

New York  
April 16 1867

My dear mother

~~Accidentally~~ late  
for the Washington train I have  
some time in which to write you.  
Mr. Alvord was compelled to stay  
over & had persuaded me but I  
thought I would return today. However  
a load of Cotton got upon the truck  
and detained our horse-car, so  
that I was about 2 minutes late.

It is raining - I just dropped into  
Mr. Kimball's store - having a note  
of introduction from his brother  
in Washington whom you know.

A wholesale dealer in potatoes, fruit  
&c. - Yesterday I got your letter  
at Mr. Hutchinson's office - another note  
from Rowland & a good letter from  
Kitty who never fails to write and always  
cheers me thereby. I visited the New-  
Brag House in Brooklyn over which  
my friend Wm. H. Lawrence is the  
Superintendent - He was with us in the  
Georgia Campaign as an Agent of the



year. - I will leave him to get the present to-  
day. How are Cousin Olive & all. Was  
very glad & grateful to her for meeting  
you. It was very kind of her & Lester.  
Till Lester I am not going to allow him  
to grow out of my knowledge. Mine  
love, also, to Cousin Polly & wife whom  
(the latter) I hope to know better before long.  
Write me often - How long will you be  
in Cambridge? Your Affectionate Son

C. H. Howard.

C. H. Howard

Christian Com<sup>rs</sup> Last night was  
the Inquirer Celebration which was  
a cordial re-union - with addressing  
- a splendid supper - table regaled  
with flowers and ornamental cakes  
ice cream &c. &c. Then came  
dancing. With a number of mid-  
dle aged and other old people like  
myself who did not dance so  
I had company all the time & so  
I was the only brass-buttoned spec-  
imen there some of the handsome  
young ladies condescended to talk  
with me when not dancing! They  
were here to make themselves agree-  
able as you know. it is not diffi-  
cult for that description of young  
ladies to do to a young old bachelor  
like me. - I made a brief speech (so  
called) if the Brooklyn papers have  
a report I will send - You may see  
the N. Y. Herald which has some acct.  
of the Celebration - I saw Dr. Hays & Rev. Pol-  
mer yesterday & many others interested in  
the new newspaper. It is quite possible  
I may become connected with it as a cor-  
respondent at least during the coming



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4/16/1867

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-198

New York

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New York  
April 16 1867

My dear Mother

Accidentally late for the Washington train I have some time in which to write you. Mr. Alvord was compelled to stay over & had persuaded me but I thought I would return today. However a load of Cotton got upon the tracks and detained our horse cars, so that I was about 2 minutes too late.

It is raining. I just dropped into Mr. Kimball's store - having a note of introduction from his brother in Washington whom you know. A wholesale dealer in potatoes, fruits &c.

Yesterday I got your letter at Mr. Ketchum's office - another note from Rowland & a good letter from Kitty who never fails to write and always cheers me thereby.

I visited the NewsBoys House in Brooklyn over which my friend Wm H. Lawrence is the Superintendent. He was with us in the Georgia Campaign as an Agent of the Christian Com'n.

Last night was the <Emancipation> Celebration which was a cordial reunion with addresses, a splendid supper, table superb with flowers and ornamental cakes, ice cream &c &c. Then some dancing. Quite a number of middle aged and other old people like myself who did not dance so I had company all the time & as I was the only brass-buttoned specimen there some of the handsome young ladies condescended to talk with me when not dancing. They were soon to make themselves agreeable as you know it is not difficult for that description of young ladies to do to a young old bachelor like me. I made a brief speech (so called). If the Brooklyn papers have a report I will send. You may see the N.Y. Herald which has some acct. of the Celebration.

I saw Dr. Starrs & Ray Palmer yesterday & many others intrusted in the new newspaper. It is quite possible I may become connected with it as a correspondent at least during the coming year.

I will have time to get the presents today. How are Cousin Olive & all. Was very glad & grateful to her for meeting you. It was very kind of her & Lester. Tell Lester I am not going to allow him to grow out of my knowledge. Give him, also, to Cousin Olly & wife whom (the latter) I hope to know better before long.

Write me often. How long will you be at Cambridge?

Your Affectionate Son  
C. H. Howard

P.S. Please tell Wash. that he will look to Orrin Bates  
 for his pay after July 1st if he remains - except for such others  
 as you may wish him to do at  
 about 5 or 10 dollars per month  
 if you please -  
 W.M.H.

Bangor  
 July 2nd 1864  
 With love from  
 A. H. H. &  
 please  
 ad  
 C. H. H.

I was very glad  
 to get your letter last night.  
 So it seems Orrin has ac-  
 cepted the terms of sale &  
 taken the farm. I agreed  
 to pay the tax on personal  
 property, in my talk with  
 him and I would like for  
 you to see the Treasurer  
 soon and ascertain exactly  
 how much that is - There  
 is the tax on the horse, Oxen &  
 cows - Perhaps nothing else.  
 It is well, also, to inform  
 the Treas. that Orrin is  
 to pay the remainder.  
 I got a letter from Row-  
 land & Ella this morning  
 & that for W. H. H. is in.



