

4 a pang of suffering - He was
very happy - Is well and con-
tent - Never had a better
tent - Our staff very satisfactory -
Our old Commissary Bullish
whom you will remember as being
a pious, kind & generous man
joins us again tomorrow.

WE have new mess furniture
bought in Washington - a nice
cook - And mother, of the
Division generally favorable -

St. Shrood A.D.C. who went
to Washington got our Dec. pay -
He bought me a hat, silk scarf or
neck-tie, Paper collars & some
other little things. - I answered
Mr. Boothby's letter after trying my
best to get the privilege of going
for Walter's body - A flag of truce
for such purposes could not be
mounted. When are Mr. White's
sons, & which one was wounded?

You spoke of Mrs. Mr. Smith &

Probably
Jan 3. 1862

Head Qrs 2nd Div. 2nd Corps
Near Salunette Va

My dear Mother

Having opportunity to
send a letter early in the morning
before the ^{R.R.} train leaves for Aquia
I will write though it may not
be a long letter. This is reading
aloud from Friday's paper which
we now get from Washington quite
regularly. Capt. Whitting is here.
He has a thye upon one eye -
very uncomfortable. We have
had some rain today - the
first since the night of the
15th ~~alt~~ when we evacuated
Fredericksburg. Dr. Dyer, our
present Medical Director joined
our Head Quarters yesterday.
He has been staying with his
Regt (20th Mass) heretofore. He
is a good natured & good looking

St. Shrood will send more soon for deposit - L.H.H.

man - about 35 years old.

Capt. Owen returns from a short leave tonight - which he obtained in the interval of changing from Mr. Birney to Gen. Howard - He is said to be an excellent Dr. Mr. In fact he was with us a while after the first Bull Run and Otis secured him the appointment of Brigadier Dr. Mr. He now becomes one of our family again. His clerk Mr. Bennett has been here for a week - during his absence and is a pleasant young man - He plays the flute beautifully - Was in here (Otis tent) both evening and accompanied our hymn - singing with the flute - He also sings tenor well.

We were very glad to have an actual letter from you again.

We were also rejoiced to hear from you thro' Roland while you were with him.

You gave us the first news of poor Chas. Perry's death. The 16th is many miles from us - When I visited the 3rd Maine I inquired about Ruggles Keay the first time I was there after the battle & I meant to have told you when I mentioned the other that Ruggles was well and attending the wounded in hospital. His health was good and he was said to be cheerful & happy - I should have seen him had he not been away in the Division Hospital.

I was glad to know that you had rec'd my numerous letters.

Otis could not understand why the thought of him gave you

5
Weymouth Reminds me of
Lieut. G. W. Smith son of
George Smith formerly of W.
who belongs to 19th Me. (Col.
Sewall) and called to see
us last night - He is a
member of the Cong. Church
at Rockland where he has been
for 5 or 6 years. He used to
go to Otis' school in Weymouth - He
seems to be a very fine young
man and good officer. He
will probably be promoted to
1st Lt. before long. He is said
to be one of the best officers
in the Regt. - - I was glad
to hear from Black Hawk - Has
he got home yet? - - Otis
keeps my shoe (autograph) standing
facing him upon the table - leaning
against a book -

It is clear & growing colder.

6 this evening - The moon is
out bright and nearly full.
We feel quite satisfied with
the latest news from the
West - I do hope that this
at Mansfieldboro will prove
a fruitful victory.

Judge Full of August
& Col. Loustelle of the Army
active of Hampshire Mr.
now I wish to write for Gen.
Sumner called here to-
day. - Before the rain this
forenoon I reviewed one
of his brigades - I have
been reading a little in
Dickens works this P. M.
now reading "Oliver Twist" when
I have nothing else better to -

This is the week of prayer -
and I trust that many sincere
petitions for our Country will go
up in faith - We have had
our evening worship -

7
This says, "Give my love
to Mother & tell her I
had to leave the buttons
set over today, my waist
having become too small
of late." John reset
the buttons.

Roseland wrote that Bet-
sy Bates kept home for
father in your absence. Is
she still with you? If so
I have given her my kind
remembrances and best
wishes for health and
happiness. My love also
to Roland & Elizabeth & family
and to Louisa, Emma, Maria
& them, if you see any of
them.

Dellin's school is drawing
to a close - Perhaps you will
have him at home awhile.

8 Please ask father what he
thinks about my putting a
hundred dollars in the
Savings Bank - I can spare
about \$100 now I think &
it seems about as good a way
when to me to put it in the
Savings Bank - I don't know
whether the tax is the same
there as when invested in stock
or not -

Three young men of the
Christian Commission who were
visiting the Camps to distribute
religious reading & heretical tracts
called here today - Two
of my Binger Class are en-
gaged in this work. One
is reading now yesterday's
Richmond paper - Gen. Bragg
is not quite so sanguine in his
later dispatches as he was.

God can give us victory - & that
he may bind it consistent with
his glory - Yr Affectionate Son C. H. H.

1/3/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-087

H'd Qr's 2nd Divn. 2nd
Corps
Near Falmouth Va

Probably Jan 3 1863 [written in a handwriting other than Charles]

H'd Qr's 2nd Divn. 2nd Corps
Near Falmouth Va

My dear Mother,

Having opportunity to send a letter early in the morning before the R.R. train leaves for Aquia, I will write though it may not be a long letter. Otis is reading aloud from today's paper, which we now get from Washington quite regularly. Capt. Whittlesey is here. He has a sty upon one eye - very uncomfortable. We have had some rain today - the first since the night of the 15th ult when we evacuated Fredericksburg. Dr. Dyer, our present Medical Director, joined our Head Quarters yesterday. He has been staying with his Regt. (20th Mass) heretofore. He is a good natured & good looking man - about 35 years old.

Capt. Owen returned from a short leave tonight which he obtained in the interval of changing from Gen. Birney to Gen. Howard. He is said to be an excellent Qr. Mr. In fact he was with us a while after the first Bull Run and Otis secured him the appointment of Brigade Qr. Mr. He now becomes one of our family again. His clerk Mr. Bennett has been here for a week - during his absence and is a pleasant young man. He plays the flute beautifully - was in here (Otis' tent) Sabbath evening and accompanied our Hymn-singing with the flute. He also sings tenor well.

We were very glad to have an actual letter from you again. We were also rejoiced to hear from you thro' Rowland while you were with him.

You give us the first news of poor Chas. Berry's death. The 16th is many miles from us. When I visited the 3d Maine I inquired about Ruggles Keay the first time I was there after the battle & I meant to have told you when I mentioned the others that Ruggles was well and attending the wounded in hospital. His health was good and he was said to be cheerful & happy. I should have seen him had he not been away in the Division Hospital.

I was glad to know that you had rec'd my numerous letters.

Otis could not understand why the thought of him gave you a pang of suffering. He seems very happy - is well and contented - never had a better tent. Our staff very satisfactory. Our old Commissary Balloch whom you will remember as being a pious, kind & generous man joins us again tomorrow.

We have new mess furniture bought in Washington - a nice cook - and matters of the Division generally favorable.

Lt. Atwood A.D.C. who went to Washington got our Dec. pay. He bought me a hat, silk scarf or neck-tie, paper collars & some other little things. I answered Mr. Boothby's letter after trying my best to get the privilege of going for Walter's body. A flag of truce for such purpose could not be reached. Where are Mr. Wheeler's sons, & which one was wounded? You spoke of Rev. Mr. Smith of Wayne & this reminds me of Lieut. G.W. Smith son of George Smith formerly of W. who belongs to the 19th Me. (Col. Sewall) and called to see us last night. He is a member of the Cong. Church of Rockland where he has been for 5 or 6 years. He used to go to Otis' school in Wayne. He seems to be a very fine young man and good officer. He will probably be promoted to 1st Lt. before long. He is said to be one of the best officers in the Regt. I was glad to hear from Clark Custis. Has he got home yet? Otis keeps Guy and Grace (ambrotypes) standing facing him upon the table - leaning against a book.

