

Found between

42463

4-20-63

Loc. April 26,  
1863

8/2 spoke to Col. Schemen about  
Dexter's promotion - He seemed  
favorable to it & said he  
would come next to the  
orderly Sgt. whom Dexter  
himself is unwilling to super-  
cede as he told me - The  
Col. objected to putting Dex-  
ter in any other Company as  
it <sup>would</sup> interfere with the promo-  
ting of others who are deserv-  
ing of it. Otis also spoke to  
the Governor for Dexter, asking  
him to promote him if possible.

Mrs. Cottrell and a young  
lady cousin, just came down  
& sat in my tent a little  
while - They had never visited  
me here before - I went with  
them to see the Telegraphic In-  
strument which is a curiosity to  
them. My paper is accompanied

With great love  
Yr. affectionate son  
C. H. Howard

~~There is~~ Lieutenant who <sup>(5)</sup>was  
wounded by a ball thro'  
the fleshy part of the upper  
arm, day before yesterday  
just at night. He was  
fired upon by a guerrilla  
while doing <sup>his</sup> duty as Picket  
officer - Otis had every  
mole inhabitant (and one  
female) brought in for  
two miles around but  
though he got some  
suspicious parties among  
whom was the female  
I am sorry to say, a  
young lady who has  
several brothers in the  
Federal service - yet we  
are unable to identify the

Pl. 2<sup>nd</sup> Company find a plan of the battle field of Chancellorsville which I think was lost out of my  
valise, where this gun of mine



6) The man who evidently  
had murder in his heart.  
And all except three  
have been released - The  
young lady is retained and  
quartered in Mr. Lettels  
house which is now about  
fifty yards from our Hd.  
qrs. encampment. He  
father a very gentlemanly  
old Virginian of some

70 years is also retained.  
His other daughters of his  
are accused of feeding  
these Rebel guerrillas who  
lurk about in the woods.

The wounded man is  
now to walk about and  
is doing well - I suppose  
Dellin is at home by this  
time - We got news in  
today's paper that Maine

had gone for the Union  
by \$15,000 majority -  
This is as good as better  
than I hoped. I think

Oliver must have voted  
all right. (You may tell him  
for me). Is Roland quite  
well? I rec'd a good letter  
from Rowland today - If  
my financial affairs are  
too much of a trouble to  
father I will try and  
relieve him and write di-  
rectly to Mr. Libbey or some  
one else - but of course I  
would prefer father should  
attend to them if he likes  
to and is not inconvenienced  
too much thereby. Hope  
you will tell Dexter Howard's  
mother about my seeing him  
so well and seemingly happy -  
but his hands full of Conscripts.

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9/16/1863

*From:* C.H. Howard

*To:* Mother

CHH-113

Hd. qrs. 11th Corps

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Hd. qrs. 11th Corps  
Sept. 16 1863

My dear Mother,

I have just written a business letter to father and will fill a sheet for you to accompany it. The whole Army except this Corps moved today. This is contraband news but I can tell you with perfect impunity not only to myself and friends but also the interests of our Government and Country, which are scarcely less dear to me. Well, then, I will inform you (not to be put in print) that the Army is all over the Rappahannock except the remnant of this Corps, which is remaining & which is employed in guarding the "line of Communication" or in other words, the Orange & Alexa R.R. all the way to the Rappahannock. Of course the Command is very much distributed. One Brigade is down or up (as they say here) on the Rappahannock and Capt. Stinson is with it for the present. Hd. qrs. have not been moved as this is about as Central as any place. We feel somewhat insecure on acct of the long line subjected to the dangers of Raids. Of course we are spread out rather thin.

We have heard some firing today but do not know whether Gen. Meade intends to push on to attack or only hold a front upon the Rapidan River. He is hardly strong enough now to try Richmond in real earnest, unless he thinks he can get there before Lee could recall his absent forces. And in that case - could he hold what he had acquired? Is the great question. So I think, notwithstanding this bold and threatening advance into the enemy's country and the skirmishing which has already occurred, that a great battle or a general attack by our Army is hardly probable.

You will feel a little more quietude about us in knowing that we have the somewhat inglorious but no less necessary duty of guarding the "line of communication."

I enclose a bit from yesterday's Washington Chronicle which you may have seen elsewhere. It is a beautiful evening just before Sunset. We have had a charming golden light which has imparted a rich glow to the whole landscape tonight and is occasioned partly by the clouds which are more numerous of late and have once or twice afforded us refreshing showers which have quelled th dust.

Hd. Qrs. Are pleasantly situated. It was very warm in the middle of the day but a cooling breeze sprung up this P.M.

Otis and I rode over this afternoon to see an officer [Note 1] a Lieutenant who was wounded by a ball thro' the fleshy part of the upper arm, day before yesterday just at night. He was fired upon by a guerrilla while doing his duty as Picket Officer. Otis had every male inhabitant (and one female) brought in for two miles around but though he got some suspicious parties among whom was the female I am sorry to say, a young lady who has several brothers in the Rebel service - yet we are unable to identify the man who evidently had murder in his heart. And all except three have been released. The young lady is retained and quartered in Mr. Catlett's house which is now about fifty yards from our Hd. Qrs. Encampment. Her father a very gentlemanly old Virginian of some 70 years is also retained. This & other daughters of his are accused of feeding these Rebel guerillas who lurk about in the woods.

