

You inquired after S. H. D. he is doing well, <sup>allegedly</sup>  
he gets a little tight some times. not often  
I think.

As to Ath. operations I can tell  
but little; only that she is greatly  
involved in debts, say something less  
than \$200,000. But little interest has  
been manifested under Eaton's administration.  
The Ath. has, so far, got more of the  
fresh. Class than the Pres. but it is not  
owing to any enthusiasm in favor of  
the Ath. only in favor of the U.V.'s  
presidency.

I do not know whether they  
will elect their candidate or not.  
As for College Popularity I can say I do  
not care three cents for it.

I cannot bow, and scrape to win the  
favor of any body; and you know that  
but few can be very popular here among  
such capricious people as college affords.  
They are to finish off the Chapel this  
season if near.

Remember me to Brown, tell him  
I hope the thoughts of Cynthia will not  
distract his mind.  
I shall be glad to hear from  
you at the next time how you & Abbot get  
on in the race  
as ever y<sup>r</sup>s truly B. F. Kendall

Bowd. Coll. Apr. 3, 1851.

Friend Howard,  
Your long awaited epistle  
came to hand this morning, and right  
glad was I to hear from you, sitting in  
high places, supported at public expense.  
I wish the public would support me!!!  
I am well pleased to hear of your high  
stand and hope yet to hear that you  
stand to it.

I had always supposed that  
the course of study at the U.S.M.A. & S. was  
much more calculated to "try men's souls"  
than the course here. One thing here  
however, which tends to increase the hatred  
is the non-intervention of length. You never  
will be enlightened by any wisdom, <sup>has</sup>  
hardened in the mid-day study or dreamed  
out by the flickering of his midnight-gill.

It is the only objection I have  
to him, is, that, as a teacher he is no better  
than a wooden one. Every day that  
I remain here diminishes my respect for old  
Packard. If he has learned anything  
during all his life, why does it not tick out?



We are now in the delightful field of Calculus where some of the class already prefer to roam in shady paths thinking the sooner to find the maximum of all things.

I did not arrive here till some two weeks since consequently I had some to make up. I confess that it was a little heavy to me at first. But I am doing pretty well in it now, at least I get along alone. I dread the math. paper.

In German we are reading Schiller's thirty years war which is almighty dull.

The senior class are all here but Pike and Hamlin who were suspended about one week since for getting tight, as usual.

Joseph Ware was also suspended at the same time. I for got him at first.

The present Freshman Class number now fifty. The largest class since he's any class has dwindled down to seventeen.

You spoke of your brother, I will do him all the favors I can, for I once was indebted to you for such.

Howard, I miss you and old Perley; you were far more intimate with me than any

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in my own class; and when I think of the many good times I had with you, in 26 M.H. I am sorry you are not here now. I shall probably be here a year with your brother, and as you know my habits are not over bad, perhaps I could do him some good. You can tell him (that is, if you think best,) that he can ask me for a favor or for advice at any time and I will give him the best I can.

I am sorry for Brown, that his prospects are dubious. I fear for him as I knew he disliked mathematics.

As for news from Albany quarter, tell him I cannot give him any, for I have not been in Bethel for a year.

I think I shall go to Widdow's vacation at I can go there now in the car.

I taught school in Ellsworth six miles from the place I was the winter before. They paid me fifty dollars (boarding myself) per month. I may teach one more town school, and only one.

I had to use the green-hide on four great ignorant boys during the past winter.



C. C. Howard

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West Point, N. Y. Apr 6<sup>th</sup> 1857.

Dear Mother.

I am sorry it happens so that my letters must be a week old before they reach you, but I must write Saturday afternoon or Sunday if I write at all. Once in a while perhaps I may manage to steal a few moments in the middle of the week, if I do I will surely devote them to your letters. My health is now very good indeed. You must not make any unfavorable hypotheses, that is, you must not borrow trouble: depend upon it, mother, enough of it will come unasked. You must not fear or expect a relapse in my case for I have fairly recovered. I have received a letter from Lizzie since her return. She enjoyed her visit very much indeed. She wishes to know when is the best time for you to come. After the June examination the first Class having graduated leave for their several Stations. The Class next above us go home on furlow, leaving only two classes. About a hundred new cadets are being drilled in the mean time. They get their uniform & go into the Battalion about the last of July, i.e. about the middle of the encampment. This time is really the pleasantest time at West Point. The corps of cadets then make the best appearance. But I would rather have you come the last of June or the first of July. In fact it matters not. Come when it is most convenient. If they can know when you will be in New York Mr Sargent or Silas will gladly meet you at the Cars and conduct you

I have received all the papers  
that father has sent me.  
He made a mistake and sent  
me an Advertisement of Mar. 18<sup>th</sup>  
instead of Mar. 18<sup>th</sup> last time.  
The penmanship was very acceptable.



to some good place to stop. From the City you can come up river by the cars or by a boat - as you please. I preferred the steam boat: for the scenery all the way up the Hudson is rich & interesting in the summer, whose beauty is all lost upon you when you are hurried along at lightning's speed. But if you should choose you could come by cars & stop at Peekskill. My cousin Elizabeth Howard would think it a rich treat to have you stop - so that she could accompany you to West Point. You can make your own arrangements about coming, only let me know when - I may be able to meet you at Peekskill, perhaps even in New York. It depends entirely on the state of Capt. Brewerton's will and temper at that time. At a favorable time I will ask him if he will grant me such a favor.

