

P.S. No 2. I have drawn forage for
one month for two horses & it will
be stored in Mrs. Hinzen's barn - twenty
four pounds of grain per day = $24 \times 30 =$
 $= 720$ lbs = about 24 bushels - You can
get our help for our horse if you
wish or may leave it all for Lizzie.
It will be more than she will want
for the young as she can draw every
month for two horses for the rest
by getting his requisition. He keeps only
3 horses & is entitled to five.

Yrs Affly
G. H. Howard

Augusta Jan'y 30 1865
Evening -

Dear Mother

We arrived safely about 1 1/2 P.M.
All seemed glad to see me here at Mrs. Hin-
zen's. Sherry better than I expected. Will
go to the Army with me tho' probably not
for duty. His cough holds on. I got the
Draft from the Bank & have sent it to
Uncle Henry in a letter - to pay the Life
Insurance premium - I settled the bill
at Farmer's Office & will let Dr. Lillie pay
me that. The Kentucky Journal Bill
was \$2.00 and I will let Mrs. Jones
pay me & get the money of you. His
coat was done & looks nicely - price \$5.00 -
told Lizzie - They will make me a Vest for
\$9.00 and a double-breasted sack coat - of
heavy beaver - cloth for \$10.00 - I was rather
reluctant to pay so dear a price for my coat
but really needed something for every day
wear this winter and it will be a serviceable

coat. Major Gilbreth called to see me & invited me to dine with him tomorrow with Capt. Stinson. St. Murphy U.S.A. was with him - He has lost a leg & seems to feel his loss very sensibly but looks like a smart young man. You remember his trip to Leeds I presume that Winter this was at the Arsenal here.

Mrs. Blain was in this evening & invited us to Tea tomorrow night intending to have some ladies but we had planned to go to the Lecture & so I presume it will be a private Tea.

Gov. Wm. Curtis is the speaker & I shall enjoy it more than any young ladies' entertainment that I can conceive of in Augusta.

Mrs. Jones will try & find out what is the matter with & what will be the best medicine for the horse. He coughed a good deal coming down.

All the people inquire about Mrs. Howard & her little ones - "Why couldn't she have come down with you?"

I wished I had invited her as I would have enjoyed her company exceedingly but seems to me I did mention it once & she could not think of it. My Cook will be sent to Boston. I now expect to be able to join this from Beaufort S.C. but I may not.

I will now close with great deals of love to all - Mother, Lizzie, Mary, Grace, Jennie & Chancy - I will write the note for "Work" with my kindest wishes - I forgot the note this morning -

Your Affectionate Son
C. H. Howard

P.S. A letter in care of Rev. Est. B. Webb will reach me for some three days or more as I shall tell him where to be directed. I shall probably spend two days in Boston before I go to Albany. My regards to Hortense to complete the dear family circle. C. H. H.

(Over)

1/30/1865

From: C. H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-163

Augusta, Maine

Augusta Jan'y 30 1865
Evening

Dear Mother

We arrived safely about 1 ½ P.M. All seemed glad to see me here at Mrs. Stinson's. Harry better than I expected. Will go to the Army with me tho' probably not for duty. His cough holds on. I got the Draft from the Bank & have sent it to Uncle Henry in a letter to pay the Life Insurance premium. I settled the bill at Farmer Office & will let Dellie pay me that. The Kennebec Journal Bill was \$2.00 and I will let Mr. Jones pay me & get the money of you.

Otis' coat was done & looks finely - price \$50 - tell Lizzie. They will make me a Vest for \$9- and a double-breasted sack coat of heavy beaver-cloth for \$40.00. I was rather reluctant to pay so dear a price for my coat but really needed something for every day wear this winter and it will be a serviceable coat.

Major Gilbreth called to see me & invited me to dine with him tomorrow with Capt. Stinson. Lt. Murphy U.S.A. was with him. He has lost a leg & seems to feel his loss very sensibly but looks like a smart young man. You remember his trip to Leeds I presume that Winter Otis was at the Arsenal here.

Mrs. Blaine was in this evening & invited us to Tea tomorrow night intending to have some ladies but we had planned to go to the Lecture & so I presume it will be a private Tea. Geo. Wm. Curtis is the speaker & I shall enjoy it more than any young ladies' entertainment that I can conceive of in Augusta.

Mr. Jones will try & find out what is the matter & what will be the best medicine for the horse. She coughed a good deal coming down.

All the people inquire about Mrs. Howard & her little ones. "Why couldn't she have come down with you?" I wished I had invited her as I would have enjoyed her company exceedingly but seems to me I did mention it once & she could not think of it.

My coat will be sent to Boston. I now expect to be able to join Otis from Beaufort S.C. but I may not. I will now close with great deal of love to all - Mother, Lizzie, Guy, Grace, Jaimie & Chancey. I will inclose the note for "Wash" with my kindest wishes. I forgot the note this morning.

Your affectionate Son
C. H. Howard

P.S. A letter in Care of Rev. E. B. Webb will reach me for some three days or more as I shall tell him where to redirect. I shall probably spend two days in Boston before I go to Albany. My regards to Hortense to complete the dear family circle. C. H. H.

