

often for you will be very happy about you & if we can be of assistance to you in any way please write to us at once

Mrs. Waite does not seem pleased with the arrangement. Mr. Shunk is a "good fellow" & I like him first rate. I have a case in the "next court" tomorrow & have my part fully prepared. I think our side will hear. Charles finished his lecture Saturday week & is at Brunswick. Dellar still at Andover. I had a letter from Wingfield. He keeps his old place & length has gone to Illinois. He gives very flattering accounts of his prospects & is "determined" to be a rich man. - Wants I should invest some money in House lots! - Wonder where I would get it! He expresses great gratitude for your kindness to Augusta & a desire to hear from you. I have been sadly disappointed in not getting a letter from "my Ella" today. These snow storms are bad things for regular correspondence. I had one last Wednesday & also from Capt. Putnam. He is closing up his mercantile business. Laura Howard has been making Mother a visit & wrote me a very good letter from Leeds. I design to write to Aunt Martha Jane before we go on, and ascertain whether she is still in Lonsmerville & if we had better go out there, if we stop in Boston. Aunt Anne has heard nothing from Ben & Fred. It is a dreadful winter for shipping. The papers are full of disasters. I am connected with the Young men's Debating Soc. here & have much participation in their services & shall again tomorrow evening. Shall you travel or be stationary? Shunk anticipates a busy time for you. There is no need of my saying "write"

Waltham  
Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 1857

My dear Mother  
This is my "fore-letter" paper and admits of a pretty long letter at a small postage & convenient size. but I will not promise that this shall be long on account of the dearth of topics. But I suppose anything is of interest to you. You may be sure that I was delighted that Lizzie should receive those three letters which have been so long delayed. I ran all the way from the P. O. & handed them to her in installments of one each. So she could read & digest one without being oppressed by the anticipated pleasure of the next. Mr. Lee & myself have been out to St. Johns Church today. None of the ladies have been out. Indeed the walking was impracticable. but our heart it has been the warmest. Sunnier day of the whole winter. Lizzie seems to consider me more & more indispensable to him. I know "Papa" would be jealous if he could hear her him say "Uncle" first. Lizzie & I get on swimmingly & whether absent or present she is just the nicest little wife you could have. Mrs. Waite's health is not very good & it has the usual depressing effects on her spirits. But the prospect of being so soon with those after her own heart at Newiston. will soon make her more cheerful.



& hopeful. I am left useful to Lizzie that I  
wish I could be, on acct. of my absence  
at Albany & my occupation with my own affairs  
even while here. Guy is going to be a regular  
bearer. I should count myself blessed beyond  
anything that money can bestow were I father  
to such a noble boy. In spite of the responsibility  
imposed, the danger of sickness & death, the trial  
of absence & the thousand fears for him everywhere  
there is, there must be a blessing in such a possession  
beyond all power of expression and all measure  
of gratitude. God bless you all. Father, Mother &  
Helen & keep for you all, intact & unbroken, the rich  
bounties ~~He~~ has granted you in domestic love. I  
went to hear Thalberg, the great pianist, yesterday  
week & was perfectly delighted with him. Mr. He  
& I went to hear W. W. Tucker. Tuesday evening  
last before the G. M. A. of Troy. We got no tears,  
of course, but what we heard was fully up  
to your description of his Elocution, which  
was, truly, eulogistic & enthusiastic enough.  
Do you see the N. Y. papers, or how or they can  
reach Lampas by mail? You will see how suddenly  
"Bully Brooks" died & passed to his long rest.  
& how a Mr. Savage in the House said that his  
great act was like that of Brutus & like that  
would always command the approbation of right  
thinking men! The Army Bill (Gillman's) passed the  
House without much opposition & we are looking  
every day for the Senate to pass it. It dates the

pay back to July. I think I will leave to  
leave the carriage here. Subject either to your  
order, or to be sent to Mr. Park in the Spring &  
sold at Auction as you think best. Lizzie has  
been offered \$84.00 for the cow, but has not decided  
whether to take it yet, I believe. We have sold  
nothing except to Mr. Lee. The furniture will  
be sent to Park sometime this week, but he may  
sell & we realize, before our <sup>departure</sup> ~~to go~~ which is  
now in about 3 1/2 weeks only. I am now de-  
cidedly in favor of Lizzie's & Guy's spending the  
greater part of the Spring with Mother. If Lizzie  
prefers to be at Genesee the last of the Spring  
& the first of the Summer, she can go, you know,  
very easily. If Lizzie could enjoy it as well  
I do hope she will consent to gratify Mother  
who is very anxious to have her & Guy. I don't  
see why both Grandmothers can't be satisfied.  
Guy can be with both of them a part of the time.  
I fear I cannot get an answer to this before  
we leave - but if you write in time, let us have  
your advice & pleasure. I want to go down to  
N. Y. some Saturday before I go away. I had a  
letter from Aunt Anne saying that Frank was  
no better & that they will leave for Mass on to-  
morrow (Frank & Sarah & their little boy). I want to stop  
a day in Boston - to see about the Cambridge Law School &  
the expense of studying law in Boston - to go out &  
see Nellie - to see Mrs. Patten & Lizzie (her daughter)  
at Somerville. Lizzie would like to stop but



and he does not wake till seven o'clock  
the next morning. I am very glad that  
Esther has gone to live with Mrs Ames, it  
will do much to her advantage. I hope  
Roses's health has improved since last Fall.  
I think he must be quite well, as you say Col. G.  
has no one else to help him. Brother Rowland  
received a letter from Aunt Ann saying Mr. & Mrs.  
wife and little boy would soon go to Nassau  
as he gets no better. I presume she will not  
now visit us. I am glad to hear that Cynthia  
Rowland and Fannie are well. I suppose he is  
almost as large as Guy. I have not yet begun  
to take up carpets or done much towards moving.  
I have had all my blankets washed, and am  
marking all my bedding preparatory to packing.  
I wish to leave packed everything in good order.

I wrote to Charlie yesterday, and shall write to  
Otis as soon as I finish this. Rowland just came  
in, and said he would write to you also.

I received a very kind brotherly letter from Charlie  
a few mornings since. I am very glad his school  
was pleasant to him. I know it must have been so  
to the scholars, we heard from Laura a short time  
since. I did not imagine they would go back to Le.  
so early as the middle of March. Remember me  
all friends, and give my love to Rowland & Guy  
and tell her to kiss Fannie for me.

Believe me very affectionately your daughter  
Lavinia Howard.

462

Watervliet Arsenal.

West Troy, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 1857.

My dear Mother

I received your kind  
letter some time since, but as  
Brother Rowland wrote you very soon  
after I thought I would wait till I had  
news from Otis. We were all very well  
when your letter was received but now  
mother has been unwell since Wednesday.  
She is getting better, and will soon be well  
I trust. All the rest of us are very well. Guy  
has four teeth, can say quite a number  
of words, calls Uncle constantly.

I thank you very much for the invita-  
tion to stay with you during the time  
Otis is from us, but I cannot under the  
circumstances, decide before I go to Ottawa  
where I had better make my stop. The  
only, or rather the greatest objection I have  
to Lewiston is on account of Guy, I do  
not think it a healthy place for children.  
I will visit you very soon after I leave  
here, for I presume I shall stop at Lewiston



make that our first stopping place after we leave Naturalist Canal. then I will talk with you and consult Otis and learn his wishes. I do not think of going to Florida unless Otis should remain two years, or much longer than he now anticipates. It is not a comfortable place (the quarters) for ladies and children.

There are a few ladies there wives of Artillery Officers, but he says he has rather visit you and myself at the north than there. I presume he can make himself more comfortable alone than to have us with him, although we would be very happy to be together. Every letter I have written to him has been a cheerful letter, and I shall strive to continue to have them so. I did not receive my letters regularly, the first ones were detained by storm, therefore last Friday eve. I received three all he had written. The first letter <sup>written Jan 13<sup>th</sup></sup> gave me a description of the remainder of his journey, and that Gen Harey was at Fort Mifflin when he arrived at Tampa. He sailed immediately for Fort Mifflin (one hundred and seventy miles below Tampa) in the steamer Fashion belonging to

the Government. Gen Harey received him very cordially, and he, Gen Harey and two other Officers returned to Tampa the next day (Saturday) and he was assigned to duty as Ordnance Officer. His second letter written on the fourteenth of Jan. was only to say that he had not received a letter since he left home. The last letter was written on the 18<sup>th</sup> I have already given the news yet condensed considerably. He gets the mail twice a week Wednesdays and Saturdays, and leaves Thursday and Sunday or Monday. I direct letters to Tampa Fla. Gen Harey had gone out with his staff, to visit all the Posts in Florida. He has declared war with the Indians. He has 36 companies, 85 men in each; 9 of the companies volunteer, mounted; and the rest artillery and infantry. I presume you may have a letter soon <sup>perhaps</sup> perhaps as soon as you get this. I should judge that Otis has had a great deal to do since he arrived at his Post. He writes that he seems to be in better health, and I do hope he may remain in the best of health. I am now writing in the evening. My dear little boy has gone to sleep. I put him into my bed as soon as he is undressed <sup>every night</sup> and he is soon asleep.



is engaged to a young lady at St Louis, and we  
thought he might be going to be married on his  
way here. You need not hasten to send me money  
for I am in no need of any. I sold the Cow this  
morning to the same man for 35 dollars. He will  
take her away Monday next, and after that leave us  
two quarts of milk every day. Last evening was not  
as long as I imagined, and I did not get right  
finished. I will try to finish it soon, Thursday morning.  
I will give it to the ladies at noon. Gen Wood is coming  
here, and I hope to shall see him before I leave. I do not  
know when he will be here. Mrs Thornton hopes the Major  
will return in the Spring. I do not begin to think when  
he will return to us. I can only hope you may not be  
gone very long, and that you may continue in good  
health is my constant prayer. I am still very well  
and have no fears for myself. I do hope we will leave here  
just three weeks from to day. I have nothing to do now  
but to pack what I leave here, and what I take with me  
to Maine. I will take good care of myself and not do  
much, but merely look on while others work. Brother  
Rowland is very kind to do all I ask him. Will see  
Mr Parks, and tell him that you have a carriage to sell.

302 301  
Theophilus Arsenat.  
West Troy, N. Y. Feb. 2, 1837.  
The best children I ever knew. He has just gone to sleep  
by himself in my bed, and not make the least fuss  
about it. He fell down on the carpet to-day, and left  
the print of the threads on his forehead and made his  
nose bleed for the first time. I was a little frightened  
at first, but he soon returned to his playthings and  
seemed to forget it. He is very fond of filling his wooden  
needle full of spools, and will put on six or eight  
sometimes, and then two on my 'white toped pencil'.  
My furniture has all been sent to Mr Parks to sell.  
Sargent Smith & Mr. Magan went with it once yesterday  
and to-day once. I wrote a note and sent him yesterday  
and Brother Rowland is to call and see him at his  
house. I do hope the things will bring nearly what  
they are worth. but I shall not worry, they must  
bring what they can, and I shall make the best of it.  
Guy had his nap on the lounge to-day. Slept as well

Ever your friend  
Wm. B. Wood  
Feb. 3, 1837

Emory Hall

but not send it to him. There was a man here the other day asked to see clothing  
to sell. asked the  
price I told him  
several dollars, and  
I would like to sell  
it before I went away.  
He said he would  
consider of it.  
Guy has just come when  
the kitchen to have  
his wife & son by  
my side. Mrs.  
After and he love  
to go on. one believe  
me ever you living  
little life  
Signe Howard



Did receive by at 50 dollars from you while in New York.

and as long as usual. I was very glad to get another letter from you this morning, and brother Rowland received his also. I do think you should have received more than one letter from me before the 20<sup>th</sup> of last month. I have written regularly, and mailed two letters every week, only when brother Rowland has written, I have merely enclosed a note. I form a very good idea of your quarters from the sketch at the top of your dear kind letter, and of the Military Reserve. Mr Lee says, he supposes you imagined yourself a 'Topey' while sketching the Reserve. I looked it down stairs when I went to dinner. I fear you are having it too cold for that climate, and the changes may produce sickness. I do hope you will not be sick so far from us; and if you did take the measles you are now sick with them, I hope not but if you did take them do not expose yourself too much to the cold while they are coming out, or while they are out. This will reach you too late for me to prescribe if you are sick, but I will trust to your judgement, and the skill of Dr. Knapp. Wednesday Evening, I will now finish my letter, that brother Rowland may mail it early in the eve. I hope, darling Chas, you received <sup>tonight</sup> one, at least, of the

many letters I have written you. perhaps like me you got quite a number at one mail. I know they will be welcome to you, my Chas, whenever you get them. I love to write as often as twice a week if it is only to tell you I am well. I do not think you have fitted up your room in great style, but I think you have done wisely in not purchasing furniture, but I do want you to make yourself as comfortable as you can. I wish I could send you something I don't know what, that you would like. I wish you had taken bedding with you, although you are now supplied by with both bed and bedding. I am very glad of the least kindness shown you by those about you, and have no doubt you also appreciate it. I got the 'New Register' by kind the names of the Officers you speak of and are right, as I have never known them. I wish to form some idea of them and their characters, but it may I should not judge of them <sup>rightly</sup> by their rank, regiment, and native State. I am so much "Northern", would I not be partial? Mr. Shunk has been here some time, he received a letter from Mr. Todd, who wished to know when Mr. Briggs would be at 'Baton Rouge' on account of private business he wished to know. He



Augusta Feby 4<sup>th</sup> 1857  
Wednesday A.M.

