

Benicia California

Aug. 1st. 1856.

Sir:

I am directed by Major General Worth, who is at this time too much indisposed to write, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st ultimo and to thank you for the kind sentiments therein expressed and for the information it contained and which accompanied it.

The latest news from Rogue River County were very flattering. All the Indians have moved to the Reservation and new Posts are being established, at the three passes leading to the reserve which will, I think, prevent a recurrence of the past. The Volunteers are disbanded, and if the people are disposed, quiet will again be restored, and everything go on prosperously.

Accept my best wishes for your future success. and believe me

Very Respectfully
G. B. L. S.

R. Arnold.

To John Beeson Esq

San Fran^{co}
Cal^a.

1st. St. Ind. city.
A. D. C.

R Arnold
August, 1856

John

102
12

204
102

1224

judge. I arrived in Troy at about eleven o'clock that night, staid all night at the Union Tavern & came over here in the morning. I dined with Mrs Briggs and fixed up our room up stairs to sleep in - I found everything in good condition - excepting some of those rings & an old scarf, which the mother has been inclined to eat, up I have not opened the prime box yet. Pony came at 12 yesterday - brought us a silver sixpence & smart as a cricket. I found here - Major Springtown & family - Mr Briggs, wife, brother and two sisters. The brother will not stay long - Elias Johnston, nephew of Mrs Springtown is stopping at the Majors. I two horse ladies - Mrs Pearson & Mrs Colonel Stewart. The former has two children - I met them all at breakfast at the Majors. Johnston has been five years in New Mexico & Texas - ever since he graduated. He belongs to the Cavalry & is sent to Albany on a recruiting tour. He rode with me after the Pony, ^{to Albany} yesterday evening. I shall soon have a girl. I am going to try Bridget's sister - you remember Bridget Mrs Briggs table & waiting maid? She is said to be a very fair cook & willing to do all sorts of things. I shall take my meals with Briggs for the present. I want to hear everything about yourself & my little boy, as well as about the rest of the family - Give my love to our mother ~~and~~ and all - My boxes has not yet got through. This boy comes out of every three times for me - I shall write to Howland as soon as I can get time - your affectionate husband, Tho

All inquired very affectionately for Mr Howard - mother ever Mrs Howard, for Mr Lansing

Waterbury Arsenal Aug 3^d / 56

My dearest Figgie.

Undoubtedly you begin to be anxious to hear from me & I confess I feel as little anxiety to learn that yourself & little Guy are over the summer disease & have not been exposed to the small pox. I have not found it convenient to write you till now, unless I had written yesterday and if I had my letter would not have left till Monday. Although I feel somewhat downhearted at our separation, still I am very glad you did not come on with me. For they have not had a drop of rain for six weeks & it is considerably hotter here than at Augusta, though we are having a cool breeze to day. Now I will give you a brief description of my journey. I left you Tuesday evening, arrived at Wintthrop about 6 P.M. took tea with Mr Wood, who accompanied me to Augusta soon after. Pony went nicely got over his cough entirely before the next day. I left Mr Wood at the Augusta house - put up the pony at the same place & staid all night at Charlies. I did not make any calls. The next morning Wednesday I took Wood to the Arsenal and introduced him to Capt. Grogan, got my goods &c. took all good bye & went on board of the Deer. We went started

at the usual time and had a pleasant passage down the
T. Canoe, but it came in foggy so that we could see only
a short distance ahead out at sea. we arrived in
Portland however without accident about 6 in the evening.
I left Wood to look after the baggage & pony and walked
up to Uncle Edwards's found himself & family away, gone to
Freeport on a visit. I then returned to the boat which
at seven, left for Boston. We had a dinner party, but the
experienced Captain of the Lewiston, put us through without
difficulty. Joshua Warner accompanied me as far as Boston
on his way to N. York. At Portland I was introduced to
Mr Dinsmore Editor of the Bangor Mercury. who proved
to be a very pleasant & intelligent companion. We got into
Boston about half past five A. M. Tuesday. I wanted to get
my pony & freight off the boat, took an express Wagon, had
pony hitched behind & with everything, proceeded to the
Worcester Station. I put up the horse nearby, carried
the baggage to the freight house & rode back with my
little trunk to the River House, where I had promised to
breakfast with Wood & Dinsmore. I met them there & took
breakfast. After which I assisted Mr Wood to make his
reports to Washington & elsewhere (By the way) he has received his
commission, being appointed a 2nd Lieut into the 1st Regiment
of infantry & ahead of the present graduating class at West
Point.) Then I accompanied ^{to} Mr Earle the Army Tailors
and to a place where he could get other necessaries for service.

