

the Mansion with a room ready for my reception, though rather a poor one, yet well was. And I remained there with him till yesterday morning, when he went with his sister to Mr. Torsey's to board, and I moved in with Bartlett Frost, Harriette's brother, whom you know I have always been acquainted with. The room, which I am now in is the one I roomed in when I first came to Herts Hill two years ago this spring, & it is about as good now as there is in the Mansion, being the North West corner room in the second story.

Mr. Winter had some disagreeable quarrels with Mr. & Mrs. Estlin & so I lost my good chance for I thought I would not leave my boarding place. After having stayed a while, thinking it looked too much like unsteadiness, & as I found I could have a good room & chance by staying, Frost is a good, studious & steady fellow & is studying Greek with me. I like him well & always have, so I think I shall be contented to make the change. Although Winter is a very good roommate & nice fellow. Bartlett is in advance of me in Latin & helps me whenever I wish, very pleasantly. He has been here all Winter & has been studying Greek and Latin all of the time so his Greek is more familiar to him than to me now, till I have reviewed some,

so he helps me some in that. But I have not found any trouble in getting my lessons yet, if I have not kept them in my mind this Winter. Mr. Waltham is my teacher & I like him as a teacher better than I did Mr. Robinson. He makes his classes more interesting & lively, gives longer lessons & the scholars recite better now. I began the first book of the Aeneid of Virgil, I have got my lessons for Monday ready, 12 lines in Greek, & 28 in Virgil. Mr. Torsey is at Augusta and is expected to remain there three or four months longer. I am obliged, I find, to pay two dollars per week for board, whether I furnish my wood & lights or not, so I shall not, of course, furnish these. I shall keep my team & Lamb & Bessie home with me at the close of the term again. I am sorry the board is so high but it cannot be helped. My expenses will be more this spring than they have ever been before. I shall be obliged to buy me a Virgil & Lexicon that I have not yet. I shall wait till I hear from Rowland, in mentioning using Frosts, for perhaps he will send me one cheaper than I can get one here. They are \$4.25 here. I wrote him a letter which I mailed Friday. I have but just returned from tea, I find that the wind blew too hard to allow me to go to

3/16/1854

From: Charles H. Howard

To: Eliza Gilmore

CHH-014

Kent's Hill, Maine

Kent's Hill March 18th, 1854.

My Dear Mother,

My first week at school is coming to a close; It is nearing Saturday night, and I have a few moments which I intend to devote to writing you a letter. But before I proceed farther wish to ask a few questions. Did Dellie arrive at home safe & sound the same day that he left me? Did he have no trouble in driving the colt in the snowstorm? And did he get the Scions? For I found when he had gone that I had not let him have the money. I felt sorry and ashamed of myself but to no purpose. The man told me he should ask about a four pence. and you let me have 30 cents. I should have let Dellie take it if it had not slipped entirely from my mind. And who were my letters from that father took? I suppose perhaps one was from Rowland. Was you not tired at the close of the day that I left, when the excitement of fixing me off had worn away? And to close my queries, Are you all as well in body, mind & spirits as you were when I left?

Well, perhaps something about my situation would interest you now. Dellie told you, I suppose, that I found Winter awaiting me at the Mansion with the room ready for my reception though rather a poor one, yes so it was. And I remained there with him till yesterday morning, when he went with his sister to Mr. Torsey's to board and I moved in with Bartlett Frost, Harriet's brother, whom you know I have always been acquainted with. The room, which I am now in is the one I roomed in when I first came to Kent's Hill two years ago, & it is about as good a one as there is in the Mansion, being the North West Corner room in the second story.

Mr Winter had some disagreement with Mr & Mrs Eaton & so I lost my good chum for I thought I would not have my boarding place. After having stayed awhile, thinking it looked too much like unsteadiness & as I found I could have a good room & chum by staying. Frost is a good studious & steady fellow & is studying Greek with me. I like him well & always have, so I think I shall be contented to make the change. Although Winter is a very good roommate & pious fellow. Bartlett is in advance of me in Latin and helps me whenever I wish very pleasantly. He has been here all winter and has been studying Greek and Latin all of the time so Greek is more familiar to him than to me now, till I reviewed some, so he helps me some in that. But I have not found any trouble in getting my lessons yet, if I have not kept them in my mind this winter. Mr. Walsh is my teacher and I like him better as a teacher than I did Mr. Robinson. He makes his classes more interesting and lively, gives longer lessons and the scholars recite better ones. I began the first book of the Aeneid by Virgil. I have got my lessons for Monday today, 12 lines in Greek, & 28 in Virgil.

Mr. Torsey is at Augusta and is expected to remain there three or four months longer. I am obliged I find to pay two dollars per week for board whether I furnish my wood and lights or not, so I shall not, of course, furnish these. I shall keep any can & lamp & cary it home with me at the close of the term again. I am sorry the board is so high but it cannot be helped. My expenses will be more this spring than they have ever been before. I shall be obliged to buy me a Virgil and Lexicon but have not yet. I shall wait till I hear from Rowland, in meantime using Frost's, for perhaps he will send me one cheaper than I can get one here. They cost \$6.20 here. I wrote him a letter which I mailed Friday. I have but just returned from tea. I find that the wind blows too hard to allow me to go to class meeting, so hard that they will not have any. I wonder if it has blowed so hard down to Leeds. I think it has blowed as hard all day today & part of last night as it has before this winter excepting that dreadful New Years blow that we had the first of the winter. But the cold & wind have not affected me <> today for I have hardly been out of doors, & I have a good warm fire in my room.

Give my love to Dellie, Nancy, & Keatie & all the rest of the family. When I think of home each one comes up before my mind's eye. Tell Dellie to write me all about the Society meeting & the members, for this will not reach you till after their meeting. Tell him to tell them that I say, Each one must keep his pledge. Mother, I should like to have you write me a letter so that I may get it next Saturday a week from today, that will be most a fortnight since I left. If you cannot write a long letter, do write a short one if you can and let Dellie fill it up for I <guess> he can find plenty of material & time to write. How does he get on at playing on Aeolean? Has he learned Bethlehem yet? He must tell me. It was a hard tune. I don't think he can play it yet, but he will get it in a short time. And does he get his lesson in the Dictionary

now? My paper seems to be filled.

