

This afternoon we had a sermon
from the Chaplain.

There we sat as the
sun was setting this fine Autumnal
day while ever and anon came
the dull and heavy booming
of the cannon from our advance.

I am beginning to like
soldiering and if I was paid
off and matters straitened so
I could send you some I think
I should be as happy as ever
I was. Love to the boys. Tell
Herb. I should not have objected
to doing the same thing he did
at school. Remember me to
Aunt Laddie and Hattie.
I stand the march first rate.

Nov 3rd evening have advanced about
miles in the
direction of
Suggers Gap in the
Blue Ridge

Your Affectionate Son
Henry.

Camp in the field.
Sunday Evening

Oct November 2nd 1862

My dear Mother.

Your letter of the
28th was received last evening
containing the gratifying intelligence
of Gen. Howards generous offer.

Gratifying, because I consider
it a high honor from a noble
general. After thinking over the
matter and considering it in its
different bearings I have decided
not to accept the position, even
if it was a sure thing.

You may be surprised that
such should be my decision, but
I have not jumped at this conclusion.
My reason is simply this,
I have not the necessary capital.

If I should accept such a position
I must live as a staff officer.
In the first place I must buy a
horse, and it is doubtful if one
horse would be sufficient.

Government allows forage for one horse
only and if obliged to keep a second
I must buy forage, then I must have
a servant. If my horse is hurt on
the road I must buy another.
They only pay the loss of a horse
when he is killed under fire
and ^{even} then it is a roundabout
process to obtain remuneration.

Besides this it would be more
necessary to dress in good style
which requires funds.

Perhaps I have overestimated
the expense, but were it less I could
not cover it at present, and I do
not know when I shall get any
pay as there is trouble about it

as I was ^{not} assigned to the vacancy
which existed at the time of my
commission. I will not try to explain
the matter to you, indeed it was my
intention not to mention it at all
till rendered necessary. I have
written to Mr. Blaine in regard to
the matter. I hope to get it after
a while.

These are the reasons ^{that} ~~that~~ ^{bring these only}
have brought me to the above decision.
I should have liked the position
very much, for it is truly a splendid
situation. I have not given up
the idea without some regret.

You can see how the matter
stands, and do not feel bad that
I have come to this conclusion.

The chance for promotion
is about as good as here if not
better, but I do not expect any
of that for a long time.

Aunt Lucretia is going
on to stay some time with
her.

It looks like a storm
& has been raining a little
this morning.

You ought to be up here
now if you like your side.

The papers seem to indicate
that a battle is soon to
take place - I cannot
decide whether Sedgwick's
Div. has left Harper's Ferry
or not - Hancock who
has Richardson's Div. is
in the advance & the all
probability the whole force
is together.

Your Affectionate brother
W. H. Howard

P.S. Isabella is almost home sick.
She wants to see Jamie so much.

Leeds Nov. 5th 1862

My dear Lizzie

Your letter
to Isabella came last night
with the money safe although
the letter was not sealed.

We are all well as usual.
Father has gone to a B. K.
meeting at Farmington.

I also rec'd a letter from
you & the accompanying
letters from Dr. J. & Capt.
Whitting for which you bear
my thanks.

I will send those statistics
to the State Asst. General's
Office today I think.

I suppose Otis only wished
me to copy & correct what
he had written & I will do so.

I shall be glad to go to Texas
if Otis should go & want
me - Hope he will go,
if it please God.

I cannot send my Commis-
sion till father gets back
as it is in his safe & then
I don't think we will
get our pay any sooner
for that will not prove that
I have been mustered in.
I have already written that
I was mustered in by Capt.
Whipple & it occurred the
2nd of June 1861 - Since
that date I have never been
out of service - therefore
did not require a renewal.

Dellie began his school
last Monday morning and
boards with Mr. Joe Frost.

I saw Laura yesterday
& that Otis will & Hattie

will Ensign down to the
Co. to go to Farmington.

Father has sold the two
Cattle - cars for \$200.

Mother sends love
to you & the children - She
has this morning bought
4 qts. of Beechnuts which
I spoke for yesterday - and
intends them as a present
to you - says she will
send them down the
first opportunity. They
were picked by Charlie
Houson & brother.

Cousin Aurelia Weston
(Leadbetter) is quite low -
Otis has often said he
would like to call on
her. Did he have time
or did he think of doing
so when he went on.

She seems to have Consumption.

Harper Ferry

Dr Palmer room

Thursday morning

Nov 6 1862

Dear Sir,

I arrived here
with Capt Whittier & John
at 10 P.M. last night - am just
about to start for Quakerkill
Gap about 30 miles distant.
Have a borrowed horse & a two
horse ambulance - I reached
Boston at 2 P.M. Monday, went
to the Parker House, called
on Mr Barker, saw his wife, dined,
went to 67 Rutland St. saw Mr
& Mrs Webb. They gave a pressing
invitation for you to come to
them, Mrs Webb said she would
write ^{you} if she thought you would
not take the invitation. cover
& take the children - Yours go

you, I am wake.

261 app. - hard wood
other

quite well. Capt Whittlesy has
been sick & is not well - I shall
see Thomas Barber tomorrow.
& perhaps Geo. Bates in a day or
two. Col. Sewall is getting better.

We are soon to pass our
old stamping grounds beyond
Manassas. I didn't get your
letter at Augusta I haven't yet.
I hope you will try to gain much
in spirituality - get near the
Lord - Mrs. Leake said much
of you - she & the children were
well. Love to Father, Mother
& children & all - Let us have
letters - Mr. Rowland & Della
think I am well. I now feel
sorry for Mr. Chatham - I fear
we have not a better man -
God bless you Love to all
all

Yours
=

Head Mr. 2nd Divⁿ 2nd Corps
Nov 8 - 1862

7 miles from Warrenton

Dear Brother,

I am here &
at it again. We waited tonight
till 8 for our wagons to come
up. Yesterday we had quite a
snow storm, but the sun
came out today & dissipated
it. Many inquiries for you &
express sorrow that you are
not back, as Gen. Williams,
Gen. Couch, Major Walker,
Capt Gayton & others. I had the
warmest kind of reception from
here Mr. Chatham, Gen. Couch, Gen.
Sumner & all - Gen. Sumner only
feels badly that he loses the
Divⁿ. I have not yet assigned him
to a Brigade as Sully has his - here

Dumas has a Divⁿ in Blue Side's old
barracks. Couch retains this. Sum-
ner has the heavy corps i.e. the
command of two or three.
Gen. McCallum was ordered today
to return to N. Y. We are
frightened. Here we are in the
midst of a rapid march -
the enemy on one side of the
Blue Ridge and we the other,
running for "gaps" & positions.
Blue Side feels dreadfully without a
staff - and without ^{superior} statistical
& topographical knowledge to
be put over our army which he
hardly would dare command under
the best of circumstances, all
this creates uneasiness. I ^{should} feel safer
with McCallum to finish what he
had planned & was executing so
well - Sherman with his corps
commands Harper's Ferry - Capt
Whitney & I stand with Dr

Palmer at Harper's Ferry in our
old house transformed into a
corps hospital - together with
all the neighboring houses -
He had one room his own & we
slept with him. We got an
ambulance of Gen. Sherman &
started Thursday morning - 35
miles first day - 20 the 2nd "
& today 12 - brings us here -
but all commands Dumas -
Dumas dismissed & reinstated
commanded Bureau's Brigade - I
have Harry Stinson appointed
but he has not arrived. Much
love to mother - this my birth-
day 32 - Gen. Banks said to me
in Boston he would be pleased
to have me go with him. I
called on him at Parker house -
Mr. Webb wants you to go w. St.
Stay with him. Mr. Merrick is

to me if he accepts. Give much love to Mary
Anne & Janie - There is no immediate
danger of a battle - probably not at all.

