

on the outside caused by binding on some mustard  
for about 1/2 hour in night. You know how sensitive my  
skin seems to be to such applications. It was really  
laughable that I could not bear it long enough to get to  
sleep when this makes an account of putting mustard  
all over him for the Rheumatism at times! I  
took off the bandage from my throat but next day found  
that it was effectual.

But I am reminded of a very sudden death by a  
kind of throat distemper or one having been of a  
young lady member of our Mission Society & daughter  
the daughter of a Sergeant. He was sick but 2 or 3 days  
& the first news we had was that she was dead! The  
funeral occurs today at 2 o'clock. There have been  
hundreds a hundred sick with this disease in the vi-  
cinity but it is getting to be past the season now.  
The medicine I am now taking seems to be beneficial  
but not entirely effectual for a cure. I want to hear  
from home very much. How you found the hour  
suffers there & how are Cynthia & Chedra & Robert.  
Does the new minister meet with success & seem con-  
victed to remain? My love to Robt & Cynthia & their  
little ones. Who has been doing your chores? Wonder  
whether Elias or George Bates are engaged in the grand  
"Strike" in Meigs. How was Vesper when you left.  
Robert speaks of riding to Augusta with him when  
at H. week ago. All are well here. Children at play.  
A little calf is a great source of interest to the children. - I take

Care of him - The Butcher will have him in 4 weeks.  
If you can any little lamb or colt. If you will write  
me will right & mail it Thursday I shall get it Saturday.  
Miss Belle wishes to be remembered to you. She is writing to  
her mother. Your Affectionate Son West Point  
C. H. Howard - Mar. 26, 1860

My dear Mother

By a letter from Dillie we'd last  
Thursday I learned that the Legislature had risen and  
that you & Father were probably at home before this.

The session closed sooner than I anticipated. But I  
felt glad that you could go home thus early for I  
knew & Nettie wrote me that you were beginning  
to have a little anxiety to be back again.

Dillie writes in a cheerful spirit - mentioned Ellis  
going to Portland to see her sister Loggie - Robert  
wrote that he was at Bath & Brown since you were  
there. Has been at Shouhegan two Sabbaths & was to be  
at Lincoln for exchange with the ground there so  
that he could be at Island Falls to administer Com-  
munion yesterday. While it is in my mind I will men-  
tion that Dillie wrote that the Worcester's Dictionary - Library  
Edition - for which I subscribed was ready for me at Ark.  
It was to be delivered at Leeds by Jackson of my class if  
I desired it but Dillie said he could just as well take it  
home in his trunk & I would like father to send him  
\$7.50 to pay for it. I suppose he better send him the  
\$8.00 however. He will be waiting for it.

Now mother for a new proposition. Perry has  
a new vessel to be launched this week & ready for sea

Congo fall by the 15<sup>th</sup> of Apr. He has written me  
twice & the last letter came Saturday. He offers to take  
me out <sup>to Nallan</sup> & back (including my board during 3 weeks out  
there) for \$40.00 - The ordinary fare is \$35 - i.e. \$70 in all & not  
including board out there which is \$2.00 or \$2.50 per day. Perry  
says he would like to give me a free passage but he does not  
own an entire <sup>1/2</sup> of the vessel & he cannot afford to pay out  
the money now - indeed I would not allow him to expend any  
thing for me. At the hospital here they have advised me  
to take a voyage & considering that such a chance will  
rarely if ever occur for me & that I never shall be  
as at leisure again I have some inclination. At his  
first offer which was \$1.00 per day, all the voyage round  
I decided not to go fearing it would be too expensive -  
Indeed the benefit of a voyage will probably be very nearly 3 months.  
Brook has written me to come out & back at Nagoya but  
they only pay \$5 or \$6.00 a year & that would little more  
than pay expenses as board &c would be \$250 & then  
there is the fare out & back & clothing. I think I have not  
written you of this offer of Mr. Don. Largent - only  
17 scholars - I suppose if I was positive it would cross  
my throat to spend a year there - I should not long hesitate  
even to give up going to the Seminary this next fall - Perry  
says I may go out to N. & then if I decide to go to Nagoya  
I can do so & return with him at some future time.  
I was thinking that if I could arrange to teach 3  
months I can \$150 & return with Perry then getting  
a cheap passage out & back, perhaps I should do so.

Now I should like to go out & I want you to write me  
immediately if you approve of the idea or not. If I  
come back directly I shall be here in season to return to  
Main the 1<sup>st</sup> of June or with Otis - I have had  
from time to time about \$40.00 of Otis - He thought it  
better not send home for the money as his was not on  
interest i.e. all that I would need - And he is willing  
to let me have the requisite sum for going to Nallan.  
But I hope it would be convenient for Father to send  
Otis the money if I should so write in my next  
letter. I enjoy staying here much more than I did  
having got used to the manners of the Post in town  
degre - Miss Helen Sandt came from Detroit then  
she had been teaching last Saturday & Siffia wants her to  
make a long visit - She suffers considerably from a lame  
back but looks about as usual. She will stay a few  
weeks at least. Otis & I went up in the morning  
last evening & he delivered one of his Religious discourses  
in the school house where we have been before. We  
went before tea which we took at one of the farmer  
houses near the place of meeting. It reminded us of  
some recollecting of Main families - Otis was remind  
ed of Uncle Porrey's very facetly - The house was  
well filled & all seemed attentive. We walked back  
arriving home a little after 10 o'clock - My health  
has been quite good of late - sometimes had a touch of the  
sore throat but you know that is nothing very serious  
with me. What was much more severe was a throat

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3/26/1860

*From:* Charles H Howard

*To:* Mother

CHH-038

West Point, NY

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West Point  
Mar 26, 1860

My Dear Mother

By a letter from Dellie rec'd last Thursday I learned that the Legislature had risen and that you & father were probably at home before this [John Gilmore had been elected to the Maine Legislature from Leeds in 1860]. The session closed sooner than I anticipated. But I felt glad that you could go home this early for I knew & Nettie wrote me that you were beginning to have a little anxiety to be back again.

Dellie wrote in a cheerful spirit - mentioned Ella's going to Portland to see her sister Lizzie. Rowland wrote that he was at Bath & Bruns since you were there. Has been at Skowhegan two Sabbaths & was to be at Lincoln for exchange with the min. there so that he could be at Island Falls to administer communion yesterday.

While it is in my mind I will mention that Dellie write that the Worcester's Dictionary - Library Edition - for which I subscribed was ready for me at <Brk>. It was to be delivered at Leeds by Jackson of my class if I desired it but Dellie said he could just as well take it home in his trunk and I would like father to send him \$7.50 to pay for it. I suppose he better send him the \$8.00, however. He will be waiting for it.

