

Nashville - Give love  
to all at Arch Henry's -  
I found a letter here from  
~~the~~ father written before I  
went away - Lizzy describes  
Bremmidge's visit to Augusta.  
He says he is very glad I  
came back so promptly so  
he was beginning to get  
lonely - I spent most of  
my time reading or talking  
in his cabin -

I shall write to Lizzy  
soon - The mail goes -  
Your loving son  
W. M. Howard

100 miles  
of distance  
to the  
d. q. s. 11<sup>th</sup> Corps  
Lookout Valley Tenn.  
(Private) Moar. 1 1864

My dear Mother  
I was in the house a rainy  
day and I have been writing  
all the forenoon in this cabin  
answering letters - some for  
this and some of  
my own accumulated in  
my absence - I shall  
go to Chattanooga as soon  
as we have a fair day  
I hope to get my pay  
for February. This is



Reading a letter from home  
just received - had from  
Lizzie - one on August  
24<sup>th</sup> from Augusta.

We are both in good health  
& spirits. Ois thinks in  
reference to the Will that  
you had better take a copy  
of it to show to father as  
soon as you get home.

We do not like the idea  
of your keeping anything from  
him and I agree with  
Ois in his opinion. To  
be sure it would work

no harm to any one but  
it is not well that  
there be anything separate  
and uncommunicated between  
man and wife. There  
was good reason for your  
making the will while  
you had me to assist  
and we both had the  
business to attend to it - be-  
sides I desired to have my  
property thus disposed of  
in case it fell to you.

All things work  
harmoniously out here. I  
get nothing from the front  
or from Sherman - Our  
first Div<sup>n</sup> (Gen. Ward) is  
on the march from

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3/1/1864

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother

CHH-142

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

Richmond, Indiana

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Hd. qrs. 11th Corps  
Lookout Valley, Tenn.  
Mar. 1 1864

(Private)

My dear Mother

It is a rainy day and I have been writing all the forenoon in Otis' cabin answering letters - some for Otis and some of my own accumulated in my absence. I shall go to Chattanooga soon as we have a fair day & hope to get my pay for February. Otis is reading a letter from home just received - two from Lizzie - one as late as 24th from Augusta.

We are both in good health & spirits. Otis thinks in reference to the Will that you had better take a copy of it to show to father as soon as you get home. We do not like the idea of your keeping anything from him and I agree with Otis in his opinion. To be sure it would work no harm to anyone yet it is not well that there be anything separate and uncommunicated between man and wife. There was good reason for your making the will which you had me to assist and we both had the leisure to attend to it. Besides I desire to have my property thus disposed of in case it fell to you.

All things work harmoniously out here. I get nothing from the front or from Sherman. Our first Div'n (Gen Ward) is on the march from Nashville.

Give love to all at Uncle Henry's. I found a letter here from Carrie written before I went away. Lizzie describes Burnside's visit to Augusta. Otis says he is very glad I came back so promptly as he was beginning to get lonely. I spend most of my time reading or talking in his cabin.

I shall write to Lizzie soon. The mail goes.

Your Loving Son  
C. H. Howard



for the old Constitution and an  
irrepressible longing for the reestab-  
lishment of the old government.

Literature was not very abundant  
in the old parson's house. He had  
been cooped up in the Confederacy  
and his books were mostly of a  
very old date. I found this  
Life of Washington and perceiving it  
was one I had never before seen  
began to read. Its quaint style and  
the heartiness of the author interested  
me and I read in the intervals  
of duty while the Corps was getting  
into camp until midnight. I  
soon perceived that it was written  
by a Clergyman and probably a Vir-  
ginian. The thoroughness of the  
Union sentiments and the evident  
attempt to correct a dangerous  
public sentiment beginning to pe-

come when the Lord will bless and deliver. There is but  
"if plenary and full attention  
in the West, I think, than there  
was in the Army of the Potomac."  
With sincere respect for you  
the General and myself &  
kind regards to your  
family -  
Yours truly,  
L. H. Howard

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Valley, Tenn. Mar. 4, 1864

Professor Packard,

My dear Sir:

On re-

turning to Hd. qrs. after an ab-  
sence of twenty-five days I found  
your letter of 15<sup>th</sup> ult. It would  
give me great pleasure to  
make any contribution of value  
to the Maine Historical Society.  
Gen. Howard joins me in  
thanks for your reminder to  
us both in this matter.



I have an old Life of Washington which I hardly deem worth the sending. I procured it from an aged Baptist Clergyman, <sup>(about 80 years old)</sup> who lives at Syner's Station on the East Tenn. R. R. about ten miles from Chattanooga. We found the old gentleman and <sup>his</sup> wife in very destitute circumstances having been plundered both by the Rebel Army and afterwards by the U.S. forces.

