

Auburn (N.Y.)

June 27th 1862

My dear Mother

If I could have sent you word in season I think I would have gone up to Seeds with Portland & Ella today. They came here from Portland yesterday.

I consulted the Dr. today and have decided to attempt the journey to Leeds tomorrow if nothing in Providence prevents. John will accompany me. The Dr. feels somewhat fearful and all here urge me to remain another week; but I know your desire and the Dr says there are not more

than 2 chances in 5
of injuring my leg.

He says also if it is
not injured and every-
thing goes on well

I will be just as well
off at Lead as here.

If anything unfavorable
occurs I can send for
Dr. Wigginton -

I shall wish to go very
slowly in the wagon from
the depot home.

If I find in going
over to Lewiston that my
leg is going to be too
badly hurt I shall not
go but I do not expect
such a contingency.

Yours affectionately
C. H. Howard

P.S. Otis did not get
ride by going to
Portland - even seems
the better for it.

C. H. H.

6/27/1862 **From:** C.H. Howard **To:** Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-070 Auburn, Me

Auburn (Me)
June 27 1862

My dear Mother,

If I could have sent you word in season I think I would have gone up to Leeds with Rowland & Ellen today. They came here from Portland yesterday.

I consulted the Dr. today and have decided to attempt the journey to Leeds tomorrow if nothing in Providence prevents. John will accompany me. The Dr. feels somewhat fearful and all here urge me to remain another week; but I know your desire and the Dr. says there are not more than 2 chances in 5 of injuring my leg. He says also if it is not injured and everything goes on well I will be just as well off at Leeds as here. If anything unfavorable occurs I can send for Dr. Wiggin.

I shall wish to go very slowly in the wagon from the Depot home.

If I find in going over to Lewiston that my leg is going to be too badly hurt I shall not go but I do not expect such a contingency.

Your Affectionate Son
C.H. Howard

P.S. Otis did not get sick by going to Portland - even seems the better for it. C.H.H.

Honest Womand
Fair October

Lancaster Aug. 26/62
9 A.M. from
G. C. W.

My dear Mother

Charles Howard

I arrived here
so early 1/4 before 6 a.m.
& my horse will soon
be on the train. I re-
main in Lancaster &
shall ride back to Enn
with Warren who is
coming down to bring
Emma today for a
visit. I will stay
all night & perhaps till
tomorrow with him &
he will doubtless take
me to Leeds.
I got up at 3 this

morning, had a good
breakfast & also did
my horse & started
soon after 4 o'clock.
I am well & no
more lame than
when I left home.

Your Affectionate Son
C. H. Howard

8/26/1862

From: C.H. Howard

To: Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-071

Lewiston, Me

Lewiston, Aug. 26/62

7 a.m.

My dear Mother,

I arrived here safely 1/4 before 6 a.m. & my horse will soon be on the train. I remain in Lewiston & shall ride back to Greene with Warren who is coming down to bring Emma today for a visit. I will stay till night & perhaps till tomorrow with him & he will doubtless take me to Leeds.

I got up at 3 this morning, had a good breakfast as also did my horse & started soon after 4 o'clock. I am well & no more lame than when I left home.

Your Affectionate Son

C.H. Howard

4 and were it not for the terrible
blunder which comes from the
battle field I would much prefer
to remain quiet today - but
I fear our men may all be bad
rich - They are beneath is pretty
good tho' my leg has not im-
proved so rapidly as I hoped it
would. Left Whittington
cool & brave and fair leader
in duty. We were very glad
to hear that Young was killed.
If you met him with respect
I think you will find him a
good friend - I speak in this
very becoming I know his character
& that like most mortals, he has
a good deal of vanity & needs to
have it - however a little.
He was always an intimate friend
of mine - Please give him
my love & tell him that the
rebels failed to harm me this
time - that I am gratified to hear
of his success at Bowdon.

I wouldn't have you do a wrong
to my one for the world, Della, but
I trust you will take as cool & distant
a view of the engagement affair as
possible. That you may never have an
occasion to regret any step.

