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Sittes is writing his report in a correctlyshorris of night at Columbia - the I Stark about the name of a certain bolinel. burning Thicking of the city. It seems there was is is now here - having just lead a new order \$554 un. Thomas which make some trons. a bright located in Town and the then got 1 1 may here of hereads from the Army to that possession of some lequor - they of there 23 2 Den, Horner. Otis disting to love became down and unmanapable before givin good offices . But we have to the responsible officers were avour of the fact. ". Acnowledge that we have many mich Jour Cotton had been set on fire in the town & and ren therman soutently thinks it and your kindings might have cought fire for the good of the whole army to suthat from the burning bottom but soon the infunited & a lette pour the Army of the termessee toadd wedies were spreading the flower - how thirds to the Army of Rapin on the Sept thing of the matine at was consumed. Otis this We all regret to love Major new. Mower and Stoff were up all night, thousands of people were therma with the Street, in wild definis. Brig, hen. Walcott - The latter was evented at the monorable botte on the Savanuch When have the was once get on fire ampaign. WE have good Generals to later Att. takies were dreadfully temped. But the places of them who leave . But you Quill not attempt to picture what I did not cannot be enterted & mucho, I in these ace - The suffering must have been appalling . his

4/1/1865	From: C. H. Howard	To: Mother	
CHH-172	Head-Quarters Dep't and Army of the Tennessee Goldsboro N. C.		

Head-Quarters Dep't and Army of the Tennessee [Letterhead] Goldsboro N. C. April 1st 1865

My dear Mother

It is Saturday evening and we have just arisen from the supper table. I do not expect to be here much longer and I will pen you a letter - one more before leaving the army of the Tennessee.

What a variety of scenes and circumstances has been mine since my letters first began to date from these Hd. Qrs. Before Atlanta, Georgia. Sometimes I cannot help regretting my absence from the Army during the Carolina campaign. It makes me feel a little like a stranger and interloper when I hear them talking over the adventures and experiences of the march as I do at almost every meal and did at supper tonight. They were talking of the night at Columbia - the burning & sacking of the city. It seems there was a brigade located in town and the men got possession of some liquor. Many of them became drunk and unmanageable before the responsible officers were aware of the fact. Some cotton had been set on fire in the town and some buildings might have caught fire from the burning cotton but soon the infuriated soldiers were spreading the flames. Two thirds of the entire city was consumed. Otis & his staff were up all night. Thousands of people were thrown into the streets in wild despair. The house where Otis was once got on fire & the ladies were dreadfully terrified. But I will not attempt to picture what I did not see. The suffering must have been appalling. Otis is writing his report in a room opposite to this. Just this moment opened the door to ask about the name of a certain Colonel.

So now here, having just read a new order of Gen. Sherman's which makes some transfers of Generals from this Army to that of Gen. Slocum. Otis dislikes to lose his good officers. But we have to acknowledge that we have <noboody sick> and Gen. Sherman evidently thinks it for the good of his whole army to subtract a little from the Army of the Tennessee to add to the Army of Georgia on the Left Wing. We all regret to lose Major Gen. Mower and Brig. Gen. Walcott. The latter was wounded at the Griswoldville battle on the Savannah campaign. We have good Generals to take the places of those who leave. But you cannot be interested so much as I in these purely military matters.

Maj. Whittlesey started yesterday to meet Lizzie. We have not heard a word from her though Otis has telegraphed three times & asked for answer. I hope she is on the way & not far off for this Army will move by week from next Monday - about the time you get this letter. I desire to remain & see Lizzie & Otis says she may go with me down to visit Beaufort if she will or would like to. I wish she would & Mrs. Saxton would be delighted to have her, but I have little hopes she would consent to be so long absent from the little ones except for the sake of being with Otis. We expect she will bring Guy & Grace along or at least one of them. Guy has become so much of a man he might I should judge be of assistance to his mother in traveling.

It is a beautiful moonlight night - all our doors & windows open - sitting out on the verandah a good deal. Shrubbery in the front garden all in leaf, bright & thrifty. The trees rapidly clothing themselves in their Spring attire. Peach trees all decked in luxuriant pink blossoms. They remind of the first part of April 1862 when we first landed upon the Virginia peninsula. I used to notice the Peach trees there because they were the first I had seen in bloom. We landed at Ship Point April 4th 1862. War has had a good deal more of romance lately or is it a change in my feelings! It may be a calousing of my heart towards the disagreeable. But kind Providence has given me many changes for the better since then. What a blessing to be transferred to the West to see so much of our great country and share in the brilliant successes which have not only cheered us but filled the hearts of our people at home with joy.

Capt. Gilbreth has gone home & probably will not return in season for the coming Campaign but Lt. Freeman who used to be with us in the Eleventh Corps & afterwards in the 4th & had left the service has returned & will do Otis good service as he is attached & is a very willing & untiring officer. Capt. Cole from Gen Sherman's staff has also joined us & will also act as Aide de Camp. So I do not expect to be greatly missed. Otis says my absence during the Carolina Campaign has helped to wean him but it is hard, very hard for me to leave.

