

638 Tremont St.  
Mr. Webb

Boston May 14 1866

Dear Mother

You know  
I have spent the Sunday  
in Boston. Had pleasant  
calls upon two Class mates  
(Professors) Dr. Mitchell  
at Brimfield & upon Mrs.  
Whittelsey. Warm welcome  
at Capt Patten's. Good  
trip on the boat. Went  
Frank Johnson in the evening  
in walking from the Por-  
ter House to report to Mr.  
Walt after Breakfast.  
He took me to the Paymen-  
ton on my own business  
and then to the Magazine  
on his side. I was glad

To visit the latter - The  
grass is all very green this  
morning and the trees in leaf -  
In fact the vegetation here  
is as far advanced as it  
was at Philadelphia when  
you and I came through.

Went to Church with  
Frank in a.m. & dined at  
Mr. Werry's. They said they  
enjoyed your call and hoped  
it would be repeated. Frank  
asked me for one of your  
photographs (the Richmond one).

I wonder whether Aunt Ma.  
- she could not get us  
some of them. In Ev'g I  
heard Mr. Webb & enjoyed  
all the services much. He  
has a beautiful Church  
and the singing was ex-  
cellent. Got P.M. I took  
the little girls with me to

seen "Blind Tom" of  
 whom Dr. Chickering  
 told us you remember.  
 Sat. Ev'g attended the  
 close of a Sacred Concert  
 by the Handel & Haydn  
 Society - Magnificent -  
 One of the singers <sup>the Soprano solo</sup> Miss Tom-  
 son I also heard yesterday  
 morning at the Old South.  
 I am off for New York this  
 morning but as I failed  
 to get Dexter's pay here  
 must stop over a town  
 and perhaps - yes in all  
 probability a night to see  
 the Postmaster there. Think  
 I will telegraph to Otis  
 from N. Y. tonight & get two  
 or three days' extension.  
 Hope you will put work

14 / too hard as there is, down  
- get when you so much  
to be done.

Take "Wash" to Repair the  
Stable floor the first oppor-  
tunity - make it all sound  
as I may have my fine  
mare which was sold to  
Mr. Webb back again. If  
he goes away as there is  
some prospect I am going  
to buy her back. You know  
she is an elegant animal  
and I want Wash to put  
one of the stalls in good shape  
for her and fix it so the other  
horse cannot kick her or  
any harm befall her in any way.  
If I have her I shall want Wash  
to come for her & take her back via  
the Bath boat - riding her from  
Bath home in two days. If  
this occurs and in fact at any

Note as you do not like  
your horse you better let  
Rowland <sup>B.H.</sup> sell him if he get  
an opportunity and perhaps  
Francis Littlejohn might send  
a purchaser if you, let him  
know you wish to sell the horse.

The mare is kind and with  
a curb bit would be safe  
enough for you to drive but  
she never must be driven in  
a rickety old wagon - I told  
Wash about getting ours repaired  
and I think it better be done  
at once - The harness too needs  
some repairs and oiling. If  
the family comes home this  
summer the mare would be  
a great source of comfort and  
pleasure to them. He will  
need to have a good deal  
of grain - though not more  
than your present horse. Be

6  
I hope I can bargain for  
you to keep her for the winter  
I am to have her a year -  
allowing Mrs. Webb to re-  
turn her on his return - so  
(you see I am doubly anxious  
that she should be kept safe  
and sound - I will write  
again of this when it is  
decided which will be the  
cost of the month - For  
Wash could not well be  
spared to come for her but  
three days will be all and I  
can't think of a better way.

Dell would like the arrange-  
ment too I suppose as he will  
be in a state of mind to enjoy  
riding - Your loving son  
C. H. Howard

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5/14/1866

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-192

638 Fremont St.  
Mr. Webbs  
Boston

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638 Fremont St.  
Mr. Webbs  
Boston May 14, 1866

Dear Mother,

You observe I have spent the Sunday in Boston. Had pleasant calls upon two Classmates, young Professors and Dr. Mitchell at Brunswick & upon Mrs. Whittlesey, warm welcome at Capt Patten's. Good trip on the boat. Met Frank Gilman in the morning in walking from the Parker House to report to Mr. Webb after Breakfast. He took me to the Paymaster on my own business and then to the Navy yard on his. And I was glad to visit the latter. The grass is all very green there now and the trees in leaf. In fact the vegetation here is as far advanced as it was at Philadelphia when you and I came through.