Now Mother for a new proposition. Perry has a new vessel to be launched this week & ready for <some> cargo & all by the 15th of Apr. He has written me twice & the last letter came Saturday. He offers to take me out to Nassau & back (including my board during 3 weeks out there) for \$40.00. The ordinary fare is \$35, i.e. \$70 in all & not including board out there which is \$2.00 or \$2.50 per day. Perry says he would like to give me a free passage but he does not own an entire 1/4 of the vessel & he cannot afford to pay out the money now - indeed I wouldn't allow him to expend anything for me. At the hospital here they have advised me to take a voyage & considering that such a chance will rarely if ever occur for me & that I never shall be so at leisure again.

I have some inclination. At his first offer which was \$1.00 per day all the voyage round I decided not to go fearing it would be too expensive. Indeed the length of a voyage will probably be very nearly 2 months. He has written me to come out & back at Inagua [Bahamas] but they only pay 5 or \$600 a year & that would little more than pay expenses as board & c would be \$250 & then there is the fare out & back & clothing. I think I have not written you of this offer of Mr Danl Sargent. Only 17 scholars - I suppose if I was positive it would cure my throat to spend a year there I should not long hesitate even to give up going to the Seminary this next fall.

Perry says I may go out to N. & then if I decide to go to Inagua I can do so & return with him at some future time. I was thinking that if I could arrange to teach 3 months & have \$150 & return with Perry thus getting a cheap passage out & back, perhaps I would do so. Now I should like to go out & I want you to write me immediately whether you approve of the idea or not. If I come back directly I shall be here in season to return to Maine the 1st of June or with Otis.

I have had from time to time about \$40.00 of Otis. He thought I had better not send home for the money as his was not on interest, i.e. all that I would need. And he is willing to let me have the requisite amt. for going to Nassau. But I hope it would be convenient for father to send Otis the money if I should, so write in my next letter. I enjoy staying here much more than I did having got used to the manners of the Post to some degree.

Miss Hellen Sands came from Deposit, where she had been teaching, last Saturday & Lizzie wants her to make a long visit. She suffers considerably from a lower back but looks about as usual. She will stay a few weeks at least. Otis & I went up in the mountains last evening & he delivered one of his religious discourses in the school house where we have been before. We went before tea, which we took at one of the farm houses near the place of preaching. It reminds us of some recollections of Maine families. Otis was reminded of Uncle Barney's very forcibly. The house was well filled & all seemed attentive. We walked back among homes a little after 10 o'clock.

My health has been quite good of late - sometimes had a touch of the soar throat but you know that is nothing very serious with me. What was much more severe was a blister <> outside caused by binding on some mustard for about ½ hour a night. You know how sensitive my skin is to such applications. It was really laughable that I could not bear it long enough to get to sleep when Otis make no account of putting mustard all over him for the rheumatism at times. I took off the bandage from my throat but next day found that it was effectual.

But I am reminded of a very sudden death, by a kind of throat distemper we are having here, of a young lady member of our Mission Sabbath School - the daughter of a Sergeant - she was sick but 2 or 3 days & the first news we had was that she was dead! The funeral occurs today at 2 o'clock. There have been towards a hundred sick with this disease in this vicinity, but it is getting to be past the season now. The medicine I am now taking seems to be beneficial but not entirely effectual for a cure.

I want to hear from home very much. How you found the house & affairs there & how are Cynthia & children & Roland? [Roland Gilmore is Eliza's stepson who married Cynthia Lothrop] Does the new minister meet with success & seem contented to remain? My love to Roland & Cynthia & their little ones. Who has been doing your chores? Wonder whether Silas or George Bates are engaged in the grand "Strike" in Mass. How was Vaughan when you left? [Vaughan could have been the son of Eliza's brother John Otis, who lived in Hallowell. He died in 1861] Rowland spoke of riding to Augusta with him when at H. week ago.

All are well here - children at play. A little calf is a great source of interest to the children. I take care of him. The butcher will have him in 4 weeks. Have you any little lambs or calves? If you will write me Wed night & mail it Thursday I shall get it Saturday. Miss Hellen wishes to be remembered to you. She is writing to her mother.

Your Affectionate Son  
C.H. Howard

not get back till after Otis was gone or if I  
stay 3 months could not attend your Commencement  
at Bangor or the one at Brunswick.

What think of my going out for a year, Rodd?  
Helen says Mrs Chamberlain had ordered the same  
I can't hardly believe tho' she got it from his sister  
the lecturer in music at "Laurel Bank" - Mr. W. W. W.  
Nothing could give me more satisfaction than to have  
you at Brewer when I should be at Bangor.

In my last to you I meant to have mentioned  
Parker's ordination at Hartford. We have read  
with much interest those articles in the Observ-  
er. Do you think Parker strictly orthodox.

Is it on acct of their theology that you please get  
criticized or only the manner or arrangement of  
them? I fear I have no very clear ideas in  
theology & I hardly dare to think I am so little  
to think & feel different from most orthodox  
people. Is it for a year that they want to enjoy  
you at Brewer or for a longer period?

I was at Rev. Mr. Gray's yesterday - called with  
Johnny Wier. I have recently rec'd a letter  
from Ella & she gives me her minister's to  
take to her. Tell Ella I will bring it safe when  
I come if I do not send it before.

Haskell - an officer - is quite attentive to Helen.  
Wrenall well - Guy always wants to get a word from me  
Rodent. Takes great pride in having his hair parted back.

I am sorry to hear you are not getting on with your  
writing. I am sure you will be very busy since  
you are so near home. I am sure you will be very busy since  
you are so near home. I am sure you will be very busy since  
you are so near home.

My pen is unusually poor - I hope you will  
not get impatient with my writing. If I don't  
go to N. I shall probably remain here till June -  
Otis & the ladies go to N. Y. this week - the group is very green here -  
West Point <sup>Apr. 11,</sup> 1860  
Affectionately yours  
Dear brother Rowland Charles

Your letter inclosing  
Dellie's and the extract from Prof. Smyth's came  
in time and I have since got one from Dellie. His  
came Thursday the day of the Fast in Maine.  
Lizzie, Helen, Louisa, Guy & myself went up to  
St. Petrus that day - I took his letter with me  
& leaving there I went in search of May-  
flowers - "Epigaea" they call it here - When I had  
reached the summit of a hill to the South  
West not having found any signs of flowers  
and being rather tired I sat down & read my  
letter & remembering that it was the day of Fasting  
& Prayer in Maine I tried to remember in proper  
the college & my friends - After that I started my  
walk & hearing some sound from a farm yard  
I went on till I found some settlements - It was  
"Stony Lonesome" I had heard of the place before  
but never seen it - Otis says you wandered up there  
in belief. When I came back another way  
I found some flowers but the ladies had got  
home long before me - I was greatly rejoiced at  
the contents of the letter you sent me. Nettie  
had mentioned that a work had begun - I am

