Je fear Mrs. Merrice was too inconsoloble. I thust my mother with the help of the Dord is thether proposed to mest affliction. I heard & Stes convering the other day whom the great goin of Those who Exchange this world for Horoven. But for his fewely's rate he would Chung to sorth more Closely, I have no the of this kind precisely - I have the tie of morest Kindred but that will seem to be rolled of necessary support if I be taken away -Just this very two minutes a rote come from the Gumner for Otes to Come over and see him - he having betweened from Washington. It is very dash and rainy but it is not mon than a quarter of a mile welk and this put on his wher-boots - I look the cope from my over-coet that he might wear that and his rubber Cost over I I being mor convenent for that purpose than his own. Dr. Police went over to Head Sunty not long since so he will have company book and I did not need to go - The mertenger was with have going over. It & don't often allow Brigi Esmuals to go alone (unless they go into too dange our places (?) My theet is full and Than and Otis rade back with John taking his how

State Quarter Tongado California March C this moment the wind begins to blow harder still. It is I judge about 8 o'clock in the Evening . Since Supper Mr. Balloch (Commissary) Mr Miles and Is with accourably come help from Otes here Theen ringing in front of the open fire in baft. I Swall's tent the latter person being in Washington truight, gove for his pay. Otis left us nearly shalf are hour ago to come up to his tent to righ some Mouster Holls and now I am at the other table in the some tent. Otis has had to right Firs name about 180 hours besides other writing upon the Wolls - I proposed them by Examination and conting down Every thing Except the name. It That been a rainy day and I have not been out Smuch. Frelenden it snowed court I wich. 34 Mr. Youp low, her rester and Mrs. leeft Watrow of So thathe We's. Come ober to \$552 Us - It begun to snow 8: while they were here so we get a Hospital wagon

over to the Third Moure for him to ride hack whom. We ladies were here at duines -We all attended though religious services Standing whom the ground about 20 minutes. then friends of Mrs. I. how here on hen really two mouths but have not visited us befor. Mrs. I. send back by this a letter from Mrs. Merrill and Many, the mother and sites of the young mon of the Third ME, who died a few works ago - You will business that he was a particular friend of mine and perhaps I wrote you that I sent his folks a letter almost Every day during his rick. sup - But by this letter I find that they received none of my letters till after the Delegraphic dispatch come announcing his death. It was a terrible flow to thew. There ladies visiting the third Mour an going house room. Ofice Millett was over again last Saturday and get a letter of sutroduction From Otis - The are all Exhecting to move soonas Touks has already done, Great Summer was ordered to Hashington today

on a lecuncil of hor as we purmise.

All the Artillery of the army of the Polorumo has been suchenged within two days. We don't know prairiely why. Perhaps to get all of the new rimproved rifled guns - Perhaps to get lighter guns. Warything bears toward a more ment spending. I think I have written your price the order for leduction of baggage but the General and I had anticipated it by rending away all Except our voluces before.

My appointment as Sect. by the Governor of New York come today! I am very glad not only on very own but on Olis account that this arrives before the advance. He has been quite onxious about it and broubled because it did not come.

place masked out by Providence I believe for me - although I love may mother and other dear ones in Movine yet I would not be away from hen now on any account. This is the situation for which I am fitted by notural taste, copacity and Education if there is any much situation and I have the content which orises from trying to do my duty.

3/4/1862 *From:* C.H. Howard *To:* Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-057 Head Quarters 1st

Brigade

Camp California Va

Head Quarters 1st Brigade Camp California Mar. 4, 1862

My dear Mother,

It is raining hard and just at this moment the wind begins to blow harder still. It is I judge about 8 o'clock in the evening. Since supper Mr Bullock (commissary) Mr Miles and I with occasionally some help from Otis have been singing in front of the open fire in Capt. Sewall's tent, the latter person being in Washington tonight, gone for his pay. Otis left us nearly half an hour ago to come up to his tent to sign some Muster Rolls and now I am at the other table in the same tent. Otis has had to sign his name about 180 times besides other writing upon the Rolls. I prepared them by examination and writing down every thing except the name. It has been a rainy day and I have not been out much. Yesterday it snowed about 1 inch.

Mrs. Sampson, her sister and Mrs. Capt. Watson of Bath Me. came over to see us. It began to snow while they were here so we got a Hospital wagon and Otis rode back with John taking his horse over to the Third Maine for him (Otis) to ride back upon. The ladies were here at dinner. We all attended religious services standing upon the ground about 20 minutes. These friends of Mrs. S. have been over here nearly two months but have not visited us before. Mrs. S. sent back by Otis a letter from Mrs. Merrill and Mary, the mother and sister of the young man of the Third Me. who died a few weeks ago. You will remember that he was a particular friend of mine and perhaps I wrote you that I sent his folks a letter almost every day during his sickness. But by this letter I find that they received none of my letters till after the Telegraphic dispatch came announcing his death. It was a terrible blow to them.

These ladies visiting the Third Maine are going home soon. Ozias Millett was over again last Saturday and got a letter of introduction from Otis. We are all expecting to move soon, as Banks has already done. General Sumner was ordered to Washington today on a Council of War as we surmise. All of the Artillery of the Army of the Potomac has been exchanged within two days. We don't know precisely why. Perhaps to get all of the new & improved rifled guns. Perhaps to get lighter guns. Everything bears toward a movement speedily. I think I have written you since the order for reduction of baggage but "the General" and I had anticipated it by sending away all except our valises before.

My appointment as Lieut. by the Governor of New York came today! I am very glad not only on my own but on Otis' account that this arrived before the advance. He has been quite anxious about it and troubled because it did not come.

Now all is right and I am in the place marked out by Providence I believe for me. Although I love my mother and other dear ones in Maine yet I would not be away from here now on any account.

This is the situation for which I am fitted by natural taste, capacity and education if there is any such situation and I have the contentment which arises from trying to do my duty.

I fear Mrs. Merrill was too inconsolable. I trust my mother with the help of the Lord is better prepared to meet affliction. I heard Otis conversing the other day upon the great gain of those who exchange this world for Heaven. But for his family's sake he would cling to earth more closely. I have no tie of this kind precisely. I have the tie of nearest kindred but no kindred that will seem to be robbed of necessary support if I be taken away.

