

[Feb, 1861]

Friday Morning

My dear husband

I will write a short note. But I fear you will not receive it this week. My journey to Lewiston did not seem <sup>very</sup> long one. ~~very~~

Mother did not see me till I opened the door. I did not find her as well as I expected and Aunt Sarah says that she is greatly glad I came.

I am with Fanny now. Mother and I rode here this morning.

I am very well indeed, and shall keep well all the time I am there. I tell them I am to stay four weeks. But that does not make it that I shall. I assume you think it does not seem <sup>it did</sup> as formerly (before I went to Waterville) to be alone. My place is with you, and

wherever you are, and I feel it—  
be so. I did not see Charlie at  
Yarmouth as I hoped. I looked  
through the crowd till the bell rang  
then asked a student if Charlie Howard  
was at the Depot. He said he was not.  
Then I told him if he pleased he might  
tell him that Mrs Lizzie Howard was  
in the Cars. I waited 15 minutes  
in Portland, did not leave the Depot.

My friends are all well, and  
are very happy. But surprised to see  
you, one. I shall see your Mother  
soon. Mother is just as she was  
when you were here. is better to-day  
I just because I am here. But  
as nervous as she can be. I shall  
write to you very often, but not  
with a pencil always. Give my  
love to all friends at Waterville.  
and write soon to you  
Lizzie.



Sunday Evening

Dearest. I neglected to mail my  
letter written Friday evening. I  
will add a few lines this evening  
and mail it tomorrow. We have  
had another pleasant Sabbath.  
I read a very interesting book to the  
children this afternoon about a little  
girl who tried to do right. and the  
consequence is, it has called forth  
this letter to you from Grace. She  
knows that she troubles me sometimes  
as you know her disposition is not always  
even and pleasant. her heart is  
very tender when I talk to her.  
The children are quite well now, we are  
all very well for which I try to be  
thankful. Much love to Charlie, tell  
him I want one of his good, full letters.  
Very thoughtful in you to ask Mr Caswell  
to have some wood ready for use. But  
you must not try to take much  
of us. Let me look out for my self while

you have so much to do.  
I have taken Jamie up since this  
evening and have not so much  
time to write as I wish. I  
have some sewing to do to-morrow  
morning and cannot write then. I  
do want you to write to me very  
often. I haven't written you as often  
lately as I ought. I will write  
more as soon as I get over my  
sowing done. I have the children  
now quite well prepared for the  
cold weather, and the next  
thing is to work for myself, for if  
the Gen. should come home I  
must look very — comfortable.  
I don't much expect I will see  
him though this Winter. No more  
to night. Take care of yourself. Yours  
Elizabeth



Spout Point Feb 11<sup>th</sup> 1861

Dear Mother

I will just write  
you a few lines tonight to let  
you know that we are all quite  
well. All are in bed but Lizzie  
& me & she is just retiring.  
I think the baby is a little more comfortable.  
Some then either Guy or Grace. Lizzie  
sometimes gets very, very tired as she  
is tonight, but we ought to be thankful  
indeed for so many & so great blessings.  
My Sunday school has increased  
late. Some of the Professors children  
attend & the Badets prayer meeting  
continues its interest. A great revival  
is in progress at Butternut Falls.  
at present. As many as fifty of  
understand have made profession  
of religion. There have been quite



often to attend the meetings and  
hear the happy assurance from  
~~some converts~~ that I was instrumental  
in pointing them to Christ. The wife  
of the Presbyterian Minister, Mrs Gray  
is very low. She has had a severe  
hemorrhage of the lungs. You  
may remember Dr Bayler, who  
took such good care of me when I  
was sick as a Cadet here. His  
son James Bayler, a member of  
my mathematical class, is quite  
ill with typhoid fever, just hovering  
between life & death. His father &  
mother are here with him.

My love to Ellen & Father. I am  
glad Virginia & James have gone  
for the Union. We can do without  
the Gulf States. We will hardly  
miss them, if we don't hear war.