The wounded man is so as to walk about and is doing well. I suppose Dellie is at home by this time. We got news in today's paper that Maine had gone for the Union by 15,000 majority. This is as good or better than I hoped. I think Oliver must have voted all right. (You may tell him for me). Is Roland quite well? I rec'd a good letter from Rowland today. If my financial affairs are too much of a trouble to father I will try and relieve him and write directly to Mr. Libbey or some one else - but of course I would prefer father should attend to them if he likes to and is not inconvenienced too much thereby.

Hope you will tell Dexter Howard's mother about my seeing him so well and seemingly happy. Got his hands full of Conscripts. I spoke to Col. Lakeman about Dexter's promotion. He seemed favorable to it & said he (Dexter) would come next to the orderly Sergt. Whom Dexter himself is unwilling to supercede as he told me. The Col. Objected to putting Dexter in any other Company as it would interfere with the promotions of others who are deserving of it. Otis also spoke to the Governor for Dexter, asking him to

promote him if possible.

Mrs Catlett and a young lady cousin just came down & sat in my tent a little while. They had never visited me here before. I went with them to see the Telegraphic Instrument which is a curiosity to them. My paper is consumed.

With great love  
Yr. Affectionate Son  
C. H. Howard

P.S. Love to dear little Gracie. If her father knew I were writing he would send love to both you and her.

P.S. 2nd Can you find a plan of the Battlefield of Chancellorsville which I think was lost out of my valise while I was at home?

[Note 1: The following part of the letter came from an undated fragment: "found between 4-24-63 & 4-26-63 ca April 26, 1863".]



862 - April 1863

Sound believe

5-10-45 +

5-7-45

Pt. no. 2 - Tell "Wash." that "Jim" is here & thinks he has to work  
very hard - Allert. Col. Beebe's man, is also an acquaintance of "Wash."

got Maj. <sup>(3)</sup>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 Freedmen's Bureau.  
He has not had much experience  
in such matters, but good com-  
mon sense and the power of  
attention & application to business  
which he possesses will soon  
make him master of the sit-  
uation. 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

(6)

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 Waltham. He is now at City Point Va. Agent of C. & O. 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 these badges of civilization for four (4) years. With love to my brothers & their precious families (I hope Willie is with you) Your affectionate Son  
C. H. Howard

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5/23/1865

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother

CHH-177

Hd. qrs. Camp Stanton  
Beaufort S.C.

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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.



often thought of "Edward" since I saw that  
boy. I have not mentioned it to Otis. And  
today he told us his name was Johnson tho'  
his father's name was Sykes or something like  
that. He is a funny fellow and it is very  
doubtful whether we will be able to make  
any thing of him. At any rate Otis will have  
the satisfaction of knowing that he saved one  
poor suffering little boy from probable death  
and made him comfortable at least for a time.

We had a good prayer-meeting last night.  
Otis spoke briefly and offered one prayer. I  
had some tracts which I distributed as the  
soldiers went out. They are very glad to get anything  
good to read. After meeting I called with Mr.  
Miles (who was very desirous of going ~~last~~ night)  
upon Mrs. Richards - the near neighbor to us  
and upon a Shore land is our incampment. She  
is a perfect lady. I had met her once before. I took  
a very excellent tract written by Bishop McMorris  
of Ohio - a sensible clergyman and friend of  
Otis - I carried it sealed in an envelope & gave  
it to Mrs. R. I said I must close - I know you are one  
of the Praying Army at home. <sup>May Morris' choicest blessings be</sup>  
<sup>upon you and my brother & father tonight</sup>  
<sup>the prayer of your Affectionate Son E. H. Howards</sup>

Sound between

2-22-02

+

2-24-02

lost 2 pages of  
a letter to  
mother



shortly began my letter - so it seems to me. John comes in and says "George is drowned out".

He means our Colored man the cook - He has a log house for a kitchen - not so good as a tent for the room.

We have a little colored boy who is a great curiosity about here now. Yesterday morning one of the Soldiers of the 64<sup>th</sup> brought him up - Inquired for "Brig. Gen. Howard" and said he had brought up a boy who had been about their camp for several days - That the boy had vermin upon him and none of the soldiers would allow him in their ~~the~~ tents. He had taken pity upon the poor little fellow & did for him the only thing he could think of - brought him to the General. Otis took him and had him washed and washed thoroughly in an outer-tent - The boy was reluctant about putting his head under water so Otis took him up and plunged him in. He got him some clothes, & temporized about him - The boy was very bright - a mulatto - Today he got him a good suit of clothes in Alex<sup>a</sup>. The boy declares that he came from New York but has given unimpeachable proof that he was born & raised in these parts. He is about 8 years old I should judge. I have

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3/4/1862

*From:* C.H. Howard

*To:* Mother (Eliza Gilmore)

CHH-057

Head Quarters 1st  
Brigade  
Camp California Va

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Head Quarters 1st Brigade  
Camp California  
Mar. 4, 1862

My dear Mother,

It is raining hard and just at this moment the wind begins to blow harder still. It is I judge about 8 o'clock in the evening. Since supper Mr Bullock (commissary) Mr Miles and I with occasionally some help from Otis have been singing in front of the open fire in Capt. Sewall's tent, the latter person being in Washington tonight, gone for his pay. Otis left us nearly half an hour ago to come up to his tent to sign some Muster Rolls and now I am at the other table in the same tent. Otis has had to sign his name about 180 times besides other writing upon the Rolls. I prepared them by examination and writing down every thing except the name. It has been a rainy day and I have not been out much. Yesterday it snowed about 1 inch.