Write, if you can Mother and remember me as
Your Affectionate Son,
Charles

Eliza Gilmore

P.S. Mother I wish you to write me when Grandmother's Birthday is. I have forgotten the day of the month. And tell me how Thomas is getting on with the measles. And how Florence is. And how is father's cough? My health is good.

Sunday. I have heard today Mother that Benj, John Perley's son, the writing master is dead. He died with the small pox. He was at school here last year. I have just written Otis a letter & am now going to prayer meeting.

very soon accomplish it & overtake his brother in the knowledge
of music & before many months he will pass by him if he
"sticks to it." I suppose he has got two or three of those tunes
learned by this time & will be able to play them to me
when I get home, something that I desire very much, not
so much on account of the knowledge itself, although that
is worth striving for, but because I wish him to learn to
persevere & to accomplish whatever he undertakes when
he knows it to be right. If he has been piling wood
perhaps he had not practiced every day, & so has not got
along so fast as he would, but now he must try & get
his hours each day so to get his lessons all learned before
the 20th June so to play them to Otis & Lizzie & to me. I will
see when I come home but perhaps I gave him too much to get.
Then Uncle Gabes has moved away, well I suppose he &
his family are better situated now than they were in
that little house. And has any one letters ^{from your parents?} from
I am acquainted with Aurelia, she was at home last
fall I believe or in the summer when I was at home,
she is a pious young lady I believe. I shall be much
pleased in receiving a present & such a present from
her. And if one of Otis' drawings will please her more than
anything else & you wish so to do you might consult Otis
in your letter about presenting her with one, for perhaps it
would please him that she have one & get it framed,
I am glad you have preserved those letters of Rufus &
Cotton I shall answer them after seeing them. There are about
two ladies of different ages & stages here this term but not many
very young ones. I do not know much about them as the ladies
are not very apt to study Greek & Latin. I am glad Nancy is learning
to play & if she can get time I trust she will learn. I can tell whether she

was improved when I get home. Remember me to her as well as Maria,
Roland & your men toward him as being about home. Give
my love to Belle & tell him to write me if you do or don't if
I am not able to get home next Friday or Saturday. This has
been a long storm now & it still continues cloudy & foggy. ^{My dear son Charles.}

Dear Mother: Mrs. Eliza Bulmore Kent's Hill April 29th 1854

With much pleasure I received your letter
dated 23rd yesterday. It was a good long one, such as I
like to have from my mother. But it contained rather
sad news, that of the death of Mrs. Turner, it was un-
expected as deaths usually are although we have had reason
to expect it for a great while. I received the news of the
death of some one of the people of Leeds every spring
while away from home at school & would be more than
one & those whom I least expect as being near their end.
We know not who will be called first or last; how important
it is that we should be prepared to go; there is no guard-
ian against death. I am at Kent's Hill again today instead
of being at Leeds as I expected. The storm has prevented
my being at home today, for I should have walked to
Wayne last night & gone home this morning had it not
rained. But now I shall be obliged to put it off another
week, for I have already put it off once on account
of the traveling, as I first intended to go home week
before this last or a week ago yesterday at least. I wished
to go in particular at that time to get my singing book but
I do not have a chance to sing with one of the boys so that I can
get along well enough to wait that till next week. But my coat
is getting pretty badly off as to the bows so that I am obliged to wear
most of the time my best coat. And yesterday I tore the other
against the door-catch to add to the bows. And I wish to get one

of my boots mended as they seem to be the only appropriate articles
I have to wear on my feet such muddy traveling as this. And
many such little things I wish to get or get fixed. Besides this
Mother, for it has just entered my mind, I shall need to have
some summer clothes before long, [I hope]. - I perhaps had better
see you about these & make some preparations for obtaining them.
If nothing more I think I shall want a coat, of some light material.
And if the weather permits I think I will try to get home
next Friday night or on Saturday, by that time it will be good
traveling enough I suppose so that I can be brought at least part
of the way back, for I shall wish to return Monday. I sent two papers
to Model kind last Monday, but I suppose you did not receive them
& would not receive them did they go direct there till after you
wrote your letter, or some of them. I wrote that I should be at home as
you I suppose know before this. This Spring does not seem much
like last, for long ere this when I was at Tappan the snow
was entirely gone & I got some May flowers the 10th of April. Now
it is almost May & great snow balls are what greet your eyes when
casting them out of the window. But Rowland writes that the
streets are entirely dry & settled in Brunswick at this time,
so I suppose I suppose that it is a warmer climate down
there. I have heard from him lately & have not yet answered
his letter, but must do so the first opportunity I have. I also
received a short letter from Otis the other day, the first I
have received since I have been here. I suppose I can write you
no news about them, as you mentioned having a letter from
each of them. Otis speaks of having to study hard this spring, but
gets along as well as usual. Rowland writes about my attending

school, where it shall next be, speaks of Ferrisburgh & says they
are to have a new teacher, Mr. Higgins, there in the fall at academy. He
also speaks of Andover Mass. Andover I suppose is a very good
school but it is at a great distance from home, so that the
expenses will be increased by traveling so far & I shall not be
situated so that if on sick I can go home & be taken care of.
I do not know but they will have a good school at Ferrisburgh
under a new instructor, but I certainly would not go
there if the school is now what it was when I went there, viz.
Then there was not much else but drinking, carousing, gambling,
playing at cards, although there were a few who did not do
this, but it was no place to go to get good knowledge. I am
sure I do not know where to go, if it is better as I suppose it
is, that I leave Ferrisburgh. But I & your mother have plenty of
time to think of this matter between this & next September. You
speak of Mr. Barrow's family; I have been intending as soon
as the traveling will permit to pay them a visit in their
new home & think I will go over some Saturday. It is I believe
about 4 miles from here, but on a very hilly road. -
I am glad that Willie is mindful of his absent brothers,
certainly they will be glad to get a taste of the Sep. molasses.
By trying to please them, he shows his love for them & he
must do those things which will please them most, which
are improving himself as well as giving them good things. He must
be a good boy, this will please each & all of his brothers. I shall see
how he gets along playing on the Hoolean if I go home next week.
If he does not get to be a good player ~~for~~ in the first six weeks
he ought not to give up, but keep trying one hour every day & he will

