Hallowell 4th of July 1857

My dear Brother

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I left home about ten O'clock yesterday morning. Lizzie raised the fever perfectly well, only weak. She ate a hearty Breakfast, had a cheerful flow of spirits such as she seldom had before she was sick nearly then was some little excitement. I should have staid longer, but my horse was hired & some things seemed to demand my presence here Friday afternoon & Sabbath when I proposed to stay till Saturday then Lizzie said "O no you need not stay. I will not feel lonely as long as 'He is with me'". O it was perfectly glorious. Her mind was full of passages of Scripture imbued with the new radiance & even some extracts from a Sermon of Mr. Webb's which he read at Augusta. There is every reason to expect her speedy recovery of health. But Human Nature is such that she will have a bitter grief. As the grass strengthens she will think of her Mother

more & more - when she sees her clothes, - the "north room" & all the little mementos of the lost one - there will be many, many tears - But I bless God that she mourns not as one without hope - But I would love to be with her & lead her mind up gently to the constant contemplation of Heaven & Divine things - but Christ formed within the heart is the best Leader & the best Teacher - I was repeating a passage of Scripture - "There are differences of gifts but it is all the same grace" When she broke out - I do believe we must call baby "little Grace" - It is not well thus to commemorate these events of God's Providence. So that the babys name will remind us all how Good God has been to us - Ella & I subscribe most heartily to the name - What says "Papa"? To be sure Grace & Guy will not be very euphonic - but Grace will have a meaning & significance which will be worth ten times more than Euphony - Lizzie didn't decide - Do you think it will be practicable for Lizzie to join you this fall? I shall

probably spend most of the months of September & October as home & will do anything you wish. In the mean time I am going to live with Aunt Ellen - hear her children recite - attend to my religious duties & pleasures - read & study for my new object as much as I can. The Library will give me a good opportunity - She will pay me liberally. I shall not go to Bangor till the last of October - Charles & I were baptized & received into the Church yesterday & for the first time partook of the Lords Supper - It was a most solemn & interesting occasion. The tears I then shed - the vows I then made are gone up before my Father in Heaven & He will help me to make them a pure offering of the Spirit acceptable unto God - Dr. Sheppards Sermon was just right - The motives that led me to be a Congregationalist are few - 1st They are the most independent in their government & there is little or no difference in their creed from all Evangelical Churches - Their "communion" is open - and

Sunday July 6th 1.57

most of all my intended wife is a congregationalist - I have joined this Church with kindly feelings of attachment towards the Baptists & an admiration for the social worship of the Methodists - But if I am the Pastor of a Church of this kind & my people agree with me we can discard those things which we do not like in this & adopt what we do like from other churches - The question of duty did not present itself very strongly to my mind - I wanted to be in a Church of Living Souls wherever that name - Here I felt I should be at home - I see evils in this Church & it is my business to eradicate them - God & the will tell you his own motives - I need not tell you that if you can do so in conscience - Ellen & myself would love to have you with us - Hadn't you rather be in the old fashioned puritanical - New England Church? Presbyterians & Congregationalists are the same except in Church Government & locality - the latter being confined mostly to New England but now spreading into the Western States - I took a hard call at home & it has

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letters on my lungs & the labors of yesterday were not calculated to improve it - I taught my S.S. Class in the morning. heard the afternoon & underwent the ordinance of Baptism & partook of the Sacrament in the forenoon - sung in the Choir in the afternoon. Next came p.m. ragged children with Mr. Page at 4 o'clock gave them papers & prayed with them - Edwards & I attended a prayer meeting at 5 o'clock on Linden Hill which I conducted & then in the evening I spoke in our own "Concert for Missions" - I mean to make my Sabbaths all equally busy - People can't spare time to do much week days. We begin to see drops of mercy here - there & there are turning to God - The Church was full yesterday & there were few dry eyes - Oh! Uncle to God you were going into this work of the Ministry with me! think all about it dear Brother & pray - Lizzie thinks "anybody could learn easily to be a minister's wife" - Ella says no - she "wouldn't be deprived of the privilege for all the world" - Mother is well & happy - I commence my "Internship" Wednesday - Pray for me - that I may keep humble

appear much elevated, like balloons just after leaving the earth. Encamping at Fish Eating Creek (Sala-hopka-hatchee)

June 24 1857. Being Officer of the day since 6 P.M. yesterday evening, I have not slept very much - inspected the sentinels a little after 12, was up by ½ before 4 this morning. It rained from a little after midnight till daylight, making it rather wet. We had breakfast before 5 & were ready for a start before 6. Capt Brown, Mr Lee & myself mess together. We have a soldier Murdock to cook for us. Place a table cloth on the mess-box, put ham, bread & coffee thereon and sit down with as good appetites as men ever can have when campaigning. We reached this place by ten o'clock making a short march of 11 miles - found Major Lemberton encamped on the south side & on the bank of the Creek. I went across the Creek at the ford & looked out a place for our Camp on the opposite bank. I laid out the Camp throwing the officers tents on the Creek & the rest to the north, as Capt Brown desired me. It rained very hard this afternoon & looks as if we might expect more -

June 25th 1857. Good Water Camp 12 miles north of Fish Eating Creek. We were up preparing for the March before 4 o'clock this morning. Major Lemberton's detachment of 20 men joined us last night. We set out 20 minutes before 6 - Sampson, the Guide, & I took the lead, then came the advance Guard of 7 men in our rear, one of them bearing a white flag. Capt Brown & Lee followed them close, 150 yds to the rear the main body of the command immediately in their rear the 8 wagons (indians in the front) one of a white flag flying from the top. The rear of all followed the rear-guard of 12 men with a non-commissioned officer in charge (See next sheet)

Fort Brooke Florida
July 1st 1857

My dearest Wife,

Who said you might present me with a little daughter? Well, I didn't do as you would have done if it had been another Guy - I cry like a baby & then laugh, but I was delighted. By some accident your last letter was sent down to Fort Myers, (for I had instructed the Sergeant to retain all my letters there till I got back) and I received it as soon as I got that near Tampa. It was a sad one Mother low, & Lizzie without courage, nobody to love Guy or something in that strain. Well, I was anxious indeed. Last Sunday morning one day after I got your letter the Ranger took me from Ft. Myers & landed me here Monday evening July 6th. I hastened to my room & the Sergeant brought me a bundle of letters. I opened the last one from Mother - & read "a little daughter, 22nd of June, 15 minutes before one - Lizzie as nicely as could be expected". Good for that - thank God for his goodness & tender mercy! (I was out 20 days & had just arrived at Fort Meyers & was at Istokpoga — on the 22nd with a boat party bearing a white flag on Istokpoga lake at that time.) I trust you will do well, and so will the baby. I shouldn't wonder if you were glad & if you praised your Heavenly Father in your heart. It is now sixteen days since the "Master" as you term it & I

will forgive me God bless you & help you to love his truth

Tell Aunt Emma Lizzy's letter is in bed

I don't remember that Tonic

Cremor Lime

You don't remember who Mr Cole was when we came to Tampa

Yours Truly
Oliver H. Kelley
Lieut 1st Dragoons
Commanding Expedition
To Indians

Yours Truly
Oliver H. Kelley
Lieut 1st Dragoons
Commanding Expedition
To Indians

I have no time to read it over & prune the Mother's letter -

I hope you are quite well. I will commence and give you an account of my journey and return by giving you a partial transcript from my Diary.