Mrs. Sampson, her sister and Mrs. Capt. Watson of Bath Me. came over to see us. It began to snow while they were here so we got a Hospital wagon and Otis rode back with John taking his horse over to the Third Maine for him (Otis) to ride back upon. The ladies were here at dinner. We all attended religious services standing upon the ground about 20 minutes. These friends of Mrs. S. have been over here nearly two months but have not visited us before. Mrs. S. sent back by Otis a letter from Mrs. Merrill and Mary, the mother and sister of the young man of the Third Me. who died a few weeks ago. You will remember that he was a particular friend of mine and perhaps I wrote you that I sent his folks a letter almost every day during his sickness. But by this letter I find that they received none of my letters till after the Telegraphic dispatch came announcing his death. It was a terrible blow to them.

These ladies visiting the Third Maine are going home soon. Ozias Millett was over again last Saturday and got a letter of introduction from Otis. We are all expecting to move soon, as Banks has already done. General Sumner was ordered to Washington today on a Council of War as we surmise. All of the Artillery of the Army of the Potomac has been exchanged within two days. We don't know precisely why. Perhaps to get all of the new & improved rifled guns. Perhaps to get lighter guns. Everything bears toward a movement speedily. I think I have written you since the order for reduction of baggage but "the General" and I had anticipated it by sending away all except our valises before.

My appointment as Lieut. by the Governor of New York came today! I am very glad not only on my own but on Otis' account that this arrived before the advance. He has been quite anxious about it and troubled because it did not come.

Now all is right and I am in the place marked out by Providence I believe for me. Although I love my mother and other dear ones in Maine yet I would not be away from here now on any account.

This is the situation for which I am fitted by natural taste, capacity and education if there is any such situation and I have the contentment which arises from trying to do my duty.

I fear Mrs. Merrill was too inconsolable. I trust my mother with the help of the Lord is better prepared to meet affliction. I heard Otis conversing the other day upon the great gain of those who exchange this world for Heaven. But for his family's sake he would cling to earth more closely. I have no tie of this kind precisely. I have the tie of nearest kindred but no kindred that will seem to be robbed of necessary support if I be taken away.

Just this very two minutes a note came from Gen. Sumner for Otis to come over and see him - he having returned from Washington. It is very dark and rainy but it is not more than a quarter of a mile walk and Otis put on his rubber boots. I took the cape from my overcoat that he might wear that and his rubber coat over it - it being more convenient for that purpose than his own. Dr. Palmer went over to Head Quarters not long since so he will have company back and I did not need to go. The messenger



was with him going over. We don't often allow Brig. Generals to go alone (unless they go into too dangerous places (??)) my sheet is full and I have [inserted undated fragment] hardly begun my letter – so it seems to me. John comes in and says “George is “drowned out”. He means our colored man the cook. He has a log house for a kitchen – not as good as a tent for the rain. We have a little colored boy who is a great curiosity about here now. Yesterday morning one of the Soldiers of the 64th brought him up – inquired for “Brig Gen. Howard” and said he had brought up a boy who had been about their camp for several days. That the boy had vermin upon him and none of the soldiers would allow him in their tents. He had take pity upon the poor little fellow & did for him the only thing he could think of – brought him to the General. Otis took him and had him stripped and washed thoroughly in an outer-tent. The boy was reluctant about putting his head under water so Otis took him up and plunged him in. He got him some clothes, extemporized about here. The boy was very <bright> – a mulatto. Today he got him a good suit of clothes in Alex'a. The boy declares that he came from New York but has given unmistakable proof that he was born & raised in these parts. He is about 8 years old I should judge. I have often thought of “Edward” since I saw this boy. I have not mentioned it to Otis. And today he told us his name was Johnson tho' his father's name was Sykes or something like that. He is a funny fellow and it is very doubtful whether we will be able to make any thing of him. At any rate Otis will have the satisfaction of knowing that he saved one poor suffering little boy from probably death and made him comfortable at least for a time.

We had a good prayer-meeting last night. Otis spoke briefly and offered one prayer. I had some tracts which I distributed as the soldiers went out. They are very glad to get anything good to read. After meeting I called with Mr. Miles (who was very desirous of going last night) upon Mrs. Richards – the near neighbor to us and upon whose land is our encampment. She is a perfect lady. I had met her once before. I took a very excellent tract written by Bishop <McIlwaine> of Ohio – a venerable clergyman and friend of Otis. I carried it sealed in an envelope & gave it to Mrs. R.

I find I must close. I know you are one of the Praying Army at home. May Heaven's choicest blessings be upon you and my brothers & father tonight is the prayer of

Your Affectionate Son  
C. H. Howard

P.S. “The General” has returned and says we move tomorrow! We leave at 8 o'clock. Are going out to support some Bridge-builders upon the R. R. and expect to return to camp again before we go “for good”. We take three days rations. You may not hear so often now but you know in whose hands we are. Otis sends his love and says you must not be anxious about us. I have written an order at his dictation since he came back.

Good Night.  
Charles.

Rowland & Dellie would be glad to know about our prospect of moving I suppose.

5 In walking & I am sorry to say troubles  
me in riding - not that it grows any  
worn but I cannot cling to any saddle  
as I used to - ride poorly & thus when  
compelled to ride much & fast I become  
very lame & sore - I do not think riding  
hurts my leg particularly - tho' sometimes of  
course I hurt it a little as I would if  
it were well even. But I am not worth  
nearly so much as I used to be & tho'  
I feel to regret in this account - Maj.  
Ledgwick was badly & I fear fatally wounded.  
He was the a. a. general so that all  
his duties devolved upon Capt. Whittier who  
is totally inexperienced tho' apt to learn.  
Capt. Howe <sup>(aid)</sup> went home with General Ledgwick  
to home - The remainder of the staff (Captains  
Buchelder & Smith (2<sup>nd</sup> & 1<sup>st</sup> Lt.) with Lieut. Whittier  
& Steele (aid & ordnance officer) are here.

