[Dec, 1861]

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Willards hotel
Washington D.C.

Dearest,

You will probably have seen our arrival in the city noticed in the papers before the receipt of this letter but lest it should not be published I wish to tell you that fact. Crowds met us & swarm within in thro. Baltimore but the people seemed very cheerful & kindly disposed. Though I saw no U.S. flag or any other public bunting. It did rain after all - but My tent was so well enough to allow me to walk so far. I made a short speech & nobody fired a gun. I count keep awake. Love to Guy & Grace & Jamie. I am too sleepy. Remember me to the people at Longmeadow. Off Otis

[December, 1861]

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My dear Mrs Howard -

I am going to New York in the morning, and have nothing to wear but a flannel ~~[illegible]~~ & it is too nice & too long, and my nameless dressmaker is so scarce, if you have & see fit to lend that you dont mind be wanted & can lend me for the occasion, you will greatly oblige

Yrs very truly
M. R. Howard

P.S.
Dont think me impertinent

Eckermann, 1841.1
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Friday Morning - Have not heard so much from College - Don't know what to make of it - Please direct your next letter ~~for~~ here -

I notice by yesterday's ~~Bost~~ Advertiser and also by the Boston Journal that you are to have the Colonelcy of the 3d, (Kimball) Regiment -

If you could let me know when you pass here I should like to see you - Write soon

R. H. G.

[c.a. December, 1861]

Mr O. Henderson

Dear Sir.

Have pity upon me, for I am in love! Spare my blushes & call not upon me to reveal with whom - suffice it to say that the usual self-depreciation & modesty of your sex will instantly suggest to you the object of my adoration -
Elf like locks & Gorgon eyes have always, to me, a charm but in you are superadded, those, which, in writ, are spoken of "Those lily lips,
That cherry nose,
Those yellow cowslip cheeks" of the irresistibility of which even you cannot doubt -
In myself I have none of these attractions, being an every day sort of a clod of humanity; but is not the appreciation of yourself some evidence to you that I have a divine spark within me? but ah, me! this, I feel will ~~injure~~ ruin my cause, let me redeem it by saying, that I can do all things for which woman was made, I can, like Mrs Quickly, "wash, wring, brew, bake, scour, dress meat & drink, make the beds, & do all myself" & my higher instinct will even at times soar so that I can read the Almanac turn not away at such an evidence of aspiring beyond my sphere, t would be only when you

willed it, that this higher casket could be

opened - If you accept my humble offer I have but one provision to make - keep not, I beg of you the casket forever locked, but let it be opened as often as a good country dame would don her wedding gown annually -

Yrs Mopsibah -

vite - put my boxes - everything is very cosy & comfortable however it snows a little - I am glad exactly get Charlie again & on our old ground - I am more than grateful to you darling for your thoughtfulness for me - for the cloak the shirts, the pants. the mittens & the letter in the pocket of the pants. If you had it let the sent out - I should not have wanted for the note - Charlie suggested it was there. I was over at the 8th Maine yesterday - about 15 minutes ride - Mrs Sampson said she had had a note from you - very much - Col Bartlett had his wife & baby in camp - the one christened "Charles Howard". a nice fat boy - as much as I would love to see you I could not consent to bring life for you & the children, unless driven to that sad necessity - men can

I enclose you Grobb's picture I can assure that the poor boy is no more - it belongs to Charlie - & he wants you to keep it for him

Head Qr. Camp 454
"California" Dec. 2nd 1861
(4 miles out of Alexandria Va.)

My dearest Sizzie.

Charlie has just returned & brought us the last news from you. After I wrote you, the next day I started for Springfield station as ordered - reached there with two regiments. & was waiting for the other two & for the trains of baggage, when an aide came up & said Genl Sumner had ~~late~~ made a mistake & ordered me back. Empty cars were there to take us to Alexandria. Genl Sumner, had halted my "wagon train" & scattered it around - sent off the two regts. on the Lusbing turnpike - I put the rest of the men into the sheds & engine houses at the depot

Yet along with it is a sad place for collision - much love to Mattie & father & many kisses to my darlings & affectionately yr husband Chas

and found my way to the Old City Hotel. After tea that night with one of my colonels, I made back to find Genl Sumner. Dark rainy night. We hired a wagon or rather "covered buggy" - the horse so poor that he could scarcely crawl - ran into a post, broke the harness - afterwards we rolled over carriage & all into the mud. After visiting some five or six houses & not being able to find Genl Sumner we returned to the City. I had a good sleep till daylight & then tried it over again on "Charlie" & succeeded better. This was my first meeting with Genl Sumner. I breakfasted with him. He is a fine looking man. healthy, hardy, & robust. He has been in service since 1819. I like him very much. I think he is a strict disciplinarian & a vigilant General. We rode out together Friday to select a proper position to locate his division. My Brigade being the 1st has the right. I am now in sight of our old ground at Bull Run a little to the N. East. Charlie being tired has gone to bed. He says you look a little pale. Thinks Grace does, but thinks Gay & Annie are quite recovered. Mrs Genl Jameson came to see us today with Capt J. S. Smith (my former commissary) She is a beautiful lady. She stayed & dined. I am almost afraid to tell you this for fear you will say I might go to. She enquired with much interest for you & said I must tell you that. Her youngest was three years old. I should like to give you a description of my tent but my

Leeds. Dec. 6. 1861.

Dearest.

I have not written you for some time. I ought not to neglect you, but I generally write in the evening, and of late I have been making sacks for Jamie for he has out grown nearly every thing. I dont have much leisure during the day. We are all quite well now. Cynthia and Johnie are sick with scarlet fever. Mother is down there now. so I am left alone with the children as Isabella has gone home to attend school. They could not have taken it from us for it has been too long. but they spent Thanksgiving day here and might have taken the disease in the house. I have now cleansed everything as

thoroughly as after you have the "malle foy" with chloride of lime. There are other cases in town with which we have how no connection. Jamie dont seem to think there is need of my writing so I wont be able to write much. I am also writing a note to Ella. You are coming home when you go into Winter quarters. I have never heard of Winter quarters before and I fear you wont see any. Please dont think of taking me by surprise. I could not have you. Col. Gilmore has come for the letters.

Your own Lizzie

I have been to Bowdoin College once & seen Billie Howell since I have been here. He was the same old Hipence. The last I heard of Moody he was studying medicine - I don't know where Libby is - I saw by the papers to day that Henry T. Hutchins of '59 had been admitted to the bar in Freeburg Maine - I like to take my Album and look at the faces of the boys occasionally and I should be glad to hear from some of them once in a while. The last letter I had from any of them was from Moody ever & that was much before you I expect you would be surprised to see Johnny Stanton here in the Senate & to see what a change he has experienced since he left Bolle - He is in our class and we Bowdoin men hang together well - It is funny that we should all be U.S. I suppose you know that Joe. Bowman is dead and that he died a Christian -

How do you like your present duties? Do you find any opportunities to do good? I think every Christian man ought to be bold for Christ in these times and exert a decided influence for him - I have no doubt that you do this. There is one thing you would be glad to hear, as perhaps you see the effects of the cruelty that is the general purpose that is in front every class at Brunswick. I think it will help on our men. Our Lord will give courage to make it as rude as possible, perhaps too, by the time the Rebels of the Army of the Potomac shall meet that [illegible] I saw in the Boston Journal this morning an account of the staff of General Howard's brigade and seeing your name reported as Aide de Camp I took it to refer to the identical Charles Henry Howard of Class of '59. Albert and I have often wondered where you were and I have suspected that you were in some way connected with the Army -

Perhaps you did not know that we were at Andover - We have been here most a year and a half - are now in the Senior Class and are enjoying ourselves well -

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We have two other Bowdoin men Stanton and Currier. And Tuesday Darling of '57 made his appearance intending stop as a resident a few weeks - Andover is one of the pleasantest places in the world as you know - It is a great place here for study and we have an excellent faculty as a whole - These were times however are distracting to one thoughts at least they are to mine so much so that I am having serious thoughts of trying for a position as chaplain. I am not at all reconciled to the idea of having no part in the affair. Do you think I could secure position where I could exert an influence for good over our men either in a Hospital Station or in Camp? I suppose in large many regiments a Chaplain has but little power shown him by the officers of the Regt. They hold rather and have him round - but our men need to be looked after watched over and prayed with and it is a serious question in my mind whether I am fit for this service and ought to seek a place to work + If you have time I wish you would give what you know of a chaplains life -