Direct Sedgwick's
Division, Virginia
Sept. 21st 62

Col. Wm. H. McLean with Poste who is in command of

Hd. 9th Division
Summers' Corps
Near Sharpsburg, Sept. 21st 62
My dear brother

We were very
happy to receive your letter yester-
day & dated Sept. 14th I had not
received a single letter until yes-
terday when one came from Portland
also. You probably are aware
that Ollie & I have been in another
battle the severest & grandest of
the war. We came out unscathed
by bullet or shell altho' constantly
exposed & thousands fell about us.
The loss in our Brigade was
greater than at Fair Oaks &
in the Division which fell to
Ollie after him. Sedgwick left the
field, the loss is fearful.
Gen. S. remained after being
wounded in the neck & in the arm
until he became so weak from loss
of blood that he could stand no
longer. Left Whittington & I was
near the General all the time ex-

cept when sent away, in fact, &
we were all under fire for about
two hours, the hottest kind of
musketry, & at the same time
a fury of shot & shell. At four
o'clock we did not leave the
artillery firing as yet.

The field was extended over
3 or 4 miles, & attacks were
made simultaneously in three
distinct places so that you
can see the ground covered
with dead for a half a mile
in every direction in these three
quarters. My horse can pass
kindly stand in Providence
for I cannot get well with care
& could not possibly come.

Altho' I had had considerable
experience in war I had never
before seen such terrible sights -
the heaps & rows of dead -
You can discern when the Rebel
line was lost, the line of dead
laying side by side.

And many of the wounded
up to last night had not yet had

surgical attendance for the reason
that there were so many that with
all the hundred of extra surgeons
who came from Washington there
has not been time to get round
& see all the poor suffering fellows
(t.). We are encamped upon
the battlefield - Banks old corps
Commanded by Gen. Mansfield
(in old Army Office) fought on
this spot & Gen. M. was killed
right in front of where I am writing.
We advanced farther with our
Div. across an opening just beyond
the skirt of woods in which our
men are bivouacked then into &
to the further edge of another strip
of woods. We went up in 3
lines of battle, ^{Brigade} ~~battalions~~, we, the
3^d & altho' we were exposed all the
time to the enemy's bullets
tried to bring it near yet did
not fire much before our left
was turned & we retired to
another position by order of
Gen. Sumner.

It is a pleasant Sabbath morning

9/21/1862

From: C.H. Howard

To: brother (Rodelphus
Gilmore)

CHH-072

H'd Q's Division
Sumner's Corps
Near Sharpsburg, Md

H'd Q's Division
Sumner's Corps
Near Sharpsburg, Sept 21st '62 [The Battle of Antietam was Sept 17, 1862]

My dear brother, [Rodelphus Gilmore]

We were very happy to receive your letter yesterday dated Sept. 14th. I had not received a single letter until yesterday when one came from Rowland also. You probably are aware that Otis & I have been in another battle, the severest & grandest of the war [Antietam]. We came out untouched by bullet or shell altho' constantly exposed & thousands fell about us. The loss in our Brigade was greater than at Fair Oaks & in the Division, which fell to Otis after Gen. Sedgwick left the field, the loss is fearful.

Gen. S. remained after being wounded in the neck & in the arm until he became so weak from loss of blood that he could stay no longer. Capt Whittlesey & I were near the General all the time except when sent away on duty & we were all under fire for about two hours, the hottest kind of musketry & at the same time a fury of shot & shell. At Fair Oaks we did not have the artillery firing as here.

The field was extended over 3 or 4 miles & attacks were made simultaneously in their distinct places so that you can see the ground covered with dead for half a mile in every direction in these three quarters. My horse even was kindly spared in Providence for I cannot yet walk with ease & could not possibly run.

Altho' I had had considerable experience in war I had never before seen such terrible sights - the heaps & rows of dead! You can discern where the Rebel lines were by the line of dead lying side by side. And many of the wounded up to last night had not yet had surgical attendance for the reason that there were so many that with all of the hundreds of extra surgeons who came from Washington there has not been time to get round to see all the poor suffering fellows yet. We are encamped upon the battlefield.

Bank's old Corps commanded by Gen. Mansfield (an old Army officer) fought on this spot & Gen. M. was killed right in front of where I am writing. We advanced farther with our Div. across an opening just beyond the skirting of woods in which our men are bivouacked then into & to the farthest edge of another strip of woods. We went up in 3 lines of battle, our Brigade was the 3d & altho' we were exposed all the time to the enemy's bullets owing to being near, yet did not fire much before our left was turned & we retired to another position by order of Gen. Sumner.

It is a pleasant Sabbath morning and were it not for the terrible stench which comes from the battle field I would much prefer to remain quiet today - but I fear our men may all be made sick. My own health is mostly good tho' my leg has not improved so rapidly as I had hoped it would. Capt Whittlesey was cool & brave under fire & active in duty.