He has applied again for Col. Fullerton of the old 4th Corps – the adjutant General. He applied before & failed. I do hope he will get Fullerton as he suits Otis precisely – diligent, respectful, attentive, accurate and always gentlemanly in his deportment. Fullerton never takes of liquor & that can not be said of many of the staff we have had since coming to this Army.

I think Harry Stinson – now Major – will go along – though not able to do duty still he may be able to accompany the Army & his company & constancy of affection for Otis would be a comfort and his judgment is always good where he deems himself competent to judge & he will not pronounce an opinion unless he does think himself qualified to do so.

Tomorrow is the Sabbath. We are to have service here. This is not a very elegant house but is very fair. Our staff occupy four besides Maj. Whittlesey will probably not go along this campaign. He may possibly take a negro Regt. Fullerton arrives – Otis will have staff enough, otherwise I think Maj. Whittlesey will probably go.

I hear from Beebe that six companies of my Regt. Have been organized – so it goes on Lt. Sampson of the Signal Corps & who has been with us for two or three campaigns, is writing for Otis this evening. He was along <thro> South & North Carolina & so can help remember as I could not. I am studying Tactics a little – not much as there is so much else to do. I sell my fine bay mare - "Mary Falkner" to Otis for \$200 & another horse which he had left at Beaufort in a disabled condition.

I hope to find a letter or letters from you at B. and one from Gracie & possibly from Guy. Tell Gracie I wish her to write me whether she remembers to pray for those poor little colored children who are just learning fro the first time what it means to pray & who is their Saviour & learning to sing his praises. They promised to pray for "Gracie Howard", "Gen. Howard's little girl" as they say they do every night for Gen. Howard who was in at their Sabbath school & talked to them while he was at Beaufort.

I hope Isabella is with you, especially if Lizzie has left to visit us. Isabella is as good as a daughter it seems to me. If she is with you please give her my kindest remembrances & wishes for her happiness. I regretted not seeing her last winter. Lizzie writes that "Wash" is doing well. Tell him I am pleased at this. Sam sends his regards to "Wash".

Your loving son C. H. Howard

P.S. I am glad Roland will assist to carry on the farm. I should think he would do better than any one else. Do not arrange so that you will have to work hard, dear mother. Why should you? C.H.H

hen therman was to more Aniday but the news from Richmond may change his hlans . I have thank, bower, that it will defer his movement I it is a first and there just an as Johnson Remains with a mall any techness him t Raleyh & aught tobe latter care of in order that The Confederacy may beam to finishing blow to I was wory to her you were without a girl - Hope you have Abhund on before this - Oh to many poor white tolack gives as Home seen storing for work of unplayment - It seems too bud you there are suffering for help - There were a kay no. of night - a hugen the was then if to provide them with huge I beakport.

man and the second of the seco 3 - rived here by Steamer pour A. & monroe & morehead City. Seft Ob. at newberne n. C. Thursday night Laking the Cans at midnight and Steading monhead lit about 21/26.4. I I met May. Huson rothers of an Sereme Ad. que pour pour Sean. I fort J. C. they say my Regiment is fuce I am important to get Sits it. Deebe is doing well. Sleft Morehead City (which by the way 1900 no city at all , and a few hours, and a miserable pitel) about 4 Sa. m. henry first one board the Merme I stay a try . Those two going men dont me young down to later com S missions in my Regement. Jes-Seerday tran delayed all day at At.

monne but camed find no bout direct to Part Royal or my point South of Milungton. But this morning to bug que Chargin I find by the paper that the Arago the best Steamer plying techness her fork & Weton bead and which I knew was to leave n. Y. yesterday is to stop of It. mourse to take on some distinguished personages from Walnutin going down & The It Sumpter cletration . to if I had Known that remained at H. Mourve I might have laten pussage direct, saved all This time, lecures a good terme, and arriver in the South Deport. ment in time to witness the grand celebration of It Sumpter. - Int There was no way for me to have known of the apportunity as I was not known

Um. Manancen was to anon at H. monroe when I left for I will not cry over fill - mick but will attend thurch here Irday - then go on to kil, and wait for the next teamer which will certainly go in a week's time. Oleft Otis the night he got Siggin's letter raying the Caned not come . We had com down to hewberne to meet her - Maj, Whitterey had come to Balamore to escort her to newberne. It of course as were much disappointed. Thee of Sugar had not tarted till the day her letter left the woned not probably have had much time with the as the letter arriver thursday night & Oto can to return to Goldsboro monday next.

4/9/1865	From: C. H. Howard	To: Mother
CHH-173	Baltimore, [Md]	

Baltimore, Apr 9, 1865

My dear Mother

I have just arrived here by Steamer from Ft. Monroe & Morehead City. Left Otis at Newberne N.C. Thursday night taking the cars at midnight and reaching Morehead City about 2 ½ a.m.

I met Maj. Stinson & others of our reserve Hd. qrs. just from Beaufort S.C. They say my Regiment is full & I am impatient to get to it. Beebe is doing well. I left Morehead City (which by the way is no city at all, only a few houses and a miserable hotel) about 4 a.m. being first on board the Steamer by a tug. I have two young men with me going down to take commissions in my Regiment.