Dear friend Oliver

Your esteemed favor of Jan'y 16<sup>th</sup> came to hand this morning and I can assure you it astonished me to find you directing your letters from other quarters than "Waterville," although I had heard through Capt Gorgas, that you had been ordered to Florida. Still I could not realize it until now. First to Maine then to Florida this is moving about rapidly and to the extremes - but still aside from the separation from one's family in many respects you must enjoy it - the change can be but agreeable of climate - people - manners - customs &c. It is not pleasant to break up housekeeping and divide one's family for any length of time I am aware - particularly the exposure attending you from all sources still the new ideas that are obtained in an entire change of scene is beneficial to say the least. I should enjoy it I know. I am very glad to hear you are well and that you remember your old friends in Augusta. I hope you will not forget that I think of you very often and wish you back to the pleasant quarters at the Kennebec Arsenal. It may be selfish in me in part for I have missed you so much since you left. Still I can but think you enjoyed yourself here and would like to have remained. I must confess that I owe an apology for not writing you ere this but all I can say is something has turned up every day that has prevented me and with all have been pretty busy since I was at your house

Recd 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 1857  
Augusta Maine 1857



at West Troy last fall. It is not because I have not wanted  
to hear from you or that I wished to drop our correspondence  
far from it. Should you write me just as often as you  
have leisure I will endeavor to reply to all in due season.

I should be pleased to do something with Mr Hart if  
an arrangement could be made mutually satisfactory. Hay  
can be bought here as low as at any point in Maine and from  
May to November shipped from here direct and from Nov. to May  
(at Bath) which is thirty miles below Augusta it can be ship-  
ped these places being connected by Rail Road. and Good Pressed  
Hay Delivered at Depot here can be bought for twelve Dollars per  
ton now - as the season advances it will probably be higher -  
a large quantity of Hay was damaged in the field last summer  
consequently great care should be taken in selecting prime lots.  
if it is not too much trouble you can see Mr Hart and  
get the particulars - how he wishes the Hay bought - What kind  
as near as possible - also the terms and if he is responsible as  
well as good for all transactions he proposes to undertake.

I will do his business for him here for as small a commis-  
sion as is done any where but do not care to assume  
very great risks with an entire stranger at such a distance.  
I will rely upon you Oliver and as you are acquaint-  
ed with me and know how I am situated any arrange-  
ment you may make I will be greatly obliged to have  
you forward whenever he (Mr Hart) is in want of any thing  
that can be bought here such as Hay - Oats - Barley - Beans &c  
and the prices are now as follows

|     | per Ton | per Bush | per Bush | per Bush |
|-----|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Hay | \$12.   | 145 cts  | \$1.     | \$2 1/4. |

perhaps it is troubling you too much and if so Mr Hart  
can write me by your reading him this. until I hear from you  
or him will not write him

Mr Howard make us a visit whenever it is his pleasure

The Good People you know here are all well and not many  
changes. Mr Dana was here this winter and created as much  
sensation as he did last summer attending Sea Parties - riding  
about &c - The Scandal of the town has him now engaged to Fizzie  
Briggs it remains to be seen whether it is so. time brings  
about all these things however he is really a very nice fellow  
and is thought a great deal of here - W W Severance is  
now here he that is engaged to Hannah Child and they  
will probably be married soon going back to California to live  
without doubt Mrs Cushing will go with them they are the same  
as when you was here - just as lively and as handsome  
they will be missed very much particularly at home.

Doct Briggs & family are well. A D Brown & family live  
just the same and are the same in all particulars. Geo William  
is a Bachelor still but as gallant as of yore - Capt Gorges &  
family seem to enjoy themselves riding about this cold weather and  
are generally liked I imagine - he is a very still quiet man.

They have improved their quarters very much in many respects  
and think they have considerable company. All of the good  
people here in town are the same - very few changes.

Parah & the children are well and we live in the same  
place in the same way as when you was here they wish  
to be kindly remembered and your name is frequently men-  
tioned by us both.

Wife

With my best wishes Oliver for yourself

I remain Your friend  
Marley

Brown says we sympathize  
with you he is in my counting room now  
and sends his kindest regards C H W

He should be happy to see you as I know how I pity you

So should I - for I am



to see you & Guy. I would not wonder if she were anxious  
for you to go & live with her. Yes, it will be a rest from  
house-keeping to live at Swissham. You must not mind  
little grievances there. Be generous, be kind to them all.  
Hide above their foibles. Remember, my darling, that  
true dignity is not pretentious. True greatness seldom  
shows itself. People who have not seen much in the  
world are very apt to be full of envy & back-bittings.  
We must pity & not despise them. I say this because  
I think you will be exposed to many little  
annoyances. I don't like to think you will have  
to suffer all alone, but Caesar's wife should be worthy  
of Caesar. We must both cultivate courage & fortitude.  
Remember me to Miss Emma when you see her &  
to all the Willard family. I would like to have seen Mrs  
Pool before I left. Remember me to all my friends at  
Tray. What makes Mrs Thornton think that Major  
Bell will be sent to Watervut? I hope Mrs Thornton  
& her little family are well. Give her my kind regards.  
Tell Rowland I shall answer his letter as soon as I  
get it. Give him Mother & Guy lots of love. I need  
not tell you, my dearest Lizzy, how much I love you  
& how deeply I would wish to fold you in my  
arms. We have just heard that St. Perkins came across  
a party of Indians, but thought it imprudent to attack  
them, near Ft. Kissimmee. Maj Pemberton has just been  
in arrest for not doing so. I want you to remember me  
with much regard to Mr & Mrs Lee. From your loving husband  
Otho

Fort Brooke Tampa Fla.

February 4 1857.

My dearest wife,

It is Wednesday afternoon and I must have  
a letter in readiness for this evening's mail. It will be four weeks  
tonight since I entered this place for the first time. You may  
think I will add 'how time slips away!' but it does not  
go on so very fast either. It is rather a dull place when your  
wife & child are seventy or hundred miles away - rather a  
lonely place when you lie down & get up without them.  
When you go out & come in and do not find them.

Sometimes you want to talk with the one, sometimes  
it would do you good to play with the other. But what  
will you do when you can't have their comforts & these  
innocent pleasures? Look sad & mope? Murmur at your  
luck & keep wishing? Walk your room & worry yourself with  
bootleg complainings & repinings? Oh No. I speak patience  
to your heart. Give exercise to your mind. The rain-bow  
comes after the shower. Be diligent in all you do. Cultivate  
a cheerful spirit. Make the most of God's blessings. All  
will be well. One may study his life long. One may work  
day & night. He cannot arrive at a more practical solution  
of the problem of life's philosophy. Perhaps just this state of  
mind cannot be attained except by the Christian's ladder. Then  
use that ladder certainly. I am expecting a letter tonight, my  
darling. That is one of my blessings. I am writing you another  
and that is another of my blessings. I have now drawn my  
transportation & enclose you 150 dollars of it and my month's



pay in another check. I shall register the letter here for  
safety. You must write me what you do with it, how  
much you use & how much you leave deposited in the  
State Bank. The whole amount of what I send you is  
two hundred & thirty six dollars. My transportation was  
174 dolrs. Last night the Quartermaster sent me what they  
call some Old Tampa Oysters. They are larger than ever  
I was ever aware of. I invited in the three Quartermasters  
Clerks, Capt. Kilburn & Dr. Reed; & we had a grand roast.  
One was almost large enough for a meal, but they were  
most excellent. You say you hope I have something good  
to eat. Yes I have enough that is good. I don't know  
exactly what, good beef, good pork, good venison, good  
chickens, but the sweet potatoes are all watery and not so  
good as those you have. Everybody here prefers the Irish.

If you were here I would plant a garden & put in a  
very sort of nice thing, and am not sure but I should  
as it is, just to keep me busy. Mr. Mack proposes it. There  
was once a fine garden connected with these quarters. It  
was by the name of Ferris built the house on the government  
land and was lately obliged to leave. He undertook to remove  
his house, but was stopped just after he had made way  
with the greater part of the garden fence. So that we have  
no fence around the garden plot and it will not pay to put  
one there at private expense. We noticed the death of Capt. Casey.  
He died some time before I came here. It is thought he would  
not have lived so long by a great many years, if he had not  
been here. Major Page the Asst. Adjutant General is here in part  
for his health. He is able to do duty every day, but he coughs

badly and looks emaciated. Quarantine Day is here also for  
the consumption. I never have heard of a case of consumption  
commencing here. Hundreds come here to get cured, but very  
often too late to receive any benefit. There is a sad case where  
I board, Dr. Lister is in the last stages of the disease & his  
wife is wearing herself out taking care of him. Their children  
are at home & no other man has left them to the care.

There is not a single case of fever of any kind in the  
place. Mr. Day belongs to the Artillery & was to the  
Dragoons as I wrote before. I have become quite intimate  
with him. He has seen a great deal of hard service in  
the field in Oregon & California since he graduated. He  
was three years before me. He looks very well generally -  
but one of his lungs is almost gone with the pneumonia  
and he often has an unnatural flush in his cheeks. He is  
always cheerful and his spirits keep him up in a great  
measure. He rides on horseback every day. I hope  
he will recover. The mail has arrived from Polkton  
earlier than usual. I hope it has brought something  
for me. I have not yet heard anything from Washington  
since I have been here. I don't know whether the Colonel  
will send me any more or not. I shall feel a little more  
independent if I get some more. Several requisitions have  
gone on but we have as yet got no reply. I am glad you is  
putting those little teeth through. I hope the little fellow will  
have no trouble while his father is gone, and always if it can be  
so. Does he kiss Mamma as affectionately as he used to -  
It is getting dark. I cannot see the lines, but never mind.  
I wonder Mother has not written. She will be truly glad



us as at Central at Trapsaw.

I notice that the sunny day till is likely to pass with Hennes & become a loan, & congratulate you on this.

How do you get along with the Indians? I see the time has been called in, and Gail Keating has now scouting parties out. I hope you will write to me & let us

know all about your Minnesota prospects &c.

The young man that wanted to take your order for the Scotch, has been ordered to Boston Refuge.

We have been in complete confusion for two weeks making preparations to go away, and Sarah is pretty near tired out. I don't think she would care to go just now if she liked to have me go alone, however I hope we may go out in safety, and that my health may be completely restored.

Franky talks famously, after saying "after you".

all join me in love & good wishes to you. May God bless & keep you,

My Aff. Aunt

F. J. Sargent

Love & Affection

Frank Sargent

Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> / 67

488

Brooklyn Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> 1837

Dear Otto

As you have been gone nearly six weeks, it is fair to presume that you are long since at the end of your journey and settled down in your new home (?). At all events I hope you have safely arrived and reported yourself at head quarters, so just before I take my departure for a more congenial atmosphere, I will inflict upon you a few lines. But first let me thank you on behalf of the recipients, for the very acceptable presents for Ann Year, Mathew and Franky - we highly delight in them. Sarah read her through on Ann Year day, was much pleased with reading again those beautiful



ness and in such elegant  
binding - as for myself I can-  
not say so much, mine being  
the larger book I have not yet  
read it through, but have looked  
it through, and so far as I have  
read, must say that I admire  
the quaint style in which it  
is written, & expect to enjoy it on  
my passage to Hispania. - the vessel  
is ready for sea, waiting for a wind,  
and we, <sup>Sarah & myself</sup> are waiting for her.

My health has been about the same  
as when you left, until within  
the last two or three weeks, when  
I think I have been improving.  
Still I am advised by the Dr to go  
south until May - we shall not  
sail till Monday, we shall  
leave the house as it is, and I hope  
my health will allow me to come  
home in May, if not I cannot

tell what will be done.  
We heard from Perry at Kingston.  
he came over during his vessel  
the first day out of New York  
in a severe gale, spraining a knee  
&c. &c. Henry Stickland has  
decided on going West, and starts  
with Mr Skiles (Adas. Beas) the  
first of the week to locate & will  
take his family out in the spring.  
We heard of your Mother about a  
week ago, she was well then.

I have twice written to Mr Murdock  
but have no word from him yet,  
& do not ~~want~~ know how Maria  
is, - cannot understand why I  
have not heard from them. - have  
had a pleasant letter (to Mother) from  
Richard, they were all well and  
of course miss you much, - think of  
going East soon. - Do you know Mr  
S. & Maria's of Troy? - he goes out with



Three rows of a party of Indians & never see them. They will  
 not attack a party unless they can kill nearly the whole  
 at the first fire. They must have concealed their women  
 & children on some Island in the Big Cypress or the  
 Everglades. General Harney is determined to learn no  
 means untired to find them. They burn up the woods  
 as much as they can & keep moving. This day is as warm  
 & pleasant as any day in mid summer at the north. The  
 trees are full of birds warbling & singing. The gardens  
 are full of fruit & vegetables begin to show themselves. You can  
 hardly credit such a state when you look forth upon the  
 black hills covered with snow. The space of time between  
 broad sunlight & darkness is very short. Twilight does not  
 last long enough to make you gloomy - and the sun sets you  
 a good example, making you get up quickly as soon as you  
 are awake. Tell Howland to be careful how he "draws those dark  
 pictures of prospects &c." They say the heart too severely - and  
 they are all in the imagination. He will understand. I sent  
 you two checks as I saw, one \$86.83 & the other \$150.00. If  
 this letter arrives soonest you will know the other is done.  
 I shall direct three more to Waterbury. Next Saturday  
 14<sup>th</sup> February - two years ago - Brick house - Chatham St. You can  
 kiss Gey instead of his father. What a joy - lots of love to all - Tell  
 Gey his father will soon be as fat as he is, no longer - I solemnly  
 envy Mamma's little bed fellow. My kindest regards to Uncle  
 & wife & to Mr. I am sorry I can't say Mrs. Shunk  
 Tell him I expect to see my little wife & little boy before  
 I am thirty. All is well that ends well (?) Your most  
 obedient & loving  
 Husband. O. W. H.

