

Jan^{month} 1st 1848.

Friend Howard

Greeting—

Seeing thy name on a Catalogue of Bow Coll for the year ending 1848. I thought as I had not obtained one for the year 1848, I would write to thee requesting thee to send one with all possible speed inasmuch as thy humble servant intends to send an only son to be educated at that institution ^{the} next fall, and he wishes to know the state of the Institution at the present time, and also to know what classics they read, so that I can procure them for my son without difficulty. What suggested to my mind the idea of writing to thee in particular is because thy humble servant's nearest neighbors are of the name of Howards whether relation to thee I know not

Thy humble servant &c.

J. W. Bunker

A. B. Please direct the Catalogue should you send one to Temple Mills, (State of Maine on the Sandy River) All my endeavors to obtain a Catalogue have been fruitless as yet though I have tried hard enough. J. W. Bunker

January 1848

Temple Mills Me
Jan 6

25

Oliver Otto Howard, Esq.

Leeds.

Me.

(Single)

Deleg. D. B. Allen

Deleg.

1848

Portland

Portland

Letter to James W. Bunker

Simple Skills

(On the Sandy Beach)

1548

O Howard
March 10 1848

Mr. John Gilmore.
South Leeds
Maine



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Bowdoin College March 5. 1848.

Dear Mother

I have been waiting some time to ascertain, whether I should have the measles or not, before I wrote. But as it will be a fortnight tomorrow since I left home, and as yet I have had no symptoms of them, I have decided that I have escaped the disease this time. And I think it better that I have avoided them, for I should be obliged to study as quiet as possible after my recovery and it might injure my eyes. Besides it is not a very comfortable place here to be sick. I suppose some of the family are sick with them here this if so you must write me how they are getting along. if you have spare time, if not perhaps father will write. — I have made up the hardest part of my studies and been examined on them viz — Greek — Geometry and Rhetoric — and have remaining Latin & French. Our everyday lessons have been long and rather difficult. But I found it much easier than I anticipated to get them and then find time to make up my back lessons. My health is very good except that I have a large pimple under my chin, caused I presume by taking the medicine you gave me, driving the impurities within to the outside. It is of a different kind from any I ever have had,

being very hard and quite painful, but not worth mentioning. Tell Father that it was a long time before I recovered fairly from that peculiar ride, which he and I together accomplished. Frequently I found myself driving and whipping horses, and trying the sled, running for open and shoveling snow, "but Alas! I woke and found it all a dream"

Tell Rowland Bailey I have spoken with Burbank his writing master, who spoke very well of him indeed. ~~He~~ said he admired his dialogue the last day, or at the exhibition of Thindfield's school, and was particularly pleased with the manner he spoke it. Have you ever asked Mr Bailey respecting that Munkes of Temple Mills - Since I have returned I have written him a long letter and sent an Athenaeum Catalogue.

William Old is quite as well. He came into my room yesterday looking so cast down & sick, that I was quite frightened. But I fixed him as comfortably as possible into my chair, and brought him some warm drink and crackers, and in a little while he looked much better and this morning he went to his breakfast as usual looking quite smart, yet he says his head aches now. You must not say any thing about it, for if his father should hear of it, he might be unnecessarily alarmed. Thinking his cholic the result of some particular cause of which I think he is suspicious. Pollard, his (William's) Chum has not returned yet - After I went away last fall, there was an occurrence

here of which I did not ~~hear~~ hear - Four or five Freshmen and two Sophomores went on a ride to Lisbon, for the purpose of having a "Lat" as they term it. They went into a Ball Room, and behaving very unmanly, were quite unceremoniously kicked down stairs & out doors - which was serving them as they deserved. But that was not the end of it, the fame of the expedition came to the ears of the faculty, who compelled them all to send (\$10.00) ten dollars each to settle the damage done, but I believe it was sent back - and the two Sophomores & one Freshman were suspended from college, & these three were considered the leading members.

You will recollect that William did not say any thing respecting this occurrence, of which I think even he was a little ashamed. This also you must not speak of out of the family for it would not take long ^{for some} to make innumerable additions, and the truth is bad enough. The Faculty wrote to the father of all engaged in it. Have you been fortunate enough to find my pen? I have found a gold pen since very similar to mine, and if I do not find an owner I shall have one in place of the lost. (March 6) - I have seated myself to finish my letter this morning after breakfast. I hope yours are now well! You may now tell Betty with certainty, that she need not fear longer of her being so unkind as to give me the Measles. I wish you to write me as quickly as convenient. Give my love to my Brothers. Tell them no longer to think of me as their master, but their affectionate Brother. Your affectionate son. O. Howard.

South Leech Lake
March 4

Mr Oliver O Howard

Brunswick

Mr

Leeds March 5th 1848

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My dear son, There is the sabbath two weeks since we
were at the centⁿs at church, where you were exposed ^{to} the
measles from Sturges Jennings who went home at the end of the
forenoon service sick with ^{the} measles, if you took them from him
probably you ^{will} be sick with them before this reaches you, I went
to see Mrs Lavis soon after you left home and found her sick
with the throat distemper she was alarmed about you on ^{this} account
of your taking her breath, ^{and kept herself quite unwell} she said she was exposed
to some one who had the throat distemper just two weeks before
that day, her throat broke soon after I saw her, I hope
you will escape both disorders, but if you don't do take care
of yourself after persons have had such sicknesses, their
pores are open, and they take cold easily, your father
reached home at the beginning of evening the day
he left Brunswick very lame, and tired, ^{his poor} horse troubled him very much, both tired and
contrary, but he has nearly recovered his limbs
he said you had a painful time getting to Brunswick
but still I hope you did not suffer immediately
from the effects of your journey, and still hope
you will escape the above mentioned troubles, I
was some disappointed last evening in not re-
ceiving a few lines from you, hope sickness
^{did} not deter you from writing let me know
how you are getting along making up your stud-
ies and whether you board the same as previous
Your Mother is a close observer of her children there is
searchly an expression of the eye of one of them

escapes her. I don't know but I am touching a tender spot
(as the saying is) but allow a tender mother who is
interested in every thought of your heart to suggest
a few ideas, I have noticed a few somethings about
you my son while with me, this winter which I could
wish could have been otherwise, an abstractedness
which I never saw in you before, and disinclination
for study which you had chosen as your manner
of life, and seemed to shun the society of your
mother as a general thing and her general observa-
tions seemed painful to you, and insinuated
many things which I could not understand
though from their manner of being thrown out
I supposed them intended for me but could form

no definite idea what you intended, the subject is
so painful for me to pursue, nor indeed do I
feel any confidence in so doing, if you have any
thing nipt up in your heart for safe keeping which
makes you unhappy, and you even said you never
took any comfort in your life, pray, where is the fault
I desire you should enjoy every day, but I will leave
the subject and tell you more of what is going on
Elizabeth and her two little sisters ^{here} had the measles
and Betsey's children, Mr. Jones' boys and none
of ours have had them yet, we have had a
very close time for one week a snow storm
began last Monday night and snowed all
day Tuesday and Wednesday blew so hard all
day that it filled all the roads Thursday was

pleasant, and the roads were opened another storm
on Friday, and Saturday blowing again, in the
afternoon the men were out again and opened
the roads and this morning when I waked
behold a snow storm, but it seemed rather mild
so Rowland B.H. has gone ^{to} carry Menerva home
she has never been exposed to the measles, and
Elizabeth had such a hard time I did not
wish Mr. to have them. I hope you are not
very unhappy, I hope your daily studies will
not impair your health Betsey Collier is in the
neighbourhood caught here in the storm I have
seen her some she told me of William's experi-
ence escape he got into, I suppose you knew it
she said your Uncle told her I suppose it is
heavy on his mind and he mentioned it to her
perhaps no one else know of it, I feel a confidence
my son will not be misled in such a way
no wonder a temperance pledge is held out
as necessary I don't know when Betsey will
get back to her station again, Rodolphus reads
every day his winter improve ment shows it
self much, Caroline Lathrop was married Wednes-
day evening after you left home, something
like sixty or seventy persons were present,
Mendall Loughton ~~solicited~~ the marriage.
give my love to Mr. Purley I regret not seeing
him when here I hope you and him will be
happy in each other if you are sick let him