Oh, that we may not be called to  
spill each others blood! I hope  
the hearts of the people of Secs

would grow cold at this time. Now  
we need the care & protection of  
our Heavenly Father, if we ever did.  
& I hope many will turn their  
faces Heavenward & beseech

mercy & guidance at this crisis.

Sister has just come in to fix the  
fire <sup>for morning</sup> & I thought she was cold. She says  
Send my love to her & to Mrs Lizzie  
though she is so sleepy that she  
draws her words. Goodnight.  
I hope Rowland is well.

Remember me to the neighbors  
& to Uncle Ensigns & John. Her  
Aunt Amelia joined the Church  
yet! My love to her if you see her.  
I hope she will join.

Affectionately your Son  
C. J. Howard



Washington D. C. Feb. 13th, 1861—  
Lieut. C. Howard

Respected Sir

Allow me to thank you ~~for~~ and  
your lady for the kind manner in which you have ~~and you~~  
<sup>have treated</sup> my wife and little ones since I left my home. I do not  
know how we will ever repay you for your many  
kindresses to us but God will reward you. Our officers  
are very kind to us and we are as comfortable as can  
be expected. Please remember me to Mr. Wells  
I remain with respect

Yr Obedt. Servt.

Henry V. Fothery

Washington D. C. Feb 1st, 1861.

My dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th inst. in relation to the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States. I am glad to hear that you are so much interested in the subject, and I am sure that your views will be of great value to the country. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
John C. Caldwell, Secy.

John C. Caldwell, Secy.  
Washington D. C.



as we rode to Church, that he was quite sceptical  
upon the subject of experimental religion - Believing  
he is just as well off without it as with it. He  
still clings to hard hope. - Joshua Town & wife  
had been here about a week but returned Monday - It  
was a very pleasant day - I rode to the Junction for  
my baggage & took Mother to Mr. Brewster's - Lawrence  
boy has <sup>the</sup> Bishop complexion & yellow hair - looks smart & healthy.  
Yesterday it rained hard all day - I was intending to go  
to Dr. but <sup>the</sup> rain put a period to all my plans - It did not  
bring home enough fuel right for me to go today & now  
it is too late as I return to Bangor Sat. from here.

It seems to be the general opinion that James W. is hardly  
equal to live & long as a man - But intrinsically  
I can perceive much difference - At the two latter names  
have acquired a great charm for me by their association  
with two lovely little beings - so I anticipate I shall soon  
begin to think James one of the most beautiful of names.

Father is reading aloud & as I am not in a state to  
conduct more than one train of thought with accuracy I will  
hesitate to close - I find I have filled out quite an extensive  
letter - since I began I passed to attend to family prayers.  
Mabel is now a Professor of Religion - I am just above  
her with mother - She is good help - Betsey Bates was  
taken very sick Sat. morning - She has sometimes 10 fainting fits  
in the course of a day - I was in town her this P.M. Jane Bates  
has been sick but I found her quite well today - Oliver has  
got the "James Wing" farm - W<sup>m</sup> Wing takes that of Mr. Parker (Simon Loring) - Mr. P.  
goes to Keene's corner - Father has hired the Reuben for 8 months & will board

Leeds Feb. 13. 1861 -

Dear Brother

You perceive I am at home - It is raining -  
Mother sits near me knitting - Father is reading - We got our  
mail tonight which has been very irregular of late - In fact  
until yesterday morning (Tues) we had rec<sup>d</sup> no mail since  
Thurs. The Cars got detained at No. Leeds on their way  
up & no train passed over the road till yesterday - They  
were compelled to shovel away the snow by hand -  
A letter from Portland tonight written Sat. eve. informs  
us that Ella has been quite sick during the week  
past - She had many symptoms similar to his but  
did not have the Diphtheria - She seems to be getting  
better. Another little boy of his S. School is gone - His  
funeral was <sup>to be</sup> last Monday - There was one the Sunday after  
I was there. I have not written you since I was  
with Portland two weeks ago last <sup>Sat</sup> - I was at home then  
brought to take dinner & see mother a little while on  
my return - Father met me at Leeds Centre & then took me  
to Manchester. I went up to relieve Portland before he was  
able to proceed - For two Saturdays he has been able to con-  
duct the services himself. He has been Ella's nurse  
during her illness - Says she has been at the table with  
the family for two days now.