Just this very two minutes a note came from Gen. Sumner for Otis to come over and see him - he having returned from Washington. It is very dark and rainy but it is not more than a quarter of a mile walk and Otis put on his rubber boots. I took the cape from my overcoat that he might wear that and his rubber coat over it - it being more convenient for that purpose than his own. Dr. Palmer went over to Head Quarters not long since so he will have company back and I did not need to go. The messenger

was with him going over. We don't often allow Brig. Generals to go alone (unless they go into too dangerous places (?)) my sheet is full and I have [inserted undated fragment] hardly begun my letter so it seems to me. John comes in and says "George is "drowned out". He means our colored man the cook. He has a log house for a kitchen - not as good as a tent for the rain. We have a little colored boy who is a great curiosity about here now. Yesterday morning one of the Soldiers of the 64th brought him up – inquired for "Brig Gen. Howard" and said he had brought up a boy who had been about their camp for several days. That the boy had vermin upon him and none of the soldiers would allow him in their tents. He had take pity upon the poor little fellow & did for him the only thing he could think of – brought him to the General. Otis took him and had him stripped and washed thoroughly in an outer-tent. The boy was reluctant about putting his head under water so Otis took him up and plunged him in. He got him some clothes, extemporized about here. The boy was very
bright> – a mulotto. Today he got him a good suit of clothes in Alex'a. The boy declares that he came from New York but has given unmistakable proof that he was born & raised in these parts. He is about 8 years old I should judge. I have often thought of "Edward" since I saw this boy. I have not mentioned it to Otis. And today he told us his name was Johnson tho' his father's name was Sykes or something like that. He is a funny fellow and it is very doubtful whether we will be able to make any thing of him. At any rate Otis will have the satisfaction of knowing that he saved one poor suffering little boy from probably death and made him comfortable at least for a time.

We had a good prayer-meeting last night. Otis spoke briefly and offered one prayer. I had some tracts which I distributed as the soldiers went out. They are very glad to get anything good to read. After meeting I called with Mr. Miles (who was very desirous of going last night) upon Mrs. Richards – the near neighbor to us and upon whose land is our encampment. She is a perfect lady. I had met her once before. I took a very excellent tract written by Bishop <McIlwaine> of Ohio – a venerable clergyman and friend of Otis. I carried it sealed in an envelope & gave it to Mrs. R.

I find I must close. I know you are one of the Praying Army at home. May Heaven's choicest blessings be upon you and my brothers & father tonight is the prayer of

Your Affectionate Son C. H. Howard

P.S. "The General" has returned and says we move tomorrow! We leave at 8 o'clock. Are going out to support some Bridge-builders upon the R. R. and expect to return to camp again before we go "for good". We take three days rations. You may not hear so often now but you know in whose hands we are. Otis sends his love and says you must not be anxious about us. I have written an order at his dictation since he came back.

Good Night. Charles.

Rowland & Dellie would be glad to know about our prospect of moving I suppose.

protesty return to dang March 6. 186 2 Burke's Station C. Ho. Ho. Hand Howards His 25 for a fair start - oremobile 4 always Thopa for mice not be assimes whent is Mar, 6th 1862 but wice may feet as My Clear mother constatty - Low to father Fin of our histories we went the late to Romand seller out to guest the finding of to Ligging tomptot. The R. R. budn acrop The account - WE spent two a hearty dimer of heart mysis in the word, then terf - Yamraffiction of In + lotter at amond - I have bun rusing all the ofbrown. Wed lent with show Company to gleard a certain LA Howard Mesach from Alliga Chi. House When the Richely These remain a formed the at faixfox Station often wards of respond with

Burker Stetien travel 6, 176 De hartel's Stateral Time to this pointwhen he will Umain Foregat. C. H. Ho. Har Mada S. Hill. Sais In home on theft at this tox thehow - They drove in The Robert within holy this. P.M. Amother Ragt. is want Lott, John Kulmers help my up t a third about 12 mile up, The 61th n. 4. is my hack at bank leve. formin - bift. Connee gay Fach there on the boin tought, Providence has favored all our un Intakayor HE an with July of Letter to the feet ferree a family at The thouse - alth Saly pring - father locking its I thought Die which south som fut he had to come beach The livey-courts of mor mily is oliving. denote, Islikat much - he all got toply back fort might some non - to three

3/6/1862 *From:* C.H. Howard *To:* Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-058 Burke's Station Leeds, Maine

Gen. Howard's H'd Q'rs

[To:] Col. John Gilmore, Leeds, Maine

Burke's Station Gen. Howard's H'd Q'rs Mar. 6th 1862

My dear Mother,

As I informed you of our situation we went out to guard the building of the R.R. bridge across the Accotink. We spent two night in the woods there & today advanced I have been riding all the afternoon. Was sent with about 2 companies of men - part Cavalry, to guard a certain approach from Fairfax Court House where the Rebels still remain. I joined Otis at Fairfax Station afterwards & remained with him to this point where we will remain tonight.

We have one Regt. at Fairfax Station. They drove in the Rebel redoubts today - this P.M. Another Regt. is about half way up & a third about ½ mile up. The 61st N.Y. is way back at Camp California. Capt. Sewall goes back there on the train tonight. Providence has favored all our undertakings. We are with a family at the Station. A little baby dozing - father holding it - mother cooking us a supper which doubtless we will relish.

I thought I would scratch you a few lines. We got a shot at the grey-coats & Mr. Miles is chasing some now. We shall probably return to Camp for a fair start.

Meanwhile & always I hope you will not be anxious about us but will pray for us constantly. Love to father & all - to Rowland & Ellen when you write. Otis writes to Lizzie tonight. I am perfectly well after a hearty dinner of bread & beef.

Your Affectionate Son, C.H. Howard

Your letters - one Feb 25th came out to Burke's to me & one the 2d March came here yesterday. I'll write today.

Camp Cal. Mar 8th '62 (Sabbath) [Mar 8, 1862 was a Saturday]

My dear Mother

This letter was sent down by Capt. Sewall but he had to come back directly & didn't mail it. We all got safely back last night.