Elizabeth with to send love to you

your mother

Went Hill March 14th 1848
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Dear Brother

I came to the Hill ^{ago} a week today. I find the school as pleasant as usual. There is at present about 100 students but the school is not near full. Mr T. is still principal with his wife for assistant. I am studying the first book in Latin which we shall finish in about three weeks and then take buxar which I want to finish this term. I had to buy me one after I came here. I am also studying Clarke's algebra which is I think rather harder than Smith's and is considered here better than the same. The class is somewhat in advance of me but by studying I am in hopes to keep up with them. When you wrote to me you said that you were ~~well~~ write me soon in regard to your health. I like my chum midling well, he is better than he looks. I don't know ~~but~~ you know him his name is J. H. Turner. I think some of ~~the~~ studying. Greet the last of the term but have not made up my mind. You wrote that you succeeded in your examination well. I am glad to hear it. I hope you will not have to study harder than your health will allow. You alluded in your letter to some foolish remarks of mine, made in fun about your leaving me. I am sorry that you remembered them for I shall always like to have advice from you by letter or otherwise. My health is very good except my eyes which will not allow me to study much evenings but I partly make it up in getting up in the morning as soon as I can see well. I find do not lose much by it as day light comes cheaper than candle light. I like my boarding place very much better than I did the caps for here afraid of eating to much. But I do not think he would complain that soon if he had me this term. Our family at Leeds were well when I left. I have not heard from them since. Mother was very anxious on account of your health which

March 16th 1848

Went Hill 51
Mar 16

Mr Oliver O Howard
Brunswick
Me

you wrote was very poor I went to say Roland A down to the falls
to take the cars he was rather frustrated when about to start but
doubtless he has got over that by this time, ^{suppose} he is now on the
ocean as we have heard nothing from him Elias L. went
the same day and with him ^{think} he will prove a true friend
to him in all matters You wrote that Mr. Jones was at Bran-
if he is there now give my respects to him, You said that he
accused you of misrepresenting the school perhaps you remember
the prophecy that I made in a former letter that he would leave
and so it proved, I thought by what he said when here that thought
leaving Bodoin and entering at Harvard, Frances is studying
or reading as I should say, Galtus, he has just been ripping tearing
and swearing over his lesson He studies pretty hard he has never
read Galtus before and it comes rather hard to him he wants me to
say to you that if you will write to him he will be sure to
answer the letter I shall not go home till the last of April or the
first of May it is such a hard work to get back again I suppose the
term will last till the first of June I do not intend to read any
this term although I may some think I shall take a share in the
Library Rets and Sarahs signatures were not very good ones
forgetting to shut his mouth I hardly know what to write
about as the people ~~with~~ whom I associate are stranger to you
of course news from them would be uninteresting I hope you
will write me soon and I am some anxious about your
health

Your affectionate Brother

R. B. Howard

Money has never been my aim. That, of course,
to some extent is necessary to every one. But
the distinction which riches alone confer is
disgusting. To be courted & flattered on account
of paltry wealth. To ride in a fine carriage, to wear
nice clothes may be desired, yes; even longed for
by some - but to see ^{these} what I can but little pleasure,
unconnected with something the true respect, which
intellectual worth exacts & receives. I admire a
man, who by intellectual exertions has made himself
celebrated, whether it be in oratory, or with the pen.
Hence my ambition is to become a good
speaker & writer - either of which requires extensive
knowledge and good abilities both natural &
acquired, besides a thorough acquaintance with
human nature. These being my end & object, how
in reason could I blame the only friend who is
willing to assist me. You misunderstand me.
I am not what I may have seemed to you,
You sometimes hesitate perhaps and say many
things for which I am sorry. I noticed many times
you interpreted me, wrong, and when I attempted
an explanation, you thought I ~~threw~~ blame upon
you in vindication of myself - so I said nothing.
You said I treated you disrespectfully, all I could say
I did not intend to. I would have said more but mother
I know your disposition too well to venture an explanation
while excited or in anger. But now, if I ever in any mood
or deed I have injured your feelings, now I am willing humbly to ask your forgiveness.

Give my love to my brothers and the rest of the family
and tell them I am getting along with the measles.

From your affectionate son
C. O. Howard

C. O. Howard

March 14, 1848

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Board College March 14, 1848.

Dear Mother

I certainly have been very fortunate
to escape so many infections, and think it wonderful
that it should be so, having been so many times exposed.
But I have escaped and am now in the enjoyment of
good health. I heard at the same place ^{the} I have
previously. I did not like to change, very well, and as
the price of board was not so high as anticipated
I resolved to remain one term more. Besides I
thought my expenses amounted to enough without
increasing them by paying a greater price for
board. It does not make much difference what
we eat if it but be wholesome. Our Club behave
too with as much propriety as any in town, ~~the~~
Hence if I changed my place it would be only to
gratify a foolish pride. There is a certain class
here, as elsewhere, who think more of, greet with
a blander smile and meet, with perhaps a
more flattering welcome, those who dress well
and eat the most luxuriously. But what care
me for them. It is well; it is pleasant to be popular
to have the friendship of all: But what is the
value of friendship founded on the external
appearance, the mere outward show. This is its
worth. I delight in your society and am happy

to see you at all times". So long as wealth remains. If this precious boon flees - "Then how mistaken I was in you, I thought you a noble fellow". "But now you are nothing but a vulgar poverty stricken wretch", "I will have no ^{longer} such a companion". - On the other hand respect, love, or friendship founded on real internal worth, having its root in the heart remains - when property is gone and riches are no more. - My abstract ^{idea} of which you spoke arose not from any unrevealed secret, but when my school did not pass to suit me during the day, at night being somewhat exhausted and therefore fretful. I brooded more over small things than I ought. It pained me to have my brothers complain of me. They do not know me, and I fear they will not. For my whole conduct towards them appears different from what I could wish. ~~What~~ ^{What} my own Brothers, as it were in the eye of the District, I can tell you was no pleasing task. And as I said, little things, petty grievances though they be, wore upon me, and therefore made me appear different from what I have when I have returned home to enjoy recreation & rest. Frequently I saw things and actions which perhaps no one noticed but me. And often I worked hard to avoid trouble in school, when I might have appeared to others to have been indifferent. Yet it is past & I will not revere to it. I anticipated a

hard time this winter both from my inexperience ~~and~~ and from an envious prejudice always existing in small minds, which I shunned or rather brushed by frankness mingled with flattery. After all I succeeded well; at least, with a few exceptions, was satisfied with myself; which is seldom the case, although I am possessed of much self-esteem. You spoke also of my disinclination to study. This arose from the same cause. From 18 students of my class who taught school, I know of but one who studied so much as I did, and that you know was very little. They say they cannot study & keep school, for a person wants to have a clear head at least to learn Greek & Latin. But you are mistaken if you think I do not love study, if you think I regret the course I have taken. The only real pleasure I take is in the perusal of books and the only regret I feel is that I do not improve more and faster. It seems to me, when I view what is before me, that as yet I have done nothing. I see others, other young men, who have had the privileges I enjoy, benefited thereby, they carry respect & esteem with them wherever they go. They seem to be possessed of talents the improving of which adds to them a superiority, which makes them influential ~~in~~ and beloved by society. My aspirations are high and perhaps my ambition extends beyond my abilities. To use the common phrase "I have wished to be somebody",

W Howard
March 30 1848

Mrs John Gilmore.
South Lee.
Maine.