Don't be anxious - God bless & keep
you. Tell them at Mr Dan^l Williams
that Gen Williams inquires for all of you
his little nephew especially. He is
looking in fine health. My kindest
regards to Mrs Clark & Lotie. I could not
pay her son for Carriage horse send
a 90 or half - affectionately your husband
W. Howard

West Masters Howard's Divⁿ
Nov 8 1862 Rector Town, Va.
Demer.

I have got up early on this very
Birth day morning to write you before the
march. I reached Gen McWilliams Head Qu^{rs}.
yesterday about 11 A.M. in a regular
old fashioned Maine snow storm. I went
directly to McWilliams private tent found him
and Gen Williams together in a comfortable
tent. I received a warm welcome. Gen Mc-
said I was the cause to bring such a storm,
and he had half a mind to order me
straight back. He said they were talking of
me and were really glad to see me. I got
the same warm reception from Gen. Couch.
I havⁿt seen Gen. Demmer. He got here
about 15 minutes before me, or rather reported
than when Mr Dr. He commands two
batts. our 5 another 5 batts is Gen Couch.
Now I will go back and begin where I left
off at Harper's Ferry and give you a brief

account of my journey. I told you of my visit
to Mr Webb. He went with me to the W^m St. Car.
& directed me on my way. I saw Mr Irving in the
cars down and inquired for Cousin Susie - she drives
her carriage about Boston frequently. I met Lieut.
Whittier. He is Sullywick's clerk. He showed me
a letter from Ben. S. - he could not be back for
four weeks. I went on to Ft. River Depot and then
found the young lady from Auburn Miss Stevens
who had put herself under my charge, for
conduction to Jersey City. I think she was about 15.
I felt somewhat interested in her because "she had
never been aboard a steamer before". John & I
secured a good State room. After tea I took the young
lady round to look at the Saloon &c. and then
conducted her to the lady's cabin. I had a fine
sleep on the boat. We reached N.Y. about 8 A.M. I
ran up to 501 c found I must go to Brodrip's corner
10th & Broadway - Sub for my ticket - they
took a small one & a large one - I hurried down
to Grand St. took Brodrip's St. Ferry & met
John & baggage at Jersey City via City Ferry.
We went on to Phil^a in 10 A.M. train -
I breakfasted at a Saloon at 2 1/2 P.M. for I
had only eaten two apples. Then went on the Gulf

found all the babies Mrs Sully's little one but she
was gone out. I staid awhile, went out
and got some books & play things for Eddie &
Alma. & returned. Staid till after ten. Mrs
Liddle & the children were glad enough to chat
with me. Little Emma calls me her father -
& so does Edwin. He don't look so happy
as he used to. I found Col Leach who married
William's sister. a glass mate of mine at
Webb's drink - at home temporarily. I went
to Wm Merriam's found him quite well with
a good old-fashioned cold. The next day I
left Phil^a at 11.35. I found Capt W. very
pale & thin. he is now not well. Strongly
full of goodness & self-denial. Mrs W. looked
very full of sorrow. I didn't wonder. We
reached Manser's ferry a little after 10 P.M.
found Dr. Palmer in one old room filling every
room with sick. he had reserved one
little room. We slept there on the floor & were
thankful. The next day we rode 35 miles over
an unpaved route but without accident.
Yesterday 20 more miles - now on Manassas
road R.R. - On today - Mary Stevens has
been appointed A.D.C. & ordered to report

To get on my staff I hope you are
well & your cold & hoarseness. You
have a good deal to be concerned about.
I wish I could help you. How is
my friend Mr. Selby still? If you have
such cold weather as we do
your ducks let them play out of
doors much. Does my still want
paper to resign? How is Maria this
morning? and little Jamie - Give
very much love & many kisses to them
all. I have written to Charles but have not
heard from him. I never gave you my
the letter that came to him at
Augusta. Please send it and I surely
find the letter of Mr. Sedgwick
about Col. Owen & Monroeville.
Col. Smith has not yet come back.
We are expecting him daily. Col. Jones
is here now & well. Col. Chamberlain came
to see me. I hear that Capt. Greenman
of Waldborn is Capt. of Co. in the 2nd.
Write soon & God bless you
Aff - Oth

New Am. Qu^{ry} Divⁿ near
Wilmington Nov. 9. 1862
Dear Sir,

Yesterday we made a march of 8 miles and are now located on the Gainsville road within a mile of Warrenton Ia. We got into camp quite early last evening. The wind was blowing hard and I placed H. M. in a ravine. This morning we turned out our troops and drew them up along the road to give a parting salute to Gen^l. W. L. Blair. He rode along and the tattooed colors were lowered the drums beat and the men cheered him. Gen. Burnside rode by his side. I called on W^l Blair yesterday. He appeared well; said: "Burnside is a fine man & a man of integrity of purpose & such a man cannot go far wrong" - He also said in the course of our conversation

"I have been long enough in command of a large army to learn the utter insignificance of any man unless he depend on a power above". It is not possible to be associated with Genl. McCallan and not love him.

After visiting McCallan I went to pay my respects to Genl. Branside. He looked very tired as he undoubtedly was for he said he had been without sleep for a night or two. He had concluded to take the command but did not regard it as a fit subject for congratulation. I gave him my words of allegiance & came away. Tuesday Nov 11. I was interrupted yesterday so that I did not finish my letter yesterday we did not move awaiting for supplies & for Genl. Branside to get his staff in working order. I inspected a brigade yesterday after 3 P.M. It took me till after sunset &

then called upon Genl. Couch & had a pleasant conversation with him. He looks younger than I, is quiet and good & I like him much.

Henry Stinson came to me last night and said he had concluded to decline my appointment. He said the only reason was that he had no horse & no money to buy one. I told him to come if that was all and I would furnish him a horse till he can pay for it. The position of Genl. De Cuir will increase his pay. He appeared delighted at the idea of coming to live with me. He was looking well. His wife now is at New Baltimore half way between here & Gaithersburg. I have applied for another young man to act as aide till it is decided about others. He is a fine, Christian young man and has been long anxious

Lillian came home Sat. Eve.
I went over visited his school
& brought him home. He has
a good school & school-house.
He says the roughest school he
has ever had - I took him
back this morning -

I got an answer from the
Adj't. General's Department tonight
indicating an order which I
had not seen saying a
leave was not necessary, for
an extension, only the Surgeon's
Certificate, duly Certified, &
that the one I sent covered
my case satisfactorily. I have
ever, need a copy of it which
I think I will write to Dr. Briggs
to furnish me. Poor someone
is gone & poor Gen. Richardson.
I do hope their attention has been
directed to their souls' welfare since
they have been upon beds of languishing.
Do not omit to give lots of

I really hope
it may be
I shall go to Texas
I that I may be
Cousin Mary here.
Just as the Lord will
I will go there
I think for the best.
I shall send notes
at once. I think
I am feeling home.
I will write as
soon as I can
It is 10 o'clock
Chas. W. May
Living in
W. May

in the evening Father & Mother are
preparing for bed - We have had
family prayer and Prabella the
completes the household has gone
to bed - I read tonight the
34th Chap. of Ezekiel - Please
notice how you may take the
dedications or promises in the
last part of that chapter - from
the 22^d to 28th verse ^{and} ~~may~~
be embodied ^{them} into an appropriate
prayer for our nation at the
present time - with very slight
modification.
We have been hoping to hear
from you for several days.
We feel particularly anxious

to get any word about Oth.
Mother feels a great deal
of anxiety for him & is con-
tinually speaking of him.

