one of his worst agonizing spells in wayne when I went over
to the association but still he would not be persuaded from his
plan of attending the fair in the City of New York, now
he has arrived in Green much worse than when he left
I believe I told you Mrs Wingate had ~~her~~ son Capt Turner
— had another letter from Charles by this evenings mail
written eight days later than the other nothing very special
in it he had seen Capt Bodfish who was in the city
for supplies and gave him an idea of the state of
the Company they had made a handsome summons
think there is no doubt of it. Elias sickness but still I
from New York with one of the company who stated
nearly the same as we heard before and said Francis
Lethrop he thought before he left was coming
with him but concluded to wait for Elias. I could
send you a newspaper occasionally if I thought it would
be acceptable Rowland gave quite vivid description of
his ride into Portland and the view of the bay all along
with the shipping there in I hope you will have your
Rowland met with lots of his old acquaintances in the
Cam from wayne and heard from the rest Mrs Kierson
who taught the school at wayne has taken the school in
the ~~the~~ district in Leeds Mr and Mrs Sampson came
to the funeral of old Mrs Bates I spoke with them
at the node I understand that Martha Ann Martin is at
Shallowell and the Shallowell folks are planning for me
to take her for which I have no inclination Charles Turner
did not mention Addison Martin, he carried a letter
out for him from me, and I understand he dated his
last letter from Sacramento City. good night my son
from your affectionate Mother Elija Gilmore

1838
Leeds Oct 29.

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My dear Son,

It is now two weeks since we received your
last, I have set a part ^{a number} many times, to write you, but something
would change my purpose, I wish to know exactly your situ-
ation at all times, as far as in my power, I do not ~~know~~ ^{think} to think all
is well when it is not, I expected it would be a new life entirely for
you, I did not expect either ease, or busyness, but still such extreme
fatigue, you know I could but feel for you, and you would be sorry
to have a Mother that could not, I am glad your prospects Brighten
and you ^{are} satisfied with your situation, and I will be try to be
content, all I have heard of Beurlay, is, that he is teaching school
in Portland and boarding in Mrs Winters family, I was in hopes
Lizzie would have written to me, so that I could have been acquai-
nted with her, for I still think I shall go to West point next June
and if she wishes to go with me it will be pleasant for me —
Rowland's last letter was written the fourth of this month
the last I have heard from him I hope he is spending his
time and money to ~~read~~ ^{make} his advantage I read your letter to
Thomas, and the one to Laura, ~~for~~ ^{probably} they have
written you all the news we have had quite a number
deaths in Leeds this fall but not of late it is now quite healthy
the last time I saw your sister Lucretia was at exars. Harold
Howard's funeral I have seen Mrs Bridgman a number of times
the last time, she had Everets little girl with her at meeting
Everet and family have returned to live with her again,
The weather has been very fine through this month the garden
is full of fall flowers, but we have it much colder since the
Sabbath, but we I put the air tight stove in yesterday

I went out just now to help Phoebe about dinner, and what a picture five boys churning at once, all had both hands on the dash, all laughing and carrying the dash up at once and down again, that will give you a good idea of our case I seldom leave them, and for the most part keep them good natured, Your Uncle John has not been out to see the boys yet I understand he is very much drove with his business, & Capt Turner — have received a package of letters from Charles they were mailed 31. Aug. he was one hundred and twenty days on the Ocean between Panama and San Francisco, he kept a diary and that he sent home, I read it. he had good health, and that was all you could say, they had a hard voyage, he was very much encouraged he had been the but one day but thought he saw chances to make money we have heard something from the Kennebec Mining Company, we have heard they would have a handsome dividend this fall and would dissolve the company the first of Oct. and that Elias Lothrop had been sick all summer, this news Doct Lord repeated to your father a few days since Doct Hubbard told him of it, he had talked with one who had returned from California to Augusta, we are in hopes to hear more and better news soon Mrs Lothrop has been quite sick but is now quite recovered the Doct said he should not tell her what he had heard about Elias she was so feeble give my love to Wanner Lothrop I almost feel as though he was one of my family he so often interchanges books with my son, from what I learn Benning Strickland has not got his family established in Portland yet, you never have told us whether you have any newspapers there and if any what ones, I should to know what your food is and

it is regulated, Mother came home with Rowland when he carried Maria down, and ~~staid~~ nearly three weeks she went from here one or ~~the~~ two days before Rowland went ^{to} North your mother her health was better than I expected to see her I went, ^{to} Wayne ^{the} Baptist ^{or} ~~association~~ one day found it very interesting had excellent preaching and singing, your mother was much gratified that you should join the Bible class, for how can you spend ^{your} time to better advantage than in studying the word of God. you spoke in one of your letters that you were sorry you had not taken some white drilling pants if you think it is best I can purchase some white drilling and have them made they would not cost more than sixty cents per pair here, you could easily write me what difference you would wish have between the cadet pants and those you wore here Tuesday Eve-^g of this evenings mail brought us a letter from R. B. H. I began to be quite lonely it was so long since we heard you or him. his last letter was—written the 8th of Oct. he is thinking quite strange that you do not write as you are always so prompt perhaps you have written ere this, he has been to Portland and gives a description of his visit I think he is much gratified with his visit he said Lizzy came to the door and welcomed him and spent the Sabbath with her and Berley and her mother. your father just brought me the Portland paper to show me that that Lizzy received a ~~hex~~ premium of ~~the~~ one dollar for the best bread bag, news has just arrived that Ezra Gilmore has arrived at Warren Mower's from New York where he has been attending the fair in such a state of health that he wants his father to come for him in the carriage and bring ^{up} fellows to bolster him up, I saw him have