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Bowdoin College March 30. 1848.

Dear Mother

I received your letter on Monday last - was
sorry to perceive you in so low spirits, and so ill. I suppose the
care and anxiety of watching beside the sick bed has worn
upon you somewhat, and I hope you, as well as the rest may
now recover your accustomed health. Tell Roland, A. Perhaps his
"looting" wishes with regard to my having the measles, may have
quicken'd some in some degree the severity of his disease. But perhaps
I am joking too soon, as @ student, who returned about a week ago, has
been confined with them (the measles) here. He was taken down with
them about two days after his return, and it is probable he spread
them well. Yet it is not well to predict, still. I hope I may be as
happily disappointed with regard to them now as I have been heretofore.
We now have harder or at least longer lessons than we have ever had.
They require my almost undivided and certainly my strictest
attention in order to prepare them well. We have now finished
Rhetoric, which was comparatively easy, as it is plain English,
and requires no study to be understood, though it may be difficult
to be fixed in the memory. I liked it because I have a great desire to
be a good writer, to possess an easy & perspicuous style of writing. I consider
it a great accomplishment, to be able to convey our thought in an
interesting manner, and there is no ^{better} ~~greater~~ indication of the character

of a man than is displayed by his taste in the selection of language to communicate his thoughts. To be eminent as a writer, certainly requires ideas, and ideas of the most elevated kind, it needs a deeply cultivated mind and very extended knowledge. But of what avail are all these materials, if they cannot be moulded and formed so as to give evidence of the superior attainments of the writer? How can one impress others with the importance of his subject, unless he knows how to express its importance? I forget? I am not writing a Theme, or scribbling in my Journal. You asked me respecting my studies, which I had to make up. I have passed examination on all except my Latin, which is not quite all reviewed yet. I think I can say I have not been negligent or slothful this term, when I have not been studying I have been writing. We have a theme (or composition) of four pages to write once a fortnight. and this is something which requires particular care and attention. Any thing, upon any subject, scribbled down at leisure, does not answer the purpose. Our last theme was on the "Death of John Quincy Adams". Our next is on Mary Queen of Scots. We shall be obliged to read different authors on the period in which she lived and compare them, and then rely upon our own judgment with regard to their representations for truth. For writers on this subject differ very much. Some praising the Queen of England, and thus necessarily depreciating the merits of the Queen of Scots. And others conversely on the contrary favouring the latter, and as I think justly censuring the former on account of her too intriguing, malicious conduct: Therefore it will require a

great quantity of reading and research, in order rightly to investigate this subject, and much care to give the result of the investigation in comprehensive and perspicuous language. I think Perley will surpass me in writing, as he has so much greater powers of imagination and an excellent memory: Yet our Rhetoric says, "Defects of nature must be overcome by strenuous effort and by the discipline of the mind". I do not think nature has been "neglected" in the bestowal of her gifts even upon me, (and I suppose you would say I ought to be thankful for what I do possess), But I do think she has been rather more liberal in blessing many others. I have not arrived at this conclusion from any want of respect for self, but from observation. You may think because I think myself inferior in some respects to some others, that I am discouraged: far from it! As I have hinted, so much greater is the inducement to exertion.

It is now half past eleven O'clock, and I must end my epistle, I have sat up thus late in order to write this, as my lesson occupied the time till after 9 O'clock. Give my love to my brothers - Ask Rowland to write me. Tell him I will try to get time to answer him. Give my love to Father & Roland & Eliza. My health never had been better than at present. I am glad that Leeds folks, like the rest of the world are entering ^{upon} that universally celebrated institution, marriage, and hope if they conduct themselves aright therein, much good, and at least much "fruit" may result therefrom. Write me an answer

From your affectionate son,
Oliver C. Howard

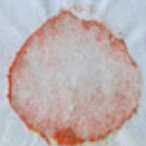
April fool day - 1848

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Dear Brother

You may think that I have been needlessly negligent about answering your letter but my time has been all occupied, I was glad to hear that your health had improved and that you was able to be round. You mention that your studies are uncommonly hard. I hope that your health will hold out for you to prosecute them. I am sorry that you worried prof C so badly. but hope that you got through ^{without} getting any of your necks broke for by your description of him I should think that would be the natural consequence but doubtless he counted ten before he spoke as is customary with well balanced minds. Have you found your "Kindine" which some one had the kindness to look. And madly maddest is most all that we hear between here and the Seminary the mud is ankle deep but half of the way we have an excellent sidewalk the rest of the way we fare as we can which is some of the maddest. There ^{are} about one hundred and sixty in the school and it is daily increasing I am reading Caesar which I find very easy there are five at this house that are reading it so we help each other I think I understand it as well as any of them. They have formed what they call a congress which consists of the students and the convention to draw up a constitution met last Saturday and I believe succeeded in their efforts. If I join that and go into the class for composition about being formed I

April 1st 1848



Trusts M. M.
April 2

Mr Oliver

D. Howard

Sumner's

Me

shall have as many exercises in composition and
speaking as I shall wish for I have also joined the
Calliopean Society which I have no doubt will help
me very much in those branches I declaimed last Saturday
failed the first time of going on to the stage but did better
the second hope I shall do well the next. I have not heard
from home since I have been here although I wrote nearly a fortnight
ago if you ^{have} heard from there lately please write as I can get
a letter much quicker from Brunswick than from Leeds
I think I had better have my news come that way. I have
not seen any of your acquaintances since I have been here except
my Chum who is well and enjoying himself I still like
my boarding place there are 12 boarding here besides myself
I go into the singing class here which I find to be very pleasant
we have an excellent teacher one who understands the science perfectly
I have written one composition to Mr Walsh expect to have to write
two a week to Mr Torrey after his class is formed Mr Torrey
preached today at the meeting house the first time I ever
heard him I expected to hear a great sermon and was
not disappointed It was not a simple exhortation such as
we generally hear here but it was a sound theological
sermon some such as Elder Lawton used to preach. He
that is Mr Torrey will never preach on the Hill when he
can get rid of it for he has a sort of diffidence about
speaking before the students. It is now nearly twelve and
I must go to bed or I shall have sore eyes for tomorrow, write soon
Your Brother

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I guess you'll think the date ^{is} like the letter R B Howard

South Leitchfield
April 4

April 8-1848

Mr. Oliver O. Howard

Brunswick

Maine

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My Dear Son,

Leeds Mass. 8. 1848.

We received your kind letter in Tuesday's mail with as kind a welcome as ever. I am quite well now, and your letter seemed to cheer me, much I feel as though you are "pursuing with care the nice design" of your own heart. and you speak with so much confidence of your good health, I hope you are still well, our family have recovered entirely from the measles, Olan Turner had them last ^{of doors} had a thorough time of it, is out now, and ^{his} wife and daughter are having the symptoms, I really hope you will escape them this spring, but if you do not do ~~be~~ careful of yourself I have heard of an instance this spring of a man who went into the air to soon and left him crazy for a long time Rowland B. Charles, he had a bad cough three days before they had any other appearance of them. I fixed a tumbler nearly full of rum and molasses, of equal quantities, of this they took ~~one~~ ^{one} teaspoonful or two, at a time to ease their cough in that situation they went out, eat any thing and their habits were as usual when they grew very sick at the stomach and a bad headache they soaked their feet and drank pererial tea, and kept in the house, they were confined to their beds two days after that they staid in doors a week and selected a fine day for going out, and after that, whenever the weather was damp they staid in doors

they drinked flax seed freely, for their coughs after the
measles turned and cold water as much as they wanted
all the time, there is great danger of hoarseness in ^{the} ~~eyes~~
voice some of Mr Jones family have not recov-
ered their voice yet, be sure and ^{take} salts after they
turn, take them three times in the course of a week
you will probably have a dysentery on the turn, dont
take the salts untill that stops, perhaps you will not
some dont in that case take your salts soon as
they turn, I write this particular because the
measles is very bad with wrong treatment keep
clear of them if possible get Percy or Cousin William
to write me if you are unable, I have seen Mrs
Bailey since I wrote and enquired after your
friend Bunker in Temple, she made particular
enquiry of a friend and his wife at the meeting
there is not any such person in Temple It
is of no importance at all say nothing, Mrs B
said she would not mention it, With regard to
your natural talents, my son dont trouble your
mind on that subject your mother has just ideas
on that subject, and you will feel very differ-
ent about it five years from now, I hope Mrs B
will do well I have not an envious feeling tow-
ards him, if he surpasses my son why should
I? I do not think that your life in college is all