She asked me to write to
you in hopes to get something
from you about him as
well as about yourself &
the children - We want to
know how you are. Mother
also expresses anxiety lest you
may not be well - And how
are the children not forgetting
little Jamie?

I hope you will give us a
few lines at least by return
of mail.

The papers brought exciting
news tonight. McClellan
gone - We will at least
indulge the hope that a
change will not result for
the worse. McClellan has

really seemed to me much
to be pained for being still
thus long & permitting the
rebels to escape again.

Four letters from Jacob Turner
came into the neighborhood Sat.
night. He is well & seems
to be expecting active duty -
to enter upon the more terrible
realities of war. He is now
in Md. not far from Rock-
ville.

George Henry, who enlisted
in the 16th Regt. from this
town while I was at home -
in August - a fine young man
& a Christian is dead. His
funeral sermon was to be
preached at the Centre last
Sabbath but it was so rainy
none of our family attended.
His folks live next house
beyond Mrs. Venus Lathrop's.

helping father "fix up" for Winter
I find I cannot "hold out" long
especially in the lower ex-
tremity. But my leg grows
stronger I think upon level
ground you would not notice
that I walk lame at all.

Mother is well. There has been
letting out a "faking" this
evening. The warm weather
today has carried off pretty
much all the snow. Isabella
is at home for a few days - Expects
her brother home next week when
foot does not heal. Father
of South Sea, whom I enlisted
has died from Diphtheria.

Have you heard from St.
Stinson? I see that Gorman is
in Washington. How did Gen.
August have a Divⁿ in 2^d Corps?
Was it a mistake of the news-papers?
May the Lord bless & keep you.
Your affec. br. Charles

He is anxious about you &
brother is almost
afraid to have the
chance come for fear
of some bad news.
I had a deal of business
excitement now
about the election
between Grant &
Brewster. I am
well & hope
to see you.
Don't you?
L. H. Howard
Nov. 12th 1862.
We got our first
news from you tonight by letter
from Lizzie. She writes that
she has got well of her cold
& that the children are well.
Asks if all the "ifs" are cleared
away whether I will not take
her to New York with me
before you go to Texas.
Being by tonight, hope that
Gen. August is going with
Banks & is to be Maj. Gen. under
me fear you will not go. But
I will be reconciled to the
disposition Providence shall
make of us.
In answer to my appli-
cation for leave Adj. Gen.

Townsend sent him Order
no. 160 War. Department - also
adding a note saying my
certificate covered my absence.
But I see that I should have
a duplicate one to show to
my Commanding Officer
on my return & for fear either
that you might forget that
you saw mine or that some
other Commanding officer
might require it I have
sent to Dr. Briggs for
a duplicate copy.

6 Mr. Keys. & a botting go
with Roaks - He ought to be
a Maj', Gen. from Maine.

I saw a letter in the Portland
Press tonight which spoke
in high terms of you
but rather ~~highly~~ of Perry
I thought - saying that
Gen. Hooker recommended

him for Maj. Gen. & that
Gen. Perry had been in
Hooker's Div. (I think?)
The letter was from Washing-
ton & spoke in the highest
terms of Emerson, now gone.
Singee has heard that he
joined the Church before
he died.

I am in hopes to be quite
well & strong by the expira-
tion of the leave which is
the 6th of Dec. & I feel
quite a desire to go with you
if you go to Texas.

I wonder when you are to
start - I hope well -
My kindest regards to Capt.
Whittier - hope he is fully
restored. If I were not
still troubled with my leg
I should believe myself as
fit for duty as ever. In

the 22nd of June - Now
that is impossible because
he did not enter until the
20th I commended him to
your kindness - and will
consider it a great favor if
you will do what you can
for him, I write me a line
giving your opinion of his
prospects - if they are not
already passed all hope.

With best wishes for yourself

I am - truly & sincerely

Yours Margaret Putzel

Washington
Nov. 14th

[1862]

My dear Mr. Howard,

The kind
interest which you expressed
for my boy while I was at
W. Point encourages me to
appeal to you now in his
behalf - I am miserably
anxious about him, having
just received the report for
October giving his number of
demerits - as 94!! - Why he
has been so grossly careless

I cannot imagine - not
for what of forces or negligence
this great trouble have been
received. But I am in
despair about him - for
certainly when he had already
so many at the beginning of
October - if he could not go
through the month without
adding 22, there is little hope
that he will pass through
two months, with no more
than six. Is there no
hope that some of these

dreadful descent may be
taken off? - and will you
not give him some assistance
or advice that may be useful
to him? I do not know
what, or how - but beg that
you will see him and do
what you can for him.

He has some absurd notions
on the subject of descent
which I wish you could dis-
-abuse him of - and he fancies
that 12 of his will not count
because he received them before

Thos. Martin Warriner,
Nov 14, 1862

Dear Sir,

I anticipated getting a letter from you today but did not. I got your note written the day I left enclosing the one for John Perry. It has been now almost two weeks since I left home and I am very anxious to hear from you, darling, and my precious little folks. I hope you are well. I got a telegraph dispatch tonight which gave me some feelings of uneasiness before I broke the seal, but it was on military business. Yesterday I had a Divⁿ drill and today inspected a brigade with the assistance of Lieut Stinson, who is worth his weight in gold. He is so intelligent & quick that I like him much. I have now finished the inspection of my entire division except the City. I find it in very good trim

I have now appointed Col. Sewall
on my staff to take this duty
off my hands. Did I tell you
that Mr. Washburn with his
aide Col. Hathaway, came to see
us and I accompanied them all
around to visit different Maine
Regiments. The Governor was very
agreeable & I enjoyed his visit. He
said he should call upon you when
he got back & tell you how hearty
I am. We will probably move
tomorrow and the next letter
will show you where we are. Mr
Bennett has just got ready to go
on. I do not think the march
will be dangerous. I want to get
time to write to Amy and Grace,
but tell them papa has had such
big bundles to attend to that he
could not get time. Much love
to yourself & them. Commending
you to God. Your affectionate husband
A. T. S.

justified as war games as in spirit
at the report of. I have no intention
but must wait to see if it is of any use
to me as I have not yet seen it.

It is a very good book and I have
just finished it. It is a very good
book and I have just finished it.

It is a very good book and I have
just finished it. It is a very good
book and I have just finished it.

It is a very good book and I have
just finished it. It is a very good
book and I have just finished it.

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just finished it. It is a very good
book and I have just finished it.

It is a very good book and I have
just finished it. It is a very good
book and I have just finished it.

It is a very good book and I have
just finished it. It is a very good
book and I have just finished it.

Head Quarter
"Spotted Tarn" Va
November 16 1862

Dear Sir,

I felt too tired to write last
night but am less so tonight though
we have made a march of nearly twenty
miles to day. Last night I encamped
two miles this side i.e. south east of
Warrenton Junction. Tonight we are
about 13 miles from Fredericksburg, Va.

