South Leeds, March 18th, 1850

Dear Brother,

I received your kind letter while at Mr. Biddle's in Warrington. I finished my school on that place on Saturday last, have left it all. I am in bad health as yet, but a little rest, they made about a bed when I was rather uneasy. Mr. Biddle and Capt. Radley told me they should have some more things. I have. I have been here as bad as they were last to school. But I suppose they mean only trying to frighten me. I was giving something to the child. It is finished. I called at Queen Caroline on Sunday when coming down, found them all well. Clark has returned to town. On your letter you spoke about my finding out all sunshine. I never did find it near so I told the truth. When at Warrington, you thought that because I was interested in sunshine. I thought that it was sunshine. I have more pleasure than ever. I am not a wind blower (as you call your figure). I am sure for myself I was taken no notice of. For a time our house became a debating club. It was a new thing and was one of the best speakers. It was as soon as you say I justified talking of a higher order, but because I have read more perhaps than any
to the best advantage of my age. In my younger years, I was told by my teacher that I had a habit of turning out Willows and the rest were strongly against him. The second day after I began to read the books, the big girls took every way to make it impossible. The second week the aunts and I were enough against the little girls to keep all their ambition to home. But by the end of the weeks after one of my schoolmates was ill.

His seat advanced me with his feet and the last hill of my shoes light. Oh! Mr. G. Thacker at the time for making a little test of a nephew of mine, just because, perhaps, I shook and black his seat of horse and caused it to fall for the certain punishment. Particles of Mustard.

Enoswaring. Spanier's Augt 1st, 5
March 1672.

It is almost one week and I must close my letter if I wish to send it out by this mail. Our folks, that is father. Mother and Rodolph have gone to Hallowell. They went yesterday, I could not come down to B. with Mr. Dool on account of Dr. B. Bingley, which I suppose to be very poor, a great time now about the King's Eye I shall go to B. on Monday. I will answer your letter on regard to college education on another time. Direct your next to me. I'll please make some directions in regard to the sugar and the N. West. Wish I had those Greek Books of yours (Arnolds.) Could you lend them to me, Eunice? For your health, good(write to mother soon. Now affectionate Brother,
Randal.
Bowdoin College, March 21, 1860.

Dear mother,

I have seen a small portion of him at my command & should like it to remain a few lines to you. I received Bowdoin's letter Wednesday morning & was glad to hear that his school was done. Taken as a whole I know that he has not had a very pleasant time, & what school cannot be? But perhaps it has been of much advantage to him. I suppose Charles is at home by this time. We will excuse me for not having written to him. Eam or hopes soon to be able to do so. I have been remarkably healthy this term, but I have felt it my duty to study very hard, at least, all the time. So far my labor of course has been double of what it ever has been in college before, yet I shall soon be relieved, after a few lectures more in astronomy. Those who were about last term as well as myself have neglected the astronomy evenings, being too busy. I have just finished the examination theme for the end of my college course, and probably for my commencement part. The most of my class think I shall get a second or third part of the coming commencement notwithstanding my absence. I shall do this at least, get as good a one as I can. I shall also be obliged to perform a part in &x39c;bble at The college, or meet it of this present course. Senators are
required to have their parts of their own composition.
My subject is Columbus the discoverer of America — an
which has interested me very much. In the composing
of it I have succeeded far above my expectations.
Mr. A. C. has sent me quite a number of papers
& documents from Washington & also a lot much of
North America, containing all the new names of
California & the United States under its new boundary.
Have you heard from Poland of late either directly
or through others? Tell Charles that he must write again
soon even if I don’t write, and tell me how he succeeds
in the drawing book, now held at Mr. Robinson’s school.
Give my love to him & also to Belles. Tell him that he must
read some every day, that he may make as much a
scholar as Charlie. Give my love to Father, how is he
getting on with his letter writing? I have got
Halmann here at Prof. Halmann’s lectures, but not
so far to thank him. He looks as large healthy & smart
as usual. But I saw no indications of internal
fire except in his eye.
It does not seem much like the 20th of March,
I don’t know how it is with you, but it is extremely
cold here. If the wind blows so hard that is literally
“tatters people off from their feet.”
The prayer bell is ringing & so I wish to mail this
as quickly as possible. I shall write you a longer & better letter than
this. I remain your
Affectionate
Oliver C. Howard
I suppose London is at Headfield, if not give
my love to him & tell him I will write him as
soon as convenient.
Dear Brother,

I arrived here on last Tuesday after a very cold ride. I found the room for which I spoke occupied. Very opportunity for me for I have obtained a better one in the same house. My friend is a fine fellow he is preparing for the ministry. His name is Hood he belongs to Nova Scotia has been here as number of terms and probably is the best fellow there is here. I have begun the first book of the Kemal and read about it by day but hope to increase to more by degrees. My friend is reading with me. I have begun back several times and grammar I have nothing in my book about it but do not see read therefore I shall not want them. I shall get me a grammar here I have just begun and am now conjugating the verb. I knew to the beginning of it. I am also studying algebra in some. I have about concluded to take a preliminary course of my health will allow. In order to do it I think I shall go some distant although this is an excellent school. I am not intended to be an English school but I am afraid to be a classical one. I like Mr. Robinson very much but the class is small and our lessons not so regular and interesting as they would be in such a school as that of South Gosworth. I think that all either to more or Easter next year, I wish you would
make some inquiries in regard to the latter school in that I may know in regard to it. I don't like the idea of going to school so far I can hardly tell. I think this is a good teacher school as that is so far in the State and therefore I think I shall send next fall to that more particular as I wish to teach next Winter and if I do to college I shall not want to study English literature afterwards. When I left home the folks at Concord and Hallam were well. I believe they are going to support me as I feel by voluntary contributions.