P.S. no 2. I have drawn forage for one month for two horses & it will be stored in Mrs. Stinson's barn - twenty four pounds of grain per day - 24 x 30 - 720 lbs = about 24 bushels. You can get one half for our horse if you wish or may leave it all for Lizzie. It will be more than she will want for the pony as she can draw every month for two horses for the Gen'l by getting his requisition. He keeps only 3 horses & is entitled to five.

Yrs affy
C. H. Howard

P.S. Mr. Wigham
has just come
in with Higgins
letter & our mail
(not brought up last
night) will come
around with the
boat for me - Mr.
W. is packed up
from Argentina.
C.H.A.

Augusta Feb. 1st 1865

Dear Mother

Capt Beebe
arrived here last night
directly from Otis and
brought despatches which
cause me to postpone my
departure till I can see
the Governor. I may be
here some time yet & I
may go tomorrow. I will
write you again. Otis wrote
me two good long letters.
He is well & gaining for-
ward by this time. Capt.
Beebe will probably remain
with me & Capt Stinson
had decided to accompany
me back - so you see
I have company enough.

Drill with you more
sweety tonight. It is very
well but the rains delay
the Army. Love to
Lizzie & see the children.

There is a good lot of
hay & grain for the pony
here at Mrs. Thurson's
all safely stored.

Saw Fannie Linn Ann
at her house yesterday a.m.
- well - In haste

Yr affectionate son
W. H. Burwash

P.S. I did not put down on
your book the last money
transaction. - the receipt of
\$150 from Mr. Bates & paying
out the \$100 for Drelie & the
\$200 by Mrs. Jones to the
Kennebec Journal

2/1/1865

From: C. H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-165

Augusta [Maine]

Augusta [Maine] Feb 1st 1865

Dear Mother

Capt Beebe arrived here last night directly from Otis and brought despatches which cause me to postpone my departure till I can see the Governor. I may be here some time yet & I may go tomorrow. I will write you again. Otis wrote me two good long letters. He is well & going forward by this time. Capt Beebe will probably remain with me & Capt Stinson had decided to accompany me back. So you see I have company enough. I will write you more fully tonight. Otis is very well but the rains delay the Army. Love to Lizzie & all the children

I have a good lot of hay & grain for the pony here at Mrs Stinson's all safely stored.

Saw Cousin Laura Ann at her house yesterday A.M. - well.

In Haste

Yr Affectionate Son
C. H. Howard

P.S. I did not put down on your book the last money transactions. The receipt of \$150 from Mr. Bates & paying out the \$100 for Dellie & the \$2.00 by Mr. Jones to the Kennebec Journal.

P.S. Mr. Wingate has just come in with Lizzie's letter & our mail (not brought up last night) will soon arrive with the two for me. Mr. W. just rode up from Augusta.

so embellished as Mount
Auburn or Greenwood - yet
there is a natural beauty and
fitness about it unequalled by
anything I have ever seen. We
gathered some rare specimens of
cedar and some holly twigs
but my horse was too spirited
to leave alone so we spent our
time in riding about all the
country roads. - The churches
were not so well filled as usual
yet in S. - The people are
showing their dislike to Yankee
rule more than they did - In
fact they say Gen. Grover's troops
are not to be compared with
Sherman's nor his officers. I
suspect, however, that it is more
the old evil one, secession, showing
her satanic spirit which has
been a little awed by the novelty
of the first occupation of the city.

I suppose you will have great
rejoicing in the North at the
news - Just as you came in
this morn'g sunshiny afternoon.
Tell Lizzie she must write but
often for News, come two or three

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,

S.C. Feb. 20th 1865

I have just re-
ceived a visit to Savannah.
Spent the Sabbath there - going
up with Gen. Saxton & party on his
boat. There were several ladies,
among them Mrs. Saxton - Some
of the ladies went to Savannah to
teach the negroes. They are open-
ing many schools. We had a
pleasant sail in the General's
boat - getting there about 2 P.M.
Saturday. Dr. Duncan accom-
panied me & Capt. Sturges. The
former had his guitar along &
entertained us all on deck with
some of his songs on the way.
I was fortunate to find a pleasant
boarding place at a house where
Prof. Robinson (Kent, Hill) is staying.

This saved us expense & was in every respect much more agreeable than the Pulaski House would have been. The news of the evacuation of Charleston by the Rebels & occupation by our troops reached Savannah yesterday. I hope to visit Charleston tomorrow or next day and possibly hear from our Army. The report was that Sherman's army was at Columbia S.C. when last heard from - I expect they will reach the Coast, however, above or at Charleston S.C. before many days. Yesterday afternoon I did something very unusual for me on Sunday - I took a ride with horse & carriage and a young lady. Gen. Saxton had decided to return early Monday Morning and I was very desirous

to visit the celebrated Cemetery "Bonaventure". It was a delightfully mild day - like May or June at home - We had a fine horse and covered buggy. The young lady was Miss Sangford of Boston or rather from Wyoming near Boston. She had never been in Savannah before and so everything was a novelty to her. The Cemetery is remarkable for its magnificent "Live Oaks" covered with the long hanging moss peculiar to this climate - These noble oaks, ^{are arranged in} ~~long~~ long avenues over which the limbs form a kind of archway and as you look through these ^{shaded} avenues they give you the impression of a vista among some old ruins. The marble thrones & monuments contrast with the green trees and add to the effect. The Cemetery is by no means

2/20/1865

From: C. H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-166

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee
Beaufort S.C.