(Sunday June 21) Camp ten miles from Ft Myers on the road to Reynard. Capt Greland arrived Saturday evening. Mr Lee & myself left Fort Myers about 12 o'clock today with nine wagons, 20 men from Grelands company, 10 escort, Capt Clark's for the train on its return. Sampson, the Indians & three children. The train left in good order with advance & rear guard. Capt Grelands men are tired, they just arrived from a long march, but the rest are in good spirits. Mr Lee & myself mounted on two good horses took the lead. We had moved on about a mile when it was reported the oldest Indian girl Jos. Hadjee was sick. She seemed to have a bunch of the croup, but as soon as the sides of the wagon were raised & she could get good air she was better and we moved on. Mr Lee myself chatted together about various things, part of the time of the religion of Christ. We reached the place of encampment about 3 o'clock P.M. Arranged our tents on a level, open space near good water. One tent for Mr Lee & myself one for the Interpreter, and three for the Indians & soldiers. The wagons were parked in military order at a little distance. We had rather a sleepless night in the woods, many of the men & one of the Indians drunk and the guard tired. We had some coffee after we got a little settled & made a good supper on dry bread sandwiches & cheese. I made my bed on three Camp stools sticking up four stakes to support my Musquito-bar. Little Sally, one of the Indian girls (some 8 yrs old) comes running to our tents, when we eat for her lumps of sugar. She is a curious little creature. Wears a long dress and a load of beads & dimes attached to her neck by strings; seems as happy as she can be. A Corporal fell down about 8 o'clock at night & accidentally discharged his piece in the middle of the camp. In an instant, almost, Lee & I were in the alarm and were to parade. We feared some such place but taken much by surprise.

Fort Reynard June 22nd (Monday evening). This morning we left the Encampment a little before six and had a very comfortable march, arriving at this place about one o'clock. I didn't wake early enough to read my Chapter before breakfast, but prayed for God's blessing at the table (for we have a family table that we put together & take apart at will). Have written a short letter to my wife. I hope God will protect & bless her, particularly if I should be cut off.

June 23d. Left Fort Reynard at ½ past 7, came into camp at 12 miles on the road to Fort Center at 12½ P.M. I had a good sleep in the Adjutant's tent last night, waked by ½ past 5 this morning, read a Chapter & prayed for the blessing of God on our undertaking. I hope & trust I may be faithful, and yield to nothing that will deter me from being an active follower of my Saviour. There are now three officers of us, 40 soldiers, 9 teamsters, Sampson, the indians & children. We have a pleasant little encampment 8 wagons & 9 tents. The wagons are covered with white Canvas. After leaving Reynard we traveled in the woods for five or six miles & then emerged upon an open & very extensive prairie, a decided relief from the pine woods. There are large hammocks with Magnolias & live oaks scattered at intervals of three or four miles. The train of wagons as you look at them in the distance

Fort Myers. Fla.

July ~~8~~ 11th 1857.

Dear Howard-

Your note and the velin & contents have been rec'd. I am satisfied with the tobacco. I told Horne I would give him some - if you will let him have a pound you will oblige me. I wish you would thank him for me for the papers he sent the Mail previous to the one per Ranger. I am very glad to hear of the advent of a daughter to your house & name & trust the cloud of sadness which enveloped you while here has been dissipated

Yours truly
C. Mills

by this joyful intelligence -
although I am shielded I can
readily conceive how these lit-
tle "pledges of affection" entwine
themselves around the tendrils of
the heart - God has been very
gracious & merciful unto me
a sinner and I trust He will
yet grant me the long'd for
boon - an offspring -
I most sincerely hope your
wife & little ones will continue
in health and that you may
soon be found surrounded
by them - With great esteem I
remain sincerely your friend.

O. H. Mack

Ft. Howard U.S.A.
Ft. Brooke. Fla.

I find a sphere even there beyond my talents, except by the help of the Grace & Mercy of God.

Give my heartfelt love to Mother & Rowland if he is with you still. I shall not have time to write him tonight. Thank Dr Loring for me and pay him liberally. What he has been kind & good & attentive & correct was. I shall try to be with you before very long. If I do not get a leave soon I shall do so by & by. Remember me to all the friends that call & know me. Talk often of the goodness & mercy of Christ. It strengthens me & keeps me's light burning. He gives good measure of the Holy Spirit to them that ask him in sincerity: Now all things do redound to our advantage. It is beautiful to think of the darling little mother & more beautiful to think that prayer & praise are on her lips – a Christian Mother. I had one to bring me up & so will Guy & the little cousin – I had a letter from Warren a day or two ago – He was very well. Now is father? Give him too my love & don't forget Rolandy. & Cynthia – Ellie asked me to pray for the former – I need the prayers of all – My temptations are subtle & many They come in the shape of partial infidelity & make me ask if it is all a delusion. Religion is a beautiful delusion (if it is one) I pray God for more of it. Yours both little ones alike the same number of times for father –

Your own loving husband
Otis –

Quitman Depot –
Fort Brooke, Fla.
July 12th 1859.

My darling wife,

I learned over such bereavements by Rowland's letter last night. R. seems to have written a letter in the morning of the same day which I did not get. Your name so meek & fearly and written taken away. It would have broken your dear heart if not been for our dear & loving Saviour who manifested himself to you so bright & clear that you could but love him & trust in him. I am happy indeed & would God I could again more, that you have found "that peace that passeth understanding" to sustain & comfort you now. and may it go with us both to the end of life. I shall try now to get a leave with the privilege of getting an extension. I go to you. Colonel Loomis says, he will give it to me if he can. He says he is sorry for you, but glad indeed that you have found your Saviour. I feel that I ought to be at home now, that you need me. I want to go & stay till you are able to take the journey with me. Our dear mother is no more. I can hardly realize it, that she will not meet me again here & welcome me. She really loved us and did all she could for us & we will miss her. But it was God's will to take her & to afflict us. And He is gracious & merciful

to us even while afflicting us. We are having the light of truth & joy dawning in our hearts, and "the little innocents" are boons of his bounty. I felt a strong desire to keep on in the path of duty & today I have been baptized by the Methodist Pastor & joined myself with the Methodists on probation. I did this to identify myself publicly with the people of God & feared I might not have so good an opportunity to be baptized as now. This does not hinder me from uniting with another Church, as soon as I determine what my peculiar tenets may be & with you.