It is clear & growing colder this evening. The moon is out bright and nearly full. We feel quite satisfied with the latest news from the west. I do hope that this at Murfreesboro will prove a fruitful victory.

Judge Fuller of Augusta & Col. Sawtelle of the army native of Norridgewock Me. now Quarter Master for Gen. Sumner called here today. Before the rain this forenoon Otis reviewed one of his brigades. I have been reading a little in Dickens works this P.M. now reading "Oliver Twist" when I have nothing else to attend to. This is the week of prayer and I trust that many sincere petitions for our country will go up in faith. We have had our evening worship.

Otis says "Give my love to Mother & tell her I had to have the buttons set over today, my coat having become too small of late." John reset the buttons.

Rowland wrote that Betsey Bates kept house for father in your absence. Is she still with you? If so please give her my kind remembrances and best wishes for health and happiness. My love also to Roland & Cynthia & family and to <Louise>, Emma, Warren & theirs, if you see any of them.

Dellie's school is drawing to a close. Perhaps you will have him at home awhile.

Please ask father what he thinks about my putting a hundred dollars in the Savings Bank. I can spare about \$100 now I think & it seems about as good as any plan to me to put it in the Savings Bank. I don't know whether the tax is the same there as when invested in stock or not.

Three young men of the Christian Commission who are visiting the camps to distribute religious reading & hospital <stins> called here today. Two of my Bangor Class are engaged in this work. Otis is reading now yesterday's Richmond paper. Gen. Bragg is not quite so sanguine in his later dispatches as he was. God can give us victory - O that he may find it consistent with his glory.

Yr Affectionate Son. C.H.H.

P.S. I enclose \$20 and will send more soon for deposit. C.H.H.

[Jan 10 1863?] (3)

It will probably be some price as the others
if so you will have enough to pay the express.

For Chas Berry we did not know of his
death till mother's letter came tonight

Mother does not seem very cheerful. She
must keep up a good heart if only for the
benefit of the afflicted and downcast who
are about her. Now is the time for the
strong minded and those who live upon the
higher motives, and those who are supported
by an exalted faith, to stand up cheerful
trustful & steadfast. Now we shall see
who has true energy of character for this
always gives hope and hope sheds a
charming light over the character & life.

Those who have constant communion with
him who is the source of all strength &
grace will in these times, I anticipate, begin
to shine - O that our little circle of
family may be able to live constantly near
to Christ. I feel the need of others' pray-
ers and I try to remember my dearest friends always

Spring of 1863
with my dear

(6)

when at the throne. My health is now
excellent - could much better and I see
not why I may not continue in the service
while I am so much needed. We have
every assurance that Otis will be there.
Gentle - This will not promote me unless
he has a Corps or Capt. W. resigns & he does
intend to do this, I think - You will probably
be disappointed about seeing him the last of
the term. He thanked me for your message -
wishes to take an interest in you.

I would add the Herald (N.Y.) to the papers
you mentioned for suppression - It is too bad
for the enemy & have so much aid & comfort
as that gives them daily.

You will at least have some time to
read and write when your school is done.
Try & form industrious habits now and they
will never leave you. We have ^{just} had prayer.

Religion, pure & undefiled, is worth more than
all the honors & emoluments of the world. Let
us never underestimate its value. Goodnight - With love to
father & mother - I affectionately am, C. H. Howard

1/10/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: [Rodelphus Gilmore]

CHH-297

1/10/1863 [Date estimated from reference to Chas Berry death in Mother's letter of 1/3/1863]

(5) [this must be the fifth page in a letter. The first 4 pages apparently are missing. It is apparently written to Charles' brother Dellie]

It will probably be same price as the other, if so you will have enough to buy the express.

Poor Chas Berry we did not know of his death till mother's letter came tonight. [Charles Berry was from Leeds and served in the 16th Regiment, Maine Infantry and died on 12/25/1862, probably from wounds received during the Battle of Fredericksburg, 12/13/1862.]

Mother does not seem very cheerful. She must keep up a good heart if only for the benefit of the afflicted and downcast who are about her. Now is the time for the strong minded and those who live upon the higher motives and those who are supported by an exalted faith, to stand up cheerful, trustful & steadfast. Now we shall see who has true energy of character for this always gives hope and hope sheds cheering light over the character & life.

Those who have constant communion with Him who is the source of all strength & grace will in these times, I anticipate, begin to shine. O that we of our little circle of family may be able to live constantly near to Christ. I feel the need of others' prayers and I try to remember my dearest friends always when at the <>. My health is now excellent - cold much better - and I see not why I may not continue in the service which I am so much needed. We have every assurance that Otis will be Maj. Genl. This will not promote me unless he has a Corps or Capt. W. resigns & he doesn't intend to do this I think. You will probably be disappointed about seeing him the first of the <>. He thanked me for your message - seems to take an interest in you.

I would add the Herald (N.Y.) to the papers you mentioned for suppression. It is too bad for the enemy to have so much aid & comfort as that gives them daily.

You will at least have some time to read and write when your school is done. Try & form industrious habits now and they will never leave you. We have just had prayers. Religion, pure & undefiled, is worth more than all the honor & emoluments of the world. Let us never underate its value.

Good night, with love to father & mother.

Yr. Affectionate br.
C.H. Howard

move but whether or in what
force is not known.

There is much ^{seems} disloyalty among
both officers & men in the army.
Could I think by reading the N.Y.
Herald - I wrote two letters last week
to the Press - but you on them?

The no. of generals who on pro-
slavery in their sentiment, is larger
than the no. who are heartily in
favor of the Proclamation of
Emancipation.

There is danger that this
division of sentiment may ruin our
cause in the North - We need
a single-hearted unanimous
devotion to the Government - in
order to receive the blessing of
God without which it is vain
that we fight - But with the
Divine help heretofore so mercifully
granted to us, your love, and at least
I will be found doing our duty.

I will inden two twenty

H'd 2nd Div 2nd Corps
near Palmetto Sa.

Jan. 14 1863

My dear Mother

Your letter of the
9th & 10th came last night - informing
us that we were to expect Mr. Hicks,
write lots of good things very soon.
He will probably reach here by
Friday evening - Since we sent to
Washington & refilled & refurnished
our mess we have found very
well.

The Sabbath when you began
your letter we had the privilege
of happiness to attend a religious
service conducted by our well-tried
friend Rev. Mr. Alvord. He now
has a tent & spends most of his
time at our H'd Div. We
had a good frozen-meaty Sat-
urday evening - It would have done

P.S. is writing letter - I've an last week - C.H.H.
Helen will, making \$100 is all that I have sent. What will
father probably do with it? I wish him to follow & on about
share to himself
C.H.H.
C.H.H.

you best good to be present - The
singing was excellent - And after
the meeting was over we continued
to sing hymns - Now that Capt.
Bullach has come we have two
flutes - Mr. Bennett (Capt. Owen's
citizen clerk) had one before & is
a fine player. Now either Capt B.
or Capt. Whittier plays with him. Lately
at their old place we have
had great Sunday privileges.

But the attendance upon the
service which was held with
the 2nd Brigade - the one Otis
had at Antietam - was very
small. The men do not
incline to come out and the
officers, many of them, have
less interest in it than the men.

(Yesterday I wrote Belle giving
him an account of the painful
occurrence of Monday. The poor

boy breathed his last breath of
anguish ~~in the night~~. It
is a great relief to our feelings
to know that he is at peace
with this Saviour whom he
told Otis he loved and on
whom he was wont to rely.
He was remarkable for his piety
and unwavering good conduct.

Thank Cynthia for her do-
nation - I am glad she thinks
of us - How is Roland? Give
kind remembrance from me to
Miss Lucy Snow - I should
have been disappointed had she
not come to live with you
this winter. You do not mention
Oscar - Is he well?

I feel anxious to hear how Fran-
kella is - If you see her, give her
my kind regards if you please.

We have had intimations of a

1/14/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-088

H'd Q'rs 2nd Divn 2nd
Corps
Near Falmouth Va.