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee [Letterhead]
Beaufort S.C. Feb 20th 1865

My dear Mother

I have just returned from a visit to Savannah. Spent the Sabbath there going up with Gen. Saxton & party on his boat. There were several ladies among them - Mrs. Saxton. Some of the ladies went to Savannah to teach the Negroes. They are opening many schools. We had a pleasant sail in the General's boat - getting there about 3 P.M. Saturday. Dr. Duncan accompanied me & Capt Stinson. The former had his guitar along & entertained us all on deck with some of his songs on the way.

I was fortunate to find a pleasant boarding place at a home where Prof. Robinson (Kent's Hill) is staying. This saved us expense & was in every respect much more agreeable than the Pulaski House would have been.

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The churches were not so well filled as usual yesterday in S. The people are showing their dislike to Yankee Pride more than they did. In fact they say Gen. Grover's troops are not to be compared with Sherman's nor his officers for good conduct. I suspect, however, that it is more the old evil one, secession, showing her satanic spirit which had been a little awed by the novelty of the first occupation of the city.

I suppose you will have great rejoicing in the North at the Charleston news. I wish you could enjoy the mild sunshine afternoon. Tell Lizzie she must write pretty often for Steamers come two or three in a fortnight now & we always want letters by every boat. Lots of letters await Otis here but none from Lizzie yet except those I brought.

Love to the little darlings, all at home.

Your Affectionate Son
C. H. Howard

had very little experience at this. I propose to take
for Major a Captain of a Colored Regt. here who has
been in service more than two years. He is with his
Regt. at Charleston now & familiar with the organization
of Colored troops in this Department. Capt. Davidson is
his name - Entirely unnoted and unexpected by Gen.
Saxton I proposed his brother as one of the Captains. He
is now 1st Lieut. in a Negro Regt. at Charleston & has
for some time commanded a Company. He was two
years at West Point - I propose to get some officers
from Maine - some from the Army of the Potomac.
A Dr. Mr. I have. I think fortunate but upon here
at Beaufort - a young man who is now serving as
Clerk in another Master's Dept. & not only completely
familiar with the business but said to be enterprising &
ambitious. I did think somewhat of Mr. Toppens
the son of Rev. Mr. T. of Newidgewick who is here
- Dr. Mr. S. Drapery - but I do not think he would
desire it as he has just got a wife & is living in
great happiness here in a fine large house & would
be compelled to forego all these things. Maj. Whittier's
brother has written to Gen. S. for a Chaplaincy & perhaps I
cannot do better than to take him for our Regiment.
It will be named the "106th U.S. Colored Troops".

I thought this was perhaps the very opening for which
I have been sort of groping for a few months - thinking
you will remember of what I was to do in the future.
I thought Gen. S. did not much fear my returning
to the ministry - This furnishes an opportunity of worthy
moral endeavor very attractive to me - I never could
consent to go into the Regular Army as it used to be - so
aimless and unproductive of moral results. But
here will certainly be opened a great field for usefulness
to such as have humane & Christian hearts and a purpose
to do something for humanity & the Kingdom of Christ without
special regard to ends distinctly selfish. I wish I
could have consulted you & all my friends beforehand
but perhaps it is well for me to begin to decide all

together for myself - in important matters. Tho'
out the war you know I have been so situated
as to cultivate self reliance too little and I
often think one of the principal defects of my char-
acter is a want of independence - It amounts too often
to a lack of moral courage and following this a strict
and firm adherence to principle. I trust I will have
your prayers that the new undertaking with all the re-
sponsibility of a thousand men so completely under
my influence - much more so than in a White Regt.
So that I am somewhat in the relation of a father
as well as governor - that this new position may not only
be wholesome & beneficial to my character but result
in mutual good to officers & men - to our country
and the Kingdom of our Lord. Mr. Fuller was
willing to be Chaplain of the Maine Regt. but
I do not suppose he would care to come down here
to take charge of a Negro Regt. At any rate perhaps
I had better try Mr. Whittier as he has made an
application for such a place.

You will wish to hear about Charleston. I was
glad to go up with Gen. Saxton upon the "Planter" which
you remember was brought out of Charleston two or three
years ago by the Negro pilot Robert Snell. The same
Negro returned with us in command of the boat. It
was a great triumph for him who had come out
a run-away slave & go back as Captain of his Master's
boat - now the property of the U.S. Most the in Govt. employ
at \$50 - per month. I talked a good deal with him.
It was dark & stormy going up - We had to go out
into a good deal of the way - It was rough & rainy
were wet but I was not - He steered by compass & chart.
Brought us into Stono Inlet as if by a miracle - There
we found good harbor & went on to Charleston next morning
after the fog cleared up - The harbor presented a pleasing
picture - with our very fleet upon the water - the fortified
islands upon either side & the city before us - Capt. Snell

3/3/1865

From: C. H. Howard

To: brother [Rowland B.
Howard]

CHH-167

Head-Quarters Dep't
and Army of the
Tennessee,
Beaufort S.C.

Head-Quarters Dep't and Army of the Tennessee, [Letterhead]
Beaufort S.C. March 3, 1865

My dear brother [Rowland B. Howard]

I believe I have written you oftener than usual since my return but no letters received from you or home yet. It is quite late and my two companions Beebe & Stinson have gone to bed. Stinson coughs a little occasionally but seems no worse than when at home. He does not grow strong as fast as I would like to see him & had hoped.