I have now started in the Christian course & I hope God will help me to persevere. It isn't so bright & clear all the time as at first, and I want you to pray for me that I may live very near to my Saviour and ever be his humble follower. My men came into my room for prayers at half past six, while I read a chapter & prayed with them. The Minister asked me to lead in the prayer meeting & called upon me for the first prayer this morning. Also to read & pray in the Sabbath School. I have cheerfully performed these things, but I fear he puts me forward too fast. He is a very well-meaning man and does what he thinks will promote God's cause. But what I have most to contend with is my own natural pride of heart. Yet even this does not trouble me so much as it did. But those darling ones Guy & his little sister. I want to see them & the little mother. Guy's mind then he acknowledges is a little out of joint, but he will learn to stick to it that he is Papa's baby for consolation, if the little one improves his place. I hope he has now got above sucking his thumb. The little one's eyes are "deeply cerulean" blue Rowland says. I have just been looking at Mrs Sage's little baby - a fat sprightly blue eyed little thing, that just begins to notice & handle a rattle. Major Sage brought it out a day or two ago as I was passing. He said, just to tantalize me. It did make me think and talk of my home far away. I will not proceed to give you an account of my expedition any further now, for you know I am safely back and you have enough else to think of. I trust this will find you quite smart. I know you have had a hard time, but you have a precious blessing - and as soon as you get all well you will have a quiet, subdued & constant happiness. The pathway on Earth looks bright & God will smooth the pathway to the tomb. Poor Mother I wish I could have asked her to forgive the any ill-natured things I may have said & the wrong thoughts I have entertained - but she has forgiven me and gone where we will go to her, though she cannot come to me. Mr Spaulding, the preacher, urges me as Rowland has been urged to become a preacher. I shall study these things & if we cannot do the will of God & serve him faithfully in the Army - we will ask his direction & if we can obtain light, be guided thereby. We might live very happy in the service of our Lord & Master in a single place & with a quiet Church of God's people, but

Ordnance Depot
Fort Brooke, Florida
July 15th 1857.

My dearest wife,

I have some hopes of getting a leave of absence, though it is still uncertain. Lieut. Albert, some time ago, applied for a leave & was applied for by his Father, Colonel of the Topographical Engineers, under very similar circumstances. He left a bride of 8 weeks, to come here. She has lately lost her father & Colonel Sumner says, she herself is consumptive & won't live long. But notwithstanding these circumstances, the Colonel felt it his duty to oppose him, on account of the scarcity of Officers in the Department. Now the Colonel would like to let me go & says he thinks he will by & by. What I think is, that in two or three weeks from this time, I will have a leave of 30 days with the privilege of getting a two months Extension from the War Department at Washington, so you may look for me by the first of August, and if you, my darling, are all well & strong we can set out for this place by the last of October, and be here in time for the fall and winter Campaigns. I feel exceedingly anxious about you. The mail comes in tonight and I hope I will get a letter containing none but good news. You know it was to be easy to give a name to a daughter, What name will the little one have? Isn't she a source of wonderment & interest to Guy? I have missed your letters for two mails back but I don't want you to

may coming, dearest, for I know I am needed here and the Colonel may think he cannot spare me.

The new Regiment of Volunteers about to be mustered into the United States service, will have five companies mustered as Tallahassee & the other five at Ocala 60 miles this side of Palatka. He will go to the latter place, leaving here tomorrow. Lieut Lodor of the 4th Artillery will accompany him leaving his wife here. Lodor was married and left his wife for Florida immediately after. He & Albert have been stationed in that Mosquito-Country Cape Sable. Mrs Lodor came on alone & joined her husband at Punta Rassa. He says she cries to come. Lodor go on this trip withering her to Ocala. I told he I didn't believe you would care much for such a little separation as that. He says it beats all how much these little wives love their husbands. I am almost afraid of the mail tonight - I do hope it will contain good news for all of us. Take care of the little baby. Will it eat out of a bottle? I suppose Mrs Clark will know. I have written Warren today and told him I thought I should go North soon.

Henry Clifford has been ordered to New Port, Rhode Island. Lots of kisses for the little ones and my love to all. I wrote Rowland yesterday & directed the letter to Mallawell - I must write Charlie a few lines this evening & Delia as soon as I can. Now farewell my sweet wife. May Heaven grant you the choicest of blessings & soon restore you to good health. Your most loving husband

Otis

try to write too soon. I have confidence you will keep up good courage now, for you have with you these little comforts, and you know & feel that you have a mighty arm on which to lean. It is Christ alone that giveth joy in the midst of affliction. He knows how to make the storm, heavy as well as tender.

You must remember me very kindly to Mrs Clark. I am glad she is with you for she has learned your ways and will do well for you. I suppose Mother is delighted with her first actual Grand-daughter, as she was with her Grandson. Ask Guy if he is going to throw things at his little sister? I imagine him a very good boy and will be delightful to see him and teach him. I expect one of these days he will be Papa's companion and assistant, but all things are known to God. If we would be blessed we must ever be the humble followers of our dear Saviour.

Last night Colonel Lyons led at the prayer meeting read from the Bible & made some remarks & prayed. Others prayed & I was called upon. The Spirit of Christ seemed to be with us all. I spoke to the people earnestly & God was very near to me. One young lady joined herself to Christians, by coming forward and taking the Minister's hand. Colonel Lyons says, ask Mrs Howard to ~~pray~~ pray for me. I have prepared my room with paper stretched up & down and covered the ceiling with cloth (thin cotton stuff) Every thing looks neat here now. I have mosquito curtains in the windows & door besides my bar, but I haven't been able to drive all the mosquitos out of the room yet. I have got in, I don't mind a few much. They don't leave any swelling on me at all, but they hurt somewhat. I don't think I would be troubled to light the gas at Naturalists if I could be transported there one of these nights, to kill the little animals. There are very few in town, scarcely one, and when you come I shall get a little cottage where we can live by ourselves & perhaps be able to devote a commutation. You would be a little surprised at my dark complection, though I think the black is wearing off and by the time I get to you I will be as white as northern people. I look much like a southerner now. I will ~~now~~ stop till after dinner. I will now read the 3d & 4th Chapters of Romans and pray to our Father to impart to you his Spirit & Love very abundantly. Then I shall go to dinner. I pray with an earnest heart for your husband, that he may have more & more spiritual strength.

Lieut S. D. Lee, who went with me on the Expedition to Pistolpaga Lake, is now here on special duty as Mustering Officer, our friend Lieut Mack is commissary at Fort Myers & Lieut Albert spoken of before has taken Mack's place here. Mr Albert does know that his wife has got the consumption and Lee & myself have been talking about it since dinner. Lee has taken it upon himself to break the news to him. We think he ought to know of it & urge the Colonel to give him a leave of absence. Perhaps Albert & myself will both get leave & go on together. But be not too sanguine about

P.S. I wrote Mr H. E. Hart this A.M. having received a letter from him May 11th but could not answer it before he must pardon my negligence but it was unavoidable. He doing well now. Mr James T Child has a son at home just from South America before from California G. H. Child. they have very pleasant letters from Hannah now Mrs Severance she is very happy in her new relation

Friday 11 o'clock July 17th E. H. Mullin

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Augusta July 17th 1857

My Dear Friend Howard

Your kind, friendly and good letter came duly to hand and with deep interest I read the contents I was astonished I must confess and if your recital came from any other source - should question the soundness very much. but Oliver I do not doubt you in the least from past knowledge and the experience I have had with and of you I do not believe for a moment but that your feelings arise from a firm conviction of the truth and the worth of what you have taken hold of. Oliver I have always considered you a good friend - true and faithful - and may your generous friendship be met with like feelings. I think I know you well and that I am not deceived but with confidence to go to you even for aid if necessary but at least advice at any time I should need such. I have put confidence in you in many ways and trust if at any time I can render you assistance or comfort you will frankly do the same by me. I have wished myself as good as you many - many times but circumstances from the commence-ment difference in dispositions - education - early and latter have made us different of course it would naturally be so. - Still we can be good friends. An old saying "There are always scabby sheep in every flock" proves true in many cases I have many things to make me happy and am blessed with comforts more than I deserve. This I feel every day Still I keep on doing as I do day after day over

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Leeds Aug. 17. 1857

Dear Lizzie

We were very glad you wrote but sorry to learn you was not so well for your rides & the exertions of Wednesday. I hope you are well again.