4/29/1854

From: Charles H. Howard

To: Mrs Eliza Gilmore

CHH-015

Kent's Hill, Maine

Kent's Hill April 29th, 1854

Dear Mother:

With much pleasure I received your letter dated 23rd yesterday. It was a good long one, such as I like to have from my mother. But it contained rather sad news, that of the death of Mrs. [Betsey] Turner [wife of Deacon George Turner]. It was unexpected as deaths usually are although we have had reason to expect it for a great while. I receive the news of the death of some one of the people of Leeds every spring while away from home at school & usually of more than one and those whom I least expect as being near their end. We know not who will be called first or last; how important it is that we should be prepared to go. There is no guardian against death.

I am at Kents Hill again today, instead of being at Leeds as I expected. The storm has prevented my being at home today, for I should have walked to Wayne last night & gone home this morning had it not rained. But now I shall be obliged to put it off another week, for I have already put it off once on account of the traveling, as I first intended to go home week before this last or a week ago yesterday at least I wished to go in particular at that time to get my singing book but I now have a chance to sing with one of the boys so that I can get along well enough as to that till next week.

But my coat is getting pretty badly off as to the elbows so that I am obliged to wear most of the time my best coat. And yesterday I tore the other against the door catch to add to the elbows. And I wish to get one of my boots mended as they seem to be the only appropriate articles I have to wear on my feet such muddy traveling as this. And many such little things I wish to get or get fixed. Besides this mother, for it has just entered my mind, I shall need to have some summer clothes before long (I hope). & I perhaps had better see you about these & make some preparations for obtaining them. If nothing more I think I shall want a coat, of some light material. And if the weather permits I think I will try & get home next Friday night or on Saturday, by that time it will be good traveling enough I suppose, so that I can be brought at least part of the way back, for I shall wish to return Monday.

I sent two papers to Rodolphus last Monday, but I suppose you did not receive them & would not receive them. Did they go directly there till after you wrote your letter, or one of them. I wrote that I should be at home as you I suppose know before this. This spring does not seem much like last, for long ere this when I was at Topsham the snow was entirely gone & I got some mayflowers the 20th of April. Now it is almost May & great snow banks are what greet your eyes when casting them out of the window. But Rowland writes that the streets are entirely dry & settled in Brunswick at this time, so I suppose that it is a warmer climate down there.

I have heard from him lately & have not yet answered his letter, but must do so the first opportunity I have. I also received a short letter from Otis the other day, the first I have received since I have been here. I suppose I can write you no news about them, as you mentioned having a letter from each of them. Otis speaks of having to study hard this spring, but gets along as well as usual.

Rowland writes about my attending school, where it shall next be, speaks of Yarmouth & says they are to have a new teacher, Mr Wiggins, there in the old academy. He also speaks of Andover Mass. Andover I suppose is a very good school but it is at a great distance from home, so that the expenses will be increased by traveling so far & I shall not be situated so that if am sick I can go home & be taken care of. I do not know but they will have a good school at Yarmouth under a new instructor but I certainly would not go there if the school is now what it was when I went there first. Then there was not much else but drinking, carousing, gambling, & playing at cards. Although there were a few who did not do this, but it was no place to go to get good knowledge. I am sure I do not know where to go, if it is better, as I suppose it is, that I leave Kents Hill. But I and you Mother have plenty of time to think of this matter between this & next September.

You speak of Mr Barrow's family; I have been intending as soon as the traveling will permit to pay them a visit in their new house & think I will go over some Saturday. It is I believe about 4 miles from here, but on a very hilly road.

I am glad Dellie is mindful of his absent brothers, certainly they will be glad to get a taste of the sap molasses. By trying to please them he shows his love for them & he must do those things which will please them most, which are improving himself as well as giving them good things. He must be a good boy, this will please each & all of his brothers. I shall see how he gets along at playing on the Aeolean if I go home next week. If he does not get to be a good player in the first six weeks he ought not to give up but keep trying one hour every day & he will have improved when I get home. Remember me to her as well as Katie & Roland Alger for you mentioned him as being about home. Give my love to Dellie & tell him to write me if you do or don't; if I am not able to get home next Friday or Saturday. This has been a long storm now & it still continues cloudy & foggy.

Your Affec Son,
Charles.

Mrs Eliza Gilmore

Monday morning

I have just dropped one & now hasten to finish
my letter for it is most true it was mailed if
you are to have it today. I hope you will write
me a long letter if you can to send by letter. But
I suppose you are now very busy in preparing his
clothing. There is a man in Portland I believe must
write to tell you perhaps I shall give a visit
then for the fare on the Rail Road is reduced.
How does Mrs. Brewster get along at Cranberry
does he let people pick at wholes of it? My health
is good & I think I shall have a profitable time
I must now close my letter to have it mailed.