I came home last Saturday - After the storm of  
Thursday night the train did not get thro' to Manchester



from Bangor till Sat. Friday was terribly cold - Thermometer gave the record of  $30^{\circ}$  below zero at the Seaside and  $35^{\circ}$  down town - It was  $32^{\circ}$  &  $33^{\circ}$  here in Leeds. I froze one of my sons Sat. morn. going to the depot. We learned on the train that the ~~Androscoggin~~ R.R. had not got thro' several who were going to Farmington - took the stage at Reedfield - I got out of the train still uncomfortable with the expectation of walking home but found a Mr. Wheeler there who put me almost to Curtis corner. I first called on the Minister Mr. Spring & got some dinner - I had called there before & had become acquainted with Mrs Spring's folks in Holderness which was her native place - I found mother quite well tho' she had been having a cold - Mahala is with her now. Father is well - I got cold about the time of leaving Bangor so I have been rather heavily heated & ought not to complain for this is the only cold I have had this winter I believe & this is not very severe.

Rev. Mr. Lechman was expecting me to later has been <sup>here</sup> by last Sat. & as I found <sup>him</sup> almost sick I preached for him twice. He got sick by walking down upon the Plains that stormy Thursday to attend the funeral of Miss Maloon a member of his Church. Very few were out at Church Sabbath-day tho' the weather was favorable. Mother says the people have got in the habit of staying at home - But they seem to have attended the Circle in good numbers & there is no lack of interest in a Lyceum or the St. Joseph - house. Rev. Mr. Lechman

seems almost discouraged - The people give him a Donation tomorrow. Father sent up beforehand today I bush out dills of potatoes - of apples & of other vegetables. Melvin carried them up together with some contribution of his own. Your letter to Belle came Tuesday - the mail was sent up from the Junction Mond. P.M. by a private Conveyance. We opened the letter - It was exceedingly interesting to me - the report of those troops leaving W.P. is especially - I mailed it to Belle today - I had a letter from Johnny Weir just after returning from Farmington. I did not know he had been away ~~at~~ Washington. His Rev. Mr. Gray got well again? I have been reading several of your recent letters to Mother - The good long one you wrote me deserved a more speedy reply - It was just what I wanted - Almost equal to a visit to W.P. I sent it to Roland at F. & to Mother when it came before. Tell him I was highly pleased with <sup>this</sup> letter & will answer it - perhaps to accompany this - Uncle Roster / T. Ella - Grandfather & Grandmother thought they must see that letter - so they read it for themselves - Have there been any more resignations among leaders or any recent ones among officers? I did not feel like writing tonight tho' but I wanted to have this taken to the P.D. tomorrow as we go to the Donation - I know it will paralyze my despair - I called down at Roland's the first of the eve. Legathia looks in the best health I have seen her since her marriage - The children also look nicely - Roland talks intelligently upon National affairs - Is not radical - Legathia told me Sabbath-day



with the same interests, Oliver brought  
in our mail, which contained a letter from  
Rowland and one from Rodolphus  
Rowland says he and Ella will come  
to Leeds Monday if nothing in providence  
prevents, I wish Charles could be here  
to go for them, the traveling is awful  
we had a quite deep snow fall in the  
night followed by rain this morning.

Dellie writes in good spirits, was delighted  
to receive a letter from you accompanied  
by one from Charles, he has few letters,  
we are fully expecting the restoration  
of our union, from your affectionate

Mother Eliza Gilmore

O. R. Howard.

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Leeds Feb. 17. 1861.