Of course we have had hard duty & hard  
fou for the past week but the Lord is  
with us & gives us a good measure of health  
& keeps us from all harm - Others of our  
staff lost their horses but as I could not  
walk & could not possibly run my horse  
in Providence was spared - Capt. Whittier was  
cool & active in duty while exposed to the greatest  
possible dangers - This was all that you could  
ask - Of myself I fear I have already written with

found between  
12-16-62  
+  
"Winter" 162



6 terms of higher commendation than was justified  
in those others would speak of me. I am  
unconscious, however, of having shrank from my  
duty <sup>when</sup> called. Good night - Much  
love to all - I go to sleep in tent with Capt.  
Nightingale upon some straw on the ground. I  
have no cot bedstead - but shall sleep soundly.  
Oth. sends love to you, to Ella & to Lizzy. Father  
Saturday. Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> '62 -

In glancing over my letter I wish to correct some  
impressions which might be made - (1<sup>st</sup>) I walk considerably  
& better than <sup>when</sup> you saw me using my sabre for a  
Cane. (2<sup>d</sup>) We had Porter's Corps, <sup>a division of new troops</sup> entirely fresh &  
ready for battle except that they had suffered very severe  
marches - 20<sup>th</sup> Maine is in Butterfield's Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Div.  
Porter's Corps - We have seen Col. Ames & Chom-  
bault lately. Col. C. mentions that they had nothing  
to eat - he will find that hard crackers is often our  
only diet - Yet I have never suffered from hunger.  
(3) One term of our being outflanked was that Rich-  
ardson did not move at the appointed time - French  
obliged to the left <sup>on this acct.</sup> while Sedgwick ~~with~~ <sup>accompanied</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>him</sup> ~~thence~~  
Gen. Sumner <sup>in person</sup> went straight forward in the  
place assigned - This left a little gap - Oth. thinks  
that Gen. S. had no business in going in with a single  
Div. but should have taken some prominent place from  
which he could have seen his entire command -  
Other criticisms are made upon Gen. Sumner - but his  
bravery was distinguished - We are well this evening  
(See margin of 1<sup>st</sup> Page)



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9/19/1862

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* [Rowland B Howard]

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CHH-289

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[undated fragment: "found between 12-16-62 & 'winter' '62".]  
[The first 4 pages are missing.]

[page] 5

in walking & I am sorry to say troubles me in riding – not that it grows any worse but I cannot cling to my saddle as I used to ride <hard> & thus when compelled to ride much & fast I become very lame & sore. I do not think riding hurts my leg particularly – tho' sometimes of course I hurt it a little as I would if it were well even. But I am not worth nearly so much as I used to be & this I feel to regret on Otis' account. Maj. Sedgwick was badly & I fear fatally wounded. He was the A. A. general so that all his duties devolve upon Capt. [Eliphalet] Whittlesey who is totally inexperienced tho' apt to learn. Capt. Howe (aid) went home with General Sedgwick to Conn. The remainder of the staff (Captains Bachelder & Smith (Qr Mr & Com.) with Lieuts. Whittier & Steele (aid & ordnance officer) are here.

Of course we have had hard duty & hard fare for the past week but the Lord is with us & gives us a good measure of health & keeps us from all harm. Others of our staff lost their horses but as I could not well walk & could not possibly run my horse in Providence was spared. Capt Whittlesey was cool & active in duty while exposed to the greatest possible dangers. Otis was all that you could ask. Of myself I fear I have already written with terms of higher commendation than was justified or than others would speak of me. I am unconscious, however, of having shrunk from any danger when duty called.

Good night - much love to all – I go to sleep in tent with Capt Whittlesey upon some straw on the ground. We have no cot bedstead – but shall sleep soundly. Otis sends love to you, to Ella & to Lizzie Patten.

Saturday, Sept. 20th '62.

In glancing over my letter I wish to correct some impressions which might be made (1st) I walk considerable & better than when you saw me using my saber for a cane. (2d) We had Porter's Corps & a Div. or more of raw troops entirely fresh and ready for battle, except that they had endured very severe marches – 20th Maine is in Butterfield's Brigade [See Note] Third Div. Porter's Corps. We have seen Col [Adelbert] Ames & [Joshua Lawrence] Chamberlain lately. Col. C. mentioned that they had nothing to eat. He will find that hard crackers is often our only diet. Yet I have never suffered from hunger. (3d) Our reason of our being outflanked was that Richardson did not move at the appointed time. French obliqued to the left on this acct. while Sedgwick whom Gen Sumner accompanied in person went straight forward in the place assigned. This left a little gap. Otis thinks that Gen. S had no business in going in with a single Div. but should have taken some prominent place from which he could have seen his entire command. Other criticisms are made upon Gen Sumner – but his bravery was distinguished. We are well this morning  
(see margin of 1st page)

[Notes:

On the second page (page 6) Charles has written the date Sept 20th '62. So this letter was probably started the day before, Sept 19th. The battle of Antietam occurred on Sept 17th, 1862. The letter was probably written to Rowland Bailey Howard, due to the reference to Rowland's wife Ella and her sister Lizzie Patten.

Charles had been severely wounded (as had Otis) at the Battle of Fair Oaks, VA on June 1, 1862, having been wounded in the leg. He recuperated at home in Maine and had returned to the Army just before the battle, which was on Sept 17, 1862. He apparently had not fully recovered.

