

Miss M. Gertrude Smith

Blairsville Penn^a

May 29th 1883

My dear Gertie:

Mrs. [Brigler ?] came
to us so that we seem obliged to
leave the 11th or 12th of June
for a short absense (sic). You
will get here with the boys
a little while before ^{our} my return
from the Nat. Park. I know my
daughter you will not mind this -
our home, my horse (& he is a good
one) and everything books, papers
boys & girls are yours. I was to
remain to give you the welcome
and my heart was happy in

the coveted privilege. Guy, however,
begged me to go & looks forward
to your coming with his own
quiet comfort. I think he
will make things really pleasant.

Bessie, who joined the Ch. Sund.
would break her heart if you
did not come. You will find her
the little house-keeper. Harry
will play you his waltzes - even
if the frogs have gotten into his
maturing throat so as to make
his singing husky.

Accept love from all & not
any less from your loving

friend O. O. Howard

Remember me affectionately to your mother.
She is really self denying to let you come to us.

June 4th 1883

To)

Miss M. Gertrude Smith

Blairsville, Penn.

My dear Gertie:

I enclose
you a pass on and back -
Chicago to Omaha - wish
it were all the way.

I don't know anybody
I shall be happier to see
I entrust Chancy and John
to your care. Kindest regards
to your mother - Affectionately

Yrs. O. O. H.

June 9 1883

Miss M. Gertrude Smith

Blairsville

Dear Gertie:

Penna.

I could'nt (sic)

tell you concerning Grace.

She gave up her coming &

sent her passes back -

was sick and had to stay in

Vancouver &c. &c. Now she

telegraphs and wants to know

when & where after our
to the Nat. Park
trip ^ I will meet her.

Mrs. Bright is with us &

we leave for the National

Park Monday. I hope you

have heard from Chancy

I sent passes to you almost a week ago.

before this. I hope you
are not worn out by
your prolonged work.

I do wish you &
your good mamma
would come & stay
forever with us. I don't
think I am fair to you
or to your good papa
now in Heaven not
to care just as much for
his child as I do for my
own. Surely I could not
do less. Don't you wish
I was rich?

Lovingly your paternal
friend O. O. H.

August 13 [188]3

Mrs. Sarah W. Hopkins

Boston, Mass.

Dear Sarah:

You must
arrange as so many others
do in publishing books, let
the book firm publish giving
you a percentage on the sales.
My family now is very large
and I need all the money
I can raise & save. I hope
your husband is with you. He
will advise you in these
matters. I shall gladly convey

your message to Mrs. Howard
& to Mrs. Gray who is with
us with her two little
children "Bessie" & "Mary".

Yours truly

O. O. Howard

Dec. 8th 1883

Miss M. Gertrude Smith

36 Jumpkin's Place

Brooklyn

Dear Gertie:

N.Y.

Mrs. Howard has said
two or three times "I must write
Gertie." She went off with Guy, Bessie
& party to Colorado. We were in
hopes that it might break her cough
which has become quite troublesome
but after two weeks she came back
not much, if any, better. Then
early the following week she
went to Chicago. Today I expected
her back but she has not come.
Chancy & Bessie went too. So,
she may not yet have written
you. Guy & Miss Jeannie Woolworth
have fixed up an engagement. The
wedding comes off 14th Feb. in church.

of news
This little piece ^ I know will
interest you. We had longed for
the queenly [Carry B. ?] ^ but saw
constant recurrences of Providence
appeared to be against it. Mamma
thought or said some time
ago the you noticed some
change in my manner to you, -
possibly, my dear child, but news
in my heart. My friendship pure
& simple is very sound toward
you & never can change. I sometimes
have to school myself and that
looks like change. You have so
much of your father, Godbless his
memory, & of your perfect mother
in you, that it is full time for
you to come out wholly unqualifiedly
on the Lord's side. Perhaps you
have - if so, my secret friend, do
write me the full story and thus
cheer an old man's heart. Give

much love to your mother.

Chancy prospers much under the
new firm - Leighton & Clarke. It
b'ot out Kenwood &c. John is now
clerking in the Merchant's Nat. Bank
a sort of preparatory school to his future
business which I think will be
"Hardware". We get good letters from
Jamie. He has become a more
decided Christian - is in closer sympathy
with the Lord & more prayerful. He
is now in full connection with
the [Göttingam ?] University. Harry's eyes
do not improve, but he does not
nor read Prince & Hero
study nights. His dogs grow, but his
in the attick (sic) ^
room ^ is not quite finished. Chancy's
& John's in the attick (sic) are finished. John
is decorating a part of his - you would
be amused at his sun flowers. They ^ the pictures
are quite creditable. Bessie is
losing in study but growing in strngth,
still slender & nervous - feet hardly touch the
the ground when she is excited.