Yesterday I was delayed all day at Ft. Monroe but could find no boat direct to Port Royal or any point South of Wilmington. But this morning to my great chagrin I find by the paper that the Arago (the best Steamer plying between New York & Hilton Head and which I knew was to leave N. Y. yesterday) is to stop at Ft. Monroe to take on some distinguished personages from Washington going down to the Ft. Sumpter celebration. So if I had known & had remained at Ft. Monroe I might have taken passage direct, saved all this time, secured a good Steamer, and arrived in the South Department in time to witness the grand celebration at Ft. Sumpter.

But there was no way for me to have known of this opportunity as it was not known at Ft. Monroe when I left so I will not "cry over spilt-milk" but will attend church here today, then go on to N.Y. and wait for the next Steamer which will certainly go in a week's time.

I left Otis the night he got Lizzie's letter saying she could not come. We had come down to Newberne to meet her. Maj Whittlesey had come to Baltimore to escort her to Newberne. So of course we were much disappointed. Still if Lizzie had not started till the day her letter left shw would not probably have had much time with Otis as the letter arrived Thursday night & Otis was to return to Goldsboro Monday next.

Gen. Sherman was to move Tuesday but the news from Richmond may change his plans. I hardly think, however, that it will defer his movement as Johnson remains with a small army between him & Raleigh & ought to be taken care of in order that the Confederacy may receive its finishing blow.

I was sorry to hear you were without a girl. Hope you have obtained one before this. Oh so many poor white & black girls as I have seen starving for want of employment, it seems too bad you should be suffering for help. There were a large no. of poor white refugees on the boat last night. A subscription was taken up to provide them with supper & breakfast.

Please tell Grace & Guy I hope to find letters from them at Beaufort, S.C. Those little colored children will wish to know if I have heard from Grace Howard and whether she will pray for them as they do for her father. Remember me to "Wash". I am glad he is doing so well. How does he get on with the reading?

I have written to Rowland to mail here. May write in N.Y.

Your loving Son C. H. Howard

in the and when the themes go a pair of anyle theets. Non In Join fetting to be a lux. unous weddies - Sungthing 20 to my lost here in the keyt, The negroes leave sarchy surgh. And better than ing Kept of Whites in camp some length 1 time - are respectful gent Juldiely in their demenning writing but the Heaven go Africens seem to be wree dis hotte to aldon I count - fored - H. bol. Beeke is allow our to leen without a treasure for an office - I a word to you. I had the great tatifection Expect to get my arms tommon. Went to Holton Head tour about Them besterray - I here sugard of attending the grand cele_ He un of a horse for the forage bratin of Charliston and Then to need hot him about bruging Lam dome here on hunday - this again - The . Lexten was all It my Parade tonight - I had fall day but it was quit of Re. m. Teck (Billet) quite an and with the lattath mous all gutteman & offer the weining proger - This last Show Statistic as a customory over sine - The defins in tom taking hims the me. Fulle armon - Ven anget to hear the Bry Robinson of heat, thice

who has been out here for Some time as freaking agent was on boar this list the bas a 2 chost mote of min & now his here with her hus -land who is a trater. Inf. R. gene us a lermont her sany bymens clust all the way - Then were Two This car broad which has here Visiting Mars, Sen, Sayten at Whateston Whom ghad got acquainted with there - ac-Companying the part to that hump--ter - Escating the purgest thethet of com Miss hette Baldini. They are theying at Sovanneh with their father where is here for his health - I found four good letter pour Rowland

here on moloning on pom Jon I a that an pom Sigin in which the alls min laves mon - This is anything lent complementing - I wonder of I do belong to that species of notodie - Down Tithing in my tent - whe accupant -It is nothing hers for and to live in a tent but here Jam monarch fall I survey - Herna new desk _ new cort bed stead husk matters and date pullow a pair of decent fellow - cons from how would be very accep. latter and by the way of four go to Hollowie Lyon Mr. Julle Commont I sthed him for my Choplain town him next him to him me a hundle. I Would like 1/2 day good linen thits

4/21/1865	From: C. H. Howard	To: Mother
CHH-174	Hd. qrs. 128th U. S. C. T. Beaufort S.C.	

Hd. qrs. 128th U. S. C. T. Beaufort S.C. Apr 21 1865

My dear Mother

I feel a little tired and not much writing but the Steamers go North so seldom I cannot allow one to leave without a word to you.

I had the great satisfaction of attending the grand celebration at Charleston and then came down here on Sunday - taking all day but it was quiet & not unlike the Sabbath on our little boat "Enoch Dean".

Prof Robinson of Kents Hill who has been out here for some time as Treasury Agent was on board & his sister who was a school mate of mine & now lives here with her husband who is a trader. Prof. R gave us a sermon & we sang hymns almost all the way. There were two young ladies from Cleveland Ohio on board who had been visiting Mrs. Gen. Saxton at Charleston & whom I had got acquainted with there, accompanying the party to Fort Sumpter - escorting the youngest & prettiest of course - Miss Nettie Baldwin. They are staying at Savannah with their father who is here for his health.

I found four good letters from Rowland here, one enclosing one from you & a short one from Lizzie in which she calls me "a ladies man." This is anything but complimentary. I wonder if I do belong to that species of nobodies.