Albert has been at home this week - There is a Maine Regt. The 12th C.V. Shelley then (at Lowell) and one Com pany was from Orono which has quite a no. of his old scholars in it - Farrington of Colby '60 is Capt. of it - A bro. Webster is Lieut. in a Boston Company. I suppose our Webster +

The Miss Cushman you used with Albert at Commencement is married - to an old man - a doctor - a widower. rich &c -

Cumberland Dec. 7. 1861

My dear Brother:

I have been waiting for a letter this some time but should have written you before had I been able to get the time. I have written this evening a letter to Otis and one to Mother ~~to-night~~ – I am some tired but will try and finish this – I have a pretty good school of about sixty scholars of all ages which the law allows – The school is not so large or so "advanced" as I had been led to suppose before I came here – The boys are sometimes disposed to be unruly and roguish but I have had no serious trouble and do not anticipate any-

We have established a prayer meeting which is quite well attended and the time is pretty well occupied. Some of the "Adventists" like to harp on their peculiar theological views which very much annoys Capt. Poland who hates to hear anything but what is accepted by every body in such a meeting – I never express my opinion on such matters either in or out of the meeting –

Pray for me and my charge – Write to Cumberland. Give my love to Ella and Willie –

Yours &c.
R. H. Gleason

My classes are very numerous and I was unable to reduce them any more than I have. I hear daily 32 recitations and I have just gone under the charge of my older school-ars who are very willing to help me in such a way. The little ones, which comprise the great majority of the school are restless and much inclined to whisper. They take to whispering much as a hungry dog takes to eating. They are disposed to go into it heart and soul. Many of them are good scholars, but some are the dullest blockheads I ever had the misfortune to fall in with. I have a most excellent board-ing place. My landlady is Capt. Poland. He keeps a store across the road and within 20 rods of the G. T. R. R. depot. The school house is up the hill about 40 rods perhaps. The neighborhood is quite a pleasant one, though much divided among themselves. The religious persuasion of most of the people who have any religion is 2nd Adventism, though there are Congregationalists & Methodists. Capt. Poland and his family are Methodists. He is a fine man and a man who has seen much of the world having been a sea Captain in his younger days.

Filed
Answered

month to church every sabbath to hear Mr. Putnam a classmate of Rowland's at the Seminary. He is a fine preacher and an earnest Christian. We have heard much about your going into Gen. Sumner's Division below Alexandria, but mother wrote me that you were still at Bladensburg. Has Charles got a Commission yet? Please write me about yourself and how you are situated and anything else will be of interest. I do not now take a daily paper but am going to take the Daily Journal next week. Give my love to Charles. Tell him to write me soon at Cumberland. Pray for me and my charge. Your very aff. bro.

R. H. Gilmore

Brig. Gen. O. O. Howard

Cumberland Dec. 7. 1861

My dear Brother:

Your kind letter reached me the first of this week having call at Brunswick and Leeds on the way and having experienced the delays attending such a course. I was very glad to get it and I hasten to answer it on this the first occasion.

I suppose Charles is with you now and has given you all the information I know about home and his affairs.

I am pleasantly situated here in a good neighborhood about two miles from Yarmouth village. My boarding house is in sight of the Cumberland depot which is only 20 rods distant and the school house is about 40 rods back of this

house. The school numbers about 60 scholars of all ages and grades. Some of them are very noisy and mischievous and show unmistakable signs of having had a rather poor training up. Many are very uncultivated, but still I have some ladies and gentlemen in the school who are a great assistance to me in many things. Some of them even hear classes for me which is a great help. I hear 32 recitations every day besides what I let out! I came near having some difficulty with my large boys during the first day or two but every thing goes along pleasantly and quietly now. I have succeeded in starting a "Union Prayer Meeting" in my school house which is quite well attended by all denominations.

The majority of the people are disciples of Miller or "Adventists" as they style themselves. But there are Baptists, Methodists and Congregationalists in the district, all of which attend the prayer meeting. Many of the people are earnest Christians but some or perhaps the majority of those who profess christianity are very luke warm and at most are but a negative value in the cause of religion.

I have made a number of calls on the parents of my scholars and they seem to be very warm cordial people and press me to come again. The children are taking hold of the learning business pretty well and seem to have quite an interest in getting an education. I go to Gar-

into someone's heart to lend me the money I am sure he would bless them!

The young man's name is Arnold Stevens, a most influential family & just returned from Washington where he was visiting the elite there – You would find him really lovely I think. How is our dear friend Charles Howard? Did he ever get my letter? And where is he? Much love to him. When is Capt Lee? Have you not written a letter this time? Let your merciful heart plead my excuse & dictate an early answer

Believe me we can never cease to pray for your life & health & prosperity! Mama's most affectionate remembrances –

Very gratefully

Lizzie Guy

334 Mill St Poughkeepsie
9th Dec 1861

My friend Cal Howard

I come to you with another sacrifice for the holy altar of our country – A very lovely young friend begs of me to solicit from you an appointment, any position, from a Brevet second to a Captain. He is a young man of high moral character, such an one as you would approve, independently rich, but wild to serve his country. He has been drilled for eight or nine months under Sergeant Smith of N. Y. Sappers Corps, who served in Mexico. His friends have consented, but feel very anxious to have him under some one they can feel assured is entirely with religious principles, I thought of you, and I knew you would do what you could as you always have for me – Oh! how I wish I were pleading for myself! If I could go how quickly I would fly! This life of inaction

When I need to do so much, almost drives me wild. I have invested a small sum in a building lot, south of the Episcopal parsonage & am now making every effort to get a home put up on it this winter, so that I can rent it next Summer, to pay the money back, that I borrow to put it up. Mr Vaux the architect has given me a lovely little plan, and Mr Smith a carpenter in the Falls has agreed to build it for $1000 by next March if I can only get the money. I grow faint at the possibility of not succeeding! O! if I were only a man! But a woman, I can do nothing. I have made many efforts, but hitherto, all of them have failed. I have completed a romance of three hundred pages, it is now in Boston awaiting the decision of the publishers. I. T. Headley read it and approved of it, said if I could get it out it would be a success! Then I could pay any one who was kind enough to lend me the money with interest. I never knew how dear a home was till now that I am in another's, dependent, I am trying to make some return, by teaching my uncle's little children. Is it not worth a little while to make an effort for a home?

You have seen me through all my sad struggles, & this last has been almost too much for my unnerved system and aching heart. Forgive me for telling you all my troubles but you know that is an old trick of mine! Now I have none to advise me. I often wish for your helpful face to seek advice & approval. I wrote to uncle Bebe but he does not know the value of a house in that vicinity & discouraged me. He speaks of you in the most enthusiastic manner, his son has just gone a Lieutenant under Col Hayes, 41st Ohio — to Kentucky. I thought it rather hard that he discourage me, but hope to be more successful in other quarters, if naturally, assisted by hands held up. If my book sells, I can pay all immediately, if not the Summons rent — the house furnished, you know will pay all. Kind Mr Coggins has been very good, like a good angel, he sold me 30 by 100 feet for very little, and I have the deed all safe. Our furniture is stored in Mr Begilow's until Spring & if I do not get the house I shall have to sacrifice every article of it. If God will only put it

Head Qrs 1st Brigade
Dec. 9 1861

My dearest wife.

I feel badly all the time to think I write you so little. I purposed to write you yesterday & did not & again this morning before breakfast & did not. Now you shall have a few lines. Rev Mr Whittsey has stopped with us for a few days and added immensely to our comforts. He has mended the camp stools rebuilt our chimney so that the stove will not smoke & by cheerfulness & good companionship made everything pleasant. Yesterday I went with him & Edwards to the Encampment of the 3d Maine. Where he preached a most earnest & truthful sermon

I called on Mrs Beaumont. She is a Christian young woman boards in a house near by the 3d Maine. You should see what a warm welcome I get with my old regiment. Officers & men all seem to love me. The poorest of the officers are sure to come for a recommendation. The Regiment is externally in excellent condition, scarcely any sick - beautiful grounds neat streets property, fences, turnips &c. untouched. My health is good & so is that of Charlie. One of my Regiments is on picket duty at Edsall's Hill not far from Springfield.