Yr. Affec. Son Charles

1/sec Howard HA 25 mine way Noten Shile it the sugrames the other day - I like this temperang. There only Furke's Station We that not make a forced " march - not was My dear mother I with law last framing & as 12 or 15 miles. again the norming a few line, but I'de The are in The hours of merciful Houses not like to go to lest till I have hut down Father - our who is vin tholy and has the a little more for you ting these one, at home, That all though will work together for the goods Lunca Lupper I have been looking over Kapers to of There that love wer" - "We think we to the frund in the trallet of a like transmore Sand thet you tour brothery to the dear ones lasso short by our men today - I was an the slove Him - We hope that father's heart will som shot This Experient to the pool of theore is be but right if it is not for who would be found he the soul , I also had the littly bought in to the comp of the 64" Follower of about I tighting agoust took - If any accident thered hopen a note and it is a mile from her to the 64. I derin my sfirts - any It all hospity to be at He was that near Elysys where we Wiffer a your service mother and I housed denn toketh dette while on our way to Ofull Kim - H-Kowloud & Bellie with it if they need it. is about 11/2 miles from Sangster's when we Hazed on account of it - It is your to dishine of as you like. one night & where the Willy now are in force - I got the word that a man was the Thorn perfect confidence in fother - They love to him to Rowland Afamily - to Dellie - to Leggie Homily - The while on my way to Exemine the tacket try trinte the lette. to below Veryuthia them. This may been a very serious letter but Four not in the least down-cost- I had not mentioned there they soit some de a that descation - The turnel had not great confidence in the Major who was no lorm - With great love to my meter your officients for in charp of two companies upon that want & the hicket, of the free under his Command.

assown as I assistance that the more was, not dead I found the by I that him formal immediately.

Stamp helifornia.

Monday Morning Mar 111 - My dear mother I was interrupted in this letter by a false alorm-In at that home luned out our with myers. Drd not selle that night of lines owing If the arrival of Meany's Broigade which Com to Where us - WE were porty that the we got back Laturday hight. Justisty weren. ter I son Dexter, John Kenn to then at Thus Mr. Trom com back with me returning at Evening - The two last hove colds but for feet incouraged about his wife. Our is now in Commend of the Division - It is now one o'drok a.M. - about midnight a belegrow was brought are from Drision Ad In for the Division to be ready to march at 6 a. M. with 3 days cooked rations and 60 mund ammunition To nach Brunston Hill tright This so semp Johach Creek and nearly off agount taixfox

Wohn I am the left - not for from when we were but we go a different route - hack I done Mill on the according. Otes would in mediate to Disin 141 his bleft a grad deal in my can the us this steff) to arrange & do. I meant to have written your jesterday hat Callers &C. proventer - I have Constants tuborne -ted now - Froise indon with this, my Commoding. Those not draw any hay on it get but showed han you to Wash - totag. Your letter Tworvery glod to get time from bellie gesterday, Tom glad When of the good work of no. Leed. - Yeu. Funne her an army corps theshops Otis may continue in Commond of the burisin - He doubt, his ability but I acce Confident he would do as well in that position as in the on he has been accepying - I just that his Conduct on our let exherting gove good lots taction to his Commenting General. This recit a good long letter from Ella whete as were at Busker. I have a good deal that may be of Intenst to write face some other time Providence per mitting. I shall probably comy one of- the vistoes token from the Scout who was that as

3/7/1862 *From:* C.H. Howard *To:* Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-059 Gen. Howard's H'd Q'rs

Burke's Station

Genl Howard's H'd Q'rs Burke's Station March 7 1862

My dear Mother,

I wrote you last evening & again this morning a few lines but I do not like to go to rest till I have put down a little more for you & my dear ones at home. Since supper I have been looking over papers found in the wallet of a Rebel horseman shot by our men today. I was on the spot this afternoon & saw the pool of blood in the road. I also had his body brought into the camp of the 64th a distance of about a mile and it is a mile from here to the 64th. He was shot near <Elzeys> where we stopped a little while on our way to Bull Run. It is about 1½ miles from Langster's where we stayed one night & where the Rebels now are in force. I got the word that a man was shot while on my way to examine the Picket in that direction. The General had not great confidence in the Major who was in charge of two companies upon that road & therefore sent me to see to the disposition of the pickets & the force under his command. As soon as I ascertained that the man was not dead I found the Dr and sent him forward immediately.

Camp California H'd Q'rs 1st Brigade Monday Morning Mar 10.

My dear Mother,

I was interrupted in this letter by a false alarm, for at that time I turned out our entire Brigade. Did not sleep that night afterwards owing to the arrival of Kearney's Brigade which came to relieve us. We were pretty tired when we got back Saturday night. Yesterday we rested. I saw Dexter, John Keene & others at Third Me. & Perry came back with me returning at evening. The two last have colds but John felt encouraged about his wife. Otis is now in command of the Division. It is now one o'clock A.M. About midnight a Telegram was brought over from Division H'd Q'rs for the Division to be ready to march at 6 A.M. with 3 days cooked rations and 60 rounds ammunition to reach Brimston Hill tonight. This is across Pohick Creek and nearly off against Fairfax Station & on the left - not far from where we were but we go a different route - past Bone Mill on the Accotink. Otis went immediately to Div H'd Q'rs & left a great deal in my care & for us (his staff) to arrange & do. I meant to have written you yesterday but callers &c prevented. I am constantly interrupted now.

I will inclose with this, my commission, which you will please preserve. I have not drawn any pay on it yet but should have gone to Wash'n today.

Your letters I was very glad to get & one from Dellie yesterday. I am glad to hear of the good work at No. Leeds. Gen. Sumner has an Army Corps & perhaps Otis may continue in command of the Division. He doubts his ability but I am confident he would do as well in that position as in the one he has been occupying. I judge that his conduct on our late expedition gave good satisfaction to his commanding Generals.

Otis rec'd a good long letter from Ella while we were at Burke's. I have a great deal that may be of interest to write you some other time, Providence permitting. I shall probably carry one of the Pistols taken from the Scout who was shot as mine was stolen while at the engravers the other day. I like this temporarily. I have only about \$8 with me - all I need.

We shall not make a "forced" march - not so as to weary the men. I should estimate the distance as 12 or 15 miles.