I went to Church with Frank in a.m. & dined at Mr. Emery's. They said they enjoyed your call and hoped it would be repeated. Frank asked me for one of your photographs (the Richmond one.). I wonder whether Aunt Martha could not get us some of those. In Eve'g I heard Mr. Webb & enjoyed all the services much. He has a beautiful Church and the singing was excellent. Sat. P.M. I took the little girl with me to hear "Blind Tom" of whom Dr. Chickering told us you remember. Sat. Eve'g attended the rehearsal of a Sacred Concert by the Handel & Hayden Society - magnificent. One of the singers the soprano solo Miss Henston I also heard yesterday morning at the Old South.

I am off for New York this morning but as I failed to get Dexter's pay here must stop over a train and perhaps - yes in all probability a night - to see the Paymaster there. Think I will telegraph to Otis from N.Y. tonight & get two or three days extension.

Hope you will not work too hard as there is danger when you [have] so much to be done.

Tell "Wash" to repair the Stable floor the first opportunity - make it all sound - as I may have my fine mare which was sold to Mr Webb back again if he goes away as there is some prospect. I am going to buy her back. You know she is an elegant animal and I want Wash to put one of the stalls in good shape for her and fix it so the other horse cannot kick her or any harm befall her in any way. If I have her I shall want Wash to come for her & take her back in the Bath boat riding her from Bath home in two days. If this occurs and in fact at any rate as you do not like your horse you better let Rowland B. H. sell him if he gets an opportunity and perhaps Francis Lothrop might send a purchaser if you would let him know you wish to sell the horse.

The mare is kind and with a curb bit would be safe enough for you to drive but she never must be driven in a rickety old wagon. I told Wash about getting ours repaired and I think it better be done at once. The harness too needs some repairs and oiling. If Otis' family comes home this summer the mare would be a great source of comfort and pleasure to them. She will need to have a good deal of grain - though not more than your present horse. Perhaps I can bargain for you to keep her for the using. I am to have her a year - allowing Mr. Webb to repurchase her on his return - so you see I am doubly anxious that she should be kept safe and sound I will write again of this when it is decided which will be the last of the month. Fear Wash could not well be spared to come for her but three days will be all and I can't think of a better way.

Dell would like the arrangement too I suppose as he will be in a state of mind to enjoy riding.

Your loving Son,  
C. H. Howard

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,  
Headquarters Ass't Commissioner, District Columbia,

Washington, June 26 1866.

Dear Mother

It is scorching hot  
in W. now - Lizzie is doing well - up  
and dressed and sat last evening with  
Otis & the children on the upper balcony,  
The little boy <sup>but still</sup> ~~thirsty~~ without a name.

The rest pretty well - though sometimes  
the hot weather makes honey fretful -  
Emy & Grace go with their father one morn-  
ing & excursion down the Potomac this  
week - I go with Major Ketchum and  
two young ladies, sisters, Bailey former-  
ly from Portland, Maine. Rowland  
writes that Wash troubles a little some-  
times, I am very sorry for this and  
feel sure Wash does not mean to  
do so - I want him to be just as  
respectful and obedient to you as  
I would be and as he used to be to

me - I was in hopes to keep  
Wosh with us always and help  
him to own a piece of land and  
a home of his own one of these  
days - Hope you do not work too  
hard - Wont you to be fresh and happy  
when we all come home - I am de-  
siring of bringing to see you a very per-  
ticular lady friend of mine from  
the Eastward - if you are well and  
everything favours - I enclose a letter  
of Addison's which we thought would  
interest you and much enjoy -

Your loving Son  
C. H. Howard

Clara

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6/26/1866

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-193

Bureau Refugees,  
Freedmen and  
Abandoned Lands  
Headquarters Ass't  
Commissioner, District  
Columbia  
Washington

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[Letterhead]

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands  
Headquarters Ass't Commissioner, District Columbia  
Washington,

June 26, 1866

Dear Mother

It is scorching hot in W. now. Lizzie is doing well up and dressed and sat last evening with Otis & the children on the upper balcony. The little boy thrifty but still without a name [John Howard, born June 15, 1866].