You will be surprised & perhaps not pleased to learn that I have decided to take command of a negro Regiment. Gen. Saxton invited me to do so of his own suggestion entirely - urging it by all the inducements in his power. At first I told him I thought favorably of the matter but would wish to see the General (Otis) before deciding, but on going to Charleston the other day & finding the men were coming in at the rate of hundreds in a single day so that he desired to begin the organizing of Regiments at once. After renewed solicitations on his part I decided to go to Washington & get the appointments for myself & Beebe as Col & Lt. Col. at Gen. Saxton's request if the authorities will grant them & to attend to some other business for Gen. S. connected with the Corps he is raising.

He gives me the first Regt, thus securing for us the highest rank, allows me to appoint all my officers, selecting them from all the Armies in the United States if I desire. The men will probably be all raised by the time I get back. Beebe will possibly go to work upon the organization before I get back. He will be valuable in drilling as you know I have had very little experience at this. I propose to take for Major a Captain of a Colored Regt. here who has been in service more than five years. He is with his Regt. at Charleston now & familiar with the organization of Colored troops in this Department. Capt. [William H.] Danielson is his name.

Entirely unsolicited and unexpected by Gen. Saxton I proposed his brother [Samuel Willard Saxton] as one of the Captains. He is now 1st Lieut in a Negro Regt. at Charleston & has for some time commanded a company. He was two years at West Point. I propose to get some officers from Maine, some from the Army of the Potomac.

A Qr. Mr. I have I think fortunately hit upon here at Beaufort - a young man who is now serving as clerk in Quarter Master's Dept. & not only completely familiar with the business but said to be enterprising & ambitious. I did think somewhat of Mr. Tappen the son of Rev. Mr. T of Norridgewock who is here in Qr. Mr's employ, but I do not think he would desire it as he has just got a wife & is living in great happiness here in a fine large house & would be compelled to forego all these things. Maj. Whittlesey's brother has written to Gen. S. for a Chaplaincy & perhaps I cannot do better than to take him for one Regiment. It will be named the "106th U.S. Colored Troops".

I thought this was perhaps the very opening for which I have been sort of groping for a few months, thinking you will remember of what I was to do in the future. I thought you & Ella did not much favor my returning to the ministry. This furnishes an opportunity of worthy moral endeavor very attractive to me. I never could consent to go into the Regular Army as it used to be, so aimless and unproductive of moral results. But here will certainly be opened a great field for usefulness to such as have humane & Christian hearts and a purpose to do something for humanity & the Kingdom Christ without special regard to ends distinctively selfish. I wish I could have consulted you & all my friends beforehand but perhaps it is well for me to begin to decide altogether for myself in important matters. Thro' out the war you know I have been so situated as to cultivate self reliance too little and I often think one of the principal defects of my character is a want of independence. It amounts too often to a lack of moral courage and following this a strict and firm adherence to principle. I trust I will have your prayers, that

the new undertaking with all the responsibility of a thousand men so completely under my influence, much more so than in a white Regt., so that I am somewhat in the relation of a father as well as governor, that this new position may not only be wholesome & beneficial to my character but result in mutual good to officers & men, to our country and the Kingdom of our Lord.

Mr. Fuller was willing to be Chaplain of the Maine Regt. But I do not suppose he would care to come down here to take charge of a negro Regt. At any rate perhaps I had better try Mr. Whittlesey as he has made an application for such a place.

You will wish to hear about Charleston. I was glad to go up with Gen. Saxton upon the "Planter" which you remember was brought out of Charleston two or three years ago by the negro pilot Robert Smalls. The same negro returned with us in command of the boat. It was a great triumph for him who had come out a run-away slave & go back as Captain of his Master's boat, now the property of the U.S. Gov't. & he in Gov't employ at \$50 per month. I talked a good deal with him. It was dark & stormy going up. We had to go outside a good deal of the way. It was rough & many were sick but I was not. He steered by compass & chart. Brought us into Stone Inlet as if by a miracle. There we found good harbor & went on to Charleston next forenoon after the fog cleared up. The harbor presented a pleasing picture, with our navy fleet upon the water, the fortified islands upon either side & the city before us. Capt Smalls did not stop for a pilot though he had not been there for about 3 years. Steamed boldly along and up to the dock where he had set out under such trying circumstances. He was made Capt. Because of his courage in running past Rebel batteries with supplies for our troops about a year after his escape when the white Captain with whom he was serving "showed the white feather".

The dock looked rather grass-grown. Some negroes standing there knew Capt. S. & flocked around him seeming to regard him with great admiration. He is a mulatto of rather small size, grand in his motions & speech. You ought to hear him give orders to his mate, a white man, nothing over-bearing or supercilious in his manner but energetic & decided. No superfluous words. He gave up his room to Gen. Saxton & invited me to take my meals there with the Gen'l which I did in company with Maj. Saxton the General's brother & aide. Gen. S. was sick going & returning. Charleston at first sight appeared a good deal dilapidated - all the front street & lower part of the city. Some entire blocks have been burned. You see shell holes through the roofs & sides of the buildings. The city has altogether an old & unthrifty appearance. Harry S. & I got a horse & carriage & rode all over the town. Made some purchases to remember Charleston by. We intended to call at Sumpter but the weather was unfavorable & we deferred it to another time & I now fear I may not have the opportunity to get a brick for Ella there as I intended. I may though at some future time.