From your affectionate son

Charles

To Mrs. Maria Gilmore
Leeds Main

MS

My dear Mother:

Yarmouth Sept. 1st 1851

I have seated myself to begin a letter
to you. It is now Saturday afternoon, I have been from home
only about 3 days, but it seems to me much longer.
I had a pleasant ride in the cars although rather warm,
having no company for a play thing & I have it now
but it has become rather dull, always when my eye
rests on it - it causes me to think of the morning I left
of the busy but happy time, & sometimes I wish
I was back home again. I found a pretty good one
although not the one I wrote for that being previous, only
Winter came a short time after I did. This morning
with me. Charles Quinnes came Saturday morning, he is heading
at Mr. Mygins house. But he has been in here much.
I do not think I shall like him very much, but perhaps
it will be different hereafter. We have no school today
& I have plenty of leisure some studies this afternoon
as it has been a dreary rainy day & for some reason
or other do not feel very well contented. I suppose I am
foolish to mention this for very likely in an hour I shall
have no such feeling, so neither you must not be unhappy
in thinking that I am so, from anything of this kind that
I write, for I always write & speak all my little feelings to you.
I was glad to see it rain in the night for I thought how it
was best fitting the farmers & perhaps our farm among the rest.
Has it rained yet at Leeds? I sent Leonard a letter yesterday
inviting him to come up and say me a visit & get his things.

I believe I was quite lucky for I have not found that I kept anything by mistake or forgetfulness at home either something or a letter up yet. Did you have a pleasant call at Mr. Galt's on Saturday night? And how does Otis & Jessie spend the time. When one is at home it does not require amusements to give enjoyment & make him happy. I should like to have remained with Otis while he staid at home for I hardly it seems have seen him to converse with him this summer. I know not when again I can be with him. I hope you will enjoy your visit with him. I think of a thousand things to say now I am about. It seems to me rather hard to leave you all when this fall with no one at home, when you take, I know, so much pleasure in having them with you. But Nellie I suppose will not stay many weeks after Otis leaves & I am glad that way. Term is only eleven weeks. I hope you will write me a good long letter soon, although you cannot get this till Monday or Tuesday. Perhaps you can write so as to send me a letter by Otis if he comes Monday. I suppose of course Otis will go back to Leeds again if he starts Monday if he is not obliged to get to his post then at 30th. For he would not wish to stay more than a week I should not think in visiting, but of course he can make his own arrangements. If he starts Monday noon with Jessie he will arrive here about half past 1 o'clock. The train stops about 5 minutes & runs times & often not so long. There is another train which goes at half past 6. If you do as he thinks best about stopping till evening train, perhaps if Jessie is with him it would be better not to stay. But I shall expect to have

to come & stay over night with me on his way to Brunswick afterwards. I suppose you intend to send my drawers & overcoat, which if it continues as cold as it is today (Sunday) I think I shall need. I did not finish my letter last night, but for the sake of getting started & a little cheer up, & for old acquaintance sake I together with one of my classmates, called on Charles Hutchins of Leeds as I had not as yet been to see him. He lives about half a mile below here in a private family. We had a pleasant talk, talking over 3 or 4 days, when he & I went to school at Leeds term - when I was 11 years old, telling me his whereabouts since that time. I have been to church today all day. I have just returned from a prayer meeting. This forenoon I attended the Baptist Church & heard Elder Allen the same preacher that I used to hear when here before; this afternoon I heard the Congregationalist preacher. I think I shall attend the Baptist meeting & go into the Bible class this term. The students boarding in townships this term are many of them pious & all steady, studious, fellows, much better than those who used to be here. Several of them will be in my class in college, if we all continue to prosper. We have a singing school at the table & we to have a prayer meeting by ourselves on Tuesday evenings. I suppose Nellie is with you this evening & was last. I think of him much. I hope he will do well at Wayne in his studies & not follow the bad examples of the boys he may associate with either. Tell him to write me a long letter at the first opportunity.

9/9/1854

From: Charles H. Howard

To: Mrs Eliza Gilmore

CHH-016

Yarmouth, Maine

Leeds, Maine

Yarmouth, Sept 9th, 1854

My dear Mother,

I have seated myself to begin a letter to you. It is now Saturday afternoon. I have been from home only about three days but it seems to me much longer. I had a pleasant ride in the cars though rather warm, having my nosegay for a plaything. I have it now but it has become rather dried. Always when my eye rests on it, it causes me to think of the morning I left, of the busy but happy time, and sometimes I wish I was back home again.

I found a pretty good room although not one I wrote for, that being previously engaged. Winter came a short time after I did and is rooming with me. Charlie Haines came Thursday morning. He is boarding at Mr. Wiggin's house but he has been in here much. I do not think I shall like him very much, but perhaps it will be different here after. We have no school today & I have plenty of leisure from studies this afternoon & as it has been a drizzling rainy day &c for some reason or other I do not feel very well contented. I suppose I am foolish to mention this for very likely in an hour I shall have no such feeling. So mother you must not be unhappy in thinking that I am so from anything of this kind that I write, for I always write & speak all my little feelings to you.

I was glad to hear it rain in the night for I thought how it was benefitting the farms & perhaps our farm among the rest. Has it rained yet at Leeds? I sent Rowland a letter yesterday inviting him to come up and pay me a visit & get his things.

I believe I was quite lacking for I have not found that I left anything by mistake or forgetfulness at home although something may turn up yet. Did you have a pleasant call at Mr Lothrop's the afternoon I left? And how does Otis & Lizzie spend the time. When one is at home it does not require <amusements> to give enjoyment & make him happy. I should like to have remained with Otis while he staid at home for I hardly it seems have seen him to converse with him this summer & I know not when again I can be with him. I hope you will enjoy your short <space> with him. I think of a thousand things to say now I am about.

It seems to me rather hard to have you all alone this fall with no one at home, when you take, I know, so much pleasure in having them with you. But Dellie I suppose will not stay many weeks after Otis leaves & I am glad that my term is only eleven weeks. I hope you will write me a good long letter soon, although you cannot get this till Monday or Tuesday. Perhaps you can write so as to send me a letter by Otis if he comes Monday. I suppose of course Otis will go back to Leeds again if he starts Monday if he is not obliged to get to his post till the 30th. For he would not wish to stay more than a week I should think in visiting, but of course he can make his own accounting. If he starts Monday noon with Lizzie, he will arrive here about half past 1 o'clock. The train stops 5 minutes four times & often not so long. There is another train which goes at half past 6. He can do as he thinks best about stopping till evening train. Perhaps if Lizzie is with him it would be better not to stay. But I shall expect him to come & stay over night with me on his way to Brunswick afterwards. I suppose you intend to send my drawers & overcoat, which if it continues as cold as it is today (Sunday) I think I shall need.