But as we had no tents and it was raining and this house was located conveniently <sup>to</sup> our

troops, besides, (a consideration that often has weight with the General) knowing that anything the old gentleman might have left would by this means be ~~his~~ protected General Howard made his Hd. qrs. at his house. The General conversed freely with his host. Found that he had in a measure drifted with the current and ~~the~~ yet it was truly refreshing to find that there was deep down in his heart as if ineradicably rooted there a love of his country - the United States of America - a reverence

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3/4/1864

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* A. S. Packard

CHH-143

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps  
Lookout Valley, Tenn

Bowdoin College, Brunswick,  
Me

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Headquarters Eleventh Corps [Letterhead]  
Lookout Valley, Tenn, Mar. 4, 1864

Professor Packard,  
My dear Sir:

On returning to Hd. qrs. after an absence of twenty-five days I found your letter of 15th ult. It would give me great pleasure to make any contribution of value to the Maine Historical Society. Gen. Howard joins me in thanks for your reminder to us both in this matter.

I have an old Life of Washington which I hardly deem worth the sending. I procured it from an aged Baptist Clergyman (about 81 years old). He lives at Tyner's Station on the East Tenn. R.R. about ten miles from Chattanooga. We found the old gentleman and his wife in very destitute circumstances having been plundered both by the Rebel Army and afterwards by the U.S. forces.

But as we had no tents and it was raining and this house was located conveniently to our troops, besides, (a consideration that often has weight with the General) knowing that anything the old gentleman might have left would by this means be better protected. General Howard made his Hd. qrs. at his house. The General conversed freely with his host. Found that he had in a measure drifted with the current and yet it was truly refreshing to find that there was deep down in his heart as if ineradicably rooted there a love of his country - the United States of America - a reverence for the old constitution and an irrepressible longing for the reestablishment of the old government.

Literature was not very abundant in the old parson's house. He had been cooped up in the Confederacy and his books were mostly of a very old date. I found this Life of Washington and perceiving it was one I had never before seen began to read. Its quaint style and the heartiness of the author interested me and I read in the intervals of duty while the Corps was getting into Camp until midnight. I soon perceived that it was written by a Clergyman and probably a Virginian. The thoroughness of the Union sentiments and the evident attempt to correct a dangerous public sentiment beginning to pre-  
[missing page]  
come when the Lord will bless and deliver.

There is less of "jealousy and petty ambition" in the West, I think, than there was in the Army of the Potomac.

With sincere respect from the General and myself & kind remembrances for your family.

Very truly yours  
C. H. Howard



All commissioners are likely to have friends of their own employment - but there may be a chance yet. Daniel Leonard has not yet got his appointment he writes. It is doubtful whether he will succeed - Handsome penmanship goes to some length in securing my clerk's place - a large proportion of their business being copying - Then there is accuracy in figures and neatness in keeping papers & books. - I suppose another is at least on her way home by this time she proposed starting from R. yesterday & if so will reach home before this reaches you - Where will no movement very soon. Grant has

gone to Westington - Sherman back, then, without much  
success - He has  
17 "only failed him".  
There have been three  
(31) articles destroyed  
1-00 lbs, since the  
of "Leaves of Grass" - true  
in "Philosophy of the  
in "Army of the  
South" in  
U. S. Army  
published in the  
Two of them were  
criticized  
better with  
for (one to read both  
Fitz's, others of the  
direct because they  
furnish me with a copy  
which need to pay for  
in 1864.



learn the Comy business as well  
in the position of Clerk to a  
Brigade or other Comy. If  
you knew the Quarter Master  
and Colonel each to be good  
men it would do to go as Comy  
Sergt. You would be more directly  
under the Lt. Mr.

His opposition to your leaving  
the Law is wholly with a  
view to your own good. He  
knows that a man never makes  
a mark in the world or comes  
to a position of great usefulness  
in his profession unless he

has the utmost patience, per-  
severance and energy in its  
prosecution. And although  
you must go into it when  
your hands find to do with  
your might so as to succeed  
temporarily (let I should not  
be willing for you to resign  
Commissionary business or whatever  
you may transiently take up  
for the benefit of your health  
and pocket as at all per-  
manent. You would need  
to keep constantly in view your  
higher calling and destiny.

Provide with form - I have had extra news an invitation to

newly projected. And  
this is the Editors of the Boston Herald  
the Editor of the Boston Herald  
the Editor of the Boston Herald

me to furnish  
me to furnish  
me to furnish



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3/8/1864

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Brother [Rodelphus  
Gilmore]

CHH-144

Headquarters, Eleventh  
Corps  
Lookout Valley, Tenn.