H'd Q'rs 2nd Divn 2nd Corps
Near Falmouth Va.
Jan 14 1863

My dear Mother,

Your letter of the 9th & 10th came last night - informing us that we were to expect Mr. Hicks with lots of good things very soon. He will probably reach here by Friday evening. Since we sent to Washington & refitted & refurnished our Mess we have fared very well.

The Sabbath when you began your letter we had the privilege & happiness to attend a religious service conducted by our well-trying friend Rev. Mr. Alvord. He now has a tent & spends most of his time at our H'd Q'rs. We had a good prayer meeting Sabbath evening. It would have done your heart good to be present. The singing was excellent and after the meeting was over we continued to sing hymns. Now that Capt. Balloch has come we have two flutes. Mr. Bennet (Capt. Owen's citizen clerk) had one before & is a fine player. Now either Capt. B. or Capt. Whittlesey plays with him. Lately at these H'd Qr's we have had great Sunday privileges. But the attendance upon the service which was held with the 2nd Brigade - the one Otis had at Antietam - was very small. The men do not incline to come out and the officers, many of them, have less interest in it than the men.

Yesterday I wrote Dellie giving him an account of the painful occurrence of Monday. The poor boy breathed his last breath of anguish in the night. It is a great relief to our feelings to know that he is at peace with his Saviour whom he told Otis he loved and on whom he was wont to rely. He was remarkable for his piety and unvarying good conduct.

Thank Cynthia for her donation. I am glad she thinks of us. How is Roland? Give kind remembrance from me to Miss Lucy Shaw. I should have been disappointed had she not come to live with you this winter. You do not mention Oscar. Is he well?

I feel anxious to hear how Isabella is. If you see her, give her my kind regards if you please.

We have had intimations of a move but whither or in what force is not known.

There is much semi-disloyalty among both officers & men in the army, caused I think by reading the N. Y. Herald. I wrote two letters last week to the Press. Did you see them? The no. of generals who are pro-slavery in their sentiment is larger than the no. who are heartily in favor of the Proclamation of Emancipation [Issued 22 September 1862 & 1 January 1863].

There is danger that this division of sentiment may ruin our cause in the North. We need a single-hearted unanimous devotion to the Government in order to receive the blessing of God without which it is vain that we fight. But with the <Divine> <> heretofore so mercifully vouchsafed to us, your sons, we at least will be found doing our duty.

I will inclose two twenty dollar bills, making \$100 in all that I have sent. What will father probably do with it? With love to father & an abundant share to yourself.

Yr. Affectionate Son,
C.H.H.

P.S. Otis is writing letters. We are both well. C.H.H.

P.S. Mrs. Whittier writes that there has been some religious interest - Have you known of it? All well

as I undoubtedly should be). Capt W. will become Maj. by virtue of Otis' promotion and if he has a Corps will be Lieut. Col. - The other aids (two) will be Captains. But now there does not seem to be any Corps for Otis to have. The 9th has just embarked to go South.

I approve of your selection of books though Abbot does not write a good style. It would not do for you as a lawyer to fall into his flourish and redundancy. That work of Dr. Smith's must be almost invaluable. I had not heard of it ^{comes}.

Hope when the proper time you will tell Mary Frankly that your best judgement after mature deliberation forbids a closer bond and therefore dictates

that any which now exists should be surrendered. It would never do to marry a girl whose father it was possible for you to denigrate "the villainous old fellow" I see Captain Horbridge occasionally. He makes a fair Captain. If you will call on Mrs. W. when I write very highly also Mrs. F. Your brother

Dear Mrs. 2nd Div^{ion}
Near Falmouth
Feb. 10 1863

It is my turn to write again, almost doubtly so, as Rowland sends me your last to him. It is a bright warm morning like some April day in Maine. Otis is sitting upon a Military Commission for the trial of a Rebel citizen who was with a party of Rebel soldiers who fired upon some of our troops. It may cost him his life. Otis is the President of the Com^{tee}. It consists of several Generals and some 3 or 4 Cols. — The Com^{tee} sits

It is too muddy to think of moving now.

at the Phillips house and
Otis is going round by the
3^d maine

Weds. Feb. 11th

I went with Otis yes-
terday but instead of stay-
ing at the Courthouse I rode
with Capt Weir (brother
of my friend John of West
Point) down to view the
battle-field upon the left
where Franklin crossed.
Capt. W. was a. a. g. to
Gen. Baird and was just
by him when he was killed.
He pointed out the spot to
me from a hill which
overlooked the plain upon
the other side of the river.

We rode five or six miles and
came back just as the Com^d
adjourned - 3 P. M.

Hooker is getting the hearts of the soldiers by
his order granting few long hair - for you see

I then rode with Otis to
the 3^d Mr. Saw Dexter al-
most the first man. He
is now a Sergt. John Kime
seemed the same as ever.

I carried a recommendation
which I had written and Otis
signed for Corp^t Bigelow
who hopes to be an officer
in a negro Regiment of
which Cyrus Hamlin is to
be Col.

You have seen that the
Grand Div^{ns} have been broken
up. So Otis returned to the
Divⁿ - I had a hard weeks
work as a. a. g. for the
Corps. You ask about rank.
Mine does not increase un-
less Otis commands a
Corps. In that case I will
become Maj. (if senior aid

2/10/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: Brother (Rodelphus
Gilmore)

CHH-089

Head Qrs 2n Divn
Near Falmouth, Va

Head Qrs 2n Divn
Near Falmouth, Va
Feb 10 1863

My dear brother [Rodelphus Gilmore]

It is my turn to write again, almost doubly so, as Rowland sent me your last to him. It is a bright warm morning like some April day in Maine.

Otis is sitting upon a Military Commission for the trial of a Rebel citizen who was with a party of Rebel soldiers who fired upon some of our troops. It may cost him his life. Otis is the President of the Comn. It consists of several Generals and some 3 or 4 Cols. The Comn sits at the Phillips house and Otis is going round by the 3d Maine.

Weds. Feb 11th

I went with Otis yesterday but instead of staying at the Court I rode with Capt. Weir (brother of my friend John of West Point) down to view the battle-field upon the left where Franklin crossed. Capt. W. was A.A.G. to Gen. Baird and was just by him when he was killed. He pointed out the spot to me from a hill which over-looked the plain upon the other side of the river.

We rode five or six miles and came back just as the Comn adjourned - 3 P.M.

I then rode with Otis to the 3d Me. Saw Dexter almost the first man. He is now a Sergt. John Keene seemed the same as ever.

I carried a recommendation which I had written and Otis signed for Corpl. Bigelow who hopes to be an officer in a negro Regiment of which Cyrus Hamlin is to be Col.

You have seen that the Grand Divns have been broken up. So Otis returned to the Divn. I had a hard weeks work as A.A.G. for the Corps. You ask about rank. Mine does not increase unless Otis commands a Corps. In that case I will become Maj. (If senior aid as I undoubtedly should be). Capt. W. will become Maj. By virtue of Otis' promotion and if he has a Corps will be Lieut. Col. The other aids (two) will be Captains. But now there does not seem to be any Corps for Otis to have. The 9th has just embarked to go South.

I approve of your selection of books though Abbot does not write a good style. It would not do for you as a lawyer to fall into his flourish and redundancy. That work of Dr. Smith's must be almost invaluable. I had not heard of it.

Hope when the proper time comes you will tell Mary frankly that your best judgement after mature deliberation forbids a closer bond and therefore dictates that any which now exists should be sundered. It would never do to marry a girl whose father it was possible for you to denominate "the villainous old Captain". I see Captain Starbird occasionally. He makes a fair Captain. Hope you will call on Mrs. W. whom I esteem very highly also Mrs. F.

Your Affectionate brother.
C.H.H.

P.S. Mrs. Whittlesey writes that there has been some religious interest. Have you known of it?
All well.

It is too muddy to think of moving now.

Hooker is getting the hearts of the soldiers by his order granting furloughs. Have you seen Col. Chamberlain?

set a little while admiring
the art & the novelty of the
Powers studio.