Sincerely your, avec beaucoup d'amour

O. O. H.

Dec. 14 [188]3

My dear Gertie:

It seems as if
your letter and mine were written
by a simultaneous impulse.

I am so happy that you have come to th

to the Lord. I feared that my

"[irdische ?] leben" have [?]

you. The earthly love is sometimes

misleading. Give my love &

congratulations to your dear mother.

Mrs. Howard with the constant

labor of increasing cough must

be forgiven for her delays. She looked

happy for you when I read your

resolution - and was very sorry for

cousin Dora. I did think if any

body had good eyes it was Dora

I was writing in a kind of
politic way for "mamma"
to write you first. I repeat now!
no fault with you my dear
child. Mon coeur s'en va
vers vous.

Sincerely yours

O. O. Howard

Jan 26 [188]4

To/ Miss M. Gertrude Smith
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dear Gertie:

I have resolved to
go to Europe: have my
passage from Omaha to
Antwerp and expect to
meet Jamie there. I go
by the Steamer 15th March
from N.Y., "Belgenlande" by
name. I must go on
by way of Washington and

mean to have time to call
upon you, dear child, and
let you do as old [Iskettecelar ?]
the Indian chief said: "Look
into my eyes & see if there is
anything bad in me!"

I am so glad you mean
to go to the Beautiful
Land: How many things
I will tell you there if God
should be able to let me
see thro the Gates!

Did you suspect Miss
Woolworth's purpose when
you were here, i.e. to carry

off my bachelor Lieutenant?

I like the young lady much

but forgivr me, - ~~but~~ I

did almost worship the

other. Give my love to

your faithful Mamma.

I trust she continues well.

Mrs. Howard's cough is

about gon - The thermom-

eter goes upon the jump

from 20 above to 30 below,

as the wind keeps swinging around -

around - but with our

& our furnace
double-worth-windows we

are proof against the cold

Guy is serener and happier than
he has ever been before. The
14th Feb. may prove fatal,
but I guess not - for Guy does
not change easily. If you
could catch Jamie or were
not too old or too smart
for Chancy, my heart would
grow warmer toward you,
for someday I want the right
right to say "meine tachter"
or ma fille, or the plainer
& lovelier Anglo Saxon "my
daughter." Vous devez contin-
uer aimer le vieux homme,
car il y a beaucoup d'amour
et de jeunesse dans son Âme.
John, Harry & Bessie are well.
Sincerely your friend in the best of bonds,

Oliver O. Howard

Jan 26 [188]4

General W. B. Franklin

Hartford Conn.

Dear General:

I am indeed

sorry that I left the statement
to which you refer in the shape
you found it; for, while I could
not quite tell the circumstances,

I did not believe you to be
blameworthy if indeed anybody

was. I am just commencing a
paper on Anteitam and unless you
object I will make the corrections
in connection with that publication.

Or if you prefer it will ask the [Wⁿ ?]

Tribune to publish your letter & own

up. Soon Mr. [Lemon ?], the
publisher ^{desires I believe} ~~proposes~~ to gather my
monographs into some book
form, and if he does so I
am to correct the proofs - then
will I make the correction
where it belongs

I am much obliged to
you for writing me &
calling attention to the
error -

Yours truly

O.O.Howard

Feb 18 [188]4

Miss M. Gertrude Smith

Brooklyn N.Y.

Dear Gertie:

Please look up

Miss Minnie Cooke & tell her

that I will gladly take her & Pauline

N.Y.

to Antwerp leaving ^ by the Belginland

the 15th Prox. I will have them escorted

escorted to England. Jamie [?] will

there

go with them ^ if it is necessary.

Gen. Whittlesy thinks they may

go with me. How much I

would like to have had "my page"

would'nt (sic) I, but Norway is out of

the question. Aff. with love to yr. mother.

O.O.H.

Omaha Mar. 5th 1884

Dear General Gibbon:

I think I
have put all public business into
as good shape as is practicable = and
as I wish to give Mrs. Howard time
to come back before Sunday next
from Chicago, I have concluded to
start this evening. I wished much
to see you before leaving, but
Col. Taylor will post you as well
as I could on all department
matters. Lt. Howard will soon
be back & will be foot-loose
for your A. D. C. Sladen, I have

kept intentionally at quarter masters
duty as you will see. I think
he does that duty admirably.

With much esteem I am

as ever Yours

Oliver O. Howard

Brig. Gen. U. S. A.