



of Paymaster's Clerk but thought  
it would suit you very well.  
There is a good deal of Com-  
piment - You need to be very  
careful in figures and a good  
Penman. I had thought of trying  
Capt. Jones & plus with Major Kobia  
who has been recently at Boston & he  
over his appointment in some extent  
to Otis - but he has his own pro-  
bly attend to. Frank Johnson has  
been with him & you know he  
is a dealer of Gen. experience.

If you can get the place of Clerk  
to a Commission anywhere it will  
do very well - I think in a few  
weeks you could learn the business  
so as to do very well - You would  
be obliged to cultivate a clerical  
handwriting - be very particular  
and exact. But in the course of  
six months or a year you could  
be acquainted yourself with the  
business as to be eligible to the  
appointment of Commission with  
rank of Captain - That would give  
you good pay and a worthy posi-  
tion upon the Brigade Staff.

The trouble is I do not know  
any opening for you & you must  
write for yourself. I should not  
wish you to come to our Corps  
for the reasons I have given.  
You may not fully appre-  
ciate them, but you can then  
take my judgment & feeling in the  
matter. I should not care about  
you ever becoming a Lt. Col. for  
you would not like it & the respon-  
sibility is very great. As a  
Brigade Commissary to the respon-  
sibility of feeding the entire Com-  
mand would not do you. You  
give heavy loads & have the  
handling of considerable public  
money. The only condition  
apart which I would consent to  
your taking the latter place would  
be that you first have collected  
until you thoroughly understand  
the business & can give satisfac-  
tion to your Commanding Officer.  
This is what Daniel Howard  
has done. Otis added his name  
to a recommendation furnished  
by the Commissary under whom

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2/11/1864

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Brother [Rodelphus  
Gilmore]

CHH-138

Richmond, Indiana

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Richmond, Indiana  
Feb 11th 1864

My dear brother [This was written to Dellie. Someone had written in Rowland, but the text of the letter indicates otherwise]

I got a good long letter from you just before I left Lookout Valley. I reached here last Saturday night. Found Uncle & family well. I have just taken a ride in a Buggy with Uncle Henry & he has brought to his flour mill where I am writing in his office. Your letter is at the house & I may not touch upon all the points but if I do not I will of course future time.

A letter from Otis today from Augusta said mother had about concluded to come out with him and that he should start Feb. 12th Friday - that will be tomorrow.

I am sorry you could not come and I still fear something will occur to prevent mother. Uncle & Aunt are much pleased that mother is coming out.

I have thought much about your affairs and looked for any opening. I had often thought of the place of Paymaster's Clerk but thought it would not suit you very well. There is a good deal of confinement. You need to be very careful in figures and a good Penman. I had thought of trying to get you a place with Major Kobie who has been recently at Boston. He owes his appointment in some extent to Otis, but he has his own friends to attend to. Frank Gilman has been with him & you know he is a clerk of some experience.

If you can get the place of clerk to a Commissary anywhere it will do very well. I think in a few weeks you could learn the business so as to do very well. You would be obliged to cultivate a clerk's handwriting - be very particular and exact. But in the course of six months or a year you could so acquaint yourself with the business as to be eligible to the appointment of Commissary with rank of Captain. That would give you good pay and a worthy position upon the Brigade Staff.

The trouble is I do not know any opening for you & you must look for yourself. I should advise you to come to our Corps for the reason I have given.

You may not fully appreciate them, but you can then take my judgement & feeling in the matter. I should not care about your ever becoming a Qr. Mr. for you would not like it & the responsibility is very great as a Brigade Commissary has the responsibility of feeding the entire command could rest upon you. You give heavy <board> & have the handling of considerable public money. The only condition upon which I would consent to your taking the latter place would be that you first serve as clerk until you thoroughly understand the business & can give satisfaction to your commanding officer.

This is what Daniel Howard has done. Otis added his name to a recommendation furnished by the Commissary under whose employ he had been in Kentucky. I do not know whether he was successful in getting the appointment.

You seem to feel rather badly about your poverty &c. but believe me it will be the making of you as it has been of thousands of young men to work your own way against all obstacles & difficulties. I am very desirous to help you in every way but still desire you to feel independent and be so and to develop all the energies you are capable of.

I talk of making a brief visit to Chicago before Otis reaches here. I hope to have my leave extended beyond his as I did not come away for 10 days after him but mine is identical with his & perhaps I cannot stay behind. Write me here (care C. H. Strickland, Esq). And Mother will get it if I do not and it will be forwarded to me. Lizzie Strickland is at Chicago. Trusting that Providence will guide you in all matters for your <> good.