March 27, 1850

I had not time to finish this letter in the other mail as I put it off till today. My health and spirits are still good and have increased to 30 lines in height. One thing in prospect is write for the paper, write more in regard to your health and how you get along in your studies. The school numbers I should think about 150 students perhaps more. If there is little formed I think I shall study Rhetoric the term as it will methodize my style of writing and lend it more elegance. I have not commenced the Ode on Christ yet and I don't know as I ever can. Disobey as hard as anything I can. I don't know how to understand, I would like to have you make some suggestions in regard to speaking or writing. I would write more but I have nothing I study harder than ever before. Yours brother, The Lad
Leeds March 25, 1880

Dear Cousin,

It is just one month since I received your letter, I meant to have answered it before, but you have procrastination in the staff of time. I was very glad to hear from you and describe that you passed examination as well. I got along with my duties very well. There was a little at first, but soon got over it. The meeting was very short, but the Thursday morning has been very enjoyable. Mother said the people could not attend and as the nights are growing short and the travelling back they have concluded not to meet again till next fall. You face has not been Wade as there has been no meeting since it came on but very full meetings while they were here, were very interesting. Thomas has been at home lately but has gone to Bloomington now to attend court. He and Uncle James have settled that Rosa is being your Uncle Ensign is to pay three hundred a year and the cost of getting the time to was notified I expect your Mother will write you the particulars for she understands it better than I do. I saw your Mother and Charles. They are about to meeting in May they are well. The house has been burned with the same Sunday and they are taken very much and they talk of having him settle with us, so I feel it quite a privilege to go to meeting once more. We got away in a few days after you left he wishes me...
To give his respects to you, be thought of coming down to Brunswick but has given up as we have gone sleeping quite unusual for this time of year - I have not seen much of the snow on the ground, and long to see the green fields again. Little Old is well and contented as ever, he tells your name in his way every time I go up there, do you read the newspaper or book as well as you can be expected of company for me - I don't know as I could get along without him to play with - so I have nothing else to do. Just and the wife Some how the others are going to come on the side run from and the children going to take the other farm from Caroline. George has left Thomas and gone to Little Rock, about three thousand miles from home. Do the storying closer I have done to account for and a party this last week. The widow Charlotte was as anxious to a Mr. Alden of Davenport we had a good time, and I wish you were here to hold me at the wedding cake. I have set a large table now, I wish your company very much and do feel quite loneliness sometimes but we cannot always have things as we want, and therefore we must be content with our lot and condition in life and I think I have helped in some measure for the many blessings I enjoy. John and Melissa sent their love to you, your writing was very plain and I did not have to get any help but I think you will be read more at his excellency back. May success and prosperity attend all you undertake is the sincere wish of your Cousin.

Love B. Howard
Old Horton
Mar. 30, 1850.

Dear Mother,

This letter is nearly half through, and I have received but one letter from you. I have been expecting one all this week, but have not been so fortunate as to receive one. I think more of it because it has never been so long before that you have delayed writing. Probably it is going to some natural cause, but I hope it is not sickness. You must write whenever you can find time. I remember that whatever you write is more than welcome. The time since I left home has passed quickly indeed with me, & from this it is natural to suppose, pleasantly; yet occasionally I have caught its rapid course by reflection. I have often taken a retrospective view of my life. I often have finished my present imagination into the future & pictured to myself many happy images of coming years. But sometimes with the certainty of uncertainty of the future, bring other feelings than these of joy. The time is near at hand when it must be a great degree thrown off depending and figure in the drama of life for myself. I must have home & friends to seek uncertain fortunes & grapple with unsatisfying circumstances. Under these reflections I never feel weak or refining, but I live, with a keen sharper sensibility to new & experience a strong, misleading meal sometimes occur. But why anticipate? I should not ever...
succeed in attaining to my highest wishes. My happiness might not be so large. I hardly know what to write more as I have learned in a few words as before. I am seriously inclined to talk about myself. I have received a letter from Loma the other day from President Cleveland this morning. She says that President Cleveland has come to the conclusion that in order to maintain the position of President of all the heavenly bodies that it is interesting. The President of Ohio State College was the best instance of these here, whether practical or theoretical. The President delivered a splendid lecture on ancient republics the other evening in this place. Especially aimed against those repulsives who pretend to know that Christianity has been a drawback to civilization. I have been so much in my examination than this spring. I have revised my science already four times. I shall be obliged to enjoy it again. It is long, but it requires much labor to copy it. It is not so good as I should wish, but so good as I could expect. How to get through it? I have been unable to keep up with you. If you have been from Roland & Olive may come to see the family. This is the last evening I am in the house it will be settled travelling in a very short time. For the snow is already gone from the road. Leave word that this letter was sent with you, but I hope he will find the much expecting people of that.  

With affectionate love, 

O.C. Howard.