Bowland Bailey has written me, says he & Charlie are getting on finely, thinks Readfield a better school for Charles than Yarmouth. He says that William this is doing finely on his Senior studies.

It hardly seems possible to me now that I am a Graduate from College - Like many others I had been under the foolish impression that a college educated man was necessarily well versed in every thing pertaining to scientific & literary knowledge. Here ignorance is most certainly detected. A man cannot palm himself off for more than he is. In many respects I think this the best school in the Union, in others the worst.

The moral education that a person would receive in this

place is just none at all. Yet it is said that a considerable number of eminent ministers in the United States are Graduates.

I went to see Warren yesterday afternoon and had a long walk with him. He is still in hopes to get a Commission, at least when a new force is created next winter. It seems hard that Commissions should not be open to meritorious men from the "ranks", as well as to Graduates of this Institution. But this seems to be the medium. It has this advantage that it confers a good part of the Government of our land upon educated men; but all the Army regulations tend to promote rank & aristocracy. Warren is a very practical man. He says an army would be no army without this high respect paid to the officer's dress, however contemptible the man who wears it. An Army cannot be democratic. I saw Mr Harville, you remember him perhaps - Charles Harville, who lived at Col Lothrop's one season or more. He has had the small pox, and a strange looking creature he is. He secretly married a day or two before he was seized with this horrid disease. What a fool a man is to leave a pleasant situation, where he can receive attention & respect according to his merit or according to the goodness of his heart, and enlist in the Army. -- Give my love to all and write me as soon as you can.

Yours affectionate son  
O. O. Howard.



P.S. Did you rec the Electric? N.Y Tribune  
I sent.

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Dear Mother

1851  
Barnmouth April 8<sup>th</sup>

We have a rainy sabbath today and which is not very agreeable to anyone. ~~Especially~~ to one who cannot be at home, very likely if it rained in Leeds you could not go to church, although I have been all day Roland and myself. We went up to the Baptist in the A.M., but it rained so hard in the P.M., that we went in to hear Mr. Alden preach, it being much nearer. We had a Lecture here yesterday the subject of which was Physiology, which one which very much interest me I would like to have Della hear such a Lecture he had a Skeleton for part of a one. Besides a ~~Mean~~ <sup>or course of Lectures</sup> ~~idea~~. we have had one other lecture ~~on~~ <sup>the</sup> same subject I don't know but I wrote you. Our writing school that we was expecting to have came off rather ~~badly~~ <sup>Wash</sup> the writing a pointed a writing school and I went but there was not enough there and so we did not have any. But I am in hopes they will have a singing school, because they did not have a writing school. I suppose that Della had a good time the first day of April making April fools. I hope he did. the boys here had quite a time they got the breakfast bell and rung it before breakfast was ready and so got the boys all down there for nothing. I suppose that Martha is to our home yet. The roads had got quite dry before the rain and it was pretty good waggoning I suppose that you use sleighs in Leeds. Fast day will be next

Apr 14 1851

L. A. R. B. Steward



Thursday, I wish that it did not cost anything to go home, <sup>if it did not</sup> I should like to come home, I suppose that they will have a great time, playing ball. we have not heard from Otis since the last time that we wrote. I hope that you will write soon, let us know whether you heard from him or late or not. Give my love to father, Delia and all. Has Rowland made up his mind to stay this year, to our house or go to some other place to spend the summer, is our wood all cut up. Please write mother and tell me the whole. I suppose Rowland will finish this. So Good Bye

From your Aff. son Charles

Dear Mother

A classmate was in my room this evening complaining of a head tooth and ear ache and said, why is it Howard that you never have any of these ailments? I thought that ~~quite~~ a question would sound strange to you who have always heard me complaining of aches and pains ever since you have heard me speak. However, such a question proves that I am either getting the better of them or if I have them, that it is of no use of talking about it here. But I think my general health has improved much within a year past. At least I hope I have overcome the habit of constantly teasing others with my ailments. Such a thing here would be downright foolishness. And such a person would immediately set down as a baby who had left his ~~too early~~ mother's knee too early. I think Charles's health is as good as it

has been for some time. Mrs Carey's Mother has died since I wrote and I attended the funeral on Thursday. Mrs Carey is still at Bath. Mr Johnson is trying to get up a writing school here. if he does tell Father I shall try to get that little note, and I shall try if he does not. I should class him as a man and a paymaster among writing masters generally. That is as a regular "man-head". Thunder and lightens tonight and I think the storm will clear away before morning. As Charles has said, we had a course of lectures here yesterday, here on Physiology. They were very interesting and instructive. But on the whole I thought the ~~man~~ better satisfied with himself than his hearers were with him, not but that the lectures were first rate. But I think no man could admire the man's talent, as much as he seemed to. I shall have to have a new pair of shirts next vacation, for I find that if mine go to the wash tub whole, they seldom if ever come away so. Mrs. H. has torn and worn the bones all to pieces by going through an operation which I should call scrubbing in dirt. Write me the news from Melancthon from Africa. Addison Martin, Otis and home. Send me if you can the East. Journal & advertiser. I see the world renowned ~~and~~ R. R. Corn, puffed in all the papers. That financial item is what takes my eye. Haven't heard from Portland lately. I shall write again next Sunday. Charles is snoring so I must go to bed. Be affectionate to her Rowland



I have a high mark set for you in principles and I hope I shall not be disappointed. There is one sure foundation and that is grace of God if you will abide in me, I will abide in you with this abiding principle we shall not fall. I wish you be particular about writing me a description of your cadet shirt collar, the number of inches is a proper way to tell me, your father will write some on this sheet and I will stop. Yours L. Eliza Gilmore.  
The Howard.