What I said about paying  
the taxes out of my own pocket  
was not from any feeling of  
repugnance to the trouble  
to myself - It is the last  
thing that would occur to  
my mind. But I thought  
the sale would be much  
better for you and that I  
could thus perhaps do  
more for your happiness than  
in any other way.

I read your letter to Kitty  
last night and she thanked  
me - saying she was very  
happy to know of your  
kind & tender message be-  
fore she slept.

She is here at home a  
constant sunbeam - I never  
saw enjoyed her society so  
much before - now having

been so constantly with her  
& seen her under all cir-  
cumstances.

It rains now - We have  
a bonfire & chair at the door  
& were going with a party of  
their Church ("Central") to  
a picnic at Pushaw Lake.  
It may clear away at noon.

Letter from Mrs. Clark  
from Washington this morn-  
-ing - all well but very  
hot weather -

I shall expect to come  
on for two or more weeks  
in Sept. or October next  
& aid you in settling up  
all matters.

Very Affectionately  
Yours  
C. H. Howard

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7/4/1867

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-199

Bangor

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Bangor,  
July 4, 1867

Dear Mother

I was very glad to get your letter last night.

So it seems Orrin has accepted the terms of sale & taken the farm. I agreed to pay the tax on personal property, in my talk with him and I would like for you to see the Treasurer soon and ascertain exactly how much that is. There is the tax on the horse, oxen & cows. Perhaps nothing else. It is well, also, to inform the Treas. that Orrin is to pay the remainder.

I got a letter from Rowland and Ella this morning. I start for W. tomorrow as Com.

What I said about paying the taxes out of my own pocket was not from any feeling of repugnance to the trouble to myself. It is the last thing that would occur to my mind. But I thought the sale would be much better for you and that I could thus perhaps do more for your happiness than in any other way.

I rec'd your letter to Kitty last night and she thanked me - saying she was very happy to know of your kind & tender message before she slept.

She is here at home a constant sunbeam. I never have enjoyed her society so much before - never having been so constantly with her & seen her under all circumstances.

It rains now. We have a horse & chaise at the door & are going with a party of their Church ("Central") to a Picnic at Pushaw Lake. It may clear away at noon.

Letter from Maj. Clark from Washington this morning. All well but very hot weather. I shall expect to come on for two or more weeks in Sept. or October next & aid you in settling up all matters.

Very Affectionately  
Your Son  
C. H. Howard

P.S. Please tell Wash that he will look to Orrin Bates for his pay after July 1st if he remains, except for such chores as you may wish him to do at about 5 or 10 dollars per month if you please. C.H.H.

Write me soon at Wash'n. Please.  
C. H. Howard



make my shirt - I  
ought to know Ella's  
good letter - I was very  
glad to get it -

When this report is done  
I promise "better fashion" -

We had good summers,  
yesterday - Hope you enjoyed  
the same kind of privi-  
leges - Love to Jennie  
to Ella, Dadie & the rest

Rowland if with you -  
Col. Ketchem is to be going  
over no 1. - No 2 not

decided on - Miss Cornie  
Kinn & Anderson & Miss Cornie  
Horton - Your Affectionate Son  
C. H. Howard

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands.

Headquarters Assistant-Commissioner, D.C.

Washington, Oct 14 1867  
9 a.m.

Dear Mother

How you  
have neglected in letters  
of late? The reason is  
I have been hard at work  
on my report, writing all  
the past week  
most every night till Nov  
12 & once till 2 a.m.

Not all writing but hunting  
up the statistics, notes  
&c. &c. - This left  
this morning for West.



ern N.Y. to be gone a  
week. St. Shaden with  
him - Mr. Johnson of  
Baltimore preached for  
us yesterday & stopped at  
our house - A letter  
from Kitty says she ~~will~~  
go to Boston Sunday  
last & return the latter  
part of this week. I  
wanted to meet her  
in Boston but cannot  
now go north till Otho  
gets back - say 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> -  
I may not go at all

but now intend to go  
at least to Boston as I  
have business there & I  
shall want to come home  
not to say go to Roger  
as Kitty thinks I must.

Wedding probably the  
first week in December.  
Ball get some clothing  
in Boston & think I prob-  
ably had better get my shirt  
there & not give Jan & Ellen  
any extra labor - though I  
do appreciate the kindness  
of your mother in offering to



10/14/1867

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-200

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,

Oct 14, 1867  
9 a.m.

Dear Mother

Have you been neglected in letters of late? The reason is I have been hard at work on my report, writing almost every night the past week till 11 or 12 & once till 2 a.m. Not all writing but hunting up the statistics, material, &c. &c.

Otis left this morning for Western N.Y. to be gone a week. Lt. Sladen with him. Mr. Johnson of Baltimore preached for us yesterday & stopped at our house. A letter from Kitty says she was to go to Boston Saturday last & return the latter part of this week. I wanted to meet her in Boston but cannot now go north till Otis gets back - say 24th or 25th. I may not go at all but now intend to go at least to Boston as I have business there & I shall want to come home not to say go to Bangor as Kitty thinks I must.