My term does commence the 26th I shall return on Friday week from next Friday. Dellie soon after.

Father says he would like to have you visit again & tell us after you have made up your mind as to the time of coming so that we may meet you at the Depot.

And I will come down if you want me to in order to come up with you & the children. Father is going to Hallowell today. Will come Thursday or next day

About the middle of May I was taken sick having the same trouble that I have had before and up to within a week have suffered considerably being obliged to neglect my business and remain at home nearly all the time perhaps one day in the week go out within a week I am better and am in hopes to get well - giving up all the Physicians here I placed myself under Dr Pudor's care of Portland a German Physician and I think he has done for me what ought to have been done in the first instance. I have taken but little medicine and live well eat any thing I wish for. smoke a little too it is anoying and very troublesome to be sick and it seems worse with my trouble than almost any thing else. my complaint is with the Liver and the Doct tells me (although not dangerous) I may be afflicted for a number of years. the change of seasons from cold to warm will bring it on or the reverse likewise However I hope for the best and bear it as well as I can. My Wife is nicely enjoyes good health and the children are both well. Henry is quite a boy he grows tall fast - although they make lots of work for their mother still we love them dearly and they are a source of great comfort to us perhaps no more trouble than the average of children with all Mrs Ms cares which are not a few She does not grow old but laughs and talks as much as ever and for all I can see looks as young as when a girl a little more matronly possibly We live when we used to when you was here and every thing is just the same - just hold our own in fact there has been but few changes in Augusta since you left. I believe that over

Capt Gorgas is making some improvements at the Arsenal We went over there a few evenings since and passed a pleasant evening. Capt G - is building a new L to the House and painting inside - fixing up generally - he has bought him a pair of large Horses nearly as large as Old Ben about the same color - had them of Geo Robinson the man that bought your Colts and I guess has cheated him some in the sale - So Capt & Lady drive a pair - They are very nice people and think are universally liked - he is a quiet man. - I believe he is to relay the wall fronting the river all of it now very down and make it thicker more substantial. Affairs about town are very quiet - nothing new - J. Rufus Child is married to Miss Margaret Bridge and they are off on their wedding tour now - were married in church very quietly. Your Brothers called at my house July 4th in the afternoon from them we learned that you was the Father of a Boy and Girl and that Mrs Howard was very comfortable also of the death of Mrs Hs mother which was very sudden to us - was glad to hear your wife passed through the trying ordeal of loosing a mother and gaining a daughter with remarkable fortitude and then being from you made the trouble even worse Your being there would have relieved her mind from a vast deal of care and anxiety but perhaps it was all for the best. I pitied her and thought of you often I can assure you. Doct Briggs' family are well Brown & family Ditto and both the same as when you was here. Write as often as you have leisure and I will do the same With my best thoughts

I remain Your Friend C H Mullikin

Leeds Aug. 1st, 1857.

Dear Lizzie

We were very glad you wrote but sorry to learn you was not so well for your ride & the exertions of Wednesday. I hope you are well again.

My term does commence the 26th. I shall return on Sunday week from next Friday. Nellie soon after.

Father says he would like to have you with again & tell us after you have made up your mind as to the time of coming so that we may meet you at the Depot.

And I will come down if you want me to in order to come up with you & the Children. Father is going to Hallowell today. Will [illegible] Thursday or next day

Friday Morning

Mother was quite unwell Saturday so that she kept her bed but is well again. She had a very severe head-ache & back-ache & was sick at her stomach. She is quite well again now.

I attended little Henry Sawtelle's funeral last Fri. – He was 14 years old – perhaps you remember him – Aunt Lucretia's youngest son. All his brothers & sisters were there except Mr. Lowell & wife.

They mourned him as much as ever I saw a friend mourned.

Angelia – Mr. Preston's wife bore it with the most resignation & fortitude & cheered them all. She is the only pious one in the family I believe.

She is one of the finest girls I ever saw. Has returned to her home & the very the is very happy as pastor's wife. Likes the people & the place. Enjoys religion more than ever before. Her husband has $600 a year at Burbridge Mass.

Aunt Martha is no better in her mind. Shows evidences of real insanity since the return.

Sarah feels very badly & says were it not for the comforts of religion she knows not how she could get along.

I saw her yesterday. I have not time to write more for fathering waiting for the letter.

Write us if you can & if not well, please to get Mrs. J. to write a line or two.

Your Affectionate Father

C. N. Howard.

I was often found with Aunt Francis. I went to the Sabbath School, association drove me there — the Baptist Church. Mr Cobb my teacher & my Mother, and all the old people who are gone & are going down to the grave, came up before me & drove me there. but I think I differ from them in what they would regard as essential truths. I may not. They may not know fully what are their own creeds & I may practically at least be with them. My heart has an honest sympathy for every one in who has the love of Christ in his heart. I believe that whosoever will may come & partake of the water of life freely — they do so in practice. Christ constrains us by the influence of the Holy Spirit; He willeth not the death of any. but he is forced to say, How often would I have gathered thy children & ye would not. My religion is my Bible and it shows all plain. Kiss the little ones & my love to all. I have prayed with you before but now we can say, we love the Lord. Sweet little Guy & darling daughter Grace, May Grace mercy & peace be with you. Pray for the proper humility of spirit, for strong faith & earnest love. for us both — love to mother & father. I miss your letters My Sons. Good night it is dark. In great haste — Better (letter) perhaps next time. God bless you all at home — Adieu —

Office, on the Porch —
Ord. Depot — Tampa. Fla.
July 18th 1867

My own darling Siggie,

I received letters from Rowland and Willie by last Wednesday's mail, but none from home. I have got none since. The sun is most down & I must let my pen rest. Our Pastor invited me to speak from the Bible to the colored people of this city this afternoon. I told him I wanted to write to my wife & did not think he expected me but he told me this morn I must come. So I went after dining with Capt Staley of the volunteers. I addressed them from the 11 verse of Paul's Epistle to Romans 1st Chapter. A methodist preacher by the name of Brown, helped me by speaking after I was through. Numbers came forward to be prayed for and the Spirit of Christ seemed to be with and I trust many turned to God among them.