Add my congratulations, Mrs. when you hear of Lizzie's waiters, and tell me who was  
 annihilated the dearest Lizzie's waiters (the name I mean) - I don't see offenders - Lizzie  
 Waiter is a sum  
 man for a  
 girl -  
 Would you  
 like to take  
 it back -

Fort Brooke Tampa Fla.  
 February 8<sup>th</sup> 1857

My dearest Wife,

Last Wednesday after mailing your letter  
 containing the checks, I was made happy by receiving two  
 letters, one Howland's with you enclosed & the other your own;  
 mailed the 20<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> respectively. Now I will write a  
 little while before Church this morning. We have lost our  
 minister in the place. He is I should think an Irishman  
 & a Methodist. I heard him last Sunday morning. He  
 preached good doctrine, good common sense & was in  
 earnest. I was pleased & thought nobody could complain  
 But some young men who heard him in the  
 evening were misquoting & ridiculing him. Your  
 letter & Howland's mentions Mother's pressing invitation  
 for you all to go & live with her. If you would not  
 confine yourself too much to the house, I don't know but  
 you would be as happy there as well. You know my  
 mother is never so much in her proper element as by the  
 sick bed. If you are sick I feel confidence in the affectionate  
 care of your mother & mine. We are apt to have too little  
 confidence in a young physician. Yet they have a double  
 interest in doing well. They have a reputation to establish  
 and no old reputation to fall back upon. My darling, I feel  
 very anxious for you & wish you to act in accordance with  
 your best judgment. I know Mother would be happier to  
 have you there than at Lewiston, but I expect your Mother  
 would prefer Lewiston. Wouldn't little Guy summer in better  
 at Leeds? I don't think I am an unprejudiced judge for I don't



a preference for Leeds as a place to live in, for health or sickness -  
But again I say My darling, do as you think will be best  
for yourself & Guy. Keep up your courage. Sizziv may be  
I will be home to see you in June. I wish you were here  
during these beautiful months of January, February & March -  
But let us be content. Mrs Maj Page had a little girl born  
yesterday afternoon. I saw the Major last night & said to him,  
"All well, Major?" He answered, all is well. Which you could  
see by his happy face meant a good deal. He has the consump-  
tion. His oldest boy can't be more than six - His children  
are Frank - Lucy - Powhatan (commonly called Posey) & now the  
Baby. It seems to be the fashion in his family to alternate  
between boys & girls. I think of Guy, when I see his little Frank  
mounted on a horse & riding off by himself. I think of Guy  
hereafter. Mrs McIntosh's child is two years old. She calls  
him "Guy" his name being Carlyle. It sounded so much like  
our darling's name, that I stopped in passing the yard  
where he was playing & asked his mother his name.  
I will resume after Church. I have just returned from  
Church. He had a sermon upon the history of Moses. Who  
forsook pleasure for affliction. "Choosing rather to suffer affliction  
with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin  
for a season." Hebrews 11. 25. - The text is enough of itself  
without the sermon. It will be well to do as you propose  
take a list of the things in each box, but I am afraid you  
are laying out quite a task for yourself. Can Rowland  
ascertain what it would cost to take the carriage  
to Leeds by cars. Perhaps more than it would be worth.  
O yes it would not pay. You can leave it to be sold, if you

do not have a chance to dispose of it before you go. You  
called to see Mrs Sprague. Her husband was here during  
the Mexican war. We have a large book written by him  
which I have been reading. The History of the Florida  
war with the Indians. I expect Mrs Sprague was here  
with her husband all the time he was here. There  
is no doubt that I shall remain here all the time  
as you have by this time gathered from my letters.  
Gen. Harney is now at Fort Myers. His troops are very  
actively engaged scouring the whole country. Working step  
by step into the swamps & Everglades. We have got the  
news that our flag has passed the house. Nobody  
here thinks it will be retrospective. You don't see anything  
in the papers about Gen. Harney's proceedings. Because  
he don't report anything. Telegraphic news even has to be  
communicated to Savannah or Washington by letter.

The news of a battle would be three days in reaching  
him by an express if it happened in the interior & would  
be four or five days in getting here & ten days or more  
in reaching New York. Hence you would not read  
of it in the paper till some twenty days after its  
occurrence. However three thousand men & more have  
already been hard at work for two months, but nothing  
has yet been done towards bringing affairs to a crisis.

The Indians are few in number & their haunts almost  
impenetrable. You may wade in the water up to your  
neck. push yourself in little flat boats till provisions  
and strength give out and find nothing. You may take  
a company & penetrate into the Hammocks, pass within



157  
Sabbath Evening Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>. 57

My dear Mother

This must be my apology for an answer to your long kind letter which I received the first of the week. Nothing could make us so well contented with your absence as the good accounts we have from you. Lizzie also kindly read me & wrote for her Friday Evening's letter, which she has been ever so willing. She has doubtless been of the sale of the cow & the sending off of the furniture. It seems too bad to make such a sacrifice in the latter as we shall have to if it is sold at auction. I think the best course with the carriage is to leave it here till Spring & then Mr. Porter can dispose of it more advantageously than is possible at present. Lizzie seems quite well & happy especially these last two days. Of Guy's Mother's acts are more interesting than mine can be. Mrs. Waite seems quite sweet & well but she has truly a most unfortunate disposition. I now think Lizzie had better go to Leeds directly. I think she will be as happy there & Guy as well off as anywhere. but I fear it ~~will~~ <sup>would</sup> have to be without her Mother's consent & so I hesitate about proposing it. Mrs. W. does not want to stop in Burlington either. The river has broken up with this molting rain & warm weather & presents an awful as well as majestic aspect today. The ice was about two feet thick & it is a great sight to see it rolling, groaning & tumbling between the crowded



harks. I fear much damage will be done to prop-  
erty & some to life by this terrible frost. I can-  
not crop to Log in the morning so I shall wait  
& go in the 9 o'clock train on this side - I hope  
it will soon freeze it is so far to the Bridge  
& the ferries are impracticable. I spoke in our  
"Moot Court" Friday & am assigned to a very hard  
"case" to come off next week - I mean if possible  
to acquit myself well for I wish to leave a  
good impression behind me when I leave this  
School so that hereafter when my fellow students  
meet me in business they will be afraid to  
speak well of & trust me as a lawyer. Thom-  
says he has heard me spoken of as the best "Speaker"  
in the school. My ambition now is to achieve a  
more substantial reputation than that. Dr. Thomas  
son is a fine fellow and a pleasant companion - but  
he is so little. Jackson says "Remember me to  
your brother & tell him I am taking good care  
of you morally & intellectually". He is very kind  
& so are Messrs Townsend & Conking - Write Jack. a  
short & pithy letter & express your obligations & tell  
him the Florida news - That is the only way I can pay  
him - I think tho that a valuable client - not because  
tho my means the other day - I had a good long loving  
letter from Ella this morning. Charles spent last  
Sabbath with her - The K. & T. R.R. didn't run for  
a week & Charles came near not getting back to  
Dunsmuir again - No news since I wrote from  
Dellie a Mother. Mrs. Mrs. Lee are as usual - I will  
write you new long letters as soon as law school is done



Monday Morn. Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>

No mails will probably leave today. The water kept rising all the afternoon yesterday & at 9 O'clock last night the gas went out. Mr. Lee came to my door at 7 this morning & told me that the grounds were submerged.

The water is over the top of the door of what used to be your office & it reaches up to the Engine House. No boats could be had for money. We offered one man \$5.00 an hour for me to relieve Mr. Lansing & Mrs. Stanton.

The whole of those lower stories are under water. The men have built two rafts and are now trying to break the ice through to Mr. Lansing's. It has turned off cold & the the grounds from the Canal to the old Channel of the river are a field of ice.

In 1832 there was the same state of things never since. Many families only saved themselves by boats. I have heard of no loss of life.

A large two story white house near down river about five O'clock this morning. It is now after 9 O'clock & the water has fallen two feet & the men have got their raft as far as the Hospital & we have news that there is a boat coming. I couldn't help laughing to hear Mr. Lansing. He stuck his head out of the Chamber window & yelled

"Do for God's sake, buy a boat if you can't hire one. We can get neither fire nor water."



1  
2  
3  
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7  
8  
I am freezing to death" - That's all we have  
heard from him as yet. Not a word from  
the Guard or Mrs. Thornton - The Officers are  
full of Water & the papers must be ruined.  
Mr. Lees new lot of books & yours too, in the  
Port Library were probably gone for it - I will  
go out again now & see how things are getting  
along. All the lumber on the wharfs is, of course,  
gone. The ice formed a dam three miles below  
here & hence this flood. Evening. Mr. Lee & I  
have been "inspecting" the Officers. We went to the  
door in a boat & then by means of chairs and  
boxes visited them all without getting very wet.  
Every desk & table lies flat on its back. Books  
papers drawings & documents of all kinds are  
completely soaked. The four upper shelves of the  
Library were saved, all the rest spoiled. The  
New Shakespeare, Burke & Dickens (8. long, Whittier)  
are reduced to pulp. I suppose the tops of some  
of Deane's papers & the whole of the drawings will  
be the most; but nothing looked so sad to me  
as the destruction of the Port Library. Hardly now -  
The water has gone down 4 feet & there is not  
more than two inches on the office floor. It has  
frozen over & is now good stepping on the ice  
to Mrs. Thornton & Mr. Laulings. I will send you  
a paper giving you an acct of the freshest. At  
one time the water in front of the hospital  
was 12. ft. deep - I don't know whether the  
mails will go today - Lizzie Gay & Mr. Court  
all nicely this morning - Harbance



respected by me. Mother has given me a very strong invitation to  
 live with her while you are gone (and Charles urges  
 it.) But if I am to take that as you wish about my going to  
 your Mother, I ought not under any circumstances to go, I  
 will not think so for I do not believe your thoughts of  
 such a thing. True, Mother does not know how I am situated  
 and when she does know, may not think it would be well  
 for me to be there, I would think it would bring her too much  
 care, and extra trouble. I will give myself no uneasy  
 for I can arrange all that after I get to Maine. <sup>Even when</sup>  
 Guy had gone to sleep, Mother says he ate as much as any man  
 I fed him at the supper table and she was there. She had  
 not seen him eat for some time, only drink his milk  
 meals. He went to the Piano after supper to have it  
 him to play, and sat there some time listening. I think I  
 had better send my Piano to Maine. I can keep it in my  
 parlor very well now she has a new house. Send it a few days  
 before I start. I can pack my bed and such things. I wish to take  
 with it one in the same box. I know you have no objections and  
 I would feel better than to leave it here in the store-house.  
 I tell Mother I am glad the snow is disappearing. I think there  
 will be a better chance of my selling the carriage before  
 I go. I have seen quite a number on wheels this afternoon.  
 Guy was so thirsty from eating so much toast for supper  
 that he drank a little while ago, and drank as much  
 water, as he did the night you gave him some at Oxford.  
 I did not think my chest was so nearly filled. I would  
 write another sheet but I have nothing very urgent to tell you

and half asleep. I think he does  
 kick pretty hard some  
 nights. and I frequently  
 find his feet where his  
 head should be. He has  
 grown a great deal since  
 you went away. Can take  
 the laugh off the top of  
 my head when it is over  
 the edge a very little.  
 I'll mail this to-morrow  
 morning. I think you ought  
 to be sure it is by Saturday  
 the twenty-first. Better  
 tell your mother to tell her  
 they are. This side of the river  
 to-morrow morning at nine o'clock  
 and he will drop it  
 at the P.O. on his way. He  
 just came in to my room  
 and laughed to see Guy, who  
 has thrown away, and a crowd  
 as many times, that he  
 is now making on the side  
 side of the bed. He said  
 leave this. I believe he  
 will be something.  
 He wrote one week ago  
 to you and I added  
 a note. The gun is very dull to night & I have to have a flash-light. Made it in

of better Portland. Letter I made of this was

we very intensely or more read. Guy is turning all sort of ways.



troubled that she should soon be gone. I am very  
glad she is not sick now, or later, for we have no home but  
here. We go from here on the 26<sup>th</sup> of this month, and I do  
hope we shall. I squared my accounts last evening, and have  
cash on hand \$144.24. Besides what is in the Bank (\$210.00).  
Charles's share \$9.48, Wheat hire 4.86, (remember we had to pay killed to eat)  
this bill \$3.60, Bread hire \$3.32. I think I am a good girl to keep account  
of all the money I spend. I think I had better find a good place to  
deposit your money, <sup>on interest</sup> in case, I presume I will not need for my own  
use \$50.00 per month, and shall wish to add to it sometimes.  
Brother Rowland thinks I better not leave it here. I might leave it  
till I found a place secure me to deposit it with safety. Evening  
I finished writing the above just before dinner. Mother went down  
to dinner for the first time since week before last. You must not  
think I ought to have told you of her sickness before. I did  
not want you troubled about us. I shall continue to write  
to you twice every week as long as I am well, and I do wish  
you could receive a letter every mail, but I do not know when  
to mail them to have you get them at those times. The  
weather here has been very warm and spring-like nearly  
all last week, and the ice on the river broke this  
afternoon and looks ragged enough. The snow is  
nearly all gone on the hills, and inside the Arsenal ground

below the Canal, and in some places above. I do  
not think I shall "look out the window" much at  
present as things do not look very inviting. Brother  
Rowland and Mr. Lee have gone to look at the river.  
Guy is busying himself about the room with my shoes,  
his playthings, papers &c. Mrs. Lee is sitting by the window  
looking for Mr. Lee. Mother is going on the bridge. It has  
been foggy all day but now it is raining hard, and seems as  
if we would have a long storm. Guy is beginning to be a  
great tatter. Can say Anah, Ahn, Apple, Maama, Mam  
night. (for good-night) bid-dy, bid-dy, min-ny. (for money), and  
tries to say many other words. Mrs. Lee taught him to say  
Mam (in answer to her) and night. He cannot get acquainted  
with Mr. Shunk - does not see him very often. Mr. Shunk  
went to Albany yesterday to see his class-mate, Mr. Conyger  
and Bridle. Went with Green, Johnston, and two others and  
has not returned. He has a great many young men to  
visit him - I do not know why Mrs. Boyce will stay  
at Anguata. No, my darling Otis I do not want to go  
to Tampa for I do not think it would be as well for you  
for myself, or for Guy to be there. You say you would not think  
she would like to remain there with this father's family now.  
I presume, darling Otis, you did not think her that might be in



weave idle fancies, pine alone & mourn over what we cannot help - but to be alert & active - Givers of Happiness" - It was the belief once in the West of England that the absent may be seen in a piece of Crystal by those who have this special Gift. The foregoing words were quoted from Young Pistratus Paxton's speech to his cousin Blanch when he was about leaving for Constantinople. She observed then - She was spirited action & a giver of Happiness - It is thus I hope my darling wife will make the time spend away till the Rainbow comes again.