I will not try darling to write more for I cannot write more than three words without apostrophizing interruption.

Give many kisses to my little Guy & Grace & Jennie & to Father & my dear Mother. I will try to get a little leisure for a decent letter.

Affectionately
Your obdt Servt
O. O. Howard
Brig Genl
Cavalry.

he has taken what money he had in Norwell Bank. I paid all of Rachel's wages $1.25 per week. I get along without her about as well as I did with her, only Jamie left with her, but she was great help to Mother. I am satisfied. I have given my time as much to the Children since I have been here that I am quite behind in their Winter clothes as well as my own. Jamie is lame now he walks on I am trying to accomplish some thing each day. Grace and Guy went out to play yesterday. They did down the little hill before you get to the road, or rather before the house and road, they went out open two beams. Had not been out so long before. "Bunnie" went out with them Jamie wants to go "bye" (with a bow) every time he sees a hat or bonnet. The warm weather and slight rains wont leave us the snow much longer. It was not one foot deep at first. All have retired but myself. I have come into my room to finish. Children sleeping very quietly. and are well. I have many things to be thankful for. Marie Bates has been sewing here today. She is a real good, honest Christian if that will express it. I think a great deal of her. Eunice Jenni is very sick. John Leonard is crazy. I cannot write more to-night. Much love to Charlie. He has come back to us, and I love him a great deal more. I pray God in mercy will take care of you and bring you back to you our Lizzie

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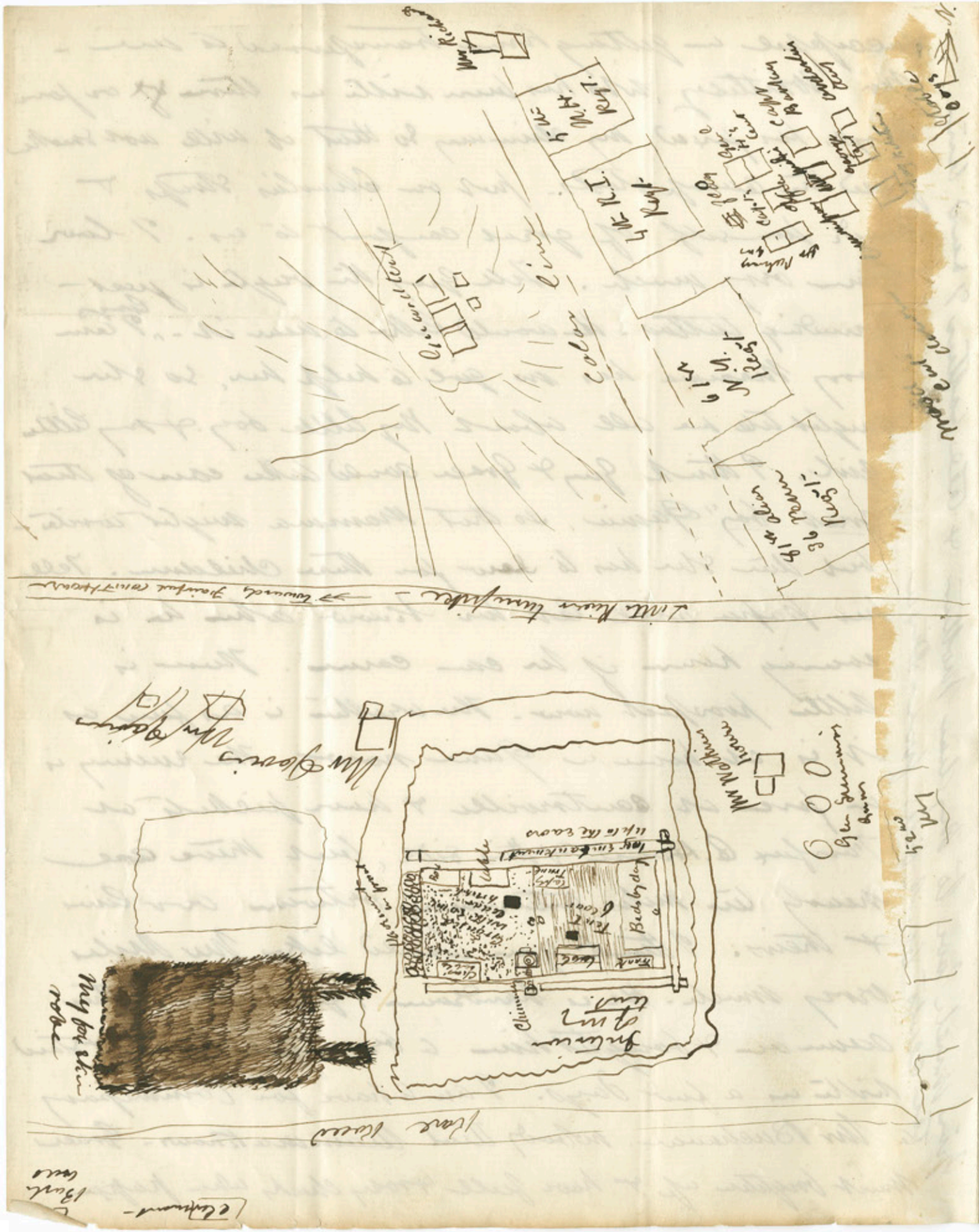
Leeds. Dec. 10. 1861.

My dearest Otis

I finished my last letter in such haste yesterday afternoon that I neglected to put in this, that I will now enclose. I hear that Mr Nelly Foss said if we "Leeds Centre" could not worship God with him he would not go with us in anything. Uncle Erastus and Laura came down here last evening. They came in just before tea and before the Children were abed. I put them to bed soon after tea and then had a very pleasant evening with them. Jamie did not wake from the time he went to sleep till just before they went home - past nine o'clock. Louisa. Laura's cousin from Philia is spending the winter with her. I do not like her as well as I did Bell. Warren Lothrop is in town, arrived at

Auburn, where his Mother and Mary Jane live. Some time last week. I should think he would call here. I sent your letter, in which you gave me a description of your expedition into Lower Maryland, to Uncle Edward. he seemed very much pleased that I did so. I borrowed twenty dollars of him and I want you to send me little more than that so I can pay him. We received Charlie's welcome letter last Friday. Mother was very glad he wrote so soon that she could know how you both were. I shall mail this in the morning and also one to Aunt Sarah, asking if I have more letters at Auburn. I keep thinking about your coming home all the time and about Winter Quarters. How is your cold? I dont like to hear you have one. I do hope you are not sick. A letter from Rowland to-day informs us that he received from you Miss Sallie Carroll's wedding cards. I suppose they were married to-day. May be you are there at the house now. (Tuesday evening little past nine o'clock.) Were those cards for Rowland or were they your own? Have you seen Anson yet. Guy wrote to him two weeks since I directed it to West Point. I wrote to Miss Jackson, do you know if she received it? I fear I wont hear from her again I neglected her so long. it was not intentional neglect. It does seem as if I had more to think about, more to do, and less time to my self, since I left West Point, than ever before. My time is so broken up I have nothing in place, and have no settled feeling. I hadnt wanted to stay here so long and dont feel right about it. If you were home, you might take me where you pleased, but while you are away I should feel better with my relatives. While I am not keeping house. I think Col Gilmore is quite pushed to get along for



Head Quarters 1st Brigade
Sumners Div. Dec 10th 1861

My dearest Wife

I have just received your letter written the 6th & mailed the 7th. I am glad to hear you say we are all well & sorry that Cynthia & her children are so afflicted. You must have your hands full if Jamie is as big as Charlie says he is. Does he creep through chairs now or trot his flesh off? I have given you a little sketch of our Encampment & the place of our Head Quarters. The ground is very uneven but pretty good soil for our purposes i.e. gravelly. I send out a regiment at a time for Picket duty. Col Cross 5th N.H. brought in his today & was replaced by Col. Miller's 81st Penn. I spent much of the day with the outposts, locating the pickets. Charlie & Rev Mr Whitely of Balt. Md. went to Washington & have returned. Griffin's wedding is tonight. Charlie bought a nice Opera Glass & left it for me at the house with my regrets that I could not be present this evening. I really did not feel like going to a wedding. General Sumner is a real soldier

goes home. Does she continue to be a good little Girl & love Guy & Jamie. I saw Susan's letter from Guy & she says war is for very gay — Susan longs to have a letter from you Lizzie & if you can find time you must give her ~~that~~ that good pleasure — she is not so happy where she is as she was with us & her heart seems filled with the children — particularly Guy. I send you a check for one hundred dollars. Shall I not send you more? God bless you. My