We were very glad to hear that Young was liked. If you treat him with respect I think you will find him a good friend. I speak in this way because I know his character & that like most mortals he has a good deal of vanity and needs to have it humored a little. He was always an intimate friend of mine. Please give him my love & tell him that the Rebels failed to harm me this time - that I am gratified to hear of his success at Bowdoin.

I wouldn't have you do a wrong to any one for the world, Dellie, but I trust you will take as cool & distant a view of the engagement affair as possible - that you may never have occasion to regret any step.

Came from Newport News. The other Generals I mentioned have Corps - that is two Divisions each. Gen Sumner has 3 Divisions. French was not hurt. Hancock takes Richardson's who is not expected to live & Otis has Sedgwick's.

Were it not for the stench from the battle-field this would be a pleasant place & if we are permitted to lie

quietly here this Sabbath day we shall enjoy the rest. We have not moved more than 1/4 mile from the spot where I wrote you the note in pencil. We sent it by a citizen to Hagerstown & also got him to telegraph. Did you receive the letter & the dispatch? The letter from Otis to Lizzie. Did you get my letter directed to Farmington while you were there? We got a letter from Rowland to me last night dated so late on the 16th & saying you were with him. This was a great treat. It was the 1st letter I had got since leaving home! One came from Dellie also in the evening. Our tents came up yesterday. The 1st time we have seen them for a week. Week ago today we left Frederick in the morning & just at dark came upon the battlefield in the mountains - not in time to suffer any loss. That morning I believe I mailed my letter for you in Rowland's case.

There are many graves of the 10th Maine just before my eyes about 5 yds off. Capt Nehemiah Furbish was killed on Wed but I do not know when he was buried. He was a young man of a good deal of character & promise & he nobly sacrificed his life for his country.

Otis & I have been very busy in making out the report of the battle last evening & this morning. Otis is still occupied with it.

I hope you are enjoying the quiet worship of God in His sanctuary today - and that you will make up in devotion for our necessary neglect of His ordinances. Being now in reserve it is not likely that we will be in action again for some time at least. Love to all. Otis sends much love to Mother & all.

Yr. affectionate son [sic]

C.H. Howard

P.S. The 20th Me is with Porter who is in pursuit of the Rebels.

Direct [letters to] Sedgwick's Division, Sumner's Corps, Washington, D.C.

Came from Newport News - The
other banks I mentioned have
Corps - that is two Divisions each.

Gen. Leinenweber has 3 divisions -
French was not hurt - Lancaster
lets Richardson's who is not expe-
cted to live & Otis has ledgar's -

Was it not for the stench from
the battle-field this would be
a pleasant place & if we are
permitted to lie quietly here this
Sabbath day we shall enjoy the
rest. We have not moved more
than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the spot where
I wrote you the note in pencil.
We sent it by a citizen to Hagerstown
& also got him to telegraph - Did
you receive the letter & the dispatch?
The letter from Otis to Leinenweber -

Did you get my letter directed to Fannington
while you were there? We got a letter
from Rowland to me last night dated
so late as the 16th saying you were
not home - This was a great treat.

It was the 1st letter I had got since
leaving home! One came from Bellin
also in the evening - Our team came

6 up yesterday. The 1st time we
have seen them for a week -
A week ago today we left Fredericksburg
in the morning & just at dusk
came upon the battlefield in
the mountains - not in time
to suffer any loss - That morn-
ing I believe I mailed my letter
for you in Rowland's care -

There ^{are} many graves of the
10th Maine just before my eyes
about 5 rods off - Capt. Nehemiah
Turkish was killed on
Wed., but I do not know when
he was buried - He was a young
man of a good deal of character
& prudence & has nobly sacrificed
his life for his country.

Olive & I have been very busy in
making out the report of the battle
last evening & this morning. Olive
is still occupied with it.

I hope you are enjoying the quiet
worship of God in His sanctuary
today - and that you will
make up in devotion for our
necessary neglect of His ordinances -
Being now in reverse it is not
likely that we will be in action again
for some time at least. Love to all - Olive
and undivided blessing & happiness to you

9/21/1862

From: C. H. Howard

To: [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-072b

[Missing first four pages. To Eliza Gilmore. Assume 9/21/1862.]