We (i.e. Couch's Corps) move in three
columns one in the road, one on
the right & the 3^d on the left of
the road. I have the left. Today
it has been our fortune to have
woods to march in most of the way.

The pioneers go ahead, open the
fences, clear away the brush & cut
the small trees in our path. Our
Brigade has the lead one day and
another the next. Gen. Sully an old
Army officer has Gen. Gorman's Brigade, lead.

Hull, whom you knew at West-Point com-
mands Gen-Dana's Brigade. Gen. Dana, I
met in Phil^a. His leg is still lame. I have
learned since that he is in Washington.

Col Owen, who formerly commanded a Regt.
in Burn's brigade, commands my 3^d Brigade.


The army has been divided into 9 grand divisions -

	left	center	right
	single		
	submachine	Hotter	Summer
Corps - - - -	6th - 1st	Hunt 3rd	Booth 2nd
		Putney 4th	Waller 4th
		old 6th	

Mr. Siegle has the reserve. Yesterday I
cropped my old line of March made
last winter. The ground that was so
wet and muddy then is very dry now.
The weather is beautiful - We anticipate
rain tomorrow as it has clouded up
this evening. It has it been much like
Sunday with us today - Marching on - on -
you have undoubtedly been to church.
I hope you have enjoyed it & my & Grace
the Sunday School - and the darling
little Jamie the company of Auntie
Charles and John. My love to all.

I think we are moving now as rapidly
as the country can wish. I hope it is the
will of God for us to succeed this time. but
I fear much, as I have said, on account of
our own wickedness. I saw two Generals
commanding divisions, drunk day
before yesterday - and another yesterday
much under the influence of liquor.

I have just announced Lieut. Atwood as being a fine modest young man. He and Lieut. Harry M. S. will test together.

Capt W & I tent together and they come
in for prayers. We, Capt. W & I, sleep
on the ground side by side, in a
sibley tent -  The stove you



Sibley text - The stone you
 see is the central figure -
 our heads were the ears - put towards the
 fin. Much love & many kisses from
 papa to the children & much love
 much sympathy that bless you - from
 your loving husband

His

Head Quarters 2nd Divⁿ

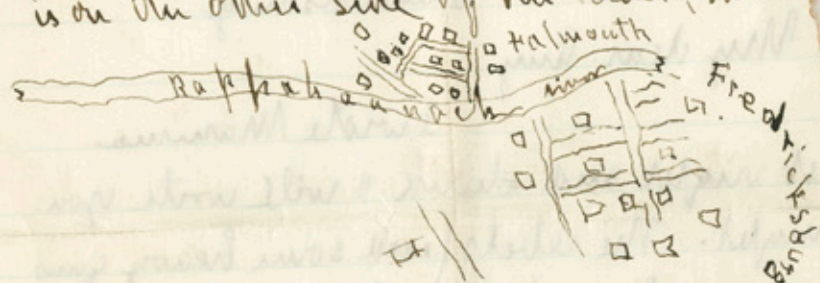
Nov. 17, 1862

Near Halmouth Va. opposite
Fredericksburg -

My dear Amy,

I wrote Mamma
last night and think I will write you
tonight. The rebels fired some heavy guns
at some of our troops but did not hit or
hurt any of us. This afternoon after
we had pitched our tents, nearly
a mile and a half from the
Rappahannock River, a number
of big guns and a brigade of our
soldiers were sent down to drive
the rebels back from the other
side of the river. This was done.
Some of these guns will fire a ball
three miles - i.e. further than it is
from Augusta to Hallowsell. The rebel
guns fired one ball which hit a
wheel of Capt. Petit's battery & broke it.
They ^{the rebels} soon ran away and our troops

marched down to the river and into
the little town of Falmouth, about
large as Winthrop village. Fredricks
is on the other side of the river, these:



Fredricksburg is quite a large city.
Perhaps you would like to have papa tell
you the names of the officers who sit at
his table now-

Capt. Bachelder, He takes charge of the
army & horses. Capt Smith, he takes care
to feed the soldiers. Col. Sewall, he sees to
the guns & belts & knapsacks that they are
in good order. Capt. Whittelsey. He writes the
orders. Lieut Harry Stinson & Lieut Atwood.
assist papa in moving, camping &c. of all
the 14 Regts. & two batteries of his divⁿ. Dr
Sherman in place of Dr. Palmer sees to all the
sick. Good night my dear Guy - Papa
prays for you & you must for him -
father & mother

I heard of the death of Genl. Jameson a few
days ago. Mrs Jameson's brother Capt Smith
my cousin says. I am very glad to know
that the Genl is a member of the church
I hope he was able to find strength
from on high during his last pain
& sickness. I mean to write to Mrs
Jameson. I don't think I shall be
allowed to go to Texas. This is quite a
good place now & I can get home
in case of sickness &c. I want to
go to Maj. Anderson & be
mustered in to duty from his
leave of absence - He need not bother
about the Medical certificate.
I shall write him by next mail.
He must stay here four or five days
at the least. In the mean time I shall
try to write to all my promised
friends. I saw Gen. Williams last
Friday & find him well. The army
is in good shape & I believe will
march soon -
My husband
Otis

Head Quarters 2nd Divⁿ
2nd Corps near Falmouth Va.
Nov^r 19th 1862

My dear little daughter,

I wrote Guy
a day or two ago and now I have another
chance to send a letter and think I
must write you. We are still in the
same place as when I wrote Guy.
waiting to make some bridges
before we can go on to drive back the
rebels. Papa is now very well. His
arm aches considerably, but he is otherwise
well. His horse "Charlie" has learned
to be croft since he went home. Gen.
Gorman's horse was hitched along side
of Charlie and he didn't seem to like it
so he kicked Gen. Gorman's furiously.

Besides this Dr Palmer's horse kicked
"Charlie" so that it made Charlie's leg
quite sore. And McDonald my hostler

Give my love to Mrs Stinson & Mrs Daniel Williams

ansures is even much cut, so much horses
& mules. We take five or 6 days supply
, start off - at the end of that time
you must have something more.

The dock, depots & bridges are destroyed
between here & Aquia Creek. They
are being rebuilt as rapidly as possible.
Last night after I had got to bed a ship who
should come in but Spring Branch,
with three friends. He was just on his
way from Washington to his brigade.

They call him General, though he has not
yet been confirmed. He had a letter of
Mrs C. & Katie. He inquired for you &
Gay & Grace & sends his kind regards.

Mrs Smith, his mother has gone to
Annapolis Md. to the funeral of her brother.
Spring says that brother was not much less
as he drank himself to death. He, I - is the
same old dissembler. Good night, my
darling wife. God bless thee

Kind regards to Mrs Blake
Mother
Many kisses to
G. & S.

Your affectionate husband
Otis

Head Quarters 2nd Div
2nd Corps. near Falmouth
Va.
November 20. 1862.

Dearest.