Affectionately,  
C. H. Howard



German character, some of it very fine - But the great fascination of the evening was the singing by Madlle Coste whom I had never heard Saturday night at the Opera. Last night she sang most exquisitely and deliciously. Was advertised for two performances but was "incensed" each time and then sang some familiar and beautiful pieces with merely a piano accompaniment.

The last time she sang "The last rose of summer". Her voice is clear and <sup>much</sup> ~~like~~ ~~as~~ as a bird's - in fact it seems <sup>like</sup> some delightful songster of the forest at times. I had with me a married lady & little daughter - the latter's name is Ella & she is very pretty. I had met her father Mrs Wade in Richmond last fall.

Yesterday morning I "went on 'Change'" as the merchants say - i.e. went to the daily meeting of the Board of Trade, where the merchants all meet to talk over business - keep posted on the market prices, trade in all sorts of goods &c. &c.

They come to order (in their long hall) and listen to the summary of the doings of the Board of Trade in N. Y., which comes by telegraph & thus learn the state of the N. Y. market before adjourning. It was all a novelty to me & I am going down today to visit Mr. Wade & S. T. Lunt then. The latter was a school-mate with Howland & me at Farmouth & Katy Hill. I took tea with him last evening. He has got rich and lives in good style on Wobash Avenue - Has a wife & two little children. He knows Ellen (sister) well or did formerly as he is from Bowdoinham.

He has been in business with an elder brother (Orington Lunt) who has now retired being become quite wealthy & being pretty well advanced in years. They lost their father & mother recently & both attended the funeral at B. This morning Mr. Stephen T. Lunt called at 9 1/2 & went with me to see a "Grain-Elevator" - an institution peculiar to Chicago I believe - at least there are comparatively few elsewhere. - This one I

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2/16/1864      *From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Brother [Rodelphus  
Gilmore]

CHH-139

Chicago, Illinois

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Chicago, Ill.  
Feb. 16, 1864

My Dear Brother [Rodelphus Gilmore]

I wrote Rowland from this city Sunday last. I came up Friday night mainly to see Chicago, secondarily to see Lizzie Strickland [a first cousin] who is going to accompany me back to Richmond tonight. I am expecting to meet Otis & mother there. If they started last Friday as Otis wrote they probably would - they might spend the Sabbath at Philadelphia and reach Richmond Ind. Tonight.

It is a bitterly cold morning. The thermometer must be below zero and the wind blows strongly from the lake. The lake is a great feature here. You can look out upon its grand expanse from every part of the city. The country about Chicago is a vast prairie. Nothing in the scenery attractive except this grand lake. Last night I attended a Concert by the Philharmonic Society of Chicago. The music mostly instrumental and of German character. Some of it very fine. But the great fascination of the evening was the singing by <Molle> Castri whom I had also heard Saturday night at the Opera. Last night she sang most exquisitely and deliciously. Was advertized for two performances but was "encored" each time and then sang some familiar and beautiful pieces with merely a piano accompaniment. The last time she sang "The Last Rose of Summer." Her voice is clear and musical as a bird's - in fact it seems much like some delightful songster of the forest at times. I had with me a married lady & little daughter - the latter's name is Ella & she is very pretty. I had met her father Mr. Wade in Richmond last Fall.

Yesterday morning I "went on change" as the merchants say - i.e. went to the daily meeting of the Board of Trade, where the merchants all meet to talk over business - keep posted on the market prices, trade in all sorts of goods &c &c. They come to order (in their large hall) and listen to the summary of the doings of the Board of Trade in N.Y. which come by telegraph & thus learn the state of the N.Y. market before adjourning. It was all a novelty to me & I am going down today to meet Mr. Wade & S. P. Lunt there. The latter was a school-mate with Rowland & me at Yarmouth & Kents Hill. I took tea with him last evening. He has got rich and lives in good style on Wabash Avenue. Has a wife & two little children. He knows Ella (& sisters) well or did formerly as he is from Bowdoinham. He has been in business with an Elder brother (Arrington Lunt) who has now retired having become quite wealthy & being pretty well advanced in years. They lost their father & mother recently & both attended the funeral at B.