Oh, my <sup>dear</sup> son,

Yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> inst. was duly  
received and with much pleasure, the general tone  
of the letter was calculated to satisfy a Christian  
mother's desires, and all your letters are a great  
treasure to me, Oliver Gilbert was in this morning  
and said that your uncle Stillman Howard was  
dead, died yesterday. P. M. died in an instant  
without apparent suffering, he was as well as usual  
up to the time of his death, I think he has not been from  
home this winter, I saw Aunt Lydia at Church a  
month or two since, and ask after her husband in  
particular she said he was feeble, the funeral  
is next Tuesday, Charlie has spent the past week with  
us, which was a pleasant week to me, he wrote to all  
of his brothers while here, the state of our country  
seems to be the all absorbing feeling of every  
one, but I trust we have those amongst ~~these~~ us who  
have an interest at the throne of grace, who make  
it a daily duty to ask our heavenly fathers blessing  
on our union, when we ask for blessings how many



ignorant we are of what we ask, "God works in his own mysterious way his wonders to perform," We must therefore submit ourselves to his providences in humility. Howland and Ella have had quite a portion of poor health I suppose Farmington is a cold place, Lillie says it is, I have not seen them since the first day of Nov, I have expected them several times sickness, <sup>or</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>in the parish</sup> death has prevented them from coming, and I am a little tired about leaving. So my own bed a night, I like the name of your babe, very well give him grandmother's kiss, Lissie has always my best of wishes, kiss Guy and Grace for me, my regards to Mrs Wing, and Susan, a Susan Ames, your father's niece was married new years day (to a Boston merchant of some great firm) & his name is Henry French. I saw your aunt Sarah at a donation party not long since she had visited your aunt Lucretia a short time previous and found them all well Mrs Bridgham has had several attacks of severe palpitation of the heart, I think she will leave us in the same way that her brother has, Cynthia has just gone out send love to you and Lissie, and Johnny send love he improves

in talking I can understand him now quite well, I am sorry for Mrs Gray I have heard of the family so much I feel almost acquainted with them. I cannot sympathize with such extreme agony at the death of my friends, although every new stroke of the grim messenger on our family ties leaves me more sorrowful, (notwithstanding my poor sinful heart) I have have been enabled to look beyond the grave, in my bereavements, and not dwell on the poor tenement that holds the immortal spirit, I think that I have <sup>been</sup> wonderfully blessed in having a calm, and leaning spirit on my divine master, I feel at this moment a fullness of gratitude ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> my heavenly father, for his sustaining hand in all my undeservings your father's health, good as usual Cyprian's health is feeble the winter is trying, <sup>to</sup> old age Oliver has been in and says the funeral of Esquire Howland is at 10 o'clock Tuesday. what a blessing in <sup>this</sup> dying. Would to live with an affectionate husband 55, or six years, to see ones children and grandchildren with the



East Amherst Feb. 21, 1861

Dear Brother Oles

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My letter bears the above date because on our passage from Leeds to Farmington the snow accumulated on the track & finally about 7 1/2 P.M. the engine gave out & I found a place of entertainment for Ella & myself at a Mr. Loojoo's. (he keeps the P.O. & knew you as a Schoolmaster) We have comfortable quarters & must stay till the state of the R.R. allows us to go on & I have nothing to do better than to write letters. This family are Universalists & say nothing about prayer & Grace before meat. Ella is pretty well & pretty patient. Yesterday was very stormy but father was certain that we should get through. We left Mother very well, with a good girl. We attended Uncle Stillman's funeral on Tuesday. I rode over to the house with Oscar. Aunt Lydia is deeply afflicted - She feels alone. Uncle S. appeared willing to die & a "hope" - but gave no definite evidence of love & trust. (I protest against this remark) The funeral was at the M.H. & called out a large congregation & a large number of relatives. I saw Aunt Lucretia & Amelia & Uncle Frank. Uncle Emory & Laura



rode home with us. They have been on  
a visit to Montville of three weeks. In  
the evening, the Chapin's wife came down  
& we had a very solemn prayer meet-  
ing at Capt. Lums's. A great deal of  
interest was manifested. L. & Mrs. present  
& Mrs. Nath. Coffin requested prayers & seemed  
deeply affected. Betty Butler who is quite  
sick at home and manifests an excellent  
spirit. Such as gave me reason to hope  
that she is a Christian. She expressed her-  
self very much gratified at Eliza's visit.