We are in the hands of merciful Heavenly Father - one who is wise & holy and has said that "all things will work together for the good of those that love God". We think we love Him and that you & our brothers & other dear ones also love Him. We hope that father's heart will soon be put right if it is not for

who would be found fighting against God. If any accident should happen I desire my effects - any & all property to be at your service Mother and I should desire to help Rowland & Dellie with it if they need it. Above all things let there be no disagreement on account of it. It will be yours to dispose of as you like. I have perfect confidence in Father. My love to him, to Rowland & family, to Dellie, to Lizzie & family - I shall try and write the latter -, to Roland & Cynthia & fam. This may seem a very serious letter but I am not in the least downcast. I had not mentioned these things & it can do no harm.

With great love to my mother. Your Affectionate Son, C.H. Howard

I send a Herald to Father today.

Thring Mill In Breetifast - He communing down the hee tell the voldiers May 12 1862 What sen her Hosted in promit but the sentind of our Halls My dear Greater It is late & face mercer him with his Bryonet rather tird Volechy but I wish to me hur of other anim butmes tell (on when we are oud that In the Louth - Thop we well Icooped Warll Vine reveral all be bruly grabful Imes withy, Much to our desappointment Um. Bluck i Breach Your office for was per withed to go ahead of us b. H. Hewen Doccupy Monasses I we also Hoppert here, But the It rode down & vient the mong desert If the stem some let from Chuft and the Thong perition holey I som fitty may the and for him of my offine of the meny there. Many smpty log hours are all stanting and we led right of the sunday found conservable provisions- bur wagen from has dradfully keplend com you was not us by west borning till II villock for June has gone to find

who come last myst in the tax let, House to a Cource of night days by here love to War meanwhile Ism. Haward is at a place start 10 miles from he command of the visicion, The Monarses. army lenger orrownent has not In syled to much sight on The Red Rost stade is bother Set Lun Made up-rais They's gow between Our Ad In on a the house The union man tonight, Forty the then will member be repained - I deft mit & Our tram had coming at be hed to rent out throughout The hurrounding country for hope to do en might by the latte, shorp, high, poulty to hde of the upon the floor. It is mornlight - Otes is for the Divinia - It was nother head for as to get the host of trisin Laring rations distributed. If had hen warm like from Queter Muster, Commission & Commander too boday . Ioun Korte nelige that It is a grat wonder that the gun have leaps of mon upon whill left their thoughold - m the ground. East right often Surrivan woh on of their Lockies, a deserte Who, He mys the talk way com govillingen from mot that the would make a stand are Exements come & grow the of Good movelle - 60 miles prove Moneya Derender -Menassay - But a Colored man We had a rollet for

3/12/1862 From: C.H. Howard To: Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-060 Gen. Howard's H'd Q'rs

Union Mills, Va

Gen. Howard's H'd Q'rs Union Mills Va Mar 12 1862

My dear Mother,

It is late & I am rather tired & sleepy but I wish to tell you where we are and that I crossed Bull Run several times today. Much to our disappointment Gen. French's Brigade was permitted to go ahead of us to occupy Manassas & we were stopped here. But Otis & I rode down & viewed the many deserted camps and the strong position of the enemy there. Many empty log houses are all standing and we found considerable provisions. Our wagon train has dreadfully <displeased> us by not arriving till 11 o'clock tonight.

Gen. Sumner has gone to Fairfax Ct. House to a Council of War. Meanwhile Gen. Howard is in command of the Division. The Army Corps arrangement has not yet <been> <>.

Our H'd Q'rs are in the house of a union man tonight.

Our train not coming up we had to send out throughout the surrounding country for cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry &c for the Division. It was rather hard for us to get the post of Division Quarter Master, commissary & commander too.

It is a great wonder that the Rebels left their strong hold. We took one of their soldiers, a deserter today. He says the talk was that they would make a stand at Gordonsville - 60 miles from Manassas. But a colored man who came last night in the night says they have 20,000 at a place about 10 miles from Manassas.

We expect to march right on. The Rail Road which is broken up - rails & bridges gone between Fairfax Station & here will immediately be repaired.

I slept soundly last night & hope to do so tonight by the side of Otis upon the floor. It is moonlight. Otis is having rations distributed. It has been warm like June today. I can hardly realize that you have heaps of snow upon the ground.

Last night after I wrote you some good singers from one of our regiments came & gave the <service> serenade.

We had a rabbit for breakfast. He came running down the hill & all the soldiers that saw him started in pursuit but the sentinel at our H'd Q'rs pierced him with his bayonet.

We hear of other union victories in the South. I hope we will all be truly grateful.

Your Affec. Son, C.H. Howard

News her just arrived that her. Kearing is to command the Division-Ohis is very much diseppointed - would rother bow had any other Eewere over him - House men reputed to Le constout prencipie morally - He look advocation of our that to the rebel, - Wiewing us at Bushes & husher on to trinfox Ut. Howar - Certifie Monasias - Gen, K. is from The gensey Brigades - Has one one only. When our as that the 61th n. 4. is bringer, i a decission flag. 3 Sofra Lower is the Love This -Discher's & Led princh's Brigare.

I will not unto more trought.

Gouraffectual Lan

L. A. Howard

Mosad Quarters Howard & Brigade Union Miles Mar. 13th 1862

Mar. 13th 1862 My dear The the It is raining a lettle this afternoon & I cannot go but Acounting. My throat also is a little poor so that I am very welling to lit down by the fire in the betala. Wron very tuny. The has the Division still but Usu. Furner vice proto they be back brushow. Frachis Ponged of our bivision has gone forward this ofbrown her and Monasses. Mony Many puple on coming in for horledong. Wigne There all probation of they will take the Datt of allegiona - Title orie up the General tall the lest were about to more come hi sogny his family got no not lest ought. He have a great with Holen from hein trucky the Things . the was glad to take the outle, this to bed chogs but a lencor mon - He oned like a chied. Igam here a writing out hering

the out Sminister. Mr. Miles in a best this formour found the His his q a three

They - a mice pions then.