[Page] 5

came from Newport News. The other Generals I mentioned have Corps - that is two Divisions each. Gen Sumner has 3 Divisions. French was not hurt. Hancock takes Richardson's who is not expected to live & Otis has Sedgwick's.

Were it not for the stench from the battle-field this would be a pleasant place & if we are permitted to lie quietly here this Sabbath day we shall enjoy the rest. We have not moved more than 1/4 mile from the spot where I wrote you the note in pencil. We sent it by a citizen to Hagerstown & also got him to telegraph. Did you receive the letter & the dispatch? The letter from Otis to Lizzie. Did you get my letter directed to Farmington while you were there? We got a letter from Rowland to me last night dated so late on the 16th & saying you were with him. This was a great treat. It was the 1st letter I had got since leaving home! One came from Dellie also in the evening. Our tents came up yesterday. The 1st time we have seen them for a week. Week ago today we left Frederick in the morning & just at dark came upon the battlefield in the mountains - not in time to suffer any loss. That morning I believe I mailed my letter for you in Rowland's case.

There are many graves of the 10th Maine just before my eyes about 5 yds off. Capt Nehemiah Furbish was killed on Wed but I do not know when he was buried. He was a young man of a good deal of character & promise & he nobly sacrificed his life for his country.

Otis & I have been very busy in making out the report of the battle last evening & this morning. Otis is still occupied with it.

I hope you are enjoying the quiet worship of God in His sanctuary today - and that you will make up in devotion for our necessary neglect of His ordinances. Being now in reserve it is not likely that we will be in action again for some time at least. Love to all. Otis sends much love to Mother & all.

Yr. affectionate son
C.H. Howard

[Note: Capt Furbish was killed at the battle of Antietam, which occurred on Wednesday, Sept 17, 1862. This seems to have been written on the first Sabbath day after the battle, placing the date of the letter to be Sunday, Sept 21, 1862.]

Mr. Longley, for the saddle? \$5.50
was due him.

We pay very high for all
provisions here & can scarcely get
an apple at any rate. Wish we had
some of yours either dried or in any
other form.

Our wife D. J. have Religious
services in front of their home in
humorous or on last Sabbath.

Belle will have opportunity prob-
ably to read in any little package
she may choose by Rev. Mr. Pol-
mer of Brunswick who is coming
out as Chaplain for Col. Sewall.

How is father this Fall?

Love to him & all and excepting
yourself who know the greatest
portion from your affectionate son
C. H. Howard

No. 2^d Div. Summer's Cos.
Bolivar Heights Va.

Oct. 4th 1862

My dear Mother

I have written to Rowland
and to Belle twice writing to you - I generally give
you each a turn.

Col. Sewall with his Regt. reported this
morning at Harrison. They came in the cars
last evening - came across the river & got
bivouacked about 2 A. M. just this side
of Hesper Ferry. We did not know they were
so near us, we knew they had been ordered
here. This invited Col. S. & his Field
Officers to Breakfast with us which they
were glad enough to do.

Thomas came up with the rest fresh
hearty & healthy - not at the ranks as
he is detailed for duty with the Col.
He does his cooking now! Thomas
looks very happy & is glad to get so
near us. Saep he likes Col. Sewall
very much. He showed me a good pic-
ture of Afric at the table which he had
lately received.

Col. Sewall was first ordered to Gen.
Barny's Brigad. but he protested so hard

that they let him off & finally sent him to Sumner's Corps & Ots has assigned the Regt. to Abner Doubleday's Brigade which was the smallest in our Division. The 15th Mass. is in that Brigade also 1st Minnesota, 34th & 82^d N. Y. - now 5 in all. Dan's Brigade now has 5 & Burn's is quite full for old Regts. altho' it has but 4. The last was Col. Baker's Brigade who was killed at Bull's Bluff & as he raised it by special authority from the War Department - he had 15 companies in two of his Regts - whence other Regts you know have but 10.

Col. Lewell is posted up upon the summit of Bolivar Heights to our front & right from which point with his glass he can see the Rebel Pickets & with the naked eye see when some Rebel home men took some of our men prisoners yesterday who were foolish enough to stay beyond the Picket line.

You will probably have seen acc'ts. of the visit of President Lincoln to this place. Ots rode by his side all the time he was passing our Div. also with London & Mt. Height in his company the next morning.

He told a good many funny anecdotes suggested by what he said or heard remarked.