Frederick united by baptism with the Episcopal Church week ago Sunday. I have since heard of one more from the Lople & one from the Fishermen. Chap. With Delle might get his whole heart in the work. Miss Lewis came here 2 weeks ago Sat. on her way home from Depot where she has been with Rev. Mr. Wilde teaching. But her back trouble her a great deal so that she has not been out a great deal here & the walk up to Ft. P. was quite a task but she took it by installments & got along very comfortably. We were sorry to learn that your throat was troubling you - There have <sup>been</sup> two deaths on the Post in so many weeks by a disease of the throat - There have been many cases at the Falls - One little boy in Mr. Wells store whom I saw <sup>day or two</sup> ago perfectly well was found dead in his bed yesterday his mother having come up to the Point to wash for an officer. He seemed unwell in the morning but was in the store the day before - Sergeant Rice's daughter about 17 years <sup>old</sup> - a very pretty & blooming young lady - member of our S. School was sick but two or three days - The first we know she was dead - The sergeant is the most active & efficient Christian we have in that Community. She has been sick unto death herself this winter. His sympathies deeply with the afflicted family.

One of the Bandmen lost his little boy of 2 or 3 years in the same way - His did not get there till the little one had ceased to breathe but he prayed with & comforted them - He says it was an unusually beautiful child - The man has since attended the Bible class & one other who has never been before.

Sometimes I have felt alarmed for you but then remember that you are in the hands of God - I do hope you will not permit in speaking when your throat is sore so as to produce a chronic trouble - I have had a good deal of sore throat of late but it is quite a common thing for me.

It almost convinces me however that I ought to go out with Perry prepared to stop a year in Inagua if all seems favorable - I have thought you would disapprove of my waiting another year & such a thought did not enter my head till I heard about that place at Inagua.

The best I wrote was for them to let me know at Nassau the best they could do. You may have known that they offered \$1000 a year & 1/2 scholarship - Expenses 250 - I thought then I should go out with Perry for the voyage at least - He sails to N. the 25<sup>th</sup> - Had he gone the 15<sup>th</sup> as he first proposed I should, I think, have accompanied him. But now it is very doubtful as if I returned I fear I should

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4/11/1860

*From:* Charles Howard

*To:* Rowland B. Howard

CHH-039

West Point,  
New York

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West Point April 11, 1860

Dear brother Rowland

Your letter enclosing Dellie's and the extract from Prof. Smyth's came in time and I have since got one from Dellie. His came Thursday the day of the Fast in Maine. Lizzie, Hellen Sands, Guy & myself went up to Ft Putnam that day. I took his letter with me & leaving them there, I went in search of "Mayflowers" - "Epigaea" they call it here. When I had reached the summit of a hill to the south west not having found any signs of flowers and being rather tired I sat down & read my letter & remembering that it was the day of Fasting & Prayer in Maine, I tried to remember in prayer the College & my friends. After that I extended my walk & hearing some sounds from a farm yard I went on till I found some settlements. It was "Stony Lonesome". I had heard of the place before but never seen it. Otis says you wandered up there he believes. When I came back another way I found some flowers but the ladies had got home long before me. I was greatly rejoiced at the contents of the letters you sent me. Nettie had mentioned that a work had begun - <Lara> Fessenden united by baptism with the Episcopal Church week ago Sunday. I have since heard of one man from the Soph & one from the Freshman Class. Wish Dellie might get his whole heart in the work. Miss Sands came here 2 weeks ago Sat on her way home from Deposit where she has been with Rev. Mr Wilde teaching. But her back troubles her a great deal so that she has not been out a great deal here & the walk up to Ft. P. was quite a task but she took it by installments & got along very comfortably.

We were sorry to learn that your throat was troubling you. There having been two deaths on the Post in as many weeks by a disease of the throat. There have been many cases at the Falls. One little boy in Mr. Wells' store whom I saw a day or two ago perfectly well was found dead in his bed yesterday his mother having come up to the Post to wash for an officer. He seemed unwell in the morning but was in the store the day before. Sergeant Rose's daughter about 17 years old - a very pretty & blooming young lady - member of our S. School was sick but two or three days. The first we knew she was dead. The Sergeant is the most active & efficient Christian we have in that community & has been nigh unto death himself this winter. Otis sympathizes deeply with the afflicted family.

One of the bandmen lost his little boy of 2 or 3 years in the same way. Otis did not get there till the little one had ceased to breathe but he prayed with & comforted them. He says it was an unusually beautiful child. The man has since attended the Bible Class & one other who has never been before.

Sometimes I have felt alarmed for you but then I remember that you are in the hands of God. I do hope you will not persist in speaking when your throat is sore so as to produce a chronic trouble. I have had a good deal of sore throat of late but it is just a common thing for me.

It almost consumes me however that I ought to go out with Perry prepared to stop a year in Inagua if all seems favorable. I have thought you would disapprove of my wasting another year & such a thought did not enter my head till I heard about that plan at Inagua.

The last I wrote was for them to let me know at Nassau the best they could do. You may have known that they offered \$500 or \$600 a year & 17 scholars. Expenses 250. I thought then that I should go out with Perry for the voyage at least. He sails to N the 25th. Had he gone the 15th as he first proposed I should, I think, have accompanied him. But now it is very doubtful as if I returned I fear I should not get back till after Otis was gone or if I stayed 3 months could not attend your Commencement at Bangor or the one at Brun'k. What think of my going out for a year, Rowland?

Hellen said Jos Chamberlain had entered the Senate. I could hardly believe tho' she got it from his sister the teacher in music at "Laurel Bank" - Mr Wilde's. Nothing could give me more satisfaction than to have you at Brewer when I should be at Bangor. In my last to you I meant to have mentioned Parker's ordination at Hartford. We have read with much interest those articles in the <>. Do you think Parker strictly orthodox? Is it on acc't of their theology that your plans get criticized or only the manner or arrangement of them? I fear I have no very clear ideas in Theology & I hardly dare to think Jesus so

liable to think & feel different from most orthodox people.

Is it for a year that they want to engage you at Brewer or for a longer period?

I was at Rev Mr Gray's yesterday - called with Johny Weir. Jennie has recently rec'd a letter from Ella & has given me her miniature to take to her. Tell Ella I will bring it safe when I come if I do not send it before.

Haskell - an officer - is quite attentive to Jeannie. We are all well - Guy always wants to get a word from Uncle Rowland. Takes great pride in having his hair parted like him.

My pen is unusually poor. I hope you will not get impatient with my writing. If I don't go to N. I shall probably remain here till June. Otis & the ladies go to N.Y. this week. The grass is very green here.