I am sitting in my tent - sole occupant. It is nothing new for me to live in a tent but here I am "monarch" of all I survey. Have a new desk, new cot bedstead husk mattress and ditto pillow, a pair of decent pillow-cases from home would be very acceptable and by the way if you go to Hallowell before Mr. Fuller comes out (I expect him for my Chaplain some time next month) perhaps you can get him to bring me a bundle. I would like ½ doz good linen shirts if I have them at home and a pair of single sheets. You see I am getting to be a luxurious soldier.

Everything is to my task here in the Regt. The negroes learn easily enough. Drill better than any Regt. of whites in camp same length of time. Are respectful & quite soldierly in their demeanor. Officers seem to be well disposed. Lt. Col. Beebe is a treasure for an officer. I expect to get my arms tomorrow. Went to Hilton Head to see about them yesterday. I have enjoyed the use of a horse for the forage so need not hurry about buying again.

Gen. Saxton was out at my Parade tonight. I had Rev. Mr. Peck (Baptist) quite an old gentleman to offer the evening prayer. This last I have established as a customary exercise. The Chaplains in town taking turns till Mr. Fuller arrives. You ought to hear the men singing tonight. They all seem very happy & sing their own peculiar religious songs. The whole Regt. Seemed to be singing.

All the roses, orange blossoms & many other flowers are in full bloom so the air is loaded with fragrance. Our hearts are still sorrowful for our national calamity. May the Lord sanctify this & all his providential dealings to our welfare as a nation & as individuals.

I expect Dexter Howard down here soon to take a company.

Yr. Affectionate Son C. H. Howard

Hitney of the little the moral will being of my men and the Community-My men seen very haffy to-Junerally my Religions Long. I intended to attend a D. . for lotors Children at the Smith Houtston Evas introduced by bapt toxton today but a paper about mentering sof my Regt. who formally belongs matter, concerning which there is to some Ref. Maje W. tild me drapeement Jour alling between g be was from farming to Monen your General Sayten & Deveral Littlefred I that he was going to that for home (the latter mutered in my Rest) was Smonon , Ha called again this sent me by ren . I. I accepted my Svering - or rather lover, at Parade time till it was too late rubdwas I come into my last afternordy. s worse it greatly unfitted ne for any Rev. Hur. Harris, Port- bluplain, hunday Service - I sut I rode dome lit here - said a ferrowords to the Kegt. is 4 miles Thell the better for the tide I the time of reflection on bone Strugt & Afered a progen. It was the only lervice today as hows -back - made my stown for dreaffort - my the S. Rhool - lade beale in Time I derappointed in the preacher I for Jarade - I wish Maj. W, wower foin had Thought England. Mr. H. your church - He thinks of leaving the It is bretty hard for the to relinquish my Rnew MajiWe Hold me he was " ald purposes of being a morfel minister but a laboration - I read the Major some of your recent letters (recent-" for the present - Int Ella will sugust to

by come into my furnin but Shat very later. Thave lend them your agood many times and hope I will get more like them soon, the Majer, it seems, has become La professor of Celigin mice fina the army . That agond talk with bin . He makes in the bypert terms of my mijor who was sa baft. in his Rest. all that There der of Major Danielson Records with these Holements. He In faithful them. He is a blis tran I will be in the Bore yourhally with me I hant. It. led. Buch her tuck a promy bother Sthother Than had such good & finables with anto him I that he seems to approve of Normany Keliginas Exercise and Thration measure I adopt though The is not a Keliginas man. i the never wars profame language.

We have as tisuel a fin Gool breeze this mening but it was appressively hot this morning. I wonter of I sent you a photopoph view of the Barnwell Cantohon . I winted there gesterty , It is 10 miles destant - but toberty is my play-day - We have but one doill in the morning. (how the war is over I often have a langing to go borne and be with those I fore - This a hard world is it not? in which we are 20 constituted as to have but gens and must be reported soon from those . I am growing dd I think rupedy - Wish I raylt not love my youth ful goon of beeling but think I am fert doing so. I hope won to get the military fort among well here that I can devote myself a lette to other though pertoning to

CHH-175

Hd. qrs. Camp Stanton Beaufort S.C.

Beaufort S.C. Hd. Qrs. Camp Stanton May 7, 1865

Dear brother [Rowland B. Howard]

I was surprised this morning by a call from Maj. Whitney of 33d U.S.C. He was introduced by Capt Saxton of my Regt. Who formerly belonged to some Regt. Maj. W. told me he was from Farmington & knew you & that he was going to start for home tomorrow. He called again this evening - or rather was at Parade & came into my tent afterwards. Rev. Mr. Harris, Post Chaplain here, said a few words to the Regt. Tonight & offered a prayer. It was the only Service today as I was disappointed in the preacher I had thought engaged. Mr. H. knew Maj. W. & told me he was a Christian. I read the Major some of your recent letters (recently come into my possession but not very late date). I have read them over a good many times and hope I will get more like them soon. The Major, it seems, has become a professor of Religion since joining the Army. I had a good talk with him. He speaks in the highest terms of my Major who was a Capt. In his Regt. All that I have seen of Major Danielson accords with these statements. He is faithful & true. He is a Christian & will be in the more sympathy with me I trust. Lt. Col. Beebe has so pious a father & mother & has had so good principles instilled into him that he seems to approve of every Religious exercise and Christian measure I adopt. Though he is not a Religious man, he never uses profane language.