While I was praying with her her mother  
except into the room & near me and  
seemed very attentive. I can't help thinking  
that there is a good spirit at work in  
our neighborhood. Mother is more than usually  
engaged. I read your last letter home  
& am glad to hear of the work at the  
Halls. I do wish that the human instrumen-  
talities may be humble, cautious, discreet  
& prayerful. The Methodists are very apt  
to begin to shut before the victory is won  
that I always distrust the thoroughness  
& vitality of those Revivals in which they  
are engaged. Ella & I are quite well  
now & send our love to you, Fizzie  
Mrs. Wing & all the children.

Portland



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Saint Louis Arsenal:

July. 23 1861.

My Dear Howard:

Amidst the  
the great excitement caused by  
the unfortunate state of our  
political affairs & the many  
perplexities of life at best, your  
kind communication, recd. a  
few days since, was a most  
welcome visitor - & had been  
look'd for, a long time -

With the gratification  
of learning that you were all  
well, that of knowing that  
you had been again blessed  
by an Indulgent & Gracious  
God, gave additional pleasure.

Truly are we all blind,  
& oh that we could be more  
grateful to Our Father in Heaven.

Oh That our Eyes may be turned  
away from beholding Vanity: & that  
we may be quickened in His way.

I am happy to hear of  
the prosperity of the Cause of  
Christ in your Vicinity - & pray  
that the fruit of your Labors  
may be made manifest to all -  
that others may take courage  
to fight in the same Good Cause,  
& not grow weary - I trust  
that Prayer meeting may become  
a permanent & fixed institution in  
the Corps - never to be forgotten nor  
neglected -

As regards the Action of  
my State, I can but feel proud  
of the good Sons of Tennessee, who  
have so nobly stood beside the  
Stars & Stripes - Not forgetting  
the purity of the cause for which  
our Fathers battled, ~~and~~ their wounds



& Bloodshed of war & The overshadowing Providence of Heaven through so many long years - Oh that the hearts of men may be brought to a sense of the debt of gratitude they owe to God - & learn that the ways of God are full of mystery, & thus be brought to rely solely upon Him for all aid -

The action of the Seceding States I consider unjustifiable, and <sup>any</sup> pretence - Selfish and ungenerous - They treated, some of them, the Border Slave states unkindly, refusing to take or ask council with them - Although I believe heartily, that the Abolitionists North are much to blame, that they have desired to wrong the South, I cannot justify the course that the Cotton States have adopted - I go on the principle that we



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The Southern People, have equal  
rights with the North, in the Union  
& that it will never do to throw  
away those rights in order to  
secure them — The blessings  
the Union are not to be com-  
pared to the sufferings (pains)  
of which we hear so much —

I say if the North persist in  
infringing upon our rights, take  
the Constitutional means of reme-  
dying the Evil — & if any go,  
we are right in adhering to the  
Constitution, force the Ultras out

It would be good if Massachusetts  
& South Carolina could be tied  
together for a while — Then they  
would find out more about  
each other, & no doubt, be surprised to learn  
that one was no worse than the  
other — But I must not dis-  
cuss politics any further —



We have now quite a Garrison  
at the Arsenal - All told, we  
number about 488 - Rankfile  
& Capt. Totten brings 83 to ~~days~~  
making a total then of 571 -

Maj. Hagner is in Command,  
Major Bell having been removed,  
without any cause having been  
assigned for it - he is still here -

Capt. Lyon, 2<sup>d</sup> Inf., Capt. Tracy 10<sup>th</sup> Inf.  
Lieut. Saxton 4<sup>th</sup> Art., Lieut. Lee 2<sup>d</sup> Inf.  
Lieut. Avery 2<sup>d</sup> Inf. Lieut. Thompson  
of Cavalry, Dr. Bower, (Surgeon,) Todd  
& myself of the Ordnance, are here -

All mess with me, & stop in  
my quarters - Gen Scott, I presume  
this at the bottom of it all - We  
don't know how long things will  
remain as they now are -

Capt. Totten was down last evening -  
Quite a military looking place -



No danger of an attack now  
apprehended. Though there can  
be no doubt <sup>th</sup> an attack having  
been contemplated -