I dined with Schimmelfennig but slept aboard the boat. No hotels open. Negroes plenty but few respectable whites. Not by any means so pretty a city as Savannah. Not very cleanly.

It grows late for I heard the sentry in front of my door call out in stentorian some half hour since "Eleven o'clock, all's well." Tell David that these Negro soldiers roar like bulls of Bashan when in the middle of the night they shout the hour and say all's well. I hear it go from post to post off into the distance often when I am lying awake. They call out every hour after 9 P.M.

Write me without reference to my absence in W for I will get all your letters & could not <think> of missing any.

Yr Affectionate brother
C. H. Howard

P.S. Sherman's Army reported by news from the North by Steamer near Charlotte N.C. but I do not think it anything but Kilpatrick. The main Army must be nearer the coast. We hear nothing except by N.Y. papers. C. H. H.

(4)

I have several letters to write tonight. Mr. Davis is
over in Brooklyn with Miss Mary French at the
Opera - We had made the engagement before my
arrival - I intend to see it - going from
N. to North Carolina - even if I return to
Beaufort S. C. as I understand shall -

Yours loving son

L. H. Howard

P.S. I believe I left - a red ink at home - Please
send it at once by express to Washington Hotel - Surgeon
will assist to find a box & direct it - Be sure that I have
one ants me without delay.

Studio Building
New York
March 9 1866

My dear Mother

You will be great-
ly surprised at the above super-
scription - I am on my way to
Washington with despatches from
Brig. Maj. Gen. Saxton - bearing
among other papers a request
from him for my appointment
as Colonel of a Regiment
of Colored troops. I think I
have written you of his pro-
posals to me & that after
much deliberation - in view of
the fact that I could not join
our Army & this at once - I con-
sented to go to Washington to as-
sume & in case the Secy of War
forwards the proposition - to undertake

(3)

left Augusta! What do you think I can would
do if you were so neglected by those whom
you loved - Would you not go with it - -- take
a dookie Regiment? But seriously - you or
Lizzie or Rowland or Gray or Grace must write
me a letter to Washington D.C. at Washington
Hotel - Lizzie will see that I am in the next
best place to home - with my dear friend J. F.
Wier. Artist - Tell Gray I desire to know whether "Mish"
& the young are alive, well, & capable of kicking.
Tell Grace I visited a Sabbath school of Negro children
last Sunday & they all remembered & requested what her
father (Chas.) said to them some weeks ago - They promised
to pray for her & say they do - Now I told them about Grace
& they promised to pray for her too as they do for her father & I agreed
to request Grace to pray for these little needy children. (See 4th page)

(2)

the organization & command
of the first Regiment of the
Corps of Negro troops which
Gen. Saxton proposes to raise.

I go to Washington tomorrow
night - We had a very fine
passage in 72 hours from
Port Royal - I wish my horse
for the night at least could
have been transported to New
York - I mean yourself, Lizzie
& the working children - I have
sent on express package containing
a Palmetto fan for Grace - I am
sorry I had nothing for the rest.

I mentioned upon a paper enclosed
in that package - two photographs of
myself (small size) I find they were
not put into that package - I will
inclose them in this letter - Not
one syllable from any one of my
friends in Maine (except a somewhat
indifferent one at Bangor) since I

3/9/1865

From: C. H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-168

Studio Building
New York

Studio Building
New York
March 9 1865

My dear Mother

You will be greatly surprised at the above superscription. I am on my way to Washington with despatches from Brevet Maj Gen. Saxton, bearing among other papers a request from him for my appointment as Colonel of a Regiment of Colored troops. I think I have written you of his proposals to me & that after much deliberation - in view of the fact that I could not join our Army & Otis at once. I consented to go to Washington to ascertain & in case the Sec'y of War favors the proposition, to undertake the organization & command of the first Regiment of the Corps of Negro troops which Gen. Saxton proposes to raise.

I go to Washington tomorrow night. We had a very fine passage in 72 hours from Port Royal. I wish my home for the tonight at least could have been transferred to New York. I mean yourself, Lizzie & the darling children. I have sent an express package containing a Palmetto fan for Grace. I am sorry I had nothing for the rest.

I mentioned upon a paper inclosed in that package, two photographs of myself (small size). I find they were not put into that package. I will inclose them in this letter. Not one syllable from any one of my friends in Maine (except a somewhat indifferent one at Bangor) since I left Augusta! What do you think you would do if you were so neglected by those whom you loved. Would you not go wild & — take a darkie Regiment? But seriously you or Lizzie or Rowland or Guy or Grace must write me a letter to Washington D.C. at Washington Hotel.

Lizzie will see that I am in the next best place to house, with my dear friend J. F. Weir, artist. Tell Guy I desire to know whether "Wash" & the pony are alive, well, & capable of kicking. Tell Gracie I visited a Sabbath school of Negro children last Sunday & they all remembered & repeated what her father (Otis) said to them some weeks ago. They promised to pray for him & say they do. Now I told them about Grace and they promised to pray for her too as they do for her father & I agreed to request Grace to pray for these little needy children. Will she do so?