Corely in the Command Cerits & Brigists

of Infantry - Dr Palmer, heft buck

haft. Wisher Tothey have gon down towns Monorson fundion. Ithouse here gone tos but the 4 m on Every & Joseld mit lead. about a dos ga Contratant, and in this formore - leveral orre suplayed by officers the set are out to low Mabella May Uport about the Rebel, croping the Rhepperan cole - tay There is any a R. R. trop thos The cragous had to be drown compres hand. Mrs. Sander is working her in the Kelcher - Un seems to be pulefatigethe - Mr The bushoud both look very happy too willing to do anything for us or our troops. the just were me that the Rober played Cords a good dire, the new bon there are day long toft- they would sit of newfree The soidently thuils our Soldier on much better men. We had brozen hen before tolang and Brakfiest. Dr. Pelmer is Medical biredon for the Tovicion but still remains + mother with us. Dr. Knight being the serking Megimenter Surgion laters Dr. P's place or Brigade Lunger in de feart leept. Berker signelly fails in his (Quelo Master's) department. as - and bulf the him since on sturted

We have on this root here obliged to the colvers. Dr. Knight is a good bhristin mon jung good network oflework, the comes from Franklin h. H. near to All when I attended the Water cur. The get to letter - I have not written to Dellin & Romand - hit per council come municil one thing of cuterest which I unto I am have times. Countyslamin's biring of let accounts but and thate To The Third home is left behand. least lewall just come had from-Monumens Junction son The Country is flet There no military pontin - The rugged bill about Bull dun on the only thongholds - The Ryimsets an now having They Graning Paralis - I can De Them from the Window - The people admin The music much - bay the bouther brooks been no decent Bunds - mong of there no munic. not you for I drum. leaft. I. Thinky there is a prospet that Urn. Howard will have The Division, De has her talking with light. Laylor the Living adj. heat. - We should have you to Renning to gestering had it not her for want of provisions of orage -

3/13/1862 From: C.H. Howard To: Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-061 Head Quarters
Howard's Brigade

Union Mills, Va

Head Quarters Howard's Brigade Union Mills Mar 13th 1862

My dear Mother,

It is raining a little this afternoon & I cannot go out scouting. My throat also is a little sore so that I am very willing to sit down by the fire in the kitchen. We are very busy. Otis has the Division still but Gen Sumner will probably be back tomorrow. French's Brigade of our Division has gone forward this afternoon beyond Manassas. Many, Many people are coming in for protection. We give them all protection if they will take the Oath of Allegiance. Little while ago the General & all the rest were about & a man came in saying his family got no rest last night. He had a gold watch stolen from him & many other things. He was glad to take the Oath, and he said he had always been a union man. He cried like a child. I gave him a writing after having the oath administered. Mr. Miles on a scout this forenoon found the H'd Q'rs of a Rebel General - some 60 bushels of grain & other things - a nice piano, there.

We have three Batteries & one Regiment of Cavalry in the Command besides 3 Brigades of Infantry. Dr Palmer, Capt. Sewall, Cap. Barker & others have gone down to visit Manassas Junction. I should have gone too but the Gen'l was away & I could not leave.

About a dozen "Contrabands" came in this forenoon - several were employed by officers, the rest were sent to Gen. McClellan. They report about the Rebels crossing the Rappahannock - say there is only a R.R. Bridge that the wagons had to be drawn across by hand. Mrs. Dander is working here in the Kitchen. She seems to be indefatigable. She & her husband both look very happy & are willing to do anything for us or our troops.

She just told me that the Rebels played cards a great deal. She has been there all day long & often they would sit up nearly all night in the same occupation. She evidently thinks our Soldiers are much better men. We had prayers here before taking our Breakfast.

Dr. Palmer is Medical Director for the Division but still remains & messes with us. Dr. Knight being the ranking Regimental Surgeon takes Dr. P's place as Brigade Surgeon.

As we feared Capt. Barker signally fails in his (Quarter Master's) department. Our wagons are almost always bothering us. And half the time since we started we have on this acct been obliged to hunt up forage for our horses & food for ourselves. Dr. Knight is a good Christian man, very good natured & pleasant. He comes from Franklin N.H. near to Hill where I attended the water cure.

We get no letters. I have not written to Dellie & Rowland. Wish you would communicate anything of interest which I write if I have time. Heintzelman's Division at last accounts had not started so that the Third Maine is left behind.

Capt. Sewall just came back from Manassas Junction & said the country is flat there - no military position. The rugged hills about Bull Run are the only strongholds. The Regiments are now having their <crossing> parade. I can see them from the window. The people admire the music much. Say the Southern troops have no decent Bands. Many of them no music - not even fife & drum.

Capt. S. thinks there is a prospect that Gen. Howard will have the Division. He has been talking with Capt. Taylor the Division Adj. Gen'l.

We should have gone to Rennington yesterday had it not been for want of provisions & forage.

News has just arrived that Gen. Kearney is to command the Division. Otis is very much disappointed. Would rather have had any other General over him. He is a man reported to be without principle,

morally. He took advantage of our start to the Rebels - relieving us at Burke's & pushed on to Fairfax Ct. House, Centerville & Manassas. Gen. K. is from the Jersey Brigade. Has one arm only. John <> as that the 61st N.Y. is bringing in a Secession flag.

Gen. Sumner is to have this - Blenker's & Sedgwick's Brigade.

I will not write more tonight. Your affectionate Son, C.H. Howard Months of the State of the former of the former of the former of the first of the former of the form This & Mr. miles went away after dune to visit beenterille, Iwas then yester day with It, lest Dorlow 61st h. f. & Asjt. dregory of the some Regt. Then one a & good brong forts & The place has changed muchin its appearance man we was of their in July - Dr & went on to Brice mone wast thro' sow their Battle ground. For then hassel on to the spot when un Brigade was engaged . It broken (I quite natural - Form boldien + officers was dishitering the dollar of leve leoner on not for from the place when I now him the _ a negro was then who helped bury him with three five others. end, In pessing con the Hattle- Field I found of forme human home, - I could discern the hundres where many had been heled in together, I sow some sed flower near ohne It bows of were which told that the I hetel Juaves have then but the dust, I I proved the report that the wells refused to i bury any with red that, or red breeding. Jonn of The 14th he 4. was & then with