This morning Mr. Stephen P Lunt called at 9 ½ & went with me to see a "Grain-Elevator" - an institution peculiar to Chicago I believe. At least there are comparatively few elsewhere. This one I saw had two large steam engines. They are used for elevating grain so as to ship it with greater facility. They are in or I may say consist of a large warehouse very high. The grain is transferred from the cars into large "Hoppers" and is elevated by the same mechanism that is used for carrying meal or flour from the store in the mills to the bay where it is shoveled into the bags. But the bands and scoops attached thereto are a foot or two broad and the latter 6 or 8 inches deep so they take it up very rapidly. I cannot give you a very clear notion of the manner of transferring great cargoes of grain from cars to boats. Generally great amounts are stored in these elevators & the owners leave it there until they sell it. Then it runs down a hopper by force of gravitation and a large cargo is loaded in two or three hours. Mr. Lunt has a comparatively small elevator & he has handled some six millions bushels of grain during the past year. This gives you some idea of the amount of business done.

I visited Douglass' grove yesterday & camp D. where between 5 & 6 thousand Rebel prisoners are kept [the camp was known as the North's Andersonville and held over 12,000 prisoners in December 1864]. About 3 miles out South on the shore of the lake.

At 9 P.M. this evening I start for R. with Lizzie. Hope to visit mother. I hope to spend a week or more with her there. I am stopping at the Richmond House - European plan. Write me soon.

Your Affectionate Brother,



(41)

Ticket agent. By dint of  
muscle and perseverance  
got my ticket in time and  
by similar means with the  
addition of sufficient "bribe"  
succeeded in getting into the  
car - Rows of men forced  
to get on board of that  
train. - There was not room  
for our men - but I got  
a good seat and found  
just after entering the car  
Major Osborne of our Staff  
Chief of Artillery, with his brother  
a Baptist Clergyman from St. Louis.

So you ~~see~~ I had company  
in my all-day ride to Nashville.  
I need not say that I had a refreshing  
night's sleep last night.

Please tell Lizzie that I looked  
up Mr. Reed this morning. Had  
considerable difficulty in finding  
him as he had changed his place.

Nashville Tenn.

Feb. 27 1864

Saturday

My dear Mother

I reached this  
city at about 5 P.M. yesterday  
evening. Soon after my arrival  
I met with Mr. Smith of  
the Christian Commission who  
gave me an urgent invitation  
to make my home at his  
house while I remained.  
He sent and got my bag-  
gage at the hotel and  
after telegraphing to Otis  
I went to Mr. Smith's.

His wife and family are  
with him and they keep  
a kind of Head quarters for  
all the C. C. delegates  
passing through or stopping  
in Nashville. After Sup-  
per I went with Mr. S. to

to a soldier's prayer-meeting.  
The house was crowded. The  
meeting was conducted by  
Col. Doolittle of the 18<sup>th</sup> Mich-  
igan Regiment. It seemed  
like the daily prayer-meetings  
of '57 & '58 or such as I  
have since attended in New  
York City. The prayers and  
speaking both earnest and  
brief - to the point. Fifteen  
soldiers requested prayers -  
There are many cases of re-  
ligious awakening and con-  
-version in connection with  
this meeting. I enjoyed the  
meeting much. The singing  
was good. Soon after we  
got home I found myself  
tired for bed - having spent  
the previous night upon the  
cars in a sitting posture.

I had a pleasant chat with  
Rev. Wm. Wakefield & Mr. John  
-son for the first 15 miles of  
my journey from Richmond.  
At Indianapolis I did some  
shopping but the time being  
a little heavily rented the R.  
R. train started at 9 P.M.  
Reached Jeffersonville at 3  
A.M. - Crossed the Ferry &  
went to National Hotel at  
Louisville - arriving about 5 P.M.  
As soon as I could get  
ready and get my breakfast  
it was time to start for  
the N.K. train for Nashville.  
There was a great rush for  
the cars and extreme diffi-  
-culty in procuring a ticket.  
One officer paid for two tick-  
ets & could get but one - so  
got into a quarrel with the

After searching in half a dozen streets - I succeeded in finding a gentleman who gave me the right directions and I soon found him. He is well and seemed glad to hear from home. The Government needs the building he had occupied so he was obliged to relinquish it and is not so favorably located now for business.

I am going to call on Gen. Underwood this morning. I hear he is not so well and I greatly fear he will never recover. Col. Maysenburg Otis' asst. Adjutant Genl. went through here yesterday evening with Maj. Hoffman our Engineer - both on leave - I did not see them. I find that all the forces at

(6)  
and above Chattanooga were  
in the late advance. They  
had considerable fighting - one  
of Ward's brigades has gone  
down from here to our camp.  
The other follows soon - I  
am quite certain that none  
of our troops were in this  
advance.