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Headquarters, Eleventh Corps [Letterhead]  
Lookout Valley, Mar 8, 1864

My dear brother [Rodelphus Gilmore]

Your letter of Feb 19 remailed by Mother with one also from Rowland reached me yesterday.

If you could have gone with some Colonels I would have said go as Commissary Sergt. But an enlisted man is under an iron rule. With some Colonels you would have been liable to be sent into the ranks at any little displeasure of theirs. And I suppose with assiduous attention to the business you might perhaps leave the Com'y business as well in the position of Clerk to a Brigade or other Com'y. If you knew the Quarter Master and Colonel each to be good men it would do to go as Com'y Sergt. You would be more directly under the Qr. Mr.

Otis' opposition to your leaving the law is wholly with a view to your own good. He knows that a man never makes a mark in the world or arrives to a position of great usefulness in his profession unless he has the utmost patience, perseverance and energy in its prosecution. And although you must go into whatever your hands find to do with your might so as to succeed temporarily yet I should not be willing for you to regard Commissary business or whatever you may transiently take up for the benefit of your health and pocket as at all permanent. You would need to keep constantly in view your higher calling and destiny.

All Commissaries are likely to have friends of their own to employ, but there may be a chance yet. Daniel Howard has not yet got his appointment he writes. It is doubtful whether he will succeed. Handsome penmanship goes to some length in securing any clerk's place - a large proportion of their business being copying. Then there is accuracy in figures and neatness in keeping papers & books.

I suppose Mother is at least on her way home by this time. She proposed starting from R. yesterday & if so will reach home before this reaches you. We are well.

No movement very soon. Grant has gone to Washington. Sherman back, I hear, without much success. The Cavalry failed him.

There have been three (3) articles derogatory to Otis since the vote of Congress - one in "Philad'a Bulletin", another in "Army & Navy Journal" & another in the U.S. Army Magazine published in N.Y. Two of them have been answered. I had better write something for you to send to the Press rather than send direct because they furnish me with a copy which need to pay for in some way. So you see I have my hands full of writing or scribbling.

Write me often. I will keep my eyes open for you.

Your affect. Brother.  
C. H. Howard

I will write soon. I have had entre nous an invitation to write for the "Maine Monthly" newly projected. And Otis says that the Editors of the Boston Journal invited me to furnish more articles for that paper.



P.S. I suppose mother will reach home before this - so  
 give her my love - I will write soon. W.H.W.  
 May when I will invest  
 the first instalment in  
 the 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank  
 of Richmond Indiana.  
 But if you send me a  
 Certificate of deposit for  
 Two hundred dollars \$200-  
 so that I shall receive it by  
 April twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) it will  
 do - If you cannot send so  
 soon you will be obliged to  
 send directly to Uncle Henry  
 (C.H. Strickland) so that it will  
 reach him before May 1<sup>st</sup> and  
 I desire you to write me to this  
 effect as soon as you receive this  
 if you cannot send the Certificate  
 direct to me - I do not consider  
 that there will be any more risk  
 than sending drafts. I have now  
 I believe received all of the back  
 letters - as soon as I get my pay  
 which will be this week - I will send  
 you \$100 as you would like it by  
 the 20<sup>th</sup> of March - this will be -

= Certitate your sending it back also before April 20 - Making  
 the whole sum \$300 to be sent home or if too late direct  
 to Richmond -  
 With the same confidence  
 and affection as ever  
 Yours for  
 W.H.W. Howard  
 Headquarters Eleventh Corps,  
 Gettysburg Valley. March 9<sup>th</sup> 1864.  
 E.H. Howland  
 My dear father  
 Your letter of  
 February 29<sup>th</sup> reached me yesterday -  
 If it is so much against your  
 judgement you need not dispose  
 of the 5-20 bonds though I con-  
 versed with the leading Banker  
~~about~~ in Richmond Ind. about  
 financial matters and he said  
 that he had decided to sell his  
 5-20 bonds - believing they would  
 never be so high again. He did  
 not know that I had any invest-  
 ment of that kind.  
 I knew that the 7 3/10 bonds were  
 always considered convertible into 6  
 per cent 24 years bonds but what  
 I wrote about them I took from the  
 Newspaper (Cincinnati) of that morning.  
 What I want is to insure their being  
 converted before maturity - if this



will be the best course.

As to your note I hope  
thought nothing about <sup>it</sup> except  
that I have been taught by  
you to do my business properly  
with whomsoever I may be trans-  
acting it - and I thought it  
was unbusiness-like to have  
a mortgage - not recorded and  
believe such a mortgage is ille-  
gal - I prefer to have the mortgage  
recorded at once. ~~and~~

I was glad to have you write  
me about your business affairs  
because I am as deeply inter-  
ested in your welfare as in my  
own or at least I generally feel  
so.