Affectionately yours,  
Charles

Perry offers to take me out and back for \$40. You asked us to join with some prayer. I have done so every day since, besides at our family prayers.

about 2 1/2 o'clock. I enjoyed the  
hymns which were sung by the  
congregation in just old familiar  
tunes - I feared for my throat  
but it seems to be fully as clear  
after I got thro' as when I began.

It's gone an earnest & practical  
discourse in the evening up  
"Whatever a man soweth that shall  
he also reap" - My text was "Not  
knowing that the goodness of God  
leadeth thee to repentance" - Rom. 2: 4.  
I would rather see women and men  
than my preaching out of the family.  
Diana is nearly 3 I must close. I  
enjoy West Point much now - Am with  
a young artist - son of Prof. Pierce  
good deal - Perry has probably sailed  
with us. He was going last week - The name  
of his brig is Lucy Godding - Mr. D's wife's  
name of Nassau - We have heard from  
Phila - our nice then - all well.  
Much love to Father & to Carolyn

The little ones with Roland - We often  
remember you in our prayers & hope you  
do the same by us.

Your affectionate Son  
West Point  
C. H. Howard - May 15 1860

My dear Mother

The thought just struck  
me that you would like a line by  
"Nassau" as we still call him although  
his still greater stature & military  
honors suit the name to a little more  
ceremonious title I suppose.  
He has come into the yard & now sits  
down in the "arbor" in front of the  
house talking. It is almost 2 o'clock  
the time for dinner immediately after  
which he will start in the cars  
for N. Y. on his way to Maine.  
Little Grace just came down stairs  
from her mother all ready for  
dinner - her comb - fair dress  
dressed in a little red frock with a  
white muslin trim which shows the  
red through the texture. The children

day out of doors a good deal & it is  
beneficial to their health such clear  
sunny weather as this. We had some  
thunder showers yesterday & they left  
the air pure & the grass & trees looking  
beautifully fresh & green. I suppose  
Henry is undergoing the process that  
Grace has got thro' with twice  
down he down - simple & pleasant.  
The latter he almost always is.

He reads to me nearly every morning.  
I hope to get thro' his book before going  
to Illinois. When told I could not  
come back to West Point they said  
he would stay too & not return till  
next summer. He craved to have  
Miss Helen go not to come back.  
He could seem to hear that case of  
not coming back.

Last Sabbath I delivered another  
discourse at the Methodist Church  
at the Falls writing it the previous  
week - I was occupied in writing

part of 3 days - The minister here  
after solicited another sermon from  
me but I did not think it best  
to prepare one but he was obliged  
to go away & Otis had some that  
he had not delivered them & so I  
consented to supply his place.

And Otis had to write one for Sabbath  
evening up here in the Soldiers Chapel  
where the Meth. Ministry usually  
preaches Sabbath evenings. I seemed  
to be aided & blessed in this work  
dear Mother so that I felt encour-  
aged that I had not mistaken  
my calling - I think it awful  
to enter the Ministry just like  
any other profession without any  
reason to believe we are called to  
the work. The day you will re-  
member was splendid - the trees  
were all in leaf & the fruit trees  
in blossom - I walked down after  
dinner beginning the meeting at

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5/15/1860

*From:* Charles H Howard

*To:* Mother

CHH-040

West Point, NY

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West Point  
May 15, 1860

My dear Mother

The thought just struck me that you would like a line by "Wassau" as we still call him although his still great stature & military honors entitle him to a little more ceremonious title I suppose. He has come into the yard & now sits down by the "Arbor" in front of the house talking. It is almost 2 o'clock the time for dinner, immediately after which he will start in the cars for N.Y. on his way to Maine. Little Grace just came down stairs from her mother all ready for dinner, hair combed, face clean, draped in a little red frock with a white muslin tire which shows the red through its textures. The children play out of doors a good deal & it is beneficial to their health such charming weather as this. We had some thunder showers yesterday & they left the air pure & the grass & trees looking beautifully fresh & green. I suppose Guy is undergoing the process that Grace has got thro' with & will soon be down <primp> & pleasant. The latter he almost always is. He reads to me nearly every morning. Hopes to get thro' his book before going to Maine. When told I could not come back to West Point Guy said he would stay too & not return till next summer. He cried to have Miss Helen go not to come back. He can't seem to bear that idea of not coming back.

Last Sabbath I delivered another discourse at the Methodist Church at the Falls writing it the previous week. I was occupied in writing part of 3 days. The minister has often solicited another sermon from me but I did not think it best to prepare one but he was obliged to go away & Otis had none that he had not delivered then & so I consented to supply his place. And Otis had to write one for Sabbath evening up here in the Soldiers Chapel where the Meth. minister usually preaches Sabbath evenings. I seemed to be aided & blessed on this work dear mother so that I felt encouraged that I had not mistaken my calling. I think it awful to enter the ministry just like many other professions without any reason to believe we are called to the work.

The day you will remember was splendid. The trees were all in leaf & the fruit trees in blossom. I walked down after dinner beginning the meeting at about 2 ½ o'clock. I enjoyed the hymns which were sung by the Congregation in good old familiar tunes. I feared for my throat but it seems to be feeling as clear after I got thro' as when I began. Otis gave an earnest & practical discourse in the evening upon "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap". My text was "Not knowing that the greatness of God leadeth thee to repentance" Rom 2, 4. I would rather you would not mention my preaching out of the family.

Dinner is ready & I must close. I enjoy West Point much now. Am with a young artist, son of Prof <Pierson> good deal. Perry has probably sailed ere this. He was going last week. The name of his brig is "Lucy Darling". Mr D's wife is now of Nassau. We have heard from Philad. once since then - all well.

Much love to Father & to Cynthia, the little ones with Roland. We often remember you in our prayers & hope you do the same by us.

Your Affectionate Son  
C.H. Howard

William & Maria are going on  
to Maine to spend a month.

We now intend to start from  
here about a week from ~~tomorrow~~  
Wednesday. - Otis & Lizzie may  
stop in Boston a day or two &  
Mrs. Hayward has invited me  
to come & stay a month but I  
doubt if I stay as long as Otis.

Billy Nowell has visited me  
here since I wrote you and  
I would like to see him in  
Cambridge as I go on. Prof.  
Woodman from Dartmouth  
College is one of the Board of Visitors.  
He tells me they like Prof. W.  
Packard very much & that he  
himself is particularly pleased  
with him as a man. He speaks  
of having met with Prof.  
Packard at Bowdoin. He is a

P.S. I have some notion of taking a  
boat direct from Boston to Bath.  
If I do I shall visit <sup>for</sup> ~~at~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~Post~~ <sup>Post</sup> ~~office~~ <sup>office</sup>  
to Leeds Co. June 11, 1860 -

My dear brother

I have neglected  
writing you rather too long I  
think - It is a very busy time here  
since the Examination began - They  
have a board of Visitors of one from  
each State - from half the States  
each year - I have attended the  
examination of the first Class - a  
good deal since the beginning of  
June - They are through with  
it now & the other Classes are  
brought before the August board.