Our Mail has been
suspended since we left Warrenton
Junction till today. Today we got
our first letters by the way of
Aquia Creek. I got two big letters &
one little one from you, enclosing
Gay's and Grace's. I was really glad
to get them and only sorry that
the date was no later than the 9th inst.
I think I wrote you from Phila. know I did
from Harper's Ferry and have written very
often since. I hope you have got my
letters. I sent one by an orderly to
Harper's Ferry. And have sent the rest
directly to Washington. A day or two
ago I directed a letter to say to your care
containing one hundred dollars. I wrote

to leave the next day. but I think they or
one to you will get home much the soonest
for they went by different routes. The
first were taken by a reporter directly
to the nearest station that communicated
with Washington. Today we changed
camp a little nearer Galenault (your old
habitation?) and now I am living upon
a high bluff covered with stones as thick
as hail. It is now evening raining very
hard and has nearly all the afternoon. The
childrens letters were a great treat. How quickly
they have learned to write legibly, almost
as quickly as paper the second time. They
both spell mamma with one m in
the middle. This "mama". I think
those are bad boots to make a young
man's side of me ache don't you? I have
worn my india rubber boots today &
they make my feet ache. I am
afraid my feet are bruised in the
snow. The wine comes through the

top of my sillery tent right down on my
feet and makes it look much worse
than it otherwise would. Henry Stinson
has become quite domesticated & I
think is contented. He has not yet
bought a horse. I had him furnished
with a public one for the present & I
do not think it will be more expensive
for him; considering his increase of
pay he will be able to send home
as much & perhaps more than
before. I believe that you are
mutually pleased with each other. Mr
Atwood too is a fine young man, member
of the Episcopal church of Seattle.
Leif W. has been well until today, he
has a slight indisposition today. He
looks many times better than when
I found him in Phil^a. We have a
pretty hard storm to stand, but it will
prevent "sands". The country is wonderful.
When we wait here five or six days, the

own it seems to me I would like much
 to be with you again. (if it is my duty).
 I do not feel certain that I am as good
 an aid as you can get - if I did I
 don't know as I should hesitate to
 write coming back. May the Lord,
 my guide, this time also as heretofore
 direct my steps. - All well - Mother
 says she thinks of you almost constantly.
 I was edified by a good old preacher
 of the Gospel at the Methodist house
 last Sabbath. Mother, Isabella, Dillie &
 cracked up - Mr. Chapin is at Frederic's
 in hospital. I have been helping Father
 paint his barn-yard fence - I read some
 a good deal to Mother & Isabella. Intend
 to visit Augusta as soon as the Court arrives
 for which I wrote last week - I may visit
 Bangor 1st of next week & be back to thank-
 giving 2nd of the inst. - Write me as often as
 possible. From the papers I judge you are
 moving Fredericksburg - make some noble efforts
 to draw near to my Lord & feel that He is
 blessing me greatly tho' I never was more conscious of

my own wickedness & dependence upon His mercy - I know

almost nothing
 about our
 corps with pro-
 perty - kind
 regards to you
 still - Dr.
 I am with you?
 Very affectionately
 Charles

I am
 very
 cordially
 to Dr. H.
 Nov. 11
 I am
 to Dr. H.
 1862
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Brother I. We were very glad to get
 your letter to me written 7 miles from Wash-
 ton upon your arrival with the army. We
 were relieved to know that you were all
 safe soon to be reassured.

I am so much recovered as to feel
 much inclined to return to duty. If
 it is my duty to continue in this
 struggle until either it is ended or
 my ^{longer} adherence is rendered impossible
 I am sure I would not shrink from
 the labor, the hardship or the sacrifice.

How shall I decide whether it be duty?
 I made up my mind to accompany
 you if you should go to Texas. So
 far it is decided - Now the question
 remains - What, if you do not go?

My health is good - My leg has grown
 stronger tho' it is by no means equal to
 the other & if I were on Infantry service
 I should be able to decide at once that
 I ought to resign - I could not march
 on foot. I am not strong physically

but I believe it is because there has hardly been time enough to develop my muscles since I got better.

Unless something in Providence shall transpire to make the path of duty plain I shall depend much upon your wishes in the matter of returning.

Have you not been a little cramped in your staff - St Howe gone, Shaler, Mr. Stinson not arrived?

Is Steele with you? Give him my kind regards, & ask how he likes the horse. If I come to come back, I ought to get me a saddle horse & perhaps a horse - this I believe it would be better not to get a horse here if you think there is a tolerable chance to buy one out there. This for two or more seasons. One the cost of trouble of taking one - another the difficulty of procuring a suitable one here and another that I will not draw my two months pay till I get to Washington if I come on -

Shaw writes & got answer from Maj. Gardner who says he will must me in on presentation of my Commission & to date from the same. I only wait

the return of my Commission from W. Hays writes that this mustering in is all that is required.

How is John Dwyer and how anxious to learn how Capt. Whittier's health is. ^{He} is well again. I hear nothing from Col. Miles & my promotion in the 6th N.Y.

If I should conclude to resign I should like first to get my promotion which is due me from the time the vacancy occurred.

Oscar Turner was disappointed at not seeing you on your return as also Clark Lester who is at Abr. The latter is expecting a furlough - His foot is no better. He is at the Prince St. Hospital.

Oscar wrote in answer to me that he had heard only two prizes since they left Portland & that there were no prize men in his company - Plenty of swimming which he says sounds disagreeable to him. His (23rd) with 5 other Mr. Rept. (9 mi.) is to go with Blake. I don't believe Gen. Sumner will consent to your leaving.

How does the Dist^l seem to be? It improved - With a staff all over

Self move them with Christ. I believe
my principle & purpose ~~are~~ right
but I come so very far short of
~~them~~ you must pray for me that I
may be enabled to do the will of
God. I wrote you a letter but
my one & sent them by a messenger
to Washington by the way of
Cattlets Station the 18th inst. We found
the messenger had been taken prisoner
till he made his appearance this evening
my letter had a hundred dollars in
it - & Mrs Whittlesey (also carried by him)
had a hundred & twenty. Jim had
him & many kisses to the children. I
like to have you with what they do &
say. Their letters were fine. Annie is a
nice boy to go to bed with Grace. Papa
will be glad to see them all - I am
well. I hope you have enjoyed
your Sabbath today - love to Mrs
Blank & Fannie and to Mrs Stearns
and a heartfelt to my precious
wife Otis

Head Mr. Near Washington
Va. Nov 22. 1862

Dearest,

I was disappointed last night
when a large mail came without a letter for
Head Quarters. But this morning I got one
that had found its way into a Brigade
mail. Last night Capt Whittlesey and I
felt so confident there must be a letter
for some one of us, that we had two or
three immense mail bags brought in
to search, but there was such a large
number that we gave up after about a half
hour's work. I was sorry to see that you seemed
to feel so sad. You said you kept putting off
writing till you felt more like it, or something
which I so interpreted. I don't wonder at your
feelings, darling, and am happy that you have
so good sense & brains so well. I have not
yet bought a horse for Harry, but let him
ride a public one for the present till
I can find a good one. Harry has

got to feel at home and gives me much satisfaction. He does as well as beavers, used to in establishing pickets. He just went to inquire into an unusual noise in the Division. It is about 9 P.M. I have an excellent staff now. Capt. Whittier knows & does all his duty: so do the Mr. Lewis & Aikens. I am very contented, though I can't say I want the war to last that I may campaign in the winter instead of be at home with my precious wife and children. The nights are now pretty cold and of late we have had long rains, yet today I visited nearly all the hospitals in the Divⁿ and found only one man much sick and he had the measles. Col. Sewall is away with his Regt. repairing the road between Belplain & this place. The enemy are pretty strong in our front, have much artillery in position and are making preparations to

^{the river} dispute our crossing. One ponton bridge has arrived and when it will be put down I do not know. I suppose we shall have to cross over soon, as we are getting supplies and are ordered to keep quite an army on hand. Lieut. Benjamin & Lt Murray came to see me & spent a pleasant half hour this evening. Benjamin says he kept from swearing till he got into battle & then he gave way. Thinks he would give anything to break off, but can't: it has become a part of his discipline. Murray, another member of the church "does not ~~not~~ swear very often". Benjamin cried as he told me of his father's sudden death. I did not know of it. I feel badly to see as it were the very elect falling into sin. I have no doubt God will lead us all to repentance but how much we lose! I feel the necessity of more watchfulness and prayer. I am filled with

Leeds Nov. 24 1862

Dear Brother

It is a bright
cold morning with a little
snow upon the ground
which fell Saturday night.
Larch has just come down
from Uncle Ensign's with
both children - all well -
He came to town last Frid.
I am writing this to send
to P.O. by Albert, and
Ensign's boy, who is going
right back. I hoped to
have had a second letter
from you before this. I
answer to some of my
questions.