During the Battle of Antietam, the 20th Maine Regiment was commanded by Col Ames and included Lcol Chamberlain. They were in the Third Brigade commanded by Col. Thomas B. W. Stockton (not Butterfield) in the First Division which was commanded by Maj. Gen. George W. Morrell. The First Division was in the Fifth Corps commanded by Maj. Gen. Fitz-John Porter.]

min. I hear as I must  
be brief.

Saw a letter from the Lizzy  
last night.

He hopes I will get a com-  
mission & he will immediately  
appoint me Aide. Advice  
then join him which ought  
to be done immediately.

It is somewhat doubtful if  
I get one as the vacancy, and  
your new Aide remains  
& cannot I fear be filled.  
I shall join him in some  
capacity as before if not as  
aide.

I go to Leeds tomorrow &  
to Brunswick St. & I must  
see Mr. Wiggins Sat. - If I  
can go right down to Bath  
& come back Sat. perhaps  
I will do so but guess I  
will have to spend the

hour at Bath & then go  
to Bath for the Sabbath in  
order to see Mr. Wiggins &  
do my business - Will  
tell that Sat. Hope to  
see you at the Cars & you  
may mention to Nettie if  
convenient that I am coming.  
Jamie & Grace are not well.  
Scar throat, - Lizzy & Mary  
about recovered.

His Brigade at  
Bladenburg -

Affectionately  
W H Howard

Early  
65 Feb

Apr 7, 1863







---

2/1/1862

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:*

CHH-293

---

[Undated fragment: "Early Feb 65" was written at the end of the letter in a different hand than Charles'. Probably written around Feb, 1862]

min. I hear so I must be brief.

Saw a letter from Otis to Lizzie last night.

He hopes I will get a commission & he will immediately appoint me Aide & I will then join him which ought to be done immediately.

It is somewhat doubtful if I get one as the vacancy when I am made Aide remains & cannot I fear be filled. I shall join him in same capacity as before if not as Aide.

I go to Leeds tomorrow & to Brunswick Sat. & I must see Mr. Wiggin Sat. If I can go right down to Bath & come back Sat. perhaps I will do so but guess I will have to spend the hour at Br'k & then go to Bath for the Sabbath in order to see Mr. Wiggin & do my business. We'll settle that Sat.

Hope to see you at the cars & you may mention to Nettie if convenient that I am coming.

Jamie & Grace are not well. Soar [sic] throats. Lizzie & Guy about recovered.

Otis' Brigade at Bladensburg.

Affectionately,  
C. H. Howard

[Notes on date of letter: Charles in a letter on 3/7/1862 to his mother writes that he has his commission, so this letter must have been written before that date. James was born 1 Dec 1860. Otis' fourth child, Chancey, was born in 3 May 1863. This letter was probably written in between these dates. Otis received a promotion to Brig. Gen on Sept 3, 1861, and his first command was in Bladensburg. some weeks later, possibly February, 1862.]

found between  
2-16-62 & 2-22-62  
To Brother 15 S+6

brother who are deprived of such blessings - your affectionate brother - C. H. Howard

5  
Give my love to Mrs. Frost &  
family - What do the men  
think of the rebellion or  
don't they speculate upon such  
worldly matters?

I was pleased at what you  
wrote from ~~Wethers~~. I very much  
desire that she shall be a true  
woman - one of piety I mean,  
forgiving & above all narrow views  
& little jealousies - There is no  
one out of my immediate fam-  
ily, whose welfare & prosperity &  
happiness I would more gladly  
hear than hers.

Packard was not very  
well & has gone to N. Y. to  
his brother to remain until he  
gets entirely well.

Rowland <sup>Lygins's</sup> told of the death  
of Sarah's father & Maria ~~Keene~~  
and mentioned that both  
Essex & Wm. G. Sumner had  
gone to the war for 9 months.

Ask all the questions that  
come to mind about the battle  
& I will try & answer in my next.



I am writing upon a bottle<sup>6</sup>  
which John picked up upon  
the battle field. We had 3  
of him. Bowers' aides with us  
but no one was hurt tho' two  
had their horses shot.  
Gen. Sumner was in the  
thickest of the fight but  
safe. Hancock was  
beside Richardson's Division  
& Gen. R. wounded by a  
grope shot probably will not  
live - Miles & Scott are safe.  
The former now Lt. Col. 61<sup>st</sup>  
N. Y. Took 300 rebel prisoners  
in the battle. Two Rebel Gun-  
ners were killed & one at  
South Mountain Sunday evening  
week ago - We did not  
quite get into that battle.  
We cannot repair the loss  
of Gen. Hooker who commanded  
McDowell's Corps - two Divisions.  
Sedgwick has been appointed to  
Corps so will never return to this  
Div. He is a noble man.  
You have the privilege of

perceive without  
wondering I to be  
over, I am afraid the  
loss of the bottle will  
remember some



found between  
2-16-62 + 2-22-62

To Brother pg 5+6

(Page 6)

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

I think Henry Shook - 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 judg-  
ment 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 dinner  
here - This is not a very elegant house but is  
very fair - Our staff occupy four beds -  
Maj. Whittesey will probably not go along this  
campaign - He may possibly take a Negro Regt. If  
Fullerton arrives - Otis will have staff enough - other-  
wise I think Maj. Whittesey will probably go.