But what has particularly oc-  
cupied my time during the  
last week I kept me even from  
writing to Nettie which I intend  
to do as often as once a week

was the writing of a discourse  
for yesterday - I delivered  
two at Mr Key's - the Presby-  
terian Church at the Falls -  
one in the forenoon - the other  
at 5 o'clock

Do not suppose I do not  
think of you often & a great  
deal because I do not write.

I have not forgot to make  
mention of you morning & evening  
in my prayers since I have  
been here I think - I hope  
I do not forget you at these  
seasons by you.

Wm Merrick & Maria  
with two children - the oldest  
& youngest - Sam. Sallie -  
& a girl - came Saturday eve  
& will stay till Thursday.

It is rather crowded in our  
little house but we keep very  
comfortable - I sleep in a  
temporary bed in the parlor -

The cadets are examined  
in studies rich day from  
9 till 3 without intermission.

And after 5 o'clock they  
have some military exercises  
such as - Riding by the 1st Regt -  
Artillery drill - Battalion drill -  
Firing at the Siege Battery & Sea-  
Coast Battery or Mortar detachment.

There was a very full house  
last evening for me & I felt  
greatly blessed in the work I  
had undertaken of preparing &  
delivering a discourse.

5  
Christian men & attended & took part in our  
cadet prayer-meeting -

Nettie mentioned seeing Roston & Ella  
not long since - We are rather pleased  
with Ferrisburgh as a place of settlement  
for Roston - Mr Hamilton Abbott  
& wife - of the Abbott school there,  
who visited West Point not long since  
seem very desirous to have him  
settle with them. You mentioned  
Ferrisburgh - I should think a soldier's  
rest would be rather preferable if one  
had his own quiet & the peace of the  
Community at heart. They have quarrelled  
for many years - How are your meetings  
this term? I suspect however you will  
not be likely to answer this before I go -  
Thank if you would mail me a letter  
Saturday I should like it very much.

It is a delightful day today - we are  
to have a skirmish drill on the plain -

after 5 o'clock - We have music by the  
Band every evening out in front of the  
Supt's house from 8 1/2 till 9 1/2 o'clock -

C. H. Howard  
June 11. 1860  
West Point

It is delightful to sit upon the  
iron retorts & listen to such sweet music.  
Gen. Scott is here - they fired a salute  
of 15 guns on his arrival a few days  
ago but I have not yet seen him I think  
I should have opportunities enough - In fact  
he will be at a very large party given  
by the Supt. for the benefit of the Band  
tomorrow evening & I have an invitation.  
They are to give him a review tomorrow -  
I should have the pleasure of seeing several  
of their "Reviews" as they had one or two  
for practice as they are before the Band -

I look forward with great pleasure to seeing  
you & my other friends at home before  
many days - This is hastily written but  
I hope you will find no difficulty  
in making it out - If so you will have  
a chance soon of showing it & inquiring its meaning  
of your affectionate Brother C. H. Howard -

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6/11/1860

*From:* Charles H Howard

*To:* Brother [Rodelphus  
Gilmore]

CHH-041

West Point, NY

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West Point  
June 11, 1860

My dear brother, [This must be to Rodelphus since both Rowland and Otis are mentioned in the third person]

I have neglected to write you rather for long I think. It is a very busy time here since the examinations began. They have a board of visitors of one from each state - from half the states each year. I have attended the examination of the first class a good deal since the beginning of June. They are through with it now & the other classes are brought before the august board. But what has particularly occupied my time during the last week & kept me even from writing to Nettie which I intend to do as often as once a week was the writing of a discourse for yesterday. I delivered two at Mr. Gray's - the Presbyterian church at the Falls - one in the forenoon the other at 8 o'clock.

Do not suppose I do not think of you often and a great deal because I do not write. I have not forgotten to make mention of you morning and evening in my prayers since I have been here I think. I hope that I am not forgotten at these seasons by you.

William Merrick and Maria with two children - the oldest and youngest Sam and Sallie and a girl - came Saturday eve and will stay till Thursday.

It is rather crowded in our little house but we keep very comfortable. I sleep on a temporary bed in the parlor.

The cadets are examined in studies each day from 9 till 3 without interruption. And after 5 o'clock they have some military exercise such as: riding by the first class artillery drill - battalion drill - firing at the Siege Battery & Seacoast Battery or Mortar drill.

There was a very full house last evening for me. I felt greatly blessed in the work I had undertaken of preparing & delivering a discourse.

William & Maria are going on to Maine to spend a month.

We now intend to start from here about a week from Wednesday. Otis & Lizzie may stop in Boston a day or two & Mrs Hazard has invited me to come & stay a month but I doubt if I stay as long as Otis.

Billy Nowell has visited me here since I was with you and I would like to see him in Cambridge as I go on. Prof Woodman from Dartmouth College is one of the Board of Visitors. He tells me they like Prof Wm Packard very much & that he himself is particularly pleased with him as a man. He spoke of having met with Prof Packard at Bowdoin. He is a Christian man & attended & took part in our Cadet prayer meeting.

Nettie mentioned seeing Rowland & Ella not long since. We are rather pleased with Farmington as a place of settlement for Rowland. Mr Hamilton Abbott & wife - of the Abbott school there - who visited West Point not long since seem very desirous to have him settle with them. You mentioned Yarmouth. I should think a hornets nest would be rather preferable if one had his own quiet & the peace of the community at heart. They have quarreled for many years.

How are your meetings this term? I suspect however you will not be likely to answer this before I go, though if you would mail me a letter Saturday I should like it very much.

It is a delightful day today. We are to have a skirmish drill on the plain after 5 o'clock. We have music by the band every evening out in front of the Supt's house from 8 ½ till 9 ½ o'clock. It is delightful to go out & sit upon the iron settees & listen to such sweet music. Gen Scott is here - they fired a salute of 15 guns on his arrival a few days ago but I have not yet seen him. I should have opportunities enough. In

fact he will be at a very large party given by the Supt for the benefit of the band tomorrow evening & I have an invitation. They are to give him a review tomorrow. I have had the pleasure of seeing several of these "Reviews" as they had one or two for practice & then one before the Board.