We have as usual a fair cool breeze this evening but it was oppressively hot this morning.

I wonder if I sent you a photograph view of "The Barnwell Plantation". I visited there yesterday. It is 10 miles distant, but Saturday is my play-day. We have but one drill in the morning.

Now the War is over I often have a longing to go home and be with those I love. This is a hard world (is it not?) In which we are so constituted as to love but few and must be separated even from those. I am growing old I think rapidly. Wish I might not lose my youthful glow of feelings but think I am fast doing so. I hope soon to get the military post running so well here that I can devote myself a little to other things pertaining to the moral well being of my men and the Community.

My men seem very happy tonight, singing by moonlight. They generally sing Religious songs. I intended to attend a S.S. for Colored Children at the "Smith Plantation" today but a paper about "mustering matters" concerning which there is disagreement & quarreling between General Saxton & General Littlefield (who later mustered in my Regt.) was sent me by Gen. S. & occupied my time till it was too late & what was worse it greatly unsettled my for any Sunday Service. But I rode down (it is 4 miles) & felt the better for the ride & the time of reflection on horseback. Made my excuse for disappointing the S. School, rode back in time for Parade. I wish Maj. W. would join your church. He thinks of leaving the service & then returning here for business.

It is pretty hard for me to relinquish my old purposes of being a Gospel minister, but Providence will direct & the way is clear enough for the present.

Isn't Ella well enough to write me a few lines just to say "How de'?" as our sable brethren would express it. I wonder if you have black berries three times a day as we do & Oh you ought to snuff the fragrances of the large white magnolia blossoms. The orange blossoms are gone now and the scarlet pomegranate flowers have taken their places in the gardens.

Tell Ella I will either get homesick or "get a girl" if she doesn't write me pretty soon.

With much love. Yr. brother C. H. Howard

P.S. You must send my letters to mother when you can. C. H. H.

P.S. No. 2. I send you by Maj. W. a brick from Sumpter which I brought away in the memorable 14th April. The "Barnwell Plantation" is one of the wonders of Port Royal Island!

friends. I imagine this is in Manie by this time and that his dear lettle formily is very happy. I am Eager to know where this will go now. I do to much wish he might come to this D'sportment. I think he caned do great good dome here and find work worthing his ambition as a Christian We-- die, and putriot. They have tried to get my degt. ordered to Savannah but - Gen. Forton has this for prevented it a baland there wishes it to make aha brink for buiself to Commond & Sen. Wil more while now commandy the Dift. is desposed to gratify him. They two of len. Forstow is Regiments had been Completed - the other is under my Command here - He was in hopes to finish at least two more and then get admitted anto.

Camp Stanton 9.6. May 11 1865

My dear mother Thank plenty to bury myself about this swening but I am in the mood to write to you and will indulge my self, It is about 81/2 P.m. John" have just rounded to silence the many singing voices of the men - They are as happy is any people tould be, opfrankty. Wis a full mom trught - Itas been Intensely warmen port of the time today but aur redeening breeze sprang up as usual this afternoon and It is now coal and delightful. My officers are still miging and the hormony of their good. strong male brices is pleasant upon

The Enering breeze. I have taken a homeback with mice Parade galloping, trothing and walking my horse according to my thoughtythinking past and of husiness always mening a fallof - Reflecting or med-- etaling of the abrent allows my horse to stacken down to a walk and trothing is to set horse and Vides when the mind comes back to present peenes. Inode down along the beat of I seenfort hivernothing could be more pleasant-Gras gone dont an hour and went 31/2 mich. Thok = miles. I have the use of a fine longe bay horse by furnishing the own with Keeping" for two. My health has not been better for yours then it is now . I am as toushed that gave to well. It. bed. Beech is unwell a good deal. He will have a Seane

This furnier . I thall mins his Companionship sounde. You know his the only old men- mote I hen here, Dister Howard gave me a pleasant surprise by appearing before Breakfast last hundray morning. Hom present appearances the will and - Geed admirably with his Company. I are glad to have to forthful an Agicen. I hope all my offices will arrive won - Iwas disappointed about my bhaplain hu. Fullor - had Greed a blipfin much . I believe him the most important personage or that he ought to be an a Requirent of this Kind. The degula mil Heamer has varled (sesterday) so this letter may not go for a week. I get to few tetters that I bear I will love the rechining of Sweng they at home and all muy

of Albert Patter. D'elie units that he has been adauted to the Bar. I am pleased that he has been so dilligent and successful. the will now be write for - perhops before this letter. Lass you are alone - Hope tora will Keep you Company for a while as Drelie suggests that the may . had Wash is doing So will - tell him that firm don't and me as will as he used to. The oud Albert are learning to lead quit well - Does Wash have and backer now Grace has gone. With much love - Ir fou W.t.

the Regular Ormy as a Brijede - himself the Brigade Commander. I have very little what is decided to be done with my Regement, If it is mustered out dwice counder It on indication of Movidence that I am not to be a voldier, If not and I maded in disciplining it - Officers and men and can be constant haprovenent and a prospect of its continuance then I think I may legard it as an indi-- cotion that I am designed for this work and bod letter persevere in it - In any case I mean to be superior to cir-= Cremitances and Contented with my tot. My sentinels are Calling out of o'clock, all's will - I go to bed always by 10. as for if at fine in the morning.