He lives in a Sibley tent without a floor and declares that his Colonels & Lieut Colonels should not live in houses while the men are in tents — Just at daylight every morning I have a bugle sounded in front of my tent. Five minutes after another sounds & in four minutes the whole line is formed on the color line. The Colonels report to me as soon as the rolls are called. The brigade is under arms at this time. I got Charlie an appointment in one of the companies of the 61st N.Y. and then appointed him my Aid de Camp. He has now got some straps on my coat & looks as much like the Guardian Saint of Ordnance as maybe. His mustache & whiskers add no little to the resemblance. You will perhaps be glad to know that I have gotten two large fox skin robes — They are very handsome & very warm. With the embankment & the stove my tent is as comfortable as a house. Almost every night I have company; we put our mattresses down so as to cover up the floor. Spread on the blankets & fox skin robes & then go to bed one at a time beginning with Captain Sewall. John occupies the front tent — runs of errands during the night build the fire & makes himself very useful. I am glad I was successful in getting him transferred to me — Mr Whitney, who has been with us three or four days, has fixed my chimney so that it will not smoke fixed the camp stools — put on Charlie's straps & made himself of great comfort to us. I love him very much. Tell Guy the bugle is great sounding tattoo — he would like to hear it — I am sorry Mamma has no girl to help her, so she might tell me all about my little boy & my little girl. I think Guy & Grace could take care of that "great boy" Jessie, so that Mamma might write — but then she has to sew for these children. Tell her Papa will let her know when he is coming home if he can come. There is little prospect now. The weather is as fine as it is at home in June now. The enemy is in force at Centreville & have pickets at Fairfax C. House & this side, but there are nearly ten miles intervening between our lines & theirs. I think you would like Mr Miles very much. He is handsome & good. His father came on & bought him a beautiful horse & staid with us a few days. I am to have for Commissary Mr Buchanan, nobody that Mamma knows — Grace must brighten up & have fresh & rosy cheeks when papa

give much love to my dear Mother & the girls & tell them I am & always shall be their affectionate & devoted brother

Kallorel Decr. 11th
1861

Brig. Gen. O. O. Howard,

My Dear Friend;

I have been yearning over our men who have volunteered now since they have been in the field - both the soul & the body. I cd not, however quite make up my mind to leave my far off field at the East until recently some personal considerations have made it a duty - among others my health. My present purpose in writing you is to ask if

The Lord bless you in your health & your responsible duties, as in yr soul, & send His Holy Spirit to convince & convert among our soldiers.

Yours with a warm sympathy in the love of Chst

H. V. Emmons.

It occurs to me tho. it wd be better to request you to send any letter to, Pembroke Me. as I leave here next wk.

answer.)

you consistently with your leisure to what you know of me & can interest yourself as to any vacancy among the chaplaincies in x army th. may come within the scope of your influence. I wd like to enter the work as a matter of Chn duty. My soul wd be in it.

I suppose these matters are being removed from the charge of the States to the control of the U.S. government & th. influence in the army or at Washington wd be of more avail than here.

I have applied as yet to no one but Gen. Blaine of Augusta who is now in Washington. If it sh be a plain easy matter to you & you sh think my appointment any service to the army I will feel obliged to you for any information or any word in my favor in yr present surroundings. I shall return East in a few days - but any letter may be addressed here.

Leeds. Dec 12, 1861

My Dearest Otis

It is now nine o'clock Thursday evening. Col. Gilmore is reading the paper. Mother is writing to Della. He reads a paragraph aloud now and then. Was your Brigade sent on towards Fairfax Court House with others a few days since. You wrote to me last Monday and I received the letter to-night. I do not always get them in so short a time. I had quite a bunch of letters to-night from home and Mother one from Portland enclosing Charlie's last to him. It was full of interest to us. I got Miss Carrolls cards remailed from Auburn as it is too late to write a note of acknowledgement to Mrs C. so you must thank her for remembering me

Dear Charlie. Your own darling Mr Trinkle has written a few lines on page 3 which he has kindly offered to send for me. Mr Trinkle is a Canadian by birth but has been for years a resident of Lewiston. I wished to send a few words with yours and he offered to do it for me. Mr Trinkle is a good fellow and I like him very much. Good bye my own darling. Your own Lizzie

thought came into my mind, (and I presume was suggested by the circumstances). What would be my feeling to know I was shot out from the presence of my saviour, and that led to other reflections which I trust was for my own spiritual good. I talked with Mr Shaw a little afterward. He has two brothers, or she I forget which, in the army. He has one in Henry that he can have nothing from. I read the papers till I am tired, and then I know no more than I did before I began. I will finish the letter commenced last evening. I am writing in my own room. Jamie not yet awake from having his nap. My boy taking off your boots off a stick Thomas brought him when he came to dinner. Jamie rocking in my big chair chewing some gum which is something new to him and I have to answer a great many questions about it. Jamie waked and an hour later I resume my writing. Much love to Charlie. I am very glad you and he are together. I feel that I know you all, Dr Palmer - Capt. Stowell and all. I wish you would write more about yourself - what you do &c, tell me who you see that I know. I dont expect a letter to-night but I wish I might get one. You will think I wrote a little sad in my last letter. I fear. But it must not trouble you. I generally write about as I feel. I hope you are well! It is really too bad that when I write I have to do it in

among so many. and best wishes
for her daughters future happiness.
You know Capt. Griffin is a friend
of mine without his knowledge or consent.
Were you there at the time of writing the
cards to send out? You need not fear
to tell me about having so many
ladies in Camp. I have no idea
of wanting to live with you there
I dont think I could be induced to
take the children into Camp. or
rather into a tent. I wouldnt object
to going to see you but I dont think
I would want to stay. Mrs Sewall
is home is she not? She and Mrs H.
are going to be sensible. There must
be quite a number in the 3d Me. I cant
blame anyone without children for going for
they can make themselves useful. What would
the 3d have done without Mrs Sampson. I read
the resignation of Capt. J. J. Sampson 3d name the
papers how it. and I almost trembled before
I could convince myself it was not our

Capt. Sampson who is now I see Major.
I heard not till to-night of the mistake
at the Christening of Col Burt's baby. rather
a joke. My desire is wholly to get news
and I therefore suppose you desire to hear
all about us. I am very thankful that
we are all so well. Cynthia and Johnie
are getting quite well. Guy and Grace made
them a visit to-day. and I went to see
Mrs Berry. How I did miss Mrs Turner.
Capt. Turner looked so lonely. I know he feels
his loss deeply very much. I wrote you
Emma Travis was sick. she died this morning.
We had a good prayer meeting here this
evening. Mr Chapin made some remarks
on Seek first the kingdom of Heaven —
very appropriate. Everyone left just as we
began to write. I did not get the children
in bed in time to come out before the
first singing and Dea Pettengill sat in the
door so I had to remain in Mothers bed
room. but I think I enjoyed it all the better
for it. as I was there alone in the dark. the

How is our little Gracie? Do you suppose she will know me if I stay away much longer. I hope & pray that Genl Sumner may get well right away. He is a real soldier. Steam very courteous. with an iron will & a very good head. He seems to take a fancy to me. I am not "afraid of my pains" & I think he likes promptness.