I hope if others surpass you in attainments you will
not flat out and think nothing, "Left for you
to do, according to my observation the most
brilliant talents are not always most success-
ful, be careful and not overstrain your
nervous system if you fall far behind your
class mates, communicate your thoughts
freely to your mother it is like thinking
aloud, and sacred to her, although I have
heard you say ^{at times} told things to each other and
sympathize with ^{each} ~~either~~ but I have no en-
vies, and desire none, Warren Lottrope is at
home, I have seen him, he stays eight
weeks he appears very much improved
in his manners whether his heart is better
or not I cannot say, the time for mail-
ing this is nearly arrived and my sheet
is filled, give my love to P. and William

from your affectionate Mother
Eliza Felt

C. O. Howard

Alb Howard
Apr 24, 1848



Mr E. G. Sumner
South Street
Maine

April 24th 1848. Box 366 Coll.

Dear Mother

I have been for some time expecting a censure from you, because I have deferred writing so long, but not receiving such an epistle, I began to fear you would think I was sick and not able to write, so to undeceive you if thus you should conjecture I take my pen. I now feel quite relieved, for this morning I passed an examination on last term's latin, which I have made up after ten o'clock an night when I felt able to study. One reason why it has taken me so long to accomplish it is, that I had a "ty" in my eye, and while it lasted I had sufficient difficulty to prepare my usual recitations. There are two or more students of college sick with the measles, one from the Club where I board. I have not taken them yet, though I have taken no precaution or care to avoid them. This term ends in three weeks from next wednesday, after which time I shall be at liberty to return home. I have forgotten to write you heretofore that a class mate, Wilson, talked of spending the vacation with me, as it is so far that he cannot return to his own home. You need not bother the trouble to send for us, but if you will send me a little money enough to pay my passage, we will come by ourselves. I can return, for two dollars or less, and it would cost

as much or more to send for me,

I have been particularly engaged of late in writing a theme (or composition) on Mary Queen of Scots. The subject requires great attention and much reading, to be able to judge correctly what was the character of Mary. Different writers have different opinions with regard to her. Some have written on this subject a theme of 12 & 15 pages, and I fear mine will be as long if I ever finish it. The times of this extraordinary woman afford great interest, as they are especially marked by the struggles of the Protestant adherents to free themselves from the Popish yoke.

The fanaticism and bigotry of the Calvinists of that period coupled with the atrocities of the Catholics threw the world into consternation, and utterly destroyed government except that exercised through intrigues and deceit.

I say, such an epoch affords deep interest, and requires much attention and study to be rightly investigated.

One next theme is the Revolution of France just transpired. I think the writings on this subject will be as scarce as those on Mary of Scotland are profuse. But it is not best to anticipate difficultly. As Horace says, "Quod adest memento componere arguas;" (be mindful to manage well what is present.)

I had a letter from John Pottingill a short time since. He is teaching school in Virginia, and receives high wages. His words were not-spelt better than usual. It seems to me if so dreadful have a scholar can do so well, that at least I ought not to be discouraged.

Perhaps you would like to know a little about the young

gentleman, who is coming with me. In the first place as to his exterior, he is about the middle height weighs about a hundred & sixty, with pretty good form and an intelligent countenance. But you may judge of him in other respects when you see him. Make no preparations - Give my love to my Brothers, to Father, Richard, it and the rest of the family - Write as soon as possible or I shall not receive it before the close of the term.

From your affectionate Son
O. C. Ottoboni

Ol Howard
June 15-1848

Mrs John Gilmore.

South Leeds

Maine



367.
Bowdoin College June 15th 1848

Dear Mother

It is almost a fortnight since I left you, as I find by reckoning up the time, and as it is almost time for you to be expecting a letter from me, rather than to disappoint you I have seated myself to write, though it be but a recapitulation of my former epistles: that I am well &c. I think we can say truly that so far we have not been materially afflicted with hot weather. Winter clothes have as yet been the most comfortable apparel: But I think that so fine and warm a morning as this is indicative of a desirable change, desirable especially to farmers, whose prosperity rests in abundant crops. Rowland Bailey had rather an uncomfortable day, to be sure, but it would not have been much better till Saturday. Please tell him (Rowland) who laughed at our dirty room, that, to avoid a like mortification of my vanity, I made me a mop, and going perseveringly to work washed it up myself. Minerva never would complain of being tired again, should she wash such a floor and I doubt whether she or any other lady could survive such a tax upon the physical powers. Perhaps my excessive labor resulted from want of experience in such matters. I bought me a vest at 2.25 cts - I bought the cloth and got it made. It is of so firm a material, that

I think it will last me at least a year. I had some other things to buy, paper, Oil, &c. so I did not dare to buy me a Straw Hat for fear I should not have money enough to prevent my "going on tick". If you would send me the worth cost of the rest, I would be very glad. We have just commenced a new mathematical study, that is new to us, the Application of Algebra to Geometry, they say that it is very difficult, but we have not got along far enough to judge concerning it. I wrote to Thomas Bickham a few days ago, to enquire of him whether he would assist me to get a school. I have not received an answer yet. Has Laura Howard been to visit you yet? If not when she comes tell her I will write her, if she will promise to answer me, for I do not wish to labor without being certain of the fruits.

Tell Rowland Bailey, that instead of reading so much he must write me a letter occasionally, in order that he may not only acquire knowledge, but be enabled to communicate through "the magic pen". If he does not like common place subjects, let him take any political, theological question, or whatever interests him most - and we will discuss it in our boyish ways between us. Thus writing may be made not only pleasant and interesting, but through the interest thus excited much good, much real benefit may accrue. Writing the thoughts and opinions one forms on what he reads serves to fix in the memory the most important facts, and habituates him to think more and deeper, and consequently after a while to form better opinions. If he

will only signify to me what does interest him, or what he would like to write about, I will write the first letter challenging his reply, and needing a reputation.

I board at the same place as before. I thought I would get another place this term, but considering my present expenses sufficient, I gave it up, for analyzing my feelings, I found if I changed my place it would be done only from vanity - as I live now well enough for my health and certainly pay enough for it. Give my love to my brothers and the family - my respects to the school mistress, with the hope that she will like teaching better than I. - Write soon and tell me all the news.

From your affectionate son

P. O. Howard

way 6

Greene (M. S.)
June 20

Mr. A. Howard

Barnwick

Me

8481. 81

June 18/81 ms


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My dear Son,

Leeds June 18th 1848.