I hope the Lewiston Falls  
Bank will be converted into  
a National Bank.

My idea of investing in  
the West was not at all to  
take it from your care. I

should much prefer to have  
it all under your supervision  
because I consider you the best  
friend I have - but I do  
not like to have all my  
property accumulated in Lew-  
iston and Auburn - It may  
by some accident all go down  
at once - I prefer to divide  
and have some in the West.  
I get better interest in the  
West. I shall put it into  
a National Bank so I run  
no risk but they pay no  
other interest than 10 percent -  
You seem to think there would  
be more risk in trying for  
14 per cent which cannot be  
the case as I simply take stock  
in a National Bank.

As to the \$500. I want  
that amount by the first of



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3/9/1864

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Father (John Gilmore)

CHH-145

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps  
Lookout Valley, Tenn

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Headquarters Eleventh Corps [Letterhead]  
Lookout Valley, March 9th 1864

My dear father

Your letter of February 29th reached me yesterday. If it is so much against your judgement you need not dispose of the 5-20 bonds though I conversed with the leading Banker in Richmond Ind. about financial matters and he said that he had decided to sell his 5-20 bonds, believing they would never be so high again. He did not know that I had any investment of that kind.

I knew that the 7 3/10 bonds were always considered convertible into 6 per cent 24 years bonds but what I wrote about them I took from the newspaper (Cincinnati) of that morning. What I want is to insure their being converted before maturity, if this will be the best course.

As to your note I have thought nothing about it except that I have been taught by you to do my business properly with whomsoever I may be transacting it, and I thought it was unbusiness-like to have a mortgage not recorded and believe such a mortgage is illegal. I prefer to have the mortgage recorded at once.

I was glad to have you write me about your business affairs because I am as deeply interested in your welfare as in my own or at least I generally feel so.

I hope the Lewiston Falls Bank will be converted into a National Bank.

My idea of investing in the West was not at all to take it from your care. I should much prefer to have it all under your supervision because I consider you the best friend I have, but I do not like to have all my property accumulated in Lewiston and Auburn. It may by some accident all go down at once. I prefer to divide and have some in the West. I get better interest in the West. I shall put it into a National Bank so I run no risk but they pay no other interest than 10 percent. You seem to think there would be more risk in trying for 10 percent which can not be the case as I simply take stock in a National Bank.

As to the \$500, I want that amount by the first of May when I will invest the first instalment in the 1st National Bank at Richmond Indiana. But if you send me a certificate of deposit for Two hundred dollars \$200, so that I shall receive it by April twentieth (20th) it will do. If you cannot send so soon you will be obliged to send directly to Uncle Henry (C. H. Strickland) so that it will reach him before May 1st and I desire you to write me to this effect as soon as you receive this if you cannot send the certificate direct to me. I do not consider that there will be any more risk than sending drafts.

I have now I believe received all of the back letters. As soon as I get my pay which will be this week, I will send you \$100 as you would like it by the 20th of March. This will necessitate your sending it back also before April 20, making the whole sum \$300 to be sent to me or if too late direct to Richmond.

With the same confidence and affection as ever, Your son,  
C. H. Howard

P.S. I suppose mother will reach home before this, so give her my love. I will write soon. C.H.H.



Bowdoin College March 12, 1864

My dear Sir,  
Yours of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst, was received  
two days since & I feel much obliged to  
you for it. We should be glad to receive  
the Life of Washington you mention, particularly  
in view of the circumstances under which you obtained  
it. From your account of the book I suspect it  
was written by one Weems who was a Virginian.  
It is written in a bombastic style affecting  
the manner of the ancient poets, introducing formal  
similes by "as when" &c. Weems was a mini-  
ster of the Episcopal Ch. & as good a fiddler as  
he was a preacher, sometimes uniting the two  
characters in his tours. I always found of good  
living. I succeeded in getting a perfect copy of  
his Life of Washington a year or two since.  
The copies of the General's official reports would be  
very acceptable & on the condition you name.  
Any public document which may fall in



your way which will illustrate the rebellion -  
Newspapers &c will be very grateful to us.

I am glad to receive the means of supplying  
the omission in our Triennial which I referred to.  
I am not unfrequently mortified to find similar  
omissions notwithstanding all care & solicitude.  
We suppose that Gen. Sherman has returned  
having accomplished all that was designed, that is,  
the paper report so.