I hear from Beebe that six Companies of  
Neg Regts have been organized - so it goes on

(See margin Page 6)

the Sampson of the Signal Corps works her home with  
Samprings, is waiting for Otis this evening - He was along  
for two or three  
this last month

Samprings is waiting for Otis this evening - He was along  
for two or three  
this last month



Father is 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 (see margin page 58) landed upon the Virginia peninsula - I used to notice the Peach trees, then became they were the first I had seen in bloom - We landed at Ship Point April 4<sup>th</sup> 1862 - War has had a good deal more of prominence 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 St. Freeman who used to be with us in the Eleventh Corps & afterwards in the 4<sup>th</sup> Ohio Off. 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 Georgia Campaign ~~has~~ helped to wear him but it is hard, very hard for me to leave.



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4/1/1865

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* Mother

CHH-172

Head-Quarters Dep't  
and Army of the  
Tennessee  
Goldsboro N. C.

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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 <nobody 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



# United States Military Telegraph.

By Telegraph from

Dated

1863.

To

of our lives - I am  
pretty well and will soon  
try to get some rest an-  
ticipating considerable inter-  
ruption during the night.

Col. Le Duc is to load  
his train with baggage &c.  
tonight. The battery begins  
to load tomorrow 6 A.M. at

6 - I send you a  
manuscript for you to  
read & make any suggestions  
for additions or changes before  
it goes to Mr. Abbott.

Next time I would write

Sound between  
5-8-43  
+  
5-17-43

And a account of one -  
In one place I wish you  
to correct when I  
think I wrote 7 or 8  
Thousand at most) please  
change it to be read  
8 or 9 thousand at most.

as the strength of the  
11th Corps <sup>at the beginning of</sup> the battle.

I find there were were about  
10,600 or 11,000 all told  
including <sup>Infantry</sup> Officers, men and  
about 2000 in Borlow's  
Bridges leaving 8,500 or 9000  
aggregate - I don't know  
if you will be able to read  
this record - I will also  
write a short note and send  
a draft to Mother. Died 11th  
Corps - Nashville Tenn. for the present.

P.S. We hope to get before business night.

W. H. Crawford

W. H. Crawford



---

5/10/1863

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* [Rowland B Howard]

CHH-296

11th Corps  
Nashville, Tenn

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[Undated fragment: "found between 5-8-63 & 5-17-63"]  
[5/10/1963 estimated]

[Letterhead]

United States Military Telegraph

By Telegraph from \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_ 1863

To \_\_\_\_\_

of our lines. I am pretty weary and will soon try to get some rest anticipating considerable interruption during the night. Col. Le Duc is to load his train with baggage etc. tonight. The artillery begins to load tomorrow A.M. at 6. I send you a manuscript for you to read & make any suggestions for additions or changes before it goes to Mr. Abbott.

I wrote him I would write such an account at once.

In one place I wish you to correct where I think I wrote 7 or (8 thousand at most) please change it so as to read 8 or 9 thousand at most as the strength of the 11th Corps at the beginning of the battle.

I find there were about 10,500 or 11,000 all told artillery & Infantry officers & men and about 2,000 in Barlow's Brigade leaving 8,500 or 9,000 aggregate. I don't know as you will be able to read this scrawl. I will also write a short note and enclose a draft to Mother.

Love to Ella. Direct 11th Corps, Nashville Tenn for the present.

Your affectionate brother  
C. H. Howard

P.S. We hope to start before tomorrow night.

5  
Rev. Mr. Almond Secretary of the  
Pract Soc. has written for  
Gen. Howard to procure him a  
pass from Gen. Burnside to  
distribute books & labor as her-  
etofore - This has also asked  
permission for a lady, Mrs. Hor-  
ris to come & attend to the  
wounded - She has been much  
with the army & we know  
her well.

This brought also a letter from  
Lizzie - all well. The autotype  
of my is a good one. Capt. W.  
has just got a good Photograph of  
his wife. Have you ever called  
& got the 3 Photographs at Lockes  
which I paid for? We hope  
to see Sam. Hicks before many  
days - He will be a source  
of much satisfaction if he  
comes & ~~meets~~ meets our mess.

I wonder whether any of the

Found between

3-27-43

+

3-31-43



6 Seeds boys in the 16<sup>th</sup> Regt.  
were lost or wounded in  
the battle - How does Uncle  
Charles Knapp sum to take  
the death of Capt. Hutchins?  
Dr. Wiggan who stayed with  
us several days is now well  
but has returned to his Regt.  
Melville Merrill & Coleman  
two schoolmates at Ypsomouth  
& much esteemed friends are  
both in the 15<sup>th</sup> Regt. employed  
in the Hospital. Tell Dr. Drellin that  
Mottlocks is considered one  
of the best if not the best  
officer of the line in the Regt.  
He is now Captain.

Thos. Rubin whom I saw a  
day or two since has got better  
well - Did you see Mrs.  
Wm. Furman? I do hope  
you will be able to write a  
few lines if no more - I thought  
you would not let a Sabbath pass  
without writing when at home.  
(See 1<sup>st</sup> page)

---

1/1/1863

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* [Mother]

CHH-290

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[Undated Fragment found between 6/21/64 and 7/2/64]

[page] 5

Rev. Mr. Alvord Secretary of the Tract Soc. has written for Gen. Howard to <prepare> him a pass from Gen. Burnside to distribute books & labor as heretofore. Otis has also asked permission for a lady, Mrs. Harris to come & attend to the wounded. She has been much with the army & we know her well.

Otis tonight rec'd a letter from Lizzie – all well. The ambrotype of Guy is a good one. Capt. W. has just got a good photograph of his wife. Have you ever called & got the 3 photographs at Lockes which I paid for? We hope to see Sam. Hicks before many days. He will be a source of much satisfaction if he comes & serves our mess.