I look forward with great pleasure to seeing you & my other friends at home before many days. This is hastily written but I hope you will find no difficulty in making it out. If so you will have a chance soon of shewing it & inquiring its meaning of

Your affectionate Brother  
C.H. Howard

P.S. I have some notion of taking a boat direct from Boston to Bath. If I do I shall visit you before going to Leeds C.

which characterizes college -  
 If you continue to go in faith to  
 the Lord Jesus He will give you  
 a sense of your sinfulness & dependence  
 upon Him and also a sweet sense of forgiveness  
 - only go in real good earnest -  
 Mrs. Newcombe has a good deal to  
 her & often I have had hardly faith  
 to believe fully that she would be  
 reverse to the rest. Mr. N. is a second  
 husband & with no refinement or education  
 yet a good natured & talkative man  
 quite self-satisfied - trades houses goods  
 Do you think you can be of help to  
 N. in leading a Christian life - If you  
 are only near to Jesus & will conduct  
 family prayers - it will be a great help  
 used to have her lead in prayer first, after  
 reading at night - I have written much  
 upon these subjects because so much  
 seems to depend upon your state of mind  
 all is with Christ & I will trust that  
 you shall find him a very precious help  
 to you in this & every time of need & that  
 I shall see & find hear the same.

I have a very high  
 pleasure in  
 being in the Chapel  
 visiting - French  
 course - Monday  
 Read & meet  
 I may just have  
 from the 1st of the  
 all done. but  
 the same - the work  
 you can point to take  
 Binger - the - August 15  
 the 1st of the family  
 at home - the  
 I have a very high  
 pleasure in  
 being in the Chapel  
 visiting - French  
 course - Monday  
 Read & meet  
 I may just have  
 from the 1st of the  
 all done. but  
 the same - the work  
 you can point to take  
 Binger - the - August 15  
 the 1st of the family  
 at home - the

O. H. Roward  
 1860  
 Binger Nov. 15,

My school closed  
 last Frid. and Sat forenoon I came  
 here - I expected to hear from you  
 before I left this I suppose you  
 consider it settled that you are to  
 teach the school out there at  
 \$21.00 per month board - You had  
 better write to Mr. Wm Rogers as  
 to the time when he will meet  
 you here in Binger - You probably  
 wont want to go out before the Frid  
 or Sat previous to the 1st Monday in  
 Dec. Are you making good prog-  
 ress in French - My class read the  
 1st 4 fables in the last part of Faguel  
 I hope you will get knowledge  
 enough of it to be able to read with  
 the two or three who desire to study  
 it this winter or hear them recite it  
 with profit to you both - They expect to

pay something extra & thus make  
up 2 months.

In a letter from Rowland's Oct  
last night he invited me to come  
& preach for him either before or  
after Thanksgiving & thus visit home  
for the year one way - Don't you in-  
tend to be at home Thanksgiving?

If I go I think it better be to preach  
before in order that I may return  
with you to Bangor - If I don't go  
I shall be glad to see you as soon as  
you can come - If at home Thurs. you  
would get here Frid. Eve. & might go  
out to Holden Saturday stopping on  
your way to be examined or to arrange  
for it if you chose. Rev. Mr. South-  
worth is one of the Comm. Dr. Fogg  
is another & Mr. Freeman the other.  
They are fine men & Mr. S. is one  
of the warmest hearted Christian men.

Do you feel as tho' the Lord had  
given you the Grace & the preparation

you need in order to go into a  
Community where He has been  
working a work of grace?

None of the Converts made before  
I left will attend your school but  
may we not hope that some of them  
who do attend may become Converts  
thru' faithful prayer & the blessing of  
the Spirit upon humble Christian  
effort?

The election has resulted much to  
our gratification doubtless as it has  
for the greater part of my friends. Mr.  
Southworth is quite an earnest Repub-  
lican - But he regards the winning of  
votes to Liberty as something requiring  
more attention from us all - Give everything  
its due attention seems to be his motto  
& this I would desire to do. Write  
me whether <sup>you</sup> have been feeling any dif-  
ferent in view of the position you are  
going to occupy - for you told me you  
partook of ~~the~~ what of the indifference

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11/15/1860

*From:* Charles H Howard

*To:* Brother [Rodelphus  
Gilmore]

CHH-042

Bangor, Maine

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C.H. Howard  
1860  
H Bangor Nov 15,

My dear brother [This letter must be to Rodelphus, as both Rowland and Otis are referred to in the third person]

My school closed last Frid and Sat forenoon I came here. I expected to hear from you before I left tho' I suppose you consider it settled that you are to teach the school out there at \$21.00 per month & boarded. You had better write to Mr Wm Rogers as to the time when he will meet you here in Bangor. You probably won't want to go out before the Frid or Sat previous to the 1st Monday in Dec. Are you making good progress in French. My class read the 1st 4 fables in the last part of Fasquelles. I hope you will get knowledge enough of it to be able to read with the two or three who desire to study it this winter or hear them recite it with profit to you both. They expect to pay something extra & thus make up 2 months.

In a letter from Rowland rec'd last night he invited me to come & preach for him either before or after Thanksgiving & thus visit him for the fare one way. Don't you intend to be at home Thanksgiving? If I go I think it better be to preach before in order that I may return with you to Bangor. If I don't go I shall be glad to see you as soon as you can come. If at home Thurs you would get here Frid eve & might go out to Holden Saturday stopping on your way to be examined or to arrange for it if you chose. Rev. Mr Southworth is one of the <Gove>. Dr. Fogg is another & Mr. Freeman the other. They are fine men & Mr S is one of the warmest hearted Christian men. Do you feel as tho' the Lord had given you the grace & the preparation you need in order to go into a community where He has been working a work of grace?

None of the converts made before I left will attend your school but may we not hope that some of them who do attend may become converts thro' faithful prayers & the blessing of the spirit upon humble Christian effort?

The election has resulted much to your gratification doubtless as it has for the greater part of my friends. Mr Southworth is quite an earnest Republican. But he regards the winning of souls to Christ as something requiring more attention from us all - give everything its due attention seems to be his motto & this I would desire to do. Write me whether you have been feeling any different in view of the position you are going to occupy for you told me you partook some what of the indifference which characterizes college. If you continue to go in faith to the Lord Jesus He will give you a sense of your sinfulness & dependence upon him and also a exact sense of forgiveness - only go in real good earnest.

Mrs. Newcombe had a good deal to try her & often I have had hardly faith enough to believe fully that she would persevere to the end. Mr N is a second husband & with no refinement or socialization yet a good natured & talkative man quite self-satisfied. Trades horses good deal. Do you think you can be of help to Mrs N in leading a Christian life. If you are only near to Jesus & will conduct family prayers, it will be a great help, I used to have her lead in prayer first, often reading at night. I have written much upon these subjects because so much seems to depend upon your state of mind. Yet all is with Christ & I will trust that you shall find him a very precious help to you in this & every time of need & that I shall seek & find him the same.

I have a very high & pleasant room here in the Chapel building. Fuller came Monday. Rowland mentioned having just heard from Mother & Otis - all well. Write me soon, this week if you can, send to Theo. Sem. Bangor, Me. Regards to Mr Foot & family when you see them.