April 7 1851

My Dear Boy Your mother has written a letter to W. B. & Charles besides writing this she says she is tired & I will try to fill up the sheet. I rec'd a letter from the War Department last week respecting your conduct & standing for the month of February in which I find no marks of demerit for the month nor for the whole term & that you stood first in Mathematics and second in English studies I told your mother that I thought you had better knock your head again for you stood better than you did at the semiannual examination - I saw your Uncle John last week he asked why you did not write him - The grading of our Rail Road is progressing slowly this winter but will probably be ready in season to lay the track as soon as we shall want it - We expect our first cargo of Rails from Liverpool in all the month of May & the other two in June & July our <sup>Shelby</sup> are about all ready & shall commence laying the track when the Iron rollers & expect the track will be laid to Livermore Falls by about September next - Yours affectionately L. Gilmore

My dear Son,

Leeds, April 8th 1851.

I have reread your last letter with a view to answer it in part, I believe in my last letter, I said as much as I could recollect of Liza's visit but she did not come in the car, she came with Mr. Hewitt in the stage as far as C. J. Martins and his sons brought her here with a noble fat horse, and a good sleigh with two nice Buffaloes besides it was very good sleighing, so you see your imagination is liable to take a wrong flight, I suppose you have heard from L. . . . herself all the particulars of her expedition from Lewiston to Leeds and back again, I am in hopes you are wholly recovered from your sickness, ere this, Charlie said in his letter of the 9th that you had written to them, and had made up your studies, he so, you are lucky in being unlucky, our winter is past and nothing now remains, of all the snow that has fallen the four months past, but now and then a remnant of a drift near the walls and fences, I shall soon be able to walk in the fields and woods which I so much admire, I shall miss Charlie this spring, as he has so long <sup>been</sup> my companion in my spring rambles, but it will not be more than six or seven weeks at most ere he will be here, I felt really down hearted at his going to Ipswich, south, this spring but I hope it will not be ~~down~~ lost time to him, I have needed him a good deal but the longer I am without him I become accustomed to calling on others to do what he did, I am about making your half dozen shirts for you I think I can get them right except the collar, you can give me the exact shape of the cadet's collar if it is a strait



one send me the exact length and ~~with~~ width of them and whether they should be stitched near the edge that turns over or not, and I would like to know whether you have any choice of in the fashion of the wristbands these trifles may be important, in the set of your shirts, I believe wrote a great deal of news in my last letter, which makes me rather short at this time I attended the funeral of Steven King, who died the day I mailed your letter, Mr Stevens the Universalist Minister attended the funeral, he prayed earnestly for one who expected to share his destiny in life, I suppose Sarah <sup>the winter</sup> ~~Summer~~ since she returned from Augusta the first of these has been an evident partiality existing between them, Sarah was sick at the time of the funeral I have called to see her she is now getting well again, your father saw Brother John at Augusta last week he said nothing about sending for John gave some directions about his treatment seemed quite cheerful about William said they had given him an Oration in his Class this term, I am in hopes he will go to home keeping before long and collect their family I expect it will be a great trouble to them, but that is their lookout it is raining fast which seems to say that vegetation will soon put forth her beauties I long to see the fields covered with grass. Don't buy you any stockings untill come to West Point Arza has removed his business all to New York in Brooklyn we have received two letters from him since his arrival, in New York he moved fifty bee hives from here to New York all safe and is now there with George Lathrop to do all the work he has a partner a man with whom he became acquainted last fall in New York by the name of Platt Arza has staked all now on the last cast, how

how he will finally come out is in the future to decide he sent his father a Brooklyn news paper containing a description of a Shammouth Bee hive, the date of the paper is March, the 31. Brooklyn Freeman if you have any curiosity to see the paper and read what is said concerning his establishment that is the one, his father is going to Boston to try to settle Arza's old debts next week I find it is a business he very much dreads Arza health is much improved the latter part of the winter and he writes he is as well as when he left ~~us~~ ~~the~~ ~~last~~ here he is not able to do anything all the labor is done by his partner and George Lathrop, he is as peevish as ever George says he can reason with him tolerably well for the most part, our railroad progresses yet, I never wanted it and am always sick of it and never more so than now your father's time is all taken up and I very much fear his money will be too I do not like any of the management at all everything around us looks neglected and miserable, and I have no hope of its ever being different, Roland will now probably remain at home this year if not always, in what capacity I know not, Betsey is all the time in hot water about her rights here and quarreling Henry Gilbert about eggs, every body is wronged, Martha Martin is with me a great deal help ~~the~~ mass of flesh I get all I can out of her which is misery indeed, I am satisfied Emily has thrown herself away on a miserable fellow I pity her but it is no use I very much fear that goes by an assumed name and will finally give her the slip when he has got all she has if my fear is true it is no matter how soon he goes Martha has satisfied me of late that he is a great wretch



I received a letter from Abigail last week she says this is all very well  
how you heard of the death of her Mother. Charles says he felt his  
loss very much, and she was a very excellent woman, and it will be  
difficult for him to find one to take her place. I have tried to tell  
you about all the members of the family, that I can think of, but I am  
so negligent about writing that I do not keep myself as well informed  
as I might, with regard to them.