The rest pretty well - though sometimes the hot weather makes Chancy fretful. Guy & Grace go with their father on a moon light excursion down the Potomac this eve'g. I go ditto Major Ketchum and two young ladies, sisters, Bailey formerly from Portland, Maine.

Rowland writes that Wash troubles you a little sometimes. I am very sorry for this and feel sure Wash does not mean to do so. I want him to be just as respectful and obedient to you as I would be and as he used to be to me. I was in hopes to keep Wash with us always and help him to own a piece of land and a home of his own one of these days.

Hope you do not work too hard. Want you to be fresh and happy when we all come home. I am desirous of bringing to see you a very particular lady friend of mine from the Eastward - if you are well and everything favors. [This is the first reference to his future wife, Katherine Foster]

I inclose a letter of Addison's which we thought would interest you and Uncle Ensign [Otis].

Your loving Son,  
C. H. Howard

P. S. The facts  
of that extract  
were correctly  
given save the  
price - C. W. M.

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen & Abandoned Lands,  
Head-Quarters Ass't Commissioner, D. C.,  
WASHINGTON, Sept 10 1866.

Dear brother

I was glad to  
get your two letters - one  
so kindly sympathizing in  
acct of my disappointment.

I did feel very blue but  
recovered from it in one day  
and of course regard it as  
the index of Providence -

My Regt. goes out Oct.  
1<sup>st</sup> & I go today to S. C. to  
see the Officers & men once  
again before they separate -  
Be gone about two weeks I  
suppose - Am querying whether  
I ought to stay here in case  
I am mustered out (which is  
still doubtful) as a Civilian  
at \$2500 per

heart of the large millin, about right? A letter  
I would recd in care of Miss E. R. K. Scott  
Charleston T. C. for a week hence - Hope you  
will be mother soon & find how she gets  
on - whether she is to have John's name more  
the Shepborn &c. &c. - Otis was not in  
Main before 1<sup>st</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> of October -

Dr. Bayard has returned & Jefferson's to answer  
Beeder - says that Sept. 6. by J. D. D. for out  
Beeder - Had good time at reopening of my  
Missin School - The hour has enlarged &  
improved by Otis - Missin was in letter soon -  
Your affectionate Father C. M. Howard

year. Otis proposes for me  
to do this - What do you  
think? Miss Kitty wrote  
me the best of letters on rec<sup>d</sup>  
of news of my disappointment -  
Cheerful, Christian. By it she  
has brighten<sup>d</sup> than before in  
my estimation - which, Ella  
will think, was not necessary.

Weather cool - Spent Sat.  
night with Miss Ketchum  
at the Bailey's in Montgom-  
ery Co. Md. Very Cordial reception  
& agreeable half holiday -

Shall miss my Bangor letters.  
Perhaps I ought to go to Lewins  
this Fall but if I can retain  
my Com<sup>ms</sup> will stay here unless  
there be some marked indication  
provided to the contrary. We liked  
the Phil<sup>os</sup> Revolution (Royal University)  
Don't you think they will strike the

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9/10/1866

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Brother [Rowland B. Howard]

CHH-194

Bureau Refugees,  
Freedmen and  
Abandoned Lands  
Headquarters Ass't  
Commissioner, District  
Columbia  
Washington

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[Letterhead]

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands  
Headquarters Ass't Commissioner, District Columbia  
Washington,

Sept 10, 1866

Dear brother [Rowland B. Howard]

I was glad to get your two letters - one so kindly sympathizing on acct of my disappointment.