I have but just returned from
Brooklyn - bringing back some
Wedding-cake which I am to
take to Perry -

I meant to have had some
photographs taken but have not
been able to find the time.

While at West Point I
called upon Mrs. Grey & Miss
Jennie in their new house which
Miss Jennie had built upon a plan
of her own & paid for by the
profits of a book - ^{on} a love story -
which she wrote for the purpose
of getting the needed ^{income} ^{Hoping}
to find a letter of Hays - E. H. Howard

Studio Building - no 3
Fourth Street - New York
Mar. 4 1863

My dear Mother

I am expecting Oles
back tomorrow morning when I will
join him and we will try & reach
the Army by Saturday.

Last Thursday I went up to
West Point & came back Monday
P. M. Enjoyed visiting my old

friends there much - The day
I returned I called over to Brook-
lyn and saw Mrs. Perry Lee
and engaged to attend her
Cousin's wedding with her the
next day -

It was a gay time and

I saw there H. W. Beecher - Mrs. General
Frémont & other distinguished.

The Bride was Miss Sarah Dwight -
The Bride-groom was Capt. Raymond
of Gen. Frémont's staff - I also met
Capt. Jack Howard of same staff - He
is from Brooklyn originally.

Here I stay with my friend
Johnny Weir - I am very pleasantly in-
terested. His studio is being all around
with beautiful Paintings of his own
on his father's.

He is exhibiting one of his father's
called "The Nun" or "Taking the Veil".

He expects to sell it for \$6,000 - He
has sold one for \$3,500 since he
has been in the city - Besides he
takes 25 or 30 dollars a day for
the exhibition of the Paintings.

John is an excellent young man -
Accomplished in manners, refined
in taste, moral in all his habits
and better than the whole, he is
a man of high worth.

Last night we went to Brooklyn
to the Academy of Art where there
was a great assemblage of the rich &
refined people of the city to view
an exhibition of Paintings - We took
Mrs. Lee & met there the Trappers
with whom I had dined after at-
tending the wedding -

This forenoon I went over &
got Mrs. Lee & conducted her to
Goupil's Gallery to see "The Nun" &
then brought her to this studio
where we met Johnny & the

3/4/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-090

Studio Building No B
Tenth Street, New York

Studio Building No B
Tenth Street, New York
Mar 4, 1863

My dear Mother,

I am expecting Otis back tomorrow morning when I will join him and we will try & reach the army by Saturday.

Last Thursday I went up to West Point & came back Monday P.M. Enjoyed visiting my old friends there much. The day I returned I called over to Brooklyn and saw Mrs. Perry Lee [Samuel Perry Lee married Elizabeth Fiske on Feb 10, 1863] and engaged to attend her cousin's wedding with her the next day.

It was a gay time and I saw there H.W. Beecher, Mrs General Fremont & other distingue's.

The bride was Miss Sarah Dwight. The bridegroom was Capt. Raymund of Gen. Fremont's staff. I also met Capt Jack Howard of their staff. He is from Brooklyn originally.

Here I stay with my friend Johnny Weir. I am very pleasantly situated. His studio is hung all around with beautiful paintings of his own or his father's. He is exhibiting one of his father's called "The Nun" or "Taking the Veil". He expects to sell it for \$6,000. He has sold one for \$3,500 since he has been in the city. Besides he takes 25 or 30 dollars a day for the exhibition of the paintings. John is an excellent young man - accomplished in manners, refined in taste, moral in all his habits and better than the whole, he is a man of piety & faith.

Last night we went to Brooklyn to the Academy of Art where there was a great assemblage of the rich & refined people of the city to view an exhibition of paintings. We took Mrs. Lee & met there the Trippers with whom I had dined after attending the wedding.

This forenoon I went over & got Mrs. Lee & conducted her to <Ganpil's> Gallery to see "The Nun" & then brought her to this studio where we met Johnny & then sat a little while admiring the art & the novelty of the Painter's Studio.

I have but just returned from Brooklyn - bringing back some wedding cake which I am to take to Perry. I meant to have had some photographs taken but have not been able to find the time.

While at West Point I called upon Mrs. Gray & Miss Jeanie in their new house which Miss Jeanie had built upon a plan of her own & pays for by the profits of a book - a love story - which she wrote for the purpose of getting the needed income. Hoping to find a letter at Hdqrs.

Your Affectionate Son
C. H. Howard

P.S. I am twice as well as of my picture - Was it ever sent from London?
better - I mean the picture - if so please send it home - C.H.H.

Oh, how you down to Camp Hd. qrs. for a
few moments, were Gen. Leach. Last eve-
ning we rode over to the Leary House and
attended a prayer-meeting. It is two miles
over there - Two ladies who attend upon
the Hospital, &c. in this camp, make
that house their Hd. qrs. and they have
a prayer-meeting every night attended by
members of a Regt. ^{Company} near and by the
Pickets which are along the river a few
odd off and only half of whom are
on post at a time. We found the
room crowded. Oh, took up the
greater part of the time after we got
there - though we sang twice and a
prayer was offered - There has been our
Conversion there during the last week.
Mrs. Morris is the lady who is the
leader in the matter. She was called
in a speech at the Hall of Representatives
(when Oh spoke on our way home when
on leave) the Florence Nightingale of
America. She is an old lady - i.e.,
above fifty I should judge. Did you
get the book - "Facts" which I sent. Oh
calls it a very good representation of the
folly of West Point in certain circles. The
author and her mother you know are very dear
friends of mine - Very affectionately you son
C.H.H.

Had father went to \$100.00 - Mount?

P.S. It continues to snow a good deal and I think we
will not move before the end of two weeks - We got a note
from Dr. Purford
very, Thomas B.
was made with
Typhoid fever.
He seemed
very well
when here -
His Regiment
got a very high
second on paper -
him - find up to
to be 1000 & 1000
I miss the
also to the
best. C.H.H.

Cd. qrs. 2nd Div. 2nd Corps
Near Palmyra Va.
Mar. 15 1863

My dear Mother
We got a letter from Belle
yesterday written after he had visited Leed.
I am happy to know you are well
and father in so good health. Belle
thinks father hears better than he has
for some time. I was very glad you
saw Oh. Belle mentions his confirma-
tion - I intend to send you the Tribune
giving account of the presentation of
the Silver Pitcher. It was simply accidental
that it occurred on the same day
as his Confirmation as Maj. Gen. for
he had got the Pitcher thro' Capt. Whittle-
sey's brother-in-law - Mr. Pappan of
Phila^a had had it marked as given
Feb 14 - the anniversary of his wedding.
We have had no doubt of his Confirmation.
Now Capt. Whitting is Major - He learned
the fact the day he was in Washington on
his way home. He has a leave of
fifteen days - I do his duty and then
you shall not be likely to write so many
letters. Day before yesterday I visited the

Third Maine - It has moved so as to
be near Wood - and is some six
miles from us now - has Perry. He
will probably be on Birney's staff
again as Inspector with rank of
Major - no benefit except in his
associations. Otis' rank entitles
him to that Corps (3^d) but as
Pickles (now in command) was
confirmed as Maj. Gen. I presume
he will retain it. I am much inter-
ested that Otis should have
Corps, of course, as it would make
me Major.

I saw Dexter - never looked more
beaty in his life. Ruggles may have had
a bad cold, & did not look so well but
he is getting better. Henry Sumner was
well - They all tent together now. Have
you seen Capt. John Sumner? I suppose
he will be back this week. Dexter
thinks he is the best line officer in
the Regiment - He also speaks very
highly of Perry. The latter had just
rec'd a letter from his wife who is now
boarding ~~at~~ (her mother's) in Brooklyn, near
her Aunt's. Did I mention the wedding
I attended there? Miss Sarah Dwight

was married to Capt. Raymond of Gen.
Grant's staff - I saw Mrs. Grant there. She is
a large and rather coarse looking lady - of
good deal of strength of character.

Otis is well - We got the photographs
from Phila. yesterday. His are very good
and I showed my mine one pretty good
but rather light.

You may have seen that Gen. Sumner
has a command in the West - For the
sake of seeing our Country I would like
to have Otis ordered to his Department.

