My dear Sello,

Try and see if you cannot bear your brother in writing. By copying the letters you find below. Tell me if you can read my writing generally. I don't think you can without help. For it takes much practice & much familiarity with my shapeless characters, to understand them. Tell me too, if you would like to see your eldest brother. How much you would give to be with him. Do you keep Brownland in wood, or is he able to be out with the rest of the family? Goodnight. Go to bed. I dream of your affectionate brother.

[Signature]


Try, for I know you can beat that. W. R. H. Gilmore...

April 1850?
On Howard No. 1 in the winter

John's Orders

(Dark text)

[Handwritten notes and signatures]

[Additional handwritten text]
My Dear Son,

Leeds, April 22, 1872.

I do not think I have written the privilege of writing to you more than I can, but I have heard so much about you that I think now you are breaking up, and have more time for yourself than I have had. The weather is much better, and I went out to the field today. I am well, and my health is good, and I have been since I left home. I have been and am well, and before the great heat of water in the city, and I saw Robert and John, the day before, and that the health was very good, and the news came from Boston that the tornado was destructive. She brought a letter from your aunt, and she which was very full of loving words for all of us, and so she did not desire to write to us, and Sarah would not write to you. I would write her when you come to Boston. I could find you by your address for Mrs. Washington Street, their boarding house, or the place of business house, State Street. When Wilmot was here,
was here on business not long since and spent a short

time, on a few hours, he told me where he had

come was and that the way eight dollars per week for herself and

house, and Charles. Salaries are two hundred and

fifty dollars a year and supports himself in part to it, besides

he often goes to church on the Sabbath anda inquired

after us. The sick they had just received letters from

him and his health was good and our had been since he

left home, our family has all had good health this spring.

Henry Gilbert has taken Mr. Jones place on the

farm and is delighted with it, he has brought new anumber

taught and is planning apparently i in the summer

who called here this week with a subscription paper

for raising money for supporting preaching, I had one

hundred and thirty dollars subscribed when here I have little

hope of ever having much preaching at the center, I should be

glad to live where I could attend meeting with my family and

I think it would give me new coloring to my feelings and enjoyment.

Charles has little or no anxiety anything to do & he had gone

to Huntsville with Abbe he is gathering sick and sending

sugar for his own eating, Madam glass is assisting him in

bringing it, and having to get all the sugar he can to

cat and drink none of the naps than Charles would have

him. Charles is expecting a letter from you Mr. every

mail I hope you will write him it would do him good

he has written long letter to Mr. Richard St. Gilmore and will

send it by Dr. Dugger your letter will arrive in

this a few dollars tell him he is assisting Mrs. Lottery to

time from the general town of your

of your letter you were enjoying yourself well, your

time must be all occupied and if it is filled up to advantage

a happy way of spending time, I know not any definite idea

of what your calculations are and after graduating I am in

hope some prospect will open for you that will be for

your advancement in every respect, I know that I

have much reason for a cheerful grateful, sense of former

favor but I see the look upon you & I am constantly

looking into at what is wrong and wishing it could be

different, I do not make myself miserable but I am deter

mined not to be satisfied with the very line, and I think it is inconsistent with a common understanding to be satisfied to live and spend their time on I do

you forgive Mr. Sites have you seen him and how is the

tell will he he has my good wishes to his health is

good I have called at his residence since you went

home. I called at Mrs. Duval once you write both times on

Penelope account to see if anything could be done

for him but have gained nothing in his behalf of

I wish I could for I think if we could support him

a few years for his ten children some of them would

take care of them. Mrs. Duval has talked with on

the subject of being a public change he says he will go off

into the woods and do the same the kin is nothing to

any of us be a public change although it is to be

expected after such a life as he has led, but I can

not view it as any other right than a pleasant more

as I never saw otherwise suppose he will say

way every thing that trouble me with his feelings about
Chesterfield County, Petersburg, Feb. 5, [1861]