Shovels burying the dones in- the vicinity 2 of when they fought so desperatty. n I came buch in the denotion of Monenas 20 Junction - Josh dinne & boutet our horses of 5 a haven when Iron Dooners of Ga. (formeg wi lender) had had a roome, The aroman pr Deaned to love the ald Union hest. When lus man her son was not very tutilizent & pl did not sum to look begand present in gu. levest & that certainly was for our Course. les ffor had leve \$100 per froma - Lack \$4,00 Br. per bushel & not often oblimable at that. me Today is futurday but we are ordered to di morch back to tainfox let. Hanse tomorrow o La morning - Bunks is to go in this devection 42 with his Coops d'arnée - Tr & Exhat 6 hu. go down the Potomac w touts. Ishops line we shall land of York lower tothe helmond B in the mar. no Division is in adoma of Kne suit of the Rebels that are expected leach for Su I have mentioned that how. Januar is he. in command of an army learn I think. the. It counts of this, Ledpench; (theties, Stones) To Blenker's (The Germans) - Mr Miles for Las an appointment as last upon Bru Sauce er ver's Hiff. Usu. Howard, was lott Bfast to with him but disk not face willing to Stand in the way of his promotion . 1

St. Scott (from Proshlyn) of the 61st n. J. takes his place Mr. Scott is way Young but promp, active & deferental - the is not a prous more but Ithruk he will not be undangeneal. He has providey asked the privilege of wellen luring on au stoff. Did not get cling pleasantly with his leafet othe was very _ Young & convoyant perhaps. Syon. Richardon (als has bad Brigar Brigade in Genty Sman's Swisin of ,60 michiga troops) is to command our 5 division. We hofed here. Heavard armee 20 0 have it but hechordon is much alle Dow arrice in mexico- He has not ton kun a very popular man bith then who have how brought in Contest with here but he 14 Beliend autitly courageous - In fact be in 25 Known in the termy as fighting Israel" 1 Thom Ithink mentioned to But family then ar are greatering. They have E Sund really hoppy min or com Atan had opportunity to been from trad letters to their daughters ofriends in Penne Mrs. Landers come to me The's morning for the General's moure in full. The oshel or with learn in her sign Daying the wished unto semewher here all the days of her life & to tell her desepters about him. I her His That the orked for his mome to be

not only wrote That but wrote aprotection Hoting That They were love people signed it I gnot many puple hour some with tohen the vato of allegine to the I.S. They Then receive one protection. dren, cheagher (Thomas trongis - The celebrate "hish potrist a nome pronoun as Marker") is one of the Brigariers of on Division - The French of The army (an old ortilly officer) is this other. Even Coward is now temporary in Command of the Division, Richardo Stell probably join us rather at Fairfax locat to or of our old Coul, Ince we have been hen we wer bern glad before few wirds from Roulance. Our letters will be la Nieder to alex till forthe motion. WE found a great duel of foregre Com 40) in the deset to me components. Our mur have men, of theen get tents to probat them while here. Me might have In wite their good worm by house has They laft generally automobile but they received fitty over had no dean to accupy them. with love to tother Think begonds to Mr. Colopin and the hop that god remembered by Kolond Heysthie & often dea mend Iwile draw my hastily written letter to a close. I wit upon a book in my lop. My throat is about well. This is well - Man to how Onsten for Supper - Very Offictionally Your Son

3/15/1862 From: C.H. Howard To: Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-062 H'd Q'rs Howard's

Brigade Union Mills

H'd Q'rs Howard's Brigade Union Mills, Mar 15 1862

My dear Mother,

It is raining hard today and I am very well satisfied to stay in the house. Otis & Mr. Miles went away after dinner to visit Centerville. I was there yesterday with Lt. Col. Barlon 61st N.Y & Adjt. Gregory of the same Regt. There were a good many forts & the place has changed much in its appearance since we were there in July. We went on to Bull Run & fording the stream where the 2d Maine waded thro' saw their Battle ground. We then passed on to the spot where our Brigade was engaged. It looked quite natural. Some soldiers & officers were disinterring the body of Col. <Cosuron> not far from the place where I saw him die. A negro was there who helped bury him with five others.

In passing over the Battle-field I found some human bones. I could discern the trenches where many had been piled in together. I saw some red flannel near where the bones were, which told that the hated Zouaves had there bit the dust & proved the report that the rebels refused to bury any with red shirts or red breeches.

Today is Saturday but we are ordered to march back to Fairfax Ct. House tomorrow morning. Banks is to go in this direction with his Corps d'Armee. We expect to go down the Potomac in boats. Perhaps we shall land at Yorktown & take Richmond in the rear. No Division is in advance of ours. Some Cavalry have gone in pursuit of the Rebels but are expected back tomorrow.

I have mentioned that Gen Sumner is in command of an Army Corps I think. It consists of this; Sedgewick's (that was Stone's) & Blenker's (the Germans). Mr Miles has an appointment as Capt upon Gen Sumner's staff. Gen Howard was loth to part with him but did not feel willing to stand in the way of his promotion. Lt. Scott (from Brooklyn) of the 61st N.Y. takes his place. Mr Scott is very young but prompt, active & deferential. He is not a pious man but I think he will not be uncongenial. He has previously asked the privilege of volunteering on our staff. Did not get along pleasantly with his Capt who was very young & arrogant perhaps.

Gen. [Israel B.] Richardson (who has had a Brigade in Heintzelman's Division a Brigade of Michigan troops) is to command our Division. We hoped Gen. Howard would have it but Richardson is much older & saw service in Mexico. He has not been a very popular man with those who have been brought in contact with him but he is undoubtedly courageous. In fact he is known in the Army as "fighting Israel."

I have I think mentioned the <Priest> family where we are quartering. They have seemed really happy since we came. I have had opportunity to hear from & send letters to their daughters & friends in Penna.

Mrs. Sanders came to me this morning for the General's name in full. She asked it with tears in her eyes saying she wished to remember him all the days of her life & to tell her daughters about him. I told Otis that she asked for his name & so he not only wrote that but wrote a protection stating that they were loyal people & signed it. A great many people have similarly taken the oath of allegiance to the U.S. They then receive our protection.

Gen. Meagher (Thomas Francis - the celebrated Irish patriot - name pronounced "Marher") is one of the Brigadiers of our Division. Gen. French of the Army (an old artillery officer) is the other. Gen. Howard is

now temporarily in command of the Division, Richardson will probably join us either at Fairfax Court House or at our old Camp. Since we have been here we were very glad to get a few words from Rowland. Our letters will be directed to Alex'a. till further notice.