I have taken a horse back ride this morning - the first since 2 days after the battle. The Boil is certainly well & my health otherwise which has been a little impaired from want of exercise is fast improving. Now that I can ride again my digestion will become good.

It is very pleasant weather - only, too hot for comfort in the sun in the middle of the day.

We have no intimations of a movement at present, McClellan was only put ^{charge} in the defenses of Washington - under the orders he drove the Rebels out of Md. but was not allowed to go farther.

I wish you mother to go to my Portfolio which is I think in my trunk & in one of the folds in a large w'd envelope are my discharge papers from the 3d Maine Regt. (3 (thirs) in number) which I wish you to take & send to me in a similar envelope of which father has a supply I believe.

The discharge has mistakes in it which I wish to have corrected.

Did father send word or money to

10/4/1862 **From:** C.H. Howard **To:** Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-074 Head Quarters 2d
Division
Sumner's Corps
Bolivar Heights Va

Hd. Qrs 2d Div. Sumner's Corps
Bolivar Heights Va.
Oct. 4th 1862

My dear Mother,

I have written to Rowland and to Dellie since writing to you. I generally give you each a turn.

Genl. Sewall with his Regt. reported this morning at Sunrise. They came in the cars last evening - came across the river & got bivouacked at about 2 a.m. just this side of Harper's Ferry. We did not know they were so near tho' we knew they had been ordered here. Otis invited Genl. S. & his Field Officers to Breakfast with us which they were glad enough to do.

Thomas came up with the rest fresh hearty & healthy - not in the ranks as he is detailed for duty with the Col. He does his cooking now! Thomas looks very happy & is glad to get so near us. Says he likes Col. Sewall very much. He showed me a good picture of Abbie & the babie which he had lately received.

Col. Sewall was first ordered to Gen. Berry's Brigade but he protested so hard that they let him off & finally [sent] him to Sumner's Corps & Otis has assisted the Regt to Gen. Gorman's Brigade which was the smallest in our Division. The 15th Mass is in that Brigade also 1st Minnesota, 34th & 82d N.Y. seven in all. Dana's Brigade also has 5, Brem's is quite full for old Regts altho it has but 4. The last was Col. Baker's Brigade, who was killed at Ball's Bluff [Battle of Ball's Bluff, Oct 21, 1861]. He raised it by special authority of the War Department. He had 15 companies in two of his Regts whereas other Regts you know have but 10.

Col. Sewall is posted up upon the summit of Bolivar Heights to our front & right from which point with his glass he can see the Rebel pickets & with the naked eye see where some Rebel horsemen took some of our men prisoners yesterday who were foolish enough to stray beyond our picket line.

You will probably have seen accts of the visit of President Lincoln to this place. Otis rode by his side all the time he was passing our Div. also visited Loudon & Md. Heights in his company the next morning. Told a good many funny anecdotes suggested by what he saw or heard remarked.

I have taken a horse back ride this morning - the first since 2 days after the battle. The Boil is entirely well & my health otherwise, which has been a little impaired from want of exercise, fast improving now that I can ride again my digestion will become good.

It is very pleasant weather - only too hot for comfort in the sun in the middle of the day.

We have no intimations of a movement at present. McClellan was only put in charge of the defenses of Washington - under that order he drove the Rebels out of Md, but was not allowed to go farther.

I wish you mother to go to my Portfolio which is I think in my trunk & in one of the folds in a large sized envelope are my discharge papers from the 3d Maine Regt. (3 (three) in number) which I wish you to take & send to me in a similar envelope of which father has a supply I believe. The Discharge has mistakes in it which I wish to have corrected.

Did Father send word or money to Mr. Longley for the saddle \$5.50 was due him.

We pay very high for all provisions here & can scarcely get an apple at any rate. Wish we had some of yours either dried or in any other form.

We will D.V. have Religious Services in front of these H'd Q'rs tomorrow as our last Sabbath.

Dellie will have opportunity probably to send me any little package he may choose by Rev. Mr. Palmer of Brunswick who is coming out as Chaplain for Col. Sewall.

How is father this Fall? Love to him & all not excepting yourself who have the greatest portion.

From your affectionate son.

C.H. Howard

young lady - Better used Spokesman to relate
see the romantic tastes & turns of your mind
heart. I have a copy taken from the Rebels
at Winchester Va. which I occasionally derive
when I cannot spend my leisure more profitably
I do not intimate what you do think too much
of the young lady, but only would caution you
against the malignant tendency of youth of
your circumstances -

One thing you failed to tell me about
and of which I wish to know - the new
religious Not of College when since you
are doing & praying for its renovation.