I hope this will reach you safely. Kiss Jennie & Gracie for Gracie. Papa can't tell how much he loves them. I have not spoken of Mother Foss. I hope he has not worried you any. I should like to see the piece. You forgot to enclose it. Much love to Mother. She must have letters too; now Charlie is here to help her she shall. Off. Yr. husband Otis

Hd Qrs 1st Brigade
Sumner's Div.n 14th Dec.
[1861]

My darling Wife

I will write you a few lines to send with Charlie's letter. I left Genl Sumner a letter a while ago, suffering considerably from the fall of his horse. He is in some pain. I hope he may be better tomorrow. I do not wish to command the Division even for a day. I do not feel prejudiced to do so. I feel badly about not having sent you money sooner. I fear I have not kept you well supplied. I did not know you were so short of money. I enclose you a draft in my last letter. I have purchased a saddle for Charlie, one for John & a

me a few nothing Glass, also two
new horse blankets & two
pair of skin robes - John has begged
him saddle of me. He says he
will pay me as soon as he
gets his pay - I will send you
forty dollars with this letter
for fear you will not have
enough. I shall then have
$25 left for contingencies - I
asked Charles if father is pressed
for money. He says he thinks not
for he has little call for
money - All we all about home
I don't want to neglect my
father & mother nor you, nor
the little ones - God give me
strength & wisdom to discharge
all my duties & bless you &
all - I am glad you have been so
careful to keep Guy in the house, till
the scarlet fever & all its traces are
gone for it is a treacherous
disease - Let him be dressed
thoroughly warm when he goes
out this winter - His cheeks will
soon grow red. Give him
much of papa's love. I long to
see you all - I can't tell at
all when I may see you. The
Lord removes Genl Sumner from
active duty - He will chastise us
still more - for we have not yet
learned to love him & keep his
commandments. Whiskey & profanity
still prevail to a great extent -
When will we look to the
arm of the Lord, our God for
succor.
Mr Whitney is still with us -
He is a delightful companion
& excellent Christian - He
says he will go up to see
you when he gets home.

& I must bid you good nig
May God bless you = Give Christia
love to ~~Capt.~~ Ulmer

Your aff. Bro.
Rowland

Did I mention that Ella & I had
been down to Milton & taken Tea with
Warren wife & hope soon to see her
here — She seems to be a very lovable
person = Mr Caswell & Capt. Pillsbury (
the Home Guard — (Who will know him —)
leave here for Washington Tomorrow = The
Letter ~~has~~ says he will go out to your
Head Quarters = I bespeak a kind recep-
tion for him = He is an Editor =

Farmington Dec. 14. 1861

Dear Bro: Otis

Ella & baby are just
getting quiet in bed, and as I
can never sleep very well after the
nervous excitement of the Sabbath I will
write you a little just to steady my
nerves = I have read twight the letter
wh. you wrote us from Tampa giving
us some acct. of your mental feelings
of the time of your Conversion = I would like
much to go over it with you & compare
its statements with our matured feelings
& views = I value that letter very highly!
It is & always will be a very vivid
portraiture from the fact that it is a
transcript made at nearly the moment
of the exercises depicted = Our Zion seems
desolate as yet = How long dear Saviour
O how long! is our cry = I do hope you
will get your anticipated furlough = Ella
& I are anticipating great pleasure in
seeing you as well as your own wife
& Children = With whom would you leave
your Brigade, if you came?

I have prayer meetings now Tues. & Wednes.
Evenings & a Lecture on Thursdays = I

am taxing my physical strength pretty severely but am still well & hopeful = Our Sum has been dispatched by a no. of warm days & our roads are not good for either sleigh or waggon = Helen Otis made us a little visit last week - I conversed with her about her soul somewhat = She seems not to have been fairly free from conviction since John was converted = She is very sensitive to the subject & confesses that she takes every method to drive it out of her mind = O that she should thus abuse her best friend! John seems to enjoy his place here very well - but is not constant at meeting = Do you believe in immediate retribution for sin? = My reason is rather against it - but I have a feeling that we are frequently punished - I never could get rid of the feeling that my fall in Va. from my horse was because we were riding for pleasure on the Holy Sabbath = I preached this A.M. on "My Grace is sufficient for thee" & this P.M. = on "He that believeth on the Son hath life" &c = Our meeting this Evening was dull the brethren being backward = I have

heard from Seelys since I wrote Chas. = We expect to see Father Tuesday at the R.R. meeting = They are going to try to change the name of the Corporation & to consolidate the bonds into one issue which shall include the "Extension" = I hear good news from the Revivals in Portland & Patten = It seems sometimes that I must be in those places - but O if I could only see a work of Grace here! I enclose Sellers last letter to me = How the wind howls around our house = Charles will tell you how it is situated = There was a Baptist Quarterly meeting here last week - One Bro. mentioned what you said in N.Y., as to the principles on which you were to fight, with much approbation & prayer for you & Charles = Some of the Brethren had seen him on his recruiting journeys = Tell Charles I feel anxious for Henry Johnson - that I hope he will not forget him - but will give him my love when he sees him = Mr Fiske has had a "feast" in hopes to revive the Church in Bath = He has been laboring in Portland = But it is bed-time

Camp California
Dec. 14, 1861

My dear Lizzie

When Otis came over tonight after he happen to Gen. Lyman's H'd Q's to attend to the matter of the division he asked me to write you & gave me $14 to send to you. Gen Lyman felt hurt by being thrown from his command this afternoon. Now Genl Howard being the ranking officer is in command of the Division – Capt. Taylor Asst. Adj. Genl to Gen. Lyman was in the Academy at the same time with Otis. Gen. Lyman was very serious by inquired – We fear for his

We had not slept more than half an hour when Lyman appeared with the other 2 Regts – I should have said before that we marched out without finding any sign of the enemy & I may add here that we came back ditto.

Good for us that we were disturbed so much that we had no chance to get very cold & come out of our night march & bivouac in a good state of health & spirits – Next night made up all lost sleep – A letter from Rockland – the 1st time I omitted your as great pleasure tonight. Much love to the little ones

Very affectionately
C. H. Howard

P.S. Spirits and matters & things in general are better

recovery. One of his arms is quite bad he is absent today. The Genl will not allow his folks at Washington to be telegraphed to.

He seems to have great confidence in Genl Howard.

— Have you heard about the Marriage of Capt Sheffin & Miss Sallie Carrol.

I went over to Washington that day — (last Wed.) & got a Field Glass for $27. but Otis & my name into the box & sent it to Miss Sallie & excuse the Genl & myself from attending the wedding.

That night after a pleasant moonlight ride from Washington with Prof. Whittlesey of Bowdoin College who has been with us for more than a week just as I was removing my outer garments for the night the order came to march to the outposts with our Regt to support a Regt which we had out there — I put on my clothes as rapidly as possible & with Mr. Miles & the Genl was soon riding down the hill upon the summit of which is our tent & within 15 minutes we were riding at the head of the Column with no noise but the tread of marching men.

(not receiving my cousin yet but expect it in the
61st N. Y.
Promotion published in orders
Capt. Aide de Camp.
Col. Mulligan visited
6th day or two ago
near our Brigade
Judge Palmer from
Hardin brother
Dr. is here.
If we longest called
to the use this P.M.
Cant get rid of
Capt. Parker officer
Lt. Miles is young
but efficient
Lewill in his duties
Brunch forthwith - we
are not having
from Sam & Charlie
before since Decem
We had a town meeting
today say letters of rec.
So, nice book letters
Bonds of the Officers
Lt's are blessing beautifully
Soldiers times as it is lettin
Oughts.
We have had surgeons
Capt. L. is very truthful accurate - Mit great love - Northern charles

good old fashioned Bran-
meeting – Otis had had
a large log house built
for Commissary stores the
past week but not yet
had in use – Tonight he
proposed to have a meeting
~~the Otis~~ sent a circular to
the different Cos. of the
61st Regt saying they could
use it for that purpose.
We put a stove in it &
some blankets up at the
door – Put some "Flies" (Canvass)
upon the ground floor –
Cosmos in ~~bed-sacks~~ Cot-bedsteads for kits
& a table –
The bugle was sounded at
7 o'clock but before that

time was quite a gathering then. It was cold, as there were wide cracks between the logs. Most of the men sat right down upon the Canvass floor ~~that~~ covered flooring. Mr. Whittlesey & Otis sat behind the table & Otis conducted the meeting. We have a beautiful little soldier's, hymn & tune book given us this past week by Mr. Alvord of the Post Society.