Here having delightful weather now, the snow is all gone, and the  
ice is out of the river, and it is really quite cheering; I have enjoyed  
the winter here very much. it had been quite lively, we have had quite  
a number of British and Irish, all of which were very pleasant, and  
I am beginning to feel quite at home again, though I said a great  
many of my old friends that were here when I left, there are quite  
a number of the young Lucian men, and the young men have gone to  
the "Golden Virgin". But what there are remaining are the same friends  
they used to be. And Mrs. Davis is here, I have written quite a long  
letter, as I think you will see about taking the trouble to send, but I  
hope to receive an answer very soon, for we are always happy to hear  
from you, and I hope you will find time to write to us often, if I could  
mother, and Mother were here they would send a great deal of love.

And with a great deal of affection I remain your  
Cousin, Sarah C. Lee.

Waltham April 10th 1857

My Dear Cousin

It gave me a great deal of pleasure to receive  
your kind letter, and I intended to have answered it more promptly,  
but have been so much engaged that I have not found time, but as  
today is our State day, I thought, that instead of attending to church I  
remain at home, and devote the day to writing letters <sup>to my friends</sup> as I find I  
am indebted to quite a number of them. I have written Mother and Mother,  
have gone to church, and I am at home alone, they are both very well,  
and happy. I think I am getting on in health, and feel better,  
somebody for one of her eyes, she will be 44 next Monday, I believe,  
I have no idea of ever arriving at that age, however though if I could  
be as young as she is, I should not object to being as long.

We were very very anxious to hear of your illness, I am afraid very  
Dear Cousin, it was more serious than you thought, when you wrote,  
that all felt very anxious about you, but I trust you have entirely recovered  
and from it before this, I hope you will be very careful. Your  
Mother wrote here the night before last, and was very happy  
to hear from him, that you were able to resume your studies again  
and that you had been able to make up your studies so well, and was  
proud that you would outgrow your strength when you were able to.



study in order to make up. we are all rejoiced to hear of your standing  
in your class, and trust that you will have your health, and that you  
may realize your highest expectations. He was not William Michael  
that I saw, but Charles H. - his brother I presume, he is an Engineer on  
this Railroad, and seems to be a fine young man.

I suppose you have heard before this, that I spent a fortnight with  
Arthur Lane, a short time since. I had a delightful visit. I like  
Michael very much indeed, I think it is one of the prettiest places  
I ever saw, and the people seem so social and friendly, I would like  
very much to live there. I saw Miss White several times, and we  
saw that I could not see more of her, but she was not of town the  
last week that I was there; I believe I have very much interest, and  
shall feel very proud to engage her as a cousin, I think she is  
quite handsome, and the greatest charm about it is, that she is  
not a talker, but is perfectly modest and unassuming; I think you  
could not have made a better choice, and think of your say, that is  
one matter of such others, and I hope that your reputation instead of  
making you feel attached, will only bind your affection closer to me.  
I wish she would make me a great big visit this summer. I  
should enjoy it very much indeed, I invited her to come, but she would  
not think she should not be able to, but I wish you would induce her to come.  
Our clothes told us that Miss Lane, and her sister, were going on  
to make you a visit like I said, I presume you will enjoy it very much.  
I wish I could go with them, but I do not think you will see me till  
I come to New York to him, and then I shall send myself of the first  
opportunity of visiting you. I suppose you will ask when I am coming

to N. C. but there is no particular time decided upon yet, though I nothing  
should happen, I may possibly go there next fall. I am glad you  
like Frank, for I want all my friends to think as much of him  
as I do, and he thinks as much of you as you do of him. I received  
a letter from him this morning in which he says that he has just  
seen the Commercial spoken, the 28th of March, in the South Sea.  
it must have been a year ago I think or it would be impossible  
for the news to reach here so soon if it was that year. I wish we could  
receive letters from him, it seems as if he were never coming home  
but I hope we shall see him soon. We missed Arthur from last  
week, he was well and in fine spirits, him and Edie have left the Hall  
at St. Louis, and are now boarding at the Withering Hotel in Broadway, a  
much better, and more retired house.

Our son, and family are very well and happy, they have a fine young  
boy, little fine to make a good subject for West Point, they do not change much  
but are as quiet and happy as ever. Uncle John has not gone to New  
Hampshire yet, but is still at Mr. Grant's, I suppose you have heard that  
they have another daughter, but I have not seen it yet, they will go to New York  
in a week or two. Virginia is boarding here with us now. I suppose you have  
that Willie left his school rather happily. I hope you he graduates he will  
try to do something, him is still in town. I received a letter from Addison  
by the last mail, he is very well indeed and is doing finely of his business  
good. he says there are a host of boys coming on this fall to visit their friends,  
but does not say that he is coming but I hope he will, for I want to see  
him very much. I suppose you heard of William Spaulding death, his  
father, Addison felt it very much, he is now alone in the business.



Barnmouth Apr 13<sup>th</sup> 1851

Dear Brother

I have been to church all day, and heard two very good sermons. The last by Dr Dwight of Portland. I think of the best I ever had the pleasure of hearing. It is a cool windy day very much resembling fall, with dust-filling your eyes and ~~nose~~ and all similar ~~exposures~~ <sup>exposures</sup>. Last evening was one of the most beautiful I ever saw. The moon is about in her second quarter, and the street was almost as light as noonday. I had a splendid walk with a young lady for meeting of my acquaintance in the street I made an exception to my usual custom, on account of the beauty of the evening and her agreeable conversation. Such an occasion does not often arise in Barnmouth, even if I was in a disposition to improve it. For of all the homely, disagreeable people that ever met, the inhabitants of Barnmouth are the most uninteresting and disagreeable always excepting Small City and Beach Hill. I made a very pleasant call at Dr Carey's last week. Mrs Carey's health is still very precarious. They sometimes fear for her reason. William and Joseph are not at home. But the girls, Martha & Ellen are very agreeable, and Dr is full as ever of his laughable anecdotes although sometimes they seem almost forced. Charles is with me yet, he will remain through the term, he has contracted

I am fast approximating to that pink of perfection a Macomber of our mutual acquaintance. The May flowers are budding to blow and I shall gather some this week. Don't you wish that you and Lizzie were gathering them on some of the old and rugged hills of Maine. Of course, but don't fret, but constantly remember that old song

"Oh a happy time is coming boys"  
 (from that celebration at the Port?)