How long will there be phoners here
to stay away? Congratulate you on the honor
of being prophet - Mr. Abbott was one of the
best fellows I ever knew & one of the best scholars
in my class. - I think that Capt. George Potter
does not borrow better from his son-in-law. - He
is short & well known & highly respected out of
the state or any man of name.

I was happy to get the Catalogue. What just
comes to mind so that you send us a
letter often - Glad you like our studies - Find
you great profit from them - Your loving brother
W.H. Howard -

Adj. 2^d Div. 3^d Division
Summer's Camp
Bolivar Heights Va.
Oct. 12 1862

My dear brother

Your letter of the 6th reached
me day before yesterday the 10th with one from
Rowland written a day or two before. One from further
west day or two weeks ago today mentioning Deacon
Turner's death. Mr. Palmer arrived here last P.M.
afternoon saw Rowland in Brunswick the day he
left. He preached at our Adj M^r today. It was
his first appearance before the 19th and he also
had delegations from nearly all the Regts. in the bri.
of which then an 14. Then an but one or two
Bishops besides him in this bri. He had sur-
prised his discourses particularly for the new Regt.
but then that made little difference tho' I think
had he known he was to conduct the services for
the entire bri. he would have had less to say
about his own peculiar relations to the Regt. which
he seemed to address during most of his sermon.

He will "lumber up" & become more direct &
plain spoken as he practices preaching to the sol-
diers standing as they do in the open air.

It has been cold & quite rainy today. This
is not very well and I have been troubled with

broken for a day or two & have been quite uncomfortable from it today. The dinner today was all introduced in an hour & nothing Mr. Palmer said was in bad taste - much of it was good for us all - His prayer was what we needed and Mr. Morris of the 106th P.V. closed with a warm hearty psalm singing led by Capt Whittlesey was good - There were half a dozen ladies sitting in and in front of the General's tent. Mr. Burns was there who has just returned to his Brigade - He is not well from an affection of the spine. Is a good looking man with black whiskers which nearly conceal the large scar upon his cheek caused by a wound received upon the Peninsula.

The General rec'd a letter from Packard written at Biddeford saying he was well again but had relinquished all ideas of rejoining the Army. Since that Capt. Whittlesey got a letter from his wife saying Packard was sick with fever. Do you know anything about it?

John has just come up from a visit to the 9th Maine which is attached to Horman's Brigade. John says he saw Thomas Babb and that he is well. He is Col. Sewell's cook. Col. S. is rather discontented and says he much prefers staff duties.

In supper he remembers other day besides he occasionally gets a glimpse at the comfort & society delights about their field kitchen. The day he came

we had him, his Lt. Col. Major & Surgeon to dine with us. Tonight Col. S. called up before supper over our & knowing his fondness for doughnuts we sent him some with cheese - There are great luxuries in these parts I assure you.

There has been sending Boston's tents back somewhat today tho. my Normal &c has made me too uncomfortable to enjoy any reading much of the time. It is growing so inclement & the not being very well we have about concluded to take a house for Col. M's party at least - Probably having the tents pitched near for day use & when the weather is fair.

I am in a house now visiting at the table with a N.Y. Tribune reporter. If you see the Daily Tribune you will often notice communications from Maria Keightley - some of which mention Mrs. Howard. Richardson she is now her signs A. D. R. Newcomb she is also her signs W. From what Rountree wrote I judge my letter was published in the L.F. Journal and I have recently sent another to the same also signed W.

I tell you that you may get sight of them if possible believing that you & my own family will be more pleased in their perusal than any one else.

I am sorry we have not got a school. Find one if possible. Don't think too much about the

10/12/1862

From: C.H. Howard

To: Brother (Rodelphus
Gilmore)

CHH-075

Head Quarters 2d
Division
Sumner's Corps
Bolivar Heights Va

H'd Qr's 2d Division
Sumner's Corps
Bolivar Heights Va
Oct. 12, 1862

My dear brother, [Rodelphus Gilmore]

Your letter of the 6th reached me day before yesterday the 10th with one from Rowland written a day or two before one from Mother next day written a week ago today & mentioning Deacon Turner's death [Deacon George Turner, d. 1 Oct 1862].