This Evening Cheplani Harris in if to offer the prayer at Iren Parade and held a proyer-meeting with the men for half an hour a little more at my Rohrob test. I have some new beaches there now - to facilitate the leaving to lerte. Here I was interrupted by my adjutant bringing a lot of papers to be signed and now it is my hed trice. I have too tents reporatest by a kind of verandal bormed ley a tent-fly - My floor is dont two best pour the ground and sitends across to my lear tent. When it is very home in the lents I can bet ander the tent - fly the my bar text remes as a place of returnent of I choose, I have a comfortable busk matters and hask fullow - By the way I have not get thanked you for

the pillow - cases . Just what I wanted , I had some poor ones and they will now some to. preserve these finting them under neith. I reaginged Siegie i hand writing . - We are still having black beries three time per day, Our Cook is plenhid to use Ella's word, the is not very gamy I don't which living in a tent. I fear we may not be able to keep her. How nome is aunt Sallie . Imile non add a good night flod bless my dear mother - how her lowing son 6.H. Howard

P.T. Saturday mom. May 13 - My letter comed not go before: Can will and everything prosperous. Dute H. is will. Reich letter, pron Rowlens & D'ellin lost night. Rowland wrote the sad new of the death

5/10/1865	From: C. H. Howard	To: Mother
CHH-176	Camp Stanton Beaufort S. C.	

"Camp Stanton" Beaufort S. C. May 10 1865

My dear Mother

I have plenty to busy myself about this evening but I am in the mood to write to you and will indulge myself. It is about 8 ½ P.M. "Taps" have just sounded to silence the many singing voices of the men. They are as happy as any people could be, apparently. It is a full moon tonight. Has been intensely warm part of the time today but our redeeming breeze sprang up as usual this afternoon and it is now cool and delightful.

My officers are still singing and the harmony of their good strong male voices is pleasant upon the evening breeze. I have taken a horseback ride since Parade - galloping, trotting and walking my horse according to my thoughts, thinking fast and of business always insuring a gallop. Reflecting or meditating of the absent allows my horse to slacken down to a walk and trotting is to rest horse and rider when the mind comes back to present scenes. I rode down along the bank of Beaufort River, nothing could be more pleasant. I was gone about an hour and went 3 ½ miles & back - 7 miles. I have the use of a fine large bay horse by furnishing the owner with "keeping" for two.

My health has not been better for years than it is now. I am astonished that I am so well. Lt. Col. Beebe is unwell a good deal. He will have a Leave this Summer. I shall miss his companionship much. You know he is the only old mess mate I have here. Dexter Howard [a second cousin, the son of Warren Howard] gave me a pleasant surprise by appearing before Breakfast last Sunday morning. From present appearances he will succeed admirably with his company. I am glad to have so faithful an officer. I hope all my officers will arrive soon. I was disappointed about my Chaplain Mr. Fuller, and I need a Chaplain much. I believe him the most important personage or that he ought to be in a Regiment of this kind.

The regular mail Steamer has sailed (yesterday) so this letter may not go for a week. I get so few letters that I fear I will lose the reckoning of everything at home and all my friends. I imagine Otis is in Maine by this time and that his dear little family is very happy. I am eager to know where Otis will go now. I do so much wish he might come to this Department. I think he could do great good down here and find work worthy his ambition as a Christian Soldier and patriot.

They have tried to get my Regt. ordered to Savannah but Gen. Saxton has thus far prevented it. A Colonel there wishes it to make up a brigade for himself to command & Gen. Gillmore who now commands the Dept. is disposed to gratify him. Only two of Gen. Saxton's Regiments had been completed - the other is under my command here. He was in hopes to finish at least two more and then get admitted into the Regular Army as a Brigade, himself the Brigade commander. I care very little what is decided to be done with my Regiment. If it is mustered out I will consider it an indication of Providence that I am not to be a soldier. If not and I succeed in disciplining it - officers and men and can see constant improvement and a prospect of its continuance then I think I may regard it as an indication that I am designed for this work and had better persevere in it. In any case I mean to be superior to circumstances and contented with my lot.

My sentinels are calling out "9 o'clock", "all's well". I go to bed always by 10 as I am up at five in the morning. This evening Chaplain Harris was up to offer the prayer at Dress Parade and held a prayermeeting with the men for half an hour or little more at my school-tent. I have some new benches there now - to facilitate the learning to write.

Here I was interrupted by my adjutant bringing a lot of papers to be signed and now it is my bed time.

I have two tents separated by a kind of verandah formed by a tent-fly. My floor is about two feet from the ground and extends across to my rear tent. When it is very warm in the tents I can sit under the tent-

fly, and my rear tent serves as a place of retirement if I choose. I have a comfortable husk mattress and husk pillow. By the way I have not yet thanked you for the pillow-cases. Just what I wanted. I had some poor ones and they will now serve to preserve these putting them underneath. I recognized Lizzie's hand-writing.

We are still having black-berries three times per day. Our cook is "splendid" to use Ella's expressive word. She is not very young & doesn't relish living in a tent. I fear we may not be able to keep her. Her name is "Aunt Sallie."