I am getting along finely in Latin but confound the Greek. tis an infernal bore any how. dry, hard, and (excuse me) thin. but they tell <sup>me</sup> of glorious discipline. My respects to Mr Lathrop and every one that cares to have them.

Your affectionate Brother

Douglas

Isn't you glad that you once visited where the late consecrated roof that the down casted did who is making such a stir in Brookline. Enclosed is a sharp puff that I cut from the Brookline Freeman. Bankers are ahead and no mistake  
 R B H



as I feared he would, some desire to go to college, I for one do not think he had better either go or have any desire to go, I do not think he should go for many reasons, and of course I do not want him to wish to go, and to be disappointed. I have talked with him some about it and I wish that you would write him a letter discouraging the idea of <sup>his</sup> going to college, for I am afraid he will let his mind too much upon going, as I said before. Do not let him know that I said anything to you about it, His constitution seems to be weak and his general health poor. I think he would not live long in a sedentary mode of life or if he did he would not be half so happy as he would if he continued no longer for such a mode and lived upon a farm and ~~labored~~ interested in its affairs. But of course you will have your own opinion concerning these things and act accordingly. Since I left my letter, <sup>only</sup> one of my classmates has come into my room with, "How would you like a walk?". I assented and we have walked round to the fore side as they call it. perhaps you used to travel the same path when you was here. We went to and old grave yard with Graves and Tombs almost a century old. There is a high bluff just behind it and a ledge from which I saw Cape Elizabeth and ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~unfettered~~ <sup>unfettered</sup> on the right, the bay and its beautiful islands, in front, with a vessel anchored here and there, and on the far left I could discern Harpeness and the Spire of Mr Kellogg's Church. Of course

You remember how the time that we went - a fishing in that direction. On the whole I have had a fine walk, and I am determined that one visit shall not suffice to the beautiful place on the fore side. Charles is beside me writing to Mother and I shall finish the letter. I am very glad to hear that your health has so far recovered, and I sincerely hope that your fall will not render your permanently shull cracked. What a delightful meeting there would be between you and Lizzie now. I can imagine you with your shaven pate and ridiculous skull cap. You must be quite a prominent feature of your class and a very ludicrous specimen of a down easter. If your strength was like Pompey's, how delighted I should be to flog you, or without the supposition, I suppose there would be no trouble about it - if I could only see you. Speaking of Lizzie reminds me that Percy was here last week, and on Fast-Day (Thursday) he went with Mr. Jewett to Brunswick. The latter looked prodigiously sleepy when he got back and I cannot for the life of our account for it, can you? Percy said that his land lady was in good health and spirits. Uncle John passed through here on Wednesday and I had just time to speak with him at the cars. He said that his people were well, and Maria went to Exeter, the day before. Had I known they were in Portland I should have gone in. Haven't heard from home lately, I write every week. Did you ever know me to write so developed well before. I flatter myself that



C.H.S. R.B. Howard

Apr 14<sup>th</sup> 1851

Mrs Eliza Johnson

Dear Mother

Sarumouth 1851

I have been to church with Howland all day. The <sup>Text</sup> sermon this forenoon was the 88<sup>th</sup> Psalm & verse. there ~~was~~ great many that go to meeting here. the meeting houses ~~are~~ always full. which is some different from meeting in Leeds, some carriages go with one load, and then go back after another. and the carriages are passing pretty lively Sunday morning. The weather is quite pleasant today though rather cold. I am in pretty good health though I have got a cold. I cannot keep my feet warm. We are about to have a singing school here, it is to begin Tuesday evening. We receive your welcome letter in season. I believe the same day that it was mailed. I much thank you for your kind advice. and will try to do as well as I can. I do not know what I should do if it ~~was~~ not for Howland here in Sarumouth, I had rather go to Deadfield than here. I think it will be much pleasant to me. The news of Stevens death came very unexpected to me. I never once thought of his dying. we heard of it the day before we got your letter. we heard by Mr. Curtis. although he is dead he seems to know more news than we do. uncle John passed through here from Portland last <sup>Thursday</sup> day. left Maria there. who was going to Gosport the next day. They had a meeting here all day ~~First~~ day and in the evening, we have not heard from Otis since we last wrote suppose he is studying to make up what he lost in



studies, Howland is now writing to him. I get along well with my studies, & hope it will be as you say the 21 of many. That is that I shall be safe at home. Give my love to Martha will she stay to our house all summer. I am so glad Annie Gilbert is so well. How does Ellie get along this spring? I hope he doesn't go down to Betsey's much. I see by your letter that she is the same Betsey after all. I hope Mary Gilbert will not stay there always. I see that you have even <sup>at home</sup> there as usual. I hope you will not always have so much to do. I should like to know the day that father goes to Boston so I can see him when he goes ~~past~~ <sup>past</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~mouth~~ <sup>mouth</sup>. We would like to see him very much when he goes through. Have Capt Turner's folks heard from Charles yet? Has Silas gone to Massabow yet? Tell Ellie he must learn to write. I shall be glad when he gets so he can write to me & Howland. Give my love to him and father, and anyone who may feel interested, to Rhoda & Mary. I will leave the rest for Howland to write. Good bye.  
— M. A. H. write as often as you can conveniently.