I have about made up
my mind to come out

and join you starting the
1st of Dec. I shall go to
Augusta tomorrow. Thank
Wed. thus see Lizzie
& get "mustered in". Be
home at Thanks giving &
start for Washington next
Monday - If you get this
before Dec. 6th please write
in care of Mr. Hays at
corner of K & 12th sts. W.

My Certificate ends at
the above date & I thought
I would attend to some
business in W. if I had
time - I hope also to get
my two months pay & so
be prepared to buy one or
two - When can I find
one? Had I better wait
till I reach you?

If I get a letter pointing
dissuading - from you before

week from today - I can
change my purpose & send
you my resignation -

I am feeling quite well
except occasionally Rheumatism.

Mother is well - We
read with interest Gen.
Sumner's proclamation to
the Fredericksburg authorities.

What cause of it?

Rowland spends Thanks-
giving in Bath. I have
not seen him since you
left. How did you
spend yesterday (Sabbath)
I read "Patience of Hope".

Kind regards to Capt. Whitt-
sey. Is Mr. Stinson with
you?

Very Affectionately
- Charles -

Mr. Howard thought Mrs. Corrells family.
I suppose you have heard from some of my friends
recently. I am living in Philadelphia and
I am very comfortable. My husband has a very
good situation at the General and I feel
perfectly happy. I wish I left you I could not
be content to live when I am in Washington
I am miserable. These remembrance to
Mr. Howard and tell Guy I don't think he
will forget Susan soon. Please tell Guy Grace
and family that Susan would give any thing to
all to live there once more. I remain
ever grateful your Susan

Phil. Novbr 24th 1862

Mr. Howard -

I trust you will
excuse me for troubling
you this time by writing to you
I have given up all hopes
of seeing her in a letter from
I would not have been so
much disappointed at his
not answering my letters but
I not expected the reason -
the sickness of the children.
I have written two letters to Guy
and he has not received one
answer to either. I suppose
he has entirely forgotten me.

of Guy and Grace and send little Jimmy that I send
so early. I must say I did not feel content
after I was separated from those children.
It was foolish I suppose but I could not help
it. They were so sweet and we shall
be separated & long by the bye I did not
think from when you and them in this
world. Oh days I have spent with them in
among the number of happy ones I have spent
in this country. Give me - I did not intend
saying so much but I feel now as if I could
talk about them for hours. I have occasionally

I will be for ever - thankful
to you if you would be so kind
as to send their photographs
to me. You promised them
to me. You gave leaving -
West Point and you do not
know what a favor you will
render me by allowing me
to have them. I was divided
about writing to you but coming
to the conclusion I would
it being the only means left
to me of receiving those dear
children's pictures. If you would
be so kind as to tell me
something about the children
I shall be for ever grateful
to you. I surely give me a
child that I do not think

Letter from Gov. Washburn

H



Nov. 24th 1862,

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Dear General,

At home for Thanksgiving, I have time
to tell you how much I enjoyed my visit to the Army, &
how much I am indebted to you for your kind attention
& courtesy - I am glad for many reasons that I
went to the front, & not the least among them, is that
I think I have thereby been ^{en-}abled to say a good word
for you in the right place, & which I hope in due time
will have a fitting response - On my return to W.
in speaking of the Army, the General, & other officers, &
particularly of yourself, I discovered that in high
quarters the impression had been vi^d that you were
one of the special favorites, pets & auditors of a
General who has not now so large a command

as he once had, & whose policy or no policy is believed
by many to have come very near losing the country, & who
is the special cause of all the disloyal sentiment in the
North. I was glad that I had it my power to state
not only your position ⁱⁿ the Army as a General - your
standing among the high officers, &c. - but ^{also} your
precise status, & your true opinions, not alone, recently,
but uniformly for many months, expressed to me, so
that I felt that you were now rectus in curia.

Genl. Beny having been urgently pressed by the Vice P.
& others, will I think be appointed May, by I. before
long - To present you in his stead under the cir-
cumstances might harm him but would not
help you. I have thought it best to secure his
appointment as soon as possible, & then to make
Maine a visit for you, & I have not the slightest
doubt that your great merit will be recognized

by the President & by at an early day. by your nomination to
the Senate as Major General. Whatever I can do to bring
about a result so just to you & wise in the Adminⁿ will
not be neglected.

Yours, very truly,

J. Washburn

P.S. Genl. Reynolds's telegram by some mistake asked
my son to meet me at Arlington instead
of Warrenton, & so I had the pleasure to
meet him the night after I left Warrenton.
He was very well, & was sent by the R.R. to
Hagerstown for the clothing of the 16th.

J.W.B.

New Market 2nd Dist

New Market Va.

Nov. 26 1862

Dearest

I will just write you a few lines to say that I am well - so is Capt W & Mr Stinson. We are in the same place as last letter showed. Another heavy rain & very clay mud. It was arranged to try to crop the river but given up at that time. I was to lead. A kind Providence protects me. I got a good long letter from Abigail. He said you sent Abigail letter back - and that she felt dreadfully about it. I am sorry you did so. for R. says he never thought of that paragraph when he sent the letter to me. I am terribly afraid hard feelings will spring up. I know it was mistaking to you, darling, but if it was not intended you must forgive without punishment. Tell my father that Uncle Sam saw a curious sight on opening his eyes yesterday morning. A man stood near the tub with several forked flames proceeding from the top of his head. I called out & he put both hands up & the

Miss's disappointment. It was when I was when
him was ~~to~~ like Queen's some of these
mornings. He had put his head near the
candle to see what time it was and his
locks caught fire. It was lucky I worked
at the time I did was it. I think he
would have found it out. Jim much love
to Mary, Anne & Annie and many kisses.
Mrs. Annie fallen down stairs yet? The people
will get used to us for not going ahead. I
have no doubt that God has us in charge
and that he will bring out all right.

Bob Hall has just come in and wants to
be very much. Capt. W. sends his love -

I feel that God will bring you in his
way keeping. The Mail Coach is
waiting so good bye

Your loving husband
Otis

his throat but nothing serious —
Mrs. Perry is quite sick with
the measles — Mr. Babier hopes
you would mention Thomas.

Mr. Plaine told me (do not
mention this) that he heard that
Capt. Whittier was sick & going
to resign & that I was going to be
your Asst. Adj't. General. When
did he get such a report?