I came away before the meeting was over to write you a few lines. Oh! how anxious I am to hear from you again. I have but one objection to the name of Grace. In this country many negroes are called Grace & one spited might not like the appreciation but to me it will make no difference if you still like the name. I shall like it too, I once knew a sweet little girl by that name — Mrs Berard's grandchild. The name will always be a reminder of our duty, of Christ, by whose grace & goodness we have been accepted. I fear I shall

not yet a Dean. You dont know what a disappointment it is to me, or how much I would rejoice to fold you & the little ones in my arms & dedicate you all to the Saviour. I will go by and by. Get well & strong so that you may be able to take a journey. I shall plead hard for a leave by & by - I want to see mother, & my brothers now, I want to send the Bible at home again and pray for the divine blessing with your hearts united with mine. Our pastor Mr Lyne says he would like to see you & Mother & wants to be remembered in your prayers I believe. He is a good earnest Christian man and doing all he can for his Master. I dont know but I shall be a Minister after all. I want to talk with you about it and see what you think, but I dont made up my mind. I can read & pray & study - and work as Hedley Vicars did in the Army, but my field will be different & my opportunities narrowed when we get to some Cosacks. Would you like to be a Minister wife & what little time God lets us live engage with me in the service of our Master & Lord? I did want to join the Church with you & will not now be hindered from so doing - only I have been baptized. If you should get well and think you would not like to wait for my uncertain coming. Go up on the Bridge & let some Minister of God baptize you - I have no particular choice as to denomination, so long as we both are united heart & Spirit, mind & strength to the people of God, to those who are striving to do God's will. I am neither afraid to unite with Episcopalians, because they are the fashionable people. I would rather sink the mule and lowly. Christ took his disciples from the common people. By the mouth of babes & sucklings, his Gospel was preached - I do mind high things and here is my weakness. We must be willing to sacrifice all things for Christ. We cannot serve God & Mammon. We cannot have position & power & great temporal good & have Christ too - If we cling our hearts with these things - the Spirit of Grace will have no place in our hearts; instead of being joyous & happy Christians we will be wondering why he does not visit us, why he does not come in & sup with us and we with him. Be not high minded but condescend to people of low estate. Can we not be warm hearted followers of Christ & stay in the Ordnance Corps, yes if we do it for the honor & glory of God & not to please ourselves. I am aware that I have many talents, lent to me, and ought to improve them. But I will jump at nothing and do nothing without consulting with you in this matter. I dont know my Bible yet, I dont know what the Lord would have me do. Pray for enlightenment. Pray for your dear husband and when you are able talk to him what you think. I would delight in joining the same Church as my brothers - At the old South Church I

St. See the letter
W Howard.

that I differ in a good many points
that they consider as essential. I either have
never experienced the change, have never
known conversion, or else it came over
me so gradually that I was unconscious
of any change having taken place in
my life. I fear I am still in sin, as I
know I frequently commit it. I hope
some day to hear you preach and, though
I like the law, still I was rejoiced to
hear that you had abandoned it merely
to take up a more noble calling, for I can't
help thinking the ministry the most honor-
able of all the professions. Mrs. See wrote
you a few lines which I enclose herein
She is nearly quite well again though
as yet she has not been down stairs, but
will be tomorrow or next day, if everything
goes on right. She asked me to give you
her love, and also to the others, in which
I most cordially join. All the folks on
the Arsenal send their love, and ask to be
kindly remembered to you, & Mrs. Howard.
With love to all I remain ever
Your friend
Charlie See

How is Mrs. H. & baby? & what is name?

Watervliet Arsenal N. York
July 19th 1857

Dear Roland;

Your very kind letter was received some time since, but I have been pretty busy ever since. I left for New York the same morning I received your letter, I was going there to meet my Mother in law, a Cousin (Miss C. D'Orvilla) of whom you have heard Annie speak, and my little Brother in law, Jimmie, I thought they would be in the City by the time I got there, but the steamer they sailed in from Charleston was delayed by leakage of her boiler so they did not arrive until near one on that night the 6th I went to the Wharf to meet them at the proper time, but after waiting two hours or so I concluded that the boat would not come in that night and returning to the hotel, went to bed, expecting to be awaked at daylight next morning, but on getting up in the morning I found it was 8½ A.M.

I went immeadiately to the boat but the birds had flown. I then to the principal hotels to look for them, but did not find them for they did not know I was in the City; after looking for some time I concluded that they had taken the cars by themselves so I took the ~~8~~ 12 o'clock train and when I reached the Arsenal I found they had been here for an hour or thereabouts, having taken the 9 A.M. train. On the first of July I was blessed with a little daughter which is doing very well as is also its Mother. Its name is Annie Cornelia, and called after its Mother and Grandmother. She has dark eyes and hair and looks somewhat like me though I think more like Annie, with those exceptions. She is a nice, good little thing and does not wake at night from about 9 till daylight next morning. Crying is almost unknown yet now and then she does exercise her lungs and from that I feel sure they are strong and sound and quite good.

It grieved me to hear of Mrs. Watts' death and must have been a severe stroke to Mrs. Howard particularly just then. But though being called away just at that time seemed hard, we must ever recollect that the Ruler of the Universe is all wise and directest everything for our good. I am so glad to hear that Mrs. Howard and yourself could look to Heaven for consolation in such bereavements and while your hearts are wring with anguish could say with Job, "the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away blessed be the name of the Lord". Though I myself have never experienced the state of feeling which causes the "second birth", and have never openly acknowledged him (Christ Jesus) before the World, still I hope that my actions are most of them governed by the principles laid down in his Gospel. I am ready to declare my faith in him openly to the World, but I don't think there is any church (denomination) here that would receive me into its fold for I must say

ical Loc. I will be Engaged at the Church: at the Anniversary where the Students speak: as I did last year: but if the Gen. doesn't meet you at the cars you can take a carriage & ride up to his house, take Jen & then ride over to the Church if you are not too tired:

I want you to bring my black pants - remember - if possible - everybody says that it is not ministerial to preach in these summer ones:

I don't know as I will go home with you: It will depend somewhat on where I preach the 31st: if at all: Mr Stevens invited Ella down but as she was a stranger I thought the wisest decline: I come next year: I needn't say that I wished like to have been here: My love to Mother & Father & the little ones:

Your aff. Bro.

Rowland

Bangor July 17. '57

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My Dear Mother

I passed a very pleasant Sabbath in Winthrop: stopped at Mrs Burgess'. Mr. B. met me at the cars and they were very kind & did everything any one could: They send their regards to you & Sippie & hope you will be able to call & see them if nothing more:

I preached the same sermon that I did at "Butter milk": Gen B. Lewis was a union S. S. Concert at the Methodist Chapel: It seemed too much like an Entertainment & I couldn't help thinking that it was calculated to dissipate the impressions of the sermons if they made any:

I dined with Emeth Webb: He seems to me that he is not far from the Kingdom

I heard from Ella yesterday. She was well & had remained in Paris. Ella also wrote a letter & sent it to Mother

of Heaven. If you meet him during your furlough you will find him glad to converse on the subject of religion. His Mother long ago consecrated him to the Ministry & still continues to pray & believe that he will come. She is now aged & infirm. I had a pleasant call on Mrs Mother & Sister. They are both lovely Christians. May the prayer we offered for him be answered.