But all I have said to you I have to gather up for my own use. Among strangers - I have to make them friends - Much alone I have to work hard to observe my own precepts. But not a gloomy hour have I passed since I have been here. My own weaknesses & shortcomings, my want of conformity to the will of my Divine Master are my drawbacks & hindrances to contentment. I am looking for a letter from you tonight. The mail failed last time & I will be sure tonight. I expect I would tell you a few lines a little if now came. Give my love to all individually. I have written just as fast as my pen could go, and have not time to read it over - you may correct the mistakes and if you can't find out the meaning it don't matter - You can turn to these last words. I love my little wife as ever. Kiss Gay. May God protect you all  
Affectionately H. Hubbard  
His

31  
Fort Brooke Tampa.  
Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> 1857.

My dearest wife,

I meant to have commenced a letter to you this forenoon, but as I had official work to hinder me, I will cut riding this afternoon and spend the time between this (four o'clock) and tea time at your service. I have answered all letters received so this must be independent. It seems to me you must know all about Tampa, Fort Brooke & its environs. What would you have me write? What your heart wishes or your fancy dictates? Well, I hear you say. Suppose you met a stranger from Tampa Florida direct, who knew me here. What would you ask him? Is he well? Yes, very well. Does he seem contented? Yes, so so. He seems a little like a man in love, whose love is not there. What does he find to do? Oh, he is Ordnance Officer at Fort Brooke and has to make out invoices & receipts & write letters. He tries Green Carbine with St. Mark, firing at a target. He talks with the Colonel about a new store building - with Major McKinstry asking him to put up a fence around his garden - with Major Page about the Volunteers. He reads the Expositor, a little of Bacon, a little of Shakespeare and the life of Captain Vickers of the British Army, and at certain times you might find him reading the Epistles of St. Paul. He goes to ride in the afternoon on a very fine horse, a bay. He rides sometimes ten miles. He generally writes to somebody twice each week. Why isn't it known that he is married? Oh, yes all the young ladies have found that out long since.



Don't he ever say anything about his little wife & little boy -  
He talks about them sometimes, but he looks like a man  
that would think about them when he wasn't talking.

If there are any more things you would like to ask  
of the Stranger note them down. He will be able to  
tell you for he has been quite intimate at the Lieutenants  
Quarters. I haven't yet got a single answer to the numerous  
letters that I have written you from this place. and  
not a word yet from Washington. I hope my men  
will be here tonight. I have got a good deal for  
them to do. I want first an office repaired and have  
got a great many arms to overhaul. I want an  
office table & desk that I can't buy. I want a trap  
door to the chamber of the Store house, to keep candles  
people from falling through. &c. &c. I want to see  
my darling wife & little boy. Guy - I don't think  
an Engineer & 3 Artificers will assist me in this  
at all. Colonel John Mansue has come in. I told  
him he must spare me while I finished this  
note. If he was a married man or ever had been  
one he would understand me. but unfortunately  
his hair is white & his head is bald, his whiskers white &  
he wears spectacles & yet he never knew what it was  
to have a darling wife or a happy little boy. Patience  
Colonel, patience, you are a jolly, goodhearted man &  
would not deny a poor, lonely little wife the consolation  
of a letter from her husband! Oh! No. Tampa is all alike.  
The trees are all alike, Florida is all alike, and I fear  
my letters are a little monotonous - but you know

Darling that my heart is in the right place.

I don't know what I should say to you if I could  
take to myself the wings of the Faerie or any other Spirit  
and jump down suddenly into your midst. I expect  
I should kiss you & Guy & Mother & then tell you of  
my journey and what I had seen or make you  
the talker & I the listener. You said silly things or wise  
things it would all be the same. How is Lizzie? How  
is Guy; if not asleep what is he doing. How is  
Mother; is she talking about Guy Howard still?

How is Uncle Roland? How are Mr & Madam  
Lee? How is Old Shunk? Does he have Mrs Lee?  
Does he knock his pipe on the spittoon in the other  
room several times a day? Is he dignified? Does  
he entertain with his double stations & increased  
pay? Does he walk about in the snow with cow-hair  
boots & pants inside, a thick coat buttoned to the chin,  
& a slouch hat, coming to a point on the very top,  
and tipped slightly to one side? Do you look out  
of the window any? Longing to go to Maine?  
Well, you will soon be there. Don't let the hours  
run long. Don't work too hard, sew too much.  
Remember the "Sheet" that you talked about once or  
a time. Where you haven't cartridges, use powder & lead.  
Where you haven't Venison, eat pork & beans. In short  
confine yourself to what you have, make a virtue  
of necessity & so will I. I found an idea in the Customs  
Smithy well expressed & therefore took note of it -  
It is this: "God made us - not to indulge <sup>only</sup> in Crystal pictures



my ears. But this is more interesting to me I suppose than  
to you, and I think I will not write any more tonight  
the best words to express my prayer for you "Good night."

Thursday Forenoon 10 42 o'clock now finds me ready to  
continue my letter. It must be finished before my trigonometry  
lesson comes off at 11 because I can carry it to the P.O. after  
that and it will go out in this noon's mail. We have but  
one train a day each way now. It is a bright clear cold  
morning which it will only require an effort of the memory  
to bring to your mind and which needs no description of  
mine in order for you to see in your mind the town of Brunswick  
as it looks today. — We have Rhetoric in the afternoon now &  
recite to Prof. Chamberlain. I do better in this than in any  
thing else & I like to study it but my class all call it dry.  
Prof. Chamberlain & I always seemed to get along swimmingly  
the other Prof. don't seem to like me at all. But no matter  
do about as well as I can. I shall not get a junior partner  
should like to have done so for the sake of pleasing my friends  
but do not think I shall despair & give up my studies because  
I do not get one. — I have some correspondence but no  
constant ones except my brothers & mother. I hope you will  
remember that your letters for them are never seen by me that I am  
alone here at Brunswick & am as anxious for the welfare of  
my oldest brother as ever I was and am at the present time  
desirous to hear a letter. May God be with you.

Your Affectionate Brother  
Chas. H. Howard

Dear O. C. Howard

Bowd. Coll. Feb. 11, 1857.

Dear Brother

I have not yet heard from you by  
letter but know you would like to have one from your sister  
Stat. & your brother at any time. I went to Bath last Monday  
afternoon in the cars in order to hear Henry W. Beecher.  
I heard him with the greatest pleasure in the evening. I  
found Capt Pattens folks well. Ella went to the lecture with me.  
She came up with their horse & sleigh & a woman that lives  
with them, the next day & brought me up. She showed  
me a letter from you which gave me some idea how you  
were situated, what a occupied with &c. Rowland  
had written some before, as much as he knew I suppose for  
when he wrote they had not got your letters from Tampa. But  
Lizzie wrote me not long ago & told about your journey &c.

I hope I shall have a letter soon though I believe my  
last was only an apology for a letter. I have not heard  
from brother since I came to Brunswick & I do not know  
what the matter can be. It has been nearly a month since I  
heard last. Dellie wrote a few days ago - He is still engaged  
from time to time in selling paper. Ella seemed pleased  
with your letter & I guess will answer it soon. I spent nearly  
a week with her while her father was in Roxbury, during  
a storm which we had week ago last Sat. Sun. & Monday.  
I went down Sat. & the cars did not run again till Wednesday.  
I enjoyed my visit there very much because she seemed to be pleased.







Watervliet Arsenal  
West Troy, Feb. 11. 1867.

that I would certainly get a letter from you on that day. It will be mail-day with you. I hope you will receive one or more letters on that day. Two weeks from this evening I hope will be the last evening I will pass here at present. I think now I shall have just time to get ready and not have to hurry at the last, as is most generally the way with people moving. It will be much easier and pleasanter to have a family in the house when we are getting ready, for we can be comfortable till the morning we start. You will receive this letter about the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. I am sorry to go further from you, but I will go with friends and relations, and that will be better than to remain here alone. I fear I will miss you, dear little more and more. I will try not to. I shall occupy a great deal of my time in seeing after I get settled in charge. I am not going to do too much myself. I shall hire a great many things made. I know you had rather I would, so I can have more time to spend taking good care of little Guy while I am able. He is getting to be such a great boy that he will soon take care of himself. I have no fears about myself, and feel that everything will go well with us all here, and if you continue well and return to us safely, then we will be very, very happy. I wish to do some shopping before I go to Lexington and if I cannot go to Troy before we are ready to leave here, we shall "stay over" in Poston one day, for me to make purchases, and brother Rowland would go to see Della. Guy went to sleep before I commenced to write this evening, and now it is little past

Mother sends her love to you. She is well now. I hope you may not have so much to do that you will get very tired or worn out. I fear you will sometimes have too much to do or have the care of my darling, take care of yourself and keep well if you can. Her fondings and think of me ever as your affections and loving little wife. Love is all.

The letter I wrote last Sunday was not sent to the P. O. till yesterday, and I presume it is there now and you will receive this and that letter at the same time. We have had no cars between here and New York since last Friday; the river was so high then that it was over some of the rail-road bridges. I think brother Rowland must have told you about the great 'flood' so I will not go back, farther than night before last when the water still inside the Arsenal grounds froze our hard enough to bear a man, and the weather has been getting colder ever since; now it is fine skating all over the lower part of the grounds: the river is very high now, and stopped running when covered with floating ice. Last night it froze hard together and people walk across, but it presents a very rough appearance. Mr. Landing has moved in with Mr. Shunk, and Mrs. Thornton has moved into the Major Symington's quarters. He asked her to come up and stay with us, but she said her forces were



so great that she had rather not. I sent her a hot  
cooked dinner yesterday before she came up this side  
the Canal. I presume it will be two weeks before their  
quarters will be in good order again. Mother had  
gone in to see Mrs. Harding. Guy is playing, and brother  
Rowland gone to Albany the first time this week. Nora is visiting  
Mrs. Lee in her room, just came in to play with Guy as I wrote  
she was there. I am writing in my chamber and I am very  
well. Yesterday I had the parlor carpet, and the one on  
Mrs. Lee's room taken up. So much towards packing.  
I hope to have more done before Saturday. Nora, Guy and  
Annie are having a good play. I have to leave off writing to  
look at Guy and hear him laugh. he does enjoy a play.  
Annie will hide and when he goes to find her will creep  
after him and he will run and laugh as heartily I do love  
to hear him. He does understand so much, and tries to say  
most everything. He heard one day 'hammy' and he immediately repeated  
'hammy', and now when he sees it he picks it up and bangs it to me  
and says hammy, hammy. He looks out the window a great deal  
since there is so much passing on the 'Canal', and he calls  
every man he sees 'Mueli'. I fear you will want to see  
him too much if I tell you much about him, so I will  
not write more till he goes to sleep and then I will not

write so much about him. Evening. I hope to finish my  
letter this evening, darling Otis, so it may go to New York  
to-morrow. The box from M. O. arrived this evening. I don't  
like the delays, or irregularity of trains for I do want the  
letters you write me to come straight through. I have felt  
all day that I would give a great deal if I could  
know how you are at this present time. I dreamed  
of you last night - thought I was in New York City and  
saw a great many men starting for Florida - one attempted  
to desert and was to be shot, and such more. I was  
a little tired and was thinking of you before I went to sleep  
and I presume that is why I dreamed as I did. I do hope  
you are well. My Otis, and not lonely, but enjoy the  
company of Lieut. Mack. I see the greater part of the  
Officers with you are from the North. I don't know as  
they are any more agreeable to you. You may have to leave  
them and go somewhere. I hope you will remain at  
Tampa, but are you not likely to move about - and go  
to some other part of the State. I wish it did not take  
twelve days for a letter to reach me. I think I will get  
a letter before Saturday; It will be two years that day since  
we were married. I do a little wish it was to be four  
years. Brother Rowland began about a month ago to tell me



day. Mr Lee will go to Troy with me and we intend to go by the way of the Bridge in an Omnibus. and when we visit to hire a carriage from the stable outside. I miss you and 'Pony' both when I want to ride. I am very glad that there are some ladies at Fort Brooke, and that you have pleasant rides on horseback. I love dearly to have you say 'such a day passed pleasantly. We be as happy and cheerful. My darling Otis, as you can every day, and make the time pass rapidly away, that we are to be separated. It seems so very much like spring here now, that I feel by going to Maine will make a long winter for me. We shall probably have much more snow fall than we the Spring is some later there. I shall watch for your next letter, which you say is to contain a check. I am not in want of money to use and shall make deposit of the present. Brother Rowland has been to Albany Saturdays last week but will remain at home next Saturday to assist me. He has given up going to New York. He will go to the night about then or with my Piano, and see if it can go directly to Lewiston. I know the Rail Roads do not connect at Boston and I wish it to start before we do for that reason and brother Rowland could see to it while we are there. I think now that we shall stay one day in Boston. Brother Rowland wishes to see Nellie and that Martha Jane. I would rather stay in Boston at the American House, and let all who wish to see us come there. I do not feel as if I could go anywhere, and take Guy too. I am very well now, and so is Mother and all the rest on the Post. I send you "Lizzie White's" care. It is too late for you to think it is I who is married to Mr Garcelon. I can think of no news to write and will not fill another sheet of paper as it is bed time for me. Brother Rowland said as we returned from Church, now I would have some

thing to write to you. I had had nothing for three weeks he knew. I don't believe you think so. I think you better appreciate my frequent letters, & I can't write as often. I hope I may not lose my promise to "Miss Eliza" when I go to Maine. I am getting sleepy for it is almost ten o'clock. I should be very sorry to attempt to write therefore I will close this letter and pray God to watch over you and return you to your family and health and life who love you so dearly. I am your affectionate friend, Lizzie