Gov. Morrill said he was going
to Washington this week —
Gov. Wingate is better. Gov.
Washburn not back yet. I don't
think he tried very hard to have
you go with Banks — I am quite
well except the leg which is not much
lame — It is reported that there
will be no fighting for a month so
I shall not be too late to cast in
my mite probably — We have abundant cause
to be thankful today to
the Giver of all good — Affectionately, Charles —

Leeds Nov. 27 1862
— "Thanksgiving-day" —

Dear Brother

It is a beautiful winter's day. It
snowed all day yesterday & cleared away in the
night. We have done justice to an abun-
dant and delicious dinner — Father, Mother,
Roland & Legretta — Dillie & I — The two
grand-children & Isabella. Yesterday I
parted from your little family at Augus-
ta after spending a very happy 24 hours
with them — My uncle urged me to stay.
said I might stay — He did not see
why I couldn't — I told him I was
going out to see his Papa and he
was absent a little while. He wanted
me to go skating with him before
Breakfast — This before we got up in
the morning as I slept with him —
But lo! it was raining when we
came to look out — They were all very
well & we were very happy to get your
letter to grace the evening I was there.
Little Annie is a wonderfully good & happy
boy & I loved him very much — He

came down stairs saying "Charlie come"
"Charlie come" as I entered the Hall.
Lizzie seemed very happy & Grace was
delighted to get a letter from papa.

I was very glad to ~~see~~^{see} your letters
to Lizzie & the children as I had not
rec'd but one from you & that ^{written} when
you arrived with the army.

I had a tedious ride in the snow-storm
home by way of Martinsburg. The
Maj. did not come up to A. But
I did not care much as I got my
muster in all right down there &
I saw Mrs. G. having a pleasant call
at the Major's house. He is, I think
& to go to Annapolis Md. probably
owing to disagreement with the Gov.
I like Maj. G. He seems to be a
man of strict integrity.

I got home by dark - The wagon
went hard in the snow & it was very
rough before the storm from the frozen
mud. Lizzie talks of going to Wash-
ton to do some shopping &c. Jamie
was delighted with a little spotted
red ~~fox~~ his mother was making
him "new dress" he said "Jamie, new
dress". Lizzie sent some sweet potatoes

up for our Thanksgiving - I took down
about as many apples as before & 26 lbs
of butter. Also some chicken & some
Buckwheat.

I was exceedingly glad to get your
second letter to me last night. From
Lizzie's I learned much to my grati-
fication that Mr. Atwood & Susan were
with you & Col. Sewell - Give my
kind regards to the last & tell him
I am glad he is home again - i.e.
in our family.

From what you wrote last night about
my staying till my leg was all well
&c. &c. and owing to mother's desire
to do some sewing for me I have
decided not to leave here till
Wed. next. I was intending to
leave Monday - but think I can
reach you by Sat. if I do not
start till Wed. - at least can get
to Washington before Sat. & I hope
to find a letter there from you
in care of Hayes corner of K & 12th Sts.

What shall I do about a horse?
I think I will get a saddle here
if Mr. Gordon can make one.
Ellie is troubled a little with

Portland Nov 27 1862
Mrs. A. O. Howard
Dear Miss

I write to inform
you that I can send you the amt
that is due to you - \$260 dollars
with interest from 21st of May last
and \$8 dollars due on Bank Stock
I have no particular use for it
at present - I will either send you
the money or invest it for you
in some stock here as you direct
- we intended to have invited you
to Portland to spend Thanksgiving
with us - if we had expected to remain
at home - we had thought of going to
Quincy & spend Thanksgiving with Susie
but got disappointed - hope you and the
children are all well
with much love } Your Affectional
uncle E. White

1
2
3
4
5
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8
Inches



Dear Sir
Boston Nov 27 1862

I write to inform
you that I can send you the one
that is due to you - \$200 dollars
with interest from 21st of May last
and \$8 dollars due on March 1st last
I have no particular use for it
at present - I will better send you
the money or invest it for you
in some stock here as you think
- we intend to have interest you
to Boston to spend Thanksgiving
with us - if we had expected to remain
at home - we had thought of going to
Quincy & spend Thanksgiving with him
but got disappointed - hope you and the
ladies are all well
Yours truly
Wm Lloyd Garrison

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W. J. W. Falmouth
Nov 28. 1862

Dear Sir,

I shall have to write
you another short letter this morning.
for the mail carrier is waiting
for me & gives me 15 minutes.
I was too tired to write last night.
Capt W. & I worked on official
papers till 11 P.M. In the morning
I began at Falmouth and reconnoitered
all the picket line of the Corps, riding
from nine A.M. till one P.M. ate
dinner and then went off on foot to
select a place for Head Quarters. I found
one of the pleasantest places you
ever saw except home. On quite a
high bluff in the woods, the
immediate surroundings being cedar.
I had a party who cut a couple
of rods out. The cedars around us

your journey to Falmouth & better

we so think that we are entirely
protected against the wind. The
prospects of immediate action
are not strong. We are probably
waiting for information &
to let the Johnsons by the James
River have a chance. I think
Gen Banks will go there & not
to Texas. but we shall see.

The Army in this vicinity is in
good health & spirits. Lieut
Stinson A.D.C. is well & happy.
Lives comfortably till Mrs S -
him her very love. I feel that
you & she can get much comfort
out of each others society. Gen
Jackson is reported in our camp
with 30,000 men. And we
keep wide awake. Much love to
many kisses to self & the children
The divine blessing upon you
all
Sincerely Yours

WAR DEPARTMENT,

*Washington, November 29, 1862.**Sir:*

You are hereby informed that the President of the United States has appointed you

Major General of Volunteers,

in the service of the United States, to rank as such from the *twenty-ninth* day of *November*, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.

Should the Senate, at their next session, advise and consent thereto, you will be commissioned accordingly.

Immediately on receipt hereof, please to communicate to this Department, through the ADJUTANT GENERAL of the Army, your acceptance or non-acceptance; and, with your letter of acceptance, return the OATH herewith enclosed, properly filled up, SUBSCRIBED and ATTESTED, and report your AGE, BIRTHPLACE, and the STATE of which you were a permanent RESIDENT.

You will report for duty to

Major General Oliver O. Howard
U. S. Volunteers,

Edwin M. Stanton
Secretary of War.

Vol 5

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Washington, December 2, 1862.

You are hereby informed that the President of the United States has appointed you

Major General of Volunteers.

In the service of the United States, it is made as such from the first day of November, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two. Should the State, at their next session, advise and consent thereto, you will be commissioned accordingly.

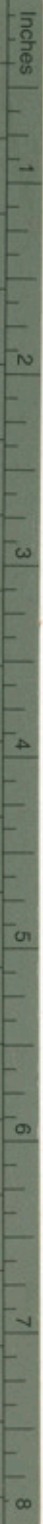
Immediately on receipt hereof, please to communicate to this Department, through the nearest officers of the Army, your acceptance; and with your letter of acceptance, return the original and a copy of the same to the Adjutant General, and report to the nearest military post of the Army, and the state of which you were a permanent resident.

You will report for duty to

Richard M. Stanton

Secretary of War.