The mail came to hand brought to hand your communication which was more than welcome you have since by been out of my mind since you left home, I have had long communications with you in thought, my desires for your welfare, and my fears, fears so strong that in the heat of youth in some unguarded moment, you may by some imprudence ^{you may} injure yourself that I yearn for Ideas to express my views to you, I think you have integrity and I hope you are ^{conspicuous} choice of companions, I wish I had talked more with you when at home and see heard your ideas from your own mouth, do cultivate good feelings towards all and always carry a cheerful countenance if possible, there is no situation but has its cares, there can nothing be attained without ^{ambition} but to find necessary medium of conduct, to vary it and apply it to contingencies, it desirable and no doubt is the right way to success, but if you fail in your desires for attainments in your class don't lose your self respect, your mother thinks but a little of the honor of ^{the} class, although she would like to have you gratified, and I think it would help to give you a new spring in your college course but if you cannot attain them don't hold resentments to hand towards any you did not look happy when at home, do put on a happy expression of features, and cultivate them daily, you will laugh at mother's notions, but a great deal depends on outward appearance especially before the

professor, and tutor. Tuesday morning. How are you this morning, I hope
well and happy: I have been looking over what I wrote sabbath evening
perhaps you will think mother thinks too much of outward appearance
not so, a true heart is worth everything else, but I am thinking
of your general good, in every respect, there are always ^{those} who take
advantage in ~~any~~ ^{ways} to aggrandize themselves, and if you
are not able to compete with them, let them go do not hold
bitterness toward them, nor because one person who professes
piety, is a hypocrite, do not suppose all are such, you are
young and this four years of college life I desire should
give you a good knowledge of a College course don't over do your non
was system have proper rest as well as proper exercise, my
son you can not think how near my heart ^{your} welfare lays, not
wholly on your own account but your your younger brothers
whatever your course of life is, will have more or less influence
on them, I know you are a thinking being and have probably
thought of all these things before, but let mother think with
you, I shall inclose a three dollar bill to you, do take care of
small bills, small bills make large ones, sometimes young
persons think if they are respected by their companions it is
no consequence what others think of them, that is a mistake
in notion let us act worthy of ^{the respect of} a U. S. I attended meeting last
sabbath saw L. Howard, told her what you said about
writing her she promised certain she would answer
your letter as soon as received she has gone to live with
your Uncle C. Otis, they have removed to their new
house, I saw your aunt Amelia, she looked so ^{it} sad
and disappointed, makes me feel bad to see her look so
sad, Minerva left me the day you left home, and I am
not sorry I have a young girl of Henry Fanning for the present

notwithstanding my many cares, I have read the life of John
Ledyard, and was very much interested in it, he was an ad
venturer and died at the age of thirty-eight, and never
married was noble minded and capable of moving the highest
circles of society yet I could not desire a son to live such a
life as he did, he had a grateful heart and seemed to think
the great God was good to him, tell Mr. Willson I am greatly
obliged to him for my little book he sent me, and hope I
shall profit by it, you must write me often and how
you get along, if I am ever so anxious about ^{you} your letters
relieve my mind, Bowland B. is very ~~and~~ ^{very} busily
employed all the time he and Bowland C. are now
plowing on the Jay farm, for winter ~~trip~~ he got a
soaking coming from Brunswick, but was not so
much fatigued a John Perley he was all tired out, 
stopt all night, I have not heard from him since he left
here the next day, write to Robt. H. and I think he will
answer you, I understand your Uncle John Otis is about
to be married to a Miss Catherine Grant, I hope she will
be happy, he has not been out to Leeds yet, sometimes I question
within my mind whether Otis will not think Mother's
precepts ought not to be accompanied by example, but I do not
wish my children to fall into my errors of thinking or
acting, but shun the error, and cherish the virtues of
their Mother, The country is beautiful as I cast my
eyes towards the window, I say to myself oh how
beautiful ^{the} ~~one~~ ^{works} of nature, but I ~~may~~ must
draw to a close as the time is near when the mail
will take this away once more your's H. C. Chas. Gilmore

All Howard
June 27 1848

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Bowdoin College June 27

Dear Mother

It may be natural for you, a mother, to have fears and anxieties respecting a son and his conduct, but we think you have sufficient confidence in me to relieve you from fear as to my choice of companions or impropriety of conduct. Jewett and Perley are a specimen of my associates, I choose those with whom I agree best in opinion, in feelings and in station. My standard is not always among the rich the aristocrats, but among those possessing integrity, good feelings & intellectual worth. As to my outward appearance if I feel sober, I am usually so: if I feel cheerful it is not long before it is known. But my prejudices and likes I am not always so ready to make evident, if I were, I should be obliged to change appearance every moment, for I cannot move without ^{meeting} those whom I dislike and some that I despise. I never would degrade my self so much as to resent an honorably attained superiority in intellectual or any other pursuits, and

certainly college honors obtained by means are not worthy the strife. Towards one thing getting them I would have no feelings of resentment but disgust. I would not consider him superior to my self. I feel as though I was preparing for something beyond college, something of more importance. I may not succeed in after life any better than in college, yet there is enough that I can undertake, and if I fail in one thing I can try another. But I have no need to dishonour my situation in College. I am not a poor scholar, nor am I considered so, and with the same preparation and half their labor (since they have been here) I might have been better than most, for I can learn any thing in my sphere and any thing which has been yet required, which many of those called the best scholars could not without assistance. I rather think I go to extremes. I first think and say I am nobody, then boast. I take about the medium and you will find my station.

I have written three letters lately, one to Thomas Bridgman one to Laura Howard and another to Olin Hazard. I wished her husband to

take a list of Junior Books which I sent to the booksellers in order that he might find out the prices and then inform me. I wanted to know before purchasing here if I could not get a cheaper and better set in Boston. I told her you talked of going to Boston. Uncle John was here Sabbath eve. He said you were all well. He came here on that Lisbon scrape of Williams, which we thought was done with, when William was arrested in the street by an officer. It was on our Ath. Soc. Election day. Mr. Wilken immediately bound himself for William and he was let loose to appear on Saturday at Bowdoinham. The Warrant was a riotous assault on the house and person of a citizen, and (they) were ready (but falsely I think) to swear that one of them fired a pistol in to the window of a room filled with people. William was the only one taken. I went with him to Bowdoinham and his Lawyer got the trial or examination deferred till next Tuesday. But Uncle came and settled it yesterday, by paying a requisite sum and cost. I think William has learned a lesson. Give my love to all.

From your son O. Howard

C. E. Howard
June 29 1848

Mr Rowland B. Howard
South Leeds Maine

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Rowland College June 29 1848

Dear Brother

I should have written you before but as the common saying is "I found no time". But after seeking a long time for a time to write, I began to think there was no particular period set apart for me & I resolved to take some what of that time set apart for other purposes, or in short I decided to "take time". I know not whether you have decided where to attend school this fall or even whether you have decided to go any where or not. But I hope you will go. It matters not much where you go if you only study - ^{then the less} ~~and~~ since study is required, especially for improvement, it is best to go to that place where you will have the least hindrances to your object and where you will have the greatest inducements and incitements to exertion. Good teachers are also of much benefit. Lewiston, I think, possesses all the necessary qualifications of a good school. It is a pleasant place, has teachers who are the best of scholars themselves and are highly recommended as instructors, and possesses a higher and ^{better} class of people than Wayne. I think the character of the people with whom one boards has much influence on him for either good or bad. But do not go

to Lewis on my recommendation, but - inquire
for yourself. You have said something about
studying Latin. If you commence it do not
be discouraged because your first, second or
third lesson is hard and requires study, but
persevere and you will soon accomplish
the language so as to be able to read with
rapidity and interest. You have acquired your
English with so little labor, that I often think
if you were obliged to sit for hours together over
one lesson, that you would be discouraged and
perhaps give it up. But remember that in
acquiring an education that which costs the
greatest labor is of the greatest value.

Think not the worth of a Latin book is its
mere story, but by getting it you acquire both
a discipline of mind and a small store of Latin
knowledge which will assist you to read
more substantially. For our greatest specimens
of intellectual greatness are found in the
Latin language, Virgil, Cicero, Lucretius, Horace
and many others, than whom the world
produces none more celebrated or more
courted. You may say you can read these
works in English, if you read them their half
of their real value is lost. Their conciseness,
their loftiness of tone and expression, and
the exactness of meaning cannot be met
with in any translation. The version and the
original may be compared to the portrait and

the original of a beautiful girl, the Portrait
may show the features and outlines, but the
original can only give the glowing expression
of countenance and show the workings of the
mind and the feelings of the heart.