I will now add a "good night" & God bless my dear mother. From her loving son C. H. Howard

P.S. Saturday morn. May 13. My letter could not go before. Am well and everything prosperous. Dexter H. is well. Rec'd letters from Rowland & Dellie last night. Rowland wrote the sad news of the death of Albert Patten [Rowland's brother-in-law, David Albert Patten, a ship captain who died at sea]. Dellie writes that he has been admitted to the Bar. I am pleased that he has been so diligent and successful. He will soon be with you, perhaps before this letter. Says you are alone. Hope Rosa [Rosa Ellen Deane, Dellie's future wife] will keep you company for a while as Dellie suggests that she may. Glad "Wash" is doing so well. Tell him that "Jim" don't suit me as well as he ("Wash") used to. "Jim" and "Albert" are learning to read quite well. Does Wash have any teacher now Grace has gone.

With much love, Yr Son C.H.H.

caned job The Hore 1865 to some one due to Ja in with him. I would sell at to make a party provided I could birst well the Upland reperately but not withe I could do this . I but Angue Whatt Closed the basgain for the other land - If they did not I do not core becauce It is part on wall to own that too of we can. not differ of the thole. I wish to let or leave The form of believe for age with me that it is best to No 20 - Probably less down. = age would be down of it Sen he let of the halve,. There is a temptohim to make money of from it

When it is hered out. product for Tell Oxcor (if he call,) that Micers of Colored Regt, I Acompatisto : find are now appointed April or May 1865 by War Deft - ofthe hasting in Exanning Boord itat only 2nd Scentenent, ne al-I hope you ville be where for can sujing Kelipions working gotter privileges this mute without sylwing your health. Till me about the learning I your stay at sat ha Prog that I may have great histom tobundant frace for my new restouth duties - Done, as Even, Mour loning Sou C.A.Hewand Lid you receive two Joho - " Logicfuls Intend wit to gou "

10/15/1865	From: C. H. Howard	To: [Mother]	
CHH-178	[Beaufort S. C.]		

[missing first 4 pages]

[page] (5)

could get Tho J Rose or some one else to go in with him. I would sell it to such a party provided I could first sell the Upland but not until I could do this. I trust Sprague & Pratt closed the bargain for the other land. If they did not I do not care because it is just as well to own that too if we cannot dispose of the whole.

I wish to let or lease the farm & believe you agree with me that it is best to do so. Probably less damage would be done if it can be let at the halves.

There is a temptation to make money off from it when it is hired out.

Tell Oscar (if he calls) that Officers of Colored Regts I find are now appointed by War Dept - after passing an Examining Board; but only 2nd Lieutenants are allowed.

I hope you will be where you can enjoy Religious worship & other privileges this winter without exposing your health.

Tell me about the remainder of your stay at Easton. Pray that I may have great wisdom & abundant Grace for my new & responsible duties. I am, as ever,

Your loving son C. H. Howard

P.S. Did you receive two photographs I ordered sent to you? C. H. H.

[written in a different hand:]

Probably from Beaufort, S.C., April or May.

[Note: This letter was probably written in the fall of 1865, for three reasons. First, the references to selling or renting their land and Sprague and Pratt is being discussed in the fall. Second, the reference to the upcoming winter would place it also in the fall. Third, the request for more information on his mother's trip to Easton corresponds well with the letter written 10/23/1865, in which he thanks his mother for the first letter since she returned from Easton. Thus I assume the date is the week before, or 10/15/1865. Charles' request for prayer for his new responsibilities is a reference to his becoming the commanding officer of the 124th U.S. Colored Troop Regiment, which occurred in the spring of 1865.]

hind a stat fathatt suring at the leach them how to stand weat and call no men master and of the same time has to over wholesome fules and lows, and regulate all their hebit, - most A them have learned have to theip s-tim last Labbath surving at the then person I dothe, neat and & receipt of nine 191 good bat Clean and present quite a letters. Our frond yourself, our manh, appearance as They Come from Kowland - One porter Brouger and pust before her set for doss-Strong oto Mr. Fuller of Hallowell At the lest more independent Yours was as lot as May "int. parade and Evening prayer. afternion dries - battalin drill prou I had gone down to the Hove with prove the Ocean - But gesterday there was no air thing - the Country a plantation below put before hot and Though I was mounted and her - set to attend a Sobbatt Rehove Atterefor was dowenhot above the dust and heater growing Set the heat was for Colored Children - They are the Thather oppression - It is have that we ones whom this interested to Show no flomon breeze. I think Wash" will will liber much, I wist some anemage to in bein in getting in Early pototoes to. Bettle Grace about them but news or for this lade undouthite be at home got on answer. It's Min Boto mying them. I have had no petators Tume's school assisted by a Set lent - have had rome green peart nece of her Min Farming Langford Otis wroth prome Wasteryton or rather . I by some gentlemen unchy

from Beaufart. It is a deligtife grove of Sive Oaks draped with The long moss - pearling to this rection of our Country or rother to this Catitude . I stayed at the - taking pleasant strole, along the rever bank under the That of the oaks, magnotice, tothe beautiful trees. The Readers are in full floom - I remethed to the company that it were do mother good to see those hexariant Oleanders, they are as logias The group of lilos in our front gorden at heme and, I buything, taller - more Tree - like side then the blacs. The Your grant, an more in bloom - very pleate, in this region make beautiful scarlet. Meyou not progrant like the Oleonder, how -= love - The fear of letters When I returned was a magnif-