Capt Peley Beckwith was one of the best Christians seemingly I ever met. His heart is warm & earnest. He knew our Father very well & his wife knew Mother. Sam. P. looks well. & the Maj. looks well & that is all. I fear, in either case.

I was in hopes you would write out Monday, but it was very hot & dusty. I have engaged to be in Hampwell the 1st to Sab. in Aug. I want you & Lizzie to go down & take a little Sea air! So make your calculations not to go early to Commencement but to stop the Sabbath after, if you can. It will be a little awkward going from Bath to Brun. often. so I guess we'd better make the visit to Bath pretty late in the week. but we will talk that over. Cousin Laura sent her love to Mother. She says she wants to be a Christian.

Our Lt Rc We will be there next Thurs. Capt & Mrs Edwd Waite came down here yesterday. They will stop till after the Anniversary but he will return tomorrow. He spoke in the Morning meeting this morn.

We will expect you Mon. Eve. I am Yrs. of the Shelter

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Waterville July 19th 1857

My dear Mr. Howard.

Charlie received your nice and very kind letter some time ago, but is just able to answer it. I thought I would write a few lines to my old friend, altho' he did not answer my last! I am very sorry to hear of Mrs. Watts death, but the papers say she had a disease of which she would never get over. I am very glad to hear Mrs Howard has a little daughter. As I have one, born on the first of this month, she is considered a very pretty and excellent baby and the exercise of me, has very dark brown hair dark blue eyes and a fair skin, in all she is the sweetest baby that ever was. Mrs. McCarty has a daughter just one week younger than mine. My brother, cousin and little brother are with me and will until late in October. You write word that you are studying for the ministry. Do you think it will be more profitable than law? I doubt it, unless you are a fine preacher, for the old saying says "poor preaching, poor pay". When you write to Mrs H— give my love to her, and believe me ever to be

Yours sincerely

Annie P. Lee

Hallowell July 21st '67

Dear Lizzie

Isn't this just like Mrs Lee for all the world? I thought I would send it right up as I didn't know as they had written you yet – Do you think Mr. Lee is what we feel a Christian is? I mean to write him – that "if he believes he is saved already" – If he doubts he is not – How "Annie" will love that little one – It will be a great blessing to her I think – making her more of a true woman & I hope too that this with her Mothers influence – may open her heart to her Saviour – I rode up to Augusta this afternoon & called to see Mr. Webb – but he was not at home – Saw Capt. Georges riding – Mr. Webb spends next Sunday at Capt. Patten's & preaches for Mr. Fisher – How characteristic is that question of Mrs. Lee's about "profit"!!

Love to Mr Lee, say nothing about the Carriage – I will write him before long

Lizzie

Mother & Father & Hattie & the girls send their love to you all – Write soon – dear Lizzie

Yours

Richmond Va
July 20/57.

Dear Howard.

Yesterday I received your kind letter, it had been some time awaiting my return here from the North — I was much pleased to hear from you and the subject of your letter was particularly agreeable to me — to have no fears about letters on that subject being disagreeable —

It is a subject on which I certainly need much light — and you well know — that your experience on that or any other subject would have as much weight with me, yes — more weight than that of almost any other man —

I have been travelling around constantly since I left New Orleans, never stopping longer than five or six days in a place, it is agreeable in some respects — but it consumes a little more than my pay-

Geo. W. Bond
July 20
1857

I leave to-morrow Tuesday, for the Springs in the Mountains - White & red Sulphur and others. I will remain at them only a few weeks as I wish to visit West Point the last days of August - I go with a large party of my Relatives from this place. They will remain longer than I.

I have met many of your friends in my travels - at Old Point - (Ft Monroe) Ft McHenry & other Military Posts)

I saw Maj Scott a few days ago. he is promoted to the 3rd Reg. and goes out some time the coming Fall. he was looking very well -

I do know of any Army news.

Excuse this short epistle. when I took up the pen. I merely intended writing five or six lines, & promised you to write fully from some other place -

My regards to Mack. & others.

In haste

Your friend

Edw. H. Day

Let me hear from you. direct to me here = care of H. Clay Watkins = or to me at "Jackson Tenn"

E. H. D.

Office, Ordnance Depot
Fort Bowie Ariz. July 22nd/57

My dearest wife,

I hoped on Saturday to have some message from home, but, as I wrote you on Sunday, I was disappointed. Tonight I shall look strongly for letters. I don't expect quite yet to find a letter directed in your hand, but hope mother may have found time to put down a few lines: I am afraid that the hardness of your lot, may have occasionally come home to you forcibly, though if you have let the Holy Spirit of God have full sway, it will seem to you all brightness & blessing. I feel somewhere, Death is our Commissioned servant, to carry us home, where joy, peace & gladness never end. Home to Heaven. You said: "Mother has gone home" Even this affliction to us, the taking from us, one who loved us, one who would always be devoted to our children, one who was ever eager for our welfare, even this affliction is a blessing - for Mother has gone home. She will have no more sorrow, no more trial, our weaknesses & pride will not afflict her more. It is a blessing to her. We will cherish her kindnesses in the past, keep the memorials of her love for us. remember the pain that we have given, to avoid giving the like to others. These things come home to us & are a blessing. The Mercy & Grace of Christ our Lord, come home to us, to make us receive a good measure of his unsearchable riches. With two darling little ones & the Saviours love in the young parents heart, may there be a fulness of blessing! & do we deserve it? As I believe

I heard from Warren Saltmarsh today. He has been temporarily attached to Captain McCown's company and has gone on a scouting probably on the coast in boats. His family needent be uneasy about him, for there is very little danger or hope of finding the indians. They may, but I dont think the indians will show themselves to a party of anyeige.

You ought to see my office since it has been papered. The windows have mosquito bars & so also the door & the bed is covered with another. I dont keep the mosquitoes all out of the room, but they dont trouble me of nights. I am getting quite used to them, can bear them in moderate numbers. Rowland's letter about you was very charming & he praised the little daughter almost above measure, as I thought rather to the disparagement of "poor baby". Kiss the little darlings and remember it will not be long before I shall see you. Read the two last verses of the 24th chap. Isaiah. Wait upon the Lord - your strength will be renewed. Pray for me, my sweet little wife, pray for more & more of the Christ in my heart. I need wisdom, I need strength. I need to lean continually upon the arm of my Saviour.