305

Feb. 14/59

I received to-night another letter from you. It was dated Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> - and written after receiving my letter, which I wrote in answer to the one you wrote and mailed at Palatka. It does seem queer to receive a letter in answer to one I wrote so long ago that I almost forget what I wrote. Some things you write recall what was in that letter. I have asked many questions in my letters that you have not yet received, but you have already answered them

The Post is expected here

Feb 14/59



or rather written about the same things without knowing that I had asked to know. It is very pleasant to have it happen so, for when you do see what I asked and you have written about, you will say, "she already knows by the time" and will not have to wait for my next letter to tell her." The way you speak of having about mailing letters to Lewiston after the 14<sup>th</sup> inst. (which is to-day) is very good. I will be likely to receive all your letters in good time. I hope we may be safely be in Maine when you get this. I would like very much to see Aunt Whelock, while I am in Boston, if we make any stop I shall try to do so. I mailed a letter to you last Thursday, and I almost forgot to tell you that I had received one from you the same morning, but too late to tell you so. Guy is sleeping sweetly in my bed. to-morrow is the first night that I did not put him to bed. It being Saturday night I wished to finish a piece of work to have washed Monday and Mother came up stairs with him, and I remained in the parlor till I finished it at half past eight. He cannot go up or down stairs alone yet. I sometimes let him creep up ahead of me but he generally gets stuck before he reaches the top of the stair-case. The clock has struck for half past nine and is now about 15 minutes of ten. As hoping you are still very well I will write good night, and finish this to-morrow.

Sunday Evening. 15 minutes past eight o'clock.

My darling Otis. I will now finish my letter to you. I generally wait till after little Guy goes to sleep before I write for then I can give my whole mind to my writing, and not think I may have to get up to see to him often. He always will continue to play till he is so sleepy he can scarcely walk, then he will run to me and lay his head in my lap with his thumb in his mouth, and looks as if he could not wait to be undressed. he is asleep always in less than five minutes after he is put into bed. I went to church this morning to hear Rev. Mr. Gregory. this is the first time I have been since you went away. It has <sup>was</sup> been too cold or stormy before Mother was sick and the storm and "flood" has kept me in since. There is yet water in the cellar of Mr. Sargent's, and Mr. Thomson's quarters. the ground is covered with thick ice, but has been cut off the walks between the bridge and gate, and offices. I had not been out since the "flood" till to-day. Large pieces of ice are lying about the streets of West Troy, and the lumber is a confusion mass everywhere. I see that men watch the river a great deal. they expect it to break up very soon, the weather is mild and a strong South wind has been blowing some days. I think I shall be very busy all the week. I must go to Troy chopping one day, and visiting one



when I was there. I met him in Genl Horney's Quarters. Semill  
was truly a fine man & a good Christian. I hope I shall  
see his face again in life & health. Some Volunteers came  
across an Indian encamping ground near Lake Estokpoga Lake.  
It appeared to have been a small party. They were all  
gone, but left behind several things that indicated,  
they had left in haste on the approach of the  
Volunteers. Some signs of them have been seen in the  
Big Cypress, but no Indians had been encountered at  
last accounts. General Horney has recently left Fort Myers  
with an escort in small boats. He is following the  
coast & visiting the Keys round by Key West. I am glad  
to hear that you have made Guy some evening dresses, high  
in the neck, and that you wash his face before he makes  
his appearance down stairs if I understand you aright.  
He will have to be careful & not take cold on the journey.  
and after he gets to Maine. I hope you will have good  
luck in settling up all your affairs. I shall look for all  
the particulars & also all about the journey. Guy will  
get to be quite a traveler very young. All time further  
thinks of him a great deal and is very happy to hear such  
good accounts of him. His Mammy must love him so  
well as not to love him too much. This paradox will apply  
better by & by. If at Watertut, give my love & good bye to  
all. I should like to write a good deal to Rowland. I  
shall do so when I get time after he gets to Maine. I am  
rather hoping you will settle at Leeds. I have every  
confidence in your courage & pray Heaven will give you  
fortitude to bear every trial. From your most affectionate husband, G. H.

Jennings  
Fort Brooke Fla.  
February 15<sup>th</sup> 1857.

My dearest wife,

It is now half past 12, on Sunday.  
I did intend to go to Church, but just before the time  
a requisition was brought in for me to fill & issue on  
and when that was done another still was produced  
which I have just done with. You perceive some people  
have to work on Sunday. It is very strange that  
you had not got my letter up to the 28<sup>th</sup> of January.  
I received two letters from you & one from Charlie  
by Wednesday's mail. The Mail due last night failed  
as it does generally every other time. I was happy  
to learn that you & Guy were so well and hope Mother  
has got over her dissipation at Mrs. Thantons before  
this time. You seemed full of anxiety when you wrote the  
letter before the last. I do not wonder at it, but I hope  
the roads are cleared out before this time. Major G. B. Scott  
who left his wife at Baltimore, received letters from her  
at the same time I got yours. She wrote that she  
had just received six letters from him all at once.  
Mine must have accompanied his; two days later.  
on the 1<sup>st</sup> or second of February I expect you got an  
equal number. Friday night I wrote a letter of two  
sheets full to Charlie & last night I wrote one to  
Mother. This is the last letter I shall direct to Troy, and  
it is very doubtful whether you get this before you leave. You



May in eleven days, if the mails should happen to connect. I have spoken about the money in previous letters. I would like to know the name of the Cashier and President of the Bank. We have not heard whether or not the Army bill has passed the Senate. We understood from an Officer who came from the North & arrived last Wednesday, that it would meet with considerable objection there on account of the General Officers, who are thought to receive pay enough already & those officers who draw a commutation for fuel & quarters. I almost envy you your little comfort. Next time I will take you with me at a venture. We might have made ourselves very comfortable here and the weather is not bad when you can get a cool breeze every day. We are now having a charming day. The birds are singing merrily in the trees, the sun is warm & the breeze is cool. It is really a summer's day in the middle of February. I have never been in better health in my life than since I have been here. I have a good appetite. The only danger is of eating too much. You hope I will be home in five months. I don't expect I shall unless I get a leave of absence, but now there is a prospect of a summer campaign. They must have an Ordnance Officer here during a campaign. I don't want to excite hopes to disappoint them. If my darling can do without me, I shall not get a leave till I am ordered North, for it costs a good deal of money to get from here to Maine. But I have no more idea how long I shall stay than I had when I left you. As soon as the winter breaks up the mails will be more regular. It will take twelve or fourteen days for a letter to get to Lewiston or Leeds, without reckoning for long

of time by the way. Name the month in which you would like to see me most. Keep up good courage, my darling, tout sera bien. Lieut Torbert of the 5th Infantry came up from Fort Myers yesterday. He was taken sick in the Big Cypress Swamp, where he was in command of a company. He had the Bilious Fever and had to be brought in, in a baggage cart over new roads. He reached Fort Myers in two days traveling sixty miles. He says he would rather have been kept in the swamp to die than take such a ride, lying in a cart very sick & jolting over palmetto roots & stumps. He was a relief at Fort Myers & has come up here to recruit. We have invited him to stop with us. He graduated the next year after me; was a member of <sup>Prof. Appleton's</sup> Bible Class. I hardly knew him yesterday, he had changed so much. We shall have plenty of sickness by & by among these poor fellows in the Everglades & Swamps, particularly if General Sherman continues his operations into the summer. Won't the Surgeons have duty enough. I shall assist the Minister out two companies of Volunteers this week. I will have enough to do to inspect their arms &c. & make out receipts in accordance with their condition. Mr. Torbert brings us a piece of bad news from Fort Myers. Lieut Terrill, whom you saw at Waterville not long ago, has not been heard from for several days. He started to coast along Lake Okeechobee with a small party of men in a small boat. His destination was Fort McKae on the Eastern shore of the Lake; he left from the Western. It is supposed his boat has been upset or that he & his party have been killed by the Indians. I saw him at Fort Myers



would to achieve your views. I am alone, the Sergeant  
having gone out to shoot at a target. I can  
hardly refrain from stopping to listen to that  
delightful music, though I believe it reminds  
me think of Sweet Home. It is very like it.  
Sweet Home is a bad tune to play to any  
man in Florida. I am expecting letters by  
tonight's mail. It is growing an awful  
the time for the arrival of the stage.  
You must ask for anything that I have  
omitted to tell you. I haven't seen  
Mrs. Payer baby yet, I mean her last one  
for she has four. I am like Guy's Grand  
mother Maile. I like to talk to little boys &  
might play with them if it was not for  
keeping up the dignity of the Department.

Give my love to Aunt Sarah, Uncle Wiers,  
& their families, to Uncle Furiger, Aunt Martha  
Lance, John, Keller & family at Lewistown &  
to all our family at Suds. I am very well  
thank you. You may have all the love  
there is left. And as you have the distribution  
I expect you & Guy will reserve a good share

So you think I shall be held responsible  
for all the Indians killed with the ammunition  
I issue? They seem thus far to have been  
wonderfully preserved. With the warmest  
love for my little family I am your  
most affectionate  
husband Otto

Channah Depot

Fort Brook Fla

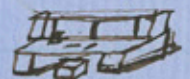
February 18. 1857.

My dearest Wife,

I have been hard at work yesterday  
and today. We mustered our <sup>one</sup> ~~two~~ company of volun-  
teers & mustered in two. I had to receive and  
inspect all the arms received & receipt for  
them and issue arms & accoutrements to  
the two new companies, all of which is  
swifter said than done, with my force which  
consists of one Sergeant & one scout. Colonel  
Craig has directed an experienced Armorer to come  
here from Baton Rouge, but he has not yet  
made his appearance. He desires me to obtain  
such other men as I need from the Line  
of the Army by detail. In about a week you  
will start for Maine. I shall be somewhat anxious  
till I get an answer to this letter which I shall  
direct to Suds. Everything goes on here as usual  
excepting the little disturbances kicked up by  
the volunteers, whom I consider more behaved  
than the Indians, for the latter are seldom seen  
or heard from. When you are reading this  
letter I shall imagine you at father's full of the  
excitement of your journey; little Guy knocking



about much to the amusement of both his grand-  
mothers. I know my mother never will allow  
that he is a paragon of Excellence, for that is not  
her way. But if he behaves well she will love  
him ever, ever so much. Eunice Francis must  
see him and say if he looks & acts as his father  
did. My fancy pictures you all after your arrival.  
The big winter fire, Howland filling the room with  
his person & his voice; Mother laughing with tears  
in her eyes; Father sitting with Spectacles on forehead  
and asking questions that have occurred before,  
that could not be solved; & Grandmother M. putting  
in a word or two about how Gay conducted  
himself &c. I wouldn't object to drop in upon you just  
then. It seems to me, my darling, you will have a  
small volume of trash to read when you get so  
many letters at the same time. I may have  
written the same thing several times, but as  
you are my wife and not my critic you can  
skim along & call it all new & fresh like the  
starting of the writer & the reader. Our summer weather  
still continues. I have been forced to put on my  
thin coat. Rather unreasonable you should think?  
True it is the middle of February. Supposing I  
should go up the Tennessee next June, wouldn't  
I put a cloak & muffler on and talk to all the  
passengers about the cold weather they are having?

"Why Sir, you must be from the South?" "Yes, I am just  
returning from serving the United States in Florida."  
"You are a Southern man I presume?" "No, Sir,  
I was once a white man & came from this  
very State." "Have you seen any slaves?" A few  
of them. "Tell us what you think of the peculiar  
Institution?" A Whig paper like me must be non-  
committal. I have met travelers & known the  
conversation to take this turn many times, but  
I don't precisely see what I am driving at. If I am  
ascending the Tennessee I expect to be pretty light-  
hearted. It seems now very much like West  
Point, for a Band is playing on the plain, and  
though I could not name a single piece of  
music I have been hearing, still it is very ~~sweet~~  
Howland would enjoy it. I have at last  
bought me a bedstead, gave eight dollars for  
it. I have made two or three trials to make  
the parts fit each other, and after two or three  
exchanges have succeeded. The posts reach  
higher than I can reach. A frame is on the  
top and a mosquito bar is superposed, whose  
white drapery hides the manger establishment  
below. I am writing in my office, which Mr. Forbes  
had the appearance to call a Garret. My desk consists  
of three iron chests. One on edge across two others on the floor  
with a board in front of the upper one. Thus   
I am sitting on the little box in front of all, but I don't



I don't think there is much prospect of my getting out of the office. But I will try.

chairs, Gay's feather bed, mattress, and some books in another box; tomorrow intend to pack the remaining two chairs and books, pillows, &c in another box of the same size. I shall have ~~very~~ nearly finished by Saturday. When I write my next letter, I was some time before tea but now I am not in the least. I assure you there is no fear of my doing too much. The weather is so bad, and the ground is so wet that I cannot get have my parlor carpet cleaned but presume it will be well done time enough to put up that carpet, all the rest will go with the great chest. I am thinking I would take this money you sent me and what is deposited in the Bank here, to make it without now I do not think I shall, but shall take altogether \$400, or and interest, in the "State Bank of Ohio". I have written this letter very hastily and have only written a little news, and business. I have not at all answered your letter, but will do that in my next for I expect another letter this week, although it would be very welcome, next to your own dear self. All have retired to bed. I could write another whole sheet but it is getting late. Do not get lonely, darling, for if you do I think I ought to be lonely too. I shall keep well and cheerful, and when we are together again we will be happy, happy. How much I could write if my pen would keep time with my thoughts, and how very much I could tell you were you here to night. But the best I can tell you is that little Guy has six teeth - four above, and two below, will soon have two more. He and I are perfectly well, & Mother also. Now, Good Night. My best Otto, be cheerful, and time will slip away faster than you are aware, and you will soon see us all - Guy and your little Nephew, Lizzie Howard,

Hatschell Arsenal

West Troy, N. Y. Feb. 18. 1867.