I did not feel very blue but recovered from it in one day and of course regard it as the index of Providence.

My Regt. goes out Oct. 1st & I go today to S.C. to see the officers & men once again before they separate. Be gone about two weeks I suppose. Am querying whether I ought to stay here in case I am mustered out (which is still doubtful) as a Civilian Ass't Comm'r at \$2500 per year. Otis proposes for me to do this. What do you think?

Miss Kitty wrote me the best of letters on rec't of news of my disappointment- cheerful, Christian. By it she [is] now higher than before in my estimation - which, Ella will think, was not necessary.

Weather cool - Spent Sat. night with Maj. Ketchum at the Bailey's in Montgomery Co. Md. Very cordial reception & agreeable half holiday.

Shall miss my Bangor letters. Perhaps I ought to go to Seminary this Fall but if I can retain my Comm'n will stay here unless there be some marked indication of Providence to the contrary.

We liked the Philad'a Resolutions (Loyal Unionists). Don't you think they will strike the heart of the loyal million about right? A letter would reach me care of Maj. Gen. R.K. Scott, Charleston, S.C. for a week hence.

Hope you will see Mother soon & find how she gets on - whether she is to have John Morrill move the sheepborn &c &c. Otis will not be in Maine before 14th or 15th of October.

Dr. Boynton has returned & proposes to answer Beecher. Sorry that Stephen A Tyng D. D. goes with Beecher.

Had good time at reopening of my Mission School yesterday.

The house [has] been enlarged & improved by Otis. Wish you & Ella may see Kitty soon.

Your Affectionate brother  
C.H. Howard

P.S. The facts of that extract were correctly given save the praise. C.H.H.

Charlotte N. C.  
Sept 14 1866

My dear Mother

Returned here by the  
non-connecting of R. R. trains - I was 4 1/2 days  
this morning until 9 this going - I have whiled  
away the time until 6 P. M. an hour be-  
fore the northern mail leaves & will now  
write you a short letter - Have read & reread  
in Ecce Homo (the book Ella was reading at  
our house) this afternoon - Went to bed  
this morning, after reading all night from  
Raleigh, & slept till nearly eight - Walked  
about the town - They boast that no "fellows"  
visited it till after the surrender - Rather  
a pretty place - Large in the street - Some fine  
houses and grand old oaks though not  
so many of the latter as in Raleigh - Must  
quite remember of dilapidated and uncanny  
houses and people. Newspaper pretty Rebel.  
I just mailed a copy to Concord - I come  
to Raleigh via Beaufort & Norfolk boat.  
St. Led. Beebe gave me a warm welcome  
& over persuaded me to stay a day longer  
than I had intended. But I enjoyed it  
much & really wanted to see more of him  
as our Regt is to break up & probably we  
will no more be associated in this life.  
He promised me to leave off the use  
of ardent spirits to which he has been  
more or less addicted. I hope to reach  
Charlotte by 2 P. M. tomorrow - spend about  
4 days there & then may go to Augusta - if  
if I do will not be back in N. C. till week

after next - otherwise - the last of next week,  
I hope to get my mail at Charleston.  
Kitty wrote me a very cheering letter with  
much Christian Spirit - of the receipt of the  
news of my disappointment about the Com-  
mission of Major in the Regular Army. -

I desire to trouble you neither to go to  
my book - case and find upon the top shelf  
(I think) the volume of Schiller in German -  
A small bound book with no inscription upon  
the back - and send it to Kitty - I will  
enclose an envelope addressed, which you  
can paste upon the outside after packing the  
book neatly with the ends open so that  
only newspaper postage may be charged -  
Please pay the postage & let me know how  
much.

I hope to hear from you at Charleston -  
remained from W. Love to Jennie & Maria  
& a great kind to yourself from

Your Affectionate Son  
C. M. Howard

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9/14/1866

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-195

Charlotte, N.C.

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Charlotte, N.C.

Sept 14, 1866

My dear Mother

Detained here by the non-connecting of R. R. trains from 4 o'clock this morning until 9 this eve'g. I have whiled away the time until 6 P.M. an hour before the northern mail closes & will now write you a short letter.