But I have no expectation of this kind
and doubtless all will be for the best.

Maj. Whittier will meet with great opposition
from his wife & from the faculty of the
College - to returning - but if we remain
with this Div. I doubt not he will return.
The Adjutant General, one fixtured to a
Div. or Corps so if the General should
have a Corps then would be no certainty of
his being able to have Maj. Whittier.

Wish it not for this law I should try
hard to get Maj. Whittier's place in
case he does resign - as it is, I am
in uncertainty what I better do.

You gave unexpected good news about
husbands & Love - How about Cyrus?

3/15/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-091

Hd. qrs. 2nd Divn 2nd
Corps
Near Falmouth Va.

Hd. qrs. 2nd Divn 2nd Corps
Near Falmouth Va.
Mar. 15, 1863

My dear Mother,

We got a letter from Dellie yesterday written after he had visited Leeds. I am happy to know you are well and father in so good health. Dellie thinks father hears better than he has for some time. I was very glad you saw Otis. Dellie mentions his confirmation.

I intend to send you the Tribune giving account of the presentation of the Silver Pitcher. It was simply accidental that it occurred on the same day as his Confirmation as <> Gen. for he had got the Pitcher thru' Capt. Whittlesey's brother-in-law Mr. <Tappan> of Philad. and had it marked as given Feb 14 - the anniversary of his wedding.

We have had no doubt of his confirmation. Now Capt. Whittlesey is Major. He learned the fact the day he was in Washington on his way home. He has a leave of fifteen days. I do his duty and therefore shall not be likely to write so many letters.

Day before yesterday I visited the Third Maine. It has moved so as to be near wood and is some six miles from us now. Saw Perry. He will probably be on Birney's staff again as Inspector with rank of Major. No benefit except in his associations. Otis' rank entitles him to that Corps (3d) but as Sickles (now in command) was confirmed as Maj. Gen. I presume he will retain it. I am much interested that Otis should have a Corps, of course, as it would make me major.

I saw Dexter - never looked more hearty in his life. Ruggles Keay had had a bad cold & did not look as well but he is getting better. Henry Turner was well. They (3) all tent together now. Have you seen Capt. John Keene? I suppose he will be back this week. Dexter thinks he is the best line officer in the Regiment. He also speaks very highly of Perry. The latter had just rec'd a letter from his wife who is now boarding (her mother also) in Brooklyn, near her Aunt's. Did I mention the wedding I attended there? Miss Sarah Dwight was married to Capt. Raymond of Gen. Fremont's staff. I saw Mrs. Fremont there. She is a large and rather coarse looking lady - of good deal of strength of character.

Otis is well. We got the photographs from Philad. yesterday. His are very good and I should say mine are pretty good but rather light.

You may have seen that Gen. Sumner has a command in the West. For the sake of seeing our Country I would like to have Otis ordered to his Department. But I have no expectation of this kind and doubtless all will be for the best. Maj. Whittlesey will meet with great opposition from his wife & from the faculty of the College - to returning - but if we remain with this Divn. I doubt not he will return. The Adjutant Generals are fixtures to a Divn or Corps so if the General should have a Corps there would be no certainty of his being able to have Maj. Whittlesey, were it not for this law I should try hard to get Maj. Whittlesey's place in case he does resign. As it is, I am in uncertainty what I better do.

You gave unexpected good news about Gustavus Lane. How about Cyrus?

Otis has gone down to Corps Hd. Qrs. for a few moments to see Gen. Couch. Last evening we rode over to the Lacey House and attended a prayer meeting. It is two miles over there. Two ladies who attend upon the Hospitals, &c. in this army, make that house their Hd. Qrs. and they have a prayer meeting every night attended by members of a Regt. camped near and by the Pickets which are along the river a few rods off and only half of whom are on post at a time. We found the room crowded. Otis took up the greater part of the time after we got there, though we sang twice and a prayer was offered. There has been a conversion there during the past week. Mrs. Harris is the lady who is the leader in the matter. She was called in a speech at the Hall of Representatives (where Otis spoke on our way home

when on leave). The Florence Nightingale of America. She is an old lady - i.e. above fifty I should judge. Did you get the book "Tactics" which I sent. Otis calls it a very good representation of the folly of West Point in certain circles. The author and her mother you know are very dear friends of mine.

Did father invest the \$100 at Monmouth?

Very affectionately your son
C.H. Howard

P.S. It continues to storm a good deal and I think we will not move before the end of two weeks. We got a note from Dr. Bradford saying Thomas B. was sick with Typhoid Fever. He seemed very well when here. His Regiment got a very high record on inspection. Kind regards to Roland & Cynthia & Miss Sharon - also to the neighbors. C.H.H.

P.S. 2nd. I will inclose one of my pictures. Was the one you got from Lewiston better. I mean the last one. If so please send it to me. C.H.H.

Of all our officers, none
of his smoke - we would have
a wonderful army.

Poor General Sumner went
very suddenly at last though
at his beautiful home in
Syracuse - His last words
were noble - "God save
my Country - The United States
of America". He was
a man & officer who dis-
charged every duty with the
strictest integrity. Have you
seen in the papers Otis' order
announcing his death to
this Div. - Major Mack U.S.A.
a particular friend of Otis' reported
killed at Mansprushers - was badly
wounded but his wife wrote that
he was alive & doing well - It was
the last letter she ever wrote - For
a letter from the Minister told Otis
that Mrs. Mack was dead - She
was in perfect health & went very
rapidly after the excitement about

Dear Sir,
 I received your letter from
 Rowland while you were
 at his house for one night.
 It is a beautiful day - warm
 as any day in May - I
 hear a bird sweetly singing
 all the day long on every
 at Green & Birney's. I am
 attending a Hurdle race
 &c. to which we were all
 invited. This is true &
 as I am acting Adjutant
 General I cannot be behind.
 Besides, I did not care much
 to go since I did not see
 by the similar celebration
 of St. Patrick's day in the

Irish Prize. Too many
got drunk and there were
some accidents.

I turned late, however,
to take a lively ride in this
new air - I sat at my desk
with the door of the tent
open - just returned from
dinner - Gen. Hancock
was over this forenoon & called
on Otis. He says that Gen.
Hooker told him that
Gen. Howard was to have
the 11th Corps (Siegel) but
Otis learned at Hd. Qrs.
yesterday that Gen. Hooker
had sent a paper to Wash-
ington asking either that
Gen. Siegel be ordered back
(He is away on leave) or that
there be a vacancy decided
to which he could appoint

the General he wished - He
will undoubtedly appoint Otis
if Siegel does not come
back.

Mr. Leane's arrival over
April 1st now - so I sup-
pose we will move soon
after that date. Did you
enjoy Otis' visit?

When Keene came here this
morning after getting back Sat-
urday - I was very much
pleased & interested that he
saw you & father & had a
good long interview at Olive's.

John says Olive is going
to California to make Conser-
vation. John comes back
in the best of spirits &
determined to fight out this
war - in order to bring it
to a righteous close.

3/27/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-092

Hdqrs. 2nd. Divn.
Near Falmouth Va

Hdqrs. 2nd. Divn.
Near Falmouth Va
Mar. 27 1863

My dear Mother,

The last I heard from you was by letter from Rowland which you were at his house for one night.

It is a beautiful day - warm as any day in May. I hear a bird merrily singing. All the staff are away at Gen. Birney's Divn. attending a hurdle race &c to which we were all invited. Otis is here & as I am Acting Adjutant General I remained behind. Besides I did not care much to go since I did not enjoy the similar celebration of St. Patrick's day in the Irish Brigade. Too many got drunk and there were some accidents.

I would like, however, to take a lively ride in this pure air. I sit at my desk with the door of the tent open - just returned from dinner. Gen. Hancock was over this forenoon & called on Otis. He says that Gen. Hooker told him that Gen. Howard was to have the 11th Corps (Siegels) but Otis learned at Hd Qrs. yesterday that Gen. Hooker had sent a paper to Washington asking either that Gen. Siegel be ordered back (he is away on leave) or that there be a vacancy declared to which he could appoint the General he wished. He will undoubtedly appoint Otis if Siegel does not come back.