We dined at the River at 1/2 past 2. Then I walked to the
Worcester Depot. made the necessary arrangements
for transporting pony &c. I concluded to leave pony to
his fate as I could not accompany him without going in
the same car. I then returned to the River, for my trunk.
Took a carriage for the Stonington route for New York
Mr Dinsmore accompanied me. We reached Stonington
about 1/2 past nine, ^(Friday) then had a good supper on board the
Wanderer & a pleasant passage to New York. We got in at
six o'clock, ^(Friday) I went to the Astor House. I got ready to leave
for Cold Springs in the nine o'clock train, but Dinsmore
who thought he should go on to the same place, could
not go till twelve. So I waited for him. He afterwards found
the people he wished to see in the city, so, I strolled alone
at 12 on the Hudson River road, got to Cold Springs
about two, went to find Mr Gilbert. met him at the foundry.
at his solicitation went to his house & took dinner, found Mrs
Gilbert with a pleasant little family of four children around
her. She set before me a good dinner, after which I strolled
about the place till six o'clock. having in the mean time
a little sleep on the settee at the Hotel. Mr Gilbert had
not got the money ready, he did not know that I should
let him have the place till a day or two before. He said
that he would pay me the whole in two weeks from
Monday. I shall go down there at evening & back in the
morning. He is a man very much "before-hand" I should

a little comfort I had to play with him
and kiss him a great part of the time.
(you say "my baby" but I shall say he
is ~~my~~ my baby now for he is with me).
dear little measure he got something in his
eye yesterday and it is some inflamed
now but better and by morning will be
all well I presume. He has gone to
sleep for the night now.

I am not at all surprised that
the mother were in those rags. Please
not keep them in the house for fear
they will go to the carpets. Mother
came here last Monday is very well.
we were alone two days last. Except
George Langley. Esther went to school. baby
seems to feel more at home than when
he first came. He is now quite well.
and I am perfectly so. Mother G. has made
him many useful presents. I will bid
you good night now. I wish I could
come over and see you. Morning. Friday
I think you must have had said by

7
Litchfield Aug 4 1850

My dearest Otis

I think you will wish to hear
from me so much at this time that you
will not care if I do write with a pencil.
dear little Guy is sleeping and I am by the
cradle writing and watching him at the same
time. He is better than when you went away.
I am quite well but I find staying so confined
to have the care of him alone and that is all
the inconvenience about it. Mother has
sent for my mother to come here to recover.
She will go to Cambridge on Tuesday
with Delle. Ed G. and I think Lancer
will go. I received a note from Ella
wishing I would spend Court week with
her. But I shall not go and please baby.
Charles came in yesterday evening very unexpectedly.
He was to visit to listen to our Lecture
by one of the Seniors for Bowdoin. He will ac-
tend to B. on Tuesday. I am very happy
here but Otis's teasing I do miss you so much.

and Guy seems lonely, and looks about, as if he
knew something or somebody was missing.

I know you will write me very soon, and tell
me all about the house, and how you
find the things, and when you will be at
"house keeping". I am making rapid progress
with my work, but you need not hasten
with me, I will be sure to go to my bed.

You are very kind to hear from Capt. Tanner's family.
They have all had the varioloid except Florence.

Capt. T. is now sick and Mrs. Anne T. We have
not heard from them this morning. Charles is to
write it August.

Thursday Ev. Aug 7

My dear sweetest, I am so happy to hear
from you this afternoon. I have been
a little nervous about you since
you went from here, and am very
glad that you and 'Pony' reached
Troy in safety. I do think it is better
that we should be here this month
than at Troy. I am very happy
here and do not feel but that we
are most welcome. I try to make

as little extra care for your mother
as possible. Dear little Guy is just
as good as dead all the time. He

~~I don't know how to~~

plays with the kitten a great deal,
and goes out down to see the hens
and "Fanny", and observes many
things, strange things. (I can scarcely
write with this ink and if you can
have patience to read it I shall
be glad). Col. Gilmore and Mother came
home from commencement this afternoon
had a very pleasant visit at Mr.
Trost's. Mr. P. and Ella much
pleased with her. Rowland did
finely. He is at Saranac this evening
Charles and Della also, and they will
be home tomorrow. Rowland will
come the first of next week. Lavinia
did not go. Aunt Martha "bought" her
"hair" so much to tell you that I don't
know what to write first, and I forget
something interesting while writing something
not so important. My dear baby is such

this time at Troy. Last Monday
was very foggy and not since then
have we seen the sun (excepting about
half an hour yesterday evening).

much rain has fallen since that
time but to day it looks as if it
would be pleasant by evening. I
have not heard from Capt. Tanners family
this week getting letters I have no doubt.