From your Affectionate Son  
Charles

Dear Mother  
I think Charles is very punctual in writing home for as often as Sabbath day comes he begins his part of the letter. I have written a long letter to Otis of about four pages and it is now rather late. I spent last day in reading which you know gives me vastly more pleasure than going to church or playing

ball. I wish Charles would read more. He would be a great deal better contented. When I feel homesick or cross, melancholy, or anything of the kind, a book does more for me than the kindest friend could. I wouldn't give a snap to sit down as some do and talk and play hours at a time. The greatest wonder is to me what they find to talk about. But those who can thus talk about nothing and enjoy themselves I know are very good companions, and I know I am not half as popular as I might be if I should adopt such a course. When I am reading or studying it provokes me to have any one speak to me and of course the engineer does not get very civil answers. I have been over to see Mrs Carey this week. She does not seem much like that Miss Stockbridge you used to know at Belvidere and that Mrs Carey that I knew at Wayne. Instead of the happy, frolicsome woman I found her unhappy and morose. She as well as my conscience reproved me for not seeing her before. She is better than she was and they are in hopes will finally recover. I see that C. C. Turner publishes something if that is a specimen I saw in the Journal, I think his composition might have been improved by early culture. But I suppose information is the main point and it does not matter much how a person gets at it. Give my love to all. Write soon and don't forget the papers. Howland



Dear brother

Garmouth April 20<sup>th</sup> 1851

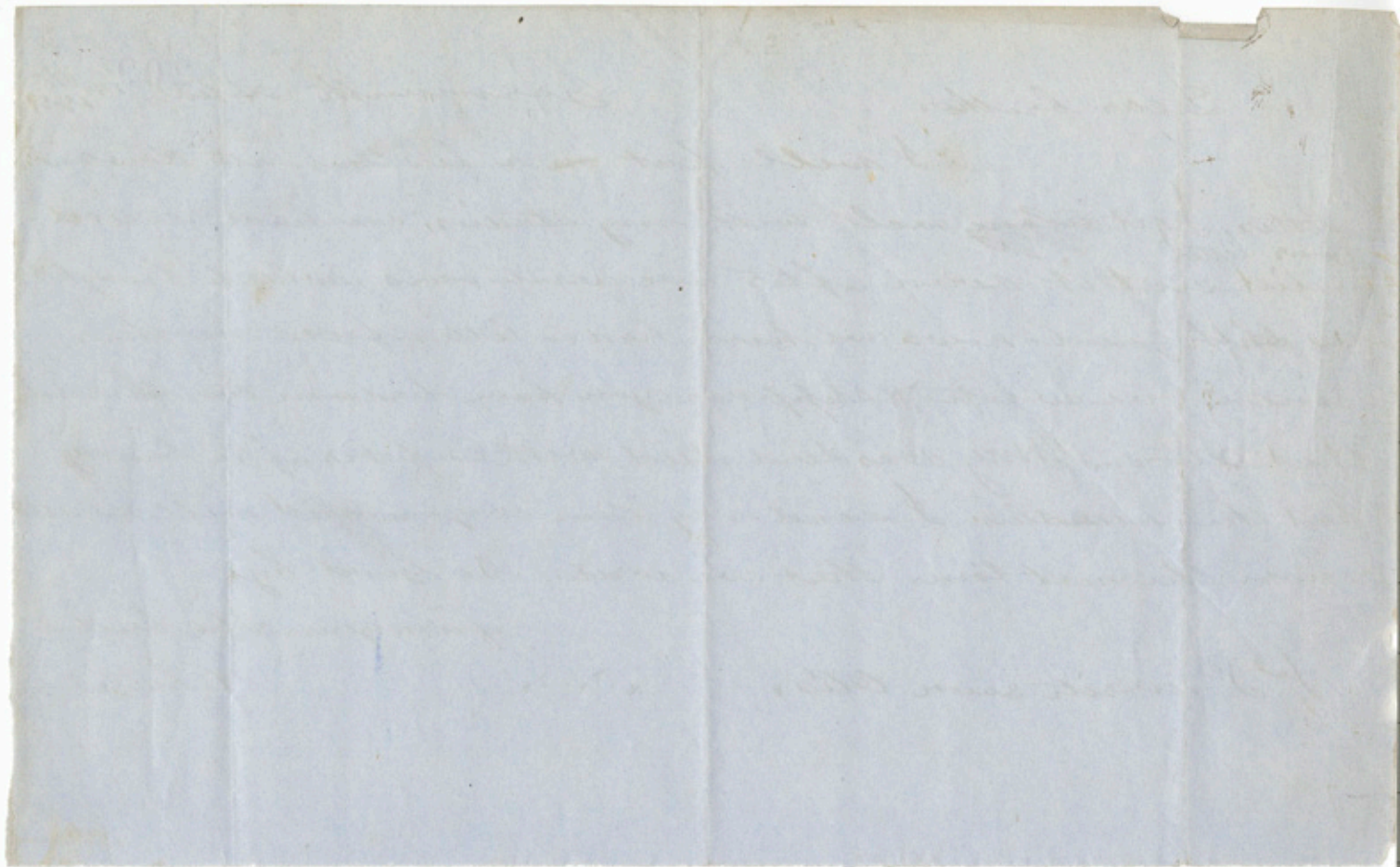
I will put ~~in~~ a few lines into Rowlands  
letter, I get ~~along~~ well with my studies, we have received  
<sup>your letter</sup> as did rec<sup>d</sup> it soon after we wrote ours, which brought  
us with good news we have had a letter from mother  
since we wrote & suppose you have had one too, she wrote  
that Steven & my road end died with a fever after having  
had the measles. I send my love to you and will write  
more the next time that we write. So Good bye