How much love to all  
at Uncle Henry's - I never  
shall forget my delightful  
visit there. I hope between  
you all there will be a  
letter on the way for me  
before this reaches you.

Maj. Osborne told Col. Maycutting  
so - I should have heard - had there  
been anything remarkable at our  
Hd. qrs. There no doubt this  
is well - It is warmer here than  
it was at R. the day I left - Over-  
-coat is burdensome - Trusting this  
will find you well & happy  
Yr. aff. servt. Saml. H. Howard

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2/27/1864

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother

CHH-140

Nashville, Tenn.

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Nashville, Tenn.  
Feb 27 1864, Saturday

My dear Mother

I reached this city at about 5 P.M. yesterday. Soon after my arrival I met with Mr. Smith of the Christian Commission who gave me an urgent invitation to make my home at his house while I remained. He went and got my baggage at the hotel and after telegraphing to Otis I went to Mr. Smith's. His wife and family are with him and they keep a kind of Head quarters for all the C. C. delegates passing through or stopping in Nashville.

After supper I went with Mr. S. & wife to a soldier's prayer-meeting. The house was crowded. The meeting was conducted by Col. Doolittle of the 18th Michigan Regiment. It seemed like the daily prayer-meetings of '57 & '58 or such as I have since attended in New York City. The prayers and speaking both earnest and brief - to the point. Fourteen soldiers requested prayers. There are many cases of religious awakening and conversion in connection with this meeting. I enjoyed the meeting much. The singing was good. Soon after we got home I found myself ready for bed - having spent the previous night upon the cars in a sitting posture.

I had a pleasant chat with Rev. Mr. Wakefield & Mrs. Jackson for the first 15 miles of my journey from Richmond. At Indianapolis I did some shopping but the time hung a little heavily until the R.R. train started at 9 P.M. Reached Jeffersonville at 3 A.M. Crossed the Ferry & went to National Hotel at Louisville, arriving about 5 A.M. As soon as I could get ready and get my Breakfast it was time to start for the R.R. train for Nashville.

There was a great rush for the cars and extreme difficulty in procuring a ticket. One officer paid for two tickets & could get but one - so got into a quarrel with the Ticket-agent. By dint of muscle and perseverance I got my ticket in time and by similar means with the addition of sufficient "brass" succeeded in getting into the cars. Scores of men failed to get on board of that train. There was not room for any more, but I got a good seat and found just after entering the car Major Osborne of our staff Chief of Artillery, with his brother a Baptist Clergyman from St. Louis.

So you observe I had company in my all-day ride to Nashville. I need not say that I had a refreshing night's sleep last night.

Please tell Lizzie that I looked up Mr. Reed this morning. Had considerable difficulty in finding him as he had changed his place. After searching in half a dozen streets, I succeeded in finding a gentleman who gave me the right directions and I soon found him. He is well and seemed glad to hear from home. The Government needed the building he had occupied so he was obliged to relinquish it and is not so favorably located now for business.

I am going to call on Gen Underwood this morning. I hear he is not so well and I greatly fear he will never recover. Col. Meysenburg, Otis' Asst. Adjutant Gen'l, went through here yesterday evening with Maj. Hoffman our engineer - both on leave. I did not see them. I find that all the forces at and above Chattanooga were in the late advance. They had considerable fighting - one of Ward's brigades has gone down from here to our Corps. The other follows soon. I am quite certain that none of our troops were in this advance.

Give much love to all at Uncle Henry's. I never shall forget my delightful visit there. I hope between you all there will be a letter on the way for me before this reaches you.

Maj. Osborne saw Col. Meysenburg so I should have heard had there been anything remarkable at our Hd. qrs. I have no doubt Otis is well. It is warmer here than it was at R. the day I left - overcoat is burdensome. Trusting this will find you well & happy.

Yr. Affectionate Son



a few improvements - Our  
mess-tent or Cabin has been  
reconstructed - larger than  
it was - I had a good  
potato for a good Breakfast  
which was waiting me - The  
rest had kindly deferred  
their Breakfast till I arriv-  
ed - about 9 o'clock.