Affectionately  
C.H. Howard

P.S. Please tell Nettie that you will see me & I would like to have you bring my Shakespeare & if you have room some other books with my class album. Not important however.

spiritual life. - Have you got your  
glasses yet? - I must hasten to  
close. Write me soon. Mr. Southworth  
was here & took dinner Monday -  
How did you pass Examination?

I need advice as much as any body,  
- constant counsel as I talk to you  
just as I want my brethren all  
to address me - frankly & freely. It  
is not so much advice as brotherly  
suggestions that come up as I write.

Very Affectionately Yours  
A. H. Howard

Great wedding here last night - my  
Chamber attended - six hundred invitations  
- Miss Brown to Woodrow Eng. of Lewiston -  
A snow-storm close in the wake  
rather before my wake I should say.

O. W. Howard  
Dec 5, 1860

Bangor  
Bangor Dec. 5, 1860

Dear Brother

I am going down to make the  
pouches for you - I found the throat-bandages  
that you thought you would want there, I meant  
to have sent some word to Mrs. N. & Combs -  
You did not say anything about your board-  
ing-place - My kindest regards to Mr. N. all  
I could ask for you would be that you  
receive as much kind treatment as I did  
while a member of the family - Ask  
Mrs. N. for me to read the X Chap. of  
Hebrews beginning with the 16<sup>th</sup> verse - Tell  
her I find great riches in that Chapter -  
Have read it considerably lately & last  
night read a portion of it to my class  
as they met for a <sup>prayer</sup> meeting in my room. We  
had a very good meeting - I hope you are  
united by one bond - the love of our Lord.

A letter from Rowland came with you.  
One from Jos came the night before.

Brooklyn. N.Y.  
(I will inclose them requesting that you  
return them to me <sup>without fail</sup> at the  
first opportunity) <sup>think I will not send them</sup> Perhaps they would  
not be of so much interest to you as  
some of your own - I will add that they  
were all well tho' Lizzy & Henry have  
had bad colds - Otis has got so as  
to translate some Hebrew Psalms, & is  
also studying some other Theological books.  
Rustand heard the Lecture in Rev. Mr.  
Fuller's a Thanksgiving-day - <sup>his</sup> Alicia  
being in with Otis - Who are your  
Young Ladies & scholars? My regards to  
Miss Eliza Rogers & Miss Leonard Hart  
also to Julia if you have an oppor-  
tunity to speak with them separately.

Hope you will make your self familiar  
with my old scholars & give them good  
friends - If you make no pretensions to  
more knowledge than your Class you might  
read a little French with them, <sup>seems to</sup>  
me - If you only will be simple - I mean  
unaffected you will succeed in all

relations I have no doubt - This is  
especially needful in Religion - These  
pretensions & affectation are sin - How  
do you like the "big boys" as it is  
sometimes expressed - the young men?  
I feel very anxious that you get  
along well, & agreeably to yourself  
& others - Just be yourself - un-  
affected (in a good sense) & I trust  
you will be liked - I never found  
anything bad in you so I conclude  
that with the grace of God you <sup>will</sup> exhibit  
it nothing bad by just being yourself.  
The fear is of trying to show something  
for self-glorification - We should never  
try to show off self - It is not agreeable  
to others nor profitable to us - In one  
word magnify Christ and even this  
unostentatiously - I am in hopes  
you will enjoy much of his presence -  
Some time of every day spent in private  
devotion & meditation is a fruitful source  
of spiritual growth - In fact it is essential to

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12/5/1860

*From:* Charles H Howard

*To:* Brother [Rodelphus  
Gilmore]

CHH-043

Bangor, Maine

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Bangor Dec. 5, 1860

Dear Brother [Rodelphus Gilmore]

I am going down to make the purchases for you. I found the throat bandages that eve & thought you would want them. I meant to have sent some word to Mrs Newcombe. You did not say anything about your boarding place. My kindest regards to Mrs N. All I could ask for you would be that you receive as much kind treatment as I did while a member of the family. Ask Mrs N for me to read the X Chap of Hebrews beginning with the 16th verse. Tell her I find great riches in that chapter. Have read it considerably lately & last night read a portion of it to my class as they met for a prayer meeting in my room. We had a very good meeting. I hope we are united by one bond - the love of our Lord.

A letter from Rowland came with yours. One from Otis came the night before. (I will enclose them requesting that you return them to me without fail at the first opportunity). I think I will not send them. Perhaps they would not be of so much interest to you as some of your own. I will add that they were all well tho' Lizzie & Guy have had bad colds. Otis has got so as to translate some Hebrew Psalms & is also studying some other theological books. Rowland heard the Meth min Rev & Mrs Fuller on Thanksgiving day. Mrs Alice Wing is with Otis.

Who are your young lady scholars? My regards to Miss Eliza Rogers & Miss Caroline Hart also to Julia if you have an opportunity to speak with them separately. Hope you will make yourself familiar with my old scholars & find them good friends. If you <brook> no pretention to more knowledge than your class you might read a little French with them, seems to me. If you only will be simple - I mean unaffected you will succeed in all relations I have no doubt. This is especially needful in Religion where pretention & affectation are sins.

How do you like the "big boys" as it is sometimes expressed - the young men? I feel very anxious that you get along well, & agreeably to yourself & others. Just be yourself, unsophisticated (in a good sense) & I trust you will be liked. I never found anything bad in you so I conclude that with the grace of God, you will exhibit nothing bad by just being yourself. The fear is of trying to show something for self-glorification. We should never try to show off self. It is not agreeable to others nor profitable to us. In one word magnify Christ and even this unostentatiously. I am in hopes you will enjoy much of his presence. Some time of every day spent in private devotion & meditation is a fruitful source of spiritual growth. In fact it is essential to spiritual life.

Have you got your glasses yet? I must hasten to close. Write me soon. Mr Southworth was here & took dinner Monday. How did you pass examination? I need advice as much as anybody. Constant counsel & I talk to you just as I want my brothers, all to address me, frankly & freely. It is not so much advice as brotherly suggestions that come up as I write.

Very Affectionately Yours  
C.H. Howard

Great wedding here last night - my chum attended. Six hundred invitations a Miss Brown to <Goodenuw> Esq of Lewiston. A snow storm close in the wake rather before my wake, I should say.