Have read somewhat in Ecce Homo (the book Ella was reading at our house) this afternoon. Went to bed this morning, after reading all night from Raleigh, & slept till nearly eight. Walked about the town. They boast that no "federals" visited it till after the surrender. Rather a filthy place - bags in the streets. Some fine houses and grand old oaks though not so many of the latter as in Raleigh. Much greater number of dilapidated and uncanny houses and people. Newspaper pretty Rebel. I just mailed a copy to Rowland. I came to Raleigh via Baltimore & Norfolk boat.

Lt. Col. Beebe gave me a warm welcome & even persuaded me to stay a day longer than I had intended. But I enjoyed it much & really wanted to see more of him as our Reg't is to break up & probably we will no more be associated in this life. He promised me to leave off the use of ardent Spirits to which he has been more or less addicted.

I hope to reach Charleston by 2 P.M. tomorrow - spend about 4 days there & then may go to Augusta & if I do will not be back in W till week after next, otherwise, the last of next week.

I hope to get my mail at Charleston. Kitty wrote me a very cheering letter with noble Christian Spirit - after receipt of the news of my disappointment about the Commission of Major in the Regular Army.

I desire to trouble you mother to go to my book-case and find upon the top shelf (I think) the poems of Schiller in German - a small bound book with no inscription upon the back - and send it to Kitty. I will inclose an envelope addressed, which you can paste upon the outside after packing the book neatly with the ends open so that only newspaper postage may be charged. Please pay the postage & let me know how much.

I hope to hear from you at Charleston - remailed from W.

Love to Jamie & Gracie [Otis' children] & a great deal to yourself. From

Your Affectionate Son

C. H. Howard

I think I heard her call them over or trace.

I had not mentioned it to her. She writes, and she has written asking Ella to come to Brainerd & to her home during Anniversary.

Tell Ella I think I never spent a happier week than I spent there now now a pleasanter home - To make it complete Nina should be at home but Kitty will the more desire Ella to come for company in Nina's absence. Indeed I do not mean to say I should feel that any thing was lack-

I am affectionate brother C. H. Howard

[Nov 3 1866]

ing for a pleasant visit even now. If Ella can make it convenient to go I shall be very glad not only that they might be better acquainted but that Kitty may be the more likely to visit Leeds or Farmington. - I have been over (across the street) to see Mr. Price I began this - He has been looking much worn - I wish they could all go North for a month. Building blocks not made yet - rather slow but I think they will be ready to begin this house within

I got your letter in Ben-  
you - I got what I wanted

To write - Tell Ella (you  
not supposed to be interested)  
that I never had so good  
letters as now. They are more  
than I know how to derive,  
but I trust I am grateful to  
the good God that in His  
Providence he has blessed me  
with such a love - Our  
Morning Meetings are thick attend-  
ed but have all been lively  
and interesting thus far - The  
family got up & crossed  
with me now -

I have never heard from  
them pictures. Hadn't you  
better send to Lewiston P.O.  
get them to Douglas - I would  
if I knew the exact orders  
you gave - The Convention pic-  
tures come and you can have  
the one of mother's if you wish.  
Tell mother I have one here  
which she can have in case you  
take that - Mrs. Posson and  
Kitty two pairs of gloves, but  
cheap for me 6 1/2 instead of 7 1/2  
the Ella - You see I held the  
hand in large situation.

If you can say one thing upon buying one pair  
of \$7.10 - Let me know - I will be glad to

Somebody will need to  
help mother a little in  
getting the year - Hadn't  
you better ask much Ensign  
to do it as he did last  
year - I am very sorry of  
Perrin's course and think  
we could hold him to his  
agreement. Do mention  
a matter of comfort, little  
account affected thereby - I  
was expecting to be home in  
Sept. or Oct. for several weeks  
and had hoped to have sort  
of a reunion with you some-  
ily or mother's & that possi-  
bly Kitty would consent to  
come over from Bangor this

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11/1/1866      *From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* [Rowland B. Howard]

CHH-197

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[missing first pages]

[1866] [written in a different hand]

Somebody will need to help Mother a little in <tilling> the grass. Hadn't you better ask Uncle Ensign [Otis] to do it as he did last year.