No leaves extend over April 1st now - so I suppose we will move soon after that date. Did you enjoy Otis' visit?

John Keene came here the Monday after getting back Saturday. I was very much pleased & interested that he saw you & father & had a good long interview at Oliver's. John says Oliver is going to California to escape conscription. John comes back in the best of spirits & determined to fight out this war - in order to bring it to a righteous close. If all our officers were of his make we would have a wonderful army.

Poor General Sumner went very suddenly at last though at his beautiful home in Syracuse. His last words were noble - "God save my country - the United States of America". He was a man & officer who discharged every duty with the strictest integrity. Have you seen in the papers Otis' order announcing his death to this Divn

Major Mack U.S.A. a particular friend of Otis' reported killed at Murfreesboro was badly wounded but his wife wrote that he was alive & doing well. It was the last letter she ever wrote. For a letter from the minister told Otis that Mrs. Mack was dead. She was in feeble health & sank very rapidly after the excitement about her husband. Otis got a letter from him last night. He will get well of his wounds but the loss of his wife is a terrible stroke.

All well at 3d Division - except that Ruggles Keay is not very well. If I had gone to the races I should have seen many of them as they belong to Birney's Divn. I hope you will write often.

Your affectionate Son,
C.H. Howard

P.S. Major Whittlesey has just this moment arrived - well!!

would be likely to know about the Bonds - I shall
have some money - say \$50 - to make up a round number -
and can send it any time - I must get a new outfit now.
I am getting very shabby.
Doubt if we move
for a week - Had a
misc. storm last night -
Snow all gone tonight -
Plague unit when en-
camped here much
there to assist for
me and my things?
Learned from the Hqs.
Hd. qrs. that all
the regts assigned are pretty
nearly all sent
to the front line
of the 1st Div. & 2nd Corp.
Helmuth Pa.
Mar 31 1863

probably the
last letter I shall date at
these Hd. qrs. The order
assigning Ols to the 11th Corps
(Siegel's) temporarily - arrived this
afternoon and we will take
our departure for ^{Brooklyn Station} ~~Hoffman~~
~~South Haven~~ tomorrow morning
near which is the 11th Corps -
about 6 miles to the rear
of this place. One of
the General of Division is
the celebrated Carl Schurz -
Orator and warm patriot &
it is said a very gentlemanly man.

Steinwehr is another, and
McLean the third.

Your letter came the day
I wrote my other, and today
another from you arrived just
after the order - This contained
the photograph which no one
here thinks as good as the one
I had taken in Philad^a.

I will notice points to be answered
first in your former letter Mar. 22 -

You speak of your non-interference
with my love-affairs - If all my
friends could say the same - much
bitterness of feeling would have been
dispensed with - As to the two -
(brother & daughter) you mentioned -
you seem to have inhibited the
feelings, if I may not, prejudices,
of some other person or persons.

And why take the views of
any one else in preference to
mine - if you must judge through
another - and cannot see for yourself?

I do not like it that you should
so prejudge anyone and espec-
ially valued friends of mine.

I wish you could know them
both well but not because
I anticipate ever any near
relationships. They are, however,
among the few friends I love,
and they probably will continue
to be dear friends as long as I
live. --- You speak of some
of the young men of Leeds, as
though they would shrink the
service of their country. If they
do they will live to be ashamed
of it. Put the name of
John Keble by the side of theirs

fifty years hence and mark the contrast.

The wedding in Brooklyn was at the house of the bride - at Mrs. Dwight's -

I too have a distaste for the news papers - I would much prefer help make some news which would be worth the reading of my friends at home - and of all lovers of their Country.

Gen. Sumner deserves great honor from the people of the United States. He was true as ^{tried steel} Did you see this 'order' ^{on the death of Gen. S.} which was published in some of the papers? Glad father has invested at Monument for me. Wish he would by connection with Mr. Libbey collect my dividend ^{of Lewis & Clark} & interest that is due - put it with the \$150⁰⁰ and procure some Bath bonds of practical - I think Capt Patten would be willing to aid me in the matter and

3/31/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-093

Hdqrs. 2nd Divn. 2nd
Corps
Near Falmouth Va.

Hdqrs. 2nd Divn. 2nd Corps
Near Falmouth Va.
Mar 31 1863

Dear Mother,

This is probably the last letter I shall date at these Hd. qrs. The order assigning Otis to the 11th Corps (Siegel's) temporarily arrived this afternoon and we will take our departure for Brook's Station tomorrow morning near which is the 11th Corps - about 6 miles to the rear of this place. One of the General of Divisions is the celebrated Carl Shurz orator and <warm> patriot & it is said a very gentlemanly man. Steinwehr is another and McLean the third.

Your letter came the day I wrote my other, and today another from you arrived just after the order. This contained the photograph which no one here thinks as good as the one I had taken in Philada.

I will notice points to be answered first in your former letter Mar. 22.

You speak of your non-interference with my love-affairs. If all my friends could say the same - much bitterness of feeling would have been dispensed with. As to the two (Mother & daughter) you mentioned - you seem to have imbibed the feelings, if I say not, prejudices, of some other person or persons. And why take the views of any one else in preference to mine - if you must judge through another - and cannot see for yourself? I do not like it that you should so prejudge anyone and especially valued friends of mine.

I wish you could know them both well but not because I anticipate ever any nearer relationship. They are, however, among the few friends I love and they probably will continue to be dear friends as long as I live.

You speak of some of the young men of Leeds, as though they would shirk the service of their Country. If they do they will live to be ashamed of it. Put the name of John Keene by the side of theirs fifty years hence and mark the contrast.

The wedding in Brooklyn was at the home of the Bride - at Mr. Dwight's.

I too have a distaste for the newspapers. I would much prefer help make some news which would be worth the reading of my friends at home - and of all lovers of their country.

Gen. Sumner deserves great honor from the people of the United States. He was true as tried steel. Did you see Otis' order on the death of Gen. S. which was published in some of the papers?

Glad father has invested at Monmouth for me. Wish he would by consultation with Mr. Libbey collect any dividend & interest that is due - put it with the \$150 at Savings Bank and procure some Bath Bonds if practicable. I think Capt. Patten would be willing to aid me in the matter and would be likely to know about the Bonds. I shall have some money - say \$50 to make up a round number and can send it any time. I must get a new outfit now. Am getting very shabby. Doubt if we move for a week. Had a snow storm last night. Snow all gone tonight. Please write when ascertained how much there is to invest for me - and whether I can have the Bath Bonds.

Love to all. Your prayers are greatly needed & highly valued by
Your Affectionate Son
C. H. Howard

the whole being over April -
failed to say the best end
I got scared, my sleep - Had
to get up to carry orders, between
2 & 3 A.M., Had not been
in bed an hour when awakened.

It was said (telegraphed from
Gen. Hays). That the report
had come from Sigbee's Pickets
that the enemy were advancing
on the Ashwood road -

It now proves to be all a
fiction - but I am very tired
slept not with a decent letter.
Have ridden nearly all day.
Gen. Shurz rode to all the
Div's with us - He returns this
Div for the present - Steinwehr
has the 2nd McLean the 1st
This has two thirds American Regiments
I believe - Every body at their Reg.
grs - (nearly) speaks German - Carl
Shurz speaks German, French English
equally well - This is in the house
thinner & in tent - Seems on
granted again - so we will not

move at present - Goodnight
I am ready to fall asleep -

Morning - Thursday -

Good sleep - not very
early rising - This day we
will have a reformation in
matter of meals - Breakfast
at eleven - Very luxurious
here - Commenced with
Breakfast at 7 1/2 or 8 this
morning - German cook startled
by the announcement of three
meals a day - Dinner at one
P.M. An enormous staff
in numbers - More than
double the no. of other
Corps - We are going to
change H.Q. grs. - bid adieu
to house - Pick some fine
grove - straighten and shorten
things generally -
Good Camps - good cooking -

4/1/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: Brother [Rowland B.
Howard]

CHH-094

Hdqrs 11th Corps
Stafford Court House

Hdqrs 11th Corps
Stafford Court House
April 1st 1863

My dear brother, [Rowland B. Howard]

in accordance with an order rec'd yesterday assigning Otis temporarily to the command of the 11th Corps - we left Hd. Qrs. 2nd Divn. right after Breakfast this morning and rode over here about 10 miles. Had to search somewhat to find the place. Found Gen. Carl Shurz in command. Hd. Qrs. At a house. He was very gentlemanly - is tall, full broad forehead - curly brown hair - reddish whiskers - wears spectacles & gives the impression of being a man of ability as he undoubtedly is. It is a bright moonlight night. Last night the whole army were April-fooled to say the least and I got scarcely any sleep. Had to get up to carry orders between 2 & 3 A.M. Had not been in bed an hour when awakened. It was said (telegraphed from Gen. Hd. Qrs) that the report had come from Sickle's Pickets that the enemy were advancing on the Archwood road.