C. N. Norwood

Sheet No. 1 & 2 would be up to the  
Bazaar meeting next Tuesday  
His' Babier's hair is black - He cut  
a lock to mother - The Writing books  
were \$100 per doz. I put the prices on your  
wrappers - outside of the package with a  
pencil - whole came to \$1,99 Thelise  
Guess of course welcome, to all I  
can do for you in any respect just  
tell me what you want - I called  
on Mrs. Fifield <sup>last</sup> week & tell Mrs  
Newcomb - she was taking lessons on  
the Melodeon - I gave her some family  
worship & do you hope it will have you  
been to my prayer meeting - Prof  
wrote me that Hibbard (who was a model  
of piety) made it a point to take <sup>part</sup> 5 minutes  
in every prayer meeting unless the time was  
very fully taken up by others - Not more than  
this - Great difficulty is in being too careless  
they where we take part - speak brief & to the  
point in my motto - perhaps or across apt to be too long  
in remarks - Pray much & expect the Lord to lead  
you thro' all difficulties, if you love Him for all

things, work together for good to them that be  
led - How goes the French? Have any difficul-  
ty in Algebra or Arithmetic? - Sec'y Coff has request-  
ed Mrs. Scott calls for Morgan - defense of Ft. Mautric -  
Sec'pim seems memorable - Pangor Dec. 15, 1860  
Hope there'll be no sacrifice of principle - But we soon if

Dear Brother - Mrs. Host is coming  
for family - that day - Send me  
I got your letter last

night - I had heard of just what you  
wrote about Wm. of Fed. by Mr.  
Hart of whom I bot two Cordy <sup>of</sup> Fed -  
He told me Thursday - He heard the word  
yesterday but brot us for the week -  
I felt very sorry to hear that everything  
was not going smoothly but I don't  
see how I can go out - Resolth. South  
wrote intimates (between you & me for the  
present) that he would wait next  
occupy his prepit week from tomorrow  
& I don't want to be gone two weeks -  
on Sabbath, I hope that you will  
ride out today tho' it is raining  
I have thought much & prayed about  
your school & this difficulty, I fear  
something in that direction - I have de-  
cided that without doubt the best thing

for you is to see both the Mr. Rogers  
& talk with them about their sons. I  
would previously have a good talk  
with each of the boys alone - telling  
them there is no need of any trouble -  
ask them what they want & tell them  
you intend to do just what is right  
with them - Get them to talk & then  
reason with them - Ask them if any  
of your requirements are unjust - Tell  
them that it will be a very easy matter  
for them to make the school useless or non-  
ly to themselves or they can make it  
profitable & you are ready to give all the  
assistance in your power - Perhaps  
even now you can get on the right  
side of both of them - If this succeeds  
I would call quite frequently at their  
houses, make myself as social & agree-  
able as possible - assisting in studies  
when practicable - But if they  
continue intractable, as I before said  
I would talk with their fathers, telling

them just how they are doing - As they are  
under good discipline at home probably,  
they would soon amend - Finally if  
you cant keep them straight by you or  
nor their fathers means, - having first  
in private informed each of them & their  
parents of what would be necessary - then  
speak to Dr. Fogg or Mr. Souffworth  
about it - Mr. S. will probably set  
all right either by talking to them or by  
expelling from school - I had to  
ferule <sup>Wm</sup> but afterwards he was a  
pretty good boy - I came near doing  
the same to Fred. but I finally  
got to be pretty good friends by seeing them  
good deal out of school - Treat Venue  
Rogers like a Lady - full grown - per-  
haps you will get along well with her -  
but that family are very sensitive - Both  
call on them if you can make friends -  
Neither inquires where she should  
send your Spectacles - so I hope you  
have them use them - Richard with

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12/15/1860

*From:* Charles H Howard

*To:* Brother [Rodelphus  
Gilmore]

CHH-044

Bangor, Maine

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Bangor Dec. 15, 1860 [Saturday]

Dear Brother [Rodelphus Gilmore]

I got your letter last night. I had heard of just what you wrote about Wm & Fred by Mr Hart of whom I bo't two cords of wood. He told me Thursday. He hauled the wood yesterday [Friday] but bro't no further news. I felt very sorry to hear that every thing was not going smoothly but I don't see how I can go out.

Rev Mr Southworth intimated (between you & me for the present) that he would want me to occupy his pulpit week from tomorrow & I don't want to be gone two successive Sabbaths. I hope still you may ride out today tho' it is very cold.

I have thought much & prayed about your school & this difficulty. I feared something in that direction.

I have decided that without doubt the best thing for you is to see both the Mr Rogers & talk with them about their sons. I would previously have a good talk with each of the boys alone telling them there is no need of any trouble, ask them what they want & tell them you intend to do just what is right with them. Get them to talk & then reason with them. Ask them if any of your requirements are unjust. Tell them that it will be a very easy matter for them to make the school useless or nearly so to themselves or they can make it profitable & you are ready to give all the assistance in your power.

Perhaps even now you can get on the right side of both of them. If this succeeds I would call quite frequently at their homes, make myself as sociable & agreeable as possible, assisting in studies when practicable. But if they continue intractable, as I before said, I would talk with their fathers telling them just how they are doing. As they are under good discipline at home probably they would come around. Finally if you can't keep them straight by your own nor their fathers means - having first in private informed each of them & their parents of what would be necessary, then speak to Dr Fogg or Mr Southworth about it.

Mr S will probably set all right either by talking to them or by expelling from school. I had to ferule Wm but afterwards he was a pretty good boy. I came near doing the same to Fred but I finally got to be pretty good friends by seeing them a good deal out of school. Treat <Almira> Rogers like a lady, full grown, & perhaps you will get along well with her, but that family are very sensitive. Better call on them if you can make friends.

Nettie inquired where she should send your spectacles. So I hope you have them ere this. Rowland wrote Dellie he would be up to the <> meeting next Tuesday. Otis' baby's hair is black. He sent a lock to Mother. The writing books were \$100 per doz. I put the address on your wrapper - outside of the package with a pencil. Whole came to \$1.99 I believe. You are of course welcome to all I can do for you in any respect. Just tell me what you want.

I called on Miss <Fairfield> week ago - tell Mrs Newcomb. She was taking lessons on her melodeon. Do you have family worship & do you enjoy it? Have you been to any prayer meetings? Rowland wrote that Hibbard (who was a model of piety) made it a point to take part of minutes in every prayer meeting in case the <hour> was very fully taken up by others. Not more than this. Great difficulty is in being too lengthy where we take part. Speak brief & to the point is my motto. People are always apt to be too long in remarks. Pray much & expect the Lord to lead you thro' all difficulty if you love Him for "All things work together for good to them that have least".

How goes the French? Have any difficulty in Algebra or Arithmetic?

Sec'y Cobb [Treasury Secretary under President Buchanan who resigned and started the secessionist Confederate States of America] has resigned & Gen Scott calls for a strong defense of Ft Moultrie. Secession seems inevitable. Hope there'll be no sacrifice of principle.

Write me soon if possible. Mr Hart is coming here Tuesday - start early - send me a letter by Rufus. Wm would take it home Monday night. Nobody <has left> school without some trial & some trouble I guess.

Affectionately yours  
Charles