Mother stopped at Auburn a few hours
on her way from Brunswick. She is
just well had a little boy six weeks old.

Mother received a letter from Uncle
Edward saying that he had procured
seven shares in the Casco Bank for me
but had not been able to find any
for sale in the Canal. The balance is
deposited in the Canal bank.

I am very glad you find a girl so
readily. I hope she will prove such
a girl as we need. I know you are

fixing things just as well as if I
was there, and will suit me as well.
I shall go to Lewiston in a few
days not to visit but shopping,
go in the eve in the morning and
back in the afternoon, leave here at
ten and get back at four o'clock.

It is going to be a very pleasant
day, the sun is shining very bright
and is cool enough for comfort.

I found in my trunk your cigars, black
ing brush, nail and tooth brush,
one shirt and night shirt. When you
will let your wife live with you
you can have them, but not before.
I want to see you so very much
sometimes, and would be so happy with
you but as long as I am so pleasantly
distant and am so very welcome
I can be contented till all necessary
arrangements are made for our comfort
at Waterville. I will not write much more
this time but hoping you are well I
remain your affectionate little wife.

9
Waterloo Arsenal West- Troy N.Y.

August 7th 1856.

My dearest wife,

I take it for granted you will be glad to break the seal of another letter by the time you get this. If you have not done so, just take a pen and scratch me a few lines, telling me how you do and everything you know I am anxious to hear. How is Guy? a pretty good boy? I have had as hard a time to get a girl as Capt. George had at Tennessee. Three or four have given me the slip and not till to day have I been able to secure one. Her name is Y. Pears Sister to one of the soldiers of our command. Her first name is Kate. She is stout and robust. We first had the parlor washed and put the furniture in it. She washed the windows, swept board & floor and then dusted the furniture. I had the piano put together this morning and the boy put down cellar. The crockery came through without breaking a single thing. This has been unpacked & put away. I am going to commence keeping house tomorrow. Fanny is a very pleasant girl ready & willing to do everything. I haven't tried her at looking yet. It commenced raining last Saturday afternoon and has since

I have written much toward to send you the certificates at once

hard ever since. I hope it will clear away soon, for I
cant get out to do anything. It looks a little like clearing
up now. My son had a good long time to get his mouth
well, as he has not been out since Saturday. I desire my
carriage over to the firm of Mitchell & Sons to have it put
in running order & have a few repairs. Has Mother W-
come to you yet? If she has tell her I think Fanny will be
smart enough to suit her - I just found her putting the
Victoria in order. I told her if she would do all the
work I would give her \$150 per week till you came &
then you could make arrangements to suit yourself.
I think you will be obliged to have a small girl to
run to the Post and wait on the table & take care of
little Guy when we go out. This is commencement day
and I presume Mother has gone to Brunswick - I hope
she did not have such a run to ride in as we have
had. I got a letter from Uncle Edward while at Augusta
but did not answer it, as I expected to see him at
Portland. I will write him immediately while I think
of it. He said he could send mother \$150 dollars at any
time, if she would tell where to direct it. I also that
he had your certificate of stock in the Bank, which he
would transmit. Tell Guy I tell him father sent it. My
love to all - Affectionately your husband

Chas

if Rowland comes through. You must let me know
just when you will start. How is my mother,
well, still? and how come the neighbors with
the small boy? I expect mother will be sad over
your departure. You undoubtedly she has become
quite attached to little Guy. You can't be so
lonely as I am for I have nothing to console me
for your absence and you know Guy. I almost
envy you. The Major says I ought to have a
letter. I want to see Rowland about the manner
in which Communion went off & how he
got through with his part, &c. All Rowland he
must settle my account with Mr Carter or the
Editor of the Advertiser and stop it. I presume
he will take a Maine paper while here and that
will be enough for the family. Is Charlie at home
and Della? My best love to them & to all.

All Rowland my money is just the thing for him.
He goes to Albany and back in a short time.
I went to Mr Gregory's Church this morning on
this side of the river with Mr Lansing. Mr Lansing
and wife were right glad to see me and want you
to come and so do all especially your husband.

I have got a bed made up in Mother's room for her,
and one ready for Rowland & Guy - for husband, &c.

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Waterbury Arsenal N.Y.

August 10th 1856.