I have several letters to write tonight. Mr Weir is over in Brooklyn with Miss Mary French at the Opera. He had made the engagement before my arrival. I intend to see Otis going from W. to North Carolina, even if I return to Beaufort S.C. as I undoubtedly shall.

Your loving son
C. H. Howard

P.S. I believe I left a red sash at home. Please send it at once by Express to Washington Hotel. Lizzie will assist to find a box & direct it. Be sure that some one writes me without delay.

privilege of boarding at a private mess.
It not only saves one great expense but is
much more agreeable & profitable. I have
a quiet time here in my room - gas light -
writing materials - books & every convenience.
Mr. Kimball ^{had} rented the room for a year & let
it. The ^{last} accept had given it up lately & Mr.
Rappert it to me free of rent. I have
thousands of blessings to be thank-
-ful to a kind Heavenly Father for - I am often
astonished & feel humbled in view of my ill-luck.

I will try & send your reformation to be near
to God - And hope this will be a new epoch
of my life in this respect.

I will not seal my letter as I hope to
add in the morning that the Post has arrived.
Did Suzzie get an express package containing a
photograph (large) of Otis &c. ? You did not
mention it - address letters now to me

128th U.S. C. Troop } Your loving son
Beaufort - } C.A. Howard
S.C.

P.S. I have been reviewing Tactics during leisure hours
since I have been here. C.A.H.

P.S. Let. coming
Lark & Co. - accept
Thanks to Suzzie
Love & Grace at home.
C.A.H.

Washington D.C.
Cor. "K" & 12th St. - March 17th 1865

My dear mother

I was very happy to get
your letter yesterday morning - I have no doubt
I will get the others on my arrival at
Beaufort. Very sorry to know Ella has been
so sick. Your letter brought me the first
news of the little son added to Howard's
family - I am glad they call him Otis.
I love that name and do not think they
could find a better. I have seen and
seen this evening who left Otis only a
week since & who came with our Army
all the way from Columbia ^{S.C.} - The officer is
an escaped prisoner of 82nd Iowa Regt.
Capt. Burbank of Liverick - an old
valley friend of mine - So of course I got
lots of news - all good & encouraging.

The Army did not pause at Fayetteville
it seems - Two Divs of 14th Corps had crossed
Cape Fear River when Capt B. left & he
thinks the Army is to go on to Goldsboro
before halting - Still if they meet with
much opposition they can easily fall back
to Fayetteville & will probably renew some of their
supplies there - Capt B. knew Maj. Whittier &
says he talked a good deal with the Mayor.

I am back Capt. B. again in the morning.
I was intending to go today if the bark had come -
Hope it will come before 3 P.M. tomorrow when
I intend to take boat down river. If it does
not I will have it re-expressed to Beaufort S.C.
or to our head quarters - I will spend a day or
two with the Army of the Potomac in Virginia
to secure some fine officers for my Regt. I
read my appointment to the Colonelcy of the
128th U.S. Colored Regt. - I feel that it is
a great responsibility for me to have as it seems
to me the souls & bodies of 1600 men resting

upon me. I feel the need of your prayers &
those of all my friends that I may have a
fitness for the place - a moral & religious
preparation, that I may accomplish some-
thing - i.e. be the means - for the permanent
good of these men and that my Regiment
may be an example to others. Rev. Mr.
Fuller of Hallsville answers me that he would
like to go with me & will consider it.

I attended a prayer-meeting tonight - a
rare opportunity for me and I trust it will
do me good - The subject of feeling a concern
for the salvation of others impressed me deeply.

One might find ~~an~~ excuse often for not doing
anything but no excuse for not feeling or desiring
earnestly to win souls to Christ.

Rev. Drs. Garley & Gillet came & spoke to me after the
meeting - Lizzie may have seen the latter who knows
it is at an examination of Mrs. Willard's school
at Troy - It was great good fortune
that gave this room to me while here & thus

3/17/1865

From: C. H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-169

Washington D.C.
Cor "K" & 12th Sts.

Washington D.C.
Cor "K" & 12th Sts.
March 17 1865

My dear Mother

I was very happy to get your letter yesterday morning. I have no doubt I will get the others on my arrival at Beaufort. Very sorry to know Ella has been so sick as your letter brought me the first news of the little son added to Rowland's family [Oliver Otis Howard, b Feb 14, 1865]. I am glad they call him Otis. I love that name and do not think they could find a better.

I have seen an officer this evening who left Otis only a week since & who came with our Army all the way from Columbia S.C. The officer is an escaped prisoner of 32d Maine Regt. Capt. Burbank of Limerick, an old College friend of mine. So of course I got lots of news - all good & encouraging.

The Army did not pause at Fayetteville it seems. Two Div'ns of 17th Corps had crossed Cape Fear River when Capt. B. left & he thinks the Army is to go on to Goldsboro before halting. Still if they meet with much opposition they can easily fall back to Fayetteville & will probably renew some of their supplies there. Capt B. knew Maj Whittlesey & says he talked a good deal with the Major.