I did not finish my letter last night, but for the sake of getting warmed & a little cheered up, & for old acquaintance sake I together with one of my classmates called on Charles Nathins of Leeds as I had not as yet been to see him. He boards about half a mile below here in a private family. We had a pleasant call, talking over bygone days, when he & I went to school at Leeds Corner when I was 11 years old, telling me his whereabouts since that also.

I have been to Church today all day. I have just returned from a prayer meeting. This forenoon I attended the Baptist Church & heard elder Allen the same preacher that I used to hear when here before. This afternoon I heard the Congregational preacher. I think I shall attend the Baptist meeting & go into the Bible class this term.

The students boarding in commons this term are many of them pious and all steady, studious fellows,

much better than those who used to be here. Several of them will be in my class in college if we all continue to prosper. We have a blessing asked at the table and are to have a prayer meeting by ourselves on Tuesday evening.

I suppose Dellie is with you this evening & was last. I think of him much. I hope he will do well at Wayne in his studies & not follow the bad examples of the boys he may associate with either. Tell him to write me a long letter at the first opportunity.

Monday Morning

I have just dressed me & now hasten to finish my letter for it is most time it was mailed if you are to have it today. I hope you will write me a long letter if you can to send by Otis. But I suppose you are now very busy in preparing his clothing.

There is a fair in Portland I believe next week. Tell Lizzie perhaps I shall go in and pay a visit there for the fare on the railroad is reduced. How does Mr. Brewster get along at cranberrying? Does he let people pick at wholes yet? My health is good & I think <I> will have a profitable term. I must now close my letter to have it mailed.

From Your affectionate son,
Charles

To: Mrs Eliza Gilmore
Leeds Maine

5.21 - is now half past - nine o'clock in the evening - I have been in the

get any; I got along very well without
I got my wood last night paid at the
rate of \$6.00 per cord bought two but which
amounted to 75 cts a piece for "Went" + I + 6 cts a piece
per hauling, I think this will be sufficient
to last through the winter & we shall not
burn more than 3 quarts of oil which will be at
75 cts per bush. I 7 1/2 a piece so we shall get on
with wood & lights this term for \$1.57.

I told Otis I thought I should go to Portland
yesterday & stay over Sunday but I could
not go on account of the "Memorie" Lecture.
So I think I shall go next Saturday as I
wish to go over during the term & if I go
then I can attend the "Mechanics" Fair.

Charlie "Hines" went home for the first
time yesterday. - Are the Potatoes about
to be dug & the corn harvested now at home?

We have had some heavy frosts here, have
you had a fire in the living room yet?
Powder had a fire a week ago when I was
at Brunswick. - When there I went & took dinner
with Mrs. Frost, found Capt. Patten with
three & Miss Rachel Patten. Nellie has written
me a good letter & some good news, says Horace
has become pious & forephine Gilbert. Horace
was quite serious when I left home & read his
testament much. Write me if you can & mention
to Mr. & Mrs. Gilmore. Love your affectionate son Charles

W.S., Yarmouth Sabbath evening
Sept. 24th 1824

My dear Mother
I have just finished a letter
to Nellie & I thought I should not have time
to write you, but I find that it is only eight
o'clock, so I think I will devote a while to you
Otis has gone, so you are left at last
without a single son for company, in some respects
I suppose this is desirable & in some respects it
is not. I hope you are enjoying yourself & not
being obliged to work very hard, & I know if there
is unknown to me & it is uncertain I think whether
you are now enjoying yourself or are working hard.
You must write and tell me if you can, soon.
Otis bid me Good-Bye with Rowland "Wednesday"
I am glad that he thinks some of coming home on Friday.
I stayed with Rowland in Brunswick a week ago
tonight, carrying in his things as I suppose
he has taken you. I am getting on well in my
studies going more thorough than ever before.
I like Mrs. Wing's & the school well. I have been
well contented & have to say every thing has gone
quite smoothly & pleasantly. We have had some
quite cold weather & the great coat & drawers were
happily received. But today it has been much

swimmer. And I have not even drawn. I took a
bath this morning at a place prepared on purpose
in the street just below here. It is under a
law mill & there are three apartments prepared
on purpose. The water runs along in a large spout
& in each of the apartments there is a piece of tin
with holes in it nailed on to the bottom of the spout
so that a hole made in it so that the water runs through
it as through a strainer constantly. I stood under this
about a week or a little more, three times. It did not
make me cold or shiver at all but I enjoyed it
much, then giving myself a good rubbing I came
back warm & clean. I attended church here at
the Congregationists this forenoon, heard a sermon
on the subject of prayer. In the afternoon I
went to the Baptist & heard a man from
Madira preach. His text was Luke 12-4. He was
a lecture giving a description of the people of
Madira the state of religion there &c. It seems he
is a Portuguese & most of the people there are.
The established religion is Catholic & the Protestants
are very much persecuted. He showed some
things that he was taught by his parents to worship
& which he did worship till he was twenty years
old such as an image of Jesus Christ & some
beads with crosses which the pope had consecrated.
He gave us a description of the manner his sister

exceeded her persecutions when she came
of age & came to this country. It was quite
interesting. I have been attending a course of
three lectures here being the memory by
Mr. Armes. The last was yesterday afternoon.
I paid 50 cts for the course & have learned
a method by which I can remember dates &
names & can also very quickly commit to
memory a row of twenty or 30 figures. The largest
was a little boy about Billie's size about 3 hours
so that he told the dates to about a hundred events
in history, ancient & modern & committed also
a large list of figures so he could write them
down the board being taken away. Charles Spetch
ins of Leeds did the same. These he taught
to show what could be done. I have committed
to memory ^{the dates of} a number of events & the
dates of battles with the month & day. I think this
will be of great use to me if I become
familiar enough with it so as to be able to
remember every single day occurrences & to commit
parts of sermons. I can also remember things to be
bought, if you should ever again have occasion
to send me to a store, I think I could remember 20
different articles. I have not had a fire yet
although I needed some last week at night
& in the morning somewhat. But as I did not

9/24/1854

From: Charles H. Howard

To: Mrs Eliza Gilmore

CHH-017

Yarmouth, Maine

Yarmouth, Sabbath evening

Sept. 24th, 1854.