My dearest wife,

It will be two weeks next
Tuesday since I left you and it is already one week
since I arrived at Waterbury, and I haven't got a
line yet. I expect, however, there is a letter on the
way. I want try to tell you how much I am thinking
about you and Guy or how much I long for the
time to come when you will be here to cheer my
lonely home, for I don't believe I could tell you if
I would. I trust you are all well and are just
abbreviating Guy's dresses, skirts &c. Sweet. Johnnie
relieves the monotony a little by taking tea with me now
and then and by taking a smoke a little oftener. Her
two especial benefits I have put the lounge & window-
seats down in the dining room. I have sent away the
table to be altered to more convenient dimensions
and have had new window-seats made for the
parlor. I have put down the straw matting on the
little room in which I now am. I am going to fix up

The little back room that Mrs Briggs occupied once
when her father lived here, for Rowland's studies.
It has got two windows, is just large enough and
will be very retired. I don't know as I shall put
down any carpet till you get here. The rooms
down stairs being ailed don't need any while
the weather is warm. I think oiling the floors has
killed out the moths. We have had very comfortable
weather for the whole week past, plenty cool. I dined
with Mrs Thornton yesterday & she asked me to do
so again to day. wants me to live at her house
till you come, but I prefer not to. She was away
on a visit, when I first came; had she invited
me then I think I would have boarded with
her. The girl works to suit me and I think will
suit you after a little of your tuition. She does not
stay here nights, but goes to sleep with Le Roy's
girl. I have bought a nice cow. I went on Friday
with Robert Briggs, the Sicut's brother on a ride into
the country on purpose to find one. After several trials
I came across a man that had one to sell that just
satisfied me. I got her for \$2 dolls. led her myself for
six or seven miles into the edge of West Troy, where Mr Grath
met me. She gives about 10 qts. per day and is very gentle gentle.
I now have plenty of bread & milk My family don't consume

a great quantity of provisions. I wonder if you want
to come to me as much as I want you to. Walter
Hillman's wife is dead. He married her you know after
we left. I met him and Charlie Church, when
crossing the ferry on my way to the Arsenal when
I first arrived. I have not seen any of the Troy
people yet, besides them. As the appropriations are
well up the Maj could not afford to send any
quarters. and coming to look at them I find them in
a very good state of repair. I want to know how
soon you and Rowland can make arrangements
to start for this region. What does Guy & Mother
think? Show him a little bit for me. Mrs Thorn-
ton wants to see you and him. She had all sorts
of questions to ask. I think I have done pretty well,
got a girl, a cow, and the house pretty well
arranged. Now if you have got the petty coats out
off - it's all right, and the sooner you start the
better. Manage to strike the steamer Lewiston at Porters
and you will have a pleasant night to Boston, let
the night be what it may. There were plenty of
hubs come up the night I did. I fear the journey
will be hard for you without me, but Rowland will
be a good substitute. If I could know when, I would
meet you at Springfield. But maybe I had better not

Waterloo Arsenal, N. York
August 15th 1856.

My dearest wife,

I received yours of the 12th last night. I felt not a little disappointed to find that you would not be ready to come before the September election, four weeks from the present time, because I had thought you would be here much sooner. I don't want to be selfish about the matter or be instrumental in hindering Rowland from voting. Though I feel rather lonely and want your assistance as well as your company. I suspect that many times during our lives duty will keep us apart for longer periods than will suit our convenience or inclination and therefore it is best to live together when we can as well as not. Your work can be finished here as well as there. There are very few people in town; all gone to watering places or places of summer resort, so that you will not be troubled with too many visitors. If you admit the above, the question will turn on Rowland's consent; if he then forego the pleasure of casting his vote for Memorial Hamlin I think you can come by a week from Monday. But I wish you to act according to your judgement. The girl is willing, but of less judgement and more

huddle than suits my turn. I was going to put
down the carpet on the front worn up stairs to day
but as you are not likely to come so soon as
I anticipated, I told the girl to begin to fix
her own room. She prefers the little room, back of the
kitchen down stairs. I am exceedingly afraid of
the moths, have purchased some musk and
put a little in the buffalo, the carpets and in
my great coat pocket. The nights are very lonely.
I read till quite late and then go to bed all by myself
in the big house. Yesterday in the afternoon I took
Mrs. Shannon's boys up to Waterford and gave them
a boat ride, and in the evening went to Maj
Symington's. The Major's people had all gone to
Mrs Patterson's to a party excepting ^{the} Major & Mrs Colonel
Stewart. The Major told me all he knew of
Col. Fremont. About his conduct at St. Louis while
the Maj was there, and about his family that he
knew of at Richmond. He told more things discreditable
to the man than I imagined could be said with
any show of truth. More moral & official delinquencies
than I imagined could possibly believe even from
the Major's laudor. To these things, which I will not
repeat, I had no reply to make for Major S. spoke
as he said from personal knowledge. I was very
sorry to hear these things, for I thought his official
conduct, personal merit & moral deportment had been above

reproach and beyond caviel. According to the Major, Col.
Benton's influence has made him, supported him and
crowned him with laurels actually due to Gen Kearney.
Gen. Stoughton, N.P. Carson & the French scientific
explorers. He says Mrs Fremont is a very nice lady.
The old Major is quite interested in politics this
year. I was glad indeed that Mrs Symington was
not there, for she "pays over" so heavily on politics that
I can hardly keep my temper. She never has mentioned
Fremont & I don't think she will to me.