My dearest Husband,

I commence my letter, as usual, after tea, but my dear little Guy is not asleep as he generally is when I write. He is very much engaged playing with his blocks; these are three that he likes particularly, his 'biddy, biddy', his 'kittie', and his 'jack'. whenever he sees either of these he shows them to me, or calls them by name. He wears now plain pink frocks and white socks, the best shoes you bought him being the last pair he has. I must go to Troy to make some purchases before I go away, and the same time call on Mrs. San Vol. Brother Rowland did not come home to night, till very late, so we took tea before he came. I have now just come up stairs again - went down to see to his supper, and to learn why he was so late. He came up in the cars to Troy, and then walked home by the bridge. The ice on the river broke again last Monday, and ~~the~~ floated down as far as Castleton where it has formed a solid dam; the river is high enough to cause the water to rise over the road between



the Canal bridge and the Hospital. Guy went to sleep just before I went down to see brother Bourland, she has not been to Albany very early in the morning lately. On Troy side the time has been changed, from 15 minutes before eight, to 15 minutes past seven, and he cannot often wake early enough, or care to go so far round by the bridge, therefore goes down on this side at nine o'clock. She has got to be there early tomorrow, and will walk to Troy by way of the bridge. I put his breakfast on the table when I was down stairs - just before I came up this last time. It consists of cold coffee, tongue, bread &c - I will have him a hot supper when he comes home at night. He called again to see Mr Parker to see if the things were likely to be sold before I went away. He said he had sold the sofa, got twenty dollars, and would sell all and come up and settle with me a few days before I went away. I received this morning another dear kind letter from you, my dearest Alice, I am very happy to learn you continue in good health. Please not work too hard to your garden if you make one. This letter contained the two checks - one of one hundred and fifty dollars, and the other of eighty-six dollars and eighty three cents. I went to have Mr Loring

cash them this morning but he was going away with his horses and they were at the door waiting for him to come from the Office, and I did not see him and hinder him. He came home to night and I shall go in tomorrow morning immediately after breakfast, and get him to cash them: if I can get to Troy tomorrow I will not have him cash but one (of \$86.83) for I can deposit the check as well as cash and I wish to deposit \$200.00 of this you sent me, then I shall have a great deal too much on hand. Mrs Lee owes me a little over \$50.00, and Mr Parker will bring somewhere about fifty dollars. I would deposit more but I have a great many things to buy, and I cannot make an estimate of them before hand, and it will cost considerable to travel to Maine. Do you know that the Army bill has passed? We are all very much rejoiced here. Mrs Lee says, she will have \$281.00 and Mr Lee will pay me before I leave, if the 'Order' is published so he can draw his. In the 'Maine Legislature' all that was done to remove Judge Davis last winter has been <sup>now</sup> (I will call it) blotted out, and he is to be restored. I have been helping Mr Lee pack. Yesterday we packed all the crockery in one box, and to-day two of the stuffed -



could not help recognizing him were you to see him, and I  
have no doubt but he would recognize you; he shall say go  
out the door and out the window. I shall take your  
little writing desk with me, and our letters not either of the  
boxes would hold them all, so I have made a square  
package of them, and shall put it in my trunk. We used to talk  
about destroying them. I would not have them destroyed now,  
unless it was to bring you home. In the letter I mailed last  
Thursday morning, I acknowledged the receipt of two checks from  
you, whole amount \$236.89. I shall not want any money  
to use for some time, but if you choose to send money to  
me every month, I will try and find some place to deposit  
it on interest. I shall add two hundred <sup>to the</sup> hundred and  
ten already on interest at the "State bank of Springfield" and leave  
it here, I shall to-morrow send express to receive another  
letter from you. I am very happy to have you mail <sup>me</sup> a letter  
every mail, and I would be more happy if you could get two  
of mine every week. I have written twice each week as usual.  
I think twelve days a long time for a letter to be on its way,  
and when I get to Maine they will be fourteen days reaching me.  
But, my dearest Otis, if you continue in good health I ought  
and will be most thankful for that. I think of you nearly  
all the time, but I do not, as I have seen ladies, think about  
their husbands, think you are certainly not well and happy,  
and constantly fearing something is wrong with you. I do most certainly  
hope you are well, and as happy as can be alone, but I do not  
think I ought to worry all the time about you. It would not be  
well for me to do so now, even if I did not know it was  
my duty to be cheerful. I would now try to be for brades my own  
sake. My little wife loves her husband more, or thinks of him more  
affectionately than your Lizzie, but I know you also wish me to do

I shall not. My wife can what people say. I shall  
make myself comfortable  
and try to give care of  
myself and little boy.  
and be as happy as possible  
if anything is not pleasant  
I shall try to make it  
pleasant. I shall go to  
Salem, my son after I  
get to Lewiston, and  
(let me count the days)  
yes, I think I will be  
there when I you  
receive this letter.  
I guess you will get  
it Saturday, (about).  
They will all be glad  
to see me, and I hope  
you will see me  
that time. We would  
like to have you there  
to. But the time is  
coming, the good time  
coming, we will wait  
then together. This will  
be quite a long letter  
I will go to sleep  
now with little boy.  
but I hope he will  
which way leads them  
the way. Good night.

I mailed a letter to you this morning,  
but as I have nothing to do, and do not wish to be idle  
I will write you a few lines. I am in the midst of  
packing as I told you in my last letter. I have  
not done much today - partly packed a box with the  
two remaining stuffed chairs. I spent nearly the whole  
day looking about the house, selecting things to take  
with me, and gave Mrs. Lee the prices of a list of articles  
she wishes to purchase. The weather is getting very cold  
since noon, will have my carpets cleaned to-morrow  
if the ground is frozen and I know it must be. Brother  
Rowland will go to Albany very early to-morrow morning,  
and that he says will be the last time that he shall  
go so early. <sup>his breakfast is ready</sup> The cars do not run on this side at all,  
on account of the high water, it is over the rail track  
in some places. The last time they attempted to run, they  
ran off the track while in the water, and the passengers  
made their way out the best they could. The water continues



in the Arsenal grounds, and has been rising very slowly all day. It is about as deep now as it was the first 'Spring' we were here, when the temporary bridge was put across; there is a temporary bridge there now, and the children (Isaac, George, the Graths Boy &) were in a boat this afternoon sailing all about between the Office and Hospital, or rather at the end of the Hospital building. Horses go in and out at the lower gate near the shops.

Mrs and Mrs Loring are yet near neighbors and Mrs Thornton is at the 'Major's quarters'. They all wished to be remembered to you when I wrote. We all laughed very much at Guy this evening while down stairs. he commenced by bowing to the little boy on the wall (his shadow) he finally got to doing it more for a joke than otherwise, and would bow so very low that his head would nearly touch the floor, not his knees for they went down also. I was directing a letter for Mother this afternoon and to Encl Jones and spoke to Mother, who was in her room, and asked "shall I direct it to Exeter?" Guy was playing on the floor, and immediately repeated Ex-a-him. He calls for his "hamonia" often, and goes about driving in nails, or drawing tacks out the carpet. I must make this letter a sort of journal. write some every day till Monday, then mail it. Good night, darling, now.

Friday Evening. When I finished writing last evening, I looked out the window and the ground was white with snow, but it was all gone before noon to day; the weather is not as cold as last evening, and we are now having rain and sleet together, its just lightened and quite a heavy clap of thunder followed. I was quite surprised to see it, at this season of the year. The river has risen a very little since yesterday evening. I did not have my carpets cleaned the ground was not dry enough. Enough about the weather, or I fear your answer will be. "I am very much obliged for that calendar of the weather you sent me, I would now like a letter, as Daniel Webster (I think it was) once wrote on receiving a letter."

I have not done much to-day. I cleaned my silver, set of Crotons, put up a bottle of Ketchup to carry to Mother Gilmore and gave Mrs Lee the remaining full bottle. There are so very few things such as groceries left that I shall leave them and make no account of them. I want to go to Troy to-morrow very much. Brother Beeland will stay at home and help me. I thought of what things to buy. Guy had a very short sleep during the day, and went to sleep this evening almost as soon as he touched the bed, he grows very fast, and is quite fat. but he is Guy for all that and you



Fort Brooke Fla

Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1867

My dearest Wife,

It is getting rather late in the day, but I must write you a few lines before the mail closes. I have had a great deal to do to day. General Harney came back to this Post last Thursday & has been trying to get away ever since. The steamer came up the bay during high water, but can't get water high enough to get out again. It is the same steamer I went to Fort Myers in or rather to Punta Rassa, on my way to Fort Myers. Last night the General ordered me to deliver some Green's carbines & some cartridges for the same this morning at a half hour after seven o'clock. I have written as many as six public letters to day & had to run about a good deal as you may imagine. The only thing that makes me mention it is because it is Sunday & I don't like to be obliged to work. I can write to my wife & little boy & all that sort of thing as my friend Magister says, but I don't like to write business letters & put up arms on Sunday. What would you do, apply for a Court or tell your wife of your troubles? By the way your husband has been assigned to duty on a General Court Martial to convene at this Post on Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup> the day you leave for Marine. Everything goes on here about the same. I have got some money from the Colonel



of Ordnance & am fitting up an office in the North  
East corner of my yard. I am to have it ~~lined~~ ~~all~~  
all around & have a piazza on two sides according  
to the fashion of Tampa. After I get it done, I will  
abandon my garret, will have a new desk & an  
arm chair. I meant to have written you a letter  
on the anniversary of our marriage, but I didn't, &  
I don't believe I mentioned it in the letter I wrote  
you the next day after. I received an invitation  
to go to a ball the night before St. Valentine's  
day, but did not go. I thought of our wedding then  
& resolved to write you the next day, but I don't believe  
I thought of it at all during the day. Maybe I am waiting  
this on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February & you are now at Waterville.  
When you get this you will be in Maine. I believe  
I will direct this to Mrs. Vintur doing so till I get a  
letter from you telling me not to do so, for I think  
you will decide to go there first. The stage came  
in yesterday evening & did not bring any mail, but  
as nearly every other mail fails we don't think much  
about it. After I mailed my last on Wednesday evening  
I received yours of the ~~21<sup>st</sup>~~ <sup>5<sup>th</sup></sup> & yours & Rowland's of the  
~~2<sup>nd</sup>~~ <sup>5<sup>th</sup></sup> Inst. I was glad to find that you had got letters  
from this place & that your anxiety was relieved in  
a measure. That was a good idea of Rowland's not  
letting you have all your letters at once. I almost wish  
somebody would deliver mine in succession, but I generally  
curb my impatience & read them in regular order according  
to date. Mr. Day came back when the General came & May

Morris has gone to Fort Dade to muster in some  
Volunteers. Dr. Mead has been ordered away & has  
gone to Cape Sable. Mrs. Morris looks sad says  
her husband must go to Fort McRae across the  
Okechobee Lake as soon as he returns from  
Fort Dade. He will leave her here. So that she  
experiences very little comfort from having joined  
her husband; only she will be sure & can hear  
from him often than if at the North. You ask  
me if I will have to move about any. I don't  
think I shall move from Tampa for the  
present. I have too much to do, receiving & issuing  
corns &c. for & to the Volunteers. General Massey  
movements seem now to portend a Summer  
Campaign. I had a long letter from Charlie  
Mulliken at the same time I got yours. He  
says He would be happy to have a visit from Mrs  
Howard-Brown says the same in a note in which  
he tells me how much he sympathizes with  
me. It is getting late, I want to hear all about  
the journey, how is my darling wife & my  
little boy & his grandmothers both. & his  
Aunt Rowland. It is very warm here  
now. The trees are leaved & summer is  
upon us. Give my love to all I must close  
here - I was called away by an Order & could  
not move or better this time May God bless  
you My darling & your sweet boy  
It is so dark I can't see  
Affectionately Yours. Chas



[illegible][illegible]



had gone West. and that she received since he left home  
news of his father's death. He was to be gone there in four  
weeks. They had received letters from Fuddie at Jamaica  
and was to sail for Bremen Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. She and Mrs. Sargent  
have gone to Nassau. Ada Stickland is at Somerville.  
We shall stop over one day at Boston. and if convenient  
go to see them at Somerville. We shall get to New York, if  
nothing happens to prevent. on Saturday - in the afternoon  
I shall write to you the following day. I do not much  
dread the journey, but shall be very glad when we have  
accomplished it. I went to Troy yesterday <sup>afternoon at half past one.</sup> & crossed the  
river in a little boat. Brother Beuland went with me.  
<sup>had an early dinner.</sup>