I am very sorry at Orrin's course and think we could hold him to his agreement. To mention a matter of comparatively little account affected thereby - I was expecting to be home in Sept. or Oct. for several weeks and had hoped to have sort of a reunion with your family at Mother's & that probably Kitty would consent to come over from Bangor tho' I had not mentioned it to her. She writes me she has written asking Ella to come to Bangor & to be home during Anniversary.

Tell Ella I think I never spent a happier week than I spent there nor saw a pleasanter home. To make it complete Nina should be at home but Kitty will the more desire Ella to come for Company in Nina's absence. Indeed I do not mean to say I should feel that anything was lacking for a pleasant visit even now. If Ella can make it convenient to go I shall be very glad not only that they might be better acquainted but that Kitty may be the more likely to visit Leeds or Farmington.

I have been over (across the street) to see Otis since I began this. He has been looking much worn. I wish they could all go North for a month. Building blocks not made yet -rather slow but I think they will be ready to begin Otis' house within 2 weeks.

Tell Ella (you're not supposed to be interested) that I never had so good letters as now. They are more than I know how to desire. But I trust I am grateful to the good God that in His Providence he has blessed me with such a love.

Our morning meetings are thinly attended but have all been lively and interesting thus far. The family get up & breakfast with me now.

I have never heard from those pictures. Hadn't you better send to Lewiston P.O. & then to Inglis. I would if I knew the exact orders you gave. The Convention pictures came and you can have the one of Mother's if you wish. Tell Mother I have one here which she can have in case you take that.

Mr. Browne sent Kitty two pairs of gloves he exchanged for size 6 ½ instead of 7 ½ tell Ella. You see I hold the hand in large estimation.

I got your letter in Bangor. Forget whether I answered it

If you see any one who insists upon buying our farm at \$2100 let me know.

Love to Ella and the "chickens" as I think I heard her call them once or twice.

Your affectionate brother,  
C. H. Howard

It now - Drellie will write to Row-  
land about the R.R. business, & will  
try & put things in better shape when  
I come on - Do you still think it a  
good plan to let Wash take the form  
at the halves as I talked of doing.  
If so I will arrange it for the com-  
ing year when I come on.

O pray morning & night that our  
kind and merciful Father in Heaven  
will bless you with a cheerful, trust-  
ful spirit and make you useful in  
his holy Cause - but feel that my  
prayers, often, are clogged with want  
of Faith and other besetting sins. I know  
you do not forget to pray for your sons  
and will often remember before the throne

Your Affectionate Son

B. H. Howard

P.S. I got back yesterday in time for my  
Sunday School -  
B. H. H.

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands,  
Headquarters Ass't Commissioner, District Columbia,

Washington, Nov. 25 1866.

Dear Mother

I will write a few  
lines at the close of my day's work  
to tell you we are all well and  
that I had a safe journey to Cin-  
cinnati - Cleveland, Chicago, Cedar-  
Rapids, and back. Spent one day  
with Drellie and one night (sleeping at  
O. O. Touchfield, - Drellie is prospering in  
business & looks well & happy - Rosa  
has got quite fleshy & seems to enjoy  
life much. We sold our land for  
\$16,000 - having paid \$8000 for it -  
thus gaining \$8000 in about 3 months.

Fred. Thickett is doing a flourishing  
business in corn, wheat, wool & hogs.

I found Uncle Henry & Aunt Martha  
& Annie well - Lizzie not very well  
but hoping to get strong was to visit -

Washington this winter. Her father  
thinks it doubtful if she is well  
enough. No particular disease but  
general debility. They sometimes  
think she has "dumb ague".