I wonder whether any of the Leeds boys in the 16th Me. were lost or wounded in the battle. How does Uncle Charles Knapp seem to take the death of Capt. Hutchins? [Charles Hutchins died Dec, 1862]

Dr. Wiggin who stayed with us several days is not well but has returned to his Regt. Melville Merrill & Coleman two schoolmates at Yarmouth & much esteemed friends are both in the 17th employed in the Hospital. Tell Dellie that Mattacks is considered one of the best if not the best officer of the lines in the Regt. He is now Captain.

Thos. Rubin whom I saw a day or two since has got entirely well. Did you see Mrs. Wm Turner? I do hope you will be able to write a few lines if no more. I tho't you would not let a Sabbath pass without writing when at home.

Capt. Owen is to be our Qr. Mr. & Capt Balloch commissary.

(see 1st page)



Capt. Stinson goes with  
the Regt this P.M. to  
Spotted Plover. I have  
an easy life now in Camp,  
I have been studying French  
somewhat. I have sought  
to do to keep my hands &  
myself in sufficient ex-  
ercise - We have been a  
little on the alert of late  
I am now under marching  
orders - i.e. to be ready to  
move upon short notice.

Our logs (5<sup>th</sup>) is already  
up river - past at Kelly's  
Ford where we crossed first  
in the last campaign.

We have such a lovely  
Camp here now I fear  
we will move very soon - I  
very fear & yet I am ready  
at any time. A.D.C.

Captain Griffiths of the Staff  
has been intending to bring  
his wife down but this  
order will prevent for the  
present. He has a log house  
at - Censors soot out to be

his tent.

Mrs. Lynn, Mr. Sturges, Mrs. Lynn, Stearns & many other ladies are visiting their husbands. The firing last night frightened some of them so much that they decided to start for home today. We had a pleasant evening. The ladies I mentioned are quite interesting but you know almost any lady-like ladies are interesting to officers who have been so long beyond the pale of civilized society. Mrs. Perry Lee is still at Ht. Co. 3 Co. 3. Pickles is absent on leave & Perry is still serving on the staff. His resignation was refused unless he could get higher rank in the Navy & this he is now trying for. I was glad to hear from Mr. Chapin - Poor Adm. He has had a strange lot in this life - I am glad Kolander is going to build new house. I am very love to him & his little ones. I saw Thomas Bu for the other day over near the



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6/6/1863

*From:* C.H. Howard

*To:* Mother

CHH-104

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps  
Near Brook's Station,  
Va

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Headquarters Eleventh Corps [Letterhead]  
Near Brooke's Station, Va.,  
June 6th, 1863

My dear Mother,

Otis & I both received letters from you yesterday. It seemed good to see a long letter in your familiar hand - writing again. We were also gratified at your peaceful and cheerful frame of mind. It was particularly cheering as we or particularly Otis has had a great deal of vexation and anxiety of late. I think it has mostly passed away now. It is about the Germans and Gen. Schurz. The Germans in New York had a meeting in which they passed resolutions reflecting somewhat upon the present commander of the 11th Corps and intimated that it would have done better under Siegel.

I have no doubt it will all result rightly.

It is a beautiful day & we have moved our Hd qrs. <moved> June 4th. Last evening had the Band here & two ladies Mrs Barlow (wife of Gen. B.) And Mrs. Parker (wife of Lt. Parker of the Regular army). It was the wedding anniversary for Mrs. Parker. We have now a charming spot for Hd. qrs. Our tents are arranged in a semi-circle and are all pitched in the shade of trees which we have an opening in front grassy & level. It was the site of a house formerly but is now in the midst of the woods.

Yesterday evening about 5 o'clock we began to hear rapid artillery firing near Fredericksburg. Otis had been to Gen. Hooker's in the forenoon and knew that it was the First Corps attempting on making a show of crossing about 2 miles below F. We hear of no casualties & probably Gen. Hooker made all the demonstration that he intends at that point. It is I suppose to learn the whereabouts of the enemy and preventing them from sending any troops West.

There is another expedition on foot up river which is a secret here. We sent the 55th Mass. today up more than half way to the Orange & Alexa. R.R. to Spotted Tavern where it is to report to Gen. Ames who is one of our Brigadiers as I think I have written but was sent for at Hooker's Hd. qrs. this morning & is put in charge of some important movement on a comparatively small scale.

Otis has had Diarrhea, but was better yesterday & is quite smart today. I am well. Sorry you got an impression that I was not well from the long interval in writing. I think you will have rec'd some letters before this.

Capt Stinson goes with the Regt this P.M. to Spotted Tavern. I have an easy life now in Camp. Have been studying French somewhat. Have enough to do to keep my horses & myself in sufficient exercise. We have been a little on the alert of late & are now under marching orders - i.e. to be ready to move upon short notice. One Corps (5th) is already up river - part at Kelly's Ford where we crossed first in the last campaign.

We have such a lovely camp here now I fear we will move very soon. I say fear & yet I am ready at any time. Captain Griffiths A.D.C. [Aide de Camp] of the staff has been intending to bring his wife down but this order will prevent for the present. He has a log house with canvass roof attached to his tent.

Mrs Gen'l Schurz, Mrs. Gen. Steinweher & many other ladies are visiting their husbands. The firing last night frightened some of them so much that they decided to start for home today. We had a pleasant evening. The ladies I mentioned are quite interesting and you know almost any lady-like ladies are interesting to officers who have been so long beyond the pale of civilized society. Mrs. Perry Lee is still at Hd. Qrs. 3d Corps. Sickles is absent on Leave & Perry is still serving on the staff. His resignation was refused unless he could get higher rank in the Navy & this he is now trying for. I was glad to hear

from Mr Chapin. Poor Adna. He has had a strange lot in this life. I am glad Roland is going to build a new house.