The river is got very high; there is a little water over the walk  
at this end of the hospital, and when I got into the little boat  
I went about two yards from the steps of the ferryhouse on  
this side <sup>to get in</sup>. There was very little ice in the river and we crossed in  
safety. I first went to Gregory's purchase place & gave to the  
amount of \$10.44. then to the Bank and deposited \$20.00  
and took out clothes money (\$100.68.) from them to Duackenbush's.  
(my packages and bill from them will come to-morrow, will be  
about \$15.00.) then bought Guy a pair of brown boots. me a  
pair of fancy slippers. Guy some stockings, and a paper Catholins to  
prayer book for Katie, and one for Annie. and then down River St. nearly

as far as 'Tory St' to 'Watts' for some yarn I could not find elsewhere.  
We took an omnibus from there, then just at 1 o'clock, for home  
by the way of the bridge. and arrived at the church at ten minutes  
before seven o'clock. Not very tired but some muddy. I did  
want to call on Mrs. W. but I really did not have time.  
I may go over again this week. I have a few more purchases  
that I would like to make but did not have time yesterday.  
My Pians, and the little green box the Geyser gave you, containing  
the Eggs and Wood, was shipped out over just before we  
started. and Brother Beuland left me a while at Duackenbush's  
to go to see about its going through Boston without  
our seeing to it. I think there will be no trouble about it.  
Your letters, dearest, up to Feb. 11 have all been received.  
They are not in the least monotonous. You write every thing I  
want to know - every letter is full of interest, and would  
be ever welcome write what you would. I am glad you  
are in good health, and do hope you may continue so.  
I hope you are to remain at Tampa all the time you  
are in Florida. I feel better about you, than if you were  
constantly changing. I am pleased to hear such good news  
about Mrs. May Page, her little girl I know is a little bird  
sure, but having one older perhaps she does not think so  
much about it. tell me if they both continue well when you



the result, result not again - I leave  
the very questionable success last Thursday  
of gaining a cause in our "Moot Court" agst.  
my own convictions of the Right - The more  
I studied, the more I was convinced that  
the weight of law & authority was agst me -  
I carried the case by admitting the general  
plausibility of the "points" of the opposite  
counsel & starting one of my own, for which  
both the Judge & the Clarks were unprepared -  
I thought the arguments specious but, it  
succeeded - & here has begun that tempera-  
ture which must always exist in the  
profession of law, viz. "to make the worse  
appear the better reason". A man must  
be ever on his guard if he would keep  
in sight the firm basis & strong basis  
of Truth - I know, "there is no need" - but the  
tools are at hand. who, how many would  
dare to use them - to arrive at an ~~end~~ <sup>end</sup> ~~up~~  
carry a point - to gratify the will - to achieve  
a purpose - I have two F.R. friends here  
from N.Y. City by the name of O'Connell -  
We have been good friends & they are  
real good fellows. Brothers of 17 & 20 years  
of age - They have taken an interest  
in me as a promising amateur in the  
law - They have had six months more study  
than I - I told one of them the other day

I fear the Lippie piano will look a real at the two depots -  
Lippie has the crying in the thing & the dropping heavily

If any one <sup>you fall in with</sup> should happen to wish any law business  
done in Albany - their "own counsel" I would  
like to help them any way - Albany Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> 1857  
158

My dear Brother

I have much in particular  
to do this morning altho' the Lord knows  
enough in general. Yesterday was Washington  
birth day & today is celebrated because  
yesterday was Sunday. Albany is in gala  
suit - J.E. there is a great display of  
"military", flags, music & salutes. The  
march being of all depths from one to  
six inches. I should think it would be  
as much like "fun" as chasing Indians  
in the Florida swamps. Lippie received you  
of the 9<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> yesterday morning & I  
mailed one of your little notes <sup>letters</sup> this  
morning - Lippie always likes to have the  
news to let if there is any so I don't  
write as much as I should otherwise -

The freight has at last gone down & the  
Northern Rail Road has at last got started  
I came down by that at 1 o'clock this  
morning. I came over the road the last  
time the cars ran 10 days ago & we were  
so wet this water three feet deep. Both  
conductors & passengers looked mighty pale -  
A stop or an "off the track" would have been  
in ten feet water. A letter from Mother



yesterday morning / very short says she is  
 well & has received letters from you. My  
 Advertiser this morning states that the  
 "Supreme Court Bill" in Maine, which re-  
 institutes Judge Davis & expunges the Barnes  
 resolutions of last winter & I expect the  
 House by a vote of 106 to 22. Senate unan-  
 imously! I would like to see some of  
 those friends of yours at Augusta who  
 were so positive that I must be wrong  
 in predicting just such a result. Not  
 only the conservative feeling of the people,  
 but their sense of Justice was outraged.  
 I should have liked to have made a  
 speech on that subject myself. Sumner's  
 Smith's & Cleaveland's arguments would have  
 made first rate "pories" & saved labor.  
 I am getting better reconciled with  
 the world. Things are all balanced -  
 Politics, Religion, Reform, Conservatism work  
 for themselves & for each other remedies  
 for the evils they engender. The rascality  
 of the politician, the cant or hypocrisy of  
 the Religiousist - the fanaticism of the Reformer  
 & the foggyism of the Conservative will run  
 to the end of their rope & then bring up Re-  
 action. Retributive Justice will step in  
 & correct the wrongs & the evil omens. That  
 seems to be the Divine system of government

Mrs. W. has withdrawn her money - \$100.00 & I figure elaborate  
 sufficient of your last remittance to make the amount in Maine

To be sure we learn something of the times  
 in Boston but we never believe it - never  
 have faith in it till our own eyes behold  
 its workings. Ellen writes me. "I am almost  
 afraid to tell you of the little fluttering hope  
 I entertain. I feel now as if I had a  
 right to pray - & I expect to be answered  
 I feel the sufficiency of Christ. I have long  
 prayed but never as now. How much will  
 that 'hope' add bliss to the riches I will  
 possess in a faithful & virtuous wife. I  
 already feel the influence of her simplicity  
 & singleness of purpose. Perhaps I may be  
 able before long to participate in her  
 faith. She was about answering your letter  
 for which she was very grateful. There is  
 a "band of music" with "pop goes the weazel" - How  
 many of those men know anything or care  
 anything today for the substantial blessings  
 which Washington conferred on his country.  
 I am of the opinion that the noblest  
 legacy, of all that he left us, was  
 the simple unostentatious virtue of his  
 character. Is not it beautiful to see at  
 one of the most conspicuous points of all  
 history the epitome of manly, I had almost  
 said - holy virtue. Surely there was something  
 Divine in that long-suffering & forbearance  
 who can help being reminded of him, who

I shall be owing her for borrowed money when  
 I get home about \$40.00, which I will pay or give

I think that you will feel as you think that you will feel as you think that you will feel



I have got a new suit of clothes - I would not go a courting -  
looking that way - I price \$37.00 - I would give \$45.00 to have a  
of my doubts as to my fitness for "Law"  
His brother came to me this morning &  
said he had heard that I thought some  
of abandoning the profession - He said  
earnestly - "Do not do it" - "I wish you would  
go & talk with Judge Harris" (one of our  
professors) There is no doubt of your success.  
I can't feel so - I don't think I have a  
good business capacity - I have been  
talking the matter over with Charles &  
Ella & they would both be glad to see me  
a minister - I have often thought this  
winter, what a nice thing it would  
be for me - if you were out of Army &  
could go into partnership with me. The  
checks & balances of our character and  
abilities - our mutual confidence & good will  
and the unity of our objects would, it  
seems to me be excellent guarantees of  
our success. Such advice as that of Obedyke  
where it seems dictated by no fear or favor  
& no design to flatter makes me in love  
with the law again for a short time. To  
be sure, he has only heard me at one  
& a hurried & most cursory & cannot  
know all the drawbacks. Mother writes me  
that Father thinks he will be able to  
hear my expenses at Harvard if I think  
it best to go there. Would you? I mean

them -  
any time



next fall - I shall study in Lewiston and  
 Lizzie goes to Leeds to stay - & if she does  
 may - I want to see some practice now  
 so as to fix the principles I have been  
 learning this winter - We have been over three  
 subjects pretty fully - Real Estate. Contracts  
 & Partnerships. Pleadings & Practice under the  
 "N. Y. Code" - This last is the rule of practice  
 substitute in this State instead of the  
 old customs of Common Law - which prevail  
 in N. E. Penn & most of the Atlantic States -  
 California, Wis. Iowa, Ohio, Ken & some  
 other States have "Codes" very similar to  
 this - New States will be likely to adopt  
 "Codes" They abridge & simplify the "practice"  
 It is so uncertain where I shall practice  
 that I hardly know which would be most  
 advantageous to me to learn - Com Law. is  
 taught at Cambridge - Jim my Thom & I  
 have become quite intimate - He wants  
 I should promise to write him this morning  
 when I go away - but I fear I can  
 increase my correspondents without neglect-  
 ing some I already have - Write to me at  
 Leeds & they will forward it - whenever I  
 am - I expect to spend next Sunday in Auburn  
 to go home Monday & to Bath Wednesday - I  
 shall make inquiries in Boston about Law  
 studies when we go on. W. off. Bro. Rev Amos



Dear Mother  
 Mrs. C. W. Howard  
 115 Howard  
 West March 11  
 West March 11  
 West March 11

West Troy Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, 57

Dear Mother

Lizzie is too tired tonight  
 to write a whole letter & so I  
 am engaged for a preface. We  
 have got everything packed & are  
 ready to start at 6 1/2 o'clock tomorrow  
 morning at which time the carriage  
 is to come. Mrs & Miss Thompson have  
 made their P. R. this evening &  
 Lizzie has just gone up stairs. Lucy  
 is sound asleep. Having been very  
 busy most of the day making rain  
 attempts at packing, hammering  
 &c in imitation of the rest of us.

I think Lizzie has more of a genius  
 for doing things herself than for getting  
 work out of others. I have been  
 at home all day today having bid-  
 den my Abany friends good bye last  
 evening. but I have been but little  
 assistance. I settled with Mr. Parker  
 & took his receipt for \$37.99. There is



nothing left now unsold & unstored  
but the carriage. Mr. Parker will  
sell that as soon as there is a  
market. Mrs. Waite seems quite  
well & in high spirits at the  
prospect of returning to Maine - Gay  
answers very distinctly, when  
asked, where he is going. "He will -"  
We shall start from Boston Sat.  
morning & I will remain over Sunday  
in Auburn & go up home Monday  
morning. Dillie is to come into  
Boston & see me Friday. I shall  
go to Bath about the middle of  
next week. Judge Cushing, Townsend  
& Jack, all seemed long to have  
me leave & Jackson thinks I will  
do well - He wishes to be remembered  
also Jones, the bookseller. He is about  
"closing up" - We are all invited to  
the Seminary concert - tomorrow night  
but it is "too late" - I am right glad  
to get away the Unitarians again -  
I like Saltwater sailors better than  
fresh - Your lov. R. M. Lane

310

Wednesday Evening, ten o'clock

My dearest husband,

I cannot write much to you to night  
but I wish you to have your regular letters. Every thing  
is now ready for our journey to morning even to our  
lunch, and before I go to sleep I will add a few  
lines to you. We are all very well, and I trust  
will accomplish our journey in ease and safety.  
I leave five boxes here, in the care of Mr. Lee. They  
have only your name on them. Mrs. and Miss Catherine  
Thornton came in to bid me good bye. Wishes to be  
remembered to you. I have not felt any sad yet  
at leaving Melrose, were you here and I was  
to leave you I think it would be very different.  
Now, my darling Otto. I have been about five minutes  
writing this and will say good night and God be  
with you and protect you, and in good time restore  
you to your little wife.

Lizzie A. Howard.



skin as if in self defence. Still I believe you will be glad  
I went. I'll tell you what I think from my observations  
of the ladies here. Tampa is a first rate place for you  
to wear out your old clothes. If you could have seen  
Captain F. B. Clark when he came in yesterday, you would  
have laughed. He had on soldiers pants & gaiters with straps  
sewed on & soldiers wide bottomed shoes. I went into Major  
Pages Office & saw him sitting there but thought it was  
some soldier & didn't speak to him till I heard his  
voice. On these scouts they do not take off their  
clothes but build a fire, wrap their blankets around  
them & lie down. Upwards of two thousand men  
will do that same thing this very night. I didn't  
begin to think I could be given so much work over  
here, but this mustering out & in companies, receiving  
all they have got & issuing new traps are moving as  
father says. A Volunteer Captain said to me tonight  
(a few minutes ago) when I closed an issue to him "You  
young gentlemen from West Point learn one good lesson &  
that is, to do things up on the spot." Yes, we have to do  
so, or confusion is easily created. I told him I must  
leave, for I had just time enough to finish a letter to my  
wife before the mail closed. He said is it possible that  
you are married, he thought I was a boy. Would it  
take me to be more than twenty one. Good, your husband  
is growing younger, I will be eighteen in three years.  
I hope mother will have welcomed you to Leeds by  
the time you open this, My love to all. Kiss Guy & tell  
him Papa loves him - Your affectionate husband C. W.

Fort Brooke, Tampa Fla.  
February 25<sup>th</sup> 1857.

My dearest Wife,

Mail day has come again. Some  
letters will come from you to night & it is a pity I could  
not get them in time to answer them by the return mail.  
But it is our luck to have a post master who is slower  
with his tongue but exceedingly slow in their motions.