You may easily imagine  
how busy I am when I tell you  
that I am Quartermaster, A.A.C.S.,  
& Post Adjutant - under the  
new state of affairs - So many  
new arrangements, Quarters,  
Clothing, eating &c -

The Arsenal is in as good  
a state of order as it can  
be put - Guns mounted & placed in  
position &c -

The Paymaster relieved us  
a little to-day by paying us one  
month's pay - as I've had none  
since November, it came very  
opportune -

I have my Brother here  
with me - reading Medicine -



He is a most excellent Boy & great  
Company for me - when we  
are in ordinary circumstances; now  
there is Company "in abundance"

As regards the Question you  
asked of me, in your letter - I feel  
deeply grateful for the kindness mani-  
fested towards me, in the expression  
of confidence you would deem  
to place in me - but feel conscious  
of my unworthiness of any such regard.

I really would feel most deplor-  
ably incapacitated to undertake to  
carry on the good work you have  
begun & so satisfactorily carried on  
at the Point - It would do my  
heart good even to aid in the Cause  
of our Heavenly Master - but there  
is a sphere & situation for which each  
one is suited - & in no other can  
he do much good - I fear must,  
that I am not the man for the



place you would seem to wish to have  
me occupy - And right here, my pride  
rebels, & warns me of my unworthiness for  
the religious duties that would devolve  
upon me there - it soop, I can not  
solicit such a place - I could  
never get my consent to ask of Prof.  
Church the situation, for I should de-  
like so much to be refused - & I  
could never be happy in a place  
when I thought I was not worthy.

As for my being able to do the duties  
of instructor, I have always thought  
it a bad plan for young officers  
to go back to West Point - Though  
I might possibly have but little to  
do with any of men with whom I'm  
acquainted -

I look upon the position as one  
that would be highly creditable to me,  
if I were selected by the Professor -  
but to get there as some do, I would not



The position is a very responsible one - I am young - would be thrown with none of learning & ability, the advantages as that soon to me, would be great - But am I or would I be suitable for the place?

You can understand my feelings, & know how I write to you - I am desirous of doing what I feel to be my duty - in every sense - but I wish to be prepared for it & suited to it - I can look to & depend upon you for advice - But I wish <sup>you</sup> to understand distinctly, that I would not under any conditions go unless Prof. Church prefers & desires it.

I would prefer to hear from you again - I really fear that I am not a suitable one for <sup>an</sup> instructor -

All this I write in confidence to you -

I heartily sympathize with



Miss Annie & her family. Re-  
member me kindly to her -

Send to me to my friends -  
Jane all has not written for  
a long time -

As I am off by train  
this about 4 & 5 A.M. -

Give my love to Mrs. A.  
& Guy Gracey -

May the Lord bless  
you all -

Yr. Aff. friend

M. A. H. H. H.

To

St. O. O. Howard,

W. Farmy -



Washington, D.C.  
23<sup>d</sup> Feb. 1861.

Dear Sir:

It has occurred to me that in consequence of the disturbed condition of the country, and the threatening aspect of the future, you like many other army officers, may be reconsidering your notions of resigning; and if this should be so, I desire to call your attention again to that North Carolina Professorship of which we have heretofore spoken. I have just received a letter from the President of the College asking me to recommend a suitable person for the Chair of Natural Philosophy, which was vacated



a few months since, and there  
is no one among my acquaintances  
whom I could so heartily com-  
mend as yourself. The salary  
I believe is \$1500 - per year with  
a house. The neighborhood is  
a pleasant one, and the pres-  
ent President, recently elected -  
a most estimable and accomplished  
Christian gentleman. I believe  
that I mentioned to you, that  
the Professor must be a mem-  
ber of the Presbyterian Church,  
which I understand was not in-  
consistent with your ecclesi-  
astical preferences. As an officer  
of the Army, I presume of course  
that you entertain no views on  
the "peculiar institution"  
which would be objectionable  
to a Southern community.

Please let me hear from

you at your earliest convenience,  
and believe me

Truly your friend,  
C. P. Winsbury.

Lieut. F. D. Howard  
West Point  
N.Y.