Aunt is very desirous that you  
should spend the winter with her.  
Say she will be all alone - I said  
a great deal about it or also did  
Uncle Henry. They think you  
might come on with me as you  
purpose and go out to Richmond  
from Philadelphia or from Pittsburgh  
alone or there is no change of cars  
from the latter place. We are counting  
on your being here but if you should  
wish to visit Aunt Martha too  
I could go to Pittsburgh with you or  
go all the way out if desirable. Uncle  
Henry said more than I can know  
him to about your coming and I  
promised to tell you their wishes.  
They say three months or least.  
I hope to come on for you

the latter part of December. Kitty  
F. is to be in Boston at that time  
I believe - I had two letters from her  
at Chicago & found one here - all  
of which were as usual very gratify-  
=ing though perhaps I should not be  
so willing to show them to my mother  
as I was <sup>then</sup> last spring. Not that they  
contain anything I would not wish my  
mother to know but because young  
ladies in such a case write for one  
person only to see.

I find business had accumulated  
and of course I am tired tonight but  
am perfectly well. One room in the  
some room where you could find  
me when I was acting adjutant general.  
The South Western corner room - Mr.  
Marble & Capt. Clark with me.

It is news very well. I got no  
contributions for our church West but  
prepared the way for some. Brellie &  
I talked over the R. R. business, the  
farm & all but I will not write about

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11/25/1866

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-196

Bureau Refugees,  
Freedmen and  
Abandoned Lands  
Headquarters Ass't  
Commissioner, District  
Columbia  
Washington

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[Letterhead]

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands  
Headquarters Ass't Commissioner, District Columbia  
Washington,

Nov 25, 1866

Dear Mother

I will write a few lines at the close of my day's work to tell you we are all well and that I had a safe journey to Cincinnati, Cleveland, Chicago, Cedar Rapids and back. Spent one day with Dellie and one night (sleeping at O. O. Stanchfields). Dellie is prospering in business & looks well & happy. Rosa has got quite fleshy & seems to enjoy life much. We sold our land for \$1600.00 having paid \$800.00 for it - thus gaining \$800 in about 3 months.

Fred. Strickland is doing a flourishing business in corn, wheat, wool & hogs. I found Uncle Henry & Aunt Martha & Annie well - Lizzie not very well but hoping to get strong so as to visit Washington this winter. Her father thinks it doubtful if she is well enough. No particular disease but general debility. They sometimes think she has "dumb ague".

Aunt is very desirous that you should spend the Winter with her. Says she will be all alone. Said a great deal about it as also did Uncle Henry. They think you might come on with me as you <prefer> and go out to Richmond from Philadelphia or from Pittsburgh alone as there is no change of cars from the latter place. We are counting on your being here but if you should wish to visit Aunt Martha too I could go to Pittsburgh with you or go all the way out if desirable. Uncle Henry said more than I ever knew him to about your coming and I promised to tell you their wishes. They say three months at least.

I hope to come on for you the latter part of December. Kitty F. is to be in Boston at that time I believe. I had two letters from her at Chicago & found one here - all of which were as usual very gratifying though perhaps I should not be as willing to show them to my mother as I was those of last Spring. Not that they contain anything I would not wish my mother to know but because young ladies in such a case write for one person only to see.

I find business had accumulated and of course I am tired tonight but am perfectly well. Am now in the same room where you used to find me when I was acting adjutant General, the South Western Corner room - Mr. Marble & Capt. Clark with me.

Otis seems very well. I got no contributions for our Church West but prepared the way for some.

Dellie & I talked over the R.R. business, the farms & all but I will not write about it now. Dellie will write to Rowland about the R.R. business & I will try & put things in better shape when I come on. Do you still think it a good plan to let Wash take the farm at the halves as I talked of doing. If so I will arrange it for the coming year when I come on.

I pray morning & night that our kind and merciful Father in Heaven will bless you with a cheerful, trustful spirit and make you useful in his holy Cause - but feel that my prayers, often, are clogged with want of Faith and other besetting sins. I know you do not forget to pray for your sons and will often remember before the throne.

Your Affectionate Son  
C. H. Howard

P.S. I got back yesterday in time for my Sunday School. C.H.H.