Moreover the discipline of mind is not to be
disregarded. The study of language accustoms
one to close and persevering investigation
of subjects. It teaches him how to think, not
as commonly with the mind running from
one thing to another as every trivial thing
introduces itself, but in a steady and method-
ical manner, so that, place man in what-
ever circumstances you please, let him be
surrounded with difficulties and dangers, if
he only has acquired this discipline of mind, he
will never lose his balance, but will survey
his situation and calculate results with
precision. Again you may say that a man
without natural firmness and stability of
character will labor in vain for that discipline
which will render him independent. But
if you will labor against nature and study
language and abstract science for one year
steadily, I would not fear with respect to
your firmness or energy. Thrive to be a man,
and imitate your brother as he as you see
him right and no further, and where he
is wrong let him be an example.

Your affectionate brother A. A. H.

Alb Howard
July 3^d 1848

Mr. John Silsbee

South Leeds
Maine

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Broadway Coll July 3^d 1848

Dear Mother

I have now written five letters to different persons, not one of all has answered me, but I think you the most excusable of all, as you have other duties & other cares to attend, than ^{merely} to gratify our son, and I also know that you would write if you could. It is now almost the fourth of July, and nearly all the students, have obtained leave of absence and left College in search of recreation and amusement, but I thought, as I had heretofore spent much money and time on fourth of July days, and found myself no happier or better prepared, in the end, to resume my studies, that I would try the experiment of remaining in College, and spend the time in reading. I took from the Coll. Library the other day a large volume of The Works of Shakespeare, and a new work, Andersons lectures on Shakespeare. I read first a play and then study the comments made on the same, which I find renders the drama more intelligible and doubly interesting.

By the way, I have now quite a passion for reading Shakespeare. Those plays, which I read at home, rather prejudiced me against him, but I thought, it would not well be seen a literary personage like myself, to be in total —

ignorance of the works of so popular a writer, and consequently I resolved to read those plays most frequently met with and so often quoted;.. I first read Othello and there I found the noble and baser qualities of human nature so well developed, that the drama immediately struck the fancy and gained the admiration of even so prosy an individual as myself. After this I read Richard III. Hamlet. Macbeth. King John. and some others, and the more I read the more interested I became. Some passages I do not understand very well at first; but those Lectures throw light on the obscure, and, if they did not, considered by themselves alone, they are worth reading, being composed in so elegant language, and the writer enters in to the subject with so much earnestness and feeling. He seems to consider the respective characters as real heroes and defends their merits, and discovers their demerits with as much care, as if he were defending the character of a noble patriot or denouncing an imposter.

I also have read the real history of the Richard III. for I always have a desire to separate fact from fiction, that I may know what to rely on for truth. I found all the historical allusions in this play, to agree precisely with the history, but the feelings and motives of the respective characters, of course, were portrayed in the play and not in history in order to give sweep to the author's imagination without which the play would be

no more interesting than "matter of fact" history. But I suppose this is not interesting to you. But as what I read is my field of thought, I can apt to touch upon it more perhaps than what will be interesting to my correspondent. Many are wont to speak the feelings of their hearts and the secret workings of the mind. But I have not as yet become sufficiently well skilled in human nature, so as portraying either my self or others. Yet human nature & human character are my study. I once was easily deceived by others, but by experience I have learned to regard the motives of others as well as ^{those of} my self, and I have discovered that "all is not gold that glitters", and many are better than they seem.

Give my love to my brothers, and tell R.B. H. to write me an answer to my letter (if he has been able to read it). Give my respects to my friends at Leeds, and write me yourself as soon as you can.

Yours affectionately
O O Howard

My dear Son,

Leeds July 4. 1848.

The mail brought us a letter from you last evening, not less welcome than ^{any} before, I shall not attempt any apology for not writing sooner as my time is always occupied, and of late more than usual, I went to Thallowell the ^{next} day after you saw your Uncle John with your father and R. B. W. and visited all of our relations, went to the Insane Hospital with Miss Belier and returned Friday evening, after calling at Wayne and seeing Anna, wife and little son, I saw at Mothers a cousin I never saw before Uncle Zeke. S. daughter a very pretty lady about twenty-two years old, a married lady, I met with Eliza Grant several times, the lady with whom your Uncle John is engaged to be married. So, a pleasant unassuming lady. Maria is preparing to go to Philadelphia in September to stay a year, Mrs. Rose who lived on our old farm died and was interred whilst I was gone to Thallowell, her death was not unexpected as she had a long and severe sickness. July 12. I did not think one week ago when I left my writing, it would lay here until now, your grandmother has spent the week with me, I have attended Mr. Lawton's meeting today where was a very full attendance, I saw Laura Howard, Thomas Bridgman attended meeting but I did not speak to either him, his mother said he had come home to help Everett in haying, Laura it seems has written to you and left the letter with her aunt Amelia who you got to mail it, Mother said William was at home on the fourth of July.

South Leeds Mr
July 22

Wm Oliver & Howard

Burnsville

848/106 17mf

Howard

South Leeds

I have just been viewing from my window ^{the} beauties of nature
we have just had a thunder shower, and it is now over
and all nature seems gay and cheerful I feel a delight
in viewing ^{the} hills and valleys covered with verdure, which
seems to say there is something in life beside struggling
with care and strife; who can behold the wonderful works
of nature, and not feel to rise, far above the low groveling
feelings, ^{which} are so prone to whisper discontent in our minds
there is a little bird now tuning her notes in the garden
which teaches me not to dwell on the past, but to go
forward in praises for the present enjoyment, every-
thing at home is about a usual I fear sometimes I am
wanting in sympathy for the sufferings of others, but we
are poor comforters at best, you have yet to learn my son
the deeper the feelings are towards an object of our affection
the more watchful we are towards that object I hope I shall
not be wanting in thankfulness for your perseverance
in well doing, not only to you but to be grateful to
the greatful to ~~the~~ greatful to the God whose love sur-
passes all other love, you spoke of writing to Mr and
Mrs Hassard at East Cambridge Mrs Hassard has had
a very severe sickness and is nearly reduced to the
grave, your aunt & house Lee is with her, Brother says
Othman wrote she was quite comfortable with the exception
of slight cough which in her lone state I fear will prove
fatal I desire very much to hear from her Oliver & Mary
and wife are in Boston, and are expected in Maine
your father still thinks we shall visit Massachusetts
the last of August but think it a great uncertainty

I have said nothing of R. B. H.'s visit at Lunenburg, I thought he might, make it a ground work for a letter him-
self, but he has never recovered, undertaken to write, it
is easier to take up a book or newspaper when one is
fatigued with ~~care~~ labor I hope he will yet take
pleasure in writing to his friends, I saw Sarah Lee
when at St. she received the favor of barrel of
pine apples from Mr. Sanjunt while I was
there of course I was a partaker of the luxury my
Cholly wished me to let him write some in ~~my~~ ^{his}
letter to Otis he loves you exceedingly he puts
into your letters and tries to read them, I saw Mrs. Bridg-
ham she looks care worn she said valentine had come
home unable to work any longer ^{her} ~~her~~ ^{health} ~~is~~ ^{is} poor.
S.B. July 2nd again I sat myself to fill up my letter & I
obtained a new pen you will discover Sabbath evening
mother returned here and stoped here untill Wednesday
morning, Warren Woodman came here Tuesday eve-
ning and stoped over night and took her to Milton to stay untill
next week he said Mrs Howard was doing well, yesterday
I went to green and spent the day with Louisa who has a
young daughter two days old, and this day has passed as usual at
home, the children prepared for school in the morning and
then dinner, and supper, and writing, to prepare for the
mail tomorrow, Mr. Lee, called here last Wednesday while
awake elutioneering for your uncle John, to be the
whig candidate for the next Congress, I think your
uncle John is very anxious for the office, I had a letter
from Mrs Ames this week, as full of life as ever I intend
to answer it, to go out tomorrow, ever yours Eliza Gilmore.