Give lots of love to Mother, tell her to pray for me & write to me when she can. I am grateful to her as the bearer of good tidings - a little daughter, little mother doing well - thank God for all his mercies - My love to Father & Mrs Clark - Remember me in kindness to the neighbors when they call. Yours, affectionate husband
Otis

says, if I didn't think I was writing to a Christian I shouldn't dwell so much on these things, but I think your joy, your hopes of Heaven, your prayers to be kept from sin, & your gratitude to Christ for his love, mercy & blessings, are coexistent & coextensive with mine. I did intend to continue, copying my journal for your perusal, during the remainder of my journey to the vicinity of Istokpoga lake, but I will now wait till I hear from you that all is well. How does Mrs Clark & Guy get along & the little daughter. I haven't got over the ~~motion~~ surprise that Mother's letter gave me. I expected surely - No, I don't know what I was expecting, but I don't believe it was a little daughter. Blue eyes! does it know anything? does it cry any? Who wakes up when it cries; Guy? Does Guy say, Mama baby is awake or does he cry too? I must get into the secrets of these little domestic scenes. I don't have the privilege even of hearing a baby cry except in meeting sometimes. The negroes carry their little ones to Church in the afternoon for their service, and they occasionally squall very much like other children. Baby doesn't cry? Well, I didn't think she would, only when she wanted something - and since her little mother will anticipate her wants, why she won't have a chance to cry. Colonel Loomis hasn't given me a leave yet, and I don't think I will get one till by & by, say two months hence. I shall push pretty hard for one in October if I can't get one before. I didn't much think my application would be successful under the circumstances, for I will be needed here

the new Regiments of Volunteers is around and Griffin. Has Ella written you & consulted with you about being a minister's wife? Last night I lectured before the people at the prayer-meeting. Had in the exercises. Mr Lyne proposed to the Church to give me a license to Exhort. He wants me to give him assistance. I have no objection as I don't have to promise anything. Colonel Loomis says it will strengthen me to work. I want to get acquainted with the members of the Church, so that I can show them that I can visit & who will visit me. So as to have sympathizing hearts to commune with. I never knew till lately the bond of sympathy between one real Christian & another. Mr Lyne says he was among the miners in California, and seeing a miner, he asked him if he would give him aid in establishing a Church. Ah! says he do you find anybody in this wicked place that loves the Lord Jesus Christ? Mr Lyne says it made the tears come into his eyes. They were Christians & consequently friends in a moment. The miner came home & dined with him; or asked him, (Mr Lyne) to partake of a humble meal. But he said it was sweet to find a true Christian there. It is a pretty good test for Christians. If they love Christ they will love one another. If you are able or as soon as the Dr. says you may, I am very eager for you to write me. But you must not be too sweet, you know, as you were at Augusta. I want to judge what kind of letters you would like best. I want to hear all about the little new-comer, the little gift of God's grace & the great one

that he may not have an eye for the praise of men, but of God. That he may be strengthened to do his duty boldly & fearlessly in the face of all men. & my wife too might be patient for me that I hold on steadfastly to the truth & be faithful after our Heavenly God. Help the little ones. In innocence & humbleness they are - of such is the Kingdom of Heaven -

I must now close my letter for it is after three & I want to prepare for the funeral. Kiss the babes for their father - Keep up good courage. I shall desert you again right away for your sake.

15 Indian women & children have been taken the past week - The new Regiments will be likely to be here this week & next for arms &c - I have sent for the arms but they have not yet come. I believe Colonel Loomis will let me go after this work is done - Once more I commit you all into the hands of God - Give my love to all. Tell Roland Gilmore & Cynthia that I shall remember them in my prayers & Father too. I want to see him - I hope the next mail will bring good news -

I had a note from Warren lately - He was well - Sent me a pistol for repairs - I returned it - With much love for you all. I am as ever

Your loving husband
Otis

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Ordnance Depot
Fort Brooke Fla.
July 26th 1864.

My dearest wife,

Last night I expected a letter from home. Three mails have brought me no letters & the one before brought me one from Wadsworth & none from home. The last news dates as far back as the 3d of July. I don't know what to make of it unless it is that there is no good news to be written or else you are expecting me home. After the new Regiments is mustered in I shall try again to get a leave. Don't count upon it with too much certainty. I mean that we shall be active, if we live, this fall. I will not fill up my letter about the journey for if it is possible I will go to bring you. With others I have visited a young man sick in the hospital & God helped me to whisper consolation into his ear & pray with him. He told me he was happy. He believed his Saviour would receive him. Last night at sunset his light went out. He has three brothers who have been with him through his sickness. Most four years more have all been mustered into the same Company & now at the term of six months. They buried one in the Big Cypress and the other is to be laid in the silent grave.

this afternoon. I have been invited to perform the funeral ceremony, in case the Baptist minister does not come. Now I hardly go into a house, but the family desire me to lead in reading & in prayer. It shows that Christ is with me. How is it with my darling wife. Does the brightness grow brighter? Is the hope sure & steadfast an anchor to the soul with you & in you? This morning my class was increased to five from absents. They call upon me to lead in the Sabbath-school. To open by prayer & reading. The danger all the time is that I will not give God all the praise. Lieut Mozgitter, who left here for Nelsonville six months since, came back last night, this morning, he came in here. I told him to read a chapter in the Bible & we would pray together for his wife & mine & thank God that he had spared us to meet again, & so we did. I trust you are almost well at this time. And the two precious gifts of God are in health and a great comfort to you. It dont seem to me that you can be ill. This morning I heard a sermon from Mr Lyne in answer to transubstantiation. He made the subject very plain & argued with strength & power against the claims of the Roman Church to which he once belonged. I never have had the opportunity of partaking of the Lord's supper yet. It was (Grace M. Hanna) intended for today but by some means was forgotten - or the steward whose family was sick forgot to provide for the occasion. I was sorry, but presume it will be provided next Sabbath. I dislike going to go home now, the pleasure of meeting you all would have been great at any time - but you have all been born again - A daughter. A little daughter ~~born~~ is there to be presented to her father. They will forget me if I dont go down - I want to renew our old friendship & see if he knows me. Is he a little prettier now! The Lyne gave an appointment for me to speak next Sunday night. I think I shall choose the words found in 1st Thessalonians 4 chap. 13 & 14 verses ..... "that ye sorrow not as others, which have no hope" &c So, my dearest Siggie, must it be with you. & I know it is - for you said: "Mother is gone home" She will come by & by - You do not sorrow as those without hope. Death is losing its terrors for you & you are gaining the victory. Oh! May the star of hope ever shine for you & me as brightly as it does now - If either of us should precede the other to that better land, may the passage through the vale be lightened by that star, & may the one left behind never lose sight of the same star of hope & of promise. Mother dont write me: is she well & rejoicing, that God is blessing her above measure, O! My darling mother forget not your son at the throne of Divine Grace & mercy. Pray for a proper contrition of heart & humility of spirit

Leeds. July, 26. 1857.

Oh! dearest.

It seems to me that I have not written to you for many months, so much have I passed through since writing the last five weeks. I cannot now write much for my eyes as yet are not very strong and my arm is weak. You have received letters, and have been told that dear Mother has passed away, and can be with us no longer. She has gone to a happy home and I cannot wish her back. and dearest, I feel the strength of my Saviour's arm in my affliction, and the softness every tear that falls. Had I loved my Saviour more I could have made her happier during the years she lingered with us. but the past is past, and while God forgives me all, she will. I know God gave me my little daughter

forgot to see the color of her hair. I won't try to write more this time, but hope to write every day and will write again next week.