Dear friend Howard, it has been a long time since the last we met, and perhaps it will not surprise you to receive this Epistle from me in this southern clime but yet feeling a desire to learn some what of your welfare as you climb the rugged hill of fancy adventure to set my pen to work hoping better success in the way of an answer than a report of my last. Last winter while teaching in the town of Gardner I wrote you but heard nothing from it since whenever you near read it or where you you had forgot your old chum I have no clue as to where able to decipher. Respecting the General. dont once more inform you that he is yet alive and kicking out of hand and out praying ground, & if you are the same he would like to hear and if not please send him your word as a token remembrance. Will by the date of this you will have in old Virginia and no where else. The Lord of justice being kind to hold up 18 negroes of mine long in the capacity of pedagogue have been teaching. The negroes have forced dollar 12.00 for the term of ten months. I have a school school I have been teaching all winter with the help of 18 negroes. After six weeks I was forced to stop one day. Washington stayed 7 weeks Baltimore stayed one day. Washington stayed 9 weeks. Visited our old friend Whitney. All the
Rush College, Apr 14th 1850.

Dear Mother,

I am sorry to find that you are not happy, for when one is disinterested, it is almost impossible to have in mind a great amount of happiness. But experience must have taught you, that it is not anything to contrast circumstances, which can make the contented heart. Wealth will not do it; contentment,

I know that it is a simple thing to one who wishes it, to be deprived of the privilege of attending church; but there would be a thousand thoughts of grief that would follow a removal to a village or a city. The child is exposed to ten times the temptations. I am now thankful that

My first years were spent in a farm, and struggled through my constitution. There is no need of industry, and by mortifying them only my physical strength. I have tried a foundation upon which I may complete expect a more respectable mental standard.

And I find it to be a matter of great remorse that someone saw me to the gulf, indications, discouraging me. The bounty is the last place in the world. There is really no need of great anxiety. In need of being too hard, I certainly think, neither you ought to be attitude. A person's life is never slackened, without someone that believes. And it is our condition. Thinkful, cheerful, how easily & light it is work, as the latter by one,
it is only just. Then throw off brother, and let this
thoughtful spirit free from care shine into your heart,
and dissipate all the fancied bitterness of your lot.
You are closely connected with the mother's happiness, is the
happiness of the children. Commerce success may crown
my future efforts, and then your sacred wishes may
be fulfilled, or lecturing. It is the study of gratitude, as
well as affection, for a son the rejoicing, the thence famous
whispers, which have been extensively another and to recompense
the unworthy love shown, which shall have been the only motive
and support from infancy to youth and maturity.

I write to Uncle John Col, the other day, expecting him to
apologise to me to some situation where I could find
educative employment to tell any chance of for

advantageous improvement. I wish to study a year or
two before I commence my studying my profession.
for a superior education will be the secret of my success,
if I do succeed. I probably am well calculated for a
lawyer at any thing. I can study what is easy & learned
in the most without a great step upon any patience.
I find that the channel from metaphysical science are
far from being wholesome. What is learned by the intelligent
by labor, is severely of some nature. I have planned and the
results to myself but it is not apparently efficient the other
is desirable. The one that seems to me to be important is
to continue my literary, metaphysical scientific studies
for two or three years, and then commence the study of law
and the more energy & acquired knowledge into a professional course. The other is the one that would
think any better than my ability is to be a literary
man. If I had been older when I entered college & formed
a different course, my chance to become a college instructor
would have been better. If I have not a chance to
improve in the first course, which I have laid out
for myself. If work does not find a better occupation for
me, I probably shall teach an Academy the next year, not
only that I may make money, but that I may study
Greek & my Greek. I always have an end in view, but
the particular mode of attaining it matters not. I
not willing to have I venture in an undecided manner
for I should then lose possibly turn out to be perfectly lost
with determination (resolved ofrances) and seeking
perseverance. Difficulties of the unforeseeable may be easily
overcome. I am glad you are trying to do something for
Uncle 1. Thackfield: for, if a man has always better a
reasonable course, it is not a Christian spirit to let him
suffer the pain of lessons. It is not possible for a man to
assist himself. There is a self-improvement which will force
the victim to be his own & that is punishment enough.
without condemning it to increase his sufferings either by
loving or unloving them. What can one do to do as we ought.
Remember me to the manager. Your affectionate