- 1 cent finale to the pleasant we. - miny at the hove _ Ithate I sent for a photograph of a tree on the chopel of this plan-When - Wis sometimes Creled the Old Fort from an old house time of a these fort the winth there , The fort a fidue of home very grateful Jessue Son - If I reflected too mudwhen mak, however, it wanted I fear make me descontanted here - Jam very glad Wash" is a good fifficient. Tell a better blace . He is doing good by helping my mother while I are Aending all my time teaching Colored men - I have to teach. them have to be men - teach There monnes, morals, how to think and talk , lead , write

5/23/1865	From: C. H. Howard	To: Mother	

CHH-177 Hd. qrs. Camp Stanton Beaufort S.C.

Hd. qrs. "Camp Stanton" Beaufort S.C. May 23 1865

My dear Mother

Imagine my satisfaction last Sabbath evening at the receipt of nine (9) good fat letters. One from yourself, one from Rowland. One from Bangor, one from Mr. Fuller of Hallowell, 3 from Otis & the rest more indifferent. Yours was as late as May 7th inst.

I had done down to "the Grove" a plantation below just before Sun-set to attend a Sabbath-School for Colored Children. They are the ones whom Otis interested so much. I wrote some message to little Grace about them but never got an answer. It is Miss Botume's school assisted by a niece of hers Miss Fannie Langdon & by some gentlemen usually from Beaufort. It is a delightful grove of Live Oaks draped with the long moss peculiar to this section of our Country or rather to this latitude. I stayed at Tea - taking pleasant strolls along the river bank under the shade of the oaks, magnolias, & other beautiful trees. The oleanders are in full bloom. I remarked to the company that it would do mother good to see these luxuriant oleanders. They are as large as the group of lilacs in our front garden at home and, if anything, taller - more tree-like even than the lilacs. The Pomegranates are now in bloom, very plenty in this region, such a beautiful scarlet. They are not fragrant like the oleanders however.

The feast of letters when I returned was a magnificent finale to the pleasant evening at "the Grove". I think I sent you a photograph of a tree or the chapel of this plantation. It is sometimes called the "Old Fort" from an old Spanish ruin of a shell fort still visible there.

Your letter gave me a picture of home very grateful I assure you. If I reflected too much upon such, however, it would I fear make me discontented here. I am very glad "Wash" is so good & efficient. Tell him I say he could not have a better place. He is doing good by helping my mother while I am spending all my time teaching colored men. I have to teach them how to be men, teach them manners, morals, how to think and talk, read, write, teach them how to stand erect and call no man master and at the same time how to obey wholesome rules and laws, and regulate all their habits. Most of them have learned how to keep their persons & clothes neat and clean and present quite a manly appearance as they come out just before Sun-set for dress-parade and evening prayer.

It is almost time for my afternoon drill - "battalion drill" from 3 till 5 p.m. We have a good breeze today from the Ocean. But yesterday there was no air stirring - the Sun was hot and though I was mounted and therefore was somewhat above the dust and heated ground yet the heat was rather oppressive. It is rare that we have no afternoon breeze.

I think "Wash" will not labor in vain in getting in early potatoes &c for Otis will undoubtedly be at home to enjoy them. I have had no potatoes yet but have had some green peas & expect to have potatoes in a few days.

Otis wrote from Washington or rather got Maj. Stinson to write for him. I got one letter by his own hand (Otis') from Petersburg. It seems he has been put in charge of the Freedman's bureau. He has not had much experience in such matters but good common sense and the power of attention & application to business which he possesses will soon make him master of the situation.

I wish he would make a tour of inspection to find out the need of the Freedmen & would come down here soon. I trust he will do so eventually. How rejoiced I should be to have him or any of the dear friends I prize most highly come here and see my splendid Regiment. I feel very proud of it but see work for a life-time, in relation to it, still before me – to make these men all good soldiers and the regiment a model one in all military matters and at the same time to prepare these men for good citizens. The moral and religious education must come chiefly from example. How much then I & the officers associated with me need grace from Above and to this end need the prayers of all Christians.

Rev. Mr. Fuller you will have learned cannot come as my Chaplain. I somewhat expect Rev. Mr. Noble, also of my Seminary Class, and lately preaching at Winthrop. He is now at City Point Va. Agent of C.C. I don't know now how you will be able to forward the shirts & sheets. It is not very important for me to have them. I fancied I would try & be a little civilized, after going without those badges of civilization for four (4) years.

With love to my brothers & their precious families. (I hope Dellie is with you).

Your affectionate Son C. H. Howard

P.S. I believe I have not enjoyed so good health as now for 8 or 10 years or perhaps never! My kind Heavenly Father be thanked for this and all his bounteous blessings! C. H. H.

P.S. No 2. Tell "Wash" that "Jim" is here & thinks he has to work very hard. Albert, Col. Beebe's man, is also an acquaintance of "Wash".

P.S. No. 3. I hope you will write me often this Summer, dear Mother.