I have written to Charles Malliken and have had
a sword or two given him on an enclosed letter. All
were well. Tell little Guy for me. I have got his
crib at the house - Give my love to all and
write me what is your final decision about
proceeding to this Post.

Very affectionately
Yr husband
Otis -

Charlie down to Mr. Brody's to get
a girl for mother. She comes to night.
Lina Brody, they live on the same
road with Mr. Joseph Turner, and a
Mr. Richmond the quaker.

I wish you could send me three things:
my new black silk visette, a round
cape like my old traveling dress, it
is tan color lined with brown silk
and has three rows of trimming on ^{it} ~~the~~ ^{the}
and a plain black silk visette with fringe
around it. I am not sure about the latter
being at Troy. You will find them in
the ~~of~~ ^{one of the} ~~middle~~ drawers of
the bureau left hand side with my
green shawl which I do not want.
How can you send them? Will it cost
too much by express? If you could get
a little paper box to put them in,
you can fix that, and then this in the upper
draw you will find lace, ribbons, mitts &c.
There are three pairs of ^{black} mitts and I want one
pair. I do not want the long ones, neither
do I want that delicate short hair, but
^{I do want} the short hair without fringe and stouter
than the delicate hair. I want the traveling
cape to wear on, and Mother let Mother B.
have her new visette, and she wants one

Lancaster Aug. 17th 1846.

My dearest Ohio

I received your letter

dated the 13th last Friday. I am
so happy to hear from you as
often as I do. You have probably
received two letters from me before
this time and I know they were
received with as much pleasure
as those I have received. How
fast you are getting the house
in order. I should judge from
your account that you had already
done all there was to do except
putting down the wooden carpets and
that I hope you will let me tell
me yet there. and how long do
you think it will be? Your last
letter bears the day, "come immediately"
But I rather guess you had better
shake up your mind to give

I do not think you have done any thing for the house but I don't mind as long as you have got the house any way. I can't say that I am going to be as restless as you usually are when waiting, I should prefer to come alone. I know, this dearest, you must be lonely and desire to see us very much but I was not thinking you could be ready - and have done so many things in so short a time. I am getting ourselves ready as fast as possible and shall be ready about the time we set when you went away. I wrote about this in my last letter and I am waiting to get a reply to know what you think. So I don't care to say more about it this time.

Charlie and I went to Lewiston yesterday. Made to about Sarah's where we left the horse, dined with them, then went shopping on both sides of the river. Called at Uncle Mike's saw him, very glad to see us Aunt Honnie was out.

Charlie and I went to Lewiston yesterday. Made to about Sarah's where we left the horse, dined with them, then went shopping on both sides of the river. Called at Uncle Mike's saw him, very glad to see us Aunt Honnie was out. I walked back to Aunt Whitman's and she had told where we remained to the Christiana the meeting called on Pratsy found Roads out at all well. We got home about eight in the evening. I feel as well to day as if I had not gone. We are all very well. Ed Gilmore had a sore throat on his lip last week and Charlie has had a slight sore finger like the one when he went to Warrington. Capt Turner was very sick but is out now, and Charles and his wife will be here the last of this week. I went up to see Laura one day last week. John Harrison and all his family were there spending a few days.

Berry Lee was at Convent, went to Hallowell and to Augusta to see us. did not come to Leeds. Charlie & I went last evening one day got enough for tea. I go down to see Cynthia quite often - went to ride with

to wear on. There is no express on this
road but they would come I presume if
you should direct the package to
Leeds or you may send them to Mr
Samuel Hicks, Lewiston Falls. Maine
Please tell me about the time you
send them, I need the case more than
anything, if you can do no other way
you could send them by mail, and
not send the rest. Evening 6 o'clock

Where are you dearest about this
time. I do want to see you. I
must try to go to Turner before I leave
here. Mrs. J. & Mr. W. have gone west.
His family go next month. I would
like to see them and Grandmother.
I thought we would be carried
over there then go to Lewiston in
the stage, and then come back
here from Lewiston in the cars.
Mother Silsbee and I walked down as far as
Capt. Turners gate and talked with them.
They all came to the door. soon after I

Monday. Rosilla's sister Eliza did this morning.