Your own true wife

Lizzie Conder

July 26 1857

be a comfort to me at this time, and my not writing her at the first will make her ever dearer to me. I feel that God was watching over us when in sin and was preparing the way to light. I have so much to tell you write how can I only write a short letter? Dearest I am now looking forward to the time when we shall meet here together and walk hand in hand in Christ and doing the will of our Heavenly father. Borland has written me two dear brotherly letters, and Ella has sent me a present of a shawl to throw over my shoulders while I am getting better. I sit up most of the day generally have one nap if I can. I think I am pretty well but not quite as strong as when Guy was five weeks old. But that is not to be wondered at. Mrs Clark is still with me but will leave this week. I did think of going to Lewiston this week but have now given it up till I am quite well. Charlie will be home in a few days and then I shall ride with the children every day I can

I had my first ride this week Monday. I am now writing Wednesday afternoon. I have written two at different times since Monday and shall send it to the post office this afternoon. I was very anxious about you till I received your letter dated July 8.th when I learned of your safe return to Tampa. I did thank my Heavenly Father for watching over you and protecting you while on your journey. I expect to get a letter today giving a sketch of the rest of the journey. I imagine you did not communicate with the Indians. Mrs Clark went home yesterday. Mother took her to Winthrop and saw her start in the stage. I gave her twenty five dollars. She was here seven weeks. Guy is sitting by me writing and turned quietly and wrote on the top of this page. I presume you can interpret it. He is a pretty good boy, but begins to show what is in him, and needs to be corrected: baby is just as good as she need to be. Every time I kiss her little velvety cheek I think how glad you would be to see her. She looks like Guy, and as he did at her age only her features are smaller. I cut a curl

get this in time you must pray for me that I be inflamed only by the Holy Spirit & that I speak so as to give God the praise. For if I do poorly & my old friends are ashamed for me, it may be a good lesson to my pride & cause me to humble myself more & more before my Master. How is Sarra during all these times? I'd call the baby Grace. It was your first thought & how much good may ~~not~~ grow out of it. I am afraid Guy has grown all out of my knowledge. Does he wear jackets & trousers yet? Can he say Tampa? If I bring you here in the fall, I shall hire a small cottage, where we can live comfortably, till ordered to the north. I think all the time, if our Father in Heaven, permits — if it is his will. The excursion has just returned I hear by the salute. But it is not sunset. My vines continue to bear melons. and I have nice tomatoes, I'm sure you want some. I suppose father is cutting hay still. Tell them all, how sweet the cup is that your name drunk of. & there is no poison in it. Wait a little longer & I shall see you — You must be impatient now & be like those who are without hope. God bless you & the sweet little gifts that you are going to have with me.

Think of your responsibility, but don't my darling let it weigh you down. for you will have, Him to help you, who has given you the burden.

My love to all & kiss the babes. Your own loving husband

Otis

Court Office
received

Ocklawaha Depot &c Fla
July 29th 1857.

My darling wife.

I dont know hardly what to make of my getting no word from anybody, for so many mails. The last news. 8th of July. long time. when one's wife is sick, but in Rowland's words the "new Radiance" has kept my spirits up. for mind & heart have been kept at work. The whole man has been called into exercise, but if I don't get any news tonight I fear my heart will be a little sorrowful & my evening prayer less gladsome than usual. Ellis's letter will give you all a little notion of what I have been about & as there is plenty of egotism there for one letter in the same day, let us see if we can change the key note and sing in another strain.

Speaking of singing, the people have been trying to test my euphonic cum theme my musical voice. I have been one night & sang Boylston "Our days are as the grass & like the morning flower" &c with my usual propensity to forcible utterance. This is enough about myself. How are you. I don't know how to place you, I hope not still on a sick bed in pain, weakness & fear — but moving about the old home, cheerful & happy. with Guy prattling & little baby pet, hearty & fair. I expect little girls will cry. Great ones sometimes do. That's my experience. But you will have this consoling

reflection. When boys cry there is something the matter, but girls are curious enigmas, it does them good to cry. Now you know I am more accustomed to grown girls than little ones & as their nature is changeable, they may be remarkably quiet in Baby-hood. The Steamer Gray Cloud has gone on an excursion to day & nearly the whole garrison are away. Colonel Simmis asked me if I would like to go last night, & I told him I would not. It is partly to make arrangement for guarding the indians taken on an Island, & partly for pleasure. I have greater enjoyments at home. Parties of pleasure, expeditions & balls, have been fully tested. Substantial enjoyment dont come from them does it? When I go any where I want to go home. You can hardly tell how much I anticipate in the visit to you all. My arms &c. have come. Two companies are on the way from Ocala to this place for some. I have not commenced drilling yet. It will be some time before the new Regiments gets equipped. The Captains find it harder than they thought to get men enough to muster in. Lee is at Ocala now & will stay there till he gets three companies more. Captain Kilburn is in Tallahassee & is to muster five companies there. I am prepared for them & wish they would come. After this is done I am going to try the Colonel again for a furlough. There is considerable sickness in this place, but mostly billious fever. There are now two or three cases of it at the hospital. The Chronic Diarrhea seems the most fatal. One lady, a young Mrs Clark, is very low. Her father, who has been living at Manatee, has recently moved his family here. His name is Branch a physician, a Christian & a preacher. He gave us an excellent sermon last sunday from these words which will do us good to repeat. "Let the words of my mouth & the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight O Lord my strength & my Redeemer." You can find them in Psalms. I have not learned whether you approved of my joining the methodists on probation or not. It has enabled me by the help of God, to work with them. To bring into their social meetings a heart fresh from the fountain of the Saviour's mercy. It has enabled me to find more welcome among the humble people & much sympathy & Spiritual enjoyment. The result has been to strengthen me & fortify me in the love of my God. As this is mail-day I hope indeed that I shall hear good news. Maybe you thought from my letters that I might be on my way & it was better not to write. Most it be delightful to get a letter from you again; how much you must have been labouring up to the mark. I presume Mrs Clark is still with you. Dont let anything separate you from the love of Christ, till I see you. I want to see you full of that sweet spirit that will make any face beautiful. Your maiden name is afterwards either if you are going to be a minister's wife. As I shall not, God will - I was going to say, I shall not write you till after I had preached from the pulpit next sunday evening. If you

Mrs Lathrop –
Auburn –
July 30/ 67

O. O. Howard
Lt Colonel

Leeds Me.
July 30th 1867

Dear Sir –

I have just recd. your kind note, with the 200 dollars ~~check~~ inclosed, I was from home on a visit when it arrived, or I should have acknowledged the receipt before this time.

I am happy to learn that Warren has so healthy and comfortable a situation as he has, so much better than I had anticipated. And likewise that you have a fine and healthy location and I earnestly hope that when you have served your country, you may be permitted to return to your anxious friends, with life and health.

I have not seen your family for some weeks, but presume they are all well. I called on the morning that Mrs Wait was buried. Your wife was quite feebee then, and we did not see her but we saw the babe. it was a beautiful and healthy looking child. Our family are all well and desire their kind regards to you. I am very glad that you and Warren are stationed so near that you can visit, as in sickness of the one, the other would write to the friends as well as other kind offices. that you may remain in health is the sincere wish of your friend.

Very truely
yours
B. Lothrop

Lt O.O. Howard
Fort Brooks Fla.