Wedding probably the first week in December. Shall get some clothing in Boston & think I probably had better get my shirts there & not give you & Ella any extra labor, though I do appreciate the kindness of you both in offering to make my shirts. I ought to answer Ella's good letter. I was very glad to get it.

When this report is done I promise "better fashions".

We had good sermons yesterday. Hope you enjoyed the same kind of privileges. Love to Jamie, to Ella, Dadie, & Otis & to Rowland if with you.

Col. Ketchum is to be groomsman no 1. No 2 not decided on. Nina Bridesmaid & Miss Carrie Stetson.

Your Affectionate Son  
C. H. Howard



love to you - It is almost  
needless to say that every  
thing thus far has con-  
tinued auspicious and  
altogether agreeable - We  
have & feel that we have  
very very good reason to  
thank a kind Heavenly Father -  
for His favoring providences.  
I desire to know how the  
work of Grace goes on in  
your neighborhood - I do  
pray that Roland & Elizabeth  
may begin to follow Christ -

Most Affectionately  
L. A. Howard

Parker House  
Boston Dec 9 1867

Dear Mother

After a very  
pleasant journey with our  
accompanying we ar-  
rived safely this night - Found  
we had reserved for us the  
best rooms in the house -  
Took a warm supper about  
9 o'clock & bid good bye  
to Mr. & Mrs. & Col. Ketchum  
about 11 P.M. as they  
were to start at 7 1/2 from  
the Hotel - Mr. Merrick  
has remained with us &  
we propose to go by Bristol  
boat tonight. He & wife will  
probably stay with us at  
5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Hotel in N.Y.  
one or two days & then we  
will accompany them to Harbome



in Philad. - Kitty & I took  
tea at Mr. Swaney's with  
Frank Linton & his other  
sister Mrs. Brundy - & Sunday  
night - Had another lady  
friend relation of Dr. Brundy  
there, a fine singer & we en-  
joyed her music much.  
We attended the Organ  
Concert at noon that  
day & met there Prof.  
Young (Charmote's friend)  
of Bowdoin, & wife who  
was a Bangor girl & ac-  
quaintance of Kitty's -

We heard an edifying  
sermon from Dr. Kirk -  
yesterday morning - Went  
to dine with Cousin Carrie  
Sprague 29 Worcester St. &  
It had grown so cold  
decided not to go out  
to church again - Came

back here about 9 P.M.  
& found Mrs. Mearns in  
the Parlor with two gentle-  
men callers - the Vanghan's  
from Cambridge -

Rowland came back  
this morning & has just gone  
out with Frank Linton  
to lunch & will get Kitty  
some books which she wishes  
to present to her Sunday School  
Adolescents - We are going to  
make a call on Miss Stearns  
sister of the bridesmaid & that  
with an escort or two at the  
Englewoods (for cards) &c. will fin-  
ish our Boston business -

I hope you will write  
so we can hear soon after  
on at time of reading Wed-  
nesday - that you get home in  
safety & are well - as we are -  
Kitty sends a great deal of



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12/9/1867

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-201

Parker House  
Boston

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Parker House

Boston Dec 9 1867 [Charles Howard and Katherine Foster were married Dec 7]

Dear Mother

After a very pleasant journey with our sociable company we arrived safely Frid' night. Found we had reserved for us the <best> rooms in the house. Took a warm supper about 9 o'clock & bid good by to Otis & family & Col. Ketchum about 11 P.M. as they were to start at 7½ from the Hotel. Wm Merrick has remained with us & we propose to go by Bristol boat tonight. He and his wife will probably stay with us at 5th Avenue Hotel in N.Y. one or two days & then we will accompany them to their home in Philad'a. Kitty & I took tea at Mr. Emory's with Frank Gilman & his other sister Mrs. Bundy.

Saturd'y night. Had another lady friend & relation of Dr. Bundy there, a fine singer & we enjoyed her music much. We attended the Organ Concert at noon that day & met there Prof. Young (Classmate of mine) of Bowdoin, & wife who was a Bangor girl & acquaintance of Kitty's.

We heard an edifying sermon from Dr. Kirk yesterday morning. Went to dine with "Cousin Carrie Sprague" 29 Worcester St. & it had grown so cold decided not to go out to Church again. Came back here about 9 P.M. & found Mrs. Merrick in the Parlor with two gentleman callers - the Vaughan's from Cambridge.

Rowland came back this morning & has just gone out with Frank Gilman to lunch & will get Kitty some books which she wishes to present to her Sunday School scholars.

We are going to make a call on Miss Stetson, sister of the bridesmaid & that with an errand or two at the Engravers (for cards) &c. will finish our Boston business.

I hope you will write so we can have soon after or at time of reaching Washington, that you got home in safety & are well - as we are.

Kitty sends a great deal of love to you. It is almost needless to say that everything thus far has continued auspicious and altogether agreeable. We have & feel that we have very very great reason to thank a Kind Heavenly Father for His favoring providences. I desire to know how the work of Grace goes on in your neighborhood. I do pray that Roland & Cynthia [Gilmore, his stepbrother and wife] may begin to follow Christ.

Most Affectionately

C. H. Howard