My dear Mother,

I have just finished a letter to Dellie & I thought I should not have time tonight to write you, but I find that it is only eight o'clock, so I think I will devote a while to you.

Otis has gone so you are left at last without a single son for company. In some respects I suppose this is desirable & in some respects it is not. I hope you are enjoying yourself and not now being obliged to work very hard. Each one of these is unknown to me & it is uncertain I think whether you are hard enjoying yourself or are working hard. You must write and tell me if you can soon.

Otis bid me good bye with Rowland Wednesday night. I am glad that he thinks some of coming home in Febr'y. I stayed with Rowland in Brunswick a week ago tonight carrying him his things as I suppose he has told you.

I am getting on well in my studies, going more thorough than ever before. I like Mr Wiggin & the school well. I have been well contented & am so now. Everything has gone on quite smoothly & pleasantly. We have had some quite cold weather & the great coat & drawers were welcomely received. But today it has been much warmer. And I have not worn drawers.

I took a bath this morning at a place prepared on purpose in the stream just below here. It is under a saw mill and there are three apartments prepared on purpose. The water runs along in a large spout and in each of the apartments there is a piece of tin with holes in it nailed on to the bottom of the spout over a hole made in it, so that the water pours through it as through a strainer constantly. I stood under this about a second or a little more, three times. It did not make me cold or shiver at all but I enjoyed it much. Then giving myself a good rubbing I came back warm and clean.

I attended church here at the Congregationalists this forenoon, heard a sermon on the subject of prayers. In the afternoon I went to the Baptist & heard a man from Madeira preach. His text was Isaiah 42 - 4. He read a lecture giving a description of the people from Madeira, the state of the religion there &c. It seems he is a Portuguese & most of the people there are. The established religion is Catholic & the Protestants are very much persecuted. He showed some things that he was taught by his parents to worship & which he did worship till he was twenty years old such as an image of Jesus Christ and some beads with crosses which the pope had consecrated. He gave us a description of the manner his sister escaped her persecutors when seventeen years of age & came to this country. It was quite interesting.

I have been attending a course of three lectures for benefitting the memory by Mr Armes. The last was yesterday afternoon. I paid 50 cts for the course & have learned a method by which I can remember dates & names & can also very quickly commit to memory a row of twenty or 30 figures. He taught some little boy about Dellie's size in about 3 hours so that he told the dates to about a hundred events in history, ancient & modern & committed also a long list of figures. After he could write them down the board being taken away. Charles Nutchins of Leeds did the same. These he taught to show what could be done. I have committed to memory the dates of quite a number of events and the dates of battles with the month & day. I think this will be of great use to me if I become familiar enough with it so as to be able to remember many every day occurrences & to remember parts of lessons. I can also remember things to be boughten, if you should ever again have occasion to send me to a store. I think I could remember 20 different articles.

I have not had a fire yet although I needed same last week at night & in the morning somewhat. But as I didn't <could> get any I got along very well without. I got my wood last night paid at the rate of \$6.00 per cord bought two feet which amounted to 75 cts apiece for Winter & 1 & 6 cts apiece for handling. I think this will be sufficient to last through the term & we should not burn more than 3 quarts of oil which will be about 75 cts for both - 37 ½ apiece. So we shall get board with wood & lights this term for \$1.87.

I told Otis I thought I should go into Portland yesterday & stay over Sunday but I could not go on account of the Nemotecnis Lectures [a technique to use mnemonics to remember facts]. So I think I should go next Saturday as I wish to go once during the term & if I go then I can go there thru Mechanics Falls. Charlie Haines went home for the first time yesterday. Are the potatoes about to be dug and the corn harvested now at home? We have had some heavy frosts here. Have you had a fire in the dining room yet? Rowland had a fire a month ago when I was at Brunswick. When there I went and took dinner with Mrs Frost, found Capt. Patten & wife & Miss Rachel Patten. Dellie has written me a good letter & some good news, says Roscoe has become pious & Josephine Gilbert. Roscoe was quite serious when I left home & recall his testament much.

Write me if you can & remember me as your Affect. Son
Charles

To: Mrs Eliza Gilmore

P.S. It is now half past nine o'clock in the evening, so I have been an hour & a half

We also write a Camp every week & decline. I have dec. one & must write a Camp. for next Tues. We are requested to get a lesson in the Greek Testament to translate in French. Monday. This Winter is getting down. It is the only studying we do on Sunday. In reading the Bible we are sure to get the true meaning of the Scripture. ~~Applying~~ these duties & spending our time at the ~~Philological~~ meeting & another at the ~~Bygone~~ lectures my time is all taken up, so I do not often get time, unless my lessons be easy to write letters. I paid a dollar for a ticket to the ^{of the lectures} Congress. I should have paid 25 cts for each ^{separate} ticket. There will be at least 8 lectures. Prof. Hitchcock delivered the first. On Amalgamation of Races. The same one he has given many times before, with a little & interesting addition with respect to Russia. Fisk of Bath gave the 2^d part. Comparing the learned & middle classes, setting forth the latter as the most beneficial to society. He is a rough writer & coarse speaker, when compared with Prof. Hitchcock. —

Will tell you must write me how you get on in your studies & Gov. Society. I shall write to them before their next meeting. Let every lesson well Decie. That is what I am taught to do here. Do you decline? I hope so. Your affectionate brother, ~~Prof. Hitchcock~~

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Yarmouth Dec. 24th 54

My dear brother:

It is Sunday noon, & I have just returned from Church, and as I have not an opportunity week-days, I have concluded it would not be spending an hour swift on Sabbath, to pass it in writing you a letter. As it is snowing very fast here, I conclude that you are also kept from writing by a storm. Mr. Aiken is our preacher here in the Congregationalist house, where I usually go, as it is much nearer than to the Baptist & we often have some one from Dartmouth here to preach. Prof. Pickard gave us two sermons last Sunday. They also, have a very fine Organ at this Church which cost 900 dollars. Mr. Aiken is a young man, who came here last term, & never preached before. He has been studying at Andover Theological Seminary for three years past, but still is not so interesting a preacher as many who have not had that privilege. But he often preaches very good & useful sermons, which better property, you know, is the one altogether to be desired, in a sermon, preached to a congregation of "common sense". This you know

This text was the 1st verse of the 1st Psalm.
"Give ear unto my prayer, it goeth not out of
faint lips." Thus he preached about prayer
& taught the uselessness of faint or
pretended prayer, yes, the wickedness of the
prayer only in the lips, while the heart is
not in it. Said Christians should be especially
guarded in this particular, that they pray
seriously, earnestly. And also that they found
out that they are addressing an all-wise God.
And that they pay due reverence to him, that we
should never make petitions to God in the
manner we address our fellow men. That
we should make Confessions to him of all
our sinful thoughts & actions. And he spoke
very earnestly against being a hypocrite.

I shall go to meeting again at two
o'clock. — I go on as usual in studies
&c. Get up at 5 o'clock, this winter. After reading
a Chapter or two in the Bible & prayer, I take
my book & study till breakfast at 7 o'clock.
After breakfast I am obliged to study
again till 9. When I go into the school-house
to prayers. At Mr. Higgins makes a prayer, then
we either read or read in the New Testament or see
say the "ten Commandments", then sing in the
"Songs of Zion" the little singing book you see
me have at home. I must go to meeting at two o'clock again.

The text this afternoon was in Jeremiah.
17th Chap. 9th verse. The heart is deceitful above
all things, and desperately wicked: who can
know it? I have been gone from my room
about a half. The storm is still raging out
of doors, but I have a warm room, for
my stove is a large tin tight. By the way I
exchanged stoves with a fellow yesterday, by
which, I think I gained 5th. It was because
our other stove had an oven of which we
had no need. Our stoves are hired for the
term. —

But I will tell you the remainder of
the exercises of the day. After singing,
those who do not study in school leave the
room & go to their rooms. Mr. Higgins strikes
his little bell, when those of the back seat
start to go out, & when they are most to the
door, again he rings & the next seat goes. & till
all have left, the next thing on Monday, Wed.
& Frid. is my Virgil lesson — Tues. Thurs.
Sat. My Greek. On Thurs. I have ^{extra} a Greek
grammar lesson each week, besides writing Greek
every other day. Fridays I have ^{extra} a Latin
Lesson. — Mon. Tues. Thurs. I have Algebra.
Sat. I am obliged to write Latin Exercises in
Arithmetic Prose lessons. Also to spell. We "take place"
in Latin & Greek Grammar Lessons & spelling.

12/24/1854

From: Charles H. Howard

To: Brother [Rodelphus
Gilmore]

CHH-018

Yarmouth, Maine

Yarmouth Dec. 24, '54.

My dear brother: [Rodelphus Gilmore]

It is Sunday noon & I have just returned from church, and as I have not opportunity week-days, I have concluded it would not be spending an hour amiss on Sabbath, to pass it in writing you a letter. As it is snowing very fastly here, I conclude you are also kept from meeting by a storm. Mr. Aiken is our preacher here in the Congregationalist house where I usually go as it is much nearer than to the Baptist & we often have someone from Bowdoin here to preach. Prof. Packard gave us the sermon last Sunday. They also have a very fine organ at this church which cost 900 dollars.

Mr Aiken is a young man, who came here last term, & never preached before. He has been studying at Andover Theological Seminary for three years past, but still is not so interesting a preacher as many who have not had that privilege. But he often preaches very good useful sermons, which latter property, you know, is the one altogether to be desired, in a sermon preached to a congregation of "common souls". This forenoon his text was the 1st verse of the 17th psalm "Give ear unto my prayer, it goeth not out of fained [feigned] lips". Thus he preached about prayers & taught the uselessness of fained or pretended prayer, yes, the wickedness of the prayer only of the lips, while the heart is not in it. Said Christians should be especially guarded in this particular, that they pray fervently, earnestly. And also that they forget not that they are addressing an all wise God. And that they pay due reverence to him, that we should never make petitions to God in the manner we address our fellow men. That we should make confessions to him of all our sinful thoughts & actions. And he spoke very earnestly against being a hypocrite.

I shall go to meeting again at two o'clock. I go on as usual in studies &c. Get up a 5 o'clock, this winter. After reading a chapter or two in the Bible & prayer, I take my book & study till breakfast at 7 o'clock. After breakfast I am obliged to study again till 9 when I go into the school house to prayers. 1st Mr Wiggin makes a prayer there. We either read around in the "New Testament" or else say the "ten commandments". Then sing in the "Songs of Zion" the little singing book you saw me have at home. I must go to meeting for the bell is ringing.

The text this afternoon was in Jeremiah, 17th Chap 9th verse, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" I have been gone from my room an hour & a half. The storm is still raging out of doors; but I have a warm room for my stove is a large air-tight. By the way I changed stoves with a fellow yesterday, by which, chum & I gained 75 cts. It was because our other stove had an oven of which we had no need. Our stoves are hired for the term.