It now proves to be all a fiction but I am very tired & could not write a decent letter. Have ridden nearly all day. Gen. Shurz rode to all the Divn's with us. He returns to his Divn for the present - Steinwehr has the 2nd - McLean the 1st. This last has two thirds American Regiments I believe. Every body at these Hd. Qrs (nearly) speaks German. Carl Shurz speaks German, French & English equally well. Otis is in the house - Stinson & I in tent. Leaves are granted again so we will not move at present.

Goodnight - I am ready to fall asleep.

Morning, Thursday.

Good sleep - not very early rising. Otis says he will have a reformation in matter of meals, Reveille et cetera. Very luxurious here. Commenced with breakfast at 7 ½ or 8 this morning. German cook startled by the announcement of three meals a day - Dinner at one P.M. An enormous staff in numbers. More than double the no. of other Corps. We are going to change Hd. Qrs. - bid adieu to house. Take some pine grove - straighten and straiter things generally.

Good camps - good soldiers. Picketing well done. Hospitals neat as <wax>. No sick men. Germans don't get sick. Go soldiering because they like it - cheerful. Carl Shurz disappointed but too much of a man to slacken in diligence in performance of his duty though returned to a single Divn & that a small one - only two Brigades in the Divn of this Corps. So the 11th is the smallest Corps in this army. No reserve artillery; 2 batteries for each Divn. It is cold & the wind blows. I go with Otis to select a site for Hd. Qrs., more convenient to the troops & more central.

Love to Ella. I look for that letter & yet I owe her one. Half of each of yours belongs to her & I have written enough to entitle me to another from her, if I reckon in this way.

Germans no longer "fight mit Zeegel" "Dey fight mit oword". Pray for us that we may have Grace & strength for new responsibility & trial.

Affectionately,
C. H. Howard

P.S. Please mention to Mother and Dellie that you have heard from me &c.

4 is an excellent officer
as well as a very fine
young man and agree-
able gentleman. He speaks
English as well as he does
German & French equally
well. I am going to tent
with a German Captain (or
the Hoff) is as to ^{to think} the
German. The Captain can
speak French too & I hope
to learn some in that lan-
guage. The Divⁿ General
is very congenial & seems
to like Otis. I think he
will be popular as he
would desire. Genl. Cook
Shurtz is a fine gentleman &
good General and we shall
be very to see him. It is
thought he will be ordered
West. Mr. Thurn &

Hd. qrs. 11th Corps
Stafford's Court House
Apr. 6th 1863

My dear Mother

I believe I
have not written you a letter
since we came to this Corps.
I have just returned from
a Review of all the Cavalry
of the Army by the President.
This morning at 9 we
started. Otis & all his
Divⁿ General with their
various staffs. We rode to
Gen. Hooker's Hd. qrs. about
7 miles and there ~~there~~ called
on the President. And at
12 we all went out to
the Review. It was exceedingly
muddy. The day was cloudy.

Saturday night we had a snow-storm! And though the snow is almost all gone yet it made it very muddy.

The Cavalry was drawn up in lines a mile long and we had every ^{thirteen} ~~thirteen~~ side in reviewing. The Pres. rode with Gen. Hooker. His little boy rode on a pony by his side. The Generals present rode next & then their staffs - which made a big battalion - After-wards, as always in a Review the Pres. took a station & all the Cavalry & Light Artillery passed him in platoons or companies - It took a full hour for it all to pass in this manner - We

rode to Gen. Hooker's Hd. qrs. again & the General gave their staffs permission to go home, while they went to dine with the Pres. & Gen. Hooker. Mrs. Lincoln was at the Review in a covered carriage. Attorney Gen. Bates was with her - He is an old man, with hair very gray.

We rode back tired & sore and with mud. I saw Major Whittlesy there tho' did not get a chance to speak with him.

He has been ordered to Gen. Howard & will come over tomorrow - He will not be C. A. G. for the present - Col. Meyenburg has that position and

(51)
Come with the General ^{from}
the 2nd Div. - Mr. Gilbreth
(Son of the Superintendent of
the Arsenal at Augusta
and a nephew of Mr.
Farnwell), also Come -
He wishes to remain on
the Staff but has no
Commission yet - And I
doubt if he remains.

Otis has got back - Had
quite an interview with the
Pres. & saw Mrs. Lincoln.
No doubt he will be
permanently in command
of this Corps - Lett from
Sizgin came tonight -

Have been attending to papers
for Otis since I began the
letter & have now two sleep &

kind to write a good
letter - I do not like
to send any other to my
dear mother.

We are quite happy in
our new situation & ^{shall}
grant we may have strength
& grace to do our whole
duty.

Your affectionate Son
W. H. Howard,

P.S. I have \$50 to
invest which I will send
soon - Please write about
Beth Bonds and what
action father has taken.
I know he will not wait
too much for me to decide
but will do what is best
for my interest - I have a
great deal to occupy my
attention - A. H. H.

4/6/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-095

Hd. qrs. 11th Corps
Stafford Court House

Hd. qrs. 11th Corps
Stafford Court House
Apr. 6th 1863

My dear Mother,

I believe I have not written you a letter since we came to this Corps.

I have just returned from a Review of all the Cavalry of the army by the President. This morning at 9 we started. Otis & all his Divn. Generals with their various staffs. We rode to Gen Hookers Hd. qrs. about 7 miles and then Otis called on the President - and at 12 we all went out to the Review. It was exceedingly muddy. The day was cloudy - Saturday night we had a snow storm! And though the snow is almost all gone yet it made it very muddy. The cavalry was draw up in lines a mile long and we had a very tiresome ride in reviewing. The Pres. rode with Gen. Hooker. His little boy rode on a pony by his side. The Generals present rode next & then their staffs - which made a big battalion. Afterwards, as always in a Review, the Pres. took a station & all the Cavalry & light artillery passed him in platoons or companies. It took a full hour for it all to pass in this manner. We rode to Gen. Hooker's Hd. Qrs. again & the Generals gave their staffs permission to go home while they went to dine with the Pres. & Gen Hooker. Mrs. Lincoln was at the Review in a covered carriage. Attorney Gen'l. Bates was with her. He is an old man, with hair very grey.

We rode back tired & besmeared with mud. I saw Major Whittlesey there tho' did not get a chance to speak with him. He has been ordered to Gen. Howard & will come over tomorrow. He will not be A. A. G. for the present. Col. Meysenberg has that position and is an excellent officer as well as a very fine young man and agreeable gentleman. He speaks English as well as he does German & French equally well. I am going to tent with a German captain (on the staff) so as to learn to speak the German. The Captain can speak French too & I hope to learn some in that language. The Div'n. generals are very congenial & seem to like Otis. I think he will be popular as he could desire. Gen'l. Carl Shurtz is a fine gentleman & good General and we shall be sorry to lose him. It is thought he will be ordered West. Mr. Stinson & I came with the General from the 2nd Divn. Mr. Gilbreth (son of the superintendent of the Arsenal at Augusta and a nephew of Mr. Farwell), also came. He wishes to remain on the staff but has no commission yet - and I doubt if he remains.