Washington, D.C. 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1851.

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 26<sup>th</sup>, I have this moment received. I have not a word to say - except by way of encouragement - in relation to your purpose to devote yourself to the ministry of Christ. I pray that you may prove, and by His blessing you will prove, a workman worthy of the Master. But I write merely to suggest that at Davidson College you would enjoy excellent facilities for theological studies, and that I do not believe the Philosophic course would interfere with a successful prosecution of them. That you may be guided in this and in all other things by that wisdom which cometh from above, and at last receive the crown of life, is the prayer of your sincere friend,  
C. P. Vinton.



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Washington, D.C. 20540

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. in relation to the proposed purchase of the book "The History of the United States" by John P. Kennedy, Esq. The book is now in the hands of the printer and will be ready for delivery in about ten days. I have no objection to your purchasing it at the price of \$1.00 per copy. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
 Yours,  
 J. P. Kennedy



I shall not have to be to the expense of  
buying tools, & therefore am in hope  
that I can have money left to pay  
out & over when I take an other job.  
Those men that I worked for, are Messrs  
Wm. Merrill, David Wyman, & Smith  
Barber, all Master Ship builders, & good  
men, & what is more, I gave them perfect  
satisfaction, & they told me if they ever  
built any more vessels, they should  
give me the first call surely.  
Now what I thought was this, if I  
could hire the money of you (\$100.)  
untill I can pay you, at six percent  
interest annually. I should like to do so.  
If you will let me <sup>have</sup> the <sup>money</sup> please drop a line  
first, & I will send you a note.

Respectfully Yours &c.

Chas. E. Waite

Dovermore Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 1861

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My friend Otice Dear Sir, it is  
my humble prayer that you, & yours,  
are all well, & long may continue  
so. The last that we have heard from  
you was when you left us, at our place,  
then you was not well, & how long  
you continue in well we never  
have heard, but have hoped all the  
time that it was not long. You may  
think with propriety, perhaps, that if we  
had felt very anxious for you we should  
that we might have written to you before,  
but that is not the reason by any means  
not at all, no Sir, but shall I say what it is,  
you will say perhaps, that it is a very poor  
excuse, well I admit it is, but it is this,  
I have thought, & think so now, that my  
scribbling, in my poor unlearned,  
& broken manner, would not be at  
all interesting to you, & that has kept  
me from writing to you before this.



But now I have begun I might as well tell  
the whole cause that stimulated me to  
write at this time; how we are, & how  
the people are generally, as far as I know.  
We are all well at our place. You probably  
have heard before this, of Emily's Children's  
deaths (Elixa, & Emma) in the fall, while  
I was at Portland at work. They died with  
what some call the putrid Sore throat.  
ten days before their death, I am told.

That disorder has prevailed to a great ex-  
tent this way round in different parts  
of the country, & continues to, & seems  
considerably yet. Some families  
it has taken <sup>away</sup> all its members. We have  
escaped yet, & I feel thankful for it, & I hope  
we shall not be afflicted with it at all.

We have a high school here this spring,  
it commenced yesterday. But to the other  
part of the stimulus. I want to hire  
some money. Now I will tell you  
why, & all about it. You know without  
my telling you perhaps, & if you don't know,

others do, that it has been rather dull times  
for the last 3 or 4 years, & there has not been  
much doing at my trade, calking,  
& consequently I have not earned much,  
that is, I have not had a chance to get  
much money any more than get a  
living, & I built a stable, & had to get  
in debt some by the means of it, that is,  
I got some lumber & some other things  
of Mr. Nathaniel Perley which amount  
to about 100, <sup>not quite</sup> dol. in all & it ought to be paid.  
I felt in hopes that I was going to get some  
money this last fall on a job of calking  
that I did at Portland, but it cost me  
so much to get my tools made & filed  
up to commence a new again, (I had  
been out of the business so long, & I had  
to do the work so cheap in order to get  
started again) that I did not have but  
a very little left out of all the expenses  
which I had to be to. Now I have got my tools  
in good shape again, so that when there  
is any calking to be done, I am ready,