We found a great deal of forage (corn &c) in the deserted encampments. Our men have many of them got tents to protect them while here. We might have gone into their good warm log houses which they left generally untouched but they seemed filthy & we had no desire to occupy them.

With love to Father & kind regards to Mr. & Mrs. Chapin and the hope that I am remembered by Roland & Cynthia & other dear friends I will draw my hastily written letter to a close. I wrote upon a book in my lap. My throat is about well. Otis is well. We are to have oysters for supper.

Very Affectionately Your Son.

C.H. Howard

P.S. I have read today a good letter from Rev. Mr. Fisher to Capt Sewall telling about the glorious revival of religion in Balto. He mentions also the work at Farmington. Has this hour been a few drops at Leeds we will hope for a more plentiful shower.

C.H.H.

Ma'n Howard's Angales (Mar Moyeussas Junction) ognized him from his act, or amon who hard last Summer just outies our lanes Twho was laken primer with his wife & So they dear Westher I went away to letter untile there last svening this morning just before receiving little shield not long after Bull them bottle. ony. little kay escaped the has now her from Inquina of as whether he was alive, to bill not know. He has been a prisoner at one from you written after your visit to farming In I Autum, One come from Loggie of the Moreiras with now - The other day he Except plate. Late. June letters were never men wel_ in the smoke of the Conflapation - He now would to get his wife + luggage housported back Come - NE devou cour, and with sammels. I It is a beautiful day - the May mornings this home is hickordson has Mr. Miles with Sat home - they as the last of May. 1) This I'd telle of going down to M. hure. Chini. Keis Oft, General has ornera today. Ke From this knowing . Then Huch her his Brigade 1, about 11/2 mil. keyout - Our wagon came sums be en agreable Joung man. Eup at day light This morning - Had been Employed by br. Knight buth, H. her been a 3 Capringed in the night & nearly demolished our little Leggage - my lette cost was then Macher - Dr. Police takes good descop 3 Tgot a good deal sweled but not tom. Solerest in The negroes - He has suployed 3 Mr have heart, from tanker let. bound her Snot a word from Banks get. No must Fre whom I showere not have nespectation They till he some. deapt, Harker and hoving beg that blood in him, He is as is always about when we want him, com white of most heefle of tak bai veger, Kas 3 who they morning trow attents to deliving whether this hair is not at all avolg. He The forage his (Sente brother's) proper burness, is a slower. - Item surry for their delay & du don is with open the liverpreseture in our orderer - Hear ar will not get 3 6 n mild . - Auch Berny Howard through in Jun - Eve Extent one discipline buttle. May the Sast lite we in how the wow much try 3 is you. This Einester that he hoped he might she he me again. He plan fortand

is one toxing hundly - Mrs. Sewice and The your about him that four diel How brongement about the more way herfedly talisfo ctong. There glad (awalla ded to my letter, he mak a very that I Cared know which ones you had leadfor This reason that I will to know what to write one again. You had had got my Converission to Ipmumo - My letter are dated at the defferent cours & Johace only need to have gon mention the leaung i order to tell which letters you have gut. Our brooks had a temble morali Fabbath day - Last night we had the quetest comp ever drown in a Brigad. Then an the hest questing our proops have Mr. Pallock (bu Commissing) just come in with a much bottle of nice honey & a pound take "for you will to cold them) sent hun by his wife, WE are budibled token for money much little buynoies. They look and if place bowers, when we have no, dester Thad only hart tread than for Brush fust = 31/2 8, M. Trus. Mar. 18, 1862 WE rode to Monareas function - It is a very sxlended table - land - Very few houits of Elevation - There have fortifications upon them. Most of the While with which we have Lear Company

unformably with our firty about Hashington. There is a moss of news of the function. One bld Heave Juguer - The hour are barut to The Ground of they deem to hour allempled the Kestruction of all they left behind. On men your found toused the flower with the broken Then toflow Xellered bout. On new are bringing he deally whom their backs. a Daguerntyte view A Monassas with terms French & Command was token gliterday. Me said The He has his you for one of his aides. This morning Ern, to that a body of congley & 100 shorte to hope & caption to Coval, who have been that lune Houly is when Little Kwin Turnpula to that we Expect to be believed formorow. It will not be pleasant going on those transports. I wish we could be allowed to march Thaight on To Richmond -Whe here their buts our (with First) door very worm & pleasout - The brooks on -That glad you saw Ogian Millett. Here glad When medigood news from his daceglites. Atol has put Come in who has been in alex the sup he son good many sad partings as the brook webooked on the bouts. a noustake of our come to wat The function the homing - bud it soon tec3/18/1862 From: C.H. Howard To: Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-063 H'd Q'rs Howard's

Brigade

Camp Manassas Near Manassas Junction, Va

H'd Q'rs Howard's Brigade Camp Manassas (Near Manassas Junction) Mar 18, 1862

My dear Mother,

I sent away my first letter written here last evening this morning just before receiving one from you written after your visit to Farmington & Auburn. One came from Lizzie of still later date. Your letters were never more welcome. We devour every word, with eagerness.

It is a beautiful day - like May mornings at home - dry as the last of May.

Otis & I talk of going down to M. Junction this morning. Gen. French has his Brigade about 1 ½ mile beyond. Our wagon came up at day-light this morning. Had been capsized in the night & nearly demolished our little baggage - my better coat was there & got a good deal soiled but not torn. We have heard from Fairfax Ct. House but not a word from Banks yet. We must stay till he comes. Capt. Banks who is always about when we want him, came up this morning & now attends to delivering the forage his (Quarter Master's) proper business. Our door is wide open the temperature is so mild. Aunt Barny Howard is gone. Otis remembers that he hoped he might see her once again. We fear Rowland is overtaxing himself. Mrs Sewall wrote the same about him that you did. Your arrangement about the money was perfectly satisfactory. I was glad you alluded to my letters in such a way that I could know which ones you had rec'd - for this reason that I wish to know what to write over again. You had not got my commission &c, I presume. My letters are dated at the different camps & I shall only need to have you mention the Camp in order to tell which letters you have got.