from your Aff<sup>d</sup> brother

P.S. write soon Otis,

Charles







months must be put together to determine my true standing. Last week I made the first mark in the class in Mathematics, the first in French, and the third in English Studies. This week I have made the third mark in Math. the second in French, & the first in Eng. Studies. I get all the time about the same; but others vary. Sometimes running above & sometimes below me. Here is the way my marks ran this week

Mon.	Tuesday	Wed.	Thur.	Friday	Sat.	total
2, 7	—	—	3.	—	3.	8.

The maximum for the week was nine; and I was "out" 3 tenths in mathematics one day: the other I got a maximum. For those days under which I put a blank I was not called up. If any one has been ~~the~~ called up to recite three times during the week, the "max." is 9. if four times the "max." is 12. So if I am called up but twice when the "max." is 9. I am averaged on the two marks that I get for the other recitation. Give my respects to all my friends - Remember to Mrs Lathrop & her family when you see them. Warren was well when I saw him last. Mr Browne is studying hard still - and still afraid of being found deficient. I think they will let him pass this June. The mathematical course indeed is hard to him; but he perseveres. Charles & Rowland have written me of late. They were well & doing well. Give my love to father, Roland, Della and Johnny. - As my sheet is full I must bid you good night. Affectionate son.

C. A. Howard.

C. A. Howard

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West Point N. Y. Apr. 19<sup>th</sup> 51

Dear Mother,

I have again taken up my pen to write you, and am in hopes, as the mail now goes & comes twice a day with us, that this will reach you before the expiration of a week. I would write other days than Saturday and Sunday, but cannot very well, as my daily duties must be attended to first. I wish you to tell me in your next letter, when or about what time it will be most convenient for you to make your journey to West Point. You must fix upon it yourself. For it will not make the least difference to me when you come, if you only come. I have constructed to the best of my ability a uniform Collar of paper. It may serve as a pattern. Almost any collar will answer if it is not open behind and is not too wide - for I pin them on my coat-binding over which they are to be turned - or pin them on to my shirt-binding - according to the kind of stock I put on. - It is better not to have any collar on the shirt - as in warm ~~hot~~ weather the collar must be changed two or three times a day. During the Encampment the "wash man" (as the man who takes the clothes is called) takes the clothes twice a week and returns clean ones - A cadet must be clean then - for there is a close inspection twice a day. You need not be at all surprised if the next monthly report - charges me with 8 demerits. A fortnight ago to day (Saturday) in the afternoon I visited Warren as I



had done often before. During my stay there three officers passed by, and as I thought I was on limits I took no pains to conceal myself. The next night I was reported: "Howard off limits 384 P.M." - I wrote as my excuse that I did not suspect that I was beyond our limits on Saturday afternoon. The Commandant said, I should have known & sent me for the regulations. He read me the articles & notes respecting the exact location of our limits - and found me rather deficient in knowledge thereof. He may have taken off the report, as I have as yet no demerit registered, and it is generally registered within one week after the report. It does not make much difference whether it is off or not.---

Demerit here does not always signify bad conduct or carelessness: but the freedom from it is generally owing to chance or good fortune. There are so many thousand little things to be reported for, that a person will necessarily lay himself liable every day. Perhaps the probability of my standing ahead would be stronger if I had no demerit than if I had a few. Mr Browne has tried as hard not to get demerit as a man well could, & he has got about 20. Mr Bradwell 24.

Two young men of our Class got their Complement of demerit, and were dismissed the other day. One of them boasts himself a drunkard & the other is a blabbing disagreeable sort of a fellow. I did not regret their departure much.

(Saturday evening.) I commenced this letter this forenoon, after I returned from the Mathematical Section Room

and as I spent considerable time in cutting out a pattern collar I could not finish it before dinner. After dinner I went to Mr Sawtelle's room and with him went & made a call on Capt S. Williams. He has just returned from a furlow of a month. He says he spent his furlow very pleasantly in Augusta. He is a very pleasant ~~fr~~ man, and generally liked by the officers on the Point. Since I cut out my pattern Mr Sawtelle has furnished me with a collar, which I shall send in this letter. He says his mother has sent him twelve, ~~but~~ at a time in a letter. You may make the part about the binding half an inch (or three quarters of an inch) longer than the pattern which I send. I believe I told you that it was better not to have brooms in my shirts.---

This last week has been very rainy here, the sun has not been seen for five days. Such weather as this Cadets like much, for they get rid of drill, which exercise none, however military they may be, ever take pride or pleasure in. I have been excused from Snells & dress-parades by the Surgeon, since my accident, but as my head is perfectly well I think I shall tell him that I can return to military duty on Monday next. You spoke or rather ~~father~~ spoke of my monthly report for the month of April. Tell him I would like to know my monthly standing each month. I stood well in April. My mark was not affected for that month by my ~~fall~~ illness, so I wish him to write what it was for March. This standing belongs exclusively to the month of which it is recorded. Father said that I stood higher than at the January examination. All the



Hallowell April 20. 1857.