We won't take anything out of the letter box after seven  
this evening & it is rarely the case that the incoming mail  
is open before eight or nine depending somewhat on the sign  
of it. You will start tomorrow if nothing happens to prevent.  
I wish you could have such delightful weather as this to  
make the journey in. I wonder how Guy will like the cars  
now. Will he laugh and play with travelers? Think he will  
be looking for father. I am afraid he will forget him. No  
doubt his darling Mamma will remind him of father, way  
off in Florida, but when father comes home, he will say, who  
is it Mamma? But then you know we can soon get acquainted  
again. I hope you will get my letter containing the checks before  
you start. But you will write me all about these things. I  
wrote you last Saturday that General Harney was here. He  
did not get out of the Bay till Tuesday morning. Last night  
Capt F. B. Clarke 4<sup>th</sup> Artillery, came in from a scout of five  
days out of Manatee twenty miles below Tampa. He had found  
some signs of Indians on a Mangrove Island near Manatee &  
wanted men to assist in catching them. A Volunteer company



under Capt Lesley of this place was just being mustered in, consisting of fifty men. The Order came to me just at sunset, to furnish them with arms, ammunition & accoutrements immediately. And I did so, but I tell you I was pretty tired when it was over. One company & a part of another were sent off last night to head the Indians off by land & a little Steamboat took Capt. Clarke with his detachment & Capt. Lesley's Company of Volunteers to make for the island by water. I hope they will be fortunate enough to bring in a party of Indians. There is no hope of closing the war unless some can be caught. If a good large party of women & children & old men can be found & taken, the others will come in & treat. You know a great part of the Seminoles have removed to the Western Country & the principal object of this Campaign is to make the rest go too. Monday night there were two rival parties in Tampa & I had an invitation to both. As I did not go to the one on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February & as there is considerable jealousy of the Garrison in Tampa on account of former coldness & towards the inhabitants all of us who could went to the other party or Ball. One was denominated the Old men's ball & the other the Young men's ball. As in duty bound out of respect to Grey hairs I went to the Old men's first at Mr Post's hotel; where I found a very pleasant little party, plenty of young ladies, & some not so young, dressed. Goodness! just as ladies usually dress, some in pink, some in white, some in teal & I suppose some in bad style. We had suppers & refreshments after nearly every set of cotillions as long as I staid. I danced with Miss Hooker, who showed her whole neck & long, long, broad shoulders &c with Miss Stafford, from the country, with Miss McCay, Mrs McCay

Miss McBeck, Mrs Clark, the wife of the Army Sutter at Cape Sable, Fla. who married her husband at Oswego, went to Boston & thence with the 4<sup>th</sup> Artillery to Florida. The daughter of a Surgeon, a very modest & pretty woman of the Northern Stamp - with Mrs Thomas, the wife of Bob. Thomas, who was a cadet with me two years, entered the army, served in Fla., loved a pretty girl, resigned after marrying her. She has two children, one is a month old only - Warm climate - Southern Country - Mrs Gorgas - How! large families at the North too sometimes! Oh! yes, warm hearts in any climate. - Well, I danced with Mrs Kennedy also. In the mean time I visited the other ball & danced with Miss Bell & Miss Lucinda Somebody I don't remember whom. Tampa is a new place, but quite old fashioned. Nobody wants of much wealth & nobody aspires to anything higher than respectability. I have given you an account of my proceedings, and I dare say you think I have been rather gay for a married man, far away from his wife. Particularly when I tell you I did not get home till after three. Well you see, I don't have anybody to consult with on propriety & have to be guided by myself entirely. I want to get on well with the people here for I am dependent on them in a measure for my comforts. & it is gratifying to such people as I must sure to find that Officers are not above them in feeling & will engage with them in their innocent amusements. But my darling wife I don't love my little family any the less for all that. And I don't believe we would be any the happier by isolating ourselves while away from each other. And though I have written all



her and played with her and the buttons  
on the cushion and back of the seat, till  
we were very near Boston when he began to  
be little tired from standing so much on  
the seat. I then gave him his pomegranates and  
he was very glad to see them. Talked about  
their teeth and eyes with his little girl  
who was about four years old. When we  
arrived at Boston we took a hack for  
the Boston and Maine Depot left our  
baggage there and from there came to  
Somerville in the first Winter Mill Omnibus  
left the Depot ten minutes past one  
o'clock. Waited there about three quarters  
of an hour. I went out and bought me  
a pair of gloves in the mean time having  
lost mine on the way somewhere.

Guy did himself a great deal of credit  
all the way from Waterville got a great  
many compliments and much attention  
from strangers. He got to sleep riding  
out here in the Omnibus and cried for the  
first time to be waked when he was taken  
out; he was very hungry and sleepy, and did  
not get rested till this morning he is as  
happy as ever. Saturday Evening. I left my  
writing to go to Boston in the twelve o'clock  
Omnibus. Cousin Otha Steickland went

where we are at Mrs. Harnes, having  
a pleasant  
most time here  
before dinner, and  
shall take the cars  
from here in the  
morning, and leave  
this for "Wli" to  
write to you.  
Now, good night.  
Almost 11. We  
are all very well  
and Guy gets  
bored in the afternoon.  
I think Guy is a  
fine boy all and  
love to go, again  
good night for  
you little wife  
Linn  
Somerville, Mass., Feb. 28, 1859.  
I will now go back to  
the time I last wrote and give you a  
sort of journal of what has taken place  
since. Thursday morning as we intended  
we left Waterville. But the Ferry boat  
was so very long crossing the river that  
we were not in time to take the early  
train as we wished to, we all went into  
the "Union house" near by and waited  
till the afternoon train at half past  
two. Time did not seem long, and Guy  
was as good as he could be all the time.  
We went to Springfield that afternoon  
arrived about eight in the evening.  
Soon after we left Albany Guy went to  
sleep. had a long sleep and when he  
awoke I warmed his milk on the stove



in the car, and fortunately the Cars were  
stopped at the time long enough for him  
to eat, and get through entirely, and when  
we got to Springfield was as wide awake as  
he could be and ran about the parlor calling  
"Arun". We soon had a warm room next to  
bed slept soundly, and waked about five  
o'clock then got up (had a new room) dressed  
myself, then waked Guy gave him his milk  
and dressed him, and we all went down  
stairs ~~down~~ at half past six. the girl  
was to take Guy while we ate but did not  
come immediately so I led him towards  
the dining room, and we took our seats  
and one of the waiters immediately brought a  
high chair for Guy. I had him sit up by  
the end of the table at my side. (we were  
by ourselves at one of the small tables.) He  
was delighted to look about the dining room  
and did not ask for anything. He had not been  
there long before the clerk came with a girl  
to take him (the one he called Arun, and who

took him up stairs the evening before, you  
remember there is always one sitting by the side  
door at the parlor). but I did not have him  
taken away he was so good. The Clerk asked  
if I wished the girl to take him, but he  
could remain just as well, and I told  
him he would be quiet either way, but as  
long<sup>as</sup> he wished for nothing I would let  
him remain. We had a very nice breakfast  
waiters very attentive all the time. we did  
not have supper, but after we went to our  
room I sang the lullaby, had a cup of tea  
and warm water brought up. so we all  
had some warm drink Guy his milk and  
went to bed. We took the Cars everything  
in good order at 15 minutes past seven,  
Guy went to sleep about eight o'clock  
and when he waked he had some ginger  
cakes, milk, and a piece of sponge cake.  
It was then about ten o'clock and a  
little girl came into the Cars and took a  
seat back of Guy. He was very glad to see



Lieut. Wheelock, and a ~~Reed~~ <sup>Reed</sup> appointed.  
I thought one while before I ~~left~~ <sup>left</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~Departments~~ <sup>Departments</sup>  
I certainly would see ~~him~~ <sup>him</sup> while ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~city~~ <sup>city</sup>  
in Boston. But our East ~~Division~~ <sup>Division</sup>, after  
being left, the morning we started, was  
that we could not have time, and that  
was the reason I did not ~~try~~ <sup>try</sup> to remember  
his fathers address. I am ~~very~~ <sup>very</sup> ~~anxious~~ <sup>anxious</sup>  
to get to Lewiston and get my ~~Edward~~ <sup>Edward</sup>  
stane my journey very well indeed.  
I want to talk with you sometimes  
and I cannot, and then I will look back  
to the time we lived in the South side  
of those Quarters, and think over the  
many little conversations we have  
had there, and how very kind you  
always were to listen to my long  
stories, and it is very pleasant to recall  
all you then said, and wished. I presume  
you think of me as much as I do of you  
dearest, and hope we are quite well &c.  
I must say good night as it is past nine  
o'clock. I hope you continue in good  
health, and do not have to work too  
hard. Your men must be there by this  
time to relieve you of the hardest I  
hope. Now I must put away my writing  
and ask you to remember me as your  
dear little wife, Lizzie H. Howard.

with me. Brother Rowland met us at the  
Omnibus Office went in to Boston at ten  
to find Lieut Wheelock but could not find  
his fathers place of business. he soon  
left us and I gave up seeing him  
Ada and I then went shopping. Bought  
Mother a dress, Guy some stockings, and  
myself a collar &c. came home at three  
o'clock, not at all tired for I had not  
been out long enough. Guy was very  
happy to see me come in, and said  
Mama a number of times, and kept  
near me a long time, trying to kiss  
me a great many things. When I had  
a very large black dog, and it is the  
first one that Guy has ever seen to  
know. We call him 'Bow-wow.' to  
Guy and he calls him 'Baw' and likes  
him only when the dog kisses him,  
he chinks then he better fear him,



Brother Rowland has not yet come. he  
has gone to Roxbury to see Ella's mother  
Mother ate clam chowder for dinner  
and since then she has not felt very  
well, so she went to bed early and Guy  
went with her as it was his bed time.  
I presume she will be quite well in the  
morning. Now, my dearest Eds. I will write  
no more about my or rather our journey  
but leave the rest for Brother Rowland  
to tell as he spoke of adding some to  
this letter. but remarked to suppose I  
would tell you everything and he would  
write the same when I let him read  
what I wrote. I was obliged to leave  
Mother's list without receiving your last  
letter. But Mr. Lee said he would  
send it to me as soon as it came.  
I shall get it as soon as I get to  
Leicester and may be another beside.  
I told you in my last letter I would  
write to you from Boston if I could

get time. and we are making such  
a long stay that I have plenty of time  
Mr. Stickland and Mr. Philes, <sup>Miss Agnes's intended</sup> have  
not yet returned from their Western tour.  
Their letters came to night saying  
they would be home next week.  
We are having a very pleasant visit  
here, and are to spend the morrow with  
Mrs. Barard; he will send his carriage  
for us and probably we shall stay  
with them all night and go from there  
to the Cars Monday morning. If  
it would be better we shall go to the  
American House in Boston and  
stay the night before we are to take  
the Cars. I wish to make it as easy  
as possible, and stay all night where I can  
sleep late in the morning. I have  
thought of you a great deal to day  
and when I was coming out here this  
afternoon I felt very lonely a little while  
it might be because I expected to have seen



of the lips. His teeth (five) were cut I think  
very easily and he had two more just ready  
to present themselves. Have you met with  
many Mosquitoes yet? or is it yet too  
early in the season? It is rather early for  
the large fat fellows. What do you have  
to do? anything where you could want the  
man who spoke to you just before you  
left? He asked me if I wrote to you just  
to ask you if you thought there was any  
chance for him in Florida. We are having  
another Snowstorm here again; and March  
has "come in" as March should, stormy, dis-  
tressing, flowing, windy, cold. By the death of  
Dr. Kane the Country has lost a great man  
and can well afford to lament his loss. Do  
you find our peculiar institution much  
worse than you expected? How do you enjoy  
the climate of Tampa? Any officers there whom  
you knew before going? Mrs. Lee sends her  
respects. Appropriations for damages by the flood  
here was \$2100. With the hope that you are well  
I remain ever  
St. Howard  
Tampa  
Fla.

Your friend  
Charles Lee

West Troy, N.Y. Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 1857

Mr. Howard;

Altho' nothing of any consequence  
has transpired here since you left, which you  
have not heard of through Mrs. Howard or your  
Brother, still I hope you will excuse my writing  
to you, for altho' I have no news to give yet  
there is information which I should like to obtain  
through you of affairs at the seat of War. Have  
you heard anything yet of your classmate and  
my Cousin, Stephen Lee of the Artillery, who  
was ordered to Fla. from (Fort Brown) Ringgold  
Barracks about the time you were sent there.  
I had not yet heard whether or not he has  
arrived there. He has been at Ringgold Barracks  
ever since he graduated, and was more or less  
desirous of being sent somewhere else. I don't  
know whether or not Fla. suits him, but I  
expect it will be an agreeable change even there.  
He states that he hardly saw a single lady the  
entire time he was there with the exception of  
the families of such Officers as were married.  
The climate of that portion of Texas is the

Housekeeping goes pretty well. Mrs. Lee likes it better than  
boarding out.



most changeable in the world, so much so, that when one goes out, if only to stay an hour or so, he must necessarily take his overcoat with him, for in half an hour sometimes, one of those "North Westers" will come up and bring down the thermometer from 90° or 100° to almost freezing. Moreover the state of morals is so bad, that it is not safe to go out of the Barracks without taking with you a brace of Colt's Revolvers. You stated that Lieut Perkins had been put in arrest, for failing to attack a party of Indians which he met, which Perkins was, it, D. D. Perkins or J. N. Perkins they are both Lieuts. I am acquainted with D. D. Perkins for he was an Instructor at W. while I was there. It seems to me that an Officer in command, without positive orders to attack any party he might meet with, should be allowed to use his discretion, and not attack rashly when he is of the opinion that no good could result from such a course, and that it would only be with the loss of his men without decisive results. In some cases even if sure of a victory it is better

to retire without an engagement. March 3<sup>d</sup> Mrs. Howard got off from here on the 26<sup>th</sup> of Feb. though I expect you have heard from her before this. Your last letter to her got here after she had left, but I sent it on to her. She was pretty well the morning she left and left here at half past six in a carriage for a train that left Troy at 7<sup>1/4</sup>, the ferry running, though I have since heard that they were late for that early train and were obliged to wait till near mid-day. The baggage was there in plenty time, for the boat left here at 6 A.M. There is plenty of ice floating about in the River here still, yet the Francis Skiddy has just quired this evening from New York, and one or two others came as far as Albany. The river all through the Highlands they report as clear as midsummer. Guy was improving fast, and will soon be able to speak, already he can pronounce with tolerable distinctness various words of a simple form. All the sounds he utters as yet though, are labial. Even his pronunciation of Uncle is entirely by the aid