But I will tell you the remainder of the exercises of the day. After singing, those who do not study in school leave the Acad. & go to their rooms. Mr Wiggin strikes his little bell, when those of the back seat start to go out & when they are most to the door, again he rings & the next seat goes &c till all have left. The next thing, on Monday, Wed. & Frid. is my Virgil lessons; Tues. Thurs. & Sat. my Greek. On Thurs I have extra in Greek grammar lesson each week, besides writing Greek every other day. Fridays I have extra in Latin grammar lessons. Mon Tues Thurs I have Algebra. Sat I am obliged to write Latin Exercise in Arnold's Prose Comp. Also to spell. We "take <>" in Latin & Greek Grammar class & in spelling.

We also write a comp. every week & declaim. I have dec. once & must write a comp. for next Tues. We are requested to get a lesson in the Greek Testament to translate on Mond. morning. This <writer> is getting <now>. It is the only studying we do on Sunday. In reading this we are sure to get the true meaning of the Scripture.

In pursuing these duties & spending one eve. at the Philological meeting & another at the Lyceum lectures, my time is all taken up, so I do not often get time, unless my lessons are easy, to write letters. I paid a dollar for a ticket to the course of Lectures - I should have paid 25 cts for each separate ticket. There will be at least 8 lectures. Prof Hitchcock delivered the first on "Amalgamation of the Races." The

same one he has given many times before, with a little & interesting addition with respect to Russia. Fisk of Bath gave the 2nd about comparing the learned & middle classes setting forth the latter as the most beneficial to society. He is a rough writer & coarse speaker, when compared with Prof. Hitchcock.

Well Dellie you must write me how you get on in your studies & <Juv.> society. I shall write to them before their next meeting. Get every lesson well Dellie. This is what I am taught to do here. Do you declaim? I hope so.

Your affectionate brother Chas H Howard

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Wormouth Dec 25th 1804

4 o'clock A.M. Christmas Day

I wish you a merry Christmas. I'll be & Mother
Father & Roland Alger. Indeed I hope you'll
all enjoy yourselves at Rowland. Please
write me where you are all spending the
day & in what manner. — You must not
forget that on this day Christ was born.
On this day the star appeared in the Eastern
sky to guide the wise men to the child
Jesus. They followed that star till it stood
above where He was. Finding him in a manger
fell down & worshipped him. They went to
Herod to inquire of the star before they saw
the child, & he told them to bring back word if
it was true what they had heard of him through
the angels. But they were advised not through
a stream not to go back, but went by another
way into their own country. Thus the Birth
of Our Saviour was celebrated by angels & wise
men. And don't be forgetful of him, Jesus,
either his birth, his life or his death. For God
was & is constantly mindful of you. — I rose
at 20 minutes of 4 & kindled my fire very
quickly, then layed in bed till four minutes
of 4 when the room had become warm.
My health is & has been pretty good since I

came down here all the exception to a slight
cold in my head & throat which I have been
trying to cure. I took some Spongiaceti & Malap-
es last night when I went to bed & I think my
cold is not so bad as it has been.

I received a letter from Peter a short time
since. He was well & had finished his book,
was coming home, at ^{last} to Portland next Wednes-
day or Thurs. How does Concord get
on in his school? I shall write him a letter
next, should have written him before, but because
I supposed he saw that I wrote him & therefore
would see how I got along. Tell him I am
reading the 4th last book of the Aeneid of
Virgil which I shall be obliged to read. It is yet
275 lines a day. Two Washelli boys from Bristol
came here & stayed a few days, then went to
Andover, thinking Mr. Wiggins was not sufficient
by thorough teacher. But they could not judge
in the short time they were here & by only observing
the recitation. They acknowledged that they never
saw a class read so fast & so literally before.
I received another note & have answered the other
but was a long time before I could remember
what that fellow was. But conclude he was at K. Hall
last term, and lives up near Elder Barrows.
Write soon Billie, & tell me, if you think you
enjoy that love of God which it is our privilege
to have. A Merry, Merry Christmas. Your brother, John H. Hall

12/25/1854

From: Charles H Howard

To: Mr & Mrs. John Gilmore,
Dellie, Roland A. Gilmore

CHH-019

Yarmouth, Maine

Yarmouth, Dec. 25th, 1854
4 o'clock A.M. Christmas Day.

I wish you a Merry Christmas Father, Mother, Dellie and Roland Alger. Indeed I hope you will all enjoy yourselves & Rowland. Please write me where you are all spending the day and in what manner. You must not forget that on this day Christ was born. On this day, the star appeared in the eastern sky to guide the wise men to the child Jesus. And they followed that star till it stood above where he was, finding him in a manger, fell down & worshiped him. They went to Herod to inform him of the star before they saw the child, & he told them to bring back word if it was true what they had heard of him through the angels. But they were advised of God through a dream not to go back, but went by another way into their own country. Thus the birth of our Savior was celebrated by Angels & wise men. And don't be forgetful of him, Dellie, either his birth, his life or his death. For God was & is constantly mindful of you.

I arose at 20 minutes of 4 & kindled my fire very quickly, then layed in bed till five minutes of when the room had become warmer.

My health is & has been pretty good since I came down here, all the exception is a slight cold in my head & throat which I have been trying to cure. I took some spermaceti & molasses last night when I went to bed & I think my cold is not so bad as it has been.

I received a letter from Otis a short time since. He was well, had finished his book, was coming home, at least to Portland next Wednes. Night or Thurs. How does Rowland get on in his school? I shall write him a letter next, should have written him before, but because I supposed he saw those that I wrote home & therefore would see how I was getting along. Tell him I am reading the 9th & last book of the Aeneid of Virgil which I shall be obliged to read. We get 275 lines a day.

Two Haskell boys from Greene came here & stayed a few days, then went to Andover, thinking Mr Wiggins was not a sufficiently thorough teacher. But they could not judge in the short time they were here & by only observing the recitations. They acknowledged they never saw a class read so fast & so literally before.

I received mother's note & have answered the letter but 'twas a long time before I could remember who that fellow was. But concluded, he was at Kent Hill last term. And lives up near Elder Barrow's!

Write soon Dellie, & tell me if you think you enjoy that love of God which it is our privilege to have.

A Merry, Merry Christmas.
Your brother, Chas H Howard