heard Esther bringing Guy down. Florence
was very glad to see him. We made
Lydia a long call. I fear the little
boy is not perfectly well. but it may
be because Guy seems so much older.
Col. Gilmore has just come in with
some blue berries. I gave Guy some
and said he supposed Otis would
say his little wife must have some
and gave me the rest. Rowland takes
care of Guy ever so much. Charlie went
for the girl - has not yet returned.
What very good brothers I have got.
Charlie has just come ^{alone} and has said that
girl has gone to Lewiston to work.
I am sorry for Mother, for she wishes
to do many things for Rowland before
he goes away. I hope she can get
some one else. Now I must bid you
good night. Guy begins to fret for his
milk and the cows have not come.
I must not forget to tell you that he
did creep a few steps to-day. I will
give him ever so many kisses for you and
your little Wm. Linnie

day thereafter till you get here. You need not think I have done too much for the house for you will have plenty to do after you get here - Tell Howland if he is made a commissioner of, in traveling I will try to compensate him after he gets here.

I suspect he will have some visits to make after he gets home before he can come. I shall go to Cold Spring next Monday evening and back Tuesday morning. I feel very sorry that I had to come away without seeing Charlie again. I want to hear from him - Give him my love. He has now got two

brothers to succede in the remainder of his course, I hope he will not fail to outstrip them both. Though I would be better to fall behind than to get sick. I want to hear about that class oration, how it came off, what a pleasure ye -

And Delle I presume he has had some fine intellectual treats. Did it be full proud when Howland stepped on to the platform? I am glad father & mother went to Brunswick. I were pleased with Ella, I think I shall write her with Rosiland's approbation. My best love to my mother & to yours - I suspect the latter will have thousands of wonderful things to tell me about your little boy. Make haste & get here for I must have my share of him. My love to father, I shall write him so soon as I close the business with Mr Gilbert. God bless you all -

Yours very affectionate

Husbandly,

Wm

Waterbolt-Arsenal N. York

11

18th of August 1856. Tuesday

(Wednesday morning)

My dearest wife

I sat down in our little room to sort up my accounts and now that I have finished I believe I will write you a word or two. I received your letter yesterday morning and was glad enough to get it and more so that it contained no bad news. I am all ready for you to come when you can make yourself ready and for me the sooner the better. I have put the furniture in most of the rooms and could give you a fair chance to spend the night I should you come this afternoon. I have put down the matting in this room where it belongs. procured the same sort for Howland's room; only it is to go wider in the breadth. Nelly is washing the windows & wood work of the same and I shall put down the matting this afternoon. I got a straw bed filled & with one of the feather beds Nelly has made up in that room a comfortable sleeping apparatus. She does not sleep in the house yet, so I am my own watch-dog. I got a nice crib for little Guy and am having soles put to it, with stops to make it fast when you want it a fixture. One side can be taken

taken off at night when you put it by the side of the bed. Our table I
have had reclosed in dimensions and made of an oval form, a
little larger than ~~ours~~ at Kennebec. I have had four new window
seats. Square on the top and one inch lower than the old. I got
oil-cloth for putting under the dining table. 2 yds wide & 2 1/2 long
in one piece. It is cheaper, as handsome and will not ruffle
up like backing. So much for household arrangements. Robert
Boggs, myself and Popsy went up the Moultonk yesterday
on a fishing excursion, the water being very muddy we did
not catch many. Had enough for breakfast however.
Popsy is fast getting fat under Thomas' care. The carriage
will be done Friday. I am having a new lining and the
top mended up. While this is being repaired, the carriage
makers let me have a light wagon, the wheels of which Popsy
makes turn in fine style. Miss Carry Symington came
here yesterday. Looks just as she used to, will remain
only till Thursday. I really wish you could see her and
make her personal acquaintance. She says she believes
it is her destiny not to see you. She wishes to and inquires
after you & Guy. She has been with her father on a tour to
Niagara and Saratoga. My new cow gives plenty of milk. I frequently
have bread & milk for lunch and sometimes for regular meals.
Rowland will be home by the time this reaches you. I got a paper from
him this morning, am glad for him that he did so well at
Commencement. You can say to him that I cannot repay his