I am to see Capt B again in the morning. I was intending to go today if the Sash had come. Hope it will arrive before 3 P.M. tomorrow when I intend to take boat down river. If it does not I will have it re-expressed to Beaufort S.C. onto our Head quarters. I will spend a day or two with the Army of the Potomac in Virginia to secure some line officers for my Regt. I rec'd my appointment to the Colonelcy of the 128th U.S. Colored Regt. I feel that it is a great responsibility for me to have as it seems to me the souls & bodies of 1000 men resting upon me. I feel the need of your prayers & those of all my friends that I may have a fitness for the place - a moral & religious preparation, that I may accomplish something - i.e. be the means - for the permanent good of these men and that my Regiment may be an example to others. Rev. Mr. Fuller of Hallowell answers me that he would like to go with me & will consider it.

I attended a prayer meeting tonight - a rare opportunity for me and I trust it will do me good. The subject of feeling a concern for the salvation of others impressed me deeply. One might find an excuse often for not doing anything but no excuse for not feeling or desiring earnestly to win souls to Christ. Rev. Dr. Gurley & Gillet came & spoke to me after the meeting. Lizzie may have seen the latter who knew Otis at an examination of Mr. Willard's school at Troy.

It was great good fortune that gave this room to me while here & this privilege of boarding at a private mess. It not only saves me great expense but is much more agreeable & profitable. I have a quiet time here in my room - gas light - writing materials - books & every convenience. Mr. Kimbal had rented the room for a year & re-let it. The last occupant had given it up lately & Mr. K offered it to me free of rent. I have thousands & thousands of blessings to be thankful to a kind Heavenly Father for. I am often astonished & feel humbled in view of my ill deserts. I will try & heed your exhortation to live near to God. And hope this will be a new epoch of my life in this respect.

I will not seal my letter as I hope to add in the morning that the Sash has arrived. Did Lizzie get an express package containing a Photograph (large) of Otis &c? You did not mention it - address letters now to me
128th U.S.C. Troops
Beaufort S.C.

Your loving Son
C. H. Howard

P.S. I have been reviewing Tactics during leisure hours since I have been here. C.H.H.

P.S. Sat. morning - Sash rec'd. alright. Thanks to Lizzie & love to all at home. C.H.H.

He knew me & sent his regards to J. H. - said
he had heard nothing officially from Gen. Sherman
since the 11th at Fayetteville but that he thought
an Army had got Goldsboro - judging from the
Rebel acts. Tell Siggie I found St. John French
(Prof. French's son) at Grant's Hq. with
Gen. Ingalls - Chief En. Mr. - Gen. Grant gave me
some despatches for Gen. Sherman which will
facilitate my progress in finding home - getting
transportation &c. We have had it quite cold
today - so that I decided to wear my overcoat &
we have a coal fire in the stove in the little
Cabin of the C. Co. where I am writing.

Pray for me, mother, that I may have all
the Grace requisite for my new duties &
responsibilities. I close for Prayer

Yours loving son
A. W. Howard

On board Steamer "Brady"
On James River - for Ft. Monroe -
March 24 1865

My dear Mother

You know of my intention
of visiting the Army of the Potomac. I
arrived last Sunday & now Friday am on my
way to North Carolina. I saw Brig. Gen.
Miles who used to be Lieutenant with me in the
Staff - slept in same bed with him one night.
Found a good many old friends, but devoted
my time chiefly to my business - that of procu-
ring Officers for my Regiment - Dexter
Howard I expect will be one of my Cap-
tains - I got two or three Officers from his
Regt - (17th) 1st Ma. Heavy Artillery & 20th
Maine. Day before yesterday I went up river
from City Point to visit the Army of the James.
Saw the celebrated Dutch Gap canal - The water
now runs through it and I should think
it might easily be made passable for boats.
I was the guest of Brig. Gen. Birney who com-
mands a Division of Negro troops. Gen. B.
seemed to take pleasure in going about to show
me the condition of his Command and in giving

me all the information he could about the
raising ~~re.~~ of Colored troops. I found a
college acquaintance on his staff - Kendall of
N. H. Capt. Howard ^{in 2nd Div 2nd Corp} his younger brother also was
to be with us but he is now away on leave.

I saw Rev. Mr. Fuller of Hallowell this
morning - also before on Sunday - He is a
delegate to the Christian Commission. He thinks
he will be my chaplain. I cannot not
well find his equal for that place.

I was happily surprised to meet Mr. Lawrence
of Boston at City Point - who came
through the ~~Colonial~~ Campaign with us as
an agent of the C. C. He is with us on the
boat going down to our Army. So I have
the most agreeable company.

We change boats at Ft. Monroe & may be
obliged to wait over night for a boat for
Newbern - I expect to find the Army near
Goldsboro. Will stay at Hd. qrs. only a day
or two I think & then go to Beaufort. Have
not heard from the latter place since Veff.

Perhaps I will add something further if
I stay ~~over~~ right at Ft. Monroe - Love to all
at home - Your affectionate son
C. H. Howarth

Fort Monroe - Fri. Evening -

As I anticipated we (Arthur Lawrence & I) find
that we must wait till 10 a. m. tomorrow before we
can go on. We go by Newmarket to Norfolk & thence
through a canal into the Sound & to Newbern.
This is gratifying as we both feared the passage
outside would be very rough as the winds are
very strong & have been for several days.