The meeting was a beautiful prompt & spiritual one. No intervals. The men were ready with hymns & sound in prayer. At the close, the

4 then I asked for an exhortation
from them who worked by
Jesus Christ & nearly every
hand went up. One fellow
was there - Matron of the
61st N.Y. has sent a soldier
with her - Three officers
were present - We all were
greatly refreshed by the meeting
Col. Staples was one of
P.M. as also Joe Smith &
Capt Sawyer. The first
thing was the Col. He
says my promises to the
have been fulfilled -
been over several times lately
found some discouragement
they could not go into
Co they enlisted for - Now
is right - Tell Mrs. Torbert
the Ky Cavalry is removed
up the lines so I cannot see
them & I am thus compelled

and be letter to his
son Frank Davis —
fear You will see about
the accidental
injury — It is doubtful
as to his immediate
recovery & this is in
the hands of the Division.
Gen. Rosecrans 12 or Cavalry
& batteries Artillery &
3 Brigades besides —
Gen. French 3d Brigade
is an old Army Officer
& lately returned from
Santa Rosa.
Did you see my letter
in Boston Journal signed
"Eir" — Please send me
a copy if you have it.
Write to the

6 Remember J. & letter
about her summer
the most hot. Therefore
about sending it - If
it will not prove
interesting.

The men from there
is in the Co. he des
to enter in 3d Reg.
got only one -

There are numbers
here on room to occup
Leesburg. I guess we
would not have mu
bright to do in or
for them. Glad you
about Ella's health &
letter from Willie & Mary
was a great treat. Ex
scribbled hurriedly tonight
Otis has gone on to Dir
He left since the meeting -
Howard's Brigade Alex Va.

Ella
will
me
he
if
The
they
wa

P.S.

Ella says ask Lizzie if she will be so kind as to send her a pattern of Jennie wrapper she uses for her neat mornings.

If she can spare it as a newspaper then the Mail, if no matter

Very better

R. B. H.

mais set but stopped it in the

J. H. Tallman
answered

Head Qrs 3rd Maine Vols
Camp Howard Va. Dec 16/61

468

Dear General,

Vice Prest Hamlin has assured me of his hearty support and cheerful cooperation with the Maine Delegation in endeavoring to procure for me the appointment of A. Q. M. If you will be kind enough to furnish me with a letter of recommendation you will confer a favor on

Yr friend

Jas. H. Tallman.

Genl O. O. Howard.

Genls Sedgwick & Jameson will confer a similar favor.

J. H. Tallman

Leeds Dec 18. 1861

My dearest Otis

I received your letter enclosing the check for one hundred dollars, and to night I got yours and Charlie's letter and the $40 or dollars. I will send you what New Jersey money I have left, and I shall return some of this when I get to Auburn. I was going to write more this evening but Jennie seems to come in for some extra attentions when I really wish he wouldn't, he has another trott almost thought and I presume it troubles him. I am going to Auburn day after to-morrow (Friday) if possible. I shall be governed by the weather. Don't forget to direct there. Guy commenced a letter to you to-day, did not finish

it because he went to see Johnie this afternoon. They both enjoy being out with their sleds, or rather Guy uses Thomas's hand-sled, and Grace has Johnies now he is not able to go out. They are getting very well at Roland's. I was very glad you got Charlie to write. He always writes just the things I would like to hear about yourself as well as the other things of interest. I regret to hear of Gen Sumner's accident. I know you regret to command the Div. May God be with you at all times. I should like to see Mr Whittlesy but he mustn't take the trouble to come to me. I may meet him in Brunswick some time this Winter. I should take the liberty to let him know I was there if I did go there for a day or so. I don't need all the money you sent me. I have bought nearly everything we shall want for Winter. What do you get a month? (Yankee) Guy and Grace are well clothed all but an overcoat for Guy. Jamie and I are not all ready for cold weather yet. Our sleighing is all gone. I will have to go to the Depot in a wagon I fear it will be cold. I have written to Uncle Edward this evening to send the money I borrowed. Little later than half past ten and I must not write more.

Lovingly your Lizzie.

Farmington Dec. 20/1861

Dear Mother

I enclose a letter rec'd from Charles last night. I did not see his letter in the Boston Journal & I presume it was not published: I read one in the Bath Times with the same signature & sent the paper to him: I hope that Father will send the Lewiston Falls Journal every week to Charles as soon as you have read it: It contains now more local news than any other Maine paper - if I could be sure that you would send the weekly, I would never send the daily in which I often see items

for the year: they are so few as to humble me & yet so many as should give cause for gratitude - 19 will have joined the church: 4 by prof. & the rest by letter - 4 have died & one has been dismissed: there seems to be complete unanimity of feeling & an increasing affection for their Pastor among the people -

Tell Lizzie if it is at all consistant, nothing would please me so much as to have Guy at the Christmas tree - but it may not be - Jimmy has a bad cold: Sarah & the rest of the children are well: She took tea here Wednesday night -

Your aff. Son

Rowland

of interest to Chas & Olin.
We had a very pleasant
visit from Father & hope
it will be so that you can
come before long. I read
Lizzies note. have not had
time yet to get Mrs Smiths
things out. Heard I knew
where they were I might
have sent them long ago.
There is not much prospect
of Ellen going to Leeds very
soon. Her health is more
miserable than since we
were married, tho' she seemed
better last night & today. Her
Mother will come up and
spend about the Christmas
fee. Monday. the fee is
Tuesday night. Abby will
go away in about a
fortnight & then Aunt
Jane will probably come.
I have partially engaged
a girl by the name of Jones
when Abby goes away. She
is very highly recommended.
I rode out & gave a lecture
at Allen's Mills, Industry, 6
miles last evening. We had
a good, full meeting. Go
on Tues. Eve. at Fairbanks
Mills & Wednesday Eve at our
Conference room. I read
in the latter meeting part
of a letter that Olin wrote
us at the time of his
conversion. I was deeply
interesting & I hope always
to preserve it. Frank G.
writes us that the religious
interest in Portland seems
to be increasing. I am
now looking over results

Hd. Qrs. 1st Brigade
Sumner's Division.
Decr. 20th 1861

My dearest Lizzie,

I have now so much to do that I hardly have time to write. I am on a Board of Examination for disposing of immoral & deficient officers. This with two Brigade drills & other duties keeps me scrapping. Genl Sumner has applied for Genl Sedgwick to take the temporary command of this division till he can get better from his fall. He assures me it is not from want of confidence in me for it is not. I have demanded that he make that statement to stand

Headquarters and his Adjutant Genl
appears now it should be
done. His reason for calling
in Genl Sedgwick is that
Genl French the senior officer
of the 2d Brigade is an old
army officer & feels aggrieved.
My greatest crime has been
all along my youth.
I do not wish to command the
Division nor will not if I can
help it: but I do not wish
to be dishonored: and for
this reason I asked that the
reasons be stated to Genl
McClellan why another
man is sent here for
the temporary command.
My health is good. Tell warm
Charles & Capt Sewell both lion
with me in the same tent.
I got a good letter from you

day before yesterday. The one
before that made me wonder
what I could do. I want you
to keep a girl if possible.
You know best. Give much
love to Mother. How does she
seem to be; cheerful & happy
or not? Much love & many kisses
to Guy, Grace & Fanny.
Remember me very kindly to
Father. All nice some of
Pa in Law's sentiments are
mine. Chas is well
sends love to you & all.
Capt Sewell thinks you
are a very sensible woman
& sends his regards —
I sent you a check of $100 —
afterwards $40 in Government
bill — Please acknowledge
May God bless you
Affectionately
Yours

Dear Mary I got your letter
and each yesterday.
I took the boots
shells and all our
the river this morning
when I went for the
boys. Ma was when Grace
came up to help
prepare breakfast
for St. I waited
for Guy coming down
the hill, and he just
was my coldest when
I reached the store
they was so cold
the can should "
I walked a change
for a little girl.
did not be nice
for Guy. But it
I think he is better a little.