I am disgusted. (& I speak just as the matter  
strikes me who know only what the public press states)  
as the course of Sickles & perhaps Doubleday regarding  
Gen. Meade at Gettysburg; a matter which, supposing  
it like all true, was susceptible of, & I understand, has  
received, a full & satisfactory explanation. Some-  
times think it would be well for the army of the  
Potomac, if Washington were 500 miles off. I  
am persuaded that all our armies would be  
greatly benefited if we could choke off all  
the politicians. This however is one of the penalties  
we have to pay for free institutions. If you will  
allow me to bring up a college recollection, even if in  
Greek. In the first Olympic Demonstration speaks

of the advantage wh. Philip, an absolute monarch,  
had over the Athenian Democracy in carrying on  
war. Philip could keep his own counsel -

We rejoice in the recent election in New Hampshire.  
But in Maine we have as outspoken traitors,  
disloyalty, as it seems to me, as anywhere, though  
I trust powerless to effect anything. Perhaps it  
is best. The Administration ought always to feel  
its amenability; but the great cause seems to  
be moving on. Our dependance is on the  
voice of Major which is continually ascending  
from thousands in the land.

For you all, from the General to the ranks,  
we lift up daily prayer - & commend you to the  
Lord God of Sabaoth.

With sentiments of sincere respect & regard  
for the General & cordial friendship for yourself  
ever & faithfully yours,

A. S. Packard

Major Ch. W. Howard



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3/12/1864

*From:* A. S. Packard

*To:* C. H. Howard

CHH-146

Bowdoin College,  
Brunswick Maine

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Bowdoin College March 12, 1864

My dear Sir:

Yours of the 4th inst, was received two days since & I feel much obliged to you for it. We should be glad to receive the Life of Washington you mention, particularly in view of the circumstances under which you obtained it. From your account of the book, I suspect it was written by one Weems who was a Virginian of Fairfax Co. If so, it is written in a bombastic style affecting the manner of the ancient poets, introducing formal similes by "as when" &c. Weems was a minister of the Episcopal Ch. & as good a fiddler as he was a preacher, sometimes uniting the two characters in his tours, & always fond of good living. I succeeded in getting a perfect copy of his Life of Washington a year or two since. The copies of the General's official reports would be very acceptable & on the condition you name. Any public documents which may fall in your way which will illustrate the rebellion in newspapers &c will be very grateful to us.

I am glad to receive the means of supplying the omission in our Triennial which I referred to. I am not unfrequently mortified to find similar omissions notwithstanding all care & solicitude.

We suppose that Gen. Sherman has returned having accomplished all that was designed, that is, the papers report so.

I am disgusted (& I speak just as the matter strikes one who knows only what the public picks states) at the course of Sickles & perhaps Doubleday regarding Gen. Meade at Gettysburg; a matter which, supposing it to be all true, was susceptible of &, I understand, has received, a full & satisfactory explanation. I sometimes think it would be well for the army of the Potomac, if Washington were 500 miles off. I am persuaded that all our armies would be greatly benefitted if we could choke off all the politicians. This however is one of the penalties we have to pay for free institutions. If you will allow me to bring up a college recollection, even if in Greek in the first Olyntheac Demosthenes speaks of the advantages wh. Philip, an absolute Sovereign, had over the Athenian Democracy in carrying on war. Philip could keep his own counsel.

We rejoice in the recent election in New Hampshire. But in Maine we have as outspoken & outrageous, disloyalty, as it seems to me, as anywhere, though I trust powerless to effect anything. Perhaps it is best. The administration ought always to feel its amenability: but the great cause seems to be moving on. Our dependence is on the voice of prayer which is continually ascending from thousands in the land.

For you all, from the General to the ranks, we lift up daily prayer & commend you to the Lord God of Sabaoth.

With sentiments of sincere respect & regard for the General & cordial friendship for yourself.

Ever & faithfully yours,  
A. S. Packard



P.S. I believe "May-Flower" (March) from Southport - I gathered it in Maryland last Oct. 1864.

woods - Thousands and thousands  
of bullet scars upon the trees - dozen  
or 20 upon a single tree - One  
counted 27 upon one tree - I  
picked up a few bullets. It was  
longer trees were topped off high <sup>than</sup> by the cannon balls.  
a very deadly manly battle. We  
never fought so at a disadvantage  
in the Army of the Potomac - Gen. Rose-  
crans, I suppose, was entirely ignorant  
of the topography and does not  
seem to have taken it in at a  
glance as some men do - He  
was attacked <sup>in almost</sup> every instance when  
unprepared - While charging his lines  
or about to do so. There were groves  
all through those woods, scattered  
over the entire five miles.