Mr Palmer arrived here last Thurs afternoon & saw Rowland in Brunswick the day he left. He preached at our H'd Qrs today. It was his first appearance before the 19th and he also had delegations from nearly all the Regts. in the Div. of which there are 14. There are but one or two chaplains besides him in this Divn. He had prepared his discourse particularly for the new Regt. but then that made little difference tho' I think had he known he was to conduct the services for the entire Divn. he would have had less to say about his own peculiar relations to the Regt. which he seemed to address during most of his sermon. He will "limber up" & become more direct & plain spoken as he practices preaching to the soldiers standing as they do in the open air.

It has been cold & quite rainy today. Otis is not very well and I have been troubled with Diarrhea for a day or two & have been quite uncomfortable from it today. The service today was all embraced in an hour's time & nothing Mr. Palmer said was in bad taste - much of it was good for us all. His prayer was what we needed and Mr. Harris of the 106th P.V. closed with a warm & hearty <[torn page]>. Our singing led by Capt Whittlesey was good. Then <[torn page]> were half a dozen ladies sitting in and in front of the General's tent. Gen. Burns was there who has just returned to his Brigade. He is not well from an affliction of the spine. Is a good looking man with black whiskers which nearly conceal the large scar upon his cheek caused by a wound received upon the Peninsula.

The General rec'd a letter from Packard written at Biddeford saying he was well again, but had relinquished all ideas of rejoining the Army. Since that Capt Whittlesey got a letter from his wife saying Packard was sick & with Fever. Do you know anything about it?

John has just come up from a visit to the 19th Maine which is attached to Gorman's Brigade. John says he saw Thomas Rubin and that he is well. He is Col. Sewell's cook. Col. S. is rather discontented and says he much prefers staff duties.

I suppose he remembers other days besides he occasionally gets a glimpse of the comforts & service delights about their Head Quarters. The day he came we had him, his Lt. Col. & Maj & Surgeon to dine with us. Tonight Col S. called up before Supper was over & knowing his fondness for doughnuts we sent him some with cheese. These are great luxuries in these parts I assure you.

I have been reading Baxter's Saints Rest [Richard Baxter, "The Saints Everlasting Rest"] somewhat today tho my stomach &c has made me too uncomfortable to enjoy any reading much of the time. It is growing so inclement & Otis not being very well we have about concluded to take a house for H'd Q'r's partially at least. Probably having the tents hitched near for day use & when the weather is fair.

I am in the house now & writing at the table with a N.Y. Tribune reporter. If you see the Daily Tribune you will often notice communications from Bolivar Heights, some of which mention Gen. Howard. Richardson who is now here signs A.D.R. Newcomb who is also here signs N. From what Rowland wrote I judge my letter was published in the L. F. Journal and I have recently sent another to the same

also signed N. I tell you that you may get sight of them if possible believing that you & my own family will take more pleasure in their perusal, than any one else.

I am sorry you have not got a school. Find one if possible. Don't think too much about the young lady. Rather read Shakespeare to satiate all the romantic tastes & turns of your mind & heart. I have a copy taken from the Rebels at Wmsburg Va which I occasionally devour when I cannot spend my leisure more profitably. I do not intimate that you do think too much of the young lady but only would contain you against the natural tendencies of youth of your circumstances.

How long will these Sophomores have to stay away? Congratulate you on the honor of being prophet - after Albert Howe one of the best follows I ever knew & one of the best scholars in my class. I think that Capt George Patten does not borrow luster from his son-in-law. He is about as well known & highly respected out of the state as any man of Maine.

I was happy to get the Catalogue. Write just what comes to mind so that you send us a letter often. Glad you like your studies. I wish you great profit from them.

Your loving brother
C.H. Howard

P.S. What a shame that Stuart has got round us again. We have heard firing nearly all day and hope he got intercepted in recrossing. We shall learn tomorrow.

C.H.H

P.S. 2d Maj. Gen. <Couch> <[torn page]> absent 30 days & perhaps will never return.

to appraise the library.
Our dinner is ready -
earlier today that we may have
more time to move & set
up house keeping before
night.

Mr. Couch is very pleasant
this adjutant general is an
"own cousin" of Rev. Mr. Walker
of Hobst. Church Portland
also a classmate & special
friend of Douglass & friend
& classmate of mine at Thago.

I must hasten to close for
finer calls must be had
by all - good to-morrow -

Love to darling Guy & once
not a little to my first
Lizzy i.e. my first br.