I am at the C. C. rooms. It is so much
more agreeable to me than staying the miserable
hotels they have at Military Posts. Lawrence
& I visited the inside of the Fortress this afternoon.
It is a magnificent Fort built of granite & steel.
There is a gravel road around upon the plain
- fort. There are several - some half dozen -
of the immense 15 inch Columbiads and many
smaller. The houses in the fort look very comfort-
- able - the grounds pleasant - We witnessed a Dress
- Parade by a Regular battalion - the officers appearing in
the old Regular Army Epaullette - a fine band in
showy uniform. Some few officers & ladies were
sitting upon benches under the trees and on picnics as
they are wont to do at West Point. I suppose
you have got letters from Otis before this - I have
to find late letters from home at our Hd. qrs.
I saw Gen. Grant this morning & talked a little with

3/24/1865

From: C. H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-170

On board Steamer
"Brady"
On James River - for
Ft. Monroe, Virginia

On board Steamer "Brady"
On James River - for Ft. Monroe [Virginia]
March 24, 1865

My dear Mother

You knew of my intention of visiting the Army of the Potomac. I arrived last Sunday & now Friday am on my way to North Carolina. I saw Bv't Maj Gen. Miles who used to be Lieutenant with me on Otis' Staff, slept in same bed with him one night. Found a good many old friends but devoted my time chiefly to my business - that of procuring officers for my Regiment. Dexter Howard I expect will be one of my Captains. I get two or three officers from his Regt (17th) ditto 1st Me. Heavy Artillery & 20th Maine. Day before yesterday I went up river from City Point to visit the Army of the James. Saw the celebrated Dutch Gap Canal. The water now runs through it and I should think it might easily be made passable for boats.

I was the guest of Brig. Gen. Birney who commands a Division of Negro troops. Gen. B. seemed to take pleasure in going about to show me the condition of his command and in giving me all the information he could about the raising &c of Colored troops. I found a College acquaintance on his staff - Kendall of N. H. Capt Atwood, his quarter master, also used to be with us in 2nd Div, 2nd Corps, but he is now away on Leave.

I saw Rev. Mr. Fuller of Hallowell this morning, also before on Sunday. He is a delegate to the Christian Commission. He thinks he will be my Chaplain. I could not well find his equal for that place.

I was happily surprised to meet Mr. <Sumner> of Boston at City Point, who came through the Savannah Campaign with us as an agent of the C.C. He is with me on the boat going down to our Army. So I have the most agreeable company.

We change boats at Ft. Monroe & may be obliged to wait over night for a boat for Newbern. I expect to find the Army near Goldsboro. Will stay at Hd. qrs. only a day or two I think & then go to Beaufort. Have not heard from the latter place since I left.

Perhaps I will add something further if I stay over night at Ft. Monroe.

Love to all at home. Your Affectionate Son
C. H. Howard

Fort Monroe - Frid. Evening.

As I anticipated we (Arthur Lawrence & I) find that we must wait till 10 A.M. tomorrow before we can go on. We go by Steamboat to Norfolk & thence through a Canal into the Sound & to Newbern. This is gratifying as we both feared the passage outside would be very rough as the winds are very strong & have been for several days.

I am at the C.C. rooms. It is so much more agreeable to me than staying the miserable hotels they have at Military Posts. Lawrence & I visited the inside of the Fortress this afternoon. It is a significant Fort built of granite & earth. There is a gravel road around upon the rampart. There are several - some half dozen - of the immense 15 inch Columbiads and many smaller. The houses in the fort look very comfortable, the grounds pleasant. We witnessed a Dress Parade by a Regular battalion, the officers appearing in the old Regular Army Epaulettes, a fine band in showy uniform. Some few officers & ladies were sitting upon settees under the trees and on piazzas as they are wont to do at West Point. I suppose you have got letters from Otis before this. I hope to find late letters from home at our Hd. qrs.

I saw Gen. Grant this morning & talked a little with [him]. He knew me & sent his regards to Otis. Said he had heard nothing officially from Gen. Sherman since the 11th at Fayetteville but that he thought an Army had got Goldsboro, judging from the Rebel accts.

Tell Lizzie I found Lt John French (Prof. French's son) at Grant's Hd. qrs. with Gen Ingall's, Chief Qr. Mr. Gen Grant gave me some despatches for Gen. Sherman which will facilitate my progress in finding him, getting transportation, &c.

We have had it quite cold today, so that I needed to wear my overcoat & we have a coal fire in the stove in the little cabin of the C.C. where I am writing.

Pray for me, mother, that I may have all the Grace requisite for my new duties & responsibilities. I close for Prayers,

Your loving Son
C. H. Howard

Ad. gr. Amy Fenn,
N. C. (Monday)
Goldboro, Mar 29 1865

Dear Mother

just arrived &
find Otis well - Expecting
Lizzie via Baltimore & Ft.
Monroe Boat to Newbern.
Otis hopes to meet her at
Ft. Monroe - I am well
& will remain several days.

Yours in haste with
great Affection - (Otis got
no mail) for Don
C. H. Howard

3/27/1865

From: C. H. Howard

To: Mother

CHH-171

Hd. qrs. Army Tenn.
Goldsboro N. C.

Hd. qrs. Army Tenn.
Goldsboro N. C., Mar 27 1865 (Monday)

Dear Mother

Just arrived & find Otis well. Expecting Lizzie via Baltimore & Ft. Monroe Boat to Newbern, Otis hopes to meet her at Ft. Monroe. I am well & will remain several days.

Yours in haste with great affection. (Otis got no mail) Your Son
C. H. Howard