O. H. Howard.
Washington, April 4th, 1852

My dear Child,

I have just received your letter. It will be difficult to give you more than general advice. I am glad to hear that you are making good improvements in your present occupation, for this fact could be so called; and though it may seem trifling, it is a great step in the right direction. Moving as a leaft, when you settle at last, you will be young, perhaps too young to determine a profession to which you are to be dedicated. Your own taste and talents would be the guide to direct your determination to a great extent. I had hoped you would be inclined to study law; I am not particularly partial to that profession, but I am aware it has often laid the foundation for many a fortune or successful career. If you can get a good course in the first year after you graduate, it will give you an opportunity of improving your education more than usual without instruction. In the second year you can make up any want that you may have of doing this, and will give you a chance of getting back some of the money you have expended in...
your education, and what you must get depend on getting a profession. I believe you have had no idea of going into trade. I hope we shall soon see you in Berkeley to your credit, and make you a man of business. I hope you will make more money than I ever could in Washington.

The next year I hope to be able to devote my time and attention to something of a literary and intellectual character beyond my time at the department. I hope at what a you may be doing in California, but I should not advise you to think of going there to do so. I think you have a good chance of making a fortune, if you are industrious enough, but I am glad to have a letter from you of your pending affair of going to a bank. Let me know if you can be better prepared to advise you.

I shall always feel a strong interest in you, and always hope to see you in California. I hope we will see you there, and we shall be glad to see you. I have the utmost confidence in you, and we all wish you well.

P.S. I am enjoying the weather.

John O. Smith

B. Columbia Branch
Oldward
Mar 30 1840

My dear Clara,

Sally lives.

Brunswick Mar 30, 1840.

Dear mother,

The term is now almost through. I commenced our review to day in every thing, and heartily glad am I of it, for I begin to grow a little tired. The last time I finished our Chemistry (what I was obliged to make up) was last Saturday evening. Since, here at college, and fall with myself, have been to Dr. Chalmers house to receive during the whole of this term. I think that I halted as good an examination on every thing, as I could have done, if I had been here the whole term. I have called on Mrs. Warden, twice or thrice times. The last time I found her grand getherd together, there. She does not appear in a remarkably good state of health. Uncle John answered the letter which I wrote him, and says that it would be better for me to attend school a year after I graduate before attempting any thing else. And as much as desirable teaching, I believe I shall be obliged to follow his advice, without some equality lucrative employment, open directly to me. So I shall be in the watch till, if I can get a school or Academy, somewhere between Maine & Louisiana. I had an offer to day to commence the Litchfield High School, next June. I keep it at least a year; but if commenced too early, and I do
not like the place very much. It is the same where so
many young men went from little they last fall.
I had another proposal the other day, but it would not
have the same effect as little. I may, like the charity train, have from
necessity, to take it with the "invaluable women" at last,
but I will not stay out of college any more for the
highest wages. I have written & committed my
seat for this Spring's exhibition. It is not very good,
but like the "short soldiers," "it will pass muster".
The exhibition will be on Tuesday evening, one
fortnight from this evening. These will usually four
or five junior parts, but this year the college
government have sent away three of the performers,
and the other will not perform alone. The cause
of their being sent away was this: From first day
through the week, in the junior year, claps have
been in the habit of "cutting," that is, of being out
of recitation. This year the government undertook to
just a 20. As if it was the night after first prof deth,
hearing a noise in one of the junior rooms, broke through
the door without ceremony, and found 10 junior, ca-
men, & took them names and commanded them all
to go into recitation the next morning. This he did
in anticipation of offence, before they had done anything,
the next morning he did not find a junior there,
and none were seen till the next morning, except
William Crit. On Friday he had seated himself in the

class to go to Bath. Just before they started, Prof. Jordan
popped him on the shoulder, & told him he would
accompany him to the President room. He went to
was sentenced to go to Bath, but was again recalled
the next break. They were sent away for six months.
the best scholars & "best fellows" in the class. There was
for following precedent. Give my love to all the
family. I think now of going home by the way of
Hallowell, to make them my long promised visit.
and even now it will be a short one. My money
is more reduced than I thought it would be, but if
the situation does not exceed its common cost,
I shall try to manage my passage home with what
I have. The juniors being gone I do not know
whether we can ask them to pay their proportion
part of the expenses or not. I have not heard from
Rowland of late, and the fact I have not from
any one else. If you write again you must read
it soon enough for me to get it next week.

Your affectionate Son

R.R. Howard.