We returned by the bright moonlight  
coming over the nose of Lookout  
getting home about 9 P.M. with  
an alarming appetite for supper and  
a keen relish for the refreshing night's  
sleep which followed -

Among the wonderful changes and  
the more wonderful rumors in the  
newspapers we hardly know what to  
expect next - We are glad to have Sherman  
take Grant's - not only because we believe him the  
ablest man available but because

we have campaigned with him and feel sure that he appre-  
ciates our Corps and is friendly to the General (Otho) - The latter  
has just - War Signal - I believe - in which I  
A guerrilla band des-  
troys on R.R. and  
interrupted the mail  
yesterday - But it  
could not be brought  
a letter from Maryland.  
I am off to the front  
soon - W. Howard

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,  
Valley, March 18, 1864.  
Dear Mother

Last Tuesday I  
received a long letter from Siggie  
Shickland inclosing your photograph  
the best by far you ever have had  
- in fact as good as I could ask  
for - It seems you were to start  
for home last Monday and will  
reach there before this letter at least.  
I do not feel any anxiety but that  
you will get along well enough  
travelling alone - Do not believe you  
belong to the helpless tribe of females,  
specimens of which I have often  
met but whom I would not  
select for a sister, wife or mother.

Siggie wrote as though you were  
still happy and I trust you  
will never regret this tour West.



It is pleasant but we have had it colder for two days past. Day before yesterday we rode (Otis & Hoff and an Escort of Cavalry) to Fronton & back by way of the top of Lookout Mountain - riding along for 10 miles on the Mt. The whole trip 40 miles - There were a few spots of snow and it was almost too cold to enjoy the ride on the Mt. The peach blossoms must have had a hard trial - but the people say they will not be destroyed as long as it does not rain - so that water "freezes in the cup". We were pretty tired when we got back just at dark - started at 5 1/2 A.M. but on the whole enjoyed the trip up the Valley. Fronton is a little village at the <sup>terminus</sup> of the Rail Road by that name, <sup>the course of</sup> which we followed on our way up - As we came back on the East side of Lookout Creek for three miles before ascending the Mt. by way of "Nickajack trace" we

found some fine farms which had been out of the usual course of the Army and were under a good state of preservation - as to fence, houses &c. - One a large brick house - a farm of 800 acres - plenty of negroes - an old grey haired man - his son in the Rebel Army - was the finest establishment we have seen in this Valley - in fact we had no idea there were any so good.

Yesterday Otis & I rode over to see the Battlefield of Chickamauga - having been invited by Gen. Davis who is encamped within a mile or two of that memorable field and was in that Battle.

We took dinner with him & then rode with an aide of his until sunset - The field of the fighting for Saturday & Sunday (Sept. 19 & 20<sup>th</sup>) (I believe on the date) extended over five miles. It is made up of woods and openings - Most of the fighting was in

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3/18/1864

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother

CHH-147

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps  
Lookout Valley, Tenn.

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Headquarters Eleventh Corps [Letterhead]  
Lookout Valley, March 18, 1864.

My dear Mother

Last Tuesday I received a long letter from Lizzie Strickland inclosing your photograph the best by far you ever have had - in fact as good as I could ask for. It seems you were to start for home last Monday and will reach there before this letter at least. I do not feel any anxiety but that you will get along well enough traveling alone. Do not believe you belong to the helpless tribe of female specimens of which I have often met but whom I would not select for a sister, wife or mother.

Lizzie wrote as though you were still happy and I trust you will never regret this tour West.

It is pleasant but we have had it colder for two days past. Day before yesterday we rode (Otis & staff and an escort of Cavalry) to Trenton [Georgia] & back by way of the top of Lookout Mountain, riding along for 10 miles on the Mt. The whole trip 40 miles. There were a few sprits of snow and it was almost too cold to enjoy the ride on the Mt. The peach blossoms must have had a hard trial - but the people say they will not be destroyed as long as it does not rain - so that water "freeze in the cup". We were pretty tired when we got back just at dark - started at 5 ½ A.M. but on the whole enjoyed the trip up the Valley. Trenton is a little Village at the terminus of the Rail Road by that name, the course of which we followed on our way up. As we came back on the East-side of Lookout brick for three miles before ascending the Mt. by way of "Nickajack trace". We found some fine farms which had been out of the usual course of the Army and were under a good state of preservation - as to fence, houses &c &c. One a large brick house - a farm of 800 acres - plenty of negroes - an old grey haired man - his son in the Rebel Army - was the finest establishment we have seen in this Valley - in fact we had no idea there were any so good.

Yesterday Otis & I rode over to see the Battlefield of Chickamauga having been invited by Gen. Davis who is encamped within a mile or two of that memorable field and was in that Battle. We took dinner with him & then rode with him & an aide of his until sunset. The field of the fighting for Saturday & Sunday (Sept 19 & 20th I believe are the dates) extended over five miles. It is made up of woods and openings. Most of the fighting was in woods. Thousands and thousands of bullet scars upon the trees - dozen or so upon a single tree. Otis counted 27 upon one tree. I picked up a few bullets. Large trees were lopped off high & low by the cannon balls. It was a very badly managed battle. We never fought so at a disadvantage in the Army of the Potomac. Gen. Rosecrans, I suppose, was entirely ignorant of the topography and does not seem to have taken it in at a glance as some men do. He was attacked in almost every instance when unprepared - i.e. while changing his lines or about to do so. There were graves all through those woods, scattered over the entire five miles.