Our troops had a terrible march Sabbath day. Last night we had the quietest camp ever known in a Brigade. These are the best quarters our troops have ever had.

Mr. Bullock (our Commissary) just came in with a small bottle of nice honey & a "pound cake" (as you used to call them) sent him by his wife. We are indebted to her for many such little luxuries. They look out of place however when we have no dishes & had only hard bread & ham for Breakfast.

3 ½ P.M. Tues Mar. 18, 1862

We rode to Manassas Junction. It is a very extended table land. Very few points of elevation - those have fortifications upon them. Most of the Rebel works which we have seen compare unfavorably with our forts about Washington. There is a mass of ruins at the Junction. One old steam engine. The houses are burnt to the ground & they seem to have attempted the destruction of all they left behind. Our men have found considerable flour with <> broken open & flour scattered about. Our men are bringing in the sacks upon their backs. A Daguerreotype view of Manassas with Gen'l French's Command was taken yesterday. We saw Gen. F. He has his son for one of his aides. This morning Gen. F. sent a body of cavalry & 100 infantry in hopes to capture 40 Rebel Cavalry who have been prowling about. We hear that Gen. Banks is upon Little River Turnpike so that we expect to be relieved tomorrow.

It will not be pleasant going on those transports. I wish we could be allowed to march straight on to Richmond.

The sun shines into our (south & west) door very warm & pleasant. The troops are contented & happy.

I was glad you saw Ozias Millett. I am glad to hear such good news from his daughter. A Col. has just come in who has been in Alex'a. He says he saw good many sad partings as the troops embarked on the boats.

A namesake of ours came to us at the Junction this morning - and we soon recognized him from his acct. as a man who lived last summer just outside our lines & was taken prisoner with his wife & little child not long after Bull Run battle. One little boy escaped & he has never heard from since - inquired of us whether he was alive, we did not know. He has been a prisoner at Manassas until now. The other day he escaped in the smoke of the conflagration. He now wants to get his wife & luggage transported back to his home.

Gen. Richardson has Mr. Miles with him. His Adjt. General has arrived today. He seems to be an agreeable young man.

We have a great many contrabands. One employed by Dr. Knight 5th N.H. has been a preacher. Dr. Palmer takes good deal of interest in the negroes. He has employed one whom I should not have suspected as having any negro blood in his lines. He is as white as most people of dark hair & eyes. Has whiskers & his hair is not at all wooly. He is a slave. I am sorry for this delay in our advance. I fear we will not get through in June. We expect one dreadful battle.

May the Lord take us in hand & deliver our land from this scourge. If you knew how much joy your letters give us you would write often as possible. You will direct as before.

Your affectionate Son,

C.H. Howard

Hed In Howard Brigade Camp at Manassas Junction Man. 26th 1862 - Widnesday -My dear nother Just after morting a letter to Robbind gerlerday morning we receive order to march to join with Blacker's Division & meet Ulm. I unever (now commanding a loops) here at. M. Junction - We started count & o' clock I expedid to go an lower name to function lost might but how. French who had been hen wer murd on I we will follow this showing. He went to Bristan's Station Cost with when this It rock down wow him. Then is a force of 4 ave heforty of 200 Monay on the totally at Warrenton Junction. WE tholl onen then body I fight unlip The menny mus cong. West day our Project will lead in mu-King a recommissione with we find put when the Robels are in force. WE slept wom & comfortable last might Though water from a we have - WE home a tent-fly fa that reclongator prece of Cawos! white we welch over a bole frespected by 2 upright crotchets - WE are in some pines when the goess is gent long of day. We are welly a mile below monacres function. How writing upon a wooden More- Thought Iward und you a few and, - not knowing

when I wened how another offatunt. Ever, Brukes in Expedit ben livery day of their it is our expectation to return to blex a sment - hove nor - as other Early, have done . If we get to fighting , howen, putificor will be like some days There sur, but to coll off so we may Keep you to hick mont in their direction. 32 of Palme then of the Otis (middle) beeft lewed side of Scott stept nite by ride - Mr. Bollock John very Brokfort is wee ; good of find the test is the stilling of fort" - Themese is the tring I will done with a great deal of low to all - I commit for to my Hum & Father Twen hoppy to me the removation of your last teller Ohis is free of burneys -Vary affectively Jon Low let. Howard N.B. Blenke 's Divine is benår us

3/26/1862 From: C.H. Howard To: Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-064 H'd Q'rs Howard's

Brigade

Camp at Manassas

Junction

H'd Q'rs Howard's Brigade Camp at Manassas Junction Mar 26th 1862 Wednesday

My dear Mother

Just after mailing a letter to Rowland yesterday morning we received orders to march to join with Blenker's Division & meet Gen. Sumner (now commanding a Corps) here at M. Junction. We started about 8 o'clock & expected to go on towards Warrenton Junction last night but Gen. French who had been here was moved on & we will follow this morning. He went to Bristoe's Station last night where Otis & I rode down & saw him. There is a force of 4000 Infantry & 2 or 3 Mounted Cavalry with artillery at Warrenton Junction. We shall arrive there today & fight unless the enemy moves away. Next day our Brigade will lead in making a reconnaissance until we find just where the Rebels are in force.

We slept warm & comfortable last night though water froze in our pail. We have a tent-fly (a strait rectangular piece of canvas) which we stretch over a pole supported by 2 upright crotchets. We are in some pines where the grass is quite long & dry. We are really a mile below Manassas Junction.

I am writing upon a wooden stool. Thought I would send you a few words. Not knowing when I would have another opportunity. Gen. Banks is expected here every day & then it is our expectation to return to Alex'a. & embark down river as other Corps have done. If we get to fighting, however, perhaps we will be like some dogs I have seen, hard to "call off" so we may keep on to Richmond in this direction.

Dr. Palmer then I, then Otis (middle), Capt Sewall, Mr. Scott (aide) slept side by side. Mr Ballock commissary was along at our feet.

John says "Breakfast is ready, good & <nice> & cooling off fast". General is studying his map.

I will close with a great deal of love to all. I commit you to my Heavenly Father. Twas happy to see the <resignation> of your last letter. Otis is full of business.

Very Affectionately, Your Son C.H. Howard

N.B. Blenker's Division is beside us.