coming. This room will be cool and quiet and if there is a
good place to study ~~the~~ there. It will be beneficial to me and
to him. If you want any more money get it of him or
of father and I will repay it. I want you to make up your
mind to take a ride every other day. The weather is & has
been since a week ago but Sunday as cool & pleasant
as it was in Maine at the Cranal. This side of the town
is particularly pleasant for summer. Let Rowland play
with and carry Guy just as much as you can on your
way to Portland. Mrs Boggs found the United States Hotel the
pleasantest & best and so I think. You will reach Boston early by
the boat. Take a United States carriage for the horse & take a room -
if you wish to stop all day. But I would not do so if I got a good rest on
the boat but come on in the first morning train. Get a "Stop over Pass"
at Springfield. ^{if you are too tired there to come straight on} I would not go to Martha Jones directly with the
baby, for it would only tire you, but if you stopped till afternoon
in Boston you might ride over & make her a call during the
day. The State rooms on the boat, ^(Lowiston) are very fine, neat & comfortable. Don't
go into the ladies cabin to be made sick by others unexampled conduct.
There was not a single person sick the night I came up, & I
hope you will get a good large piece of Salt fish for an antidote
and keep clear this time. You & mother can have a nice time, leaving
all care of the baggage to Rowland. Drop me a line as soon as
you know letting me know when I may expect you - I will
ride to the Depot - the first day you may possibly arrive & catch

Reno understands both English and Italian, will walk
scrap the room on two legs, climb right put on a small tree,
and shut the door. Robert will play & sing finely to
the edification of us all. I am really glad you are not coming
till these young ladies are gone for one reason, one day
while I took my meals with Buggs, at dinner parties
got introduced, I didn't say much either way, finally
Miss Fremont turned to me & said, Mr Howard, you
are not for Fremont are you? I said why Miss
Fremont, you ask the question right at me, then I said,
Yes I am. Immediately I found a cold feeling run
around the table. I took my meals in my own house as soon
as possible. I hadn't taken any notice of their prejudice
and I reckon they begin to see that a Fremont man needn't
be so much of a scamp after all, the reason I am glad they are
going before you come, is because the women are full of such
strong prejudices that I don't think you would like them.
Though Miss Rebecca is a very quiet & sensible girl. I
have had quite a number of sectional speeches to put
up with. I think it best to keep clear of all quarrels, as
my position will not admit of my entering the course.

Keep little Guy for me - Bless his eyes, I would like to see him
& you, last good night. It is raining very hard - a hundred
kisses, My love to all

Your affectionate husband,
Otis

Waterbury Arsenal N.H.

August 20th 1846.

My dearest Wife

I have just received your
long letter. The difficulty has been that my letters
have all been written before these two, Rowland's last
and yours were received. I did not mean to plead
my selfish wishes against your desire to remain in
Maine or unnecessarily urge your coming, I can
not, drink, sleep and do my duties till
you get ready to come. I don't want you to come
alone without Rowland. Wait for him and when
everything is in readiness your husband will be here
to welcome you. I am sorry I was foolish enough
to give you so much uneasiness. I dread that projected
journey to Turner & thence by stage to Lewiston, till
whether she has forgotten about "your being so short a
time for this world". The carriage is hard & the roads none
of the smoothest, but go and save yourself as much unnece-
sary work as you can. That journey of yours going from place
to place and carrying Guy will be harder than your
journey to Troy I think and I fear you will return to Leeds

all tired out if not sick. On Monday I went to West Point
My pony took me as far as Albany. I intended to leave
at one o'clock, but found that the first train that stopped
at Cold Spring went at 4.45 P.M. I dined at Congress Hall
with Sient Goun of the Infantry who is on Recruiting duty
at Albany in Miller's place. I reached Cold Spring a little
before nine, staid all night with New Giltner. gave him
my deed of the place, received the money in bankbills and
left him in the morning. I found Maj Suidley at
the Highland Hotel and delivered a letter sent him by
Maj Symington. Maj Suidley inquired for you & sent his
regards. Then I went over to the Fair, first to the Hotel
and thence to Guard Mounting, where I found very few
acquaintances. Maj Emily Bernard & Maj Julia Nichols were
there. After Guard Mounting I accompanied them to Mrs
Bernard's, where all seemed joyous to see me. Mrs B had
been very sick, but had now recovered. I promised to
dine with them and then went to see Warren Sutherland.
He had more vision than he used to have, was taking
photographs. Some of the best I ever saw. One of Professor
Bartlett's & another of Professor Mier were splendid! He
was well & had many inquiries to make about yourself
and Guy, and about his friends in Maine. I went to
the Board practice & then up to Camp. It began to rain then
and has kept it up ever since. I saw at Camp all the