I found Gen. Underwood  
a little better yesterday but  
his case is critical. Mrs.  
Tenney will be interested to  
hear from our loved ones.  
His wife is in good spirits.  
I hope soon to have a letter  
from you & Suzzie & perhaps  
the rest will contribute espe-  
cially Annie Carrie - Tell her  
I have had a glance at some  
of my choice little-girl photographs  
I got here - I prize some of them highly -  
I have not time for a longer letter

Give love to all of a large volume for yourself from affectionate  
L. H. Howard

Ad. gm. 11<sup>th</sup> Corps  
Lookout Valley, Tenn.  
Feb. 28 1864

My dear Mother

I will scribble  
a few lines to go in today's  
mail - I have been here  
about two hours. Found  
the General & Capt. Stenson  
waiting me at the station  
with my horse - all in  
good condition & spirits.  
The weather is warm & pleasant.  
I sit with Cabin door open.  
The sun is a little too  
burning for comfort. They  
have had scarcely any rain  
here since I left. Otis has  
been twice from home -  
Last time all well.

None of our troops in  
the late advance. Those

who did go seem to have  
met with little too warm  
a reception for comfort and  
have retired several miles.

Sherman's adjutant <sup>Major Sawyer</sup> recently  
came down to Stevenson on  
the cars with me - He is  
"running the department" of  
Huntsville - The Department  
of the Tennessee - He had  
heard from Gen. S. since  
he reached Meridian - Says  
the newspaper reports are  
substantially correct. He  
is destroying everything be-  
fore him & behind and may  
perhaps strike at Montgomery  
but his final destination  
is some point on the Gulf  
probably Mobile whence  
he can again draw supplies.

The only fear is that should  
he have a great battle

his ammunition might give  
out. He has cut Polk's  
Army in two - The people  
are fleeing Eastward in  
great consternation. The  
movement has been so rapid,  
so bold and vigorous, as  
to completely surprise the  
Rebel authorities there for -  
but I have my fears for  
Sherman's small Army.

Major Sawyer said Gen. Sher-  
man desired Hancock to have  
the 11<sup>th</sup> Corps - He wishes it  
attached to his Department  
if Gen. Howard continues  
to command it.

My welcome here - home  
again - was all that I  
could wish & I do feel  
contented & happy as though  
I had got to my post  
of duty. There have been

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2/28/1864

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother

CHH-141

Hd. qrs. 11th Corps  
Lookout Valley, Tenn.

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Hd. qrs. 11th Corps  
Lookout Valley, Tenn. Feb. 28 1864

My dear Mother

I will scribble a few lines to go in today's mail. I have been here about two hours. Found the General & Capt. Stinson waiting me at the station with my horse - all in good condition & spirits.

The weather is warm & pleasant. I sit with cabin door open. The sun is a little too burning for comfort. They have had scarcely any rain here since I left. Otis has heard twice from home. Last time all well.

None of our troops in the late advance. Those who did go seem to have met with little too warm a reception for comfort and have retired several miles.

Sherman's adjutant General, Maj. Lawyer, came down to Stevenson on the cars with me. He is "running the department" of Huntsville - The Department of the Tennessee. He had heard from Gen. S. since he reached Meridian. Says the newspaper reports are substantially correct. He is destroying everything before him & behind and may perhaps strike at Montgomery but his final destination is some point on the Gulf - probably Mobile whence he can again draw supplies.

The only fear is that should he have a great battle his ammunition might give out. He has cut Polk's Army in two. The people are fleeing Eastward in great consternation. The movement has been so rapid, so bold and vigorous as to completely surprise the Rebel authorities thus far - but I have my fears for Sherman's small army. Maj. Lawyer said Gen. Sherman desired much to have the 11th Corps. He wishes it attached to his Department if Gen. Howard continues to command it.

My welcome here - home again - was all that I could wish & I do feel contented & happy as though I had got to my post of duty. There have been a few improvements. Our mess tent or Cabin has been reconstructed - larger than it was. I had a good appetite for a good Breakfast which was waiting me. The rest had kindly deferred their Breakfast till I arrived - about 9 o'clock.

I found Gen. Underwood a little better yesterday but his case is critical. Mrs. Tenney will be interested to hear from Gen. Underwood. His wife is in good spirits. I hope soon to have a letter from you & Lizzie & perhaps the rest will contribute especially Cousin Carrie. Tell her I have had a glance at some of my choice little-girl photographs since I got here. I prize some of them highly.

I have not time for a longer letter. Give love to all & a large reserve for yourself.

From Yr. Affectionate Son  
C. H. Howard