My dear Stephen,

I received yesterday your letter, the first since you were better & was, expecting a letter as soon as you got better; but suppose you was too much hurried with your studies in your eagerness to make up for lost time. I wish you would inform me how your next rank is, for I feared you might not get you back. R. H. Gardiner Esq. of Gardiner, is the visitor appointed by the Leg. of war for this State. His son Theodore Gardiner graduated at West Point & is yet lieutenant in the regiment of dragoons. Mr. Littlefield's son is appointed a cadet & he was at West Point when we returned in March while you were sick & wrote his father from there that you were better. I saw Rowland at Farmington for a minute while the car stopped on Saturday, & also saw Charles who was on the California with him & they were very well. I had been on to Boston & stopped a day in Portland with Messrs. Thibault & found Maria there with them. She



will return in about a month. I had a letter a few days ago from William. He says the class have chosen him to deliver the ~~speech~~ oration & that he has to prepare a tract for the Senior Exhibition. I greatly feared he would not obtain much standing with his class. I shall be hopelessly disappointed if he succeeds well in the last year of his college life. He was greatly disappointed in not being able to get admitted at West Point. I hope it however has been the means of doing him good, & that he has been attended better to his studies.

I trust you will realize all you expect from the success of Rowland. He was looking much improved & I had little doubt of it. I shall take an interest in his success & it is no loss of time for a young man to be kept back from engaging in a profession or business till of mature age. As you lose <sup>no</sup> time while studying at West Point, if you do study as I know you will, & keep your morals pure & your mind and opinions unclouded. Many a young man has been ruined by a too early rushing into business, with the self-confidence of youth. I shall watch your success with interest.

Cadet C. C. Howard      Your affectionate Nephew,  
West Point.      Mrs. Oler



L. H. K. B. Howard  
Apr 27<sup>th</sup> 1851



Mrs. Eliza Gilman  
South Lee  
Maine

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Barnmouth Apr 27<sup>th</sup> 1851

Dear Mother

I have just come up from dinner and Charles has not returned from School so I take time between the services to write home. I have been this forenoon to hear Prof Loomis of Waterville College at the Baptist Church. I like him very much, I shall hear him again this afternoon, Last Sabbath I heard Dr Dwight of Portland at the 1<sup>st</sup> Parish they are both talented men and excellent preachers. It is a lucky day for the people here when their preachers exchange. We heard from Otis, week before last but I suppose I can tell you no news from him as you have probably had a letter since then. My health is good except a wretched cold that I have got in common with every one I meet. I thought my old chum at Readfield had forgotten me but I was greatly surprised a few days ago to rec a letter from him of four pages. Hood is a fine fellow and I wish to keep up correspondence with him as long as I can. He says they are making preparations to have a May celebration at Kent's Hill I almost wish I was there to participate in it. After having beautiful weather for a week it begins to look like a storm again, I have two or three prodigious great wren, boys that I shall make a violent



assault upon, tomorrow, in case it rains.

Monday Morning

I have just been examining into the state of my finances. and I find that they amount to \$8,01 sum total. It is not quite the thing to be quite so short. There <sup>are</sup> quite a number of unexpected expenditures that have reduced me thus low. some necessary and some perhaps unnecessary. But most of them are sufficiently accounted for. I cannot lend my entire Bile this time, for I cannot come at the exact amount. but I should like to have Father send me \$5,00 by Saturdays mail. and I will send for the rest as soon as I can find out the amount. Boarding in Commons begins to be rather barous, one or two Terms is very well but three Terms of the same monotonous living. the last Term not half so well as the others. makes it rather hard. It is Beans, Fish & Fish hash. Fish hash. Fish & Beans. from the beginning to the end of this term. together with an altogether superfluous quantity of power butter, poor coffee and hard bread. to say nothing of the noise and confusion of 30 boarders. which of course is inimical to study. I am going to have a hard time next term if get into college in the Fall. I have twice that to do that most scholars at my time in the course have. but I can do it - if I have health and good spirits. Just across the way. Mr Woods is erecting a new school - It is a wooden building. but has a steeple as tall as ours. It is a stock company, I believe that are building it. I should not think it would be a very profitable investment. My Love to all. Write by Saturdays mail. R

Dear Mother

Yarmouth, April 27<sup>th</sup> 51

I will once more take my pen to tell you how I get along away from my home. it has been two weeks since we wrote home, on account of father's going through here we did not write last Sunday. I should like to have seen father very much but did not know the day that he would go through and my lessons <sup>to the school</sup> come in the afternoon so that I could not go up every day. My health is as good as common I feel as though it would be pleasure to work now I have been with out work so long. perhaps I shall feel different after I have worked awhile. They have begun to work in their garden as here in Yarmouth. I hope our garden will be sowed early. are you not going to have any help but Martha & Sumner. I wish you could have help enough so that plant all of your flowers. I want to see a pretty garden when I come home. Tell Delia he must help you all he can and not go away. he remembers my promise to write him a letter. I think likely I shall next week. it has been very pleasant this last week. I went to hear a man read Shakspeare's evenings. we have had three singing schools and have got <sup>singing</sup> books. Give my love to Delia, Mother and all I shall be to home in little more than three weeks. Rowland has gone to prayer meeting. I have been to meeting all day. write soon so that we may hear from home and from Ohio for I suppose you have heard from him since we have. I suppose Rowland will go to farming soon. Good bye from your affectionate son Charles