present first class and tried to recall their names, but
could not more than half of them. I sat down in a tent
and they came in three or four at a time & called me
by name and seemed glad to meet me. There were
the Pletys when I was a first class man. Next year
at this time I will know scarcely anybody. I dined at
Madam Bernard's as engaged & left in the 2 o'clock train
for Troy. arrived here safe & sound before dark
with my money. When it stops raining I am going
to Troy to make arrangements about sending it to
father. I will get three things. Cape. ^{de-}Witt^{te}, in the morning
and send ~~the~~ ^{the} to you at Leeds by Express. The Express will
take it as far as ^{the Express} ~~St.~~ ^{St.} goes & is responsible for its safe
transportation the rest of the way. I thought you had
got ~~traps~~ enough with you without having more.
My pony is getting fat under Thomas' care & my carriage is
very comfortable. It has a new lining, lace binding, & curtains.
The top has been newly & neatly patched & oiled & all the tires
reset. Mrs Bernard & her family want to get acquainted with
you very much. I invited her to visit us after your
return. Boog's sisters will leave before you come & so will
his brother. This brother is the one who has just returned
from Italy. He is quite an artist & musician. He has got
"Sister Mary's" portrait most done & brother Willie's "under weight"
He has with him a guitar & a bright dog called Nemo.

For Lizzie

Thursday Morning Aug. 28th

[1856]

My dearest wife,

16

I learned for the first time this morning that your mother was really ill. Mother calls it the erysipelas. I hope it will not prove like mine. I presume it is confined to her limbs. Having Guy and mother both to take the care of will be quite a tax upon yourself. I wish you were all here that I might assist.

If mother is better or worse you must write me - just a line if no more. I am very well, hear her to Albany several times lately; what I saw and heard I will tell you after we meet. Mother's father, mother, or Howland wish whether you have received my last letter and your bundle. I found it as cheap to send the whole by mail and hope you have got it all safe. I have received a letter from Charles Mellican, who writes that all were well at his house. May Spinnington is ill but not very sick to day. Boygs has completely changed - has got to be very active & industrious, walks just not about ~~the~~ sheep in the day time. Mrs Boygs is about as of old, makes him a good wife. They very affectionate to each other, much more so than tripartite. The Misses Boygs will leave with their brother & next Sunday night for home. On Tuesday night Mrs

Crosby invited all from the Arsenal to take tea with her
and spend the evening. The Major staid at home
and the rest of us went. We met Mrs & Mrs Dwyer &
Mrs Hillhouse all of whom inquired particularly for
you & Mrs H said she wanted to see you very much.
Mrs Dwyer was a sociable this evening but I think
of excusing myself. I am officer of the day and the
Major is ill will answer I reckon. How is that
darling boy? forgotten his father of course? ask him if
he does not want to see me. Has he got so as to
creep all over the house? Give my love to your mother.
I wish to know the particulars about her illness.

My girl makes very good coffee & tea and succeeds
admirably in housekeeping. The flies bother me
considerably but we have not been troubled with
mosquitoes yet. I heard one last night. The
weather has been cold, more like the latter part
of September than August. We had only one warm
day after I arrived. After that heavy rain it cleared
off cold & then came another rain. The river rose so
as to overflow the lower Gardens, but did us very
little damage before it subsided. Give my love
to all and be pleased to accept what is due
to yourself. I must see you soon. Go loving love
C

Waterbury Arsenal N.Y.

August 28th 1856

Dear Father,

I received your note together with the enclosed note of hand this morning. I did not mean to make any charge. If you had dealt with me legally I should be one hundred dollars out of pocket. But our admirable Congress seem disposed to embarrass me a little, and it becomes me to get all the change I can. My extra expenses from visiting Cold Spring the first time were \$ 5.00

My second trip N.Y. from both ways 4.00

Paid for the Draft on Boston Bank 8.50

Making in all \$ 17.50

I am sorry to learn that Lizzie's mother is sick. I shall enclose a letter to her with this. Who will be the candidate for Senator to replace Fruehan?

Is Howland's canvassing going for naught, rendering it impossible to unite Straight Whigs and Republicans in the coming Campaign?

Very truly your son

O. V. Howard

Dear Mother,

I was glad to hear from you again by your own hand. I know it is hard to see sons, one after another leave their home and understand the struggle between a deep affection and the self-denial that duty seems to require. But while Roseland is with me you will be happy in the consciousness that we are together. I have been making inquiries so as to ascertain the best place for him to study and think that he could hardly find a better place to study his profession than in Albany or Troy. At a distance from local interests and politics, he will here have every inducement to push forward in the legitimate study & practice of the law, with many good examples to follow and avoid fair models for imitation. Yesterday I visited Albany and went to the Scientific Convention. In the afternoon listened to a grand extempore lecture from Professor Agassiz - ate my breakfast at seven in the morning and did not dine till after my return at half past six in the evening. Don't work too hard - I trust Lizzie will not wear herself down on account of her mother's illness. My love to all

Your affectionate Son

C. C. Howard