Otis has got back. Had quite an interview with our Pres. & saw Mrs. Lincoln. No doubt he will be permanently in command of this Corps. Letter from Lizzie came tonight. Have been attending to papers for Otis since I began this letter & am now too sleepy & tired to write a good letter & I do not like to send any other to my dear Mother.

We are quite happy in our new situation & God grant we may have strength & grace to do our whole duty.

Your Affectionate Son,
C.H. Howard

P.S. I have \$50 to invest which I will send soon. Please write about Bath Bonds and what action father has taken. I know he will not wait too much for me to direct but will do what is best for my interest. I have a great deal to occupy my attention. C.H.H.

P.S. Remember me to Mr. D. & Mr. W. & Mr. H. if you see them.

much as this has been
renewed but I judge
from indicating unmistakably
to me - The 12th Corps is
now expected to march - How
much more I do not know.
The Fast-day is nearing.
O I do hope for great results
from that united cry of
many hearts. We will carry
the works with the faith &
prayers and perhaps God
will this time bless in it
our vote in his own good time
his Kingdom shall triumph &
I cannot be too bitterly dis-
appointed with this ^{our} ^{present} ^{time} - The
perfectly well - The

promotions it is announced
by telegraph have been
made - So far as
the title of Captain
Major of the 12th Corps
has been a month
ago. The 12th Corps
Headquarters Eleventh Corps
very little has been
to me - I am
may have been
a willing minister
the great work
ever done
John D. W. of the 12th Corps
C. D. Howard
1863.

is simply one visit to
the army. I have written
to Howard today - got a letter
from him & Ella yesterday.
We were rejoiced when I
heard Bridgman's Conver-
sion - Poor Aunt Aurelia
is very sick he writes, and
John Bates has passed
away from earth. We
can hardly realize that
John will not meet us with
his cheerful face whenever
we go home again to
our good old neighborhood.
But the future life

was very real to Jane.
Her friends left behind on
the only sufferer - God
grant them the consolations
of His infinite word - and
that they all may be ready
to go & join Jane when
the summons comes.
I desire to be ready. I
know that as we are in
the midst of our more
uncertainty than ever but
it often seems so.
We march tomorrow
morning for the Upper
Rappahannock - Not so

4/26/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-096

Headquarters Eleventh
Corps
Near Brooks Station
Va.,

Headquarters Eleventh Corps [Letterhead]
Near Brooks Station Va.,
April 26th 1863

My dear Mother,

It is a bright warm afternoon and now the moon has changed we anticipate fair weather for some time. We had our Religious services this morning, conducted by Rev. Mr. Johnson Congregationalist of Bangor. Maj. Whittlesey had known him before. He is simply on a visit to the army. I have written to Rowland today. Got a letter from him & Ella yesterday. We were rejoiced to hear of Everett Bridgham's [a first cousin] conversion. Poor Aunt Aurelia [the sister of Charles' father Rowland and the mother of Everett] is very sick he writes. And Jane Bates has passed away from earth. We can hardly realize that Jane will not meet us with her cheerful face whenever we go home again to our good old neighborhood.

But the future life was very real to Jane. Her friends left behind are the only sufferers. God grant them the consolations of His infinite word - and that they all may be ready to go & join Jane when the summons comes. I desire to be ready. I know not as we are in the midst of any more uncertainty than you but it often seems so.

We search tomorrow morning for the upper Rappahannock - not so much as this has been revealed but I judge from indications unmistakable to me. The 12th Corps is also expected to march. How much more I do not know.

The Fast-day is nearing & I do hope for if not resulting from the united cry of many hearts. We will carry the works with the faith & prayers and perhaps God will this time bless us. At any rate in his own good time his Kingdom shall triumph & I cannot be too bitterly disappointed with this pure hope ever present.

Otis & I are perfectly well. The promotions (it is announced by telegraph) have been made. So I will have to exchange the title of Captain which I have held less than a month for that of Major. But this is of very little moment to me. Pray that I may always have a willing mind and grace needed for every duty.

Your Very Affectionate Son
C. H. Howard

P.S. Remember me kindly to Isabella & brother if you see them.

P.S. Love to Father & my love to mother.

Dear, Father, letter came yesterday - We felt led to hear John Bates had gone but believe she has ^{only} passed on we grieve, inheritance. Mr. Johnson seems to be a true man - not equal to Mr. Lunt for soldiers. My appointment as Major & that of Captains Hinson & Griffeth (formerly of Gen. Bruns' staff with us at Antietam) have been made. I see no reason why I should ask any delay of a movement against the enemies of

we are to have pleasant weather now. Rev. Mr. Johnson of Hammond St. Church is here and conducted our Ad. gr. services this morning. The subject of his remarks was whether it is difficult or easy to be saved. The rest of the dinner

Headquarters Eleventh Corps

1863

rather and this to another or Communi-
Cath. Movement of it
Cent. of the women
like to know - hope
the good work all
change - work in all
come to 3d - 4th, in
Company of all
April 26th
I think
prayer - I hope
will be able to
sing & go to the
a vigorous blow for
the right
and against
the rebellion
H. H. W.

now. Several from an
old Divⁿ are over here
us. Miles (Col 61st ^{N.Y.}) was
here & I rode with him to
Gen. Boslow's after the
arrival. Gen. B. used to
be Col. of my Regt.

Week ago today I think
I was writing to you - Not
yet moved but from certain
mysterious movements round
here and the fact that
Gen. Hooker's aid was
here makes me believe
we march tomorrow morn-
ing - I shall know as

soon as I have a moment
from "the General" - He
is at dinner. There is
many guests, that the
table is full. I was
away when the dinner
was announced - I
anticipate that we will
march up river. All Sun-
day moved but from certain
mysterious movements round
Pellebrown (St. Louis) 10th
Mr. has been here - ^{He is} 15th
be mustered out this week.
Capt Ladd is a well known
with 15th Conn. Regt.
down at Suffolk.

4/26/1863

From: C.H. Howard

To: Brother [Rowland B.
Howard]

CHH-097

Headquarters Eleventh
Corps
Near Brooks Station, Va

Headquarters Eleventh Corps [letterhead]
Near Brooks Station, Va
April 26th 1863.

My dear brother, [Rowland B. Howard]

It is a cool beautiful morning. I think we are to have pleasant weather now. Rev. Mr. Johnson of Hammond St Church [Bangor Maine] is here and conducted our Hd. Qr. Services this morning. The subject of his remarks was whether it is difficult or easy to be saved.

The rest are at dinner now. Several from our old Divn are over to see us. Miles (Col 61st N.Y.) was here & I rode with him to Gen. Barlow's after the service. Gen. B. used to be Col. Of my Regt.

Week ago today I think I was writing to you. Not yet moved but from certain mysterious movements round here and the fact that Gen. Hooker's aide was here makes me believe we march tomorrow morning. I shall know as soon as I have a moment to see "the General". He is at dinner & has so many guests that the table is full. I was away when the dinner was announced. I anticipate that we will march up river. All surmise as yet, however.

Fillebrown (Lt. Col.) 10th Me. Has been here. He is to be mustered out this week. Says Ladd is a Colporteur [peddler of religious books] with 15th Conn. Regt. down at Suffolk.

Yours & Ellas letter came yesterday. We felt sad to hear Jane Bates had gone, but believe she has only passed on to a glorious inheritance. Mr. Johnson seems to be a true man. Not equal to Mr. Quint for soldiers.

My apptmnt as Major & that of Captains Stinson & Griffeth (formerly of Gen. Burn's staff & with us at Antietam) have been made. I see no reason why I should ask any delay of a movement against the enemies of

[page 5 is missing]

P.S. As I may not be able to write, either send this to mother or communicate whatever of its contents she would like to know. I hope the good work all about you will, in answer to your prayers, come to be wrought in Farmington also. While the nation prays, I hope we will be able both to pray & to strike a vigorous blow for the right and against wicked rebellion.

P.S. Love to Father & very much to Mother.

C.H.H.