We returned by the bright moonlight coming over the nose of Lookout getting home about 9 P.M. with an alarming appetite for Supper and a keen relish fo the refreshing night's sleep which followed.

Among the wonderful changes in Commanders and the more wonderful rumors in the newspapers we hardly know what to expect next. We are glad to have Sherman take Grant's - not only because we believe him the ablest man available but because we have campaigned with him and feel sure that he appreciates our Corps and is friendly to the General (Otis). The latter has just read Lizzie's letter - sends his love to you & father & Dellie - in which I join. A guerrilla raid destroyed our R.R. and interrupted the mail yesterday. But it came late and brought a letter from Rowland.

Your affectionate Son  
C. H. Howard

P.S. I inclose a "May-flower" (March) from Lookout. I gathered it Wednesday last. CHH



[illegible]



that the Remets, at least, of these good things and good things  
will last till I again visit home - even though that be  
Saturday night - I thought that perhaps you  
and father would miss mother much but  
think it was best for her to stay and make  
a good visit this time since it is quite  
doubtful whether she will ever get so  
West again. - Your letter came while  
we were at a Sabbath School we have  
started for the children & others in this Valley.  
It is held at the Chapel tent of the Christian  
Commission about a mile from here. I have  
a class of little girls from 8 to 12 years old.  
None of them can read - They do not even know  
their letters - I do not try to teach them these things  
but finding that they are totally ignorant of God  
and all the instructions of the Bible - I  
at the best of my ability to interest them  
I have succeeded pretty fairly thus far, I  
also teach a class of older young ladies  
You can apply this course to the uneducated  
uneducated, uneducated females of this Valley -  
But I find no lack of natural intelligence in  
my pupils - and believe that they had the  
privileges of New England Common Schools



They would not have been behind the  
little girls at home. Perhaps you know  
that I had experience in teaching about as in-  
corrigible a class of boys, while at West Point,  
as one could imagine - I do not dislike to teach.  
It has been a fine day - This last week has been rather  
cold for this latitude. Wednesday - we took a ride  
of 40 miles - starting at 5 a.m. Visited Princeton  
and returned along on the top of Lookout Mountain  
for 10 or 15 miles - We saw much that was new  
and interesting but the ride was rather long and  
the day too cold for comfort. Next day I  
went over and dined with Rev. J. C. Davis  
and he rode with us all over the Chickamauga  
Battlefield - It took the entire day and we  
did not get home till midnight. Friday  
morning - seems to me I have not directly an-  
swered you next to the last letter in which  
you expressed a preference for <sup>Sec'y</sup> Chase for the next  
President - I am decidedly opposed to his nomi-  
nation. I have not a thought of any one but  
Abraham Lincoln. It would be a fatal mis-  
take in the Republican party to nominate anyone  
else - I have written an article for the Daily Press



Save to him (father) to Lydian & Helen & family - to Mrs. Susan Spang -  
I trust all will strive to share the blessing which seems to be upon them at this time  
P. S. How do you like the book for them at this time?

2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
This subject. What you will see and I will  
further discuss it. Since I wrote that or-  
I am happy to find that the legislatures  
of several States have taken up in favor of  
Lincoln and Chase his taken his  
out of the way - It would stand before  
the South as a repudiation of Pres. Lincoln &  
all his policy if any other should be elected -  
My pride is too great even - though this is  
the most insignificant of all my reasons - to  
allow them to have any gratulations over the  
defeat of honest Abe. So, you see, father  
and I will agree very well. - I find something  
like my writings going to your credit in the Press,  
in my private note to Mr. Gilman. Yesterday  
we had a Review of the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade of the  
Division which is now successful in this  
5 Regiments - a fine young brigade with  
of mounted Infantry which looks very well.  
Much love to Mother. I believe I acknowledged the  
receipt of her photograph which was the best I  
have ever seen of her and I am very glad to  
have it. Write me all the particulars you can  
about the Revival - even the names of some of



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3/20/1864

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Brother [Rodelphus  
Gilmore]

CHH-148

Head quarters 11th  
Corps  
Lookout Valley, Tenn

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Head quarters 11th Corps  
Lookout Valley, Tenn  
Mar 20, 1864

My dear brother [Rodelphus Gilmore]

Your letter written just a week ago today came this morning - an unusually quick passage. In fact I believe I never had a letter from Leeds in 6 days from the time it was mailed before.