Give my love to him & Cynthia & their little ones. Is father – How is his hand?

I saw Thomas <Bures> the other day over near the 2nd Corps Hospital sitting upon the ground with his brother in law, Tho's Rose. They knew me & I had quite a talk with them. Had not seen Thomas before since his return. He is now Company Cook & had come over to see Tho's Rose who is sick in Hospital or rather convalescent. His back is not strong & he (Rose) expects a discharge.

With great affection Yr. aff. son.  
C. H. Howard



The Complaint well founded -

Kitty's side is almost well  
& her cough ditto. & we are  
bravely thankful - Little  
Nina rode over to Maria &  
Jacob's new house on my  
shoulder about an hour ago  
& Kitty & Burt walked. I  
believe you saw the note - all  
would like to send kisses to  
Grandma with very much  
love. Kitty said she thought  
today she would try & write you -  
but she has so many things  
to do now as you can appre-  
ciate - Mrs. Foster & Mac have  
been pin up coming till Oct  
1<sup>st</sup> - It was so much work for  
Mrs. Foster to get the house ready  
to leave - she has got very tired,  
will come to see Sister Helen  
& Rowland & all the family  
affectionately from her little home.

Your generous gift was  
totally a surprise and  
I most heartily thank you  
for being so thoughtful and  
so kind - We got a good  
letter from Dix - Did Row  
and have - he writes very  
cheerfully. I am a good  
deal puzzled to know what  
some future plans, tell  
Rowland - Dr. Potter wants  
a decision whether I will  
visit him - Mr. Gray  
of Haverhill would come  
Nov 1<sup>st</sup> Dr. Whiting is  
on his way from a tour  
in New England & would  
now come on the paper  
& could preach at Winst-  
on or elsewhere & perhaps  
get Abiding. I prefer Prof.



Bortlett's style of news-  
paper work and I think  
he would help me about  
1/2 of what Dr. Patton has  
done for about \$500 a year.  
We are there hard pressed  
for money & will be till  
nearly Nov. I suppose. If  
I could I would borrow  
\$300 till that date for my  
personal convenience. There  
is a small chance a man  
who owes me will pay  
that much soon - about 3/5  
due Jan 1<sup>st</sup> he came in  
a week or two ago to say he  
would pay about Sept  
1<sup>st</sup> but he has not done  
so. I need it to pay coal  
bill \$100 and life insurance  
& some other family bills.

I also desire to expand about  
\$40 in buying my furnace  
smoke pipe up through dining  
room & some other improve-  
ments, which I think will  
save fuel & make us all  
more comfortable. But I  
guess some way will be  
provided - If however  
you have \$100, \$200 or even \$300  
to loan till Jan 1<sup>st</sup> I would  
be glad to have it on a note  
running to that date -

It is not pressing enough  
for you to change any plans  
or in any way put yourself  
to any care or inconvenience.  
Many subscribers have stopped  
Advance because they un-  
derstand we were unjust to  
Mr. Beecher. I do not think



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9/10/1874

*From:* C. H. Howard

*To:* [Eliza Gilmore]

CHH-295

Glencoe, Illinois

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[Undated fragment: after November, 1863]

[This is written to Charles' mother, Eliza Gilmore sometime between 1874 and 1881 because of the reference to the Advance. She is staying with her son Rowland, his second wife Helen, and his children. Charles' daughter, Nina, was born in 1873 and the next child was born Sept 30, 1874. Since there was no mention of a baby and the lack of payment of the debt Sept 1, I estimate the date of the letter to be 9/10/1874.]

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Your generous gift was totally a surprise and I most heartily thank you for being so thoughtful and so kind. We got a good letter from Otis. Did Rowland hear? He writes very cheerfully. I am a good deal puzzled to know about your future plans, tell Rowland. Dr. Patten wants a decision whether I will want him. Mr. Gray of Interior would come Nov 1st. Dr Whiting is on his return from a tour in New England & would now come on the paper & could preach at Winnetka or elsewhere & part get <a living>. I prefer Prof. Bartlett's style of newspaper work and I think he would help me about ½ of what Dr. Patton has done for about \$500 a year. We are still hard pressed for money & will be till nearly Nov I suppose. If I could I would borrow \$300 till that date for my personal conveniences. There is a small chance a man who owes me will pay that much soon – about \$375 <due> Jan 1st he came in a week or two ago to say he would pay about Sept 1st but he has not done so. I need it to [pay] my coal bill \$100 and life insurance & some other family bills.

I also desire to expend about \$40 in bringing my furnace smoke pipe up through dining room & some other improvements which I think will save fuel & make us all more comfortable. But I guess some way will be provided. If however you have \$100, \$200 or even \$300 to loan till Jan 1st I would be glad to have it on a note running to that date.

It is not pressing enough for you to change any plans or in any way put yourself to any care or inconvenience.

Many subscribers have stopped Advance because they imagined we were unjust to Mr. Beecher. I do not think the complaint well founded.

Kitty's side is almost well & her cough ditto & we are truly thankful. Little Nina rode over to Maria and Jacob's new house on my shoulder about one hour ago & Kitty & Burt walked. I believe you saw the site. All would like to send kisses to Grandma with very much love. Kitty said she thought today she would try to write you – but she has so many things to do now as you can appreciate. Mrs. Foster & Mac have nearly given up coming till Oct 1st. It was so much work for Mrs. Foster to get the house ready to leave. She has got very tired.

With love to dear sister Helen & Rowland & all the boys.

Affectionately your son  
C. H. H.