I get Guy and Grace
here yesterday
morning of the children looks cold
although it was the coldest morn-
ing we have had. I shall be
very comfortable here and it will
give Aunt great pleasure to have
us with her. I went to church today
Mr Adams, a faithful sermon to
his people and to me also. Guy went
with me and as soon as the morning
service was finished I came home
put little Jane to sleep, and then 15
minutes past twelve, took both Guy
and Grace to Sabbath School. One of the
assistants opened the door as I reached
St. I told him I had brought the
children to join the School, and I would
take a class, or join the school and said
I could be useful

does not seem to me as and happiness I think he is better

"Mrs Howard" to him. There is a
Bible class or rather two, he said.
I will introduce you to Mr Dingley
and then put the children into class.
I followed him and afterwards was
tendered and took my seat among
the scholars. Mr D. is the Superintendent
Judge Morrell has the other Bible class and
this Mr Dingley is the very identical man
Editor who puts everything into the paper
he can learn. My name would not have
been given to the public if it had not been
for him. I think I will have to make
up a face to him next Sunday. I received
this evening a letter written by Mr L. Chaffee
of the 3d inst. dated Dec. 5. and after he
had visited you at your new quarters.
He described "the dress parade and daily
religious service of Gen. Howard's Brigade".
I saw another in which he spoke of the pleasure
to them in having you near the Regt. I wish
you could, and may be you do, see the first. It
is too lengthy to copy. I have had many

Dear Father the 3d has children for others
I am very tired to-night, have walked too much
today. I have run in the house to tell you
good night. Good night my dear

blessings this day and I have time
to enjoy them. The children wanted
to know if they could go to S.S. again
I was spoken to by Judge Morrill as
I came out, he enquired after you.
I went with Cousin Fannie today, but
shall take a seat, i.e. hire seats which
seems very odd to do, that I may have a
home while here. Uncle Alden and Aunt
Betsey came in to see Fannie just after
tea. I know he is a blessed boy,
(dont know what Charlie may think.)
he was very much delighted to see Papa
picture came out of the trunk tonight
It is now Wednesday Eve when I resume
my writing. I did not wish Christmas
to pass without doing something for the
children. We all, after the children
went to bed, were fixing the tree and
room. Guy has told you about the presents
they were very happy as you can
suppose, when they came out this morning
they remembered all about last year

I hear Charlie's letter in the Boston Journal last week. I
walk see this all while he

at this time. I remember that the
with pleasure. I have green ba
over the windows a star over the cook
mantle piece, a ring and cross vice versa
On the opposite side of the room are
all very pretty. Minnie is a very thrifty an
sweet and good girl for Guy and Grace not two
to be with. She sings very well. where
Eva is a beautiful girl. I dont me sting in
in books. Aunt is believed in the ch e now
Jamie feels quite at home here. w n. Th
not at all afraid from the first.
I dont have much care of him. o and
Mrs Adams, and sister Min Adams hum
called to see me to-day. the late from
Green Rowland at Bangor. We have arrive
fine sleighing now. I shall take the Depo
children out to ride the first fleasies, as
day. I thought Guy was perfectly well, but the girl
he is not. his food does not digest, and "can
his bowels are all out of order. I fear he
has canker. I am going to have Dr Oakes at Ma
him. Grace seems well. She has a "cum rella does
on her finger and ~~with~~ is losing her nail ake. I
Jamie is as well as need be. I sent a bled
Frankie and one to Timothy to-day. Sarah ake

Our cousin Rowland Howard is in active
service in Kentucky. his mother visited
one day since I came. Mr Francis
Thorp and Wife called one evening
last two weeks since. I have been
where since I arrived here. (I mean
visiting in town). The "order of the evening"
here now is "cutting apples and husking
corn". Thomas, Isabella, Abby, and all the
boys and girls in the family assist but
our humble correspondent. I got a
letter from Rowland last Friday saying
he had arrived in safety. He met him at
the Depot. When they are at home Rowland
writes, as he is left alone for Ella took
a girl with her, and Guy tells him that
he "can work as well as a woman.
but Mama cant work a thing."
Ella does not intend to return till next
week. I wish to spend one day with
her soon, and also to make ar-

rangements for a boarding place.
I think I will board this Winter with
Mrs Norton. May not though.
I am writing in the "North room" I
dont see but it looks about the same
as it always has. there is a little
stove and not the open fire, not so
pleasant, but more convenient and warmer
with less building fires. I got Guy's good
long letter from you last evening with
paper and pictures. I presume he will be
able to read a great deal of it.
I think you ought to write to Mother.
Grace went to Church with them to-day
and to sunday school. she was very happy
when she got back said she saw her
cousins and another little girl she didn't
know (mind you she never saw her cousins before)
and that they had a concert up high, she
meant the choir. she is very happy "down to
Maine" Jamie went to sleep first last eve-
ning, so I took her up to talk with a
while. she told me many things to tell

papa when I wrote but I do not remember all. but I was to tell that we had a great many nice thing - then naming them - pumpkin-pie, apples &c.

Morning. I am going to Lewiston because my tooth troubles me again. I shall have it out. I got morphene in my tooth last night, and I feel strangely stupid this morning, better now than when I got up. All send love to you.

From your loving

Lizzie.

Genl French, an old army officer of the artillery has the 3d Brigade of this Division - Capt Clark also an old army officer & an instructor in Chemistry when I first went to West Point, is Chief of Artillery in this Div^n - It is a bitter pill for me to command them - but all is done in the Providence of God. May God keep you all in his care

Affectionately Otis

P.S. Love to Aunt Sarah & the children -
I got the N.Y. & N.J. papers

Head Qrs 1st Brigade
Sumner's Div^n Decr 22. 1861

My dearest wife.

I have risen this morning & found it raining the first time since we have been here - The above three lines I wrote yesterday - It is again morning the 23d - last night I was thinking how comfortable we were in our tent & wishing that the soldiers were all as well off or something like it when all at once a blaze of light appeared - I was just the reading aloud about Napoleon's moving with the rapidity of lightning - Capt Sewell sprang through the tent front - without regard to strings & the rest followed

our board Chimney was on fire. The wind blowing furiously. It came down so fast & was thrown out of the way so quick that the tent was saved. But we have a practical prejudice against any more wooden Chimneys. Oh, how the wind blew. Many, many tents blew down & the flies flapped so that some could hardly sleep. It is now cold & windy. I hope you are all well & comfortable. I shall direct to Aunt Sarah's. You need not send any money back. I felt ashamed that I let you get so nearly out of money. I am now in command of the Division I would not mind candy. The division if I had my own staff but Genl Sumner's staff suits him far better than they do me. They like things I don't like. Taylor the Asst. Adjt. Genl was at West Point with me. Give many kisses to the little ones. Mother says Jamie is a beautiful boy. I almost wish he could remain a baby so that I might see my little boy again. Give Guy much love. Pappa expects a good deal of Guy. And Grace can't help being a good girl can she?

Farmington Dec 23rd 1861

Dear Lizzie

I received your kind note today, and am very much obliged to you for your kind offer to get the shoes, and shall be very happy to avail myself of the opportunity of getting them cheap, if it will not give you too much trouble. Perry sent me some money, ($5.00) to buy some Christmas presents for the Children, and I have already spent $2.00 of it in getting things to hang on the Christmas tree for them, in his name, and as they charge $3.00 here for a good sled, I thought I would get one; but Mr Goff says he thinks I can get two for that price, and if I can, they would be much happier to each have one of his own, but I should like them strong, so that they may last them

a long time, and prettily painted.
Frankie was very much pleased with your discription of "Guy's set of tools", and has been teasing me for one ever since, so you think you could find anything like it in Lewiston? I think he might like it even better than a sled but as I think it could not probably be found there, it might be as well to get them sleds and Mr Goff has very kindly offered to bring them up to me, if you can have them sent to his care. If you cannot get the two sleds for $3.00, it will not be best to get but one, at this time, as I do not feel like going to the extra expense just now. I intended to have got them for a Christmas present, but as it is too late for that, it will just as acceptable on New Years.
Not knowing your address, I do not like to risk the money in this letter, as it may never reach you will you please to let me know what it is, and I will forward the money by the first opportunity.
I saw Howland's Ella today, she is not well, is troubled very much with dispepsia, I am afraid she will have to wean the baby, he's very well now.

and grows finely.
I was glad to hear from Perry, that Ella and Charles were well. I trust they will continue to enjoy the blessings of Life & health for many long years. give much love to them when you write. — My Children are suffering from severe colds, this cold weather seems too much for them; it has been so mild, that they have not minded it till now. I am dreading the next two months for them. They are very anxious for the time to come, for you to come here, when, Frankie says, he shall have some little Cousins to play with, as he had in Nassau. We shall all be glad to have you here. With much love to yourself, and little lines, from you

Cousin Sarah E. Sargent.