July 14 1848

Lucy
July 18

Miss O. Howard

New Brunswick

Maine

W
V
S

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Frids, July 14 1848

Dear Cousin

I received yours of the 2nd and was much pleased to hear from you but beg to be forgiven for not answering it before my time has been taken up in preparing your Uncle and Aunt for a journey. They started last Tuesday for New Hampshire, and I have gone down to stay with my Aunt Maria. I expect them back a week from Saturday. I like living with them very much. They are both very kind to me and I have enjoyed myself much better than I expected. I feel rather lonely some sometimes but soon get over it. I have got my Piona now, and that is company for me. I have had quite a number to hear me play, it arrived safe without any injury, and they all appear to be very much pleased with it. Your Grand Mother has been here on a visit and is down to your Mother's now, she expects to go to Milton next week. I saw your Mother last Sunday the family were all well I told her I should write to you this week and she was anxious I should you need not be afraid to write to me on Joshua's account for he has got another girl up on the hill and have got the mitten that is the way with all my Beaus I cannot keep any of them but a short time

but enough of my nonsense. Eucet received a letter
from Thomas last week he is coming down to help
him through haying and if he has not answered
your letter I will remind him of it for I presume
it is more through neglect than any thing else
I feel glad to hear of your rapid progress in your
studies, you will see the need of it when you come
to be a man. I think and education is far preferable
to riches and I would say go on you can never
study too much but be careful and not get too
much excited for that will injure your health
and above all do not forget to pray and read your
Bible for that will make you wise both in this
world, and that which is to come. Life overlasting
yes dear Cousin I have a desire you should seek
the Saviour now in your youthful days and when
you grow old you will not repent of it but
when troubles and trials come to them you will
have a friend to go to one that will lead you
safe through lifes rough sea and bring you to
the harbor of eternal peace. Mrs Rose is dead
she had a very large funeral. Thevillu is very
low they think she cant live but a short time
and so it is one after another of our friends
are dying and it ought to admonish us to be
also ready for we know not how soon we shall
have to give an account. the rest of our friends and
relatives are well write soon your true friend and Cousin
Laura Howard

W Howard
July 21 1848

Mrs. John Gilmore
South Leeds
Main



Bowdoin College July 29th 1848.

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Dear Mother

I have been waiting some time to receive a letter from home, but not receiving one I have concluded that you are all so busy that you cannot spare the time to write. So I have stated my self to address you a few words. I suppose you are in the very heat of "haying" now. Frequently I think I would like to be with you, but I suppose that labor constantly followed would soon become as monotonous as study, and contribute no more to pleasure in the end. Yet towards the latter part of the term, especially in warm weather, my lessons appear to drag rather heavily, requiring more than ordinary perseverance & application to get them. I received a letter from Laura Howard this morning - she writes that you are all well and that Grand mother is with you. If so give her my love, and tell her to remember me to my friends in Hallowell, on her return. I learn also from Laura's letter that a Mrs Rose is dead, and I judged from the connection that it was the Mrs Rose on our place. If this be the fact, please inform me in your next letter. I wrote to Cousin Olive Hazard a short time

since, requesting her ^(or her husband) to send me a list of the prices of my junior books, but I have received no answer from her. But Parley sent by a man from Livermore to Boston by whom we ascertained that we might purchase new books in Boston cheaper than "second hand books" here. I did think as you know of going to Boston myself next vacation, but as I have the opportunity of sending, by the same man, we sent G to learn the prices, from whom we think we can get them cheaper than if I went myself. I am doubtful about going at all. Yet if you and father go to Massachusetts I would like to go with you, but I do not care about going alone. I have not got me a school yet. I have had some talk about one, 16 miles from here in Bowdoinham. They have paid twenty dollars a month heretofore & if I can get the same I think I shall take it. The only hindrance is another young man has spoken for it, and is uncertain whether he shall take it; if he does not, I shall have it. I have had a touch of the colic of late, but I cured it by going without eating and by two meals, and taking some "Wild cherry" bitters. I heard that you had a severe hail storm at Leeds. Did it do you much damage, at the south part of the town? — I suppose I shall be obliged to stop here till commencement, as I am Treasurer of my Society and shall have some business with those members who have graduated. Still if you will write me when you intend to go to the "West" if you go at all, I will try to

get some one else to take charge of my duties. Rowland Bailey has not answered my letter yet. You must tell him to write some rainy day when he has nothing to do. I think father can spare him long enough to write to his brother. Excuse such a heterogeneous mass of words without interest, which I have heaped together this morning. Give my love to my brothers & friends — I wrote to Thomas some time ago and have not received an answer — I wrote to him once before & did not receive an answer. So I think I shall not write to him again, till he condescends to write to me. I hear that Maria Olin is going to Philadelphia next vacation and William is to accompany her. — I hope it will be for her advantage, but it seems rather an imprudent step to send a young girl like her so far from home, to a large city — Yet it is not my business and therefore I should not meddle with it. Our studies require nearly all the time to be gotten and so I have not read much of late. I have found no difficulty in Mathematics as yet, though quite a number have stumbled & fallen and it is feared will not rise again. Our Mathematics are now about as difficult as any we shall have in College, so I must leave my letter, wishing you and all my dear friends the greatest blessings of Earth.

Yours affectionately, Wm. Howard

Leeds July 23^d 1848

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Dear Brother

You perhaps may think hard of me for not writing you before but the only excuse I have to offer is that we are busy & that experience has taught you to understand I have no time but Sunday to write, and mother thinks as she has got a good pen I had better write you today, we received your letter last night, mother wishes that I should write you about my visit to Hallamwell and therefore I will try to give you an account of it, we went down Monday in the afternoon & returned on Friday, I had a very pleasant visit it is so seldom that I go to Hallamwell that there was something like novelty in it to me. On Tuesday it rained in the forenoon but cleared away soon after, and Miss Colver, Mother and myself went up to the insane Hospital where we had a view, from there we saw the villages of Hallamwell & Brynata the Penebe river with its shipping & the state house standing in bold relief, also the original grounds with their stone buildings were seen, it was a melancholy sight to see the patients deprived as they were of that which places man above the brutes, we returned to Ancoke in time for tea, I saw Miss Lady a number of times, I think she is a very fine dignified looking person. The next day I spent in rambling about town and in the evening went to a meeting for the ratification of the nomination of Taylor & Gillamord.

South Leeds, W.
Friday 11th

Mr. Oliver O. Howard

Leeds

The

The meeting was a large & enthusiastic one. The speakers were Dimmout (who was also president of the meeting) Leverance Barnes and (as Dimmout denominated) him the future governor of Maine) Eliph L. Hamlin and many others. The speakers were interrupted by much applause & when at the close of the meeting three cheers sang out for old Yash, it shook the hall to its foundations. The following day I went up to the state house and went into both branches of the Legislature in the house of representatives. The ^{only} Mrs. Carr spoke on education the ~~resolue~~ under consideration being a grant of money for an academy at the town of Munster. I ascended to the cupola where I had the same view that I had at the hospital & also went into the cabinet where there was a great many minerals of all descriptions. The library I found to be a very large one. I returned to uncle's in time for dinner & spent the rest of the day in his library. In the morning of the next day we went up to Lunenburg and in the afternoon returned home by the way of Wayne at which place I saw Abigail's baby. Speaking of babies (as Sam Slick would say) makes ^{me} think that Liza has got one about a week old. We have had very good weather for haying today being the first rainy day for a fortnight. I saw Thomas ^{Bridgman} last sabbath but did not speak to him. I also ^{saw} Stinchfield he has a summer term at Wayne. While at Hallawell uncle spoke to me about my coming there this fall and having my neighbor somewhere

we think some of accepting his offer as it will save the expense of board. The high school of that place is of high repute. For some seasons I had rather go to Kent's hill or Lewiston than there but I think the expenses balance them and therefore I pretty much made up my mind to go to Hallawell. The health of your friend here is very good except myself who have a very bad cold. Mother sent you a letter by yesterday's mail that I suppose will reach you before this. In a former letter you spoke of my corresponding with you on some particular subject for my neglect of this I have to urge the same excuse that I did in the first place, that is we are hazing as I suppose that mother wrote you all the news it will be of no use for me to write it over again. I find your letters very interesting and am always glad when I hear Charles or Rodolphus crying out a letter from Otis, excuse this poor writing and poor spelling and these poor ideas that I have jumbled together so as to cover nearly three pages, write soon.