Your letter contained great good news of the Religious Awakening in Leeds. I am glad you are there to share its blessings and write us about it. Otis said he thought he would write letters to Oscar and Solomon L. I do not wonder that George Lothrop felt rejoiced to have his brothers thus gathered into the Fold almost at the eleventh hour. What a new life of happiness & unful- [torn page] is before Oscar. I wish I could be with [torn page] old neighbors and friends thus renewedly at- [torn page] by the stronger bonds of Christian sym-[torn page]. What a blessing for Bell (Mrs. O.D.T.) who [torn page] quite happy before - but now will have her cup running over. I hope mother will be able to attend and enjoy some of the meetings.

They finally prevailed upon her at Uncle Henry's to wait until last Monday, I believe, before starting for home. But I think she probably reached you by Saturday night. I thought that perhaps you and father would miss mother much but think it was best for her to stay and make a good visit this time since it is great doubtful whether she will ever get so far West again.

Your letter came while we were about at a Sabbath School we have started for the children & others in this Valley. It is held at the Chapel tent of the Christian Commission about a mile from here. I have a class of little girls from 8 to 12 years old. None of them can read. They do not even know their letters. I do not try to teach them these things but finding that they are totally ignorant of God and all the instructions of the Bible. I [torn page] of the a.b.c. of religious truth, trying [torn page] to the best of my ability to interest the [torn page] have succeeded pretty fairly thus far. I [torn page]

Otis teaches a class of older young ladies if you can apply this term to the uneducated, uncultivated, uncouth females of this Valley. But I find no lack of natural intelligence in my pupils and believe had they had the privileges of New England Common schools they would not have been behind the little girls at home. Perhaps you know that I had experience in teaching about an incorrigible a class of boys, while at West Point, as one could imagine. I do not dislike to teach.

It has been a fine day. This last week has been cold for this latitude. Wednesday we took a ride of 40 miles starting at 5 a.m. Visited Trenton & returned along on the top of Lookout Mountain for 10 or 15 miles. We saw much that was new and interesting but the ride was rather long and the day too cold for comfort.

Next day Otis & I went over and dined with Gen. Jeff C. Davis & he rode with us all over the Chickamauga Battlefield. It took the entire day and we [torn page] the moonlight to come home in.

Friday [torn page] writing. Seems to me I have not directly [torn page] your next to the last letter in which you expressed a preference for Sec'y Chase for the next President. I am decidedly opposed to his nomination. I have not a thought of any one but Abraham Lincoln. It would be a fatal mistake in the Republican party to nominate anyone else. I have written an article for the Daily Press on this subject which you will see and I will not further discuss it. Since I wrote that article I am happy to find that the legislatures of several States have taken up in favor of [torn page] Pres. Lincoln and Chase has taken himself out of the way. It would stand before the South as a repudiation of Pres. Lincoln & all his policy if any other should be elected. My pride is too great even though this is the most insignificant of all my



reasons, to allow them to have my congratulations over the defeat of honest Abe. So you observe, father and I will agree very well.

I said something like my writing going to your credit in the Press, in my private note to Mr. Gilman. Yesterday we had a review of the 1st Brigade of the <[torn page]> Div'n which is now encamped in this <[torn page]> 5 Regiments - a <> brigade with <[torn page]> of mounted infantry which latter is very <[torn page]>.

Much love to Mother. I believe I acknowledged receipt of her photograph which was the best I have ever seen of her and I am very glad to have it. Write me all the particulars you can about the Revival, even the sayings of some of the new converts, if you remember any. Write <[torn page]> down for me. I hope <[torn page]> is among those who have <[torn page]> the Saviour. Mother <[torn page]> meetings and Richmond Ind. Has not a very religious atmosphere. In fact the West is not like New England in this respect. Some of mother's new acquaintances were, however, excellent Christian people. I have taken a <soudles> upon Raccoon Mountains today - getting back in time for the Divine services at 5 P.M.

Leeds has not seemed so attractive before for a long time as it has today since the arrival of your letter. I really would like to be home a while but I hope & pray that the results, at least, of these good things and good times will last till I again visit home even that be long deferred. I will [torn page] have a firm hope of [torn page] many of our neighbors in an [torn page] Heavenly Kingdom by His [torn page] assisting me. I hope father's [torn page] <> work.

Love to him (father) to Cynthia & Roland & family - to Uncle Ensign & family. I trust all will strive to share the blessing which seems to be ripe for them at this time.

Your Affectionate Brother  
C. H. Howard

P.S. I gathered some May flowers the other day upon Lookout. I inclose a little sprig. C. H. H.