Dec. 25 1861

Dear Guy

The above is the front of General Howard's Tent. Mr Whittlesey made him a board door and a chimney of brick, some of the soldier's helping. You see a stone pavement in front of the tent; Uncle Chartie helped do that. The logs. Lieut McNeshe o 81st Pennsylvania Regt. put up. Papa had a wooden chimney & it burned up. He wishes mamma and all the children a very merry Christmas: But is too late papa will wish you all a happy new year. How is Aunt Sarah? How is cousin Eva? How little Minnie? and Orestes! Did Grandpa and Grandma cry when you left them? Papa Gave this Christmas day to the troops. He did not make them drill. This morning, the New Hampshire men had a foot race: thus

This afternoon they caught a greased pig:


C
Reveille
Bugle
Brig. Gen.
Vols.
Guy's
Cap coat
and
Belt
Jamie's
coat
and
Hat
Gracie's
Winter
Cloak
Who is
this?

Head Quarters 1st Brigade
December 26th 1861

Dearest Lizzie. I have written a letter to Guy & will accompany it by a sort of introductory note. I suppose you are at Aunt Sarah's. Last night I saw Mr Caswell from Farmington Me. I told him I would take Mr Haswell's house. You must try to make yourself as happy as you can there till I join you. Perhaps Aunt Sarah would like to go with you? as you think best. Sarah & Ella are near, and the Abbots are pleasant, the schools good. I do not like Lewiston or Auburn as a place to live in. I will write next time just what time we can have that house. I have no belief in a love with

England. I have no doubt the English Government would like to have a war so as to break up our blockade &, if pos, earn our whole Government. But I dont think our sorry governors will suffer such a thing to be brought upon us just now. Maine will soon become the theatre of operations if we should have trouble with England. I should soon be on my way to Canada. Our present officers do not suit me in rapidity of movements. I dont want to move blindly but I want to see more activity. We may have it all too soon, however. God rules & he will direct. I wish I could now for one moment forget that.

Mr Pillsbury from Farmington accompanied Mr Cascoell. They went to the Fourth Maine to stay last night; this morning they proposed to go to Mount Vernon & in the afternoon be present at my drill & parade and stay all night. Mr P says the people of Farmington (Rowland in particular) are very much interested in our movements. I long to see you & the children but I see no "Winter quarters" & no prospect of leaving just at present. Poor Mother must be very lonely now that you & the children are gone.

Much love &
Prayers

Affectionately
John

Auburn, Dec. 27, 1861.

Mother remailed a letter to me from Leeds, and I got your first one directed here to-day. I fear you have too many trials lately. You are still in command of the Div. I have written three short business like letters this evening, one to Rockland. Mr Fessenden asked if I would engage the house. I wrote him yes. Said you did not get into Washington often now. Glad your tent did not burn up with the wooden chimney. I should think you would have great practical prejudice against another of that kind. If you want me to return any of this money so I will not now. I have $107.00 now.

We are pleased to have you stay the winter with us. I thought I was going to live very quiet here but I find already that many are interested in Mrs Gen. Howard and will try to make my stay here very pleasant. I hope she will be no discredit to the Gen. but between you and I, I don't like to have anyone even think Mrs Gen. Howard when I am out. I Mrs Stinson is her boarding st. is a sister to Mrs Blaine. Mr S. as you may know is Dr Master of Col Dow's regiment. He is a member of the class. I have the ink and a bad pen and it is for that reason hard work to write. Much love to Charlie. Kindest regards to Dr Palmer and Capt Sewall. I saw Harris Mother come into Chapel today. and Mary Jane. I want to know Dea Harris's family probably shall. I hope Charlie will write to me some times. I see the Boston Journal while here, and the evening edition of the Lewiston Falls Daily Journal, and others I shall see

Mr Fessenden is very pleasant. If you can, you be very pleasant to Mr Fessenden in all your business, and in this you will gain your point.

Yours &c
Lucy

What could I have written that put you to thinking what you could do for me. I dont remember that I made any complaint did'nt meant to, I have very little care of Jamie here. I love to peep in at the door when he is with Aunt, and see him play and try to talk to her, when he dont know I see him. It made me right sad to have you visit he could remember little so you might see him as he was, again. If I was President, I dont know as I would have any "fighting men about". If I was King of France I know I wouldn't. Are you still on the Board of Examination? You will work yourself half to death, then come home a sick old man. No more Youth to complain of then. I wrote the above evening before last. It is now Sunday Evening. I engaged a few last evening, took Guy to church with me this morning, when the morning service was ended I went into the S School room and Guy came for Grace they both came in very soon. I told them I this evening I should have to write you about it and tell you what were our lessons.

Guy's Loving Jesus, gentle Lamb
In thy gracious hands I am.
Make me learn what thou art,
Love thyself within my heart.

Grace's I love the Lord, who died for me,
I love his little Lamb to be.
I love the Bible where I find
How good my Saviour was, and kind.

Minnie, Guy, Grace and I went this afternoon. Our lesson was the 40th Chapter of Genesis. Cousin Fannie joined the class with me to day. Mr Adams came down while I was standing in the Hall waiting for Guy and Grace, which I did but not till they came. he. Went to Fannie and she introduced me. he remarks that

so fast since I was to you old,
as I am now. He too lost
in good health. I visited the
hospitals yesterday, were very
a good deal of sickness -
measles, mumps, & some
fevers - Dr Palmer's boy Frank
has got the measles - I saw
him yesterday at Cincinnati. I
tried yesterday to speak of the
Saviour at the hospitals. I
believe I shall love my Blessed
Master & I hope & pray that
it may not be necessary for
me to take away any of my
precious little household - How
is Aunt Sarah? confidently
reposing her trust in God & hope.
Keep up a good heart my love.
"I shall see" I believe - Grace
Guy - Sister Good bless you
Your loving Father & Husband
Guy's letter is a little late
because I think he

Much love to Mother
if you see her & Father
Remember me to Uncle Nicholas 1st Bg Dr.
to all my friends
at Auburn - Summer Dr. Dec 30th/61

Darling,

This is probably the last
letter I shall write you this year.
I mean of course in 1861. I rec'd
your good letter from the Auburn
Office. I am sorry, sorry to hear
you speak as you do of little Guy.
You must get him a good many
apples & have them roasted & if
he likes other fruit let him eat
it regularly. I'll take a good
while for Guy to get entirely over
the effects of the scarlet fever. I have
been almost homesick tonight. I wish
I was not quite so much pinned -
Perhaps towards a desirable policy
may soon work us out of our
present position & I may go
home. I would risk a good

deal for a short book in reply
you. I almost got over my
prejudice against Auburn as a
place to live in, when you wrote
me about the Church & the S. School
Aunt Sarah & the Children, Ella
& Minnie, but my dislike for
the place revives when you speak
of Guy's inclination to quarrel
& indulgation - I almost regretted
at first having said anything
about Mr Farwell's house, only
a more think, if it be God's will
you had better go there in March
& tell Mr Channell I would take
Mr Farwell's house & asked him
to lay in 15 cords of wood that
it might be dry & good for summer.
Everybody there longs for you
to come & I feel that you
& your darling children will
find good & kind friends &

Aunt Sarah can go with
you - She loves to be benevolent
& count nothing the trouble - Eva
& Minnie will be good & useful
companions - Get us a good little
home & I will by the blessing
of our Father go & live with you -
I don't know when - He is able
to direct. Mr George Potter,
Mr Whittlesey's brother-in-law is
with us tonight - He came yesterday
this morning I sat in the Ex-
amination Board. This afternoon
reviewed my Brigade & drilled it
a little while afterwards. This
evening Mr Whittlesey read us
aloud the correspondence with
reference to our present difficulties
with England. Mr Seward's letter
is more than good. England is
fairly whipped without a blow.
Charles says. I never have been