John C. Smith
Adjutant General



Headquarters ^{to} near
Falmouth Va.
Nov 29 1862

My dear Brother,

I received a
good long letter from you last night
dated Nov. 20. 1862 and I hasten
to reply. I doubt if this letter gets to you
before you leave for Washington.
but I will direct it so that Mother
will open it if you are gone. All
the questions propounded I have answered
in previous letters. I want you for an aide
if you are well. But if you cannot be
well, I should prefer that you have
the comfort of a house to sleep in.
I have a beautiful place for it and
quarters now, on the top of a high
bluff & completely surrounded by
cedars, the slopes in every direction
covered with woods. It is a little too

far from my troops but the beauty &
coziness of the place draws me to it.

Capt. Whittney is well and quietly
does his whole duty. Lt. Steel is still

with me, though just now gone
to Washington for Ordnance stores.

Capt. Bateholder is well & seems to
stick by me. Capt. Smith as of old.

Lt. Stinson a jewel & so is Lt. Atwood.

Everything seems to work well &
be very pleasant now. No knowing
what a day they bring to us, but
we know who rules our life.

Much love to Mother & Father.

and kind remembrance to all
the neighbors. We are waiting here
because the Govt says so.

Very affectionately
W. Howard

May 20. 82

Leeds, Nov. 30th 1862

My dear Lizzie

I was much

pleased to get your letter - to
have a word about yourself

& the darling children and
your Thanksgiving - & tho'

I was happy enough to
get a letter myself from

It is the evening I reached
home - Wednesday -

It was written the same time
as yours - but of it the

next day - He urged me
to stay at home till I should

be quite well & my lag strong.
On consideration I decided

to stay one day longer than
I had intended! - So I expect

now to go from home Friday

Another pretty close to you & the children. It is 14 p.m.

to spend one night at Am-
herst & go to Boston in the early
morning train.

Oliver wrote in the best of
spirits - seemed happy, con-
tented & cheerful.

I ^{am} feeling somewhat blue
tonight, I hardly know why.
I very seldom have depress-
ions of the kind - especially
when well - as I am now.

Your solicitude about
my going home hungry
was almost amusing to
me - an old campaigner

I did not think of such
a thing as eating & why should
you - But as you imagined
I dined at rather a late
hour -

Major Gordon was very
kind - Made out the papers
properly - Mustering me in

as I desired - Introduced me
to Mrs. G. - was sociable &
invited me cordially to dine
with them -

I could not spend the time
altho' it was then about 1
P.M. I knew I would be
late home - The travelling was
so hard - The wagon dragged
like an anchor - The horse
"pulled" and once slipped &
fell breaking the harness
& compelling me to get out
into the snow which gave
me the luxury of cold
feet the rest of the way
home - The route was
a new one to me & the
storm made me rather cold
wet & uncomfortable -

But nothing like being
inured to rough weather
& disagreeables - I guess I

was in as good humor as
usual as soon as I was
warmly posted before the blazing
fire at home - & especially
after reading the 6 pages
from J. H. - He does not be-
lieve the Generals above him
will agree to his going with
Banks -

We enjoyed Thanksgiving - Roland
family here at dinner & we all
down there to Tene Father read
a sermon of Beecher's to us in
evening - Had my first
sleigh-ride for the mail that
night - Weather fine - "Young" not
back - Took ~~Rollin~~ back to his
school next morning - Mother
was greatly pleased with the
sweet Potatoes & we all enjoyed
your contribution to the Thank-
sgiving dinner -

Rowland arrived here
yesterday evening from Bath.
We (Father, Mother, & I) were at
Merrin Mewer's but got home
early - We spent the after-
noon there very agreeably.

Emma had ^{come} home from her
school that a young lady
friend - Louisa was cheer-
ful - Waver had just come
from Lewiston that my pants
which had been colored deep
blue from light.

We had a pleasant neigh-
bor ride home by moonlight & had
a happy surprise in find-
ing Rowland here - He
went ^{up} in the train last
night - Ella & Dovie not
yet come from Bath.

Today has been pleasant
& I got another neighbor ride
in taking Hobella home - who
goes to school tomorrow. We


miss her much. Her brother,
Clark will be home in 6
or 8 days. His wound is
no better.

There was Meeting at
the Centre today but we
had no notice of it except
the bell & as I was just
starting with Isabelle - none
of us got to church.

Father & Mother went up
to see Mrs. George Lathrop who
is just alive -

Love to Lucy & Grace. Perhaps
Lucy makes up in "sliding" what
he has lost in skating by this
snow - Till time we have
a long hill out here to slide
down but I will soon be gone
to Va. where there is no snow -
Kiss Fannie. Sweet boy - about a
dozen times for me -

Love Your Affectionate Brother - Charles.

length. Our foot boards are merely box-covers
of inch boards. You may say in view
of all these luxuries, how is it with the
poor soldier. Why, two of them stretch
their shelter tents over a pole  and button them together
put some bushes or buns at the back
and stick their feet out towards the
good back log fire in the front. They
sleep very warm. him love to hug. I
expect he will be amused at papa's
pictures. Well, they are for him & Grace
to look at as well as Mauma. I should
love to look in upon you tonight, hope you
are happy and well and that the children
are so too. Any must be careful how
he dips into the snow quite so strongly
I haven't said much about Jamie but
papa thinks much of him. Has Grace
read a good story today? Much love
to your very darling wife, asking upon
you the choicest of God's blessings. I
remain your loving husband

Otis



W.H.S. is well & happy.

Head Quarters 2nd Div.
2nd Corps Nov. 30th 1862
Near Falmouth, Va.

Dearest,

I have spent this sabbath morn-
ing seemingly in a very unprofitable
manner. I hope you have been
more advised. For I have only attended
to business. I ordered that there be no
drills today and that chaplains have
every facility to hold services with their
Regiments. But what's the good of it
when there is only one chaplain and he
"no better than he should be". I don't get
many letters from you. I fear they halt on
the way, somewhere. I think I have not
but three besides those of my & Grace, since
I left home. I got one from Charles a day or
two ago. He is in doubt about coming back. If he
gets well and strong I don't know any
more acceptable or suitable ride than
Charles. But I feel that he had
better not come if still suffering.

We are having beautiful weather now -
the frosts & the rain have disturbed
the hardness of the soil and the roads. Col.
Swall has his regiment still near Ball's Blain
repairing roads. The R.R. from this place
to Acquia Creek is now in running order
and the whistle blows. I have just
received another letter from Banks
and he says he shall start tomorrow for
Washington and wants a letter from
me to meet him there. I am again
interested and must go out to locate
some troops. I went out after the last
sentence, reconnoitered the two hills
for batteries and placed a Regiment
for the support of one of them;
this is done for fear the enemy might
attack us; but I do not fear that at
present. I had a letter from Marshall
interesting that I was to go with Gen.
Banks. I suppose he got his infor-
mation from some Maine paper or
letter and therefore do not place
any reliance on the report. For

I have heard nothing from Gen.
Banks or the War Department on
the subject. We all continue very
well, I have been particularly well
since I got back: my arm aches
a little but it is not worth speaking
of. I have not had a twinge of rheumatism.
Since the ground has got damp I have
shifted on my cot. The air comes in some
of these cold nights making my back a
little cold and sometimes John gets
up pretty early ~~sometimes~~ and "by
Order" to build a fire. Capt Whittesey
made him a board bedstead and two
foot-boards from some boxes sent
from Washington with our Stationary.
His bedstead is in two parts: thus:  
You perceive they can
be piled up so as to make a short
pile by day and when pushed together
make a warm box at night. The Capt. to whom
I submitted my drawing says: after deciding
that it was his boxes, too high for the