Your Brother

R. B. Howard

P.S. Didn't I put my name on in good shape

R.B.H.

A. C. Howard
July 26 1848

Portland, Me.
South Leeds, Maine

Bowdoin College July — 26th 1848

Dear Brother

You can hardly tell with what pleasure I found under my breakfast-plate two letters directed outward, one in the well known though seldom seen hand writing of my brother, and the other from cousin Bridgman. Perhaps you would like to know the secret of the breakfast-plate being so fruitful. It is easily explained. My Chum or some other went to the Post Office and got my letters & bringing them up placed them under my plate to surprise me.

I think your excuse is weighty, though by no means sufficient; for mother tells me you find time to read much & why not write? But I will excuse you if you will only retrieve the past: this fall while you are engaged as I in the laborious though pleasing study of "Letters". When you can write — have you succeeded in any study; the why & wherefore of your liking or disliking it; the particulars of your school &c; — All of which will be interesting to your brother especially if you attend Hallouell High School, which place, I must say, is fraught with many things interesting & agreeable: though oftentimes "recollection brings to view" pains as well as pleasures. You will not be obliged to encounter the same

inconveniences which I did, for you have not exactly
the same personages to deal with: Again you will
find many firm friends in my old acquaintances.
But be careful of your associations in Hallowell.
I do not wish you to be suspicious, but I fear
that Gilas Lee is not "what he should" be: so you had
better not go with him nights to much. I know
nothing against Gilas excepting his apparent endeavors
to appear like & be a Gary fellow or "knowed".
The High School is taught by a fine fellow & an excellent
instructor. Young a graduate of this College. William
Marshall, who fitted neatly under him (a member of the
Freshman Class), speaks well of him and says he is as
good a teacher as he ever attended.

I have not engaged a School agent. But Thomas B.
says he will do all in his power to assist me to get
a good one & a high priced one.
I have been reading, of late, the fall & Decline of the
Roman Empire by Gibbon. I like to read it very
much. First because the writer is so elegant
and perspicuous in expression, that it requires no
effort to follow him & understand him. Next it is
interesting from the matter itself. Yet I sometimes
became disgusted with the inconsistency of the Roman
people. For they murdered every King they had,
the good for his virtues, & the bad for his vices. None
seems to have been secure against their barbarous
cruelty. Marshal glory was their first & greatest
object. The gratification of appetite & sensual passion not adequate,

their second: If a King restrained their freedom &
fully he must die to gratify their revenge. If
a King rivaled them in debauchery, he evidently
lost all superiority and became a victim of
their contempt.

I think I shall be obliged to stop here till conveni-
ence, the first Wednesday in September.
For I am the "renowned & far famed" treasurer of the
Ath. Soc. — I shall have some business to do with
those members, who have graduated who will be
here on that day.

I am glad you had so pleasant a journey to &
and can appreciate all your pleasure in observing
the various scenes & places. But the love of babies
"has gone, has departed has left" me. It is so long since
I have seen any thing of the kind. Nevertheless, as I
was walking on the Plains the other day, I was
awakened from a sound & pleasant reverie, by the
squalling of an "Irish brat" which you might call
a baby. This circumstance called to mind forcibly
the time when I loved babies, but not the degenerate
& clasp of crying babies.

Give my love to Charles, and tell him he must
learn all he can. Be kind to Charley. & I will try to
be kind to you all. Give my love to Rodolphus,
and Mother. and Roland Alger and Father, with
my best wishes for their comfort & happiness.

Receive this as the well meaning apology, though
for a letter, Yours affectionately
overboard

Alfred Howard
July 31st 1848

Mrs. Eliza Schmoren.
Southbury
Maine



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Rowdoin College July 30th 1848..

Dear Mother

I have delayed the reply to your last
epistle, for the purpose of answering Rowlands. I was sur-
prised to hear that Cousin Oline Hazard was well.
I wrote her a letter not long since containing more requests
than I should have made, had I known that she
was sick. - The death of Mrs. Rose also took me by
surprise, for I never had heard that she was sick. I
hope you are all well and prospering. It will not be
long before I shall be with you, 8 weeks at most.
This week the Juniors are examined and leave College
to prepare for Commencement - (this Sabbath Morn), this
after noon the President delivers a parting address
to the Class - His address was admired so much last
year, that I think there will be a very full attendance.
I was very much pleased with Rowlands letter; it
was the best and longest epistle he has ever written
to me. I hope he will write again. - At least you
must encourage him to do so. There is not much
of any thing transpiring in College worthy of note.
After the election of officers of the General societies the
excitement gradually subsided, and all those, who
had become incensed at each other in the heat of
debate and passion, adjusted their differences, and
with a shake of the hand became friends again.

So all goes on now peacefully and happily excepting a few outcroakings of the zealous politicians, and a few disputes as to the qualifications and characters of General Taylor & Cass. Sometimes the Wilmot proviso and the Mexican war are themes of discussion. I succeeded, at last, to make a declination satisfactory to the learned and critical mind of Prof. Bowditch - considering as considerable gained I thought I would mention it - But I have not succeeded so well in my "theses" or (compositions) I never have had one returned to me, bearing the mark signifying "good". Although I thought I wrote pretty well. And as I cannot get the praise of others, in writing, I think I have the right, "to think well of and praise myself".

I attended Church this afternoon forenoon, and heard Mr Adams preach - The day is very fine, and the plains are not covered with mist and fog as usual - It seems as though we have the sun hidden from our view by fog nearly half of every day or at least every other day - In the afternoon we have a strong sea breeze from the south, which drives in the mists upon the shores toward evening; and they last till the heat of the noonday sun has burned them away.

I have been reading, the past week, Gibbons History of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire, in which it appears to be the inevitable fate of Prince and King to be a martyr to his virtues or a victim

of his vices. I read easier and with more pleasure the history of times past. The novel and exciting is still alluring, and it is natural it should be to a mind like mine delighting in excitement - But considering "light-reading" uncongenial with the sound knowledge, and, though it contributes to the refining and giving rise to the better feelings of the heart, ^{that} it extends the intellectual powers in no degree, and gives a false impression concerning human things, I have resolved not to read much of the like while in College - Thomas Brigham writes that he will assist me as much as he can to get a good school. Give my love to my Brothers & the rest of the family. - - - Mr Arthur has been taken away from College by his father - The President said he could not get into the Junior class - There is quite a number in College not so steady as they ought to be - I think it is a bad place for William, although I would not like to have his father hear it from me - - -

Give my respects to all my friends at Leeds and also at Hallowell if you see any of them.

Write soon and tell me your determination respecting your journey to Massachusetts.

There is but little sickness in college. One young man in the Freshman Class fell at the Gymnasium and hurt himself severely. But he is now recovering. Remember me to my friends at the center of the town - From your affectionate son
O O Howard