— Charles —

P.S. Just rec'd. from friend a \$100.00 money
note from O.O. Howard B.G. —

1d in 2^d Division
Summer's Corps
Belvoir Heights Va.
Oct. 13th 1862

My dear Lizzie

We are happy
to get your letter "for Charles".
Oti's first took it but he usually
has me open the envelope with
my handkerchief and of course
I discovered the extra superscription.
However I read the letter aloud
instead of Oti reading aloud
to me as he frequently does
on the receipt of your letters.

Oti & I just returned from
Genl. Couch's Hdqrs - who
now commands this corps.
We walked down & back
finding it a little muddy in
crossing strett, owing to last
night yesterday's rain.

When we got back Ots' road
I meant to have written a letter
this morning - has the mail gone?
When told it had not he thought
he would write in the $\frac{1}{4}$ hour
remaining before 12th when the
mail comes. But Capt. Whittle
very had some papers for his
consideration & I, remembering
your kind letter to me the
evening that Ots' would not
get time to write just slipped
into the office - called for paper
& pen there for in a letter to
you.

A letter from brother
same date as yours told how
much she enjoyed having
you in remain with her & said
she would be lonely without
you now.

Yesterday Rev. Mr. Palmer
chaptain 19th here, & found

Brunswick here, only last week
prached at there & did 91's
to much of the div't as chose
to assemble. Several ladies,
wives of officers, came & sat
in and about the General's
tent. Capt. W. leads the
singeing very well. If you
see the N. Y. Tribune you will
find pieces every day from
this place. The correspondents
of that paper are fine gentle-
men & quite agreeable com-
panys - One letter in the Tribune
of the 8th inst. (I believe) speaks
particularly of Gen. Howard &
his efforts to raise the standard
of morals in his command.

We are going into a good nice
brick house this afternoon to
the cold & damp weather of a
few days past makes us ready

10/13/1862

From: C.H. Howard

To: Lizzie (Elizabeth Waite Howard)

CHH-076

Head Quarters 2d
Division
Sumner's Corps
Bolivar Heights Va

H'd Q'r's 2d Division
Sumner's Corps
Bolivar Heights Va.
Oct 13th 1862

My dear Lizzie, [Elizabeth Waite Howard]

We were happy to get your letter "for Charles". Otis first took it but he usually has me open the envelope with my pen knife and of course I discovered the extra super script. However I read the letter aloud instead of Otis reading aloud to me as he frequently does on the receipt of your letters. Otis & I just returned from Gen. Couch's H'd Q'r's - who now commands this Corps. We walked down & back finding it a little muddy in crossing streets, owing to last night & yesterday's rain.

When we got back Otis said I meant to have written a letter this morning. Has the mail gone? When told it had not he thought he would write in the 1/4 hour remaining before 12 hr when the mail leaves. But Capt. Whittlesey had some papers for his consideration & I remembering your kind letter to me & perceiving that Otis would not get time to write just slipped into the office - called for paper & am thus far in a letter to you. A letter from Mother same date as yours told how much she enjoyed having Jamie [Otis and Lizzie's son, James Waite Howard] remain with her & said she would be lonely without him.

Yesterday Rev. Mr. Palmer chaplain 19th Me. & from Brunswick Me. only last week preached at these H'd Q'r's to such of the Divn. as chose to assemble. Several ladies, wives of officers, came & sat in and about the General's tent. Capt W. leads the singing very well. If you see the N.Y Tribune you will find pieces every day from this place. The correspondents of that paper are fine gentlemen & quite agreeable company. One letter in the Tribune of the 8th inst. (I believe) speaks particularly of Gen. Howard & his efforts to raise the standard of morals in his command.

We are going into a good nice brick house this afternoon & the cold & damp weather of a few days past makes us ready to appreciate the luxury.

Our dinner is ready earlier today that we may have more time to move & set up house keeping before night.

Gen. Couch is very pleasant & his Adjutant General is an "own cousin" of Rev. Mr. Walker of State St. Church Portland also a classmate & especial friend of Douglass a friend & classmate of mine at Bangor.

I must hasten to close for dinner calls must be heeded by all - great & small - Love to darling Guy & Grace & not a little to my Sister Lizzie.

From your Affectionate br.
Charles

P.S. Enclosed please find a